

MONDAY

March 15, 2004

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In Living, 6

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Middle Tennessee State University SIDELINES

MURFREESBORO,
TENNESSEE

Volume 79 No. 73

Playoff-bound



The Lady Raider basketball team celebrates yesterday at Corky's Barbecue in Murfreesboro as they learn that they will be playing the University of North Carolina March 21 in the NCAA playoffs. MTSU picked up a No. 13 seed, while North Carolina is seeded fourth. For the full story, see sports, page 8.

Photo by Sean Jordan | Staff Photographer

Student says move to Islam act of honesty

By Stephanie Hill
Staff Writer

An MTSU student who converted to Islam told a captive audience Thursday about his journey from Christianity to Islam.

James P. Dunlap's lecture ended the weeklong Islamic Awareness Week, sponsored by the Muslim Student Association.

Dunlap addressed two main points during his lecture – how he became Muslim and why.

He was quick to point out at the start of his lecture that his focus was not to attack Christianity.

"The Bible is a book of God, a word of God," he said. "There are many beautiful, true and Islamic things in the Bible."

"We do not believe that all other religions are wrong," he said. "We feel like we have added some things to the other religions. We feel like every people have their message that brought them the truth."

He also talked about how there are usually three different

types of people in the audience when he lectures: the people who are just interested in what he has to say, the Muslims who are afraid of what he is going to say and the people who accuse him of being wrong for converting.

"The hardest part is finding what you believe and honestly believing," Dunlap said.

He then addressed why he became Muslim and explained the five daily prayers, using an athlete analogy.

"When you are an athlete, you train and develop all day to serve your purpose," he said. "This is the same thing with the five times a day we pray," he said.

He talked about the concept of 'faith' and what it means in Islam.

"Faith in the Western world is a promise of loyalty," he said. "However, in Islam, it is faith with conformation, meaning that what a Muslim finds to be true he keeps, and what he doesn't find true he throws away," he explained.

He also said that the Quran is not a list of dos and don'ts. "The Quran is the words of God," he said. "Other scriptures relate the story of God to man."

See Islam, 2



Dunlap

Renowned evolutionary biologist criticizes intelligent design theory

By Kristin Hall
News Editor

Massimo Pigliucci, an evolutionary biologist from the University of Tennessee, called the argument for intelligent design a "load of dingo kidneys."

Pigliucci spoke Wednesday about intelligent design, a theory popularized by mathematician and philosopher William Dembski.

Dembski's book, *Intelligent Design: The Bridge Between Science and Theology*, rejuvenated the public's interest in the theory, but his argument is as old as the early 19th century, Pigliucci said.

"It's a very different and interesting version of creationism," Pigliucci said. "Intelligent design in the modern sense of the word started with William Paley."

Paley's argument was that a designer creates human beings, just as a watchmaker creates a watch.

"It is that inference from the object, from a complex object that apparently has a purpose, to the existence of a designer that is the crux of the matter," Pigliucci said.

Pigliucci summarized the Scottish philosopher David Hume's argument against Paley's intelligent design theory.

"Really, intelligent design is no answer at all," Pigliucci said. "You're simply postponing the problem."

The intelligent design theory offers no

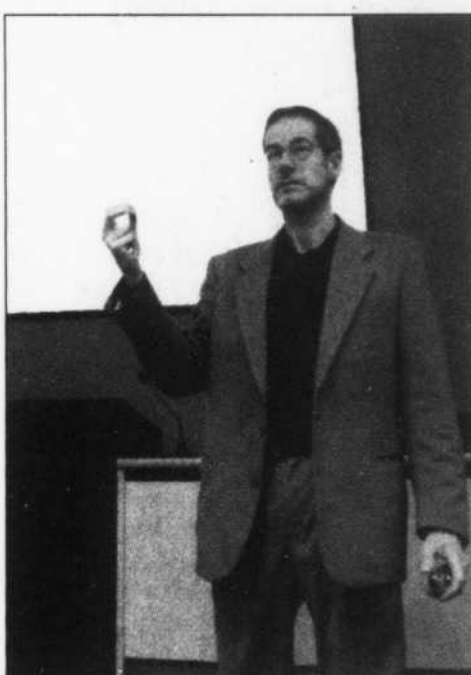


Photo by Steve Cross | Chief Photographer

Evolutionary biologist Massimo Pigliucci, from the University of Tennessee, argues Wednesday that intelligent design theory doesn't answer the age-old origin question.

elaboration on who or what this creator is, Pigliucci said.

However, Hume had no other explanation for the complexity of the human body.

It wasn't until Charles Darwin published his book, *The Origin of Species*, in 1859 that an alternative explanation was introduced.

"Natural selection can produce something that looks like an intelligently designed structure," Pigliucci said.

The problem with Dembski, Pigliucci said, is that he has offered the same argument Paley came up with more than a thousand years ago.

"Dembski realizes he has to come up with something a little more complicated and sophisticated than Paley," Pigliucci said. "So he presents his arguments in mathematical form that are unintelligible enough to the average reader that one can go to his book and say, 'This guy really knows what he is talking about, so he must be right.'"

Pigliucci explained that Dembski's updated theory of intelligent design rests on his explanatory filter, or a series of questions one can ask about the nature of an unknown phenomenon.

The first part is to determine whether the phenomenon is complex, or not regular, and the second is whether it is specific, or not random.

If a phenomenon is both complex and specific, it is intelligently designed, according to Dembski's explanatory filter, Pigliucci said.

Pigliucci's first argument against this

See Creation, 2



Photo by Julie Madewell | Staff Photographer

Holly George-Warren, left, and Alanna Nash rehash their experiences as music journalists in a lecture Thursday as part of National Women's History Month.

Women journalists talk rock 'n' roll

Being female
in the business
requires moxy,
panelists say

By Jason Cox
State and Local News Editor

Performing onstage with Kiss (in full makeup), hanging around the house with Johnny and June Carter Cash and going on a date with Davy Jones.

It's all in a day's work for three women who pioneered the rocking female journalist. Three women journalists – Jann Uhelszki, Holly George-Warren and Alanna Nash – spoke of their experiences in the music business at "Elvis, KISS and Madonna: The Life of a Female Music Journalist" Thursday afternoon in the State Farm Lecture Hall of the Business and Aerospace Building.

So how did Uhelszki, co-founder of *Creem* magazine (the publication that coined the phrases "heavy metal" and "punk") get a spot onstage with Kiss?

"They were just starting out," Uhelszki said, "and nobody wanted to do a story on them. We thought they were a joke."

So Uhelszki pitched the idea to her editor and, later, the band members themselves. While Kiss members have never been particularly fond of reporters, Uhelszki was brave enough to pitch her idea. Sure enough, shortly thereafter she was invited to get on stage with the band – guitar, grease paint and all.

As curtain time neared and it came time to hit the stage, Uhelszki froze up a bit ("I was so scared") but actually began to laugh when frontman Gene Simmons started putting make-up on her.

"Gene Simmons starts

See Journalists, 2

Albini laments age of over-production

By Andrew Young
Staff Writer

Recording engineer Steve Albini told students Friday of the ill-effects heavy-handed producers and engineers can have on the quality of music.

He recounted the evolution of the recording industry from the late 1970s to today.

"Because the tastes and amusements of the engineers dominated the sessions," a few major technological innovations of the 1980s allowed engineers and producers to "horribly scar music," Albini said.

"The bad part of the engineering culture of the '70s and '80s is that engineers would presume themselves to be the producers of every session," Albini



Albini

most recognized names in the independent music business. He has engineered more than 1,000 albums, and is best known for his work with the Pixies, PJ Harvey and Nirvana.

He owns Electrical Audio, a recording studio in Chicago, Ill., and is currently the lead vocalist for the band Shellac.

Albini made his first recordings in 1978 on a rented four-track. He moved to Chicago in 1980, where he majored in journalism at Northwestern University. He engineered his first album in 1981.

During that time, he formed the influential punk/industrial group Big Black and recorded demos for his friend's bands. In 1986, he quit his day job, built a recording studio in his house and became a professional recording engineer. He opened Electrical Audio, a two-studio recording complex, in 1995.

As both a band member and an engineer, Steve has developed a unique perspective on the engineer's place in the studio, a philosophy he spoke about at length.

"It always offended me when I was in the studio and the engineer or the assumed producer for the session would start bossing the band around," Albini said. "That always seemed like a horrible insult to me. The band was paying money for the privilege of being in a recording studio, and normally when you pay for something, you get to say how it's done. So, I made up my mind when I started engineering professionally that I wasn't going to behave like that."

The introduction of drum machines and synthesizers allowed producers even greater latitude in determining the sound of a recording.

"Records became more and

See Albini, 2

Albini: 'There are virtually no jobs available in this trade,' engineer warns students

Continued from 1

more produced, and more and more layers of more abstract sounds were added. Generally speaking, this wasn't done at the behest of the bands," Albini said.

"The culture of recording engineers and producers was imposing this abstraction on the bands, and as a result, the music of that era sounds very dated," Albini said.

"It sounds comical now, because there were always absurd choices that were made at the behest of the engineer."

Albini notes that, in comparison, the albums from that period that people now regard as influential were "by and large, more simplistic, more naturalistic recordings."

He emphasized that it is important for engineers to understand the experience and the reality of being in a band.

"If you're not in a band, at the very least you owe it to yourself to understand that culture, that social organization which is a band," Albini said.

Albini has engineered a number of popular artists, but he notes that those high-profile, major label albums are "very few and far between."

"I've made well over a thousand records, probably as many as 1,500, and I've probably made six or eight that would fall into the category of major releases by major record labels."

He said that students should not focus on developing skills for use on big-budget, major label projects, which happen very rarely.

"What you should do is spend your time and energy getting the nuts and bolts down," Albini said.

"Learn how to do every basic task that's required of an engineer, and everything else will

follow."

Albini's recording techniques are admittedly simple and utilitarian.

Working primarily with bands who have limited budgets, Albini pointed out that most recording sessions last less than a week, and sometimes a little as a day.

"The longest I've ever spent working on a record is four months, but that was a unique and absurd set of circumstances."

Albini emphasized practical experience over whimsical experimentation, but didn't discount the importance of experimentation.

"I do think experimenting is important," he said. "You should read. There has been an awful lot written about the science and practice of sound recording. It is very important for you to read, study and experiment, in that order."

He added that it is important for engineers to learn why their experiments work, so that knowledge can be used later when necessary.

Albini has developed a reputation for being against digital recording techniques, but not for reasons of sound quality.

"I don't use digital recording because it's inappropriate for the work that I do," he said.

"I do permanent recording of records that are intended to last forever. They are the history of the band I am working for at the moment, and it is vitally important to them."

He notes that digital formats are relatively impermanent in nature compared to analog formats, and that he has "yet to come across a circumstance where I couldn't accomplish what I needed to do using analog techniques."

Another part of Albini's reputation is his opposition to the

major label recording industry.

"I am opposed to exploitation of anyone by anyone," Albini said. "I think it's crass that an entire industry has developed where such business practices are considered the norm. I have done records for other bands who are involved in the mainstream record industry, and they and I both know that they're not getting a fair shake. And all I can do is have sympathy for them."

In his own business practices, Albini charges the same affordable rate to all his clients. He always deals with the bands directly, and he is still the guy who answers the phone in the studio.

"Dealing with indie labels is much, much easier than dealing with major labels. Indie labels pay their bills, major labels don't," Albini said.

"When you're dealing with major labels, it's vitally impor-

tant to get the money before you do anything else."

Albini offered some sobering advice to upcoming graduates from MTSU's recording industry program.

"There are virtually no jobs available in this trade," Albini said.

"In recording, all of the giant institutional studios are going bankrupt. What exists now are a million little one-man and two-man studios that are operated on second-hand equipment in a rented space somewhere."

The small, entrepreneurial studios offer the best chance for students to find employment in the industry, he explained.

Albini spoke to more than 300 students in the Learning Resources Center Friday afternoon, in a lecture presented by the MTSU chapter of the Audio Engineering Society. ♦

Islam: Dunlap says void in his life filled by Muslim faith

Continued from 1

whereas the Quran doesn't have stories; it is God speaking to you directly. It offers a challenge to the people that if they say the book didn't come from God then for them to show it."

Dunlap also lectured about the prophet Muhammad, who could not read and write, and receives criticism from some because he said he received revelations from God.

Muhammad was accused of lying about messages from God, but Dunlap said he was predicting revelations that he did not want to happen.

"If he were a liar then he would only predict what he wanted to happen," Dunlap said.

Dunlap said that Muhammad was concerned about his visions and thought that he was losing his mind.

"His wife took him to a Christian monk," Dunlap explained, "and the monk said that he wished that he could be with him when he preached because he would be a follower."

Dunlap was also quick to point out that some passages in the Old and New Testament in the Bible point out that a

prophet will come after Jesus.

He warned of over-specification of words, which he illustrated by quoting the Bible when Jesus said, "I am the way, the truth, the life. No one comes through the Father but by me."

"Jesus says he is a prophet, a messenger, et cetera," Dunlap explained. "This translation is different from the original translations of Greek and Hebrew."

He then warned the audience to "beware of people trying to build a case and to beware of confusion of issues."

"The term 'son of God' is used to describe Jesus," said Dunlap. "However, there are other 'sons of God' called by Jesus himself."

He also warned about translations of the Bible as they are different then what they were originally translated in Hebrew and Greek.

He also explained that a main difference in Muslims and Christians is the Trinity.

"We believe that the Trinity falls under 'shirk' - worshipping something as God that is not God," he said.

Dunlap then moved onto discuss how he became Muslim. He talked about his childhood and how he discovered that one could

read the entire Bible and come away with the understanding that Jesus is not God.

"I wanted to become more honest," he said. "I started looking at what was said, no more, no less. I also noticed that when I was more honest, I was happier. The void in my life was filled with the Muslim faith."

He told the crowd that he studied both the Christian and Muslim faiths at the same time, while on duty as a security guard working the third shift.

"I was terrified to go to a mosque for the first time," he said. "Here I was with all these people of different cultures and religion and I was suppose to walk up and be like, 'I'm a redneck boy saying I want to be a Muslim and I don't know how.'"

Despite his initial fears, Dunlap said that attending a mosque for the first time is one of the most beautiful things in the world. He said he felt filled for the first time in a long time.

Throughout Islamic Awareness Week, MSA also hosted documentaries and a lecture by Awadh A. Binhazim, professor of pathology at Meharry Medical College, Vanderbilt University Medical Center, throughout the week. ♦

Journalists: Industry veterans tell of experiences on, off stage

Continued from 1

putting makeup on me, and Paul Stanley said, 'You're making her look like you,' she laughed. "It was like being with four girls."

And as the story so often goes, when the lights hit, so did the bug.

"I got the showbiz bug," she said. "I realized what it was all about. It was the experience of a lifetime."

Alanna Nash, contributor to *USA Weekend* and book author, offered her story of getting started in the music industry: trying to win a date with Monkees singer Davy Jones.

A local radio contest was

offering a date with the performer to the winner of an essay contest. Nash, who was 16 at the time, was enthralled.

"I entered probably 50 times," she said.

All of Nash's work paid off, and she was dispatched to Los Angeles for her dream date. When she and her mom arrived, Alanna found out there would be no monkeying around with the singer: it was a group date with several other girls.

The experience - and writing about it for *Tiger Beat* magazine - opened her eyes to a career she never would have imagined even existed at the time.

"Wow, this writing thing has some real possibility," she said.

Holly George-Warren, a *Rolling Stone* magazine contributor and author and contributor to several prominent books about music culture, said she gleaned inspiration as a woman from seeing Patty Smyth perform.

"It was such an incredible experience seeing a woman up on stage being so powerful," she said.

The women - all prominent in the field of entertainment journalism - said that persistence is the key to a career in their field, although Nash lamented the end of an era where celebrities were readily

available and good stories much easier to come by.

"I have this emphasis on celebrity," Nash said. "I honestly think it's the ruination of America."

"When we all first started out," Uhelszki said, "the record companies would just beg you to do stories. ... You can't do your best reporting when you're kept at such an arm's length."

George-Warren offered a tip to young journalists she wished she had followed when she was a shy, green reporter.

"You have to believe in yourself and have a lot of confidence," she said. ♦

Creation: Pigliucci says creationism, intelligent design needed in classes

Continued from 1

theory is that the filter is incomplete and doesn't account for all possibilities. Chaotic phenomena are not random and not regular, but aren't included in his filter, Pigliucci said.

His second argument is a problem within the philosophy of the theory, wherein Dembski is assuming the answer before posing the question.

"Intelligent design could explain natural phenomena without making any prediction at all," Pigliucci said. "Apparent design does not necessarily mean a designer."

The third argument is that in order for Dembski to determine the randomness of evolution, he would have to figure out a probability, which Pigliucci considers impossible right now given science's limited understanding of complex biological structures.

"So whenever Dembski or any other creationist attaches a number to the probability of complex biological structures, they are literally making it up," Pigliucci said.

His final argument against Dembski's intelligent design argument is that Dembski is

basing his theory on religion, not science.

"Christ is indispensable to any scientific theory, even if its practitioners do not have a clue about him," Dembski wrote in his book.

"If you're trying to make a philosophical and scientific argument against evolution, then that statement has no place in a book on intelligent design," Pigliucci said.

"The moment you put the supernatural as an explanation of natural phenomenon, everything is thrown out the window," Pigliucci said. "That kind of answer shuts down scientific inquiry."

Still, Pigliucci said that both creationism and intelligent design belong in the classroom as much as evolution.

"About 50 percent or more of the kids you have in the classroom in the United States are skeptical of evolution or are downright creationists," Pigliucci said. "Running away from it is not going to help."

The lecture was sponsored by Campus Freethought Alliance, which promotes science literacy, skepticism, civil liberties and tolerance.

For more information, visit their Web site at www.mtsu.edu/~freethink. ♦

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Anti-abortion proposal sponsor refuses wording

By Karin Miller
Associated Press Writer

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP). — An effort to amend the constitution to restrict abortion rights in Tennessee is almost certainly dead for the year.

Sen. David Fowler, who sponsored the amendment resolution, sent it back to committee Thursday after his colleagues added wording that he found unpalatable. He said the changes might allow a father who raped his daughter to have a say in whether or not she could have an abortion.

"That will be the end for this session," said Fowler, R-Signal Mountain.

He said afterward that even if his colleagues want him to bring it back to the floor, there probably isn't enough time to move it through the House before lawmakers end their

work this spring.

"Everybody made their bed and now they'll have to sleep on it," Fowler said.

Voters must approve constitutional amendments, and Fowler had hoped to get it on the 2006 ballot. Before that, his resolution would have to be approved by a simple majority in the House and Senate this year, then by two-thirds of the members of the next General Assembly. If Fowler has to start over next year, the earliest the amendment could be before voters is 2010.

Fowler originally proposed an amendment that said "nothing in this (Tennessee) Constitution secures or protects a right to abortion or the funding thereof."

Fowler and other abortion opponents were responding to a 2000 state Supreme Court ruling that the Tennessee

Constitution offers broader rights to privacy and abortion than the U.S. Constitution.

The court struck down a waiting period for women seeking abortions and other restrictions lawmakers had enacted.

Many of Fowler's colleagues say they also oppose abortions but want to ensure protections for women with life-threatening conditions and victims of rape and incest. Fowler said he was afraid of how justices would interpret such exceptions.

So Sen. Charlotte Burks, D-Monterey, proposed a change to Fowler's legislation that she believed would address those concerns. In essence, it said that the government could not interfere with women in those situations, and it also outright prohibited partial-birth abortions.

Fowler's biggest problem with her proposal was the part that said, "The government

shall not interfere with the decision of the family of a child rape victim to terminate that pregnancy."

Fowler said that would have blocked a state law that allows juvenile incest victims to get abortions without parental consent.

Other senators said the prohibition on partial-birth abortions could violate the U.S. Constitution and leave a pregnant woman whose life was in danger without an option.

Despite Fowler's opposition, Burks' version was approved 18-15 and he ended the debate.

Fowler said pro-abortion senators manipulated Burks, who isn't well-versed in legislative maneuvering. "They used her and she allowed herself to be used," Fowler said.

Burks wasn't immediately available for comment. ♦

Bill's rejection prompts debate

By B.J. Chaplin
Staff Writer

After no less than eight amendments, at its heart, Senate proposal SJR0127 remains the same: "Nothing in the Constitution secures or protects a right to abortion or funding thereof."

The resolution, introduced at the end of last month by state senator David Fowler, R-Signal Mountain, and sponsored by state senator Rusty Crowe, R-Johnson City, has sparked intense debate from pro-life and pro-choice advocates in Tennessee.

Proposal SJR0127 is not the

only form of legislation to be debated in Tennessee in recent times. Four months ago, the American Civil Liberties Union and Planned Parenthood of Tennessee filed suit against Gov. Phil Bredesen and Safety Commissioner Fred Phillips over "Choose Life" license plates.

And nationally, on Nov. 5 — one day before the ACLU and Planned Parenthood's lawsuit — President George W. Bush signed into law the Partial-Birth Abortion Ban Act of 2003.

Also, South Dakota state Rep. Matt McCauley, R-Sioux

See Abortion, 4

Gas prices approaching all-time high

By Jason Cox
State and Local News Editor

With gas prices primed to reach an all-time high, what has caused this increase and what can we expect to happen in the coming months?

Reuben Kyle, professor of economics at MTSU and a self-described "student" of the oil and gasoline industry, said a number of factors are to blame, including decreased international production and insufficient refining capacity here at home.

"Oil prices globally have risen over the last four or five months about \$7 a barrel or so," Kyle said, which has resulted in hikes of nearly 18 cents a gallon, adding that the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries announced several weeks ago that the group was directing its members to decrease production.

He said that civil disturbances in Venezuela, which supplies much of the U.S. oil demand, have caused production to go down in that country, increasing the strain on other producers and causing a spike in crude oil prices.

Kyle also said refinery capacity has actually gone down in the last 10 years.

"For much of the time during the 80s and the 90s, it just wasn't a

very profitable business," he said, "so businesses simply didn't invest in new refining capacity."

Tennessee is fortunate in that the southeast region generally has lower oil prices than the national index.

With a current average price of \$1.64 per gallon for regular unleaded, the Nashville market (which includes Murfreesboro) has a lower average than the current national average of \$1.72. However, while the national average has increased nine cents over the last month, Nashville has seen a spike of 13 cents, according to AAA.

Interestingly, AAA also reports current prices are only one cent higher in both national and Nashville averages than at this time one year ago.

"The current trend is likely to continue," Kyle said. "The predictions are that U.S. gasoline prices will continue to rise for some time up through the summer."

"The average price could be \$1.90; they're a little over a \$1.73, which are record levels ... right now. More pain is possibly in sight here. Usually, when things like this happen we see that people get greedy so they produce more oil and push the price down. That's

See Gas, 4

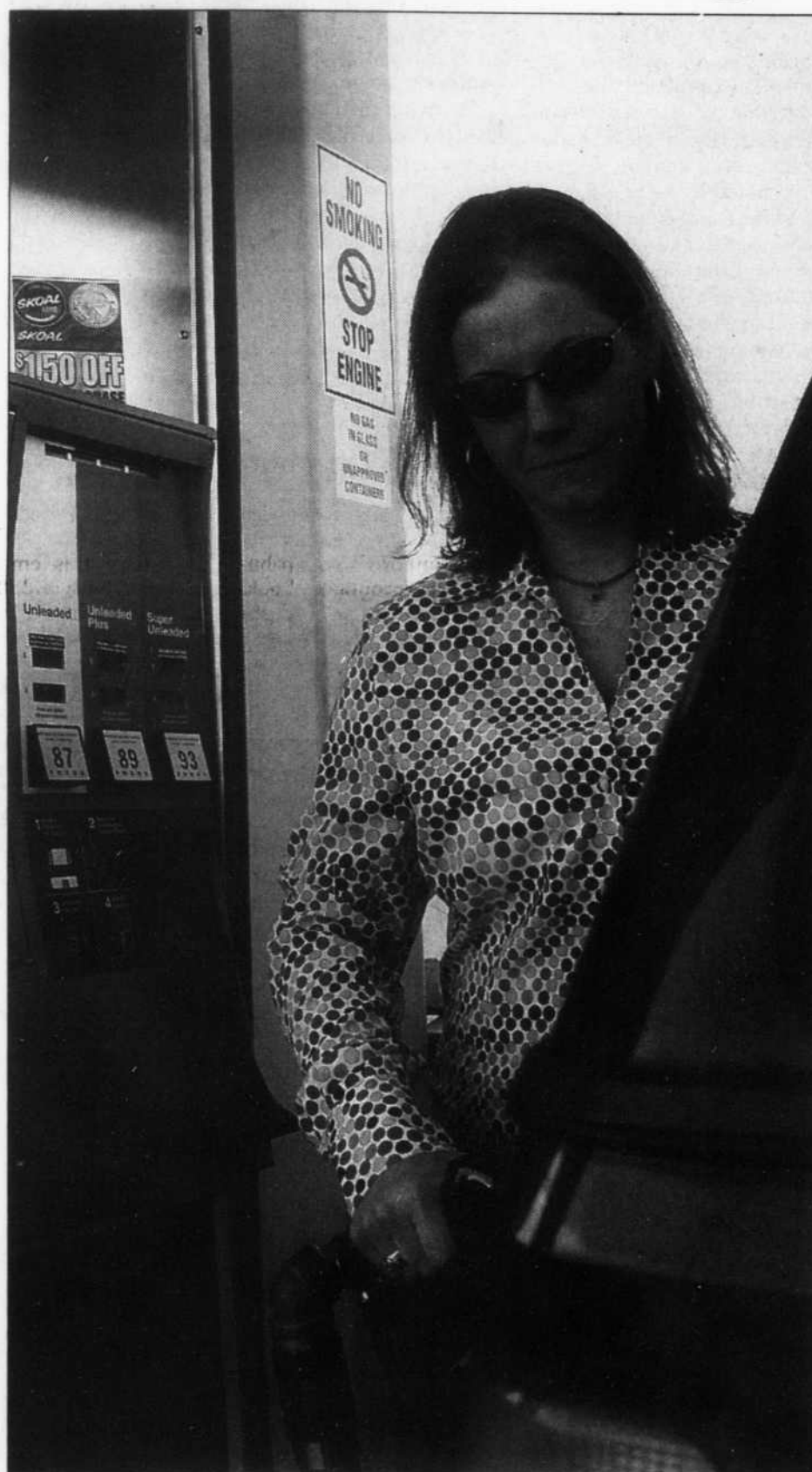


Photo by Steve Cross | Chief Photographer
Mandy Boyd of Tullahoma, Tenn., has a daily round trip to work of almost 100 miles. High gas prices have hit citizens like Boyd the hardest.

Man arrested with marijuana

By David Paulson
Staff Writer

● Police arrested Marcus Miller, 20, of Murfreesboro after finding a one-pound bag of marijuana in the trunk of his vehicle Thursday night. Miller was pulled over for appearing to have an altered temporary registration number. Officer Harry Haigh reported that Miller appeared to be nervous while speaking with him. After finding the bag, Miller was arrested and charged with felony possession of marijuana. Miller had \$1,800 cash in his pants pocket.

Police obtained a search warrant that evening and found 3 more pounds of marijuana, \$3000 and a digital scale with marijuana residue in Miller's residence.

● A vehicle theft was reported Thursday night on Memorial Boulevard. The victim parked on the north side of the city parking lot and was walking with her child and dog when she saw two individuals "make a beeline" for her car. The suspects fled in the vehicle. They were described by the victim as a white female with "dirty" hair and a white male with dark hair.

● A generator, as well as a puppy, were reported stolen from a residence last week. The victim told police that the theft occurred sometime between 6 p.m. Tuesday and 6:30 a.m. Wednesday. The generator was in a van parked outside the residence. The dog is female, brown with a white front paw and answers to "Sugar." The victim gave the dog an estimated value of \$250. ♦

Car crash leaves one in hospital

Staff Reports

A vehicle ran off the road and hit an electric pole Saturday at 3:09 a.m. on the South Church Street Access Road, according to the Murfreesboro Police Department report.

Melissa Kelley, 18, the driver, sustained injuries and was taken to the Middle Tennessee Medical Center Emergency Room by the Rutherford County EMS.

Melissa Clifford, 19, was riding with Kelley. She was transported to Vanderbilt Hospital via Lifeflight for her injuries.

Kelley has been released, but Clifford is still at Vanderbilt.

The accident is still under police investigation. ♦

Tennessee will receive AMBER alerts on road signs

Message signs will keep citizens informed

By James Nix
Staff Writer

The Tennessee Department of Transportation will utilize its dynamic message signs to display AMBER alert information throughout Tennessee.

AMBER (America's Missing: Broadcast Emergency Response) alerts are activated by the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation in missing child cases meeting certain criteria and are meant to quickly inform local law enforcement agencies, as well as the public. The dynamic message signs will make it possible to reach hundreds of thousands of motorists in a short time. When searching for a missing child, time can make a world of difference.

"Seventy-four percent of children who are kidnapped and later found murdered are killed within the first three

hours after being taken," National AMBER Alert Coordinator Deborah J. Daniels said on the Office of Justice Programs Web site.

In many cases, child abductions involve a freeway getaway, and even in just a few hours, a missing child can be taken far from where they were last seen. Dynamic message signs with AMBER alert information displayed on them can greatly reduce the time it takes to inform the public.

"In most cases, you're looking for a vehicle. So, to alert people that are on the roads traveling with that vehicle, you'd have a much better chance of finding someone than if I were in my living room watching it on TV," TDOT Information Representative Deborah Fehr said. "It's a very natural connection."

"We activate the signs to read 'Child Amber Alert — Tune To Local Media,'" Fehr said.

For motorists' safety, license plate numbers and other information will not

be displayed on the signs. It's too much for drivers to take in and has caused accidents in other cities with the signs, Fehr said.

After receiving an AMBER alert from the TBI, TDOT's transportation management center can change the dynamic message signs to provide alert information nearly instantaneously, Fehr said.

But before an AMBER alert is issued, certain criteria must be met.

According to the TBI's Web site (www.tbi.state.tn.us), accurate information regarding either the description of the child, suspect or vehicle must be present. Also, the child must be 17 or under and believed to be in imminent danger of death or bodily injury.

It is the responsibility of local law enforcement agencies to determine if a case meets the criteria and to then notify the TBI. Once notified, the TBI coordinates with local authorities.

"Coordination efforts are among the local law enforcement agencies, Tennessee Highway Patrol, Tennessee

Department of Transportation, the media, the National Weather Service and the Tennessee Emergency Management Agency," said Beth Denton, Public Information Officer for the Tennessee Department of Safety.

The dynamic message signs are part of TDOT's Intelligent Transportation System plan, which began March 26, 2002, with the installation of 16 cameras in the Nashville area, Fehr said. Since then, 40 more cameras and 20 dynamic message signs (17 permanent and 3 portable) have been added in Nashville.

Presently, the only dynamic message signs in operation are in Nashville, but work to expand the ITS plan to Knoxville is already in effect.

"We will have a Knoxville system ... up and operating this time next year," said Kim Keelor, public information officer for TDOT.

Planning for Memphis and Chattanooga systems are in the works and completion is expected at the end of 2006, Keelor said. ♦

Abortion: Bill could come back up in next session

Continued from 3

Falls, proposed a bill (HB1191) that would outlaw all forms of abortion (including in cases of rape and incest) except in cases where the mother's life is endangered or when she may suffer serious or irreversible harm as a result of having the child. The bill would make any person who contributes to aborting a child guilty of a Class 5 felony and punishable of five years imprisonment and a \$5,000 fine.

An additional 46 state representatives and 18 senators sponsored HB1191. Several news sources reported that Fowler admits he designed the bill specifically to challenge the 1973 Supreme Court decision *Roe v. Wade* that legalized abortion.

HB1191 passed the House (54-15) and the Senate (18-15), but last Monday it was vetoed due to "style and form."

On Thursday, the Tennessee state legislature decided to refer SJR0127 to the Senate Calendar and Rules Committee for a second time. The estimated cost for SJR0127 is a one-time state expenditure of \$20,000.

"SJR127, for all practical purposes, was defeated," Tennessee Right to Life President Brian Harris said. "We are deeply disappointed."

Tennessee Right to Life, which worked closely with Fowler in support of SJR0127, will continue to fight for pro-life legislation next session, according to Harris.

"We don't have a choice," he said. "Without a pro-life constitutional amendment, there is no ability to pass even the most basic pro-life legislation back into Tennessee laws."

Hedy Weinberg, executive director of ACLU of Tennessee, said she believes SJR0127 is an attack on the state Constitution, the state judiciary and Tennessee women.

"Typically, when we amend a U.S. or state Constitution," she said, "we do so to promote or expand rights."

"For the state to amend our Constitution to take away a right is quite disturbing."

She added that as long as *Roe v. Wade* remains intact, federal laws will trump any state constitution laws. If *Roe v. Wade* were overturned and SJR0127 passed, however, Weinberg said that abortion would be illegal in Tennessee.

Weinberg speculated that SJR0127 is an act of legislative retaliation against the pro-choice victory in the 2000 Tennessee Supreme Court case, *Planned Parenthood of Middle Tennessee, et al., v. Don Sundquist, Governor of the State of Tennessee, et al.*

The battle began when the Nashville and Memphis branches of Planned Parenthood, as well as three doctors, filed suit in Davidson County Circuit Court over grievances with Tennessee's abortion statutes (Tenn. Code Ann. 39-15-201 and -202).

The statutes mandated the following:

- Second trimester abortions

must be performed in a hospital

- The "attending physician" must inform the patient of statutorily prescribed information, such as "abortions[,] in a considerable number of cases[,] constitutes a major surgical procedure"

- After receiving this information, the patient must wait two days before returning to the attending physician, sign a consent form and then may obtain the abortion

- Medical emergency exceptions to the two-day waiting period requirement and the informed consent requirements are permitted when the patient's life would otherwise be in danger.

The trial court struck down the "major surgical procedure" information requirement and the waiting period requirement but upheld the second trimester hospitalization requirement, the remaining informed consent requirements and the medical emergency exceptions.

On appeal, the court held the "major surgical procedure" informed consent clause, the medical emergency exceptions and the attending physician counseling requirement (when in conjunction with the two-day waiting period) were held to be unconstitutional.

The waiting period, the second trimester hospitalization requirements and the remaining informed consent provisions, however, were deemed OK by the Court of Appeals.

In 2000, the Tennessee Supreme Court found unconstitutional in a 4-1 decision the second trimester hospitalization requirement, the informed consent and physician-only counseling requirement, the mandatory waiting period and the medical emergency exceptions because "the statutes are not narrowly tailored to further compelling state interests."

The case was then remanded to trial court.

"We specifically hold that a woman's right to terminate her pregnancy is a vital point of the right to privacy guaranteed by the Tennessee Constitution," the Tennessee Supreme Court majority held. "We further hold that the right is inherent in the concept of ordered liberty embodied in our Constitution and is therefore fundamental."

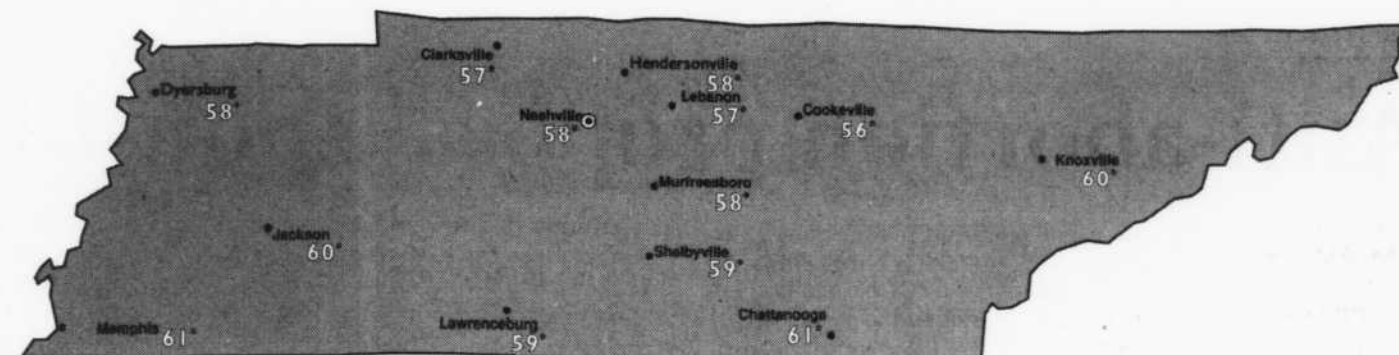
Justice William M. Baker was the lone dissenter, but he concurred with the majority that the "medical emergency exceptions" provision was unconstitutional.

"With its opinion today, the majority has failed in its most essential duty to articulate the basis of its decision with a clear and precise rationale, and it has failed to establish an adequate foundation for its decision in legal precedent," Baker held in his dissent.

"In holding that abortion regulations are reviewed under a strict scrutiny standard of review, the Court has ignored prior Tennessee law and history," he continued. "The use of this standard fails to sufficiently accommodate the important competing interests involved in this complex issue." ♦

Tennessee Weather – Monday's Highs

From the Associated Press



Tuesday



Wednesday



Thursday



Friday



Saturday



Gas:

Continued from 3

not guaranteed."

Kyle said he wasn't sure if we would see the \$2 a gallon average some prognosticators have predicted, but American buying habits may change if the prices continue to go up.

"Americans are not quick to change on their cars, but we did change in the 1970s," Kyle said, referring to the oil crisis which forced the government into rationing gasoline and, in turn, commuters to buy cars that were more conservative with gasoline. ♦

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OPINIONS

Murfreesboro, Tenn.

Monday, March 15, 2004

SIDELINES ♦ 5

From the Editorial Board

Avoid rising gas prices; take a walk, carpool

Apparently America has just realized a monumental fact: Oil is not a renewable resource. So why does it surprise anyone that gas prices are now reaching a staggering \$1.64 per gallon?

Maybe it's because we are a pampered, naïve society that expects everything to last forever because it makes life easier for us.

Maybe it's because we enjoy running over wildlife with our eight cylinders and emitting noxious fumes on our five-minute drive to class.

The outlook for our gas-guzzling elite isn't positive. Predictions set the peak at over \$2 a gallon this summer.

Instead of turning up the air conditioning in your Range Rover and making numerous trips to the Dairy Queen to get a Blizzard, *Sidelines* is offering some ways to avoid the high prices at the pump:

- Lock the car keys away and try using those fashionable feet of yours. Most MTSU students live close enough to walk, but complain that they can't get a parking space, close enough. Why not cut the time in half and just walk or bike to campus from home?

- If you are too far away to walk, connect with other students and carpool. There are hundreds of students trying to make it to that 10:30 a.m. class, so it shouldn't be too hard to find someone who can give you a ride.

- Those huge lumbering buses are on campus for a reason. Don't make 20 trips around the Mass Communication parking lot waiting for someone to leave. Just find the first available parking space and call it off. Catch the bus and enjoy the lovely scenery of the campus.

- Consolidate your car trips. If someone on your floor is making a trip to Wal-Mart, don't just sit on your couch and then drive there 20 minutes later because you just realized you needed something.

Try to do all your errands in one car trip and don't make excessive trips. ♦

From the Opinions Editor

More proof Kim Jong Il has lost his tyrant mind

In what must have been motivated by some bizarre planet alignment, North Korean madman Kim Jong Il has made an interesting proposal.

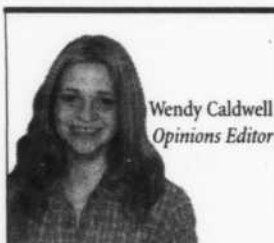
He has stated that he will cease production of nuclear weapons if he can have a sneak preview of the third episode of *Star Wars*. The film is not set for release until May of next year.

He has also claimed that if his request is met, weapons inspectors from the United Nations can have full access to North Korea.

This raises an interesting dilemma: Grant the man his wish and possibly make the world safer, or preserve the legacy of one of the most popular film series of all time and make him stand in line all day for a 12:01 a.m. showing like the rest of the world.

Edward King, British researcher and biographer, asserts that Kim Jong Il's *Star Wars* infatuation is at least a decade old.

"Kim strongly identifies with Darth Vader," King said in a story by *Weekly World News*. Negotiators are willing to give the increasingly-crazed man an advanced screening of the much anticipated third installment of the prequel trilogy, but they're not sure that the movie industry will be as quick to agree.



Wendy Caldwell
Opinions Editor

Maybe is we had offered Saddam Hussein a sneak peek at *South Park: Bigger, Longer & Uncut*, we wouldn't have had all these problems the past year.

I'm reluctant to believe that something as simple as seeing a movie could make that big of a difference, but perhaps I'm mistaken.

However, if we comply with the odd request, how do we know he'll hold up his end of the bargain?

Suppose he just wants to see the movie early so he can spoil the plot for the rest of the world or send a nuke our way, all the while dancing around and chanting about how dumb we are.

I could "what if" this situation to death, but the fact remains that Kim Jong Il has done little to assert that his character is one of a man who lives up to promises.

It's time we take a closer look at why he's made such a strange request and think twice about granting his ridiculous wish. ♦

Troops deserve life-saving inserts

The news media still reports on the war in Iraq daily, yet beyond the issues of the how and why argued in election year rhetoric, America's attention seems to be slipping.

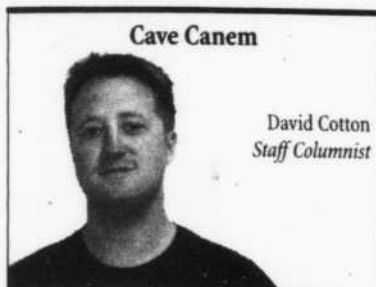
Reports on the war itself quietly weave their way through the background of news casts that America really cares about.

Heidi was fired from *The Apprentice*. Mel Gibson loves Jesus. Kerry said a bad word. Janet ... well, you know what Janet did because you saw the pixelated photo a thousand times on television and in every newspaper.

Oh yes, and not so different from yesterday, more soldiers were killed or wounded in Iraq.

The story is simply too repetitive to keep America's interest, not without the illustrations that exciting footage of air strikes and smart bomb explosions provide. Maybe that's why the upcoming Spring U.S. offensive in Afghanistan is being advertised like a football game.

There's even a feeling of nostalgia in the media as it celebrates the anniversary of a war that yet continues.



Cave Canem

David Cotton
Staff Columnist

Since sporadic ambushes and booby trap bombs don't film well, the press is all too happy to take this chance to reminisce.

Embedded journalists hawk their valiant "we rode a tank" tales in newly-published books.

These brave men and women, forged in the sands of Iraq, were, at least for a couple of days, relatively close to somewhere where someone was fighting.

Reporters now make their careers in war as generals once did. Occasionally, they may even acknowledge the soldiers who don't get to jet home and reap the rewards of a press junket after only a few months.

Meanwhile, the families of these soldiers in Iraq attempt to

purchase for their loved ones the body armor that remains so scarce despite a year of constant ambush.

Body armor, or more specifically, the ceramic inserts that strengthen the vest, can mean the difference between life and death for a soldier facing the small arms fire so common in Iraq. It's a standard piece of equipment in city police departments, though police are far less likely to face a bullet in the line of duty than a soldier in the Sunni triangle.

For a year now, many soldiers in Iraq have done without such protection. While the availability of adequate armor may be improving, the reduction of the heavy weaponry that supported earlier troops makes the need perhaps even greater. Again, U.S. soldiers are asked to be police officers. They deserve the same protection we afford our own police officers.

An Army spokesperson claimed the needed armor was acquired in January, yet reports continue of its scarcity on the front lines.

Rep. Brian Baird personally sought assurances that body

armor would be provided to deployed National Guard units from his state, Washington. Legislation was introduced in Ohio to prompt body armor distribution to soldiers from that state.

Polls once showed 70 percent of Americans supported the war. Less than 1 percent of the population serves in the military. With this kind of civilian support and considering our military budget, surely a \$1000 piece of equipment proven to protect lives is a fair and reasonable request.

It's been a while since the yards of America were forested in signs proclaiming troop support. Was the patriotism that placed them still as strong when the signs were removed?

Go ahead and toss the sign if it's getting worn. But if you really wish to support the troops, send a letter or e-mail to your local representative and demand that we protect those who protect us. ♦

David Cotton is a graduate student and can be reached via e-mail at dpc2b@mtsu.edu.

Kerry's vision smeared

In February, Kerry supporters (or Bush haters, to be more accurate) chanted "Send Bush to Mars!"

Massachusetts Sen. John Kerry was eager to exploit their hatred.

"I'm tired of these politicians who show up ... and they talk about heroes in America," Kerry complained. "And then when they go back to Washington ... they forget."

Smear rhetoric has become routine at Democratic rallies. Kerry's ethical deficiencies have proven that he's embraced a smear-sighted vision for America: Gain the White House by viciously attacking Bush's character, and take both sides to an issue if forced to confront it.

Perhaps it was the approaching 45-minute pep talk with Howard Dean, architect of the infamous "I Have a Scream" speech that prompted Kerry to step up his journey to political suicide. Before the closed-door rendezvous, Kerry quickly unleashed another personal attack on Bush.

"Let me tell you, we've just begun to fight ... these guys are the most crooked ... lying group I've ever seen," Kerry said.

Thank you, Senator, for another hate-inspired diatribe. Refusing to debate the issues, Kerry continued to attack Bush's character.

"Bush spent \$800 million on his unilateral Martian adventure. That money could have provided ... Wow. Kerry finally addresses an issue. I think it's safe to say Kerry is opposed to Bush's vision for space exploration. Fair enough. Let's debate the issue.

What's wrong with a manned mission to Mars? Could it be that it will fur-



Reality Check

Justin Wax
Staff Columnist

ther reduce the unemployment rate (5.6% - the same under Clinton in 1996) by creating thousands of new jobs? Or maybe it's a bad idea because the United States will likely gain the expertise and brilliance of the world's leading scientists. After all, if America embraces the cutting edge of space exploration, what scientist wouldn't want to come on board?

Perhaps Kerry doesn't want America to remain a superpower. Keep in mind that superior weapons like precision guided bombs and satellite intelligence are a result of daring space exploration.

Why a manned mission to Mars if it's much safer to rely on robots? Since when has fear dictated what Americans can achieve? As William Wallace so eloquently stated in *Braveheart*, "Every man dies - not every man really lives." The members of Apollo 1 all perished before leaving earth. But American determination persevered.

Even though space exploration has wounded us with the deaths of astronauts, it has also rewarded the world by sparing many lives. The Global Positioning System (GPS), another result of space exploration, has shielded thousands of civilians from certain death by allowing the U.S. military to pinpoint terrorists instead of relying exclusively on carpet-bombing,

a deadly strategy that knows neither friend nor foe.

While Kerry's vision for America is smeared, Bush's vision for the nation is 20/20, primarily because he continues to draw out America's best qualities, including courage, perseverance, determination and a willingness to dream dreams and then set out to achieve them.

Meanwhile, back in Kerryland, supporters angrily chanted "Send Bush to Mars" and "Bring it on." Interesting to note that a phrase Bush used to dishearten terrorists is the same phrase used by Kerry to taunt Bush. Do Democrats think Bush is more of a threat than al-Qaeda? Sadly, some do. Many on the left no longer live in the real world. They've embarked upon their own political space program and have officially left planet reality. Kerry, you have a problem.

On the contrary, at GOP rallies, Republicans chant "USA, USA." Hear the difference in tone?

Yes, a manned mission to Mars will be expensive, but consider the undertaking as an investment. The mission to the moon was costly, but the investment reaped amazing dividends, including inventions like cell phones and microwaves.

Where would we be without vision? Americans have a clear choice: Elect a smear-sighted senator or re-elect a 20/20 visionary president. I'm betting that in eight months, our president still won't need glasses. ♦

Justin Wax is a freshman history major and can be reached via e-mail at jtw2n@mtsu.edu.

WHAT A SCHMUCK!!

Sidelines' occasional watch for mutton-heads.

The next time you want to get back at an ex, doing a lot of drugs, covering yourself in meat and breaking into his or her place of residence is never a good idea, no matter what the drugs would have you believe.

Unfortunately, no one delivered that message to this week's schmuck, truly a mutton-head.

Liam McGarry caused quite a stir in the United Kingdom when he covered himself in meat and broke into his ex-girlfriend's home in an apparent act of revenge.

The incident occurred at the home of Laura Barr, who ended her relationship with McGarry approximately a month earlier. Judging by McGarry's actions, this was a good decision on her part. We can't imagine bringing home someone like McGarry to mommy.

In my court, McGarry admitted he had breached the peace last July when he used garden tools from Barr's shed to break a window and gain entrance to her home.

We feel this is a bit of an understatement, as McGarry not only broke into Barr's home, but he also hit her and proceeded to spit meat at her.

Sure, McGarry is guilty of breaching the peace ... and breaching his sanity.

McGarry's day in court proved an interesting one, as prosecutor Jonathan Miller explained the incident: "His behavior was bizarre, as he had covered himself in mince."

The court also heard



how McGarry had done so much speed that police couldn't charge him.

We feel being charged with an offense would've been the perfect buzzkill for this fine citizen.

McGarry's attorney pinned his clients actions on the amphetamines, saying, "He [McGarry] is at a complete loss to explain the significance of the mince or why he had coated himself in it."

That's reassuring. A crazed ex does drugs, covers himself in meat and then later can't explain the so-called logic he used to determine it was a good idea.

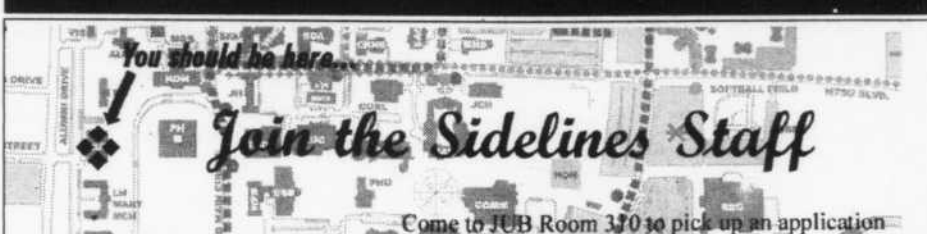
McGarry was sentenced to 18 months of probation and drug counseling.

If McGarry doesn't comply with the judge's ruling, (though we're sure he will - he has proved himself an upstanding citizen thus far), he could face some time in jail.

We hope McGarry has learned his lesson: Breaking into your ex-girlfriend's house after covering your body in mince will lead to unanswerable questions of "Why did I do that?" and "What was I thinking?" ♦

Original story by the *Daily Record*, via dailyrecord.co.uk, posted Saturday.

E-mail letters to the editor to slopinio@mtsu.edu.



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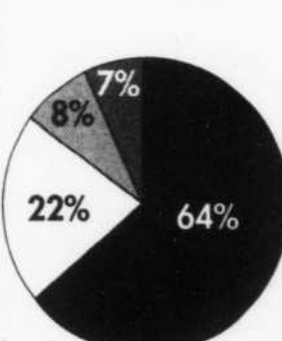
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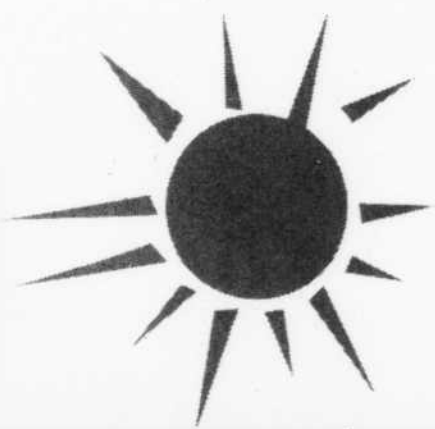
Sidelines online poll results

Last week we asked readers, "Do you have confidence in President Sidney McPhee's leadership?" Here's what you had to say:



- No, I don't trust him.
- Yes, he is being unfairly attacked.
- I'm just trying to get through midterms.
- Who's McPhee?

A guide to *safe* tanning



By Erica Payne
Staff Writer

It's heating up. Springtime is upon us, and you know what that means – Summer, the season of sun and swim, sunscreen and shades, is just around the corner.

Before heading to your local tanning salon, there are some facts about tanning that every consumer should know.

"The major danger of sun tanning is the exposure to ultraviolet light," Gabriele Brockelsby of the Murfreesboro Dermatology Clinic says. "Extended exposure to ultraviolet rays ages the skin, leads to skin cancer and causes solar radiation damage."

In addition, rashes and sunburns can develop because of exposure to ultraviolet light. Contact dermatitis and skin fungus can also result from over exposure to the ultraviolet light, according to Brockelsby.

Whether from tanning in beds or in the natural sun, harmful ultraviolet rays are present in both places.

The 2003 November-December edition of the *FDA Consumer*, the publication of the Food and Drug Administration, discourages the use of sunlamps and tanning beds.

The FDA also warns against tanning salons that offer so-called "safe rays," because there is no such thing.

Furthermore, certain medications, such as birth control pills, can make skin more susceptible to sunburns.

Most people, usually women, began their tanning habit as part of a beauty regimen.

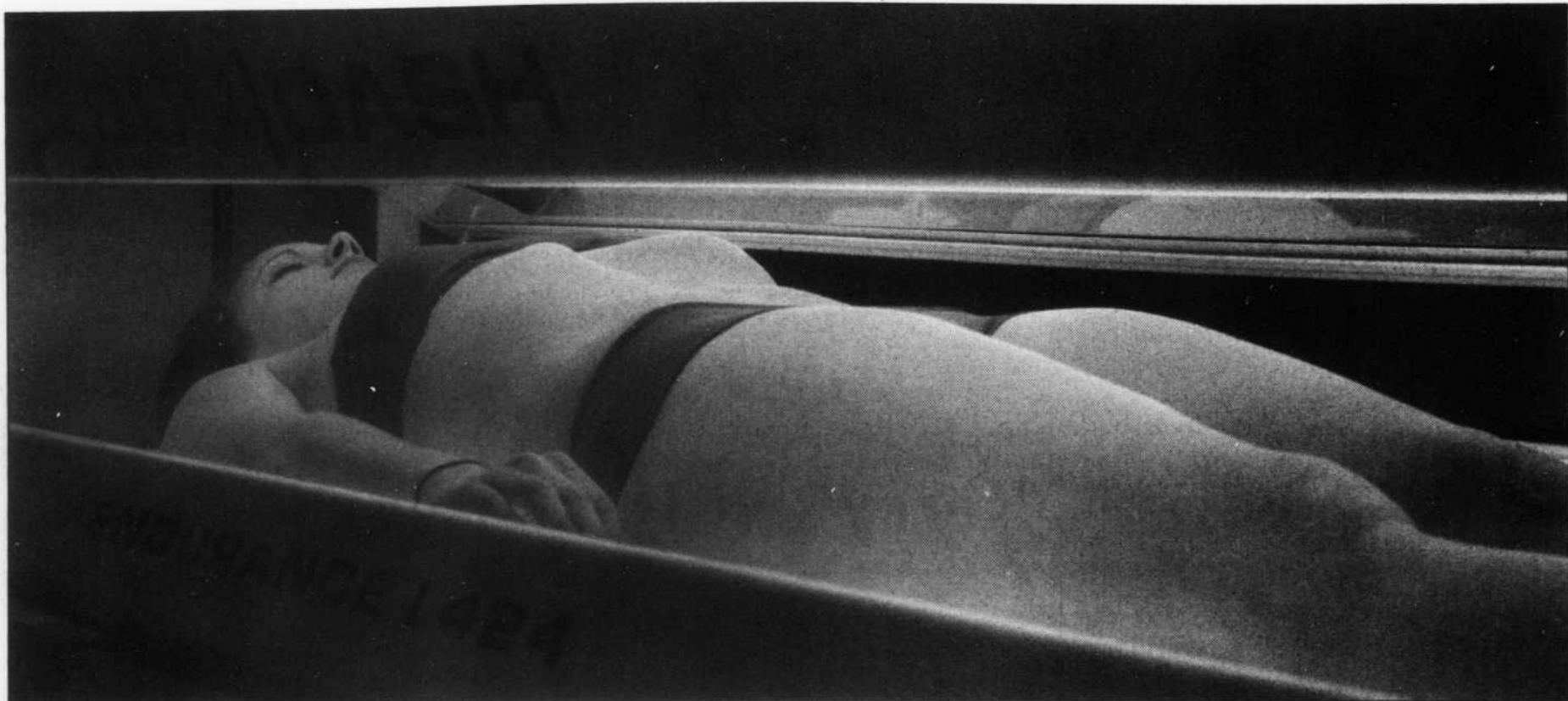


Photo Illustration by Megan Allender | Staff Photographer

According to the Food and Drug Administration, there is no such thing as safe sun rays. Excessive tanning can heighten the risk of skin cancer.

Freshman Erin Short started tanning in a salon in high school.

"A tan gives you that healthy glow," Short says.

She isn't alone in this presumption.

"I did it when I was young," Brockelsby admits.

Short uses sunscreen that diminishes the risk of cancer and wears the goggles provided by tanning salons. Short doesn't want to look like who she describes as "leather people," so she only tans once a month.

The safest way to tan is slowly and gradual, Brockelsby says.

"Your skin will thank you for it later," Brockelsby adds.

People with certain skin

conditions should use sunscreen with SPF higher than 15, according to the American Academy of Dermatology Web site.

Excessive tanning can yield conditions like melasma, which produces brown patches on the face, actinic keratosis, the earliest stage of skin cancer, and atypical nevus, a growth that resembles a jagged mole.

People with these skin conditions must take extra care while in the sun.

Sunscreen should be applied liberally to the skin 30 minutes before tanning in a salon or in the sun, according to the *FDA Consumer*. When engaged in an outdoor activity for an extend-

ed period of time, sunscreen should be applied every two hours after initial application.

Some sun exposure can be helpful also.

Pruritus, eczema, psoriasis and mycosis fungoides are skin conditions that are improved by the sun.

Tans & Stuff in Murfreesboro has about 500 to 600 customers per week.

Tans & Stuff manager Jennifer Jones does not warn her customers about the dangers of tanning.

"They should already know, but we try not to burn them," Jones says.

Like many salons, Tans & Stuff on West Northfield

Boulevard offers their customers goggles to protect their eyes from UV rays.

The tanning beds are cleaned by the customers and then again by the staff.

Tans & Stuff also offers sunless tanning as an alternative to conventional tanning beds.

The customer enters a room and a machine sprays them with a solution that darkens the skin.

Tans & Stuff sells suntan lotion, but only some of them have a SPF (sun protection factor) of 15 or higher.

Sunless tanner sprays containing dihydroxyacetone (DHA), the substance that makes skin turn a tan color, have been approved by the FDA

since 1977.

Sunless tanners are for external use only. Experts advise consumers protect the eyes, nose and other mucous membranes when using a sunless tanner.

Tanning pills, sold at some tanning salons, are associated with canthaxanthin retinopathy, an eye disorder that causes yellow deposits in the eye's retina, according to the *FDA Consumer*.

These pills also contribute to liver injury and urticaria, which is a severe itching condition.

Currently, tanning pills have not been approved by the FDA. ♦

Former country singer to perform in 'Boro

By Joey Hood
Flash Editor

If you have seen flyers for a cherubic, sandy haired folk-pop singer plastered around campus, chances are, you've caught a glimpse of the acclaimed, Los Angeles-based, Shane Mack.

The austere black flyers herald the return of Mack, a former Nashville by-the-number writer who abandoned the Music City machine in search of a more fulfilling route.

"I had a record deal over at Nashville's Curb Records," Mack explains in a recent phone interview. "But as I began making my second album with Curb, I felt pretty limited from an artistic standpoint."

After he severed his chances with the mainstream country label, Mack relocated to Los Angeles.

Mack's new sound combs the gap between the acoustically inclined John Mayer and the token Texan pluck of Mack's earlier days as an untarnished, aspiring country singer.

Currently, Mack is hoping to capitalize on the music industry's increasing interest in the singer-songwriter after years of *Total Request Live*-dominated fluff.

And through the recent success John Mayer and Jason Mraz, Mack has gained a budding legion of trendy, latte-sipping followers including Navy NCIS' Brad Hawkins and *The Blow Show*'s Jessie McNamara.

In fact, Mack halfheartedly welcomes his fashionable C-listers' dotting comparisons to of-the-moment Top 40 tune-smiths.

"At first, I wasn't real crazy

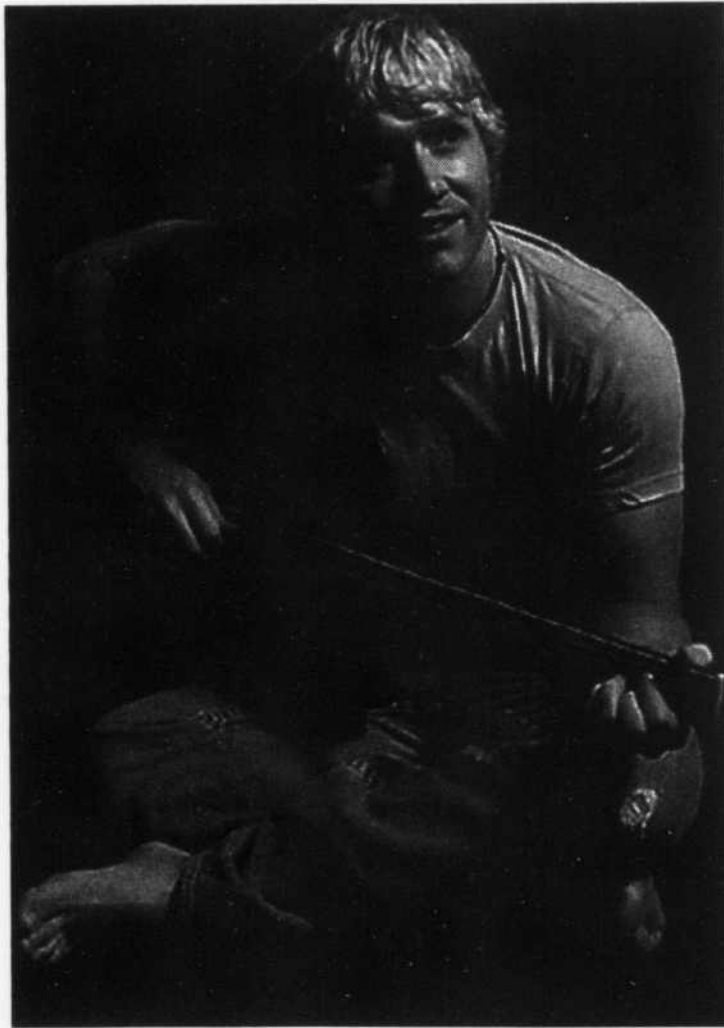


Photo Provided by Shane Mack

Mack relocated because he felt limited artistically.

about the comparisons because there were people who said, 'we already have a Jason Mraz,'" Mack said. "So I had to figure out a way to put a good twist on (the comparisons)."

Mack's twist involves cheeky onstage banter and viscerally penned ballads bereft of poppy pretense.

It is this delicate balance of commercial sensibility and uncharacteristic depth that has set Mack apart from his more

bubblegum counterparts.

You can check out Los Angeles' version of the thinking man's John Mayer for yourself Tuesday night at Wall Street, located at 121 North Maple St. The doors open at 9:00 p.m. and the cover is \$4.

For more information on Shane Mack and his current release *Rent Money*, log onto his official Web site at www.shanemack.com. ♦

Professionalism key to interview process

By Laura Taylor
Staff Writer

A thigh-skimming skirt, torn fishnet stockings with knee-high patent leather boots, a sheer, low-cut shirt and earrings that cascade halfway to the shoulders may be an acceptable outfit for a night of clubbing, but it definitely won't fly at a job interview.

Public Relations student Jennifer Devine modeled this look at last Tuesday's fashion show, hosted by MTSU's chapter of Public Relations Student Society, that demonstrated the dos and don'ts of interview attire.

Heather Davis, president of PRSSA, said that many people make the mistake of wearing clothes like this to job interviews.

"When professionals come and talk to us about interviews they always say, 'Don't wear club clothes,' so I guess people do it a lot," she says.

This is not the only fashion mistake people make when dressing for job interviews.

The opposite extreme was demonstrated by John Holliday-Stewart, who sauntered down the aisle in a baggy sweat suit with dirty tennis shoes and a backwards baseball cap. He was definitely underdressed for his interview.

These two examples of what not to wear may be a little exaggerated, but employers expect interviewees to make a good first impression, so the right outfit is essential.

Women should wear a solid-colored suit with a coordinating blouse, close-toed shoes and limited jewelry. They should

“When you go for your interview, they're expecting that this is the best you'll ever dress during the time you work there. If they see you not looking your best, they'll think it's all downhill from there.”

Heather Davis,
President of PRSSA

have a neat, professional hairstyle, wear sparse make-up and perfume and should have manicured fingernails, Davis explains.

Men should wear a solid colored suit with a long-sleeve, white dress shirt and a tie. They should wear dark colored socks and professional shoes. They should also have a neat hairstyle and should wear minimal cologne, Davis says.

"When you go for your interview, they're expecting that this is the best you'll ever dress during the time you work there," Davis says. "If they see

you not looking your best, they'll think it's all downhill from there."

In addition to dressing well, there are some other things to consider when preparing to go to an interview. The goal is to look as professional as possible. Wearing the right clothes is not the only way to do this.

"Don't bring a cheap pen, especially if it is chewed on," Davis said. "Bring one that looks nice even if it is cheap."

Davis also said not to bring a loose resume because it looks unorganized. It should be kept in a portfolio or briefcase.

She further explains that personal items like purses and cell phones should not be brought to an interview.

The article "Landing That First Job" by Heather Buckner is featured in the PRSSA's newsletter and gives some advice on other ways to make a good first impression.

"Resumes aren't just documentations of past jobs and GPAs – they are first impressions which can determine whether or not you get called in for an interview," Buckner says.

Your resume should be informative, but not cluttered. It should look neat and cohesive while informing the company of your qualifications. It must be also be straightforward and easy to read.

Another way to make a good first impression is to learn about the company that you are interviewing for.

"Before you go to an interview, research the company and learn as much as you can about

See Interview, 7

Word Search

T O R L E G T E T G E O
 Q S N U H R E V O L C N
 C V U C L I A N P L O G
 B O A K H D N I T F R B
 Y S H Y C P E V N M E E
 E A C C O O E E R B S E
 N M E H N A R L T R O R
 R C R A P T G M E Z U W
 A A P R I H A T A I V P
 L R E M W J T N I H U K
 B N L A Z E C E W B S X
 B J I G S S D L O G O Y

Word Search

Beer
Blarney

Clover
Gold
Green
Jig
Leprechaun

Lucky charm
Pot
Rainbow
Setter
Shamrock

Interview: Business attire encouraged

Continued from 6

them – when they were founded, who the management team is, what their corporate mission is, and some of their clientele or more notable projects. Also,

have at least two good questions prepared ahead of time to ask them, and make sure they reflect the research you've done," Buckner says.

A job interview can be a very daunting experience because

the image you portray could make or break the interview. Knowing that you look professional can give you the confidence that you need to win over your future employer. ♦



Please submit any upcoming campus events to
 "Campus Calendar."
 Come by JUB 310 or e-mail
slfeatur@mtsu.edu.



Campus Calendar

Monday, March 15
 Honors Lecture Series
 Paul W. Martin Honors Building
 Room 106, 3 p.m.
 Topic: "The Human Spirit, Aesthetics and the Machine"
 Tom Strawman, English
 For information, call
 615-898-2152

MTSU Horn Ensemble
 Wright Music Building
 Music Hall, 6 p.m.
 For information, call
 898-2493

Tuesday, March 16
 Perspectives on Popular Music
 "Method and Madness in Popular Music Studies"
 John Dougan, recording industry;
 Mass Comm 241, 12:30 p.m.
 For information, call
 898-2449

Wednesday, March 17
 "Women in Science"
 James Union Building Room 100, 3:30 p.m.
 For information, call
 898-5910

"Nice Girls Don't Sweat"
 Tucker Theatre, 7 p.m.
 For information, call
 898-2203

National Nutrition Month Booth
 Ellinston Human Sciences Building between
 11 a.m. and 1 p.m.
 First 50 visitors receive a free gift.

Thursday, March 18
 Leah Hulan
 Keathley University Center Theater, 11 a.m.
 For information, contact
 898-2470

"Soulful Relationships"
 Business and Aerospace Building
 Room S128, 3:30 p.m.
 For information, contact
 898-5905

"Romeo and Juliet"
 Through March 19
 Tucker Theatre, 7:30 p.m.
 For information, contact
 898-5916

Student Art Alliance Exhibit
 Deadline for art submissions
 2-D, 3-D, video and performance
 Entry fee: \$3

Friday, March 19
 Blue Raiders baseball game
 v. Dayton
 Reese Smith Field, 3 p.m.

Saturday, March 20
 Blue Raiders baseball game
 v. Dayton
 Reese Smith Field, 2 p.m.

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SPORTS

8 ♦ SIDELINES

Monday, March 15, 2004

Murfreesboro, Tenn.

Lady Rebels break netters' winning streak

By Jonathan Hutton
Staff Writer

The Middle Tennessee women's tennis team suffered their first loss since Feb. 11 as they fell at No. 27 Ole Miss 4-3 Wednesday.

The Lady Raiders got back on the winning track Saturday, however, by posting a strong 6-1 win at home against the University of Louisville. The win gives them a record of 8-3 overall with a long road trip beginning today against Vanderbilt University.

Middle Tennessee won the doubles point against Ole Miss as No. 22 Manon Kruse and Carien Venter defeated Chloe Carlotti and Virginia Tomatis 8-6 at No. 1, and Laura McNamara and Jennifer Klaschka overpowered Sabrina Pepl and Emily Ladyman 8-1 at No. 2.

Lady Rebels Karem Harboe and Florencia Basile defeated Ana Maria Cibils and Emily Vest 8-1 in the No. 3 doubles match.

In singles play, No. 50 Kruse posted her 10th consecutive win of the spring against No. 75 Carlotti 6-2, 6-2 at No. 1, keeping

Kruse undefeated on the year. No. 100 Klaschka also won, defeating Harboe 7-5, 2-6, 7-6 (6) at No. 2.

The remaining four singles matches went to Ole Miss giving the Lady Rebels the match win. Tomatis defeated Venter 6-2, 6-1 at No. 3; Basile shut out Cibils 6-0, 6-0 at No. 5; and Ladyman defeated MT's Jacqui Williams 6-3, 6-0 at No. 6 in three straight-sets victories for the Lady Rebels.

Pepl sealed the victory for Ole Miss (No. 27) when she defeated McNamara 6-7, 6-4, 6-2 in the No. 4 match.

Saturday proved to be a better day for the Lady Raiders as they faced off against Louisville at the Buck Bouldin Tennis Center on the MTSU campus. MT started the match by winning in doubles competition and never looked back.

Kruse and Venter defeated Natalie Laszkowski and Kelly Taylor 8-3 in the No. 1 doubles match. McNamara and Klaschka also claimed an 8-3 victory over Julia Hiel and Michele Spiess at No. 2. Louisville's Christina Gogol and Paige Eber pulled out a hard-fought victory over Cibils and Williams at No. 3 9-8 (7-4).

The Lady Raiders then won all but one singles match. Kruse continued her streak with a 6-4, 6-2 victory over Spiess at No. 1. Klaschka defeated Hiel 6-2, 6-0 at No. 2, and Cibils defeated Gogol 6-4, 7-5 at No. 5 in straight-sets victories for MT.

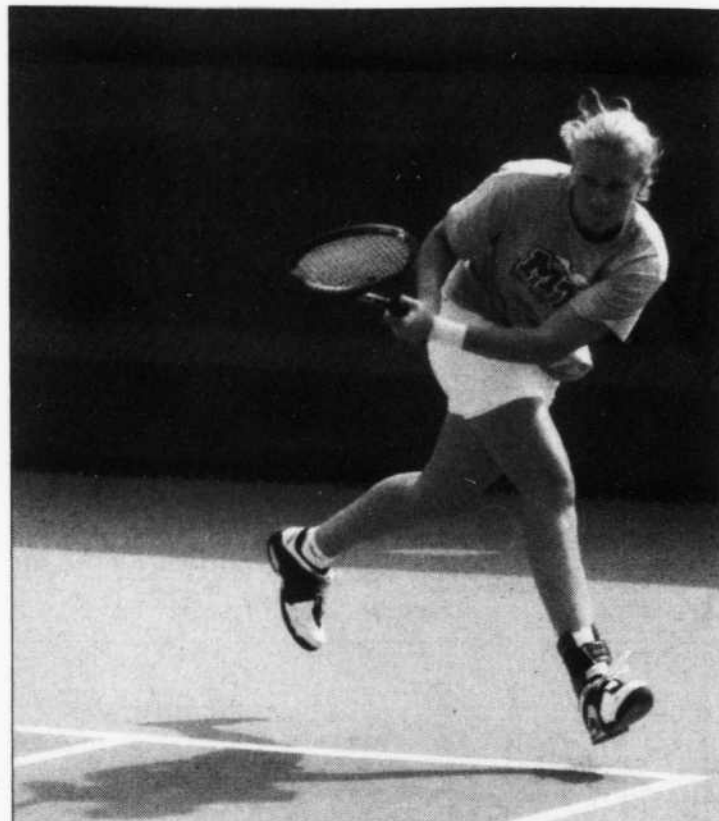
Venter and McNamara both won their matches in three sets each, with Venter defeating Taylor 6-2, 3-6, 6-4 at No. 3 while McNamara took the No. 4 match against Eber 6-1, 4-6, 6-0.

The lone point for Louisville (13-6) came in the No. 6 singles match, in which Laszkowski defeated Vest 6-4, 6-3.

MT (8-3) now hits the road for two consecutive weeks beginning today as the Lady Raiders take on the No. 4 Vanderbilt Lady Commodores (12-2). The match is set to begin at 2:30 p.m. at the Curry Tennis Center on the Vanderbilt campus. ♦

Photo by Josh Jordan | Staff Photographer

Right: Lady Raider Emily Vest returns a volley against the University of Louisville March 13. MT won 6-1.



Smith takes ballers to South Bend

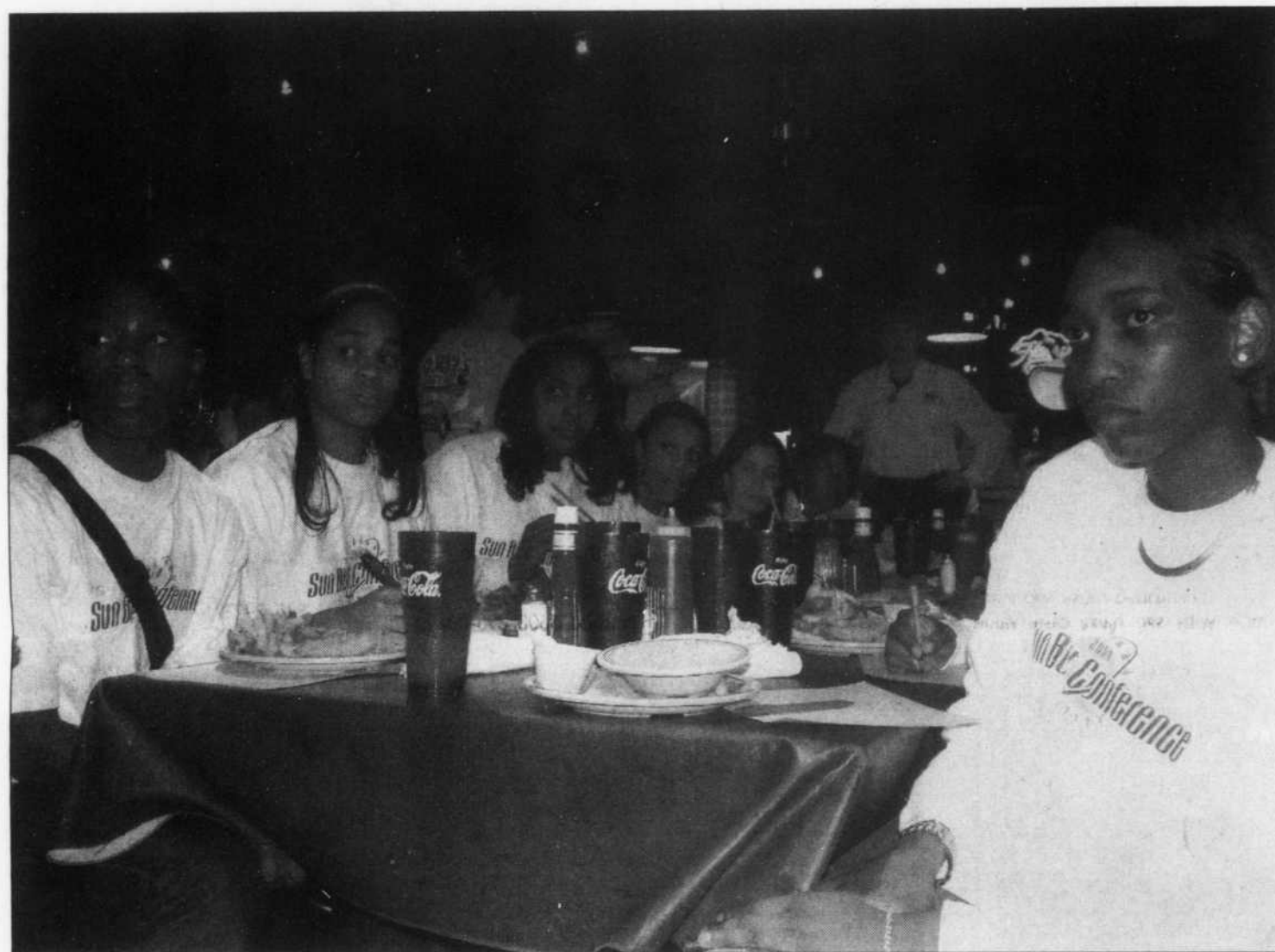


Photo by Sean Jordan | Staff Photographer

Lady Raiders await the announcement of their matchup against North Carolina in the first round of the tourney.

By Jared Hastings and Colby Sledge
Staff Writer and Assistant Sports Editor

Of all the places to start Spring Break, South Bend, Ind., probably isn't on many students' lists of hot spots.

For the Lady Raiders, however, it's just fine.

The Lady Raiders earned a No. 13 seed in the East bracket of the NCAA women's basketball tournament and will take on No. 4-seeded University of North Carolina March 21 in the first round.

"We're all excited," MT senior guard Keisha McClinic said. "We're ready to go all out and

play, and give it everything we have."

MT will take on the Tar Heels Saturday at Joyce Center on the campus of the University of North Carolina. MT will play at home against Southwest Missouri State University in the other game.

The entire team and many fans gathered at Corky's Barbecue on Old Fort Parkway yesterday to watch the selection show and find out where the Lady Raiders would go.

"I'll admit I'm a little disappointed," MT head coach Stephany Smith said after the announcement was made. "I thought we'd be a 12 seed at

worst, but we're very excited about being back in the tournament and going to play at a very storied university against a very storied opponent."

UNC, No. 9 in the latest Associated Press poll, lost 63-47 to Duke University March 8 in the Atlantic Coast Conference tournament title game. The Tar Heels (24-6) are led by freshman Camille Little, who was named the Atlantic Coast Conference Rookie of the Year after averaging 14.1 points and 8.0 points per game in her first season.

Little, an All-American finalist, was named to the All-ACC first team and to the All-ACC Tournament first team as well.

"Our ace in the hole all year has been our athleticism, but North Carolina is a very athletic team, so it is going to take our best effort," Smith said.

The Lady Raiders (23-7) earned a trip to the tournament after defeating Western Kentucky University 79-57 March 9 to capture the Sun Belt Conference Tournament title.

The trip is MT's first since 1998 and just the ninth in school history, the Lady Raiders are determined to make their stay last as long as possible.

"We're going to win," McClinic said. "We're not just going to be going, we're going to win. We want to play hard and earn some respect." ♦

Lady Raiders to face Vanderbilt today

By Michael Bailey
Staff Writer

Middle Tennessee's women's tennis team travels to Nashville to take on Southeastern Conference opponent No. 4 Lady Commodores (12-2, 4-1) of Vanderbilt University today.

The match at the Brownlee O. Curry tennis center will mark the fourth time this season the Lady Raiders compete against an SEC foe. The Lady Raiders hope to bounce back from their last encounter with the conference, a 4-3 loss to Ole Miss Wednesday.

Vanderbilt is undefeated so far this year at home and will be looking forward to getting reacquainted with their home court. The Lady Commodores have not played a match since March 7, when they defeated South Carolina on the road.

MT, on the other hand, has played twice in that period-the near miss in Oxford and a resounding 6-1 win against the University of Louisville Lady Cardinals Saturday in

Murfreesboro.

"I was very impressed by the way we beat a very good Louisville team," head coach Randy Holden said. "Vanderbilt is one of the top teams in the nation. We are looking at a good opportunity to have a really tight

"Vanderbilt is one of the top teams in the nation ... It would be a huge win to beat a top 5 team."

— Randy Holden
Lady Raiders tennis head coach

match. It would be a huge win to beat a top 5 team."

Vanderbilt relies on a lineup that includes senior Kelly Schmandt and Aleke Tsoubanos, the No. 2 doubles tandem in the country. Slightly behind them in the doubles rankings at No. 10 are Audra Falk and Annie Menees.

Falk is currently No. 28 in singles play in

the nation. The well does not run dry after her, though. Four of Vanderbilt's six singles players are ranked in the top 100 in the nation by the International Tennis Association.

MT will counter Falk with the school's career singles wins leader Manon Kruse, who is No. 50 in singles play and has not lost a set this spring.

"We have a lot of ranked players as well," said Holden. "We match up well with them at the top. We will need a strong performance from our Nos. 4-6."

Saturday's performance proved to be an encouraging one for Holden heading into Vanderbilt as juniors Ana Maria Cibils and Emily Vest earned singles along with senior Laura McNamara to complement another Kruse win, further distancing herself from former record holder Amy King.

"We are looking to use the match at Vandy to get better," Holden said. "We want to use the experience to prepare for the conference tournament." ♦

MT baseball team beats Bruins 10-2

By Jon Leffew
Staff Writer

The Middle Tennessee baseball team finished an eight-game road trip on a high note Wednesday, defeating the Belmont University Bruins at Greer Stadium in Nashville 10-2.

Several Blue Raiders turned in impressive offensive performances, led by preseason All-American Brett Carroll.

Carroll, a junior third baseman, belted two homers and scored three runs while also driving in four runs in the contest. Carroll's home runs extend his hitting streak to eight games.

Sophomore outfielder Chase Eakes had a nice day at the plate as well, going two for three with three runs batted in.

While Carroll and Eakes led the way for the Blue Raiders on offense, junior pitcher Eric Blevins did his part on the mound.

Blevins, in his first career start, threw 6 and 1/3 solid innings. The transfer from Walters State Community College gave up eight hits and two earned runs and walked one.

Blevins' teammates gave him a huge cushion to work with early on, as MT scored two runs in each of the first two innings.

After Eric McNamee singled to begin the game, Carroll connected for his first home run of the game, a towering shot to left field.

MT struck again in the sec-

ond, as Eakes led off the inning with a long double to center-field. Two batters later, Troy Harp singled to score Eakes. McNamee got his second hit of the game to plate Harp, a two-out single up the middle.

Blue Raider bats then cooled down for two innings, but a four-run fifth increased the lead to 8-0.

After singles by McNamee and Jeff Beachum, Shane Kemp walked to load the bases.

Bruin relief pitcher Brandon Paetznick then walked Carroll to plate a run, after which Eakes ripped a bases-clearing triple to right field to give the Blue Raiders the 8-0 lead.

MT scored again in the seventh as Carroll hit his second home run of the game, a solo shot to left field.

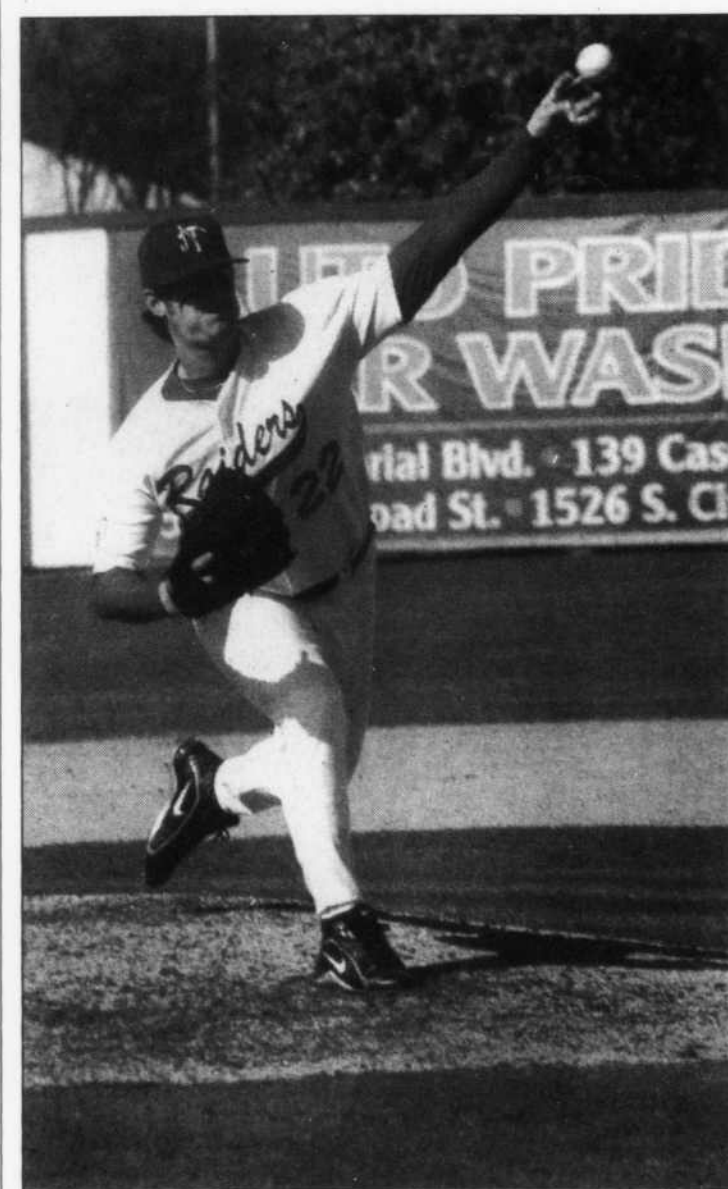
The Bruins also scored in the seventh, plating two runs on three hits.

However, MT reliever Adam Scott came in to work 1 and 2/3 scoreless innings before giving way to Danny Borne for the last three outs of the game.

MT tacked on another run in the top of the ninth as Kemp extended his hitting streak to seven games with a solo home run to left field.

With the win, the Blue Raiders moved to 9-2 overall. The team went 6-2 on their road trip, including five straight wins.

The Blue Raiders will head back on the road to face Samford University for a two-game series starting Tuesday. ♦



File Photo

Blue Raider pitcher Steve Kline delivers a pitch to Indiana Purdue-Fort Wayne Feb. 22. MT won 4-0.

No honey for Bears at Reese Smith

By Jared Hastings
Staff Writer

After an eight-game road trip, the Blue Raider baseball team returned home to Reese Smith Field to face 2003 College World Series participant Southwest Missouri State University.

The Blue Raiders started quickly, getting all the runs they needed in the bottom of the first when Shane Kemp drove in leadoff hitter Eric McNamee with a single, followed by Derek Phillips' single that plated shortstop Jeff Beachum, jumping out to a 2-0 lead.

Blue Raider hurler Chris Mobley allowed a hit to the first batter he faced but retired 23 of the next 25, with catcher Troy Harp throwing out the other two before allowing a run and a walk with two outs in the top of the ninth.

But the junior from Kingsport, Tenn., rallied to record his career-high 11th strikeout and also earned his first complete game shutout in a Blue Raider uniform. Mobley got the win, improving to 3-1 on the season.

"My arm felt great from the first pitch to the final pitch," Mobley said.

SMSU starter Derek Drage took the loss but was solid after the first, only giving up

solo homers to Harp in the second and Kemp in the fifth. The junior pitched eight innings and took the loss, dropping him to 2-1 on the season and the Bears to 4-7.

"[Drage] kept them in the game, but Mobley never let them in the game," Blue Raider head coach Steve Peterson said. "He [Mobley] had great command and was changing speeds. When he's on like that, you're going to have to be very disciplined to hit him."

Middle Tennessee got off to a fast start again on Saturday, going up 2-0 on sophomore shortstop Jeff Beachum's first career homer, a two-run shot over the left field wall, but the Bears touched MT ace John Williams for a two-run homer by third baseman Brad Woodmansee in the second and a three-run job by catcher Jud Kindle in the third as SMSU jumped out to a 5-4 lead.

"That's the mark of a good ball club," Williams said. "It wasn't that I had bad stuff today; I left a couple of pitches up and they took advantage. You have to give them credit for that."

Coming into the game, Williams had been one of the most dominating pitchers in the country, giving up just one run in three starts for an earned run average of 0.42. After the third, Williams settled down

to retire 9 of 11 batters he faced before being lifted for Travis Horschel in the seventh. SMSU left fielder Kirk McConnell's seeing eye single through the left side of the infield drove in Brooks Colvin from third to give the Bears a 6-4 advantage in the seventh.

But the fireworks were far from over as pinch hitter Josh Archer's monster blast over the wall in left center cut the lead back to one in the bottom of the eighth.

With one out in the ninth, Nate Jagers' pinch hit single put the tying run aboard, and he advanced to second on a Jeff Gray wild pitch, but McNamee grounded out to third and Beachum's looper over the right side of the infield was snagged by SMSU second baseman Jeremy Neyra to secure the win.

"The main thing we look for is quality at-bats," Peterson said. "We had some of those today, but we also had some bad ones where we weren't patient."

Brett Sinkbeil (1-1) earned the win for SMSU, while Williams (3-1) took his first loss of the season for Middle Tennessee.

The Blue Raiders head to Samford University next for a two-game series beginning Tuesday at 6 p.m. ♦

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New Never installed Kohler 6 Jet Hydramassage Luxury Bath Tub. Complete with motor assembly. Measures almost 6 ft by 4 ft. Retail for over \$1,000. Sale with free local delivery, \$575. Please call 615-578-3377 for more info.

Female black lab, AKC registered, 9 months old, spayed and current shots. Friendly, loving and smart. Must sell. \$90. Call 890-8791 before 6 p.m.

For Sale: Car Stereo equipment. 2 Cerwin Vega subs in custom box, 3 Amps, all high end wiring. \$500 obo. Large sleeper sofa. \$60 obo. Large entertainment center. Accommodates 32" TV with room for components behind glass doors, \$75 obo. 300 MGHZ computer with 256 megs or ram. Great Internet/Word processor machine. Comes with 14" monitor. \$170 obo. Wooden side table 3" x 18" \$40 obo. Contact Kristi @ 867-4826 or 473-2473.

7.2 inch Pyle remote controlled flip down cart TV New with dome lights \$200 obo. New Custom built Sun visor with 7.2 inch Casio TV with remote control \$200 obo. Call 901-351-7480.

1993 Toyota Camry XLE, green, auto, CD, sunroof, power, leather, 147K miles. \$3300. Contact Adam or Kim, 366-5105 or 668-9015.

Twin Mattress and box springs set for sale. Almost new. \$90 obo. Bedding available for extra. Call 668-2014

Scuba gear!! Fins, booties, mask. \$200. Call Amanda 653-3046.

Wanted to Buy

Cash loans on valuables. Buy Gold Jewelry, Weapons, Musical Instruments, Coins. 896-7167 Come in, 1803 N.W. Broad St. M'boro Gold-n-Pawn.

Roommate

Roommate wanted- Female. Rent is \$375 w/ All utilities included. About 10 min. from campus. No Deposit required. Call 931-580-2715 or 615-222-4251.

Roommate or Couple Wanted To share 2 BD/2BA apt. Move in May

1st. \$410/mo. includes rent, utilities, internet, phone, and cable. Contact JD at 615-596-7515.

Roommate Wanted: Homeowner in town wants tenant to live in 3-bedroom house. No long term lease required. Rent is \$375/mo. includes electricity, cable, water, and local phone. Cell # 330-3937. Ask for John.

For Rent

2 BD Historic house. Close to MTSU-all modern conveniences. Central Heat & Air. Water furnished. \$600. 895-0075.

Raiders Crossing 1 BD in 3 BD apt. Room has free tanning, pool/hot tub view, balcony overlooks pool, \$425/mo., furnished. Only one roommate lives there now. Call for details 498-4713.

Room for rent @ Sterling University Gables. \$350/month includes water and electric, shuttle bus, ethernet, game room, basketball and volleyball courts. Handicap accessible. Call Jesse ASAP 653-7946.

Raiders Crossing Apt. for rent- 425, 3 BD, 3 BA and fully furnished. #1 apt. in awards. Call me Saleh at 615-456-6711.

Subleasing

1BD, 1BA Apt. to sublease, across the street from MTSU. Need someone to take over lease ASAP. Call Barbara, 481-3620.

4BD/ 4BA Apt. Female sub-leaser needed ASAP! Awesome roommates! Tennis court, basketball court, outdoor pool, free tanning. University Courtyards. Top floor apartment. \$395/ month. All utilities included. Call 289-7931 if interested.

Female sub-leaser needed for a 4BD/4BA apt. @ The Woods @ Greenland. Great roommates, free tanning and workout facility, year around hot tub. Rent is \$399, includes water, electric, premium cable, and T3 internet connection. Fully furnished w/ washer&dryer. Available in May. Call 423-432-2312, leave msg.

Do you want to get off Campus for the summer? Spacious BD with personal full bath, clean carpet, furnished(w/washer/dryer) with ALL utilities included!!! Share with one respectable female roommate. Downstairs unit in University Courtyard for \$485/month!!! Call for negotiations: 904-8861 and ask for Jamie L. Looking to sub-lease as early as May 2004.

Male sub-leaser wanted for the

summer at Sterling Gables. It is a 4 BD, 2 BA apartment with access to gameroom, hot tub, pool, and tanning bed. Move in at beginning of May. Rent is \$330/ month. For more information Call Clay at 865-660-2041.

Sterling Gables across from new Wal-Mart. Furnished 4 BD 2BA, all MTSU male students. Take over till August receive \$100. Take over new August '04 lease get \$400 from me! Pool, fitnesscenter and game room included at clubhouse. Call Brian at 615-545-2478.

Female Sub-leaser wanted @ University Courtyard Apt. in a 4 BD, 4BA. All utilities paid including cable and phone. Rent \$350/month, but get 1st month free. Move in ASAP. Call Keiana @ 931-629-1694.

Pets

Cute black palmarainen, 12 wks. old all shots, proof of authenticity. Call Courtney 931-409-0911 or 217-0694.

Spring Break

#1 Spring Break Vacations! Cancun, Jamaica, Acapulco, Bahamas, & Florida! Best parties, best hotels, best prices! Space is limited! Book now & save! 1-800-234-007 www.endlesssummertours.com

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www.sandpiperbeacon.com

Policies

Sidelines will be responsible only for the first incorrect insertion of any classified advertisement. No refunds will be made for partial cancellations. Sidelines reserves the right to refuse any advertisement it deems objectionable for any reason. Classifieds will only be accepted on a prepaid basis. Ads may be placed in the Sidelines office in James Union Building, Room 310, or faxed to (615) 904-8193. For more information call (615) 904-8154. Ads are not accepted over the phone. Ads are free for students and faculty.

TSSAA Girls High School State Tournament

All games played in Murphy Center

Class A			
Wednesday 11 a.m.	Clay County 58	Clay County 51	Peabody 37
	Perry County 62		
	Cosby 43	Friday 11 a.m.	
Wednesday 12:30 p.m.	Peabody 68	Peabody 64	
	Unaka 34		Saturday 3 p.m.
Wednesday 2 p.m.	Clarkrange 62	Clarkrange 34	
	Huntingdon 56	Friday 12:30 p.m.	Clarkrange 52
Wednesday 5:30 p.m.	Summertown 40	Huntingdon 31	
Class AA			
Wednesday 7 p.m.	Loretto 49	Seymour 60	McMinn Central 38
	Seymour 54		
	Crockett County 55	Friday 2 p.m.	
Wednesday 8:30 p.m.	McMinn Central 63	McMinn Central 62	
	Oliver Springs 63		Saturday 5 p.m.
Thursday 11 a.m.	Cheatham Co. 60	Oliver Springs 37	
	Gibson County 56	Friday 5:30 p.m.	Livingston Aca. 50
Thursday 12:30 p.m.	Livingston Aca. 71	Livingston Aca. 70	
Class AAA			
Thursday 2 p.m.	Greeneville 56	Greeneville 39	Shelbyville 57
	Wilson Central 42		
	Shelbyville 74	Friday 7 p.m.	
Thursday 5:30 p.m.	J. North Side 45	Shelbyville 48	
	Columbia 41		Saturday 7 p.m.
Thursday 7 p.m.	Craigmont 55	Craigmont 57	
	Brentwood 56	Friday 8:30 p.m.	Craigmont 43
Thursday 8:30 p.m.	Powell 60	Powell 54	

Got something to shout about?
Sound off!



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THE STUDENT NEWSPAPER OF MIDDLE TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY



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Earnhardt Jr. gets back in gear after lousy run one week ago

By Keith Parson
AP Writer

HAMPTON, Ga. (AP) - One of the worst runs of his career probably helped Dale Earnhardt Jr. save his season.

A week after he nearly was parked for running too slow, Junior zoomed by Jeremy Mayfield with 15 laps to go and sprinted to an easy victory Sunday in the Golden Corral 500 at Atlanta Motor Speedway. He also won the season-opening Daytona 500.

"Last week was as bad as it ever gets," Earnhardt said. "But we didn't get on each other too bad, and we stayed pretty focused."

Rookie Kasey Kahne was third - his third straight finish in the top three - and Jimmie Johnson and Ryan Newman followed him across the finish line.

Defending series champ Matt Kenseth, who had won the past two races, rallied from a lap down to finish sixth.

At Las Vegas last Sunday, Earnhardt started 26th and quickly drifted to the rear of the field at the start. His Chevrolet was so far off the pace that

NASCAR warned his crew he was right at the minimum speed.

After eventually finishing 35th, Earnhardt and the team spent Thursday testing at Kentucky Speedway. Just as their session was ending, they hit on a setup that worked, and Earnhardt was fast all weekend at Atlanta.

"We went testing, and we're going testing this week," Earnhardt said. "We're going to test, test, test, until we lap the field."

"I'm determined and devoted to running like this every week, no matter what it costs."

He qualified seventh and stayed near the front, then dominated the latter stages. He passed Mayfield's Dodge for the lead with 60 laps to go and held the top spot until the leaders made their final pit stops under green.

Mayfield came in with 26 to go and his crew changed four tires in 14.3 seconds, then Earnhardt followed three laps later. His stop was nearly a second faster, but he came back on the track in third, behind Mayfield and Johnson.

With 20 laps left, Earnhardt drove by Johnson on the inside and set his sights on Mayfield. He didn't take long.

Junior ran up high in Turns one and two to get momentum, then swooped underneath Mayfield down the backstretch, moving into the lead with hardly a struggle.

"We had a great car to start with, but it just seemed as the race went on, the tighter we got," Mayfield said of his car's handling. "Dale Jr. and those guys got ahead of the track and we didn't."

Kenseth started 30th and was up to 13th after 15 laps, and eventually got to sixth before the first pit stops. But he made a rare mistake, spinning his Ford as he came into the pits, and dropped a lap down after a drive-through penalty.

He made up the ground during the second caution for oil on the track, because he was the first lapped car behind the leader, and got his fourth straight top-10 finish to start the season.

Kenseth leads Tony Stewart by 82 points, with Earnhardt another eight points back. ♦

Clarkrange prevents Peabody from duplicating last season

Staff Reports

Three high school girls basketball teams hoisted state championship trophies Saturday at Murphy Center.

In Class A, Clarkrange (29-8) prevented reigning champion Peabody (31-5) from repeating with a 52-37 victory. The win was the first title for Clarkrange since 1995 and its seventh overall.

Clarkrange's Michelle Snow led all scorers with 25 points and was named Class A Tournament MVP after the game. Tanika Long led Peabody with 13 points.

In Class AA, Livingston Academy won its first championship since 1999 when the Lady Wildcats (37-3) defeated McMinn Central 50-38.

The victory ended Jackson County's four-year stranglehold on the trophy. McMinn Central (30-8) defeated Jackson County in the semifinals.

Lady Wildcat Katrina Beechboard finished with 25 points and 15 rebounds and was named

the Class AA Tournament MVP.

Livingston Academy also tied the state tournament record for three-pointers in the tournament with 21.

Shelbyville added another chapter to its epic dominance of Class AAA as the Eaglettes (31-5) defeated Craigmont 57-43 to capture Shelbyville's 12th state title and fourth in five years.

Craigmont (33-4) made its first appearance in the state tournament and led 15-14 midway through the second quarter, but Shelbyville went on a 10-4 run to end the second half and never looked back.

Shelbyville's Ashleigh Newman earned her second straight Class AAA Tournament MVP after posting a game-high 18 points and eight rebounds. All-American Alex Fuller finished with 11 points.

The boys' state tournament will take center stage at Murphy Center this week as play begins Wednesday. ♦

Sidelines is now accepting application for...

Editor in chief

[1855-60, Amer.]

editor in chief, a position of great responsibility and honor, is sought for the Sidelines office. The ideal candidate will be a student at MTSU, registered for classes at the time of application. The position is open to students of all ethnicities, ages, and genders. The candidate should have a 2.3 cumulative GPA at the time of application. The candidate should have worked on staff at least two semesters or have comparable media experience. The candidate should provide three letters of recommendation, a current transcript and no more than five examples of their work, professionally submitted.

Summer/Fall 2004
May-December appointment

Qualified candidates must:

- Be a student at MTSU, registered for classes at the time of application.
- Have a 2.3 cumulative GPA at the time of application.
- Have worked on staff at least two semesters or have comparable media experience.
- Provide three letters of recommendation, a current transcript and no more than five examples of their work, professionally submitted.

Deadline for Applications:

Friday
April 2, 2004
at 12:00 p.m.

Editors receive a full tuition scholarship and a salary tenure. Applications may be picked up from the MTSU Sidelines office, JUB 310, 9 am - 4:30 pm, Monday through Friday. Return the applications to Jeri Lamb, Sidelines Business Manager, in the Sidelines office, JUB 308B