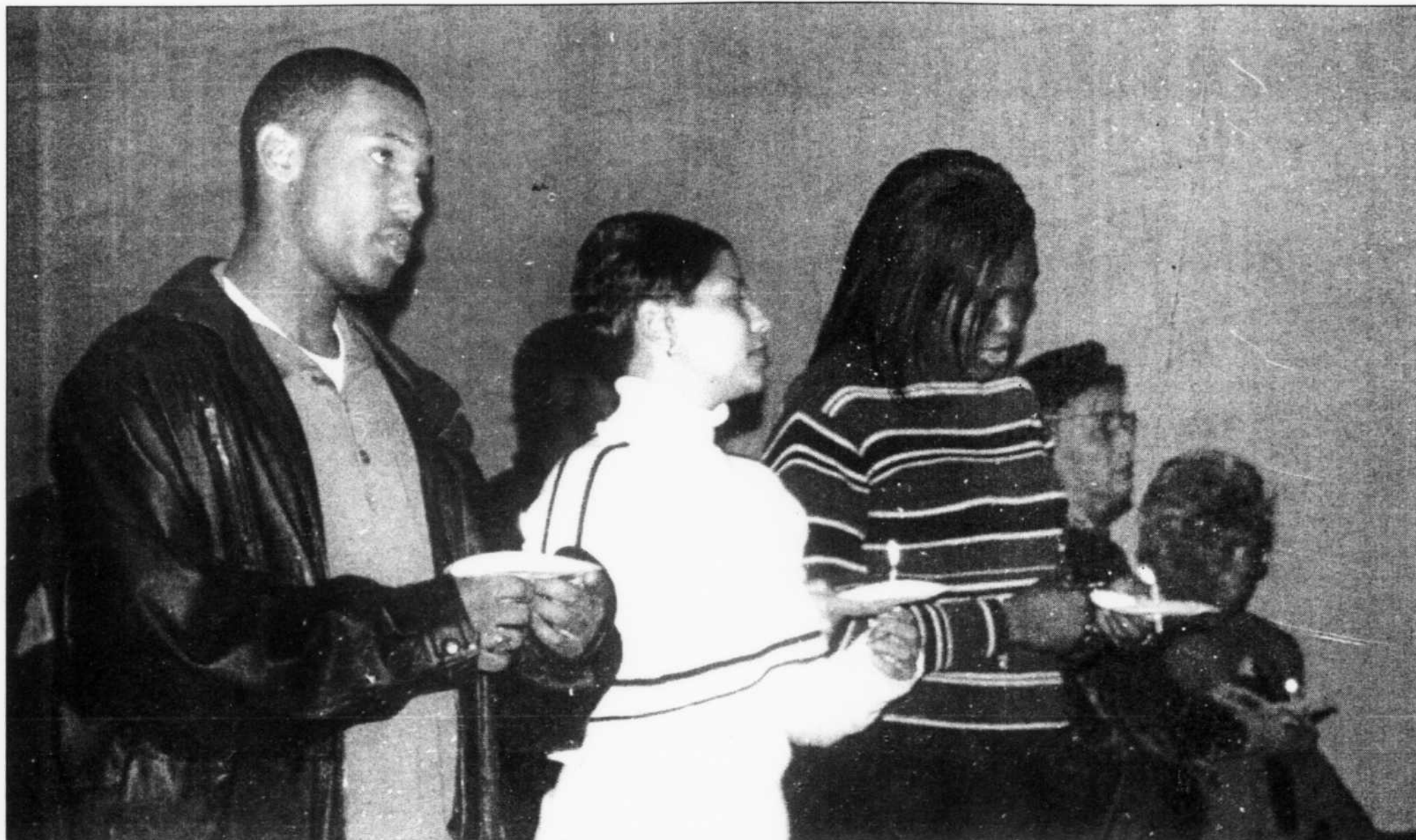




Vigil held to honor MLK

Students find lecture notes online



Students listen to Sheila Peters at a Martin Luther King, Jr. Day vigil held by Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity Monday.

Photo by Erika Pryor | Staff Photographer

Erika Pryor
Contributing Writer

Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity Inc. held a candlelight vigil in the Keathley University Center theater honoring Martin Luther King Jr. and his work in the fight for civil rights Monday.

Psychologist Sheila Peters spoke of King as being human and kind, then raised the question, "Why can't we as black people treat each other in a human and kind way?"

"People died for us to be respected!" said Peters, when speaking about how some African Americans refer to each other with racial slurs. "It is not now nor has it ever been okay for one black person to refer to another black person as their 'nigger.'"

"I mean to step on some toes, so hold your feet up," she told the silent crowd.

She addressed the fact that African Americans are saved by education. Peters went on to explain a statement made by

Alice Walker, that Bill Clinton was the first African American president, because he is the first president to build up the African community and give African Americans roles of high responsibility in his campaign.

"The vigil was very uplifting," said MTSU student Nikki Rowland. "I wish more students had shown up."

Peters also discussed a problem with black organizations' lack of unity, when she spoke of King's greatest fear. His fear was that an African American would defy the boycott.

"On the first day of the Montgomery bus boycott, he prayed to God that no black person would defy the boycott," Peters said. "But he was relieved when the first bus pulled up, not a single black person on it."

She spoke of King's sacrifice and how he lived knowing that his life was being threatened daily.

"When she said that she wanted to forget that there was a black curtain on the school bus separating the black kids from

the white kids, it really stuck with me," commented Rashaad Craft, a member of the African American Student Association.

Peters addressed the fact that some black Americans were satisfied with the status quo.

She remembers her grandmother saying of King, "He had better leave things alone." But Peters wants to move forward from the black curtain and no longer be separated by physical barriers.

Peters spoke on such issues as the Montgomery bus boycott and how it was the start of the civil rights movement, but she did not stop there. She went on to teach her listeners that a group of young ladies in Rosa Parks' youth group in the Montgomery, Ala., chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, gave her the idea, because they had tried sitting in the front of the bus before but were not taken seriously. They were told that they were too young to understand what they were doing.

"Young people started it all!" Peters exclaimed, advising listeners not to be discouraged or to let anyone tell them that they were too young to make a difference. Peters expressed that her generation had not done their job of teaching the present generation, and she doesn't want this generation to make the same mistake.

"The power of integration is in your hands," she said.

"The vigil was very inspirational," said MTSU student Luke Burke. "She brought up a lot of views and ideas about how African Americans overlook certain things in society that are very significant to who we are as black people. She helped to explore the African American side of racism."

Peters was on a moral rampage with issues such as African Americans in Hollywood and the struggle of the NAACP to promote more black actors and actresses. She also discussed racism in sports, athletes and education. Peters suggested that athletes should want to move

forward in their education and learn how to articulate in their speech. Black athletes should focus not only on athletics but also education, she said.

"I have a new found appreciation for the people who fought for the civil rights that we [black Americans] have today," said Rowland.

Peters stated the evening's theme, "What Would Dr. King Do?"

Until his death, he was challenging the nation to do something new, she said. She feels King would be adamant about three things: unity in the black community, equality in law enforcement and the accurate representation of black people on television.

"Don't give up the fight," urged Peters. "March on in your classes, and continue the struggle by being educated, so that you can build up your brothers and sisters."

Peters left her audience with this challenge, "Educate to uplift, not to divide."

Websites offering free lecture notes for students are sparking debate among college faculties and students nationwide.

One such website, verity.com, lists a series of generalized core classes—such as chemistry and western civilization—that correspond to similar classes at schools such as MTSU.

"If students are going online to pick up lectures, for example, and it helps them to pass my class, then I think it's a helpful tool," said Sandra Johnson, professor of biology.

For other institutions students can find specific lecture notes by course number.

With only a few mouse clicks, students can log on to the website, which boasts it has notes for more than 3,500 classes on 88 campuses nationwide, access the notes and print them out. Students can also sign up to be note-takers, and are paid \$300 per course.

"If students are going online to pick up lectures, for example, and it helps them to pass my class, then I think it's a helpful tool,"

Sandra Johnston

While Johnson said she doesn't feel that professors should try to keep information out of the hands of students, she said she doesn't particularly like the aspect that "I now have to run around and worry about copyrighting my lectures, which takes a lot of effort and brain time to assemble."

It is precisely the issue of copyright that has prompted some universities to consider taking legal action against the companies behind websites such as verity, as well as study24-7.com and studentU.com, similar websites that offer free lecture notes.

According to a recent report in "The Chronicle of Higher Education," officials of the University of California's Berkeley and Los Angeles campuses recently mailed cease-and-desist letters to two companies that are publishing lecture notes from the two institutions.

"We consider the copyright question to be a distinct and separate question," Mike Smith, assistant chancellor for legal affairs at Berkeley, told "The Chronicle of Higher Education." There's really no good case law on this.

Wendy Thompson, MTSU university counsel and assistant to the president, said that MTSU does not currently have a policy prohibiting the use of online notes. She added that any such policy initiatives would likely come through the academic affairs department.

"I tend to be a little suspicious of the Internet and the possibilities it opens up," said Rob McDaniel, professor of political science.

"I think there are some possibilities for abuse with sites like this, but they are generally mild," McDaniel said. "My basic instinct, as well as that of my colleagues, is that it's not currently as much of a threat as we think it is. At best it's just a supplement and inferior to the experience of going to class."

One concerned faculty member at Purdue University, Mathieu Deflem, has begun crusading against the online companies.

Deflem's criminology course,

See **Online**, 2

Radio station changes studios

Kipp Cavalier
Staff Reporter

A new studio brings WMTS student-run radio into the next century. Students at the radio station clocked countless hours during the winter break transforming the former station office into attractive, contemporary broadcast headquarters.

The staff hopes the upgrades will be just a few of many to come. They continue working toward boosting the transmitting signal, blasting Nashville with the sounds the almost five-year-old station.

John Eaton, the station's promotional director, raised \$3000 for the new furniture, component racks and lighting with fund-raisers held last semester at Sebastian's. The bands High Strung and Kill Devil Hills performed free, allowing WMTS the evenings' door cover.

According to Andy Morris, station engineer, the recording industry department "contracts

out construction of their studios. We built this ourselves."

A portion of student fees each semester bought new electronics for the station, giving DJs the chance to operate in an environment similar to commercial studios. WMTS came into being using leftover equipment from its sister station WMOT.

The latest project was paid for exclusively with station-generated funds. However, activity fees have contributed toward past and ongoing upgrades for the station such as real studio microphones, an optical turntable fader and CD burner. The station's managers said a CD burner would allow for profanity-free music to be added to the automated system used when there is not a DJ on duty.

Jeffrey Lassiter, program director, suggests that the new studio has boosted DJ morale.

"They feel like they are working at a real radio station."

Track lighting donated by WMOT, new carpet and nearly three times the floor space give

students productive workspace. The previous studio had a thrown-together feel with inadequate equipment storage space, a desk made out of a door, tattered orange and olive green carpeting and fluorescent lights. The former studio, once providing less than six square feet of working area has become an adequate station office.

Expected additions to WMTS include its own radio transmitter. The station plans to return the transmitter it uses now to WMOT for backup in case that station's Nashville broadcast fails.

With the help of Gary Brown, WMOT station engineer, WMTS is seeking FCC approval to broadcast as far as Nashville. The current transmitter is capable of handling the strengthened signal with little additional equipment.

Morris feels the station's heightened exposure will present potential students with the option of attending MTSU for serious broadcast experience. ■



Photo by Kipp Cavalier | Staff Photographer

DJs broadcast the show "Shut up and Drive" from WMTS's new studio.

Hi!

Watch for us!!

Special Events

MTSU Fine Arts
presents

African American
Images in Film

Sunday
Jan. 23 - 3 p.m.
KUC Theater
FREE and OPEN



The Color Purple

Whoopi Goldberg made her feature debut in this powerful drama, and her Academy Award-nominated performance as the simple, abused Celie, forever waiting for a letter from her beloved, long-lost sister, is still the most powerful work she has done. Super-director Steven Spielberg took a lot of flack for tackling Alice Walker's controversial Pulitzer Prize-winning novel because (a) he's male, (b) he's white, and (c) he was not, at the time, perceived as a "serious" filmmaker. Allen Daviau's lush cinematography and the richly detailed supporting performances of Margaret Avery as a charismatic blues singer and Oprah Winfrey as the feisty Sophia are highlights, while Danny Glover and Adolph Caesar provide ballast as the villainous men in Celie's life. (155 minutes, color, 1985, PG)

KUC THEATRE

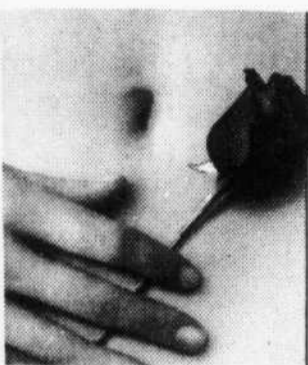
Spring Films '00



Jan. 24/25/26/27 Jan. 31	Fight Club - R julien donkey-boy - R
Feb. 1/2/3 Feb. 7/8/9/10 Feb. 15/16/17 Feb. 21/22/23/24 Feb. 28/29	julien donkey-boy - R Romance - R The Best Man - R Bringing Out the Dead - R After Life - nr
Mar. 1/2 Mar. 6/8/9 Mar. 13/14/15/16 Mar. 20/21/22/23	After Life - nr Being John Malkovich - R Toy Story 2 - G Dogma - R
April 3/4/5/6 April 10/11/12/13	Next Friday - R Princess Mononoke - PG13

Showings at 7:00 and 9:30 p.m.
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KUC Theater



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Visit our website:
www.mtsu.edu/~specevt
Sign-up for our list server events-l.

On Campus

compiled by
Wesley Bush

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

Jan. 22

Campus Recreation will host a caving trip to Southport Cave. Participants will meet at the Rec Center at 7:30 a.m. and will leave the Rec Center at 8 a.m. Cost is \$10 for students and \$12 for guests. Space is limited to 10 people. Contact Mitch, Sean or W.T. at 898-2104 for more information.

Jan. 24

Cyber Cafe' at Woodmore presents "Name the Band Contest" from 7:30 - 10:30 p.m. Submit your favorite name — the winner receives \$50 added to their budget card.

Golden Key National Honor Society will have information tables set up in the Keathley University Center across from Phillips Bookstore from 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. Monday through Thursday. Perspective members and those interested are invited to stop by.

Jan. 25-26

Campus Recreation will host a kayak-roll clinic from 7 to 10 p.m. Cost is \$12 for students and \$16 for guests. Space is limited to eight people. Contact Mitch, Sean or W.T. at 898-2104 for more information.

Jan. 26

The Placement and Student Employment Center will sponsor a Summer Jobs/Internships Fair from noon to 3 p.m. in the Tennessee Room of the James Union Building. Participating employers will be hiring students of various majors for summer jobs and internships. The roster of participating employers can be viewed at www.mtsu.edu/~career.

Cyber Cafe' at Woodmore presents "Battle of the DJs," beginning at 7:30 p.m. The DJ with the most votes gets the Wednesday night gig for the rest of the semester.

Jan. 27

The University Committee on General Studies will hold an open forum for discussion of the second draft of the General Studies Mission Statement from 2 to 3 p.m. in the Business and

Aerospace Building, Room S128. For more information, contact William Badley at 898-8416.

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

Jan. 31

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

Feb. 11

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

March 25-31

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

Ongoing

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

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

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

Construction continues across campus

Randy Allen
Staff Reporter

MTSU remains a campus under construction. Veteran students are aware that the distance between classes may become longer as they attempt to avoid orange construction netting, construction equipment, or mounds of dirt.

Last semester, a project began to replace 30 to 35 year old steam lines between Peck Hall and the Wiser-Patten Science Building. Although the site is in much better shape this semester, campus officials say the project is only 99 percent complete. Steam is the primary energy source for most of the buildings on MTSU's campus.

According to Bill Smotherman, director of construction administration, students can expect to see more signs of steam line replacement. Phase II of this project is scheduled to begin during spring break and may not be complete until September.

"It's messy work that tears up campus," Smotherman said, but he added that weather and convenience to students are the determining factors when scheduling the work.

Some students who live in Scarlett Commons or Greek Row may already enjoy the results of construction completed during Christmas break. The lighted ten-foot-wide sidewalk that connects Greek Row to campus is a much-needed addition to that area. Long-range planning may include lengthening the side-



Photo by Jamie Evans | Staff Photographer

Raider Xpress crosses over new sidewalk in front of the Recreation Center.

walk into the heart of our ever-growing campus.

Also during Christmas break, test were performed on the tornado warning system to determine a tone that would best serve students, faculty and staff. When students hear the warning, they should look around to "determine how they would best adapt to the area they are located in if an incident were to occur," Smotherman said.

There will be monthly tests. When students hear the warning, they should look around to "determine how they would best adapt to the area they are located in if an incident were to occur," Smotherman said.

occur," Smotherman said.

According to Patti Miller, director of campus planning, future projects include a dyslexia center, an off-campus horse arena and development of a quadrangle between the new library and the John Bragg Mass Communication Building.

The horse arena will be located on Thompson Lane. Miller said the quadrangle development will attempt to provide a focal point for our campus in much the same way Peck Hall did 20 years ago.

There is still an investigation into the construction failure of Abernathy and Ezzell halls, forc-

ing the dorms' closure in spring 1999. The investigation will help decide whether to replace or improve upon the buildings. Renovation of the old Todd Library building can also be expected in the near future.

While funding for the steam line replacement comes from state-appropriated maintenance funds, other construction projects are dependent on a combination of three sources: state funds, gift contributions and other fees collected at the university. Housing and Residential Life generates its own funding. ■

Online: Internet notes

Continued from 1

Sociology 342, was listed without his consent on the verity website as a course for which the company was looking to hire note-takers. Deflem then sent a message requesting that his course be removed from the list, but never received a response, according to "The Chronicle of Higher Education."

Deflem has encouraged universities to protect themselves by writing explicit policies that can be tested in court in the absence of clear-cut legal protections for lectures.

"I think that the intellectual content of a course is a unique creation of the instructor and is the university's property," said Robert Hood, professor of philosophy. Hood's course, Introduction to Philosophy, similarly has corresponding notes on the verity website.

Hood said that while he worries about the websites offering students a perverse incentive to miss class, he adds that it is

probably a good resource for students who are parents or work full-time.

Craig Green, a founder and chief executive of study24-7.com, told "The Chronicle of Higher Education" that he interprets copyright law to mean that the students themselves own the copyright to the notes they take in class.

While study24-7 has not been threatened with a lawsuit, the University of California system's Board of Regents filed a lawsuit against a traditional note-taking company that produces, prints, and sells lecture notes without university permission.

A prominent Harvard professor recently locked horns with the administration after providing a series of videotaped lectures to the Concord University School of Law, which allows students to earn degrees online.

Harvard policy forbids a professor to teach at another university during the academic year without permission from his or her dean. ■

Enrollment reaches 16,820

Staff Reports

MTSU enrollment for the spring semester increased slightly compare to this time last year, according to a university official.

As of Monday, the first day of classes for the spring semester, 16,820 students had registered, said Carolyn Johnson, assistant to the associate vice president of enrollment.

"We're still registering students as we speak," Johnson said. "We're just about where we were last year."

This year's enrollment numbers are up by nearly .3 percent compared to 1999 when a total of 16,771 students had registered by the first day of spring classes.

Final enrollment for spring 1999 was 16,930.

"I suspect we'll ultimately be around those numbers again," Johnson. "We don't expect a great increase or decrease. That's pretty consistent with the past couple of years."

Enrollment for fall 1999 was a record 18,993, up from 18,432 a year before. According to Johnson, spring enrollment is typically less than in the fall due to the number of students who graduate during winter commencement.

"We expect more of an increase in transfer students in the spring," she said.

Final enrollment will be reported to the Tennessee Board of Regents, MTSU's governing board, on the 14th day of the semester.

Today is the last day for students to register without special permission, Johnson said. ■

Lights hinder view from observatory

Morgan A. Harris
Contributor

Students squinted as the dome's skylight turned toward the recreation center to face the moon. But it wasn't the moon's brightness that nearly blinded them. It was the campus security lights.

These lights made it difficult to see anything through the telescope other than the moon and a few close planets during the Leonids meteor shower at the campus observatory's open house Nov. 17.

"No matter which way you point the telescope, you've got artificial light that overwhelms the natural light of stars," said Eric Klumpe, assistant professor of physics and astronomy.

Astronomy faculty, students and administration who value the observatory face a problem of light pollution on the east side of campus where the observatory is located.

Klumpe explained that although MTSU is fortunate to have an 18-inch-diameter telescope, the lighting makes it useless in observing stars past the naked eye.

"Objects look washed out," said Paul Lee, professor of astronomy. "You can't look at star clusters, galaxies and nebulae. The lights are directly responsible for that."

Even students find the lighting to be a problem.

"The ambient light is just as bright as being in Nashville," said Jesse Larrison, a sophomore astronomy minor.

"One week there were no

street lights outside the dome, then the third week or so, suddenly they were there," said Klumpe.

Major Roy Brewer of the campus police said these lights were added because of the fraternity houses being built on the east side of campus.

There are plans to install more lights by next fall for a walking mall that will be adjacent to the observatory. The gravel lot adjacent to the observatory will be lit by next fall.

Faculty, students and administration agreed that something must be done.

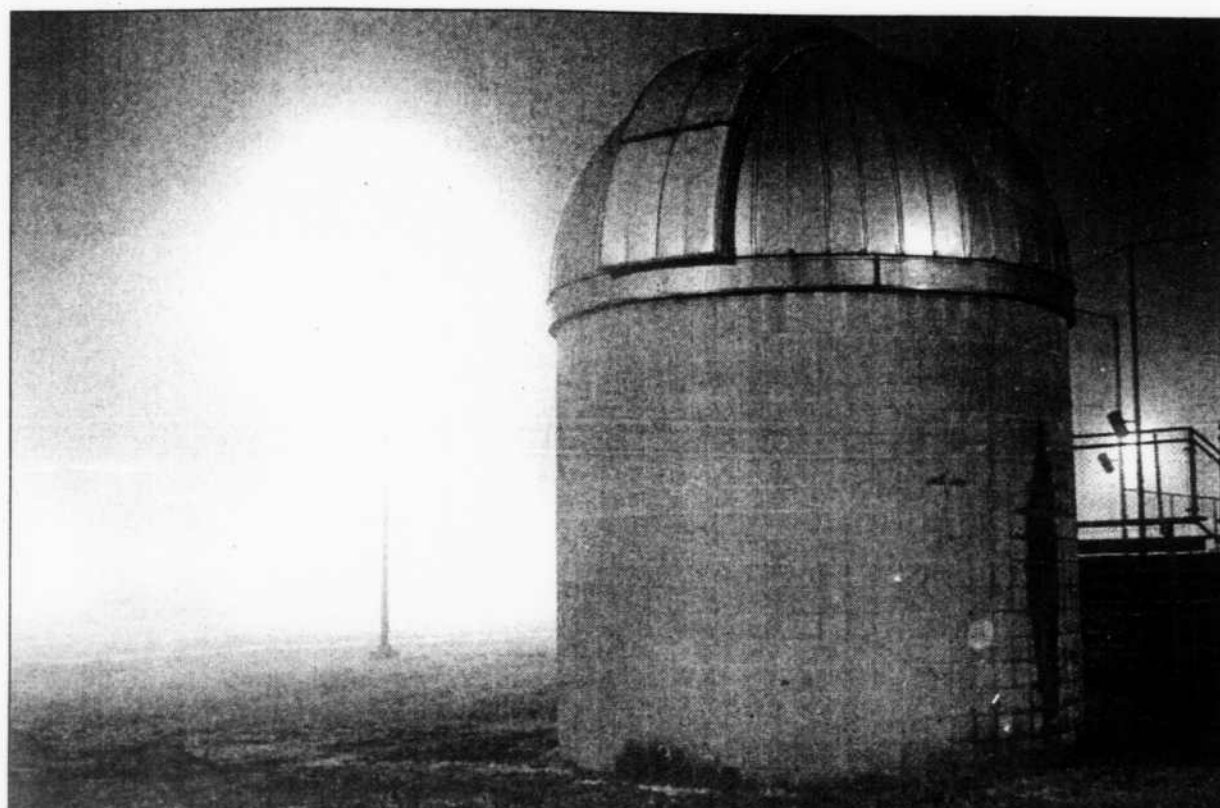
"The observatory is just as essential to astronomy as microscopes would be to biology or test tubes to chemistry," said Klumpe.

"Either move the observatory or shut the lights off," said Tim Graham, a senior recording industry student who enjoys viewing stars.

MTSU owns land in the county that would provide a darker sky for observing. However, safety and convenience are issues to police and faculty.

"If it didn't have some sort of alarm," said Sgt. Steve Scott of the campus police, "an observatory out on property could get broken into. A security fence would be necessary."

Klumpe said he worries that an observatory on property not adjacent to MTSU could put students at risk of harm. He is concerned, too, that the observatory would not be accessible to students, especially those without cars. The astronomy faculty would like to see the observatory



Security lights obstruct view from campus observatory.

Photo by Grant Fletcher | Staff Photographer

ry filled with interested students, so keeping it on campus is a priority.

However, Klumpe said that the administration told faculty that if they needed land, it's not out of the picture.

"Bottom line," said Barbara Haskew, vice president of academic affairs, "we'd like to move the observatory to an accessible but darker site."

More specifically, faculty are hoping for the area just west of the Wiser-Patten Science Hall which would put the observatory between Cope Administration Building and Peck Hall, mean-

ing that lecture rooms would be easily accessible on cloudy nights.

"The administration has been very open to every one of our pleas," said Klumpe. "I think they're doing the very best they can to help us." Patti Miller, head of campus planning, was chosen to work with the astronomy faculty to find consultants to plan a relocation and determine the cost. The consultants will consist of an architect, an engineer and possibly an astronomy faculty member with experience in observatory design.

Relocation is dependent on

finances, though.

"If private dollars could be found, it would certainly move the relocation ahead in the schedule," said Haskew.

"Hopefully, with the relocation of the observatory, it would help the expansion of the astronomy department," said Larrison. MTSU doesn't currently offer a major in astronomy.

"One of my dreams for this observatory," Klumpe said, "is that it's a part of helping people understand how the universe works."

Planning by the consultants will begin this semester. ■

Seton Hall dorm fire kills three, injures dozens more

Amy Westfeldt
Associated Press

SOUTH ORANGE, N.J. (AP) - Fire broke out at a university dormitory early Wednesday as hundreds slept, killing three people, injuring 62 and sending terrified students crawling in pajamas through smoke into the freezing cold.

Six Seton Hall University students were critically burned. Many of the 640 residents of Bolland Hall went back to sleep when they first heard the alarm about 4:30 a.m., thinking it was another in a string of 18 false

alarms set off in the six-floor building since September.

But many soon heard screams for help and smelled the smoke.

"I opened the door just to check," Yatin Patel said. "I saw a ceiling tile fall on someone."

The cause of the fire was under investigation.

The tragedy cast a pall of grief over the campus of the Roman Catholic school 15 miles southwest of New York City. Classes for the 10,000 students were canceled for the week. A memorial service was planned for later Wednesday. Sports events also were postponed through Thursday.

At least two students did jump, witnesses said. Tim Van Wie, 18, of Flanders, said a friend jumped from the third floor and suffered a broken wrist and sprained ankle. Two of the three male students killed were found in the lounge and the other was found in a bedroom nearby.

The victims, all 18, were identified by the Essex County medical examiner's office as Frank S. Caltabilla, John N. Giunta and Aaron C. Karol. The office did not release their home towns, but friends and relatives said all were from New Jersey.

Two firefighters and two

police officers were among those hurt. The injuries ranged from exposure and smoke inhalation to burns.

Essex County Prosecutor Donald C. Campolo said he did not have any information about whether the fire was suspicious. He would not comment on whether careless smoking may have caused the blaze. The Bureau of Alcohol Tobacco and Firearms was assisting in the investigation.

"It will be a painstaking investigation," he said. "We are taking statements from individuals who may have witnessed the fire or the moments leading

up to it."

The 48-year-old building was equipped with smoke alarms and extinguishers but did not have a sprinkler system because it was built before they were required, Campolo said.

Fire hoses inside the building had been disconnected because the equipment was obsolete, Seton Hall spokeswoman Lisa Grider said.

The smoke alarms and extinguishers had passed inspection recently and at least one extinguisher was used during the blaze, Campolo said. ■



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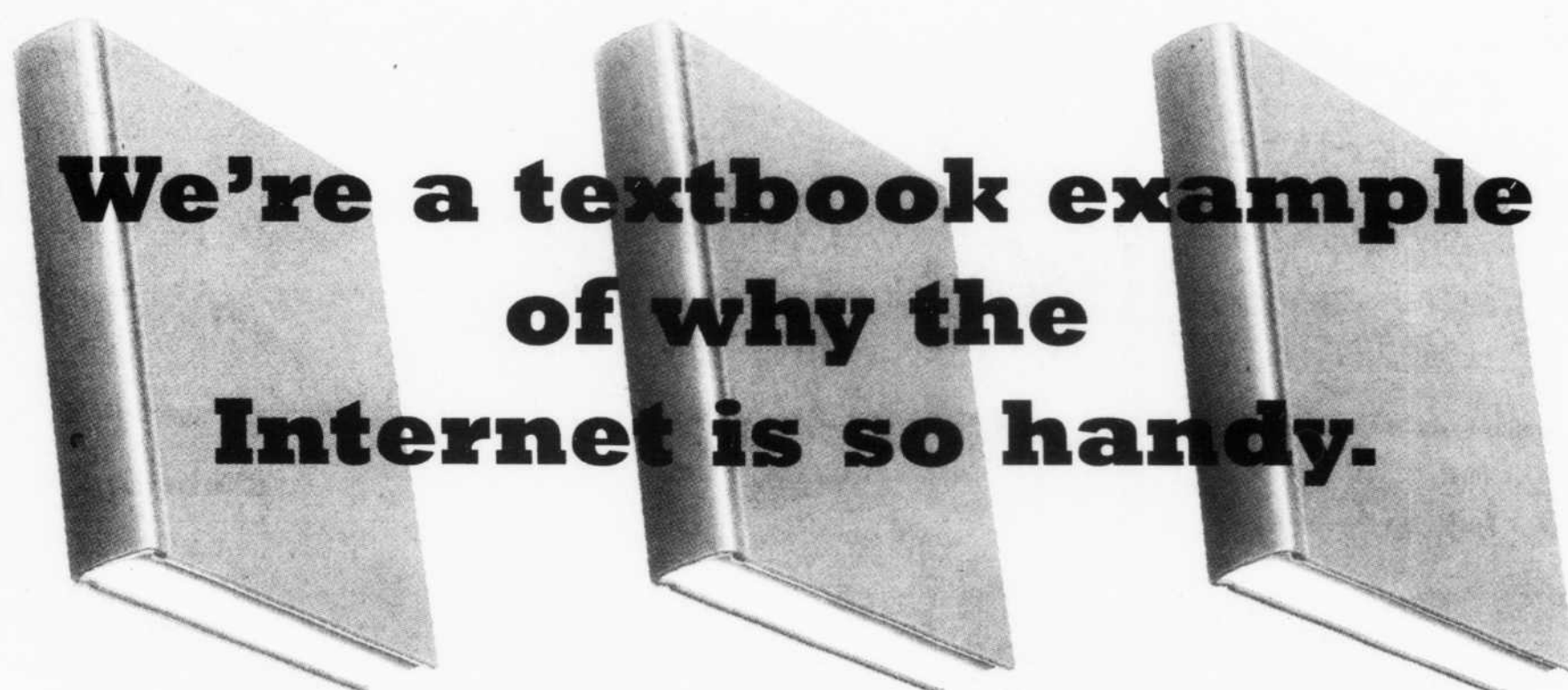
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OPINIONS

4 ■ SIDELINES

Thursday, January 20, 2000

Murfreesboro, TN

From the Staff

Thanks to MTSU employees

In the everyday hustle and bustle of life, it's easy to forget the people who diligently spend their days making our lives a little easier.

Although the phrase "taking things for granted" has always been one I've tried to avoid being accused of, most of us do go through our days blindly participating in this random act of cruelty.

That is why I am taking this opportunity to acknowledge an aspect of my life on campus that I have truly appreciated.

They are the people dressed in

blue, red or maroon uniforms who act as our shadows around the dorms and in the cafeteria. They are the ones who dispose of our trash, clean the floors we trample on, fill our bathrooms with paper products, cook our food, clean our dishes and always find time to smile.

And they are the ones we overlook everyday and the ones we should thank more often or at all.

My eyes have not witnessed bad treatment of building staff and food service workers, but I have yet to see any acknowledgement of these

people as a vital part of campus.

It never hurts to smile back, to say thanks for all you do, to start a pleasant conversation with someone or to tell the cooks that the food was tasty.

So the next time you find yourself on the elevator with a worker from custodial services or face-to-face with a cafeteria worker, ask them how they are doing and show some appreciation for the ones who make a difference. ■

Jenny Cordle
News Editor

Modern Dysfunction

by Rob Evans, Staff Columnist

Sounds of jazz relax college minds

Thump....Thump....Thump.... As with all moves into a new residence, there are problems to be encountered.

There are the difficulties of moving in, the stresses the hassles, the rowdy new neighbors. Especially the rowdy new neighbors.

Thump....Thump....Thump....

There is always some sort of adjustment that needs to be made when you move. You have to get used to all the new noises, like road traffic, train whistles, sirens, wildlife, the neighbors 1,000,000 watt stereo system playing all the latest from DJ Dribble on Himself.

It's not that I dislike the music.

It's that I dislike the music when it is at 120 decibels and on at 8:30 a.m., 12:30 p.m. through 11:30 p.m. and then again at 1:30 a.m.

It is more reliable than CNN, and unlike a movie theater, if

you miss your show time, then just wait a little while — it will come back on.

I still enjoy blasting my stereo but not enough to interfere with sleep.

Thump....Thump....Thump.... I now realize and appreciate why those who grow older detest music at exceedingly loud levels.

During their college years, they were subjected to endless hours of incessant noise.

To think I blasted my stereo all of these years without thought for what my parents endured. Now I am the one who seeks to find some kind of peaceful solace.

Thump....Thump....Thump.... Later my hiding spot has been my car and the soothing sounds of jazz.

Yes, I know, I never thought I would ever listen to jazz. At least not this early in my life. I thought a prerequisite to listen-

ing to jazz was being over the hill and done with your career and enjoying the time for reflection.

But I have discovered that jazz is like a message for the uptight, stressed out, busy mind.

Jazz has this calming power that is unequalled to anything else. There is something about the mellow bass and the slow soulful feeling that the artist creates that clears your mind and sends your troubles far away.

I am so glad I discovered when I did, and it is even here at MTSU.

Thump....Thump....Thump.... For the past week I have listened almost exclusively to WMOT-FM.

Even while going off on "The Adventures of Rob" I can begin my journey listening to WMOT up to 90 miles away. It is a very powerful station — even some

popular commercial stations in the Nashville area don't have this kind of range.

WMOT plays a large selection of jazz, but they carry many of NPR's syndicated shows and have biographies of many past and contemporary jazz artists.

My only surprise is that I have not heard more about the station.

It isn't advertised and pushed even as much as the student station WMTS.

It should be recognized for the outstanding job the programmers and employees of the station do.

But in today's world of corporate chain radio stations and the bottom line of making money (which jazz isn't quite doing), WMOT is to be largely ignored.

I guess those who ignore it are those who don't sweat the small stuff, such as lost sleep.

Thump....Thump....Thump. ■

In Moderation

by Chris Tatum, Staff Columnist

Support for death

Roe v. Wade anniversary marks flaw in society

You've seen them on the evening news. They're the arrogant, selfish, usually masculine women with an ax to grind with men. They wave blue signs with white lettering that say "keep abortion legal" and highlight their speech with obscenities.

Their point of contention, they tell us, is choice; that a woman should have the right to choose for herself what is right for her and her body. In effect, they've assisted millions of women in destroying their self-esteem — even their lives.

This Saturday marks the 26th anniversary of the Supreme Court's Roe vs. Wade ruling that made legal the senseless slaughter of human life, forever violating the sanctity of the womb.

Perhaps no issue has clawed as viciously at America's jugular for the past quarter century as the abortion issue. It has evoked violence from advocates on both sides of the controversy, has topped the agenda of every political campaign since 1973 and has gnawed a gaping hole in the moral fiber of society. But choice? Simply put, choice is much easier to sell to a naive woman in a desperate situation than is the reality of abortion: DEATH.

We who oppose abortion call ourselves pro-life, appropriately, for the side of the issue we're on. We believe life is a precious gift that begins at the moment of conception. We believe that a woman is genuinely blessed to be able to carry a living being inside her and nurture it until its grand entrance into the world. We believe that legal

abortion on demand is a travesty and that America is wallowing in a blood-bath for continuing to permit the killing of the unborn. We are pro-life.

It stands to reason then that those who rally to keep abortion legal are pro-death. The name pro-choice is merely a smoke-screen by which pro-abortionists numb their consciences against their murderous acts. They've eliminated the words life and death from their vocabularies. While they proclaim themselves pro-choice they regard their opposition — the pro-lifers — as anti-choice. Reality and morality eludes them.

While I am in absolute opposition to abortion, I too favor choice. Allow me to offer some choices for women that eliminate the need for abortion.

First of all, a woman has the choice of whether to be sexually active.

Should she choose to be sexually active, there is, secondly, the important choice of whether to use contraception and/or to ensure that her partner is taking precautions to prevent an unwanted pregnancy.

And finally, should she be irresponsible and find herself unexpectedly pregnant, adoption is a wonderful, life-giving choice.

Indeed, there are choices. Abortion advocates argue that if Roe vs. Wade were overturned, many women would bleed to death because they'd turn to "back-alley" butchers to terminate their pregnancies.

I'd say that's a choice. ■

Broaddrick's accusations against Clinton ignored for too long

Jennifer Verner
Contributor

"Who is Juanita?" is the question I most often get when someone reads my "I believe (Ju)Anita" button. I'm not surprised.

To remind those who have chosen to forget and educate those who are not informed, Juanita Broaddrick claimed that Bill Clinton, then Attorney General of Arkansas, brutally raped her in 1978.

Since the airing of her interview with NBC's Lisa Myers last February — opposite the Grammys — her name and story

have been stuffed into the Clinton scandal memory hole.

Politicians and feminist leaders who were ready to lynch Clarence Thomas over a pubic hair on a coke can and "long dong silver" appear dumb struck over rape allegations complete with four contemporary witnesses and details that passed the scrutiny of NBC fact checkers.

Recent revelations in Jeffrey Toobin's book "Vast Conspiracies" lend credibility to the charges. Sources close to the president claim that he admitted to having consensual sex with Juanita Broaddrick. Consensual? I suppose many women have

consented when a man almost twice their size had his teeth clamped onto their upper lips and biting it into pieces.

In a framework where "oral sex is not sex" the semantic possibilities of "consensual" must be boundless.

Granted, Patricia Ireland, the president of NOW, issued a press release days after the interview warning the White House not to use the "nuts and sluts" defense — but at a conference the following day at Clinton's alma mater Georgetown, Broaddrick's name was not even mentioned.

Have we heard anything since?

I suppose that the NOW leadership has more pressing issues at hand — like their new campaign attacking bombastic conservative talk show host Rush Limbaugh for calling them feminazis — a pejorative he's been using for years.

Besides, according to a recent press release, NOW has gone Hollywood — dropping the colors and abandoning the sordid field of D.C. politics. In the new feminist world order, violence against women on the silver screen trumps violence against women in Arkansas hotel rooms.

More troubling than the silence of the feminist move-

ment is the apparent "non-concern" of Gore, who claimed in a recent New Hampshire town hall meeting that he hadn't seen the Broaddrick interview. How long would it take a member of his staff to contact NBC and request a copy, not only of the 25 minutes that were broadcast, but the eight grueling hours that were taped, along with documentation that backed up Broaddrick's claims?

By ignoring such serious allegations, he is either de facto calling Broaddrick a liar or saying that rape should be considered a "personal matter."

As a woman and a mother, what should I think of a second

in command who doesn't have the integrity to look Clinton in the eye and ask "did you rape Juanita Broaddrick?"

Gore will never ask this question. The media, the feminist movement, the political leadership of his party and sadly the American people have chosen to treat the sexual assault of Broaddrick as a non-issue. It's better to concern ourselves with Hillary Clinton's top ten list on David Letterman.

As for the few who refuse to forget — feminists who feel battered and betrayed — I guess we can take the president's advice to Juanita and put some ice on it. ■

SIDELINES

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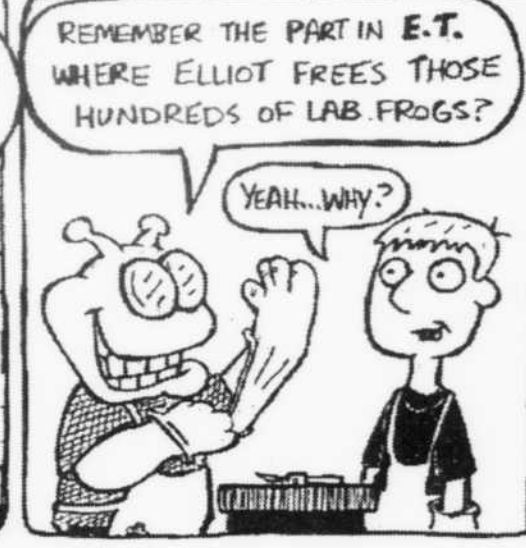
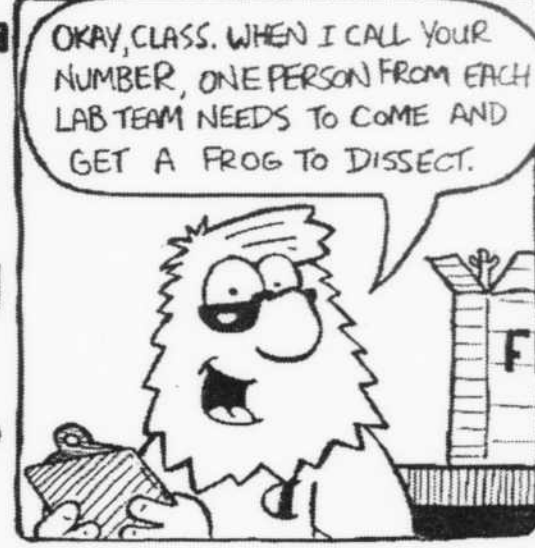
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"Sidelines" is the non-profit, editorially independent student newspaper of Middle Tennessee State University and is published every Wednesday during June and July and on Monday and Thursday during the fall and spring semesters. FLASH!, the entertainment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



by LUCAS ANTONAK



FEATURES

5 ■ SIDELINES

Thursday, January 20, 2000

Murfreesboro, TN

Bringing the old world of Italy home

Students display artwork inspired by trip

Tumer Hutchens
Staff Reporter

In May 1997, seven MTSU art students spent an entire month exploring Italy and its art. The trip inspired their work, and the result is now on display in the Art Gallery of the Center for the Arts.

The artists' works range from simple watercolors of landscapes, to bold chained statues of wood, to swirling abstractions in acrylic. The artists, Sorrell Dugan, Jennifer Hardiman, Stephanie Hosford, Lorraine Lichon, Dustin Ogdin, Amanda Pack and Lisa Prewitt, are all students or former students at MTSU.

Tanya Tewell is the MTSU art professor who led the Italy Study Abroad program and accompanied the students on the 1997 trip.

She said one of the main goals of the trip was for the stu-

dents to "see the works they had only studied," but it was also important for them to experience another culture and feel the life of another world.

"We didn't just go to the major cities," Prewitt said. "We stayed in the countryside where nobody around spoke English. We definitely got more than just the normal tourist bit."

The group stayed in Tuscany in an old villa. A painting of the old-style castle appears in the show, as well as pictures of landscapes and great works the group saw in Italy. But more than any one subject or influence from an artist's work, the students have put the feel of Italy-of the old world-into the show.

"Some of the ones that inspired me the most were the exhibits we just happened to find in the back alleyways," Prewitt said. She said the small shows, and particularly the contemporary sculpture, inspired

her as a sculptor.

"I can't even remember the artist's name," she said, trying to recall her favorite works from the trip. But she said it's the continental that she took with her.

"Before I went, I really hadn't gotten much sculpture produced," Prewitt said. But since her trip, she has been very prolific. This show is her first off campus, as it is for most of the student-artists.

"They're all really amazing students," Tewell said. "And just amazing people. I think they all grew a lot because of the experience."

She said the experience was enlightening for all of them.

"I would say it's a good experience for any art student to go abroad to Italy or anywhere really," Prewitt said. "Just to experience the culture and be surrounded by the art."

Prewitt's sculptures on display are all of the female form. Most of her pieces are torsos done in bronze or other metals. The sculptures are small and seem aged. More than anything, they seem maternal.

"Those were influenced by going to Italy," she said. "because there the Madonna is everywhere you go. And their imagery there is so much more informal than in America."

While in Italy the students were required to make 50 sketches and five complete drawings. But what they really took away from Italy was an experience and a new take on art.

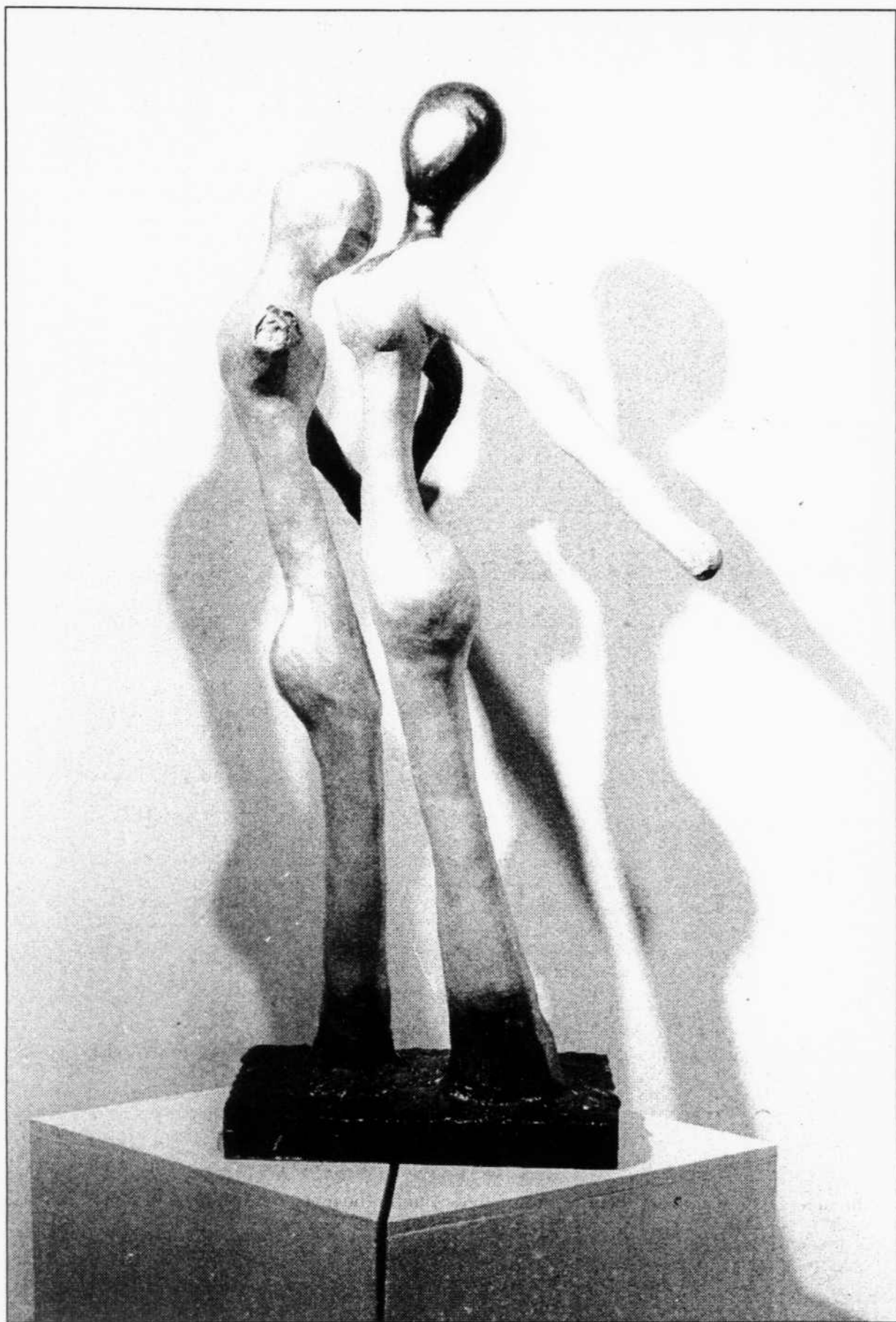
"It widened my perception of art," Hosford said. "It made my work a hundred times better. I don't know how, but when I came back it was a hundred times better."

The trip did not cost the students, but all of them seem glad they went.

"Tanya Tewell was my drawing teacher," Hosford said. "And she basically talked me into it. I had to work my ass off. My parents did not want me to go."

The Italy Study Abroad Exhibition is on display through Jan. 29 at the Center for the Arts, located on West College Street. The show is free and open to the public Tuesdays through Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

There will be a free reception Saturday, Jan. 22, from 6 to 8 p.m. in the gallery, and anyone interested is encouraged to attend. The artists will be available to talk about their works and their experiences.



Photos by Joel Moore | Staff Photographer

Above, "Esposato" (marriage) by Sorrell Dugan

Right, "Il Mogo Mask" by Stephanie Hosford

"I hope other students who come to see the show will take the trip," Hosford said. "I just hope people can see that we do have good art in Tennessee." ■



Painting: "David" by Amanda Pack; sculpture: "El Gato" by Sorrell Dugan

'Simpsons' celebrates ten years

Al Brunley
Knight-Ridder Tribune

It seems almost demeaning to call "The Simpsons" a cartoon. "Scooby-Doo" is a cartoon. "Popeye" is a cartoon. Even "The Flintstones" falls safely into that category.

But "The Simpsons," which celebrated its 10th anniversary last Friday (along with a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame), has become such a TV staple, has been rendered so creatively, so intelligently, so humanly, as to transcend the generally mundane bonds of cel and ink.

Not to insist that these oddly shaped, four-fingered yellow creatures are real, of course. But their emotions, trials and victories, taken to outlandish heights, mirror our own so closely that we can't help but embrace them.

Just as putting a doughnut on a bat helps a baseball player warm up before stepping to the plate, watching "The Simpsons" can serve as an emotional doughnut — "Doughnuts — is there anything they can't do?" — allowing us to be vicariously mean, selfish, stupid and silly before tamping it all back down and facing the world again.

Plus, it can make you laugh like a gassed hyena.

"The Simpsons," created by Matt Groening, got its start on HBO's "The Tracey Ullman Show" in 1987, when the family that put the "fun" in dysfunction first appeared in short segments between comedy bits.

The animation was crude — even by the current show's crude standards — but the

heart was already beating strong.

When Fox made "The Simpsons" part of its regular prime-time lineup, critics howled that the show represented all that was wrong with TV, family values and, it seemed, civilization in general.

But the show survived, helped make Fox a major network player and turned most of its critics around by being what hardly any modern cartoon had been to that point — smart.

Soon, stars were clamoring to lend their voices to the show. As "Batman" was in the '60s, "The Simpsons" became the cool place to be in the '90s.

The show has featured celebrities ranging from Elizabeth Taylor (who provided the voice for Maggie's one and only word, "Dada") to Glenn Close (Homer's mother) to Dustin Hoffman (Lisa's substitute teacher) to Paul and Linda McCartney.

Even Stephen Hawking made an appearance.

As the years passed, "The Simpsons" annual Halloween specials became much-anticipated events in their own right, featuring everything from Homer gunning down zombies — "Is this the end of Zombie Shakespeare?" — to a takeoff on "The Shining" (retitled "The Shinning," we are told, to avoid any potential lawsuits).

The family itself represents the classic psychological framework:

— Homer and Bart are the id, acting on impulse, thinking only of themselves, simply doing what feels good.

— Lisa is the superego, trying her best to instill a sense of right and wrong into her brother and father.

— Marge is the ego, stuck in between and constantly mediating.

Homer has many antecedents, not least of which is Barney Fife, a stupid, egocentric cluck with a good heart and the emotions of an 8-year-old — and, not coincidentally, one of the most popular characters in TV history.

Homer cannot function without Marge. Once, when she uncharacteristically gets hooked on gambling and abandons the household, Homer becomes convinced the boogie-man is about to get him and the kids. Marge comes home to find the house in tatters, with Homer barricaded behind the sofa holding a shotgun.

Marge, whose tall blue hair represents one of the show's great mysteries (second only to the question of Springfield's actual location), is eternally patient, if not at times wistful, but for some reason she loves the big lug.

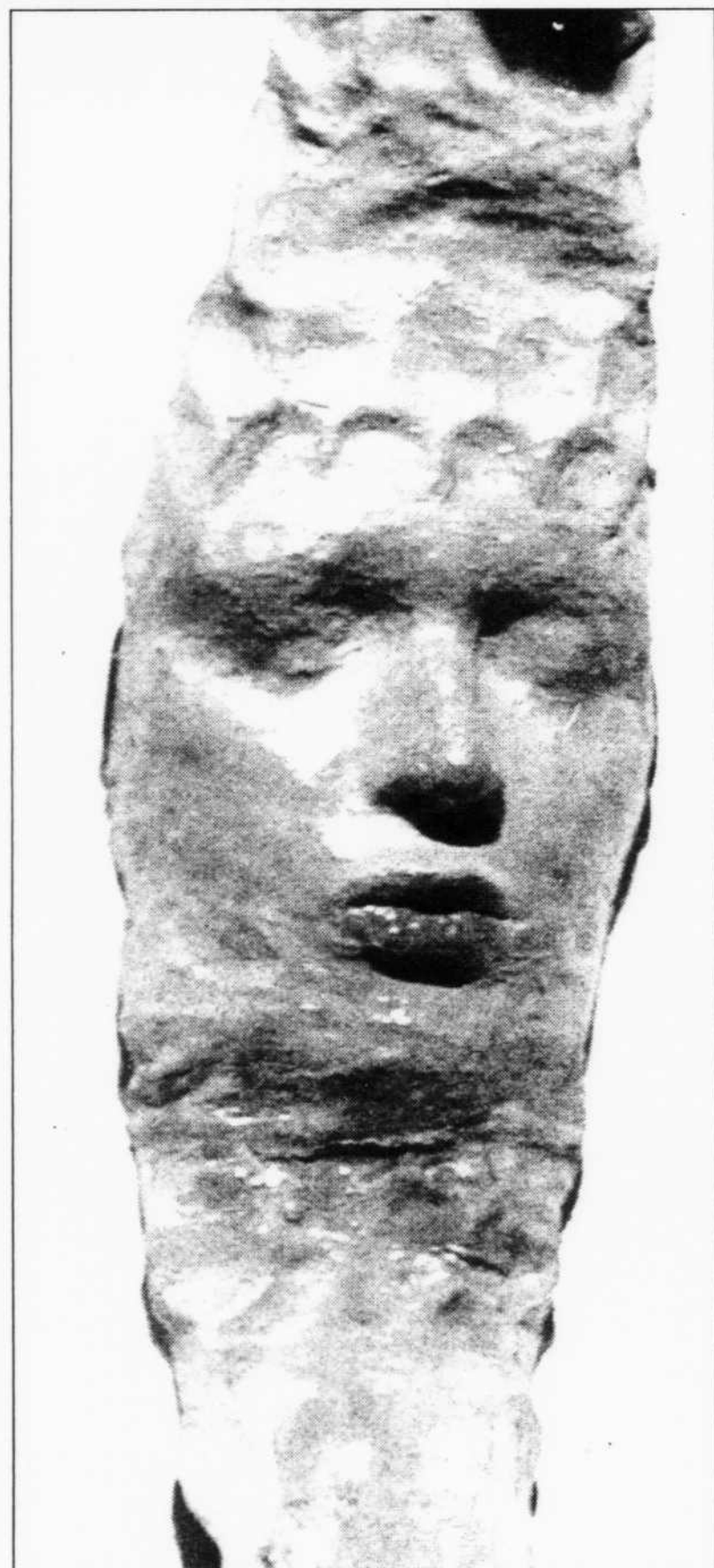
Oh, sure, she's kicked him out a few times, but as Homer once noted, no man could ever make a woman feel more wanted.

Bart, who early on was the show's most controversial character, vacillates between cool kid and victim while remaining the eternal prankster.

But even Bart has his breaking point. After destroying his sister's Thanksgiving centerpiece and spending the day eating at a soup kitchen, he finally reaches down, finds his heart and tells Lisa he's sorry.

Lisa, the smart one in the family, serves as moral compass, conscience and spiritual guide while ripping wicked licks from her

See **Simpsons**, 6



Panama: Facing the future

Citizens prepare for independence after release from United States

On Jan. 1, the United States transferred control of the Panama Canal to Panama, giving the Central American country the first chance for complete independence. Contributing writer Brian Forrester was in Panama for part of the celebration.

Brian Forrester
Contributing Writer

Located between two continents, Panama is positioned for the new millennium between a setting sun of an American alliance over the former Canal Zone and a rising sun of sovereignty.

It was the alliance with the United States that helped form the small isthmian republic in 1903.

When the republic was considered for a canal site by the United States, Panama seized the opportunity to rebel against Gran Colombia and gain an independence recognized by the United States.

Panama always saw its destiny as a path between the two bodies of water which border it.

Shortly after gaining independence, the United States began construction of the canal. The canal was completed in 1914 after 10 years of construction. Panama had finally obtained its long sought destiny as a maritime bridge of commerce but at the cost of foreign occupation by United States military.

Now, after almost 90 years of foreign occupation, numerous revolts and protests for the United States to recognize Panama's sovereignty and several revised treaties, Panama is its own country.

The sovereignty of Panama is solidified by the completion of the Carter and Torrijos Treaty. A still controversial treaty that cost President Jimmy Carter a political price and Omar Torrijos, some speculate, his life.

Panamanians realize their potential and the new responsibility of operating the canal.

However, the country has been criticized for not being prepared to handle such an important commodity.

Even some natives criticize and point to the corruption and failure of the Panama Railroad which was handed to the country a few years ago.

Before the transition, the railroad was a functioning asset.

"Taxi cab drivers think they are gods."

Gonzalo Guardia,
Ministry of Exterior Relations

Now, it sits empty and unused; it waits for its foreign investors to revitalize it and make it operational again.

Roger Noli of the Ministry of Economics and Finance disagrees with the critics of the Canal transition and maintains a positive outlook saying, "I think it's going to be a smooth transition. It's a matter of attitude."

Noli believes that the reversion of the Canal, selling of the reverted areas and the investments should be able to cover what the U.S. contributed to the economy.

"If it is well managed, I think it will be okay," Noli said.

Despite rumors and skepticism, the population as a whole seems excited and ready for the challenges facing the future. Even commercial products like Coca-Cola add statements like "Celebremos juntos la Reversion del Canal," or "Together we celebrate the Canal Transition."

In a ceremony on Dec. 14, Panama President Mireya Moscoso said, "We promise that our nation, in the new millennium, will be an example of progress."

Equally bright but not concerned with the Canal's future is the way Panamanians live. The country is ethnically diverse. Panama could be considered a melting pot of Central America.

Because of the construction of the Canal, several nationalities have been introduced to the culture.

Many natives can trace their origins to France, England, China, Spain, Africa and the United States.

One Dec. afternoon, during lunch with Gonzalo Guardia, a member of the Ministry of Exterior Relations, I tried to get a definition of a Panamanian.

After several attempts to explain what exactly makes someone a Panamanian, Guardia smiled with approval that to be a Panamanian is "a way of life."

This appears to be true.

All someone has to do is get into a taxi to realize that reckless driving isn't against the law; it's the way to drive.

Cars and pedestrians make up their own paths of traffic, at times hazardingly, making their way to their destination.

"Taxi cab drivers think they are gods," said Guardia, commenting on the way the cabs weave between cars and buses.

One of the most colorful examples of the Panamanian lifestyle is La Chiva.

It is a bus that looks like graffiti on wheels. The painting has no rhyme or pattern to it. It is simply a multitude of colors and pictures.

The bus has one side missing but is roped off so people don't fall out.

La Chiva picks up its patrons on Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights and drives through downtown Panama City from 8 o'clock till midnight.

I didn't know that the bus has its own mini-bar behind each seat.

Nor did I realize that La Chiva has its own live band that plays salsa music in the back seats.

And for the next several hours the bus rolled up and down the streets of Panama City with passengers dancing, drinking and playing music.

The climax of the ride was the competition for "La Rey y La Reina de la Chiva," or "The King and Queen of La Chiva." The hostess picked two males and females to dance, sing and kiss to earn the titles of King and Queen.

The man and woman who won seemed to spark the flames of Latin love in the air as the rest of the people clapped and shouted their approval.

Silently, I thought of the fact that there are laws against this type of bus ride in the U.S. and to be Panamanian is truly a way of living.

As I left Panama, I thought back on the people. They finally have an independence they have wanted since they were liberated from the Spanish.

And at the end of the ceremony marking the completion of the Canal transition, I remember hearing shouts from people in the crowd, "Viva Panama."

I have witnessed history, the end of an era. If I return to Panama in the future, the country I remember may not be the same one I return to.

Hopefully, they will evolve their own identity without being underneath the shadow of the U.S.■

X-Men head to movie theaters this summer

Bill Radford
Knight-Ridder Newspapers

It looks to be an X-traordinary year for Marvel Comics. The X-Men are headed to the big screen this summer, courtesy of director Bryan Singer. Before that, expect big changes in the X-Men's sizable corner of the Marvel Universe: new characters, new costumes and new creators.

Chris Claremont, who guided the team of mutant heroes for 17 years, returns to his old friends in March, taking over the writing of "X-Men" and "Uncanny X-Men."

Writer Warren Ellis, hailed as one of the most creative people in Entertainment Weekly's "It List 1999," is in charge of setting a new direction for three X books: "Generation X," "X-Man" and "X-Factor" in his role as "plotmaster." And Steve Skroce takes over the writing and penciling of "Wolverine." Here are some other Marvel projects to look forward to this new year:

The Avengers get a new lineup with issue No. 27 of their book, which also introduces a new format. The issue will be Marvel's first "100-Page Monster."

In addition to the new tale by Kurt Busiek and George Perez, the mammoth issue will feature reprints of four classic Avengers tales. Writer Paul Jenkins of "Inhumans" fame takes over the writing of "The Hulk," making him "The Incredible Hulk" once again and introducing a major new adversary.

Frank Castle, the Punisher, returns in a 12-part Marvel Knight series by Garth Ennis, Steve Dillon and Jimmy Palmiotti. Expect the Punisher to return to blood-and-guts basics, shedding the supernatural elements of his last limited series.

DARK HORSE COMICS

As loyal "Star Wars" fans know, the furry and sometimes ferocious Chewbacca roared his last in "Vector Prime," a recent novel.

The life and times of Chewbacca are explored in a four-issue comic-book series starting this month. "It's really an emotional series," says Dark Horse spokeswoman Shawna Ervin-Gore. "Kind of a weeper."

For more than 20 years, P. Craig Russell has had a dream of bringing the epic German saga "The Ring Cycle" to comics. That dream becomes reality in February with the first of his 14-issue "The Ring of the Nibelung."

Fans of Japan's manga style can look forward to "Super Manga Blast," a monthly anthology magazine starting in March. It'll weigh in at a fat 128 pages per issue, at a price of \$4.95. Mike Mignola's Hellboy will return in "The Conqueror Worm." The four-issue series, possibly starting in summer, pits Hellboy against Nazi villains involved in a secret space program. In April, Dark Horse launches a three-issue prequel to a Fox Animation feature film, "Titan A.E.," coming out in July. In the fall, another comic-book series will lead into the movie "Monkeybone," which combines live action with stop-motion animation and stars Brendan Fraser.

IMAGE COMICS

Gorilla Comics, a new creator-owned line, joins the Image family, launching in April with "Shockrockets," by Kurt Busiek, Stuart Immonen and Wade Von Grawbadger.

The limited series features a battered Earth struggling to rebuild after an alien invasion. "Shockrockets" also will contain a prequel story to the following Gorilla launch, "Empire," by Mark Waid and Barry Kitson.

Two series debuting in 2000 "J.U.D.G.E." and "The GearStation" will sport exciting new looks for comics, relying heavily on computer technology.

"J.U.D.G.E.," written and painted by Greg Horn, revolves around a secret agency of superhuman civilians.

Dan Fraga's "Gear Station" promises magical battles, secret societies and timeless romance.■

Simpsons: Characters represent human qualities

Continued from 5

baritone sax. She longs for the things Homer can't provide — understanding, intelligence, warmth — but is still able to love him for who he is.

As for Maggie, well, based upon the fortune-teller episode that takes us to Lisa's wedding, it looks as though the youngest Simpson will be taking a sullen turn to leather, piercings and

motorcycles.

All of which is to say that no matter what happens to them, their emotions and reactions are ambiguous, confused and, therefore, real.

This is offset by a cast of characters as unreal and cartoonish as any ever created: Mr. Burns, the evil nuclear-power magnate; his gay, sycophantic assistant, Smithers; Dr. Hibbert, who chuckles at even the most dire

moments; Barney, the eternal drunk; Flanders, the eternally good-natured Christian neighbor.

Set beside these one-dimensional ciphers, the Simpson family fairly bursts with humanity.

On the other hand, they have had their share of surreal experiences. Over the years, "The Simpsons" have been stranded and tortured in Japan, persecut-

ed in Australia, robbed, beaten, haunted, frustrated, humiliated, split up, cheated, tricked and pretty much anything else you can think up.

No matter how bad things get, though, they stick together, and they somehow manage to recover from even the worst physical and emotional setbacks.

So, OK, call it animation if you must. Just don't call it a cartoon.■

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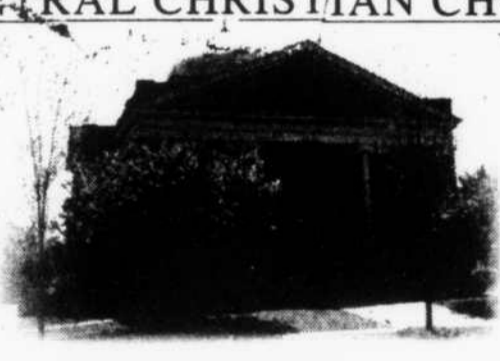
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SPORTS

7 ■ SIDELINES

Thursday, January 20, 2000

Murfreesboro, TN

Raiders surge past Bruins, 84-71

2-Minute Drill!

Today

Women's Basketball
Austin Peay
5:45 p.m.

Today

Men's Basketball
Austin Peay
7:45 p.m.

Saturday

Blue Raider Invitational
MTSU-Murphy Center
11:00 a.m.

Saturday

Women's Basketball
Tennessee State
5:45 p.m.

Saturday

Men's Basketball
Tennessee State
7:45 p.m.

Friday-Sunday

Men's Tennis at
Racquet Club—vs. UTC,
Troy State and Memphis

Saturday

Women's Tennis
Vanderbilt University
(TBA)

Next Week:

Thursday

Women's Basketball
Murray State
5:30 p.m.

Thursday

Men's Basketball
Murray State
7:30 p.m.

Friday-Saturday

Track at Johnson City, TN
IKON Invitational
11:00 a.m.

Friday-Sunday

Men's Tennis at Louisville
Louisville-Kansas-
Minnesota
TBA

Saturday

Women's Basketball
UT-Martin
4:00 p.m.

Saturday

Men's Basketball
UT-Martin
6:00 p.m.

Michael Edwards
Men's Basketball Reporter

In its final non-conference game of the season, the MTSU basketball team atoned for a disappointing four-point loss a year ago to the same Belmont team they faced on Jan. 13.

The same old story seemed to be the theme through out the first half, but a second-half domination led the Raiders to an 84-73 win in the Murphy Center. Fernando Ortiz led the Raiders with 19 points and five rebounds, while Jonathan Whitworth tallied a season high 13 points including four clutch three-pointers. The Bruins were led by sophomores B.J. Proffitt and Wes Burtner, who each had 14 points.

"We have been sucking it up around here lately, so we just wanted to come out and put a little intensity on," Cedrick Wallace said. "It feels great to have a win. Right now we are just going to try to let that roll over and continue to play like we are right now."

Many things have gone wrong for MTSU this season. The first is junior sharp-shooter Freddie Martinez going down with a season ending injury. Second, the Big Blue lost sixth man Ron McKnight for three games due to a suspension. Third, MTSU has shot only 44 percent from the field which is good for seventh in the Ohio Valley Conference. Finally, prior to the Belmont game, the Raiders had not out-rebounded a team in nine games. This includes four games when the Raiders had been out-rebounded by 10 or more.

This game started just as four of the last five had ended. MTSU jumped out to a 7-2 lead, but that was short-lived. The Bruins went on a 20-4 run to which tied the game and created their own 11-point lead with nine minutes left in the first half. The Raiders were beaten to most loose balls and only forced two turnovers. Four free throws, however, over the next three minutes would bring the Raiders within four with over four minutes left. After fighting from behind, the Raiders could not get over the hump in the first half, and Belmont pushed their lead back out to nine as the first

half closed.

In the first half, the Raiders finally out-rebounded a team but shot only 26 percent from the field, hitting eight of 31 shots, while the Bruins made 15 field goals including six three-pointers. If it weren't for MTSU's 10-1 advantage in free throws made the first-half score could have been uglier than the duckling it was.

The difference between the first half and the second would be like night and day for the Raiders, however. At halftime the Raiders would need to find their game.

"It was a gut check," Wallace said. "All the players in the locker room were daring each other to see how far we could step our intensity and play, because we wanted to see the team step on the floor that played against Tennessee and Kansas, not the team that played against Campbell and University of Central Florida."

With 17 minutes left in the second half, the Bruin lead was at seven, when Whitworth stepped up and hit a clutch three-pointer. MTSU began to dig deeper into the lead eventually cutting it to one with under 15 minutes to play. However, Jay Lannin hit two jumpers and a free throw to put the Bruins back up by five. The second half comeback would be sparked by the unsung heroes like Kevin White, Lee Nosse and Whitworth. White hit a shot, which was followed by a Whitworth three, tying the game at 47 with 12:36 left.

When Fernando Ortiz missed a three-point attempt to put the Raiders up, his eyes told the story that he would hit his next shot, and that he did. A three from the left perimeter put MTSU up three. With just more than 11 minutes to play the Raiders appeared to have turned the ball over, but White sliced threw a sleeping Bruin defense saved the ball to Iiro Tenngren, who dunked the ball and put the Raiders up by five.

Proffitt hit a shot for the Bruins, but Wallace answered him with a three-pointer. Belmont never gave up, though. Four free throws would cut the MTSU lead back to two, but the shortest player on the floor, Whitworth nailed his third three-pointer and a dagger in the



Cedrick Wallace puts up a shot during the Raiders' victory over Belmont.

Photo by Robin Wallace | FLASH! Editor

three-pointer and a dagger in the hearts of the Bruins.

With just over nine minutes left in the game, it was time for Bruins away by scoring nine of 19, including a spectacular shot in which he went up and under three defenders. Wallace hit two free throws with less than a minute left to put the Raiders up 14. Bruin guard Dougie Webb made a meaningless three-point shot with 22 seconds left, leaving the final score at 84-73 and giving the Raiders their fifth win of the season.

The Raiders made 27 of 34 free throws in the game com-

pared to Belmont's 11 of 13. MTSU shot 40 percent for the game, but they shot 55 percent of 10 three-pointers.

"If we keep playing together as a team, I feel we can go all the way," Ron McKnight said.

For the Raiders the story was the play of the less flashy players. Players like Lee Nosse, Kevin White and Jonathan Whitworth stepped up their play when the stars were not shining.

"It is a key for us to continue winning because we hit a big slump, everybody had their

slump, everybody had their heads down. We didn't know which direction we were headed," Wallace said. "Lee did Nosse played before. I would like to commend him for that."

The team knows that with Murray State's successful history, the Raiders must win the remaining games.

"We feel that we need to win all of them if we want to go to the big dance. We must win all of them," Wallace said. "We want to go out as champions, not as losers." ■

Raiders on the road

Staff Reports

Men's basketball:
It's a sweep!

Middle Tennessee's men's basketball team seems to live by a couple of old Yogi Berra adages when it comes to playing Eastern Illinois: "Déjà vu all over again" and "It ain't over till it's over."

Tuesday's matchup with the Panthers seemed almost like an instant replay of the first meeting between these teams on Dec. 2.

In that contest, the Blue Raiders took a nine-point advantage to the locker room, only to fall to EIU 72-76. Tuesday saw the Blue Raiders take a 33-29 lead into intermission, only to have the home team rally for a 69-63 victory.

The loss drops Middle Tennessee to 5-9 overall and 1-5 in the OVC. EIU improves to 8-7 and 4-3 in the league.

The Blue Raiders executed their offense better than they had in several games early in the contest, jumping out to a seven-point advantage with 8:22 left in the first half. From that point, the two teams battled back and forth until the half expired, with Middle Tennessee taking the four-point lead with them to the locker room.

The second half looked like the Blue Raiders might be able to overcome the Panther jinx. Eastern Illinois' Marc Polite crumpled to the floor with an apparent knee injury as time expired in the first half. Randy Wiel's squad looked to be taking advantage of Polite's absence by increased its lead to 10 with 17:38 to go.

However, the 10-point lead would be the apex for the Blue Raiders. EIU guard Kyle Hill took control of the game, netting 17 points in the second half to propel his team to a one-point lead with 5:34 to go.

The Blue Raiders would never lead again. In the final minutes, EIU was 5-of-8 from the field while Middle Tennessee shot a stone cold 3-of-13 in the waning moments of the game.

Fernando Ortiz led the Blue Raiders with 16 points while Lee Nosse led the team with seven boards.

The Blue Raiders return to action on Thursday against Austin Peay at 7:45 in Murphy Center. Tennessee State comes calling on the Blue Raiders on Saturday. ■



Iiro Tenngren and the Raiders hope to defeat Austin Peay today.

Photo by Robin Wallace | FLASH! Editor

Basketball team underachieving

View from the Top A sports commentary



Michael Edwards
Columnist

Enough is enough.

The MTSU men's basketball team has some of the most talented players in the Ohio Valley Conference, yet they can't seem to string wins together. Inconsistency has plagued the Raider team throughout the season, having high notes at home versus the University of Kansas and on the road at the University of Tennessee. However, the team has suffered losses to weak OVC teams like Eastern Illinois and Tennessee Tech.

Let's all face a few facts. This is the OVC. The teams within the OVC aren't that good. If the MTSU teams are ever going to even get to the level of a mid-major like a Tulane or the University of New Orleans, they are going to have to start beating the teams that are terrible. Quite frankly, the reason MTSU gets no respect is because they lose to teams like Eastern Illinois, Tennessee Tech and Campbell and squeak by teams like Martin Methodist, Belmont and Tennessee Temple.

No offense to these schools, but MTSU is much bigger in population than these schools and should be wiping the floor with them, in basketball. It is embarrassing to be watching a game at home with a friend that goes to LSU or Tennessee and see the MTSU score roll across the ticker. We lost to Campbell in front of a crowd of 300.

I am tired of hearing about how tough it is to win on the road in the OVC. That's a bunch of bull. I've been to Rupp Arena in Kentucky, I've been to the NCAA tournament at the Georgia Dome, I've been to Memorial Gym at Vanderbilt, Thompson-Boling at UT, and the Maravich Assembly Center at LSU. There is not a single school in the OVC that is even worthy enough to wipe the dog feces off the door mats of these arenas.

I will take some of the blame on covering for the MTSU basketball team, because I will admit that I sometimes make things sound better than they

are, but that time is over. I am sick of listening to the radio and hearing how hard it is to play in a certain place or how much the Raiders are getting screwed. Tell it like it is, please. This team has men on it, and that's the way they should be treated. Quit giving me a bunch of bravo sierra about how tough the Tech gym is to play in. Tell me the truth. Tell me that the team is playing terrible.

The men's team doesn't play with heart every night. Maybe after they are losing at halftime they get fired up, like against Belmont, but they don't every game. When you have players like Fernando Ortiz, Ron McKnight, Iiro Tengrenn and Cedric Wallace, you shouldn't be losing to teams that couldn't beat some of the best intramural teams. If you have players of that caliber, there is something wrong.

Problems could include an insufficient big man. They could include a lack of heart. I can see whether they are pumped up about playing when they enter the building, and I haven't seen it much this year.

Another problem could be coaching, but Coach Randy Wiel is the man for the job, and that's final. The coaches coach, and the players have to execute, and they are not doing it. Another problem that stems from heart is effort. The effort in every game — minus a few — has sucked.

The difference between playing with effort and intensity was shown in the Belmont game. During the first half, Belmont beat the Raiders to the loose balls and rebounds virtually every time and trailed at the

half. In the second half, MTSU played great and beat the Bruins by 20 points in the second half. Don't get me wrong, not every player is this way. Some of them genuinely have a desire to do well and win games. Others don't.

I have been to practices, and the practices are less intense than the games. I have seen high school practices that would run some of these players into the ground. A philosophy of John Wooden was to do his coaching in practice, and everything would take care of itself. He also would make practices tougher and more demanding than the games, thus making the games walks in the park.

If the players don't give 100 percent, they should stop playing basketball at MTSU and turn Murphy Center into a parking lot so students don't have to walk miles to class.

I am a student and a fan, but I am tired of thinking they might actually have a shot in the dark at going to the NCAA tournament. I am sick of having my heart broken every night. I hope some of the players will find pride.

The bottom line is this: basketball players take a page from the football team's notebook. The MTSU football team was low on talent and high on heart. Because of that, they have my respect. Every game the team was prepared to play no matter who they played. If only the basketball team was the same.

If the season doesn't get better, Murphy Center fans will be ready to start football season again. ■



Photo by Grant Fletcher | Staff Photographer
The track team hopes to win big at the Blue Raider Invitational on Saturday.

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OVERNIGHTS WITH BOB PARLOCHA

Memo to: The University Community
From: Dr. Victor J. Montemayor, Chair, General Studies Committee
Date: 02 January, 2000
Re: Revised Draft of General Studies Mission Statement and Open Forum

Copied below is a revised draft version of the General Studies Mission Statement. We received many helpful comments about the previous draft version that was distributed to you at the beginning of this past Fall semester and have spent a good bit of time trying to incorporate your suggestions into our revisions. In an attempt to keep the dialogue about this important Mission Statement ongoing, I am distributing the revised draft to you at this time. A hard-copy of this draft will be posted to you at the beginning of Spring semester, and we will be holding open forums during Spring semester to provide you with more opportunity to give us feedback before a final version is drafted and submitted to the Director of General Studies and Dr. Haskew. The first open forum will be held on

THURSDAY, 27 JANUARY
2:00 - 3:00 PM
BAS S128

You will be notified of other open forums as they are scheduled. If you have any comments or suggestions you would like to provide at this time, please send them to the Director of General Studies, Dr. Bill Badley, at wbadley@mtsu.edu, or send campus mail to the General Studies Office at MTSU Box #78. The revised draft Mission Statement can also be seen along with the committee meeting minutes at www.mtsu.edu/~genstud.

Thank you for your continued interest and input.

General Studies at MTSU

Vision

The General Studies program at Middle Tennessee State University will provide all students with the intellectual building blocks that will make it possible to find meaning in an ever-changing world. The Program will focus on the content of traditional science, liberal arts and fine arts disciplines and include the interdisciplinary nature of knowledge and the methods of inquiry demanded in a variety of fields. The Program will emphasize cultural diversity, values, ethics, global issues, and the individual's responsibility as a citizen of the community and the world.

Mission Statement

The General Studies Program is at the core of Middle Tennessee State University's educational mission. It provides students with a broad knowledge and appreciation of the arts and sciences as well as the intellectual skills that provide a basis for effective communication, problem solving, and evaluation. The General Studies experience gives students the opportunity to use various technologies to access and analyze information and to debate competing claims of evidence and systems of thought.

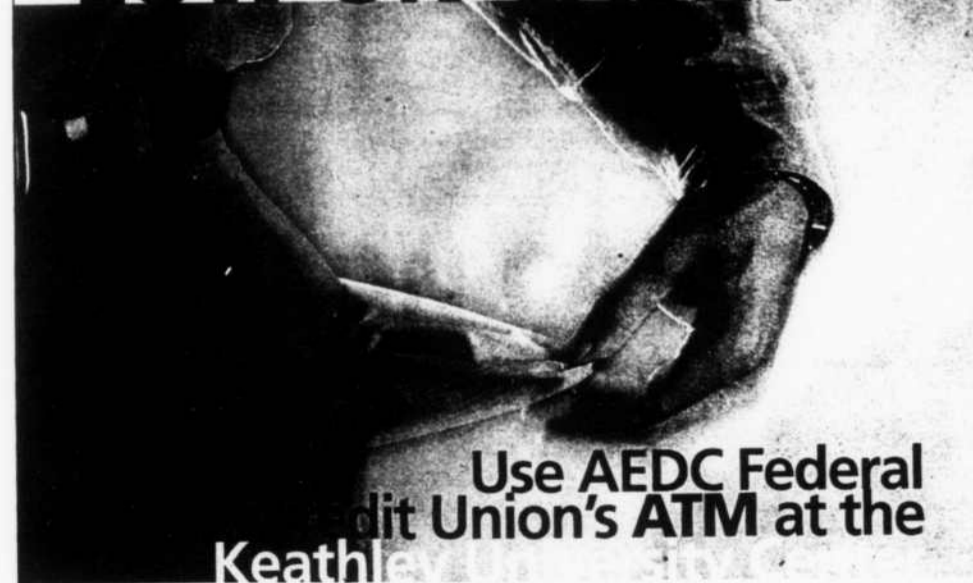
The Program assists students in developing an objective view and understanding of the world, its institutions, and themselves by linking the cultural legacy of the past with the technological demands and global concerns of the contemporary world. Finally, it creates in students an awareness of the diverse nature of the world while encouraging them to become active lifelong learners and participants in society.

Program Goals and Accountability

To increase accountability and maintain integrity of the General Studies Program, each component course will undergo periodic evaluation to determine the degree to which the course contributes to the mission of the Program. Continuous monitoring of the Program will allow systematic change based upon student achievement that is relevant to the Program mission. The General Studies curriculum will be incorporated throughout the typical four-year baccalaureate degree program and will include a capstone experience. The Program will foster in students the ability to:

- think independently and critically;
- analyze and evaluate beliefs and attitudes, data and ideas, issues and values;
- gather information through various methods of inquiry;
- integrate and synthesize new ideas and information;
- communicate verbally, quantitatively, and artistically in a variety of contexts and media;
- weigh options and make decisions based on rational, ethical, moral, and aesthetic considerations;
- integrate acquired knowledge and personal experience with historical, cultural, and contemporary perspectives in a changing and diverse society; and
- understand the roles, problems and concerns of an engaged citizen.

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Raiders on the road

Staff Reports

Women's basketball finishes up strong!

Middle Tennessee used a second half surge to outpace Eastern Illinois 73-64 and sweep the season series. The Lady Raiders improve to 7-7, 4-2 in the OVC, while Eastern Illinois falls to 4-11, 2-5 in league play.

The Lady Panthers took a three point lead into the half on a 3-pointer by Angie Patzner and extended it to six to start the second on another, but Middle Tennessee would recover, hitting 14-of-16 free throws in the second half to secure the win and outscore EIU 41-29 in the second half.

Patzner tied an Eastern Illinois school record for 3-pointer in a game with seven. She hit 7-of-10 and two free throws to finish with a game-high 23 points.

Four Lady Raiders finished in double figures led by Joanne Aluka's 18 points and ten rebounds, her second double-double of the season. She hit 8-of-9 from the field and 2-of-3 from the line.

In her first start since injuring her ankle against UAB, Erika Lufkin matched a career-high with 17 points. She also finished with four assists, one steal and hit 4-of-4 from the line.

late in the game.

Chrissy Davenport finished with a career-high 12 points and six rebounds.

She hit 8-of-10 from the line and 2-of-5 from the floor.

"This game was really big," said Davenport. We needed two wins behind us over this team to set our standards of where we want to be going into the second half of league play."

Jessica McClure added 14 points, six rebounds, four assists and five steals.

"Eastern Illinois is a team that is playing a lot better right now," said head coach Stephany Smith. "We are a team that's not playing so well and aren't playing as well as we were a month and a half ago when we played Eastern Illinois at home. It's a road game and a game that I'm very excited about. I saw some good things tonight."

"We have yet to determine a starting five, much less a rotation," said Smith about Lufkins return to the starting line-up. "It's going to take us a while

because of our youth. With seven sophomores and two freshmen you don't just throw out a starting line-up in November and stick with it. We've also had a lot of injuries on top of that, which has also mixed up the line-up and rotation. Going into tonight's game, I've worked the rotation in my head, but I can't really know it. Erica (Lufkin) in the line-up hasn't happened in a long, long time, especially in the starting line-up."

Middle Tennessee returns home after a five-game road swing on Jan. 20 to take on Austin Peay. Game time is set for 5:45 p.m.

"Austin Peay will have a good offense, so we'll really have to step up our defensive pressure," said sophomore center LaShonda Winfree. "We need to practice hard and play well, because we need to win all our home games."

Tennis team excited about spring

Leslie Granade
Contributing Writer

Beginning with spring's tournaments, the players and coaches have already proven that the men's tennis team has made vast improvements in contrast to the previous years played, and they are looking forward to what the spring season has to offer.

The men's tennis team opens the spring portion of the schedule on Friday.

According to Oliver Foreman, "this year the team is playing brilliantly" and achieving much more in comparison to the past.

In the MTSU Fall Classics, Oliver Foreman took runner-up in A flight, while Michael Chamberlain achieved runner-up in B flight. Robert Gustaffson lost closely in a rough final to the number-one seed in A flight, held at the USC Invitational and at the University of Louisville's Invitational, Daniel Klementz won A flight championship.

Doubles were won by Mehdi Belbacha and Michael Chamberlain at the MTSU Fall Classics. In the USC Invitational, Daniel Klementz

and Olle Nystrom won the championship in B flight.

The NCAA Regional Indoor Qualifying, which was held in November, did not go quite as well as expected, but the Florida State tournament, held before the NCAA regional Indoor Qualifying, was a major success. Nystrom and Foreman won doubles in A flight, while Klementz and Chamberlain both won in consolation.

The team is being inspired and led by two coaches this year. The head coach is Dale Short who played tennis at MTSU and has coached here for the past 12 seasons.

"He emphasizes team unity and has made vast improvements to every player's all-around game, instilling major

qualities in his players such as determination, dedication, character and attitude," said Foreman.

Assisting with coaching duties is Julius Robberts. Robberts played on the team from 1993-97 and is now in his second season at MTSU.

"With his experience, he has shown many players on the team how to remain competitive and positive under adverse conditions," Nystrom said. "Right now the players are feeling the flow. They're working it. There is a lot of pressure. We're being taught to harness the good energy and block out the bad. We play our hearts out on the court and all we can do is hope for the best in the coming up spring season."

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