



Elections for SGA commence next week

Mary Anna Brown
SGA Reporter

In just a matter of days, the 2000 Student Government Association (SGA) election will begin.

Beginning March 6 and lasting through March 10, the student body will decide the SGA panel they think will best represent the population of MTSU as a whole.

Elections will be held differently from past years. Traditionally, elections are held in polling stations locat-

ed around campus, but for the first time, SGA elections will be conducted over the internet via Web MT.

On March 2, Sidelines Hall Channel 10 will be hosting an SGA officer debate for this year's candidates.

The debate begins at 6:15 p.m. in the Bragg Mass Communication building and each student organization should send one representative.

The debate will be televised on Channel 10 beginning at 6:30 on that Thursday night. ■

SGA Candidates

President

- o John Marshall
- o Nathaniel Mills
- o Chris Montaque

Speaker of the Senate

- o Josh Pounders

Senate:

School of Business

- o Russell Henderson
- o Selena Hutcherson
- o Jennifer Jones

School of Education

- o Emmy Hickman

Speaker of the House

- o Dustin Rawls
- o Matthew Walker

Election Commissioner

- o Julia Graves
- o Travis Jordan

School of Basic and Applied Sciences

- o Sarah Wilson
- o Ginny Barton

School of Liberal Arts

- o Adam Tune

Freshmen, professors find Learning Community useful

Jenny Cordle
News Editor

Freshmen currently participating in the Cummings Hall Learning Community for the 1999-2000 year are more likely to stay in school, said Cathy Crooks, associate director for Residential Education.

Approximately 50 freshmen are taking part in the pilot-tested program, which is designed to connect freshmen to the university and to one another by placing several freshmen in two of the same courses and in the same residence hall.

"Since these students are able to connect in a university community, they are more satisfied," said Crooks, who began the program last fall. "When they are satisfied, they'll stay in school."

Twenty-five men and women were placed on different floors of Cummings Hall, and two groups consisting of 12 to 15 men and 12 to 15 women were divided and placed in the same two classes.

Course clustering includes the combination of University 101, the three-hour credit course designed to help students develop the skills necessary to be successful in college, as well as assist in using campus resources, and English 111, the three-credit hour General Studies requirement that focuses on the composition of papers. Students living in the community will also take English 112 together in the spring.

Students eligible to participate in the Learning Community include those freshmen with a minimum ACT English score of 19, which allows them to be placed in the General Studies course.

"From an instructor's point-of-view, it was really interesting," said Crooks, who also



Danielle Binkley, Chris Gervan, and Jason Neeley work on a sociology presentation about binge drinking in the lobby of Cummings Hall.

teaches the fall course of University 101 for the program. "We were able to bond as a class. The students felt more comfort-

said. "She not only answered questions about school, but also about personal issues." Freshman nursing major

"You can really see people growing and developing together."

Kathleen Therrien
assistant professor of English

able coming to us — they felt as if we were friends."

Freshman Tiffany Green, undeclared, who joined the program to meet new people, said that University 101 was one of her favorite classes.

"Dr. Crooks related to us," she

Donisha Du Bose said she feels the students and the professors involved with the learning community are "on the same level," since the students live together, take similar courses and work with the same professors.

Kathleen Therrien, assistant

professor of English, taught English 111 for the program. She said the program has been "very effective, because students get to work together to develop knowledge and skills."

"You can really see people growing and developing together," she added.

Crooks, who modeled MTSU's program after the program at the University of Tennessee-Knoxville, plans to expand the Learning Community next fall to 125 participants.

The new Raider Learning Community will be housed next fall on two floors located in Corlew Hall, one of the high-rise residence halls located on the north side of campus. ■

Housing staff confusion delays police, fire response

Michael Edwards
Staff Reporter

Residents of MTSU's campus housing are concerned about safety, especially after the lack of coordination by MTSU housing staff resulted in a delayed response to a fire alarm by the Murfreesboro Fire Department early this semester.

A fire alarm sounded at 1 a.m. Jan. 22 in the Monohan Complex, Resident Director John Norrell said.

The fire alarms in Area I are not linked to the fire or police department, which means someone from MTSU has to make a phone call, explained Ken Honeycutt, Murfreesboro fire marshal.

Campus Safety Officer Terry Logan said the call to the campus police, initiated by the housing staff, was received at 1:33 a.m. The information was then relayed to the fire dispatch, which received the call at 1:37 a.m. Firefighters were then dispatched and arrived on the scene two minutes later.

"We've got four engines responding to MTSU," said Jerry McCullough, Murfreesboro assistant fire chief. "They're not going to take 15 minutes."

"Undoubtedly, the problem was the coordinator didn't leave somebody in charge to do what he was supposed to do in case of [an] emergency. [At] any part of that building, we can have an

engine sitting in front of it within four minutes."

The Area I housing staff that night consisted of workers inexperienced in emergency response, said David Holtzman, area coordinator.

Norrell scoured the buildings within the Monohan Complex looking for people, a fire or an initiated fire-alarm pull station.

But while Norrell searched, no one on his staff called the campus police.

"John's new in the resident director position," Holtzman said. "He didn't know to call."

"I followed procedure as to what other universities do, and it wasn't to call the police first — it was to get the residents out," Norrell said.

The new desk assistant did not know to call campus safety either, Holtzman said.

"Whether the residents, the housing staff or someone else, somebody should have taken the initiative and called [campus safety at] 2424," said Logan.

Freshman Shawn Kehoe, the desk assistant in Monohan Hall that morning, said that no one told him to make the call.

"I didn't know what was going on," Kehoe said.

Holtzman believes this was an isolated incident and should not happen again.

Problems also arise when a fire alarm is a false alarm. System malfunctions can lead to such problems.

"It's never malfunctioned in

the year and a half that I've been here," Holtzman said.

Another reason the alarm goes off in error is because someone pulls it, causing a false alarm.

"Pulling a fire alarm is a big deal. There's a lot of things that can happen when you pull a false alarm," said Holtzman.

Last year, a resident fell during a false alarm and had a seizure.

"If somebody does that and we can prove it, we are going to prosecute them to the fullest extent," Honeycutt said. "If that means taking them in front of a judge, then that's what we'll do."

Director of Residential Life Debra Sells agreed with Honeycutt that causing a false alarm is a serious offense, and said the university, if they can document it, will do the same.

The false alarms have prompted some students, like Schardt Hall resident Derrick Wilson, to stay in his room during evacuations. He said he is not concerned about the slow response time, because "they usually know whether it's a prank or not."

"We need to evacuate every building, every time," Sells said. "For a student to make that kind of comment concerns me. They have to be partners with us."

"It concerns me," said Michael Green, a sophomore Reynolds Hall resident. "When the fire alarm started, they

should have called the fire department then. That's important."

"They should have been more prompt in notifying," said Paul Norman, a junior Reynolds Hall resident.

To prevent this type of situation from happening again, any student can call campus safety at 2424 and tell the dispatcher a fire alarm is going off and its location.

Some residents have indicated that they would not know what to do, except to exit the building.

Holtzman pointed out that new stickers have been placed on the back of the doors of dorm rooms in Area I. The bright orange stickers instruct students what to do in case of a fire.

"I wonder how well they have been trained in the proper techniques," Norman said.

Honeycutt suggested the housing staff meet with Logan and learn evacuation procedures and proper use of fire extinguishers.

"We do about 10 days of training during the summer and fire training is certainly part of it," Sells said. "We have not used the fire department yet, but we will look into that."

"Somehow, for some reason, people are not taking advantage of the help they've got out there," Honeycutt said. ■

Lecture to discuss unbalanced wealth

Staff Reports

People struggle everyday, but often are not consciously aware of that struggle, said Michael Principe, professor of philosophy.

"If you have the general economic facts, then we understand that there is a ruling class (in out society)," he said. "It's sort of an ongoing thing and people struggle everyday, but I don't think they necessarily identify it as that."

As part of the Spring 2000 Honors Lecture Series dealing with the abuse of power topic, Principe will discuss the "Class Power and Class Struggle" today from 3:40-4:30 p.m. at the University Library, Room 444.

"There's a systematic problem that deals with the economic power ultimately, (and) I think this is something that people basically know, but feel fairly powerless about," said Principe. He also added that according to statistics, about 60 percent of the United States' wealth is owned by only five percent of the population.

"There are all sorts of numbers that you can point to, but I think that when 60 percent of the wealth in this country is owned by five percent of the people, there is a setup here to sort of see the world in a particular way," he said.

During his 50-minute lecture, Principe said he will try

to define the notion of a ruling class and its basic components.

"People always feel a vested interest in the system," he said. "Everybody wants to wake up in the morning and things are basically OK, and the kind of life (they are) living and the work (they) are doing, is OK. There is this built-in investment in the system and it's not really in the best psychological interest to think that the system is messed up."

However, "As far as the political agenda that's pursued in general, we've got a general political agenda that favors the interest of a particular group or class—big business might be a term for that—and this is not just an accident."

Although the working class is not powerless against the government, or big business, Principe questions whether the ruling class will be overturned at any given point.

"You hear all of these special interests that contend for power, and sometimes this group wins and sometimes this other group wins, and it seems like that there is a connection between the government acting in the long-term interests of big business," he said. "Now, not in every instance does big business get its way, but the government is not going to go against the long-term interests of big business."

See Lecture, 4

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On Campus

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

Feb. 28

Solidarity will present the 1999 documentary, "A Place Called Chiapas" at 2:30 p.m. in the KUC Theater. Tom Hanson, spokesman for the Mexican Solidarity Network, will be on hand to introduce the film and moderate the discussion afterwards. This film is free of charge and open to the public.

Indian Culture Association is holding a general interest meeting in KUC, Room 313 at 4:15 p.m. For more information, contact Smita Patel at (931)684-3101.

Feb. 29

Campus Recreation is hosting a free-throw and 3-point contest. Participants may sign up prior to event at the Campus Recreation Center or on Court 1 on the day of the contest. Contact Chris Gravlee at 898-2104 for more information.

March 1

Deadline for scholarship applications are due for Fall 2000 and Spring 2001.

March 3-5

Campus Recreation is hosting a backpacking and rappelling trip to Sipsey Wilderness, Ala. A pre-trip meeting will be held at the Campus Recreation Center March 1 at 5 p.m. Contact Mitch, Sean or Carolyn at 898-2104 for more information.

March 9

Campus Recreation and Human Services is sponsoring a Nutrition and Fitness Awareness Fair from 1-4 p.m.

in the Campus Recreation Lounge. Find out your body composition, weight, blood pressure, flexibility and cardiovascular fitness. Nutritional and fitness educational materials will be available to all participants. For more information, call Jerry or Allison at 898-2104.

March 10

The General Studies Committee will be holding an open forum in order to give feedback before a final version of the General Studies Mission Statement is drafted. The meeting will be from 1:30-2:30 p.m. in BAS, Room S126. For more information, call Bill Bradley, director of general studies, at 898-8416.

March 13-17

Safe Spring Break Week 2000 will be hosting several events. To participate in Alcohol 101, The Condom Carnival and self-defense demonstrations, stop by the KUC Grill. For more information, call Gina Poff or Kerry Lane at 898-2454.

March 14

Campus Recreation is sponsoring a bench press contest. Participants must register by March 10. The cost is \$5 for individuals and \$10 for teams (five to a team). Contact Allison or Jerry at 898-2104 for more information.

March 15 & 16

Two faculty open forums are scheduled to be held in BAS, State Farm Lecture Hall, Room S102/204 at 1:30 p.m. The fac-

ulty is encouraged to attend these meetings to discuss faculty issues or other university matters of interest.

March 16

Alpha Omicron Pi and Student Development, in conjunction with Safe Spring Break Week 2000, will be hosting "Mock Around the Block," a night with "mocktails" and educational information about the effects of alcohol. The event will take place on Greek Row at 8:00 p.m. All students, faculty and staff are invited. Contact Kerry Lane at 898-2454 for more information.

March 25-31

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

March 25-April 2

Outdoor Pursuits is hosting a raft, canoe and funyack trip of the Rio Grande. The cost is \$199 for students with a limit of 15 participants. For more information, call W.T. at 898-2104.

Ongoing

The MTSU Peer Education Program is currently accepting new members. Credit hours are available. Applications may be picked up in KUC, Room 303, or call 898-5453 for more information.

The June Anderson

Women's Center will be hosting a weekly support meeting, "Women: Food and Body Image," Tuesdays in the CKNB, Room 124 at 3:15 p.m. The group is also holding meetings Thursdays titled "Looking Forward" at the same time and location. For more information, call Mary Glantz at 898-5725.

The Student Pagan Organization holds meetings every Thursday in the second floor lounge of the KUC at 7 p.m. Anyone interested in Wicca, Paganism, Shamanism or any other alternative spirituality is welcome. For more information, contact John Bryan at 907-3328.

The MTSU Crime Stoppers Board is currently looking for people interested in joining its Board of Directors, especially graduate and undergraduate students. If you are a full-time student or employee at MTSU and wish to apply for one of these openings, pick up an application at either the campus police department or KUC 303.

Students for Environmental Action invite all students to weekly meetings every Wed. at 6 p.m. in Peck Hall, Room 201. For more information, e-mail Lori Bruner at greenmind@home.com.

Part-time campus jobs are available in food service, catering, concessions, student patrol and dispatch. Students interested should contact the Placement and Student Employment Center in KUC, Room 328.

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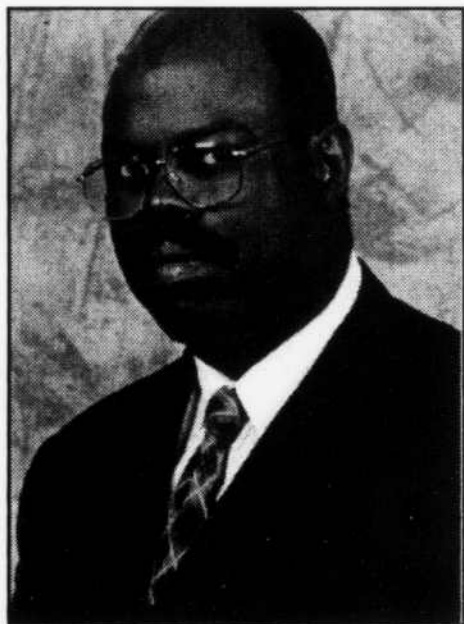
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Many aid applicants leave drug question blank

WASHINGTON (TMS) — If you skipped that question about drug convictions when you applied for federal financial aid, don't think the U.S. Education Department failed to notice.

Department officials announced Tuesday that they are taking steps to deal with more than 100,000 other students, or about 20 percent of applicants, who also dodged the question. The 2000-01 academic year is the first in which students convicted of drug offenses are ineligible for federal aid.

Department officials said they would let colleges distribute aid to students who didn't answer the question on their

applications. But officials also said the department would send notices warning those students to inform the department of any convictions — and potentially lose their aid — or run the risk of greater penalties associated with lying on the form.

The department's decision has relieved many college-aid administrators who feared students who left the question blank would automatically be presumed guilty. Many said they thought applicants left the answer blank unintentionally.

Department officials said they decided to cut students slack after calling about 1,500 applicants who didn't respond

to the question.

"Almost all of them said that they did not answer because they were confused by the question or simply forgot to answer it," Greg Woods, chief operating officer of the department's Office of Student Financial Assistance, told The Chronicle of Higher Education.

Students who failed to answer the question have had their financial aid held up as the department has decided what to do with them.

Under the law, approved in 1998, students with one conviction of drug possession risk losing their aid eligibility for one year; two years for a second con-

viction; and indefinitely for a third conviction. Students caught selling drugs lose eligibility for two years after a first conviction and indefinitely after a second. Eligibility for aid could be restored in less time if the students satisfactorily complete a drug-rehabilitation program, or if their convictions are reversed or set aside.

Wood said just under 1 percent of the 590,000 students who have applied for aid for the coming academic year have acknowledged being convicted of drug-related offenses, the same, he said, as the national average for the U.S. population. ■

Northeastern student faces possible 10-year sentence for hacking

BOSTON (TMS) — A Northeastern University computer science student has been accused of a "coast-to-coast" hacking spree of military and government networks that prosecutors say also gave him access to NASA's computer system.

Ikenna Iffih, 28, was charged Wednesday with three hacking charges that bring a maximum 10-year sentence and a \$250,000 fine.

"All in all, the defendant used his home computer to leave a trail of cybercrime from coast to coast," U.S. Attorney

Donald Stern said in a statement. "The defendant gained illegal access ... either causing substantial business loss, defacing a Web page with hacker graphics, copying personal information or, in the case of a NASA computer, effectively seizing control."

Prosecutors said there was no disruption to the nation's defense, no interference with satellite control and no improper use of information.

This is not Iffih's first brush with law enforcement. He was charged with hacking the

Interior Department's site last year. And in August, he was charged in Seattle with a computerized attack on Zebra Marketing Online Services, an Internet service provider in Bainbridge Island, Wash. Prosecutors in that case said the company sustained "a significant loss of business."

Northeastern University officials said they have been cooperating with law enforcement since last fall, when they discovered Iffih had copied classified information about students, faculty and alumni. ■

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Grandmother walking in name of campaign reform nears goal

Mike Recht
Associated Press

Nothing seems to slow the 90-year-old grandmother who has trekked 3,100 miles through 12 states in the name of campaign finance reform - not arthritis, blistering desert heat or a foot of snow in Maryland.

More than a year after Doris Haddock set out for Washington from the West Coast to draw attention to her cause, the finish line is near. She was resting Sunday near Bethesda, Md., and planned to complete her walk - with an entourage of supporters - Tuesday from Arlington National Cemetery to the Capitol.

Her message to politicians: The high cost of campaigns is giving wealthy special interests the only voice in Washington and it's shutting out the people.

She wants soft money contributions outlawed and politicians who won't move toward campaign finance reform rejected at the polls.

"Sometimes I think it was a fool's errand, but I think there are more people in this country who know what campaign finance reform means since I started," said Haddock, who goes by "Granny D" on her Web site, www.grannnyd.com, which has been chronicling the adventure.

"I think I'm stronger than when I started. Certainly my emphysema is better," she said.

The Dublin, N.H., woman began her journey New Year's Day last year behind the Rose Bowl Parade in Pasadena, Calif., and has continued almost non-stop. Toting a backpack canteen and wearing a big straw hat, she typically covered about 10 miles a day.

She got the idea from the Tuesday Morning Academy, a group of 19 women in Dublin that meets weekly to discuss world affairs. While members of her own family expressed reservations, club members supported her cause, and some walked part of the distance at her side, she said.

Along the way, she caught the attention of local and national media, as well as presidential candidates Bill Bradley and John McCain.

By late last year, she was flying to New Hampshire to appear with Bradley, a Democrat, and later to Washington for an appearance with McCain, a Republican. Both support campaign finance reform.

"McCain said to me, 'Look at the press. This is the first press I've had of this magnitude for a very, very long time,'" Haddock said.

She had planned to arrive in Washington on her 90th birthday Jan. 24, but the media crush, special appearances and a few set backs changed her timetable.

Haddock was forced off the road early in her journey and had to be hospitalized for four days after she became dehydrated in California's Mojave Desert.

"A lot of people around me thought it was time I went home," she said.

Instead, she walked 10 miles the day she left the hospital.

When she walked into snow-covered Maryland, she pulled out her cross-country skis and skimmed over 85 miles.

"People thought it strange down here that at 90 I can still ski," Haddock said.

She said the trip has turned out better than she expected, but she doesn't plan to repeat it.

"This is my last hurrah," she said. "My walking is done." ■

Students skeptical of MIT's plan to convert warehouse into dorm

BOSTON, Mass. (TMS) — To increase housing for graduate students, officials at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology are proposing to convert a three-story warehouse into a 125-room dormitory.

Just one problem, many students say: The building is in a relatively high-crime area.

Campus police logs indicate that there were 14 reports of trespassing and loitering at the building last year, more incidents requiring police attention than at any other graduate or undergraduate dormitory. Students are also troubled that the body of a dead, homeless person was found behind the building and that police have made two arrests there stemming from a fight.

The warehouse is located

near a combined rehabilitation facility for drug addicts and homeless shelter. The facility has a shuttle transporting people to and from its site, which has decreased complaints of trespassing and loitering in the area. But in light of last year's crime reports, many students say they're not convinced the new digs would be safe.

MIT's chief of police, Anne P. Glavin, said criminal activity at the site is likely to diminish once students move in. She also said that if the building is converted to a dorm, emergency phones will be installed and officers will step up security patrols.

If approved, the renovation could cost between \$14 million and \$20 million dollars and could be complete in time for fall 2001. ■

Y2K is back: Does anyone care?

Anick Jesdanun
Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) - Leap year's extra day arrives Tuesday carrying the possibility of Y2K-like glitches. But given the calm that greeted the new millennium, few computer consultants are worried this time.

There's no government call to stock up on food or water. Any problems will likely affect billing and office systems rather

than power supply or airplanes. Still, Y2K planners will be watching, if for no other reason than to celebrate.

"Once we're through ... the chances of multiple failures and multiple problems at once become almost nonexistent," said Kendra Martin, spokeswoman for the American Petroleum Institute.

Computers long have had trouble registering Feb. 29 - treating it as March 1, or March 1 as Feb. 30, - and there are

greater risks of programming errors this year because 2000 is an exception to an exception. An extra day is added every four years, except for years that end in "00" unless divisible by 400. So 2000 is a leap year, but 1900 is not.

The potential for confusion is not a surprise.

"I can't imagine there would be any Y2K consultant irresponsible enough to fix New Year's Eve and not, while he's there, do something about Feb. 29," said

Sen. Bob Bennett, R-Utah, who heads the Senate's Y2K advisory committee.

In fact, the extra attention might make Tuesday's transition smoother than in leap years past, said Matt Hotle, research director for the technology consulting firm Gartner Group.

Patrick Dorinson, whose group monitors California's power grid, said he expects the transition to be as low-key as "switching from standard time to daylight savings." ■

Lecture: Power and class struggle discussed

Continued from 1

Thus, if "big business" truly does represent the ruling class within our culture, Principe asked, is it likely that the working class, with its dominant population, will ever become

the ruling class?

"We need to ask if the power of this (big business) group can be undermined in a way that the system itself would approve," said Principe. "And I think in the end, the answer is going to be no, but the kinds of avenues

that you'd need to go to pursue or undermine this power would be to alternative paths. Things that range from high road to evolution to demonstration in the streets or wildcat strikes by liberal organizers—things like this are not encouraged by the struc-

ture in place, but it might well have some impact. That sort of stuff is sort of outside the system in some ways, and if it's the case, then it's sort of an open question."

Principe's lecture is free and open to the public. ■

China lashes out at U.S.

BEIJING (AP) - China scoffed Sunday at the United States' human rights record, saying America is plagued by racism and other problems and should not pass judgment on other nations.

The accusations, contained in a government report, "U.S. Human Rights Record in 1999," was China's response to the U.S. State Department's annual human rights report, which criticized Beijing.

"The United States does not have a good human rights record of its own but likes to play the role of the 'world's human rights judge'," the Information Office of China's State Council said in its 10,000-word paper.

"The American government needs to keep an eye on its own human rights problems, mind its own business and stop interfering in the internal affairs of other countries by utilizing the human rights question," it said.

The U.S. State Department

report, issued Friday, said Beijing's rights situation deteriorated markedly last year. It listed such examples as intensified suppression of dissent and control over unregistered churches, restriction of fundamental freedoms of minority groups including Tibetan Buddhists, and increased manipulation of the press and the Internet.

The Chinese report responded that the safety of U.S. citizens is threatened by widespread violent crime and a huge number of privately owned firearms. Police brutality is common, child labor is rampant and "the state of children in the U.S. is grim," the report said.

It said the shooting of African immigrant Amadou Diallo by four New York City police officers came "to symbolize the violent behavior of the American police." The officers were acquitted Friday of murder and other state criminal charges. ■

The Student Publications Committee is now taking applications for

SIDELINES
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OPINIONS

Murfreesboro, TN

Monday, February 28, 2000

SIDELINES ■ 5

From the Staff Lady Raiders playing strong

There's an old sports cliché: it's not how you start, it's how you finish.

If that phrase is true then the Lady Raiders are in good shape.

Even though they didn't win the conference championship, they are the hottest team in the Ohio Valley Conference. And now is the best time to be hot because the OVC Tournament starts Tuesday.

Let's face it: only the OVC Tournament Champion will get a bid to the NCAA Tournament. While it is nice to do well in the regular season, it really means nothing unless you do something in the OVC Tournament.

The Lady Raiders enter the Tournament with a nine-game winning streak. During the streak the Lady Raiders have played like champions.

They defeated conference champion Tennessee Tech, they've dominated people and they've shown the ability to comeback from a deficit.

Against Tech they played incredibly. They committed only eight turnovers and hit 22-of-27 free throws. As a result, they handed Tech their first conference loss.

They dominated Austin Peay and they took over the Tennessee State game in the second half.

The Lady Raiders outscored the Lady Tigers 41-18 in the second half en route to a 62-38 win.

Against Morehead State they overcame a 45-25 halftime deficit and won 80-74.

Against Belmont they overcame a 14-point second half deficit and won 74-67.

The Lady Raiders have avenged every conference loss during the winning streak. They are peeking at the right time. If they keep playing this good the OVC Tournament won't be their last tournament of the year.

- Josh Ezzell
Sports Editor

Letter to the Editor

Ezzell 'off-base' with column, Herzer just a 'human being'

This letter is in response to the column written by sports co-editor Josh Ezzell ("Sidelines," Feb. 21) regarding the unfortunate incident involving assistant men's basketball coach Andy Herzer.

Not only am I a former sports editor for "Sidelines" — a position I held for three semesters — but also I consider Herzer to be a friend.

I could write for hours about how much Herzer cares about students and people in general, but those who know him are already aware of that.

Just like those of us who know him realize that Herzer is nothing like the aforementioned column made him out to be.

Granted, what Herzer did was wrong, and he's apologized for it — not once but twice.

He apologized to Michael Edwards (sports co-editor) two days later, when the Blue Raiders played Tennessee State, which was a day before the column went to print.

And he would have apologized to Ezzell had he been at the game.

That's just the kind of guy he is — he's man enough to admit when he's made a mistake. Instead, he did so after he returned from a recruiting trip to Kansas.

However, the entire situation didn't transpire because Herzer is some sort of temperamental jerk in the vein of Bobby Knight — as Ezzell compared him.

In fact, while many of Knight's tirades are unprovoked, Herzer's initial comment to Ezzell was in response to an crimonious comment made

about the substitutions by the coaching staff.

Make no mention of the fact that the comment was made directly outside of the team's locker room door less than five minutes after an emotional loss to Austin Peay — a game the team very badly needed in order to have any chance in hosting a first-round OVC tournament game.

The key word in all of that is emotional.

College athletics — especially at the Division I level — are emotional, and winning and losing is not taken lightly.

Sometimes in the heat of battle things are said and done out frustration, and those who are close to the action have to be willing to take the good and the bad.

In this situation, Ezzell has

even admitted that his comment was not intended to be heard by the coaches or the players.

Nevertheless, it was.

While it may not have warranted both reporters from the "Sidelines" staff to have to do their interviews in another area, it didn't warrant such a harsh response from Ezzell either — especially after instigating the incident to begin with.

It's a prime example of something that should have and could have been dealt with privately.

Either way, Herzer hasn't created any sort of "mess" in the Athletic Department.

His only fault is that he's a human being, just as we all are.

Keith Ryan Cartwright
Junkor, Mass Communication

Modern Dysfunction

by Rob Evans, Staff Columnist

Just Relax

Ignore stressful duties and sleep

Despite the recent moniker I have taken on, I am not "Mr. Efficiency."

By no stretch of the imagination am I organized.

But that all depends on whose organized you are looking at.

I consider using time effectively as getting everything done that you wanted to in a certain day. Of course that is nearly impossible.

You have to go to class, work, the bank, train for (insert sport here), hang out with friends and somehow still fit sleep into the schedule.

Somewhere something has to give, but in the end it is always sleep that wins out.

I can't count how many times I have fallen asleep and woken up with my books and homework all over the bed/couch/desk/kitchen table.

The reason I fell asleep was because I was trying to do too many things at once.

So, to go along with the anti-stress articles published by "Sidelines" the last few issues, I say just kick back and not worry about a thing.

In other words, forget trying to do everything and be a pal to everyone.

At the risk of sounding selfish, where is the me-time in college? In the "real world" people spend millions of dollars trying to organize their lives.

If you go to a decent mall in a larger city (Murfreesboro doesn't count), there are even stores devoted to the pursuit of effective time use.

Today though you can go to any run-of-the-mill yard sale and find that the same expensive planner is now heavily discounted and priced to move. You only have to replace the out-of-date calendar.

Take my advice. Don't worry about it.

Sleep is good. ■

Underdog McCain can benefit from Reform party

Rob Richie and Steven Hill
Knight-Ridder Tribune

Memo to George W. Bush: tread lightly, or you may rouse a bull moose that will stampede Republican dreams of capturing the White House.

Arizona Sen. John McCain is stirring the political pot in a way reminiscent of his personal hero, Teddy Roosevelt. McCain's message is similar to that of the Rough Rider of San Juan Hill: we need a tough, independent leader to change the way business is done in Washington. As president from 1901 to 1909, Roosevelt was an energetic reformer, busting up monopolies and pursuing an aggressive foreign policy. That certainly sounds like McCain's vision of his presidency.

The smart money in Washington, however, remains on George Bush to win the Republican nomination. McCain may have the crowds and the enthusiasm, but Bush has money — lots of it — and, more importantly, the full weight of the Republican establishment on his side.

McCain's recent announcement of a unilateral halt of negative ads should give Bush loyalists pause, however — not because of the likely effectiveness of the strategy, but because of its possible implications. Voters may dislike negative ads, but they are quite effective in winner-take-all elections. Pulling such ads thus is almost certainly bad short-term politics, but it could win favor with independents and Democrats in a general election.

Bush must be careful lest he find himself in a similar quandary to Republican president William Howard Taft in 1912. That year, Teddy Roosevelt sought the nomination against Taft. Despite Roosevelt having the people on his side, the party bosses stayed with Taft.

Furious, Roosevelt mounted the 20th century's greatest challenge to the two-party system. The Progressive "Bull Moose" party nominated Roosevelt for president and ran candidates for congressional seats across the country. Roosevelt beat Taft, but the Republican vote was so badly split that Democrats won the presidency and both houses of Congress.

Bush may well be able to win the Republican nomination fair and square. In that case, McCain will likely accept defeat. But if the Bush campaign resorts to

attack politics and insider power grabs, McCain just may decide to follow Roosevelt's example.

This year, the nomination of the Reform Party and 13 million dollars in matching funds is ripe for the picking. Pat Buchanan has the inside track, but if McCain jumps — or is pushed — from the Republican ship, the nomination is surely his. Although the party is badly split, backers of both major factions have made overtures to McCain. McCain already has stated his willingness to accept a dual nomination from both Republicans and Reform.

McCain has time to decide. The Reform nomination will be decided in a national mail-in ballot this summer open to any American citizen. Candidates for the nomination need only gain ballot status in 20 states before the balloting — not easy, given most states' byzantine ballot access laws, but certainly achievable for a candidate with McCain's momentum.

McCain could be an extremely strong candidate in a three-way race in November, particularly if the major parties nominate the familiar names of George Bush and Al Gore. Minnesota Reform Party governor Jesse Ventura beat out similarly well-known fixtures of his state's politics in 1998.

The quiet secret of modern politics is that Americans are tired of the two-party system. For example:

— A December 1999 poll by Harvard's Vanishing Voter Project found that only 23 percent of Americans agree that "the two-party system works fairly well." About half wanted to consider a third party candidate no matter who won the major party nominations.

— A January 2000 poll by Rasmussen Research found that if a third-party candidate had a legitimate chance of winning a congressional race, 30 percent of likely voters would vote Democrat, 25 percent Republican and 26 percent for the third party. If McCain believes his reputation is being sullied and Republican doors are unfairly locked, he just might accept the embrace of Americans ready for an independent bid.

Ironically, George Bush, the epitome of the Republican status quo, would have launched a new "rough rider" — one who either smashes the increasingly sluggish two-party system with a victory or so divides the Republican vote that a Democrat waltzes into the White House for another four years. ■

Corrections and clarifications for "Dorm renovations planned for summer," which ran Feb. 24

1. Bathrooms to be totally renovated this summer for use by fall, 2000 are McHenry, Schardt and Smith. Four other buildings — Reynolds, Monahan, Lyon and Mary — will be renovated next summer, 2001, for use by fall, 2001.

2. Internet connections will not be installed in all dorm rooms this summer. About one third of the rooms will be completed this summer, one third in the summer of 2001, and the last third in the summer of 2002. Scarlett Commons is already internet wired.

3. Refunds were granted to students who were removed from Ezzell and Abernathy halls last spring.

We apologize for any misunderstandings or mistakes.

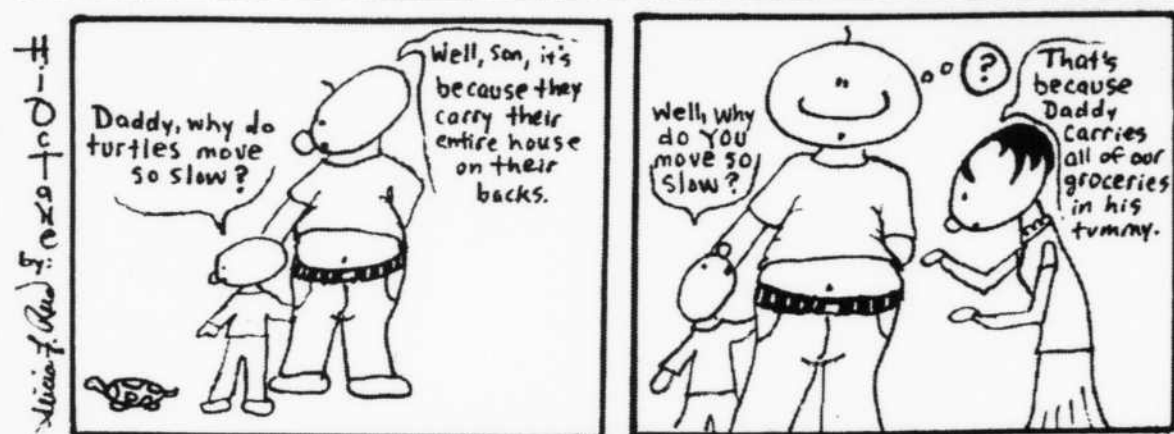
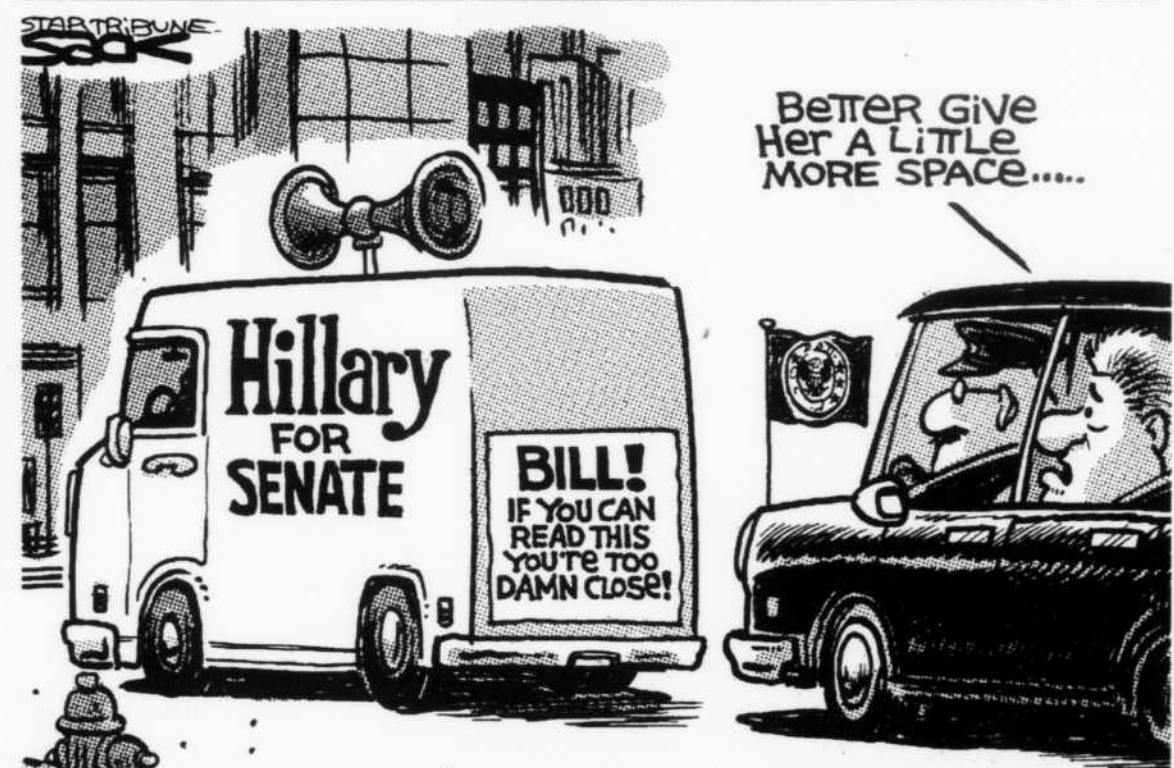
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"Sidelines" is the non-profit, editorially independent student newspaper of Middle Tennessee State University and is published on Monday and Thursday during the fall and spring semesters and every Wednesday during June and July. FLASH!, the entertainment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



FEATURES

6 ■ SIDELINES

Monday, February 28, 2000

Murfreesboro, TN

Love and leadership

Baptist Student Union serves student population

Ruth Peltier
Staff Reporter

The first person I saw was on a skateboard headed for a ramp inside the building. About the time he ran into the railing, I noticed that he already had a cast on one arm.

Baptist Student Union director Charles Nored identified the skater as senior Brent Heilig.

I could see right away that BSU was a place where students were free to be themselves.

I remembered Heilig later when junior Deanna Mahaffey, a candidate for next year's BSU president, described her first days at MTSU.

She came from a small town and found the sheer size of the university overwhelming. However, she first went to BSU, where she felt welcomed and loved. She credits the organization with her successful introduction into the university environment.

"BSU is my family," she asserted in her campaign speech. "God gave me you guys."

"It is amazing the change that BSU made in my life," she declared.

Her vision for BSU is for it "to show people who God is and that we are trying to be like Him."

Her opponent for the office of president, Douglas Adams, sees BSU as "a refuge for Christians, a place to pray together, fellowship together and study God's word together."

"BSU is awesome," Adams continued. "You know so much about God. I want to take that knowledge, that fellowship, that love — over there." He gestured over his shoulder, toward the MTSU campus across the street.

Both candidates reminded the group that they would be able to vote all week, not just that night. They told the voters that they should go to God in prayer and attempt to discover who God wants to be president next year.

About 40 people congregated at the BSU Thursday evening to sing, worship, pray, study God's Word and fellowship.

The room is semi-octagonal with tall narrow windows. The walls are white with dark paneled sections and the pulpit stands before a huge picture of a college-aged Bart Simpson lookalike who is having a very bad hair day.

The caption on the picture reads "They will know we are Christians by our..." followed by choices: "hair, ties, love."

Tommy Taylor, part-time music director at the center and pastor of Powell's Chapel Baptist Church, led the praise service. Taylor joined the campus ministry in 1998 to help coordinate the praise team when it became apparent that student schedules would force the composition of the group to change from week to week, said students attending the meeting.

David Bramble, minister to college-age and single adults at Northside Baptist Church on Thompson Lane in Murfreesboro, presented a short devotional message. He challenged the students to develop a relationship with Christ and to live for Him.

In addition to the Thursday meetings, the BSU is busy the rest of the week meeting the needs of various student populations.

On Mondays, 15 to 25 students assemble for Voices of Thursdays are a conglomeration of various activities at the BSU, said Nored. He mentioned "music, speakers, drama, forum discussions and parties" were among the activities offered.

The next couple of weeks are flooded with parties. The announcement sheets lists this Tuesday's event as "a cake-baking contest between the guys and girls," followed by an auction of the competing cakes. Then the gathering will dissolve into "a face-decorating contest, using cake-decorating materials."

Next week they plan to make play dough, finger paint and hold a utensil-less buffet, serving foods like pudding. Organizers suggested that participants wear "messy" clothes.

These activities probably explain the T-shirt of the girl sitting in front of me at the service.

The back of it showed a cartoon cow and pig and the writing said, "MTSU BSU — where all the burnt offerings are medium-rare."

Another activity growing out of the BSU is a drama group called "Creative Ministries." These six actors and actresses are available to perform at area churches. They can provide several kinds of skits, including comic and serious.

Nored credited the support of area churches with a big share of the success of the BSU at MTSU.

Nored has been director of the MTSU BSU for the last 15 years of its 67-year history of service to the MTSU community.

"We do it because no one else was doing it," he asserted.

Tuesdays are a conglomeration of various activities at the BSU, said Nored. He mentioned "music, speakers, drama, forum discussions and parties" were among the activities offered.

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The BSU is the oldest continuous Christian organization on the MTSU campus. The only Christian organization that preceded them was the YWCA. ■

First-class performance



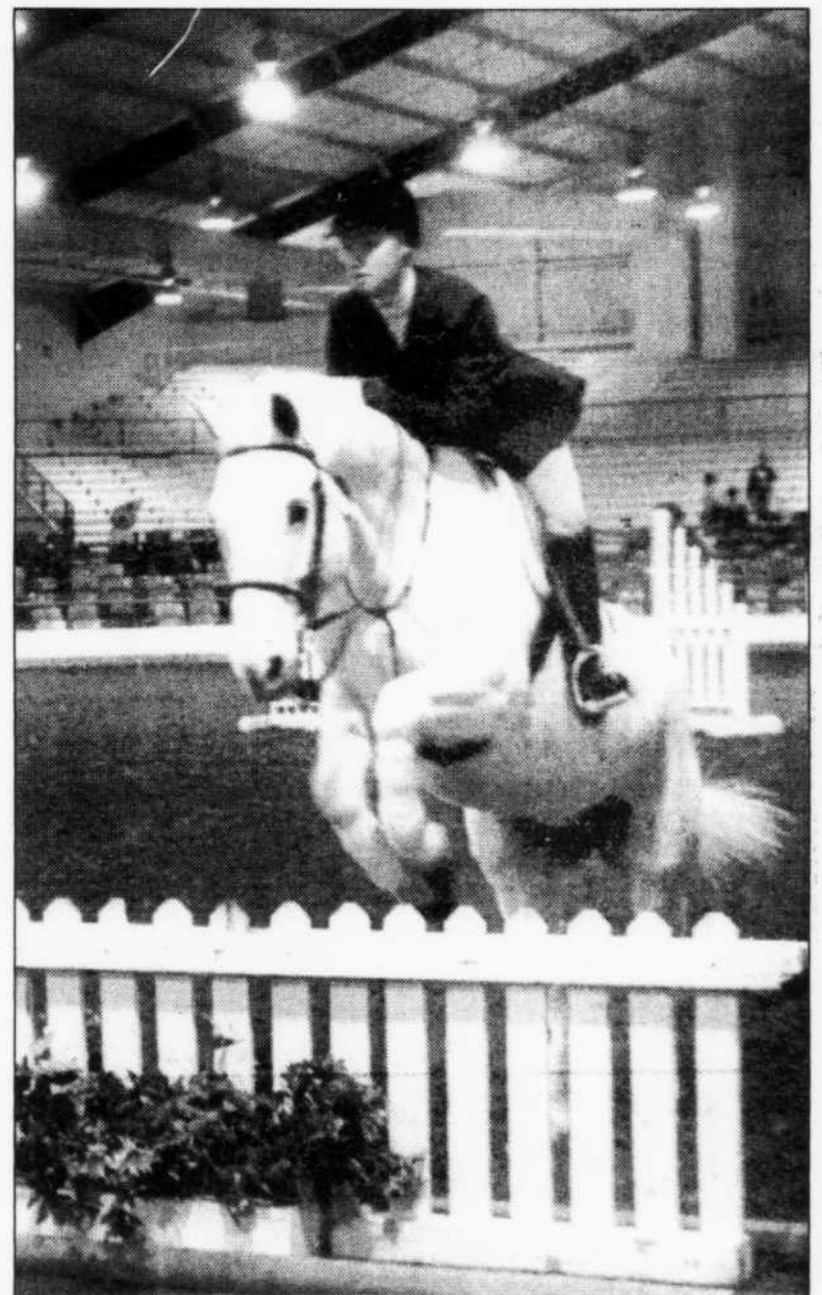
Photos by Joel Moore | Staff Photographer

The MTSU Equestrian Team won all three shows at the intercollegiate horse series held at the Tennessee Livestock Center Friday and Saturday. MTSU earned record-setting points Saturday with 43 out of a possible 49.

(Top) Erica Horner, a freshman Horse Science major, rides Wendy at the horse show Saturday.

(Bottom Left) Spectators watch at the competition.

(Bottom Right) Jessica Schultz, junior Horse Science major, rides Doc.



Stern's search for new mate brings larger audience

David Hinckley
Knight-Ridder Tribune

NEW YORK — When Howard Stern and wife Alison separated last October, the front door had barely closed behind him when he told the 10 million people in his national radio audience where they could expect this new drama to go from here.

"All broads please call," he said as opened his show on Monday, Oct. 25, the first program after the separation was announced. "If you'd just form a line outside the studio, I'd appreciate it."

Getting a woman for the 46-year-old Howard has been a major theme of the show ever since. But he has been taking his sweet time doing anything about it.

Despite a barrage of call-in volunteers and suggestions from his helpful in-studio posse of Robin Quivers, Gary Dell'Abate, Jackie Martling and Stuttering John, it was seven weeks before Stern identified a woman he said he would actually like to date — Playboy model Angie Everhart.

But since she sat on his lap for a few deep kisses on the Jan. 10 show, there's been more talk than action. The one night she said she was free, after his birthday show on Jan. 21, he said he was seeing

his kids that night.

On the Jan. 31 show, after the Globe reported she and Stern actually had gone out for a date — and he had bored her to death by pulling out pictures of his kids — they both called the story a pack of lies.

It's not that getting a girl for Howard has taken over the show, which is still rooted in Stern's other doings and his often-screwy assortment of guests, listeners and callers. But among the new running themes is a debate about whether producer Dell'Abate should set up auditions — say by bringing in models Stern thinks look good in catalogues or magazines. Stern has so far declined to sign off on it.

When Robin Givens guested on the show last month, she indicated she was open to a date. But after subsequent discussion, Stern said they decided if they go out, it would just be as friends.

This around the same time he was telling a female caller who had volunteered for a date that she should forget it, because after a couple of months of separation, all he wanted was sex.

The Howard Stern Dating Game, in other words, is not looking like a sprint. It's looking like a marathon. And purely as a radio strategy, that's looking brilliant.

On that same Oct. 25 show,

Stern remarked at one point, "If anything good comes out of (the separation), it'll be a highly rated show."

He nailed that one. In New York, he averaged 7.6 percent of the radio audience last summer. In the fall, when the separation hit the headlines, he averaged 9 percent — an increase of 18 percent.

Therefore, not to sound callous, anything that helps maintain dramatic tension may help keep ratings high, and that's good for everyone — including Stern, whose contract expires in November and who has already cranked up his familiar refrain that he isn't sure he wants to do radio anymore.

On the other hand, Stern has also strongly suggested his hesitation about plunging into the dating world stems from his uncertainty about the relationship with Alison, to whom he has been married for 21 years and to whom he often said he expected to stay married for the rest of his life.

"I'm going through a tough situation," he said yesterday. "I don't want ... 900 women. I don't know what I want."

"He and Alison are human beings, and I totally believe the breakup devastated him," says Chauncey Hayden, a sometime caller to Stern's show and host of

a talk show on the Internet radio network eYada. "I think he was embarrassed and humiliated, after all the things he'd said about their relationship over the years and in 'Private Parts.'"

Stern has called the separation "the worst thing I can imagine anyone having to go through." But while he often used to be graphic about his sex life with Alison, he has said very little about the details of the separation, calling it "a marital problem."

"If there's a problem in his life, you know it will come out in the show," says Hayden. "But what he's giving us is the humor in it. That's what the show is about — turning tragedy into a laugh."

Not that the Howard Stern Dating Game is a nonstop laugh. After Howard and Everhart did their wet kiss, longtime sidekick Quivers said she wasn't sure how to react, because she'd known Stern for 20 years and only ever seen him behave like that with one woman. Who was not Angie Everhart.

"The first time he goes on a date, the whole world will be there to watch," says Hayden. "I think that's one reason he's taking his time. But eventually he's just going to have to say, 'Screw it,' and go out anyway, and then let the story grow old." ■

Concert by symphonic band to feature wide variety of music

Staff Reports

Playing with seventy-eight members strong, the MTSU Symphonic Band will perform a concert rich in musical variety at 7:30 p.m. March 2 in the Wright Music Building's Wright Music Hall. The musicians take on works by William Schuman, W.A. Mozart, Frank Tichel, Alfred Reed and Henry Fillmore.

Terry Jolley, an associate director of bands and conductor of the Symphonic Band, said the free performance will feature the passionate patriotism of Shuman's "Chester" and the enlarged chamber-music scoring of the composer's "A Canon of Four in One" (originally titled "When Jesus Wept"), as well as the extremely subtle yet immensely lyrical sounds of "The Romana" by Mozart, the sweeping woodwinds of "A Festival Prelude" by Reed, and the challenging tri-tone of Tichel's "Fortress."

"William Howard Schuman is one of America's most famous composers,"

remarked Jolley of the artist, who was the first to receive the Pulitzer Prize in music for 1942's "A Free Song," a secular cantata composed on a text of Walt Whitman.

"He studied at the Malkin Conservatory in New York, the Teachers College of Columbia and the Mozarteum Academy in Salzburg," added Jolley of Schuman, whose musical legacy also includes an opera, six symphonies, concertos, choral works, chamber music and music for the wind band.

Regarding concert highlights, MTSU graduate students, Ashley Jarrell and Mikelle Budge, respectively, will serve as guest conductors, while MTSU junior Heather Freeman, who is sight impaired, will perform a French horn solo during the band's rendition of "The Romanza."

"I think she is one of our more talented students," said John Harris, director of Disabled Student Services, regarding Freeman.

"She has gained a lot since first coming to MTSU, and being in band and music has

really helped her independence."

In addition to Jarrell and Budge, Richard Anthony Murphy, director of bands for MTSU, also will serve as a guest conductor.

An active drill writer and consultant for numerous bands throughout the nation and a staff drill writer for Arranger's Publishing Company, Murphy was the youngest member ever to be inducted into the MTSU Band of Blue Hall of Fame.

He currently guides all facets of the University Band, including conducting the University Wind Ensemble, the school's premier wind and percussion ensemble and teacher conducting and wind band literature.

"The march, 'His Honor,' by Henry Fillmore, will be a highlight of the concert and allow the audience to leave with a tune in their head and a pep in their step," Jolley said.

For more concert information, please call Tim Musselman at the MTSU music department at 898-2493.

Daytona Beach's spring break career fair to take a break this year

Derek Catron
Knight-Ridder Tribune

DAYTONA BEACH — Spring break has often found ways to put Daytona Beach in the national spotlight, almost all of them bad — pool deck parties on MTV, drunken balcony falls, the occasional shooting.

About the only good publicity tourism officials could count on was the career fair, when sunburned college students stepped off the beach long enough to fill out applications and sit for brief interviews with corporate recruiters.

Tourism officials learned this week that the career fair will be, well, taking a break, at least for this year.

Mike Jiloly of Jiloly Communications, the Holly Hill advertising firm that built up the career fair, broke the news Wednesday to members of the Halifax Area Advertising Authority at their monthly meeting.

Jiloly said a company had agreed in January to sponsor this year's event, but organizers thought that was too late to adequately promote it.

The company, which asked not to be identified, has shown interest in sponsoring the event next year but won't be able to

Spring break has often found ways to put Daytona Beach in the national spotlight - pool parties, drunken balcony falls, the occasional shooting...

commit until completing its annual budget. "Hopefully, in June or July they will be able to make a commitment for next year," Jiloly said before the advertising authority meeting.

Through out its five-year history the career fair had been funded by the advertising authority, which oversees the spending of hotel bed - tax money to market tourism in the area.

The two-day event cost the board \$50,000 last year.

Its spring break marketing committee decided that was too much money, considering the career fair does little to fill hotel beds.

Supporters said the importance of the event couldn't be measured in numbers.

An intangible benefit was that the career

fair allowed Daytona Beach to keep spring break while telling the world it promoted a more responsible event.

The event attracted about 50 employers, including IBM and the U.S. Secret Service, and about 1,000 students a day.

The New York Times, The Wall Street Journal, The Washington Post and other newspapers across the country wrote stories about the event.

All that goodwill for Daytona Beach earned some fans for the career fair.

"I think it's a good thing," Daytona Beach Mayor Bud Asher said recently.

"These young people have an opportunity to talk to prospective employers while they're enjoying themselves here on spring break. I'd like to see it continue in Daytona Beach."

Ironically, the career fair is ending at time when corporate recruiters are scurrying for job candidates.

"It was a useful event when we introduced it, but it was still kind of a novelty event," Jiloly said.

"Now, all of a sudden, the demand for the best college students is better than ever. We'd like to think the students who are going to give up part of their spring break to do this are among the best out there."

Hi! Watch for us!! Special Events

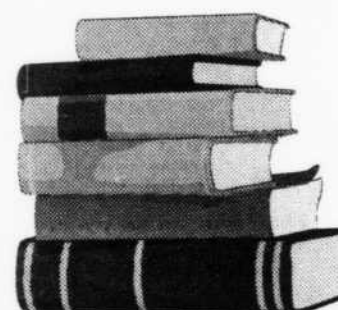
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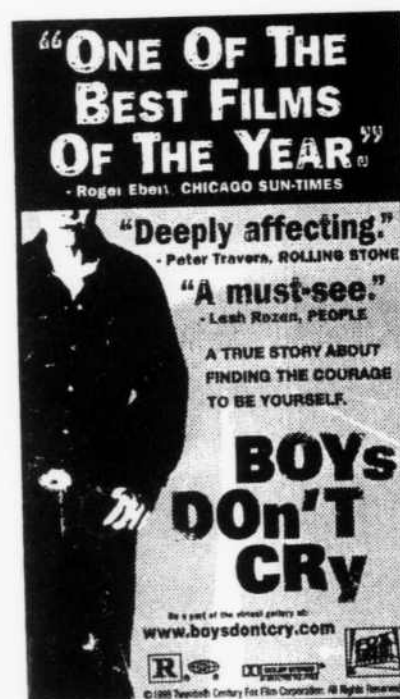
April 17-20, 7:00 p.m.
KUC Theater

All MTSU students are eligible to submit entries for the MTSU Student Film Festival 2000 sponsored by MTSU Films. For guidelines and submission forms please go to KUC Room 308. Deadline for entries is 4:30 p.m. on Friday, April 3.

Good Luck on Mid-Terms

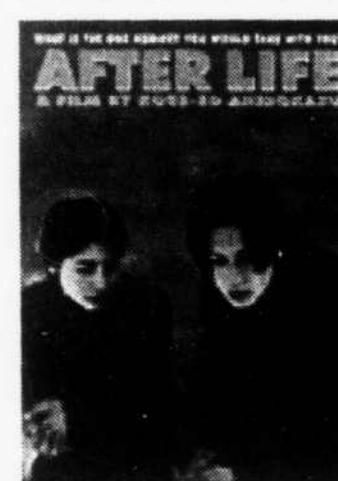


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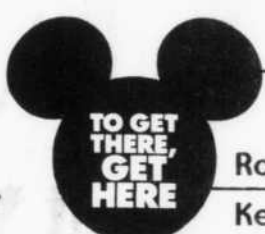
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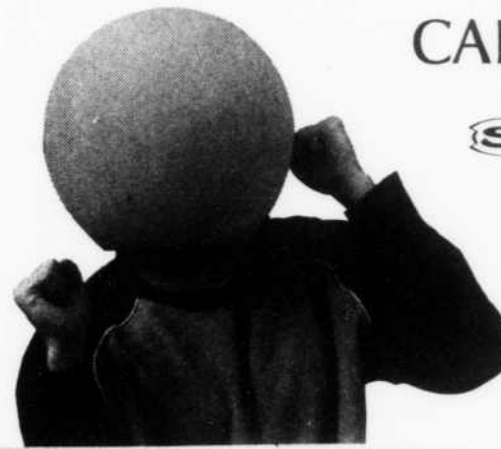
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SPORTS

Murfreesboro, TN

Monday, February 28, 2000

SIDELINES ■ 9

Raiders sweep Racers, Skyhawks

OVC's best team falls at the Murphy Center

Michael Edwards
Sports Co-Editor

For the first time since the 1986-1987 season, the Blue Raider basketball team has swept the team that has dominated the Ohio Valley Conference for the last decade, Murray State University, by beating the Racers 82-79 in the Murphy Center last Thursday.

Junior guard, once again, led the Raiders in scoring for the fourth straight game, by scoring a career high 28 points against the Racers. Junior center Lee Nosse, also had a big game, by dominating on the inside. He scored 20 points and grabbed six rebounds.

"Up there we played the whole time without Lee," head coach Randy Wiel said. "He fouled out with 17 minutes to go."

Nosse's front court mate, Sophomore forward Iiro Tenngren, added 10 points and six rebounds in 21 minutes on the floor. Senior forward Cedrick Wallace didn't have a big scoring day, only six points, but he grabbed a team high seven rebounds and a team high seven assists.

"They were the best team in the league when we beat them," Ortiz said.

The Racers had not been swept in the OVC since the 1995-1996 season, but the game against the Raiders added a little more pressure for them. After all, they were playing for the conference title. The one game lead the enjoyed over Southeast Missouri State University was gone following the loss.

Racer forward Issac Spencer scored a game high 30 points and grabbed six rebounds, but committed four turnovers.

Ray Cunningham added 21 points and eight rebounds, but point guard Aubrey Reese was held below his season average, and only scored 15 points while committing a game high six turnovers. Other than those three players, Murray State did not have another player scoring over four points.

The Raiders trailed by six at the half, thanks to Murray State's blistering first half shooting performance. The Racers shot 63 percent from the floor and 36 percent from behind the three point arc. The Raiders shot 50 percent from the floor and hit eight of nine from the free throw line, which allowed them to stay in the game.

"When two good teams play each other, you just have to put them in a place to

See Murray State, 10

Skyhawks shot down

Josh Ezzell
Sports Co-Editor

Saturday was Senior Night at Murphy Center, and a good one it was for the Blue Raider basketball team. Forward Cedrick Wallace and center Johnny Cobb can say they won the last home game of their college careers.

The men's basketball team outscored The University of Tennessee-Martin 51-37 in the second half en route to a 96-78 victory. The Blue Raiders have won three in a row and nine of their last 11. They end the regular season with a 14-12 overall record and a 10-8 record in the Ohio Valley Conference.

"It's a momentum builder going into the (OVC) tournament," center Lee Nosse said. "We're pretty much up where we're supposed to be. We're close, but we're not all the way there yet but we're close."

The Raiders shot 66 percent from the field—71 percent in the first half—and 65 percent from three-point range. They hit 11 of 17 three-point attempts, while Martin hit only four of 13. The Raiders had 28 assists to Martin's 14.

Nosse led the Raiders with 22 points. He was eight of 10 from the floor and two of two from three-point range. During the three-game winning streak, Nosse averaged 20 points.

"It's a matter of me telling myself it's time to get going," Nosse said. "We're starting to play together really well. It's nothing shocking—it's just kind of happening."

Wallace scored 16 points—all in the second half—and grabbed five rebounds. He hit 6-of-9 shots,

including two three-pointers.

While he finished strong, he started slowly. He played only seven minutes in the first half. During those seven minutes he missed two shots and picked up three fouls.

"My teammates told me to relax and let the game come to me, and that's what I did," Wallace said. "We came out, played together and got the win. It feels good to have a winning season."

Guard Jonathan Whitworth scored 14 points and dished out eight assists. Guard Fernando Ortiz and forward Iiro Tenngren each contributed 11.

Forward/center Byron Benton led Martin with 19 points and eight rebounds. Guard Andrae Betts scored 18 points and guard/forward Okechi Egbe scored 15.

Trailing 10-9 at the 13:59 mark, Whitworth—the nation's leading three-point shooter—gave the Raiders the lead for the duration of the first half with a three pointer.

Led by Nosse, the Raiders led by as many as 10 twice—31-21 and 34-24. Martin cut the lead to one—40-39—on a three-pointer by Egbe. The Raiders built the lead back to four, and that was the margin at halftime—45-41.

"They (Martin) were getting second shots," MTSU head coach Randy Wiel said about the first half. "We needed to do a better job of rebounding. It's unheard of to shoot 71 percent and be up by four."

Martin had 10 offensive rebounds and 11 second-chance points in the first half.

"We're not a great rebounding

See Martin, 10



Photo by Robin Wallace | Staff Photographer

Junior guard Ron McKnight skies for a basket against Murray State. The Raiders beat the Racers 82-79 on Thursday.

Lady Raiders blaze through nine straight wins

Josh Ezzell
Sports Co-Editor

The hottest team in the Ohio Valley Conference. That's the only way to describe the Lady Raider basketball team.

The Lady Raiders defeated the University of Tennessee-Martin—the last team to beat them—78-77 Saturday night. The win is the Lady Raiders ninth straight.

"We're playing pretty well right now," MTSU head coach Stephany Smith said. "In spurts we played a little bit stagnant, a little bit rocky, but we played well enough to win. Martin's a good team and we had to fight 40 minutes tonight."

The Lady Raiders shot 51 percent from the field and 57 percent from three-point range. They forced 21 turnovers and converted them into 22 points. The bench contributed 24 points.

Forward Jamie Thomatis was the Lady Raiders leading scorer for the fourth straight game. She scored 26 and dished out nine assists. She is averaging 21 points over the last four games.

"We all had key shots," Thomatis said. "Kelly (Chastain) had great blocks, and she knocked down a couple of crucial threes. Erica (Lufkin) knocked down some threes, and Joanne (Aluka) did some pretty good moves inside. It was a team effort."

Chastain and Lufkin each scored 14 points. Aluka scored 10, and guard Jessica McClure dished out nine assists.

"We kind of choked at their place," Chastain said. "Tonight we maintained our composure, and everybody made big plays."

Martin shot 48 percent from the field—57 percent in the second half. They out rebounded the Lady Raiders 37-26 and converted 17 offensive rebounds into 18 second-chance points. Their

second half.

Center Zabrina Harris—last year's OVC player of the year—led Martin with 19 points. Guard Tamika Brown scored 16 points, and center Chastity Bohannon scored 13.

Free throws kept Martin afloat in the first half. They converted 13-of-16 opportunities, while the Lady Raiders forced 14 turnovers in the first half and held Martin to 38-percent shooting.

Led by Thomatis, the Lady Raiders took control for most of the first half. They led by as many as twelve, but Harris and Brown brought Martin back.

Martin cut the lead to two—36-34—at the 20-second mark. Thomatis answered with a jumper at the buzzer, which gave the Lady Raiders a 38-34 halftime lead.

"I was disappointed with the way we came

out," Martin co-head coach Gary Van Atta said. "When you fall behind to a team like Middle it's hard to catch up."

Martin's bench kept it close in the second half, but they were unable to take the lead. With the game tied at 68 with 4:45 remaining, Lufkin gave the Lady Raiders the lead for good with a three-pointer.

The Lady Raiders made big plays down the stretch. Thomatis blocked a shot with 29 seconds left, and Chastain gave the Lady Raiders a four-point lead with 12 seconds left by hitting two free throws.

"We never let it go," Smith said. "We had the presence of mind to combat it. We never relinquished the momentum completely."

The Lady Raiders finish the regular season second in the OVC and will face Southeast Missouri State University Tuesday night at Murphy Center in the first round of the OVC Tournament. ■

Men's OVC schedule

Feb. 29	Mar. 4	Mar. 5
@ Murray State		
TSU	At Gaylord Entertainment Center 5:00 p.m. (CST)	
Austin Peay		
@ E. Illinois		At Gaylord Entertainment Center 1:30 p.m. (CST) Live ESPN Telecast
MTSU		
@ Tenn. Tech	At Gaylord Entertainment Center 7:00 p.m. (CST)	
@ Semo		
TN - Martin		

Women's OVC schedule

Feb. 29	Mar. 4	Mar. 5
@ Tenn. Tech		
E. Illinois		
@ Murray State		
E. Kentucky		
@ TN - Martin		
Austin Peay		
@ MTSU 7:00 p.m.		
Semo		

Baseball team hangs on for win

Noelle Ball
Staff Reporter

With great crowd support and beautiful weather, the Blue Raiders defeated the Indiana University Hoosiers on Saturday, 9-8, in their season home opener.

"The main thing is that it was a win," head coach Steve Peterson said. "It is nice to come home and win."

The Raiders dominated early on with a 2-run homer by Blue Raider Senior third baseman Brian Peck and a stolen base by Senior centerfielder Jeff Parsons.

The Raiders held the lead for the first three innings with a score of 3-1.

The Hoosiers made their first of several rallies during the fourth inning with four runs, four hits and one man left on base. Early in the 4th, the MTSU coaches headed out to the mound to meet with starting pitcher, Dewon Brazelton.

He stayed in the game, hoping to pull out of a slump. Hoosiers first baseman, Mark Minor, answered by knocking a double into left field on a 3-2 count driving in two runs.

Later in the inning two more runs were driven in giving the Hoosiers a 5-3 lead.

Back at the plate, Middle Tennessee outfielders, senior Justin Links and junior Kyle Skillman, led the Raiders with back to back doubles. Skillman was sent home by senior shortstop Wes Whitehead, who singled to leftfield tying the game at 5.

The Raiders regained the lead in the 5th inning with one run knocking the score to 6-5. Brazelton, emerging from his slump, assisted the Raiders defense with two strike outs, holding the Hoosiers scoreless during the 6th inning.

"They really weren't hitting the ball hard," Brazelton said. They just got a lot of nickel and dime stuff."

Just prior to the seventh inning stretch, the Hoosiers tied the score at 6 with a run batted in by designated hitter Rich Berich. But, the Raiders were not about to give the Hoosiers a chance.

Skillman knocked a three run homer over the right field fence. With the crowd cheering, the Raiders charged ahead, 9-6.

With no runs in the 8th, the fans thought it was over, but the Hoosiers thought otherwise.

They rallied again in the 9th with a homer by second baseman Benji Clause and a RBI by rightfielder Blake St. Clair. MTSU's third relief pitcher, senior Brad Howard, entered the game with two men on base and two outs.

Howard kept his cool and on a 1-2 count, struck out Hoosier leader and leftfielder Jason Williams, giving the Raiders a 9-8 victory.

"Indiana is a quality program," Peterson said. "The only big wins are conference wins."

Fans turned out in mass at Reese Smith Field for the Raiders. Over 1,000 fans showed up in support of the Blue Raiders.

"I really appreciate the fans that came out today. We had a good game today," Peterson said. "I saw some from [Alpha Delta Pi], and I really appreciated their help."

The Raiders will travel to Memphis later in the week, and will play their next home stand beginning March 6 against Yale University and the University of Southern Mississippi.

Murray State: Raiders' defense stifles Racers' offense

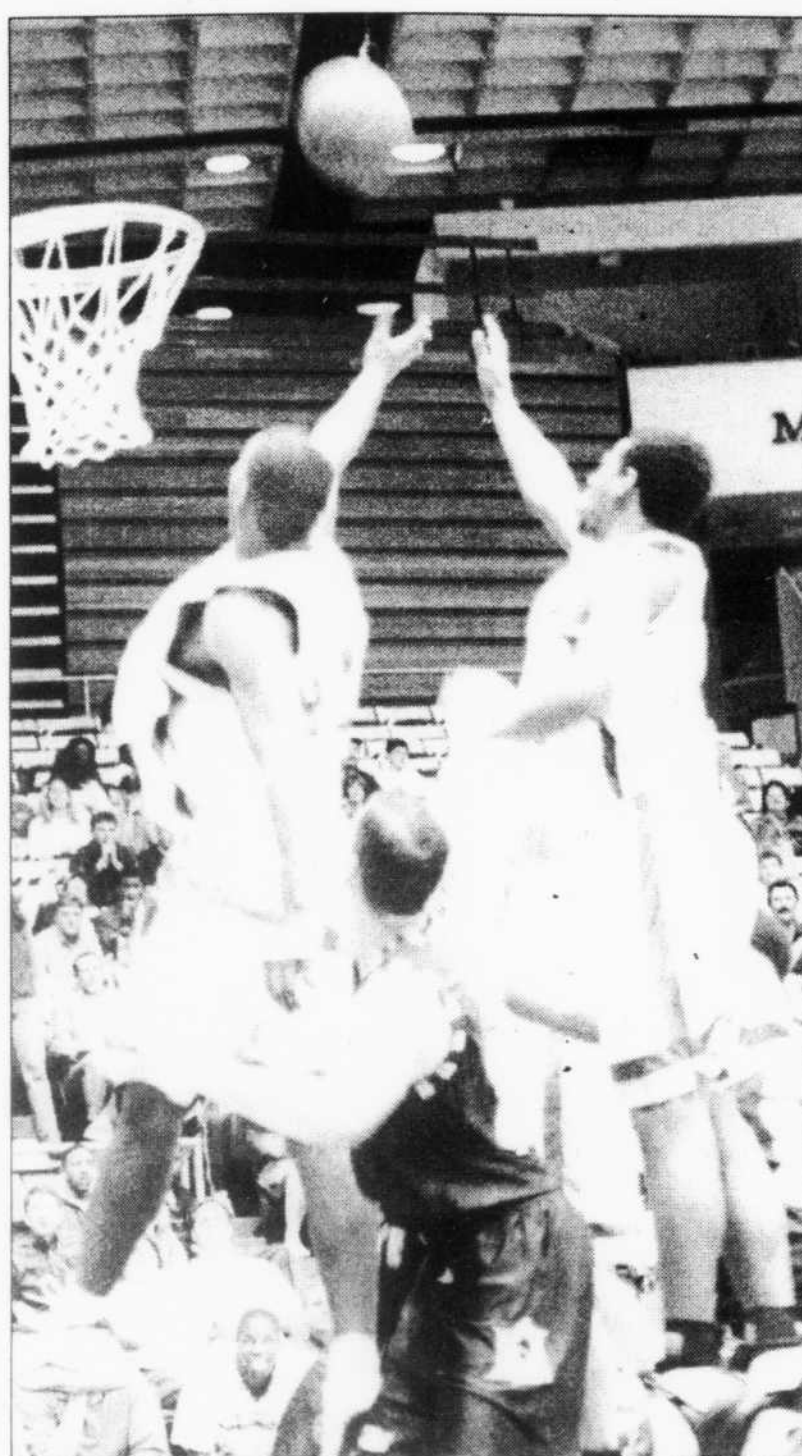


Photo by Robin Wallace | Staff Photographer
Dale Thomas battles for a rebound against Murray State.

Continued from 9

win," Wiel said.

The second half was owned by the Raiders. MTSU shot only 44 percent from the floor, but were only able to stifle the Racers on defense by allowing only 41 percent shooting in the second half. The Racers were hurt in the second half by making only one three pointer in seven attempts.

Nosse and Ortiz carried the Raiders in both halves. Nosse, being 6-10 was at least three inches taller than anyone who guarded him.

"We had a mismatch inside," Nosse said.

"We had to exploit the mismatch and hit the open shots."

The Racers never led by more than seven in the first half, but Middle Tennessee never let a deficit effect them. At 5:26, Cunningham hit a three pointer to put Murray State up 37-30, but Junior point guard hit a three pointer in a timely fashion and cut the lead back to four with under five minutes to play in the half.

MTSU cut the lead to three with 1:31 left, but the Racers converged on a 5-2 run to end the half, leading 48-42.

The Raiders began the second half by going on a 9-2 run, led by Ortiz, Tenngren and Nosse. After being able to take a one point lead, MTSU would lose it after battled on the inside for a score, which gave the Racers a one point lead at 52-51.

A 7-0 run gave the Raiders there biggest lead of six points to that time. The Raiders lead was cut to one with 12:30 left, but Ortiz buried a three and extended the Raider lead back to four. However, a 7-2 run by the Racers gave them a one point lead after Spencer knocked down a three pointer with under eight minutes to play.

Following a Middle Tennessee timeout, Nosse was fouled. He would hit one of two free throws, tying the game at 64. Ortiz scored again with

6:13 left, giving the Raiders a two point lead. The Racers would never lead again.

With the game tied at 66, Whitworth pulled up on a three pointer and knocked it down giving MTSU a lead they would not relinquish.

"Murray's a good team," head coach Randy Wiel said. "No lead is safe with Murray."

The game got interesting down the stretch for the Blue Raiders. With one minute to play Reese made two free throws, cutting the lead to three at 80-75. The Racers began to foul down the stretch, but if MTSU could make their free throws they would when.

However, Ortiz missed, the front end of a one and one situation, followed by a Cunningham jumper that fell. Junior guard Ron McKnight missed two more free throws, that could have iced the game for the Raiders. Eight seconds later McKnight was back on the line where he converted one of two free throws.

With the Raider lead cut to two, Wallase was sent to the line. He could not hit either of his two free throws.

The lead remained at two. Fortunately for the Raiders, Whitworth went to the line with seven seconds left and converted one of two free throws, which gave the Raiders a three point lead.

Reese tried to launch a potentially game tying three pointer at the buzzer but it was off the mark, and the Raiders won, despite leaving the door open for the Racers, in the last minute of the game, by making only two of nine free throws down the stretch.

"The whole season is going up toward the end," Tenngren said. "It doesn't matter how you start it's how you finish."

"Our goal right now is to make the NCAA tournament," Ortiz said.

"It's coming to crunch time as long as we get a W," Nosse said. It's crunch time."

Martin: Blue Raiders blow out Skyhawks

Continued from 9

team, especially on the defensive end," Wiel said, "and we need to do that if we plan on winning the (OVC) tournament."

With Martin leading 54-53 at the 15:56 mark, the Raiders went on a 17-3 run and took a 70-57 lead. Martin got no closer than 10.

"We were at a size disadvantage," Martin head coach Bret Campbell said. "The made big shots in the second half...Middle's playing strong right now."

The Raiders will play at Tennessee Technological University Tuesday in the first round of the OVC Tournament.

"With Tech it's always going to be a great game," Nosse said. "It's about confidence, and now we've got to have it. Now it's one and you're down, and I don't feel like watching it (the OVC tournament) on TV."

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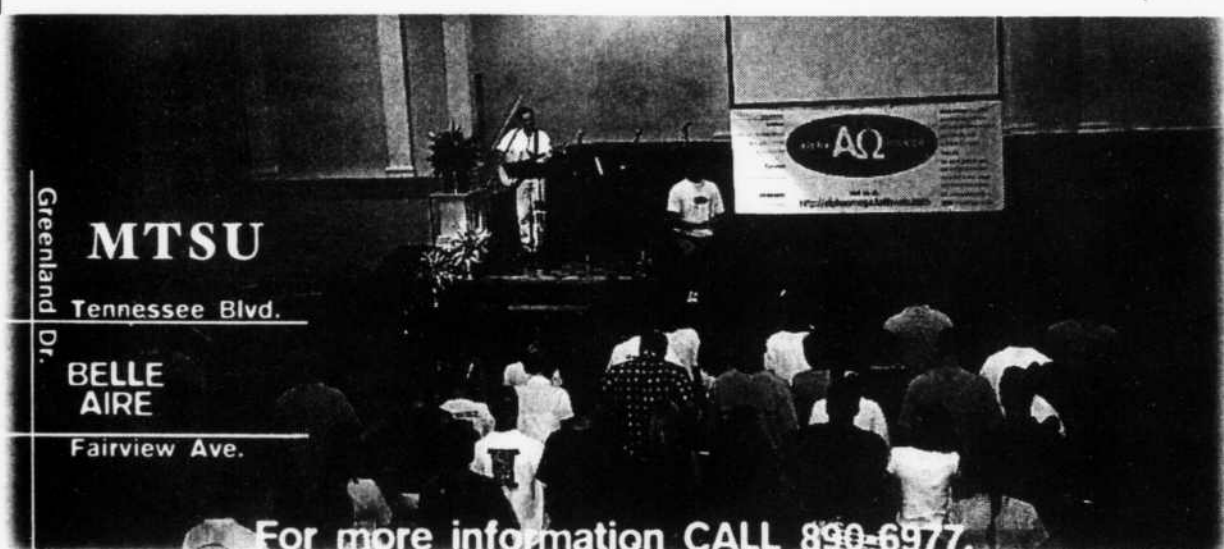
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Blue Raider golfers move into fourth place in Ron Smith Invitational tournament

MT Media Relations

Tampa, Fla. - Middle Tennessee moved from sixth place to fourth at the Ron Smith Invitational Golf tournament today after shooting a solid second round score of 293.

That round marked the fifth best of the day and the Blue Raiders' third best round ever at the Ron Smith.

"We played solid golf throughout our entire lineup today," head coach Johnny Moore said.

"Anything can happen. If we shoot a low score on Sunday we will have a good chance of moving up even more, but there are a lot of strong teams in this field."

Florida Southern leads the tournament with a two-round score of 576 after firing a 284 on Saturday. Columbus State is in second with a 584, while the Blue Raiders have a two-round total of 592 to stand 16 shots out of the lead.

Sophomore J.R. Wade continued his hot streak by shooting a one over par 72 to stand in a tie

for fourth place overall. Senior Brett Alexander bounced back after a disappointing first round to shoot a 72 and move from 44th to 20th in the standings. Another big mover on Saturday was transfer Matt McWilliams who shot a 73 to cut three strokes off of Friday's score. McWilliams currently stands tied for 30th.

Seniors Whit Turnbow and Richard Spangler rounded out the scoring on Saturday with a 76 and 78, respectively.

The Blue Raiders will play the final round on Sunday. ■

Softball team splits pair of games on day two of Georgia Southern Tournament

Brian Albertson
Sports Information

Middle Tennessee split a pair of games on Saturday in the Georgia Southern Reebok Invitational, defeating Elon 1-0 in the earlier game and falling to host Georgia Southern 3-2.

Laura Brockman led off the second inning against Wallace with a homerun, which proved to be the only run the Lady Raiders would need thanks to the pitching prowess of Amanda Kendall.

Kendall pitched a complete game shutout, giving up six hits while striking out six.

Elon's Amanda Zentner pitched six innings, giving up

three hits with three strikeouts. Kelly Cormier and Shay Haskell were the only other Lady Raiders to manage hits.

In the second game, Georgia Southern picked up a run in each of the first three innings, all three going to Stacey Preator, who pitched 2.1 innings.

Preator gave up four hits and three walks before being relieved by Courtney Wallace.

Wallace pitched the remaining 4.2 innings, giving up only four hits with two strikeouts.

The Lady Raiders mounted a fifth inning comeback off a Kerry Allen double to left field, scoring Steffi Silva and Carisa Chavez.

Allen would remain stranded at second though for a 3-2 final

score. "In the first game, our bats were still silent except for Laura Brockman's homerun," said head coach Karen Green.

"Amanda Kendall pitched a great game. We gave up too many walks in the second game, especially in the beginning."

"We made some mistakes and got in the hole early. Courtney Wallace did a good job of shutting them down, but it wasn't enough."

The Lady Raiders will likely play as the third seed against Georgia Southern tomorrow in a single elimination playoff.

Game time has not yet been determined, but will most likely be at 11:00 a.m., with the final game being played at 1:00 p.m. ■

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FREE INFORMATION is available through the MTSU Placement Office, KUC Room 328. Come by and receive your complimentary copies of catalogs, pamphlets, and guides to learn how to write a resume and cover letter from various samples, gather information about a particular company, and help with interview preparation. Video tapes are also available for you to view in the Career Library.

The Placement Center is using a computerized registration system and resume preparation program called RESUME EXPERT. The benefits include:

- * professional, typeset quality resume which can be easily updated
 - * user-friendly
 - * IBM compatible. The computer labs on campus can be used.
- After purchasing your software in Phillips Bookstore, it must be brought to the Placement Center to load your information in the database for resume referrals to employer. Once registered via RESUME EXPERT, the Placement Center is able to track which companies individual resumes are referred and inform the individual upon request.

Pharmaceutical and Biotechnology Industry Guides Second Edition, Institute for Biotechnology Information. Guides to access Drug Companies, Bio-Tech Firms and more. Come visit the Placement Center to look at this publication.

Students and faculty can advertise free in the Sidelines Classifieds

Must have a valid student ID. No commercial advertisements. All ads are subject to approval.

Ads must be placed in person at the James Union Building Student Publications office Room 306

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Parking Notice

We Need Your Help to Welcome TSSAA Fans to MTSU

Girls: March 7-11 • Boys: March 14-18

The TSSAA Basketball Tournament will once again be held at MTSU, with the girls competition running from March 7-11 and the boys from March 14-18.

- On March 8-11 and March 15-18, the Greenland Drive parking lots will be reserved paid parking for TSSAA ticket holders – and all other TSSAA fans will be directed to the lots on the east side of campus and to the North Boulevard Church of Christ of Rutherford Boulevard. (TSSAA receives all Greenland parking revenue during the tournament.)
- Student commuters who usually park in the Greenland lots will be directed to C Street, where, at the S-curve, those with MTSU parking permits will be allowed to turn right onto B Street and park in any legal green-permit space. Please watch for directional signs and public safety personnel who will help direct you. (All TSSAA visitors will be instructed to turn left at the S-curve.)
- The Tennessee Livestock Center lot will be closed for the Tennessee Beef Agribition March 9 and 10. On those days, black parking permit holders may park in any legal green parking permit space. All other days, student commuters may find parking in the Tennessee Livestock Center lot.
- Also on March 9 and 10, the gravel parking lot on Greenland Drive will be monitored for the Tennessee Beef Agribition visitors. Some student parking may be permitted based on space availability. An attendant will be on duty to direct you. All other days, students may find parking in the Greenland Drive gravel lot, just east of the C Street entrance.
- To avoid C Street traffic, student commuters may want to enter campus on 2nd Street from Rutherford Boulevard to access parking on the east side of campus, near the Greenhouse, Health Services, and in the lot near the Recreation Center.
- The entrance to Faulkinberry Drive on Tennessee Boulevard will be closed on Wednesday through Saturday, March 8-11 and March 15-18. Any persons who park on Faulkinberry will need to exit the campus via Loop Drive by Peck Hall.
- The Raider Xpress shuttle service will run its normal routes through campus except for the Greenland Drive lots.
- Parking and Traffic Rules and Regulations will be enforced as usual. Every effort is being made with signage, public safety personnel, parking attendants, and shuttle service to prevent undue confusion and inconvenience and still ensure the safety of everyone on campus.

We apologize for this temporary parking displacement and ask for your patience and understanding. Hosting the TSSAA Tournament is an opportunity for thousands of prospective students and their families to see MTSU up close.

For questions and concerns, please call Parking Services at 615-898-2850; Public Safety at 615-898-2424; or the Raider Xpress service at 615-898-2415. Thank you.

TSSAA PARKING NOTICE

March 7-11 and March 14-18

Middle Tennessee State University
Murfreesboro, Tennessee

North Blvd. Church of Christ
1112 Rutherford Blvd.
Shuttle Parking

