



INSIDE: Let's get Al Gore to be the next president of the university In Opinions, page 4

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# SIDELINES

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## SGA nears constitution referendum

By Mary Anna Brown  
SGA Reporter

The Student Government Association's Senate and House bodies voted a second time last week in favor of a student referendum concerning proposed changes to the SGA Constitution.

"The changes that SGA is proposing affect the entire student body," SGA Election Commissioner Julia Graves said. "Their vote will determine the future governing system for SGA, so it is important that all students vote."

Voting will take place Feb. 12-14 on WebMT from 8:00 a.m. until 11:00 p.m. under the category "SGA Voting."

The three main proposed changes center around the constitution's Article Four — a consistency of service in a transitional electoral period, Article Five — a more efficient unicameral governing structure and Article Seven — a judicial voice for students.

Other proposed changes include a new mission statement and some grammatical and format changes.

SGA is currently operating

under a constitution that has governed MTSU students for 26 years.

"The constitution is 26 years old, and MTSU has grown an extreme amount since the core of the constitution was revised," Matt Walker, speaker of the House, said. "Minor amendments have been made, but for the most part, the constitution is cumbersome and exercises power too bureaucratically. We want a small, manageable balance with equal representation."

One of the most controversial changes proposed by SGA calls for a condensation of the

two bodies into a solitary senate body, creating a unicameral governing system from a bicameral governing system.

Reasons for moving to a unicameral governing system include poor attendance from organizations at House meetings, a barrier of communication between the House and Senate bodies, and a lack of true representation of the entire student body.

A referendum addressing this issue was brought up last spring by the SGA, but was not

See SGA, 3



Gretchen Fan, a graduate assistant in the Learning Resource Center's graduate student computer lab, uses the lab's equipment Friday. She, like many students, makes use of the lab when she has time during the day.

## Graduate students get technical

By Eilene Veale  
Staff Writer

The Graduate Student Multimedia Development Center is a facility that offers graduate students the use of up-to-date computer technology to aid in the development of multimedia presentations.

The GMDC regularly hosts workshops instructing the graduate students how to operate different aspects of the available technology. First time users are

required to attend an orientation session in order to learn how to use the equipment. On subsequent visits, students can stop by or schedule an appointment with graduate assistant Gretchen Fan to use the facility.

Fan is available at specific times to provide guidance for the students.

"Most graduate students that come here are studying industrial psychology and industrial engineering and use the equipment to edit digivideos, but any

graduate student can come," Fan said. "Some faculty come and create PowerPoint, and I help them with Adobe Premiere."

The GMDC differentiates itself from the rest of the Instructional Technology Support Center that encases it, with its focus on more specific, individualized attention.

"I like the availability of the computers and Internet access," Radio/Television major Kelly Campbell said.

Campbell works for the

Satellite Video-Conferencing Center, a division under the ITSC. "A lot of what I do is deliver educational programming to a number of county schools throughout the state, and we're in the process of rebuilding the system." The GMDC offers him the personal attention and time he requires.

Presently, an online database is in the works, which will enable students to find out if certain

See Tech, 3



Students Brian Ray and Sarah MacWilson work on building a home during last year's Alternative Spring Break.

## Alternative Spring Break deadline nears

By Carmen Anderson  
Staff Writer

During Spring Break, March 25-30, the Alternative Spring Break program will give students the chance to travel outside Murfreesboro to perform community service.

This will be the fifth year of the Alternative Spring Break program at MTSU. This spring, a group of 15 people will be going to the Appalachian South Folklife Center in Pipestem, W.Va.

The Folklife Center repairs homes, and provides food and clothing to low- or fixed-income families in the area.

Students who volunteer for ASB will be responsible for doing indoor and outdoor construction work. They will be doing home repair, landscaping and trailblazing. The students will also be able to volunteer in the soup kitchen or work with children.

"Alternative Spring Break is an enriching trip for students because they will leave their college environment to go to work in an environment they may not be used to," said Maggie Prugh, ASB advisor.

While working in the center, students will be able to assist and participate in cultural pro-

grams. This gives them a better understanding of the people and the area they live in.

"Many times, the students who participate in ASB come from all over campus and do not know each other prior to the trip," Prugh said. "Every year, the group returns to Murfreesboro very bonded."

Kristen Lovett, a senior exercise science major, will be going on her fourth ASB trip this spring.

"It puts your life in a different perspective," Lovett said. "They have so little and they're the nicest people."

Students will be working during the day and cooking their own meals at night. All of the volunteers will be staying in rustic cabins.

The South Folklife Center has worked with several groups of students from different colleges and universities in the past. They are prepared and have plenty of opportunities for the volunteers to work.

Applications are available in Keathley University Center, Room 306. All applications are due Monday, Feb. 5. Students will need to schedule an interview upon returning applications.

For additional information, call 904-8418. ♦

## Solicitation regulations improved

By Lindsey Turner  
Staff Writer

Solicitation on campus is a phenomenon many students encounter each day. Solicitors can cause problems, however, when they abuse their privileges and become pushy or omnipresent.

Regulations on campus solicitation are being fine-tuned to eliminate both current and potential problems that students, administrators and faculty may encounter regarding

vendors.

Gene Fitch, associate dean of Student Life, feels that many students and faculty members often feel threatened or become frustrated when approached by solicitors. Some students even tend to avoid the front entrance of Keathley University Center, just to dodge the vendors that are usually stationed on the Knoll.

According to Fitch, a certain people begin avoiding a certain part of campus just because they feel they may be confronted by a vendor, then there is a problem.

"We get kind of tired of walking out and seeing people, in some cases, almost attacked by vendors and yanked behind their tables to get [them] to fill out applications or to buy whatever they might be out there

selling," Fitch said.

He believes that revisions to the section of the student handbook concerning student organizations would be the best way to improve the campus solicitation issue, since all on-campus solicitors must be sponsored by a student organization.

In December, Fitch drew up a proposal to set the revision process in motion.

"Right before Christmas I just decided I'll go ahead and get something started and we'll begin to discuss it among [the administration] and then see how we can get student government involved in making it happen," Fitch said.

Among the many changes that Fitch's proposal suggests, one of the biggest changes concerns solicitors who do not offer tangible goods or services —



Possible revisions to the student handbook could modify the rules for solicitors on campus. Traditional merchant vendors may not be affected by the changes.

namely credit card companies.

According to the most recent draft of the proposal, "Unaffiliated groups who collect applications for purposes

other than educational or career-oriented reasons are restricted from soliciting said applications on campus."

Although the policy was not

specifically designed to eliminate credit card solicitation, credit card companies will neither be able to solicit their product on university grounds nor sponsor events on campus if the proposal is approved.

The many student organizations that sponsor vendors for fundraising purposes will also directly be affected by Fitch's proposed changes.

If the revisions are implemented, student organizations will need to take a more active role in their fundraising projects if they concern solicitors not affiliated with the university. A visible sign declaring the organizational sponsor would need to be posted, and at least one member from the organization would be expected to

See Solicit, 3



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# CRIME LOG

Compiled By Matthew Kelly - Police Reporter

The following is a partial list of incidents responded to by MTSU Police between Jan. 23, 2001, and Jan. 29, 2001. This log was compiled from the actual police reports.

### Suspicious Person

Jan. 25, 10:30 a.m. — Ellington Human Sciences Building — An officer was dispatched to the report of a suspicious male who was seen hanging around the building and coming out of the women's rest room.

Upon arrival, the officer met with a student who had observed the subject sitting by the pay phone. She watched him make a call and then answer the phone when it rang back. Later, around 10:30 a.m., she saw him coming out of the women's rest room. She confronted him and he took off running out of the building, got on a bicycle that was stashed in the bushes, and took off northbound on N. Tennessee Boulevard toward Greenland Drive.

The officer also spoke with a professor who stated that around 4 p.m. the previous day she had seen the same individual again sitting by the telephone for several hours.

The individual is described as a black male, with short hair in pig tails all over his head. He was wearing a blue or green Cedar Grove jacket and dark colored, baggy pants. At this time police have not identified a suspect, but are keeping a close watch on the Ellington Human Sciences Building.

### Possession of Marijuana

Jan. 27, 2:11 a.m. — Faulkenberry Drive at Jones Field — While on patrol, an officer observed a vehicle turn right onto Faulkenberry Drive from N. Tennessee Boulevard without signaling, while traveling at a high rate of speed. The vehicle also had a brake light out.

Upon initiating a traffic stop and approaching the vehicle, the officer noticed a strong odor of marijuana in the air. He asked the driver if there were any drugs in the vehicle. The driver stated that there were none. The officer then asked the driver to step out of the vehicle to perform some field sobriety tests,

which the driver performed satisfactorily.

The officer next asked the individual if he would consent to a search of his car and its contents for narcotics. The driver agreed. During the search the officer discovered a small plastic bag containing approximately 1/16 of an ounce of what appeared to be marijuana in the map rack on the back of the passenger seat. The officer asked who it belonged to and the passenger who had been riding in the back stated that it was his. Also found in the vehicle during the search were rolling papers, several roaches and what appeared to be a pipe.

The driver was released. The passenger, Jesse B. Cogswell, was placed under arrest and charged with simple possession of marijuana. Cogswell, 19, of 1416 Eastland Ave. in Nashville, was then transported to the Rutherford County Jail where bond was set at \$2,500.

### Driving Under the Influence

Jan. 26, 9:00 p.m. — Greenland Drive at SunTrust Bank — While driving westbound on Greenland Drive, officers observed a vehicle following their patrol car too closely. After passing C Street, the officers pulled into the left lane and allowed the vehicle to pass. They then pulled in behind the vehicle and initiated a traffic stop.

Upon approaching the vehicle, an officer detected an odor of alcohol about the driver. He asked the driver if he had been drinking. He stated that he had two beers and a shot of tequila about an hour ago. The officer then requested that the driver exit the vehicle to perform some field sobriety tests, which the driver did not perform satisfactorily.

The officer then placed the driver under arrest for DUI and asked if there were any drugs or alcohol in his vehicle. The driver hesitated for a few seconds before stating no. The officer then asked the driver if he had any objection to having his vehicle searched. The driver said he didn't see why it was necessary but told the officer to go ahead.

A search of the vehicle led officers to discover: three partially smoked marijuana ciga-

rettes in the ashtray; two prescription bottles in the glove compartment — one with a green plant-like material believed to be marijuana, the other with plant material residue believed to be marijuana; two empty one-pint beer cans of Michelob Amber Bock; one empty 12-ounce bottle of Budweiser; and one empty 50-milliliter bottle of George Dickel whiskey.

Marion K. Jenkins, 37, of 3448 Cobble St. in Nashville, was charged with driving under the influence — fourth offense, violation of the implied consent law and simple possession of marijuana. He was transported to the Rutherford County Sheriff's Office where bond was set at \$7,000.

Jan. 28, 1:19 a.m. — 2nd Street at Cummings Hall — While on patrol, officers saw a vehicle driving at a high rate of speed through the gravel parking lot next to the Recreation Center. The vehicle kicked up a large amount of dust as it pulled out of the lot. It came to a sudden stop at the intersection of D Street and 2nd Street, then turned onto 2nd Street, accelerating rapidly and reaching a speed approximately three times the posted speed limit of 15 mph.

The officers caught up to the vehicle on 2nd Street in front of Cummings Hall and initiated a traffic stop. Upon approaching the vehicle, an officer noticed the strong odor of an intoxicating beverage. He asked the driver if he had been drinking. The driver first replied that he had not, but then stated that he had two large beers a short while earlier.

The officer then asked the driver to step out of the vehicle to perform some field sobriety tests, which the driver did not perform satisfactorily. The officer also observed that his eyes were bloodshot and that he had a strong odor of alcohol about him.

Frank L. Johnson, 20, of 252 Evans Lane in Lenoir City, Tenn., was placed under arrest and charged with driving under the influence — first offense, and underage consumption of alcohol.

Meanwhile, another officer was speaking

See Crime Log, 3

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## Solicit: Three day limit set

Continued from 1

remain at the booth at all times.

Also under the new plan, specific solicitors would have the opportunity to visit campus for a maximum of three days per semester, as opposed to the unlimited times they are allowed to visit campus now.

Fitch hopes that the new regulations will discourage vendors from being pushy, disruptive and messy. They will be directly associated with their sponsoring organization and will have a limited

amount of time in which to sell their product on the campus.

Other issues like advertising and building decorations are also addressed in Fitch's proposal, which he plans to present to the committee of administrators today.

"It's definitely not set in stone yet," Fitch said of his proposal. "We've just begun discussions."

If approved by the committee, the revisions could go into effect immediately, or at the latest, during the summer term. ♦

## SGA: Voting is scheduled for Feb. 12-15

Continued from 1

passed by the student body.

"Some were adamantly against the proposed changes that were brought up with last year's referendum but we attribute those changes to the lack of information the student body received about the details," Walker said. "However, we feel that the student body will not lose their voice because they have the opportunity to present direct legislation through their organizations."

If passed by the student body, the new constitution will take effect March 1 and all legislation passed under previous constitutions will be considered null and void.

"A lot of extensive research has gone into formatting the proposed constitutional changes," Walker said. "We have coupled the strong points from the current constitution with adopted governing ideas from successful schools around the nation and created a whole new constitution that still falls

under the tradition and interest of MTSU and its student body."

The current and proposed versions of the constitution are available on the SGA Web site at [www.mtsu.edu/~sga](http://www.mtsu.edu/~sga) for students to educate themselves about the proposed changes.

"It is important that the student body have the chance to vote on the proposed changes to the constitution," Walker said. "After all, it is the students' privilege to decide how they want to be governed." ♦

## Tech: Digital processing workstations available

Continued from 1

equipment is available for their use.

The GMDC is Located in the McWherter Learning Resource Center, Room 101S. Some of the technology in the lab includes digital processing workstations, digital cameras, many different types of drives and equipment for mixing, editing and scanning digivideos. Students working on multimedia projects can check out the cameras for a one-day period.

A wide variety of software appli-

cations are also available. Software packages are provided to aid the students in research projects, creating electronic portfolios/resumes, editing digital video and developing web pages. To learn more about the computer hardware and software facilitated by the center see the Graduate Student Multimedia Development Center Home Page at [www.mtsu.edu/~itsc/grad.html](http://www.mtsu.edu/~itsc/grad.html).

The GMDC is mainly funded by the student technology access fee, and is co-sponsored by the College of Graduate Studies and the

Instructional Technology Support Center.

The GMDC's hours are 8:00 a.m.-10:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. Fan's hours are Monday 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Tuesday 1:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m., Wednesday 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Thursday 6:00 p.m.-10:00 p.m., Friday 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., and Saturday by appointment.

For more information contact Gretchen Fan, at 898-5445 or e-mail [xf2a@mtsu.edu](mailto:xf2a@mtsu.edu). ♦

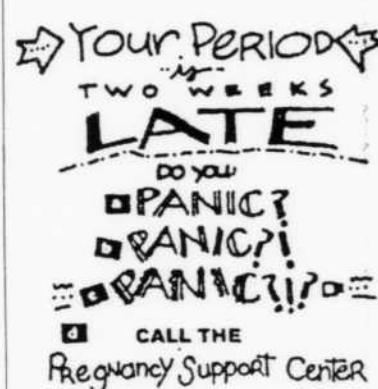
## Crime Log: Cont'd

Continued from 2

with, and giving field sobriety tests to, the passenger. The officer felt that his level of intoxication was such that he presented a danger to himself if left in public. Jonathan H. Fowler, 20, of 1000 Cagle Dr. in Savannah, Tenn., was arrested and charged with public intoxication and underage consumption of alcohol.

During a search of the vehicle, incident to the arrest, the officers found several open, half-full containers of beer. The driver, Johnson, was consequently also charged with violation of the open container law.

Both subjects were transported to the Rutherford County Jail. Johnson's bond was set at \$4,500. Fowler's bond was set at \$1,750. ♦



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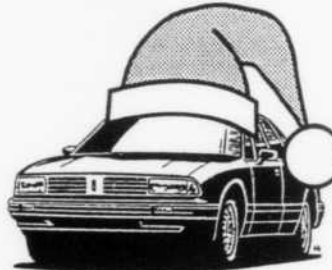


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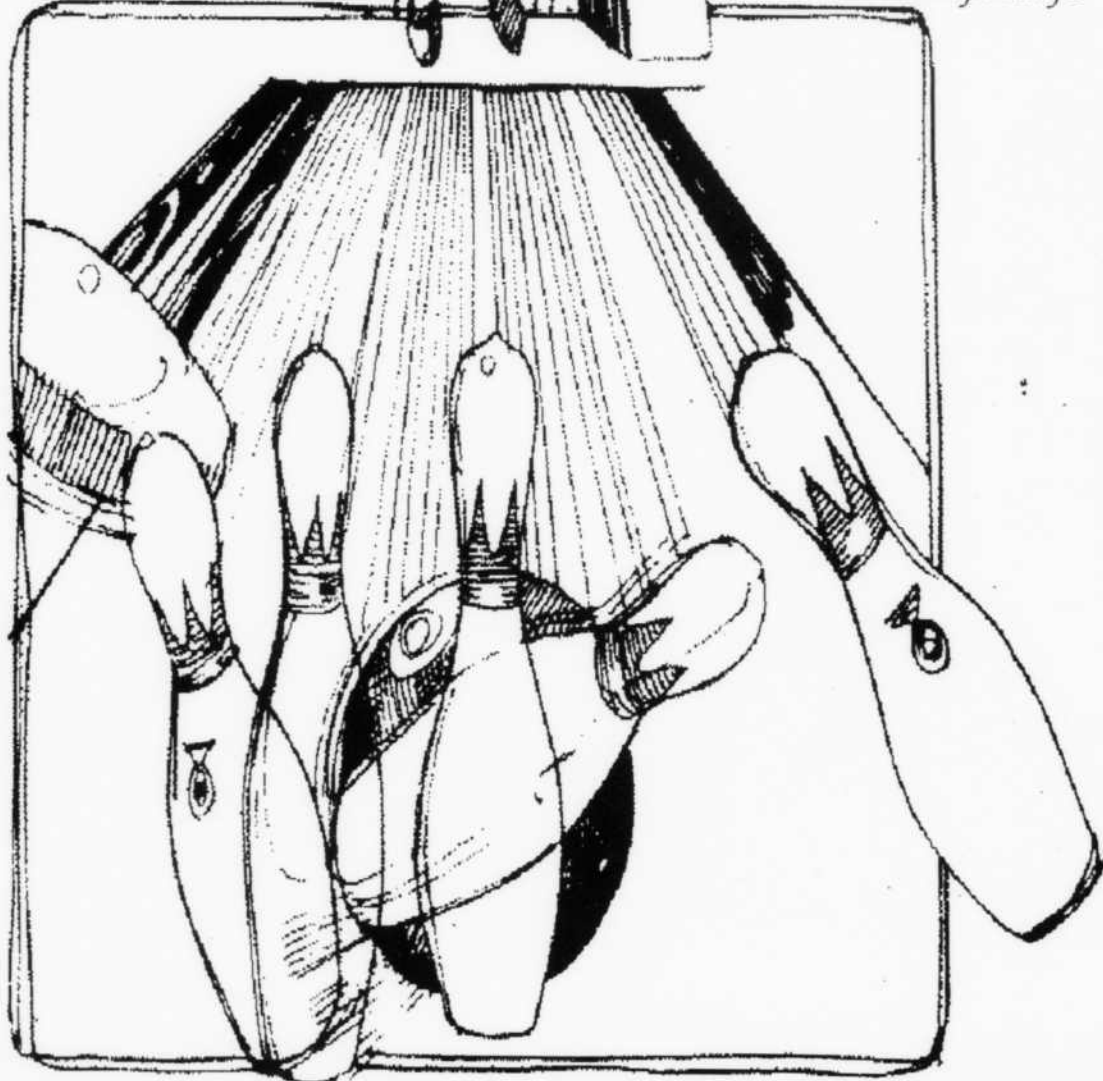
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From the staff

## Let's get Gore to be president of the university

James Walker – the former president of MTSU – is considered by most to be the reason the university is now the second largest and the fastest growing university in the state.

In October, Walker left MTSU and R. Eugene Smith took over as the interim president until a new president is selected.

Last week the official search for presidential candidates was closed with a total of 24 hopefuls.

Also last week, former Vice President Al Gore announced that he was coming to MTSU to teach a course on community building.

Does anyone see an opportunity here?

Whoever follows Walker as president will have a hard time at first, because he obviously will be a hard act to follow.

Who better to do it than Gore?

Think of everything he could do for the university.

He would bring even more national attention to the university, could negotiate with state officials for more funding and probably bring in a load of additional qualified faculty members.

Gore has said he wants to teach and make MTSU the launching ground for his new community class and then institute the program across a network of universities all around the country.

It would work out well for him too. Maybe he would only be here for a few years, but he could do a lot for us in that time.

Besides, at least he'll be able to call himself President Gore.

### Correction

In Monday's story "Students get an edge on business," the writer erroneously referred to Di Van Mol as Dye Can Mol. In addition, EDGEway Communications was developed in spring of 2000, not 1999. *Sidelines* regrets the error.

## Fight for your right

There is something going on in this country, right now, that our government doesn't approve of. It's called activism, and it's spreading to a city near you. The year 2000, although it didn't live up to my boyhood hopes of having flying cars and aliens living amongst us, was the first year, in a while in which people decided to stand up for what they believe in, organize like-minded people into groups and protest.

We saw this in Seattle, Wash., when thousands of people descended upon the city to show their contempt for the NATO free-trade agreement. Large demonstrations were held outside the republican and democratic national conventions.

And of course, there is still the huge public outcry over the presidential election, which spilled over into the beginning of 2001 with the inauguration of George W. Bush as president. This was the largest protest at a presidential inauguration in many years - complete with tomatoes being flung at the new president's limousine, as he drove by the crowds.

I think this is the best thing that has happened to our country in years. People are finally starting to realize that our government isn't all that it's cracked up to be and that they are just as corrupt as, if not more than, countries that are perceived as our "enemies."

Now, before you decide to write in and tell me to move somewhere else if I don't like it - hold your blinded patriotic impulses for just one minute. I love this country and all the freedom it offers its citizens compared to the rest of the world.

There are many great things that I'm proud of. That's why I think it's important that people start to stand up and bring to light some of the injustices that are trying to be swept under the carpet, so we don't think about them. Our country was founded by revolutionaries, and I think the people today, who are protesting and voicing their opinions, are the true Americans.

Our government doesn't want people to think about politics. They don't

Brian Spencer  
Staff Columnist



### Mind Manifestations

want you to question why they did this or why they're doing that. Activism is the biggest threat to the system that they know and live by. The government will do everything in its power to squelch it.

Just look at the brute force used in the protests in Seattle and at the democratic convention. They see the power people can attain when they come together, so they do whatever it takes to break them up. It goes a lot farther than just a well-armed police force and control of the media. They also have the power to turn you against anyone they want.

The most successful way our government does that is by belittling people in the public eye who are contrary to their beliefs. Just look at what the media has done with Jesse Ventura.

The best example of this was the recent presidential campaign by Ralph Nader. Never before has a third party candidate had such a high-profile campaign that made so many voters consider shying away from the republican and democratic tickets.

Many early polls had Nader receiving a huge amount of the popular vote. So the system went to work to do their best to quiet the Nader voice in politics. Of course you got the usual "you're throwing your vote away" speech from just about every major media source in the country, telling people that there is no chance he could possibly win.

My favorite argument against Nader was that despite all that he had done for the American workers and consumers, he isn't qualified to run this country. Excuse me, what exactly qualifies old W. to run it? Being spoiled from birth? I think it's sad that people

don't see what a real president should be like.

The trivializing of the Nader campaign was at an all time high after the election was over, as democrats and republicans blamed him for screwing it up. How is a person to be blamed for running for office and receiving votes? Do you really have to vote for one of two candidates? NO!

That seems, to me, to be contrary to everything our country was founded on. Every candidate that runs for president should get equal coverage, equal funds and equal promotion. That is the only way that true equality and politics can ever be intertwined.

The government now seems pretty satisfied with the job they did in making a mockery out of Nader and the Green Party, and have moved into step two of quieting political opposition to their system.

The message of "we need to come together as a nation and put our political views aside" is really wearing thin on me at this point. I don't think coming together under "the W" is going to make this country any better. They just want the public to stop thinking about politics, stop thinking about the obvious corruption and stop being active.

The last thing they want is to increase political activism, which definitely has the potential to grow.

I say if you don't agree with how this joke of a presidential election was run, raise hell. Protest all four years of his presidency and don't stop. Raise your voice and don't let it be silenced by ridicule or opposition. The media comes down hard on people who try to spur change, lumping everyone into the category of "won't even give Bush a chance."

Some people will call you a sheep, that you are blindly following the "popular" thing to do of protesting Bush. The only sheep are the people who happily buy into the "let's come together as a nation" argument. I think that all the true Americans need to stop being complacent and act as our founding forefathers did. Light the torch of change and revolution for the better of our great country. ♦

## SIDELINES

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*Sidelines* is the editorially-independent, non-profit student newspaper of Middle Tennessee State University and is published Monday, Wednesday and Thursday during the fall and spring semesters and every Wednesday during June and July. The opinions expressed herein are those of the individual writers and not necessarily of *Sidelines* or MTSU.

## America is Canada's unnecessary critic

I am Canadian. I was born in Toronto in 1982. Most of my family still lives there, and I visit them two to three times a year. If you drive by the side of Schardt, you can see my Ontario flag hanging in my window.

When push comes to shove, I consider myself an American. While there is some debate about when I received American citizenship, the bottom line is that I have it. In addition, I am considered a natural-born citizen, and someday in the future, I will be the president of this great nation. (I'm aiming for 2032). I have lived in the States since I was two years old and know more about American politics, history and geography than 90 percent of this nation. Sorry if I'm coming across as an arrogant ass, but that's the truth.

For years, I have lived at peace in the U.S. I never had to worry about my birthplace, or what new jokes I'd have to endure the next day at school. But, when I moved to Tennessee, it was as if I'd moved into a different world.

I blame it all on *South Park*. Teenagers discovered it around the same time I moved to the land of grits



Staff Columnist

### Canadian Bacon

Patrick Chinnery

and chitlins. Before *South Park's* "humor" no one bothered the Canadians. I still don't understand why people don't give Canadians more respect.

Certainly, there are a few countries more deserving of respect than Canada. Unlike the United States, they didn't have to wage a long and violent war to gain their independence from Britain. No one in the world hates Canadians (even Americans won't go that far). Two months ago in *Maxim Magazine*, Americans recommended foreign travelers sew a Canadian flag onto their backpacks, so they wouldn't be the targets of Jihad-crazed terrorists.

Don't get me wrong, I love America. That's why I'm here. The economy is

better, my friends are here, and American college girls are much more attractive than their Canadian counterparts. But somewhere, a line of toleration has to be drawn.

Canadians have been mocked as being afraid to commit on the international stage. But, they've been more active than most Americans would care to admit. Canadians recognized and acted upon the Nazi threat long before the Americans got their duff. A Canadian general was in charge of the peacekeeping mission in Somalia. Also, Canadian military forces have been involved in all the peacekeeping campaigns in the Balkans.

There is such a thing as Canadian culture, though it seems to revolve around beer, hockey and being nice. While those may not be important aspects of American culture (except, of course, for beer), they are no less worthy pastimes than basketball and pissing people off, which are two things that American culture seems to embrace.

I'm not proclaiming Canada to be the "City Upon the Hill." Like America, Canada has ethnic problems. It isn't

black versus white; it's French versus English. To refute another misconception of Canada – only 1/3 of Canadian residents are of French descent. They all live in Quebec. It is an insult to the country's heritage when they are all grouped together.

What is the point of this rant? I certainly am not going to be able to change the minds of every simpleton who likes to make asinine comments about the neighbors to the north. I feel, however, that enough is enough. Pure Canadians are too nice to stick up for themselves, and I felt something had to be said. I am the punch line to a bad joke: What do you get when you cross a Canadian nationalist with American values?

Love it or hate it, Canada is going to be around for a long time. It's better for everyone if respect is shared for all people. It's taboo to make a racist or misogynist joke in America. So, why is it acceptable to harass an entire culture? Americans should focus on other cultures' achievements instead of obsessing about their own. Who knows? Maybe they'll find something to love. ♦

## Letter to the Editor

Mail your comments to Box 42, drop them off at JUB 310 or e-mail them to stupubs@mtsu.edu. Letters may be edited for length, grammar or content.

## Spencer, White confused about their political views

To the Editor,

After reading several editions of the school newspaper, I find your staff columnist's and online editor's comments regarding anyone who does not agree with their views as very humorous. Two writers in particular are Mr. Brian Spencer and Ms. Angela White.

Their recent articles in the Thursday, Jan. 18, 2001 edition of *Sidelines* discussed the pending nomination proceedings in the Senate of Mr. John Ashcroft for the position of U.S. Attorney General.

Both Mr. Spencer and Ms. White looked upon the nomination of this man for Attorney General as questionable or controversial. However, had Mr. Gore won the presidency and nominated an individual that was of the same philosophical and political camp, that individual would be someone who somehow could miraculously unite all Americans...including those dreaded Christian coalition members.

How absurd! Does anyone expect President Bush to appoint an individual who would appeal to the

losing political party?

Regarding liberal and conservative or left and right political leanings: Politically, left leans towards anarchy and little or no government involvement while right leans towards extreme government control. So, far left or "liberal" would be an anarchist, the middle would be a "centrist" (least amount of government with most amount of secure personal liberties), and right would be one of the "isms"... Socialism, Nazism, Communism, etc...

Somewhat I don't see either Mr. Spencer or Ms. White as left or center on the political spectrum. They are in reality far rightist (extreme conservatives) who would like nothing more than to see a stronger and more intrusive central government that enforced (guaranteed) their political and philosophical views (rights).

But they like the word "liberal" as it sounds less "mean-spirited" and more "inclusive." Can you honestly see either one of them including the beliefs and desires of individuals like Mr. Ashcroft into their

lives? So much for that great "liberal" word "inclusiveness."

So for Mr. Spencer and Ms. White, grow up. Your political party lost. Don't expect the other side to coddle you and do things that would appeal to your views and desires.

And for *Sidelines*, how about including some opinions that are not always slanted to one side of the political landscape?

It might be refreshing for MTSU students to know the world is not painted all the same color.

By the way, I am not unduly politically aligned but accept ideas, opinions and beliefs from libertarians, democrats, republicans, etc...as each party has some merit.

At least I can be big enough to listen and try to understand different political positions rather than attack them and offer them no means of rebuttal.

J Bonner  
MTSU Alum



# CAMPUS LIFE

Murfreesboro, TN

Thursday, February 1, 2001

SIDELINES ♦ 5

## They're arguably the best

By Sara J. Vaughn  
Staff Writer

Debaters Natalie Woodward, political science major, and her partner Terrence Bond, international relations major, of the MTSU Debate Team, will make their case across the nation again this year.

And if the past is any indication of the future, Woodward will prove that she has what it takes to be one of the nation's top-ranking speakers.

"The past two Decembers, she was the top debater at Vanderbilt," said Russell Church, chair of the Speech and Theatre Department and interim debate coach.

Church went on to say that last year, at a national tournament, Woodward was the seventh speaker in the nation. This achievement was accomplished in a field of about 370 individual debaters.

This past January, Woodward and Bond debated at Kansas City, hosted by the University of Missouri. Fifty schools participated. Out of 100 two-person teams, they went to the octofinals, which are the top 16

teams. Woodward went on to place eighth speaker out of 200 people from across the nation.

This is a "fantastic success," said Church. "We debate prestigious institutions like Wake Forest, University of Miami and Northwestern."

Church added that Northwestern's College of Speech and Theatre is one of the best in the nation.

Woodward couldn't do all of this alone. Her partner, team members and coaches have become a tightly knit family, with each member contributing to the success of the team.

"We spend a lot of time with each other, so most debate teams become real close," said Ben Osborne, graduate assistant and coach. "This makes us stronger because of the diversity."

"Before we leave for a tournament, there is a lot of research to be done," said Woodward.

During this time of preparation, the team effort comes into play.

"Ninety percent of the work is done before we leave," added Osborne.

Before the actual tournament, the debaters do vocal warm-ups similar to actors and singers.

"We have to speak very fast and be articulate," said Woodward. "For example, our affirmative is 18 pages long and has to be read in nine minutes."

The close bonds the team members have with each other allow for optimal productivity.

"Terrence and I have known each other for so long that we

can resolve disagreements quickly," said Woodward.

To this, Bond added with a laugh, "We're like a married debate couple."

The duo first debated as novices at an MTSU tournament.

"We had just joined the team and we just fell into it," said Woodward, with Bonds agreement.

Before coming to MTSU, Woodward attended Girls Preparatory School in Chattanooga. There, she was part of Lincoln Douglas Debate, which is one-on-one debate in contrast to the two-on-two debate for college.

Bond, on the other hand, transferred from Xavier University, La., where he was a chemistry and pre-med major. Originally from Jackson, Tenn.,

he did not debate before coming to MTSU.

"I had always been interested, but there was not the administrative support at my previous college," said Bond.

For the past two years, and what will ultimately become an annual event, MTSU has hosted

the Mid-South Debate Institute. The institute is a hands-on learning experience where debaters research and debate a topic for about 10 days during the summer.

During spring break, MTSU will also host a Cross Examination Debate Association national debate tournament. This is the largest debate tournament held in the nation, bringing approximately 500 debaters, 100 coaches and 150 to 200 schools to the MTSU campus.

"I think that we are building a strong foundation," said Woodward. "We have coaching

and teamwork for a really good national showing this year."

And with the other eight members moving up to varsity soon, the team has a promising future.

"For anyone who is interested, debate is good for developing research and public speaking skills," said Woodward, "and you get to travel to very cool places, not to mention it is amazingly helpful for getting into graduate school."

"We have students with many different majors," said Osborne. "The terminology may sound difficult, but anyone can do this."

"I didn't think I could when I was just starting, but I did." ♦

If interested in MTSU debate, go to room 220 in the Boutwell Dramatic Arts Building or check out their website at [www.mtsu.edu/~debate.html](http://www.mtsu.edu/~debate.html). ♦

Photo illustration by Turner Hutchens

## Camouflaged Hip-Hop

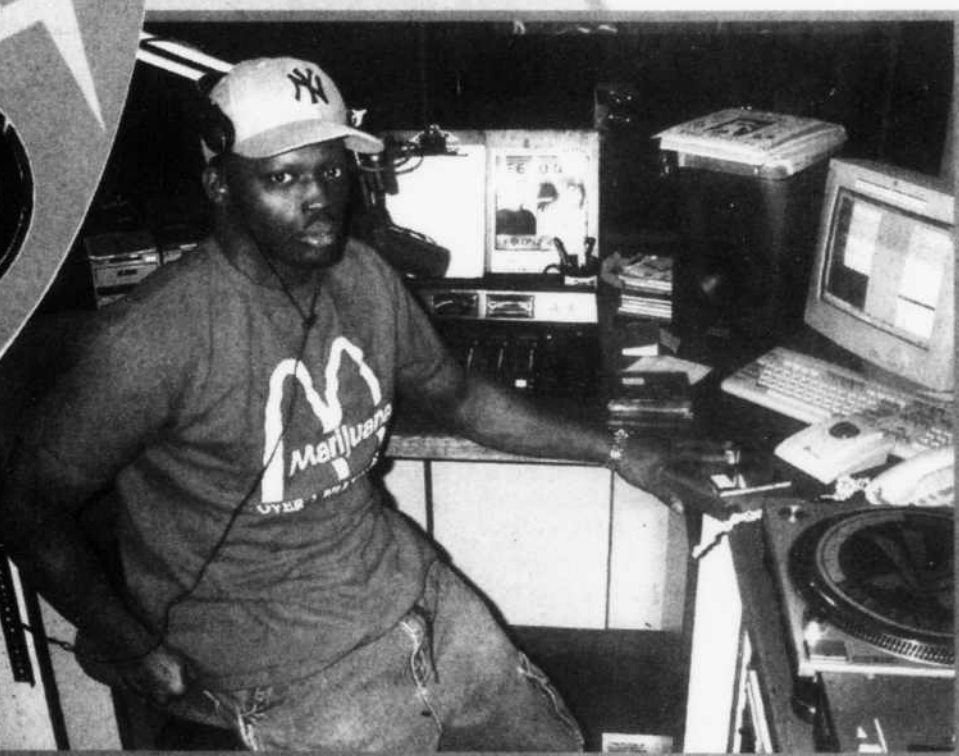


Photo by Matthew Starling | Chief Photographer

DJ Don Camouflage broadcasts on 88.3 WMTS every Friday from 2 to 4 p.m.

By Brian Spencer  
Staff Writer

Diversity and originality often go hand in hand when talking about college radio. It's fresh for offering the public a little alternative to what they hear on commercial stations.

The Ultimate Hip-Hop Show, which airs 2 to 4 p.m. every Friday on 88.3 WMTS, takes the idea of diversity one step further with a combination of slamming hip-hop music and live, over-the-air free-styling. It all comes together for two of the most entertaining hours you'll be able to find on your radio dial.

Nyronn Bryant, a.k.a. Don Camouflage, is the host of the show. He lets the program run at a smooth pace that allows the listeners to fully immerse in the music. Bryant jumped at the opportunity to have his own radio show back in 1999 and has certainly carved out his niche in the hip-hop scene in this area.

"I've always really been into music and being a DJ just comes naturally to

me," says Bryant. "When I found out that you could act a fool behind the microphone with just minor restraints, I was all about it."

A senior in the Radio/TV Washington, D.C. and injects his buoyant personality into the show every week. He makes it clear that if all you're looking for is a bouncy beat in hip-hop, you may want to go elsewhere.

"The first thing I look for in hip-hop is the lyrics. The beats come secondary," says Bryant. "I'm a lyricist myself, so I pay especially close attention to the battle rhymes to see what they've got to say. It's just astonishing to me what some people can come up with."

He's not afraid to show his rhyming skills to his listening audience. While the program's first hour and a half is dedicated to music, featuring artists such as Outkast, Jay-Z, Rehab and Talib Kweli, the last segment focuses on live rhyming over the radio, featuring Don Camouflage

himself. Weekly guests drop in to join the battle against callers that dare step up and challenge any of the emcees in the studio.

Prizes like CDs and bags of Snickers are usually offered if the caller has any skills, though, not many can hold a candle to the in-house rhymers. Guests like Trauma-T, AJ Don, Monty Burns, 187 Blitz and Vega, along with Camouflage, spit freestyle rhymes that leave most callers caught with their pants down.

To say the least, you never know what to expect on The Ultimate Hip-Hop Show. Just two weeks ago I tuned in and a girl who said she only listens to goth music was named the honorary "Emcee of the Week," after she won against a caller named Key-Lo.

If you think you can rhyme, brush up on your skills, and one day you could have that honor too. ♦



## ON CAMPUS

Compiled By Leslie Fike - Assistant  
Copy Editor

Thursday, Feb. 1

The MTSU fencing club ([www.mtsu.edu/~fencing](http://www.mtsu.edu/~fencing)) practices every Wednesday from 6 to 8 p.m. on basketball court No. 6 in the Rec Center. The practices are geared to students of all skill levels. For information, contact Stuart Bernstein at 898-5998 or e-mail him at [sbernst@mtsu.edu](mailto:sbernst@mtsu.edu).

The KUC Cube Gallery exhibits paintings and sculptures by Martha Slaughter through Feb. 9.

A Unity Luncheon for African American History Month is in the JUB Tennessee Dining Room at 11:30 a.m.

Friday, Feb. 2

A Black History Month event called "Expressions: The Spoken Word and the King Legacy" is in the Cyber Café at 5:30 p.m.

Saturday, Feb. 3

The Stones River Pony Club Horse Show is at 9 a.m. in the Tennessee Livestock Center through Feb. 4.

A Black History Month event called "Gospel Extravaganza" is in Tucker Theatre at 3 p.m.

Sunday, Feb. 4

The Stones River Chamber Players perform in Wright Music Hall at 3 p.m.

A Cherished Moments Bridal Fair is in the Murphy Center at 12:30 p.m.



## The Two Minute Drill

R. Colin Fly



Sports Editor

### Under the Sun

Florida International (3-16, 1-7) lost Saturday to conference leader Western Kentucky, 55-46. However, the Golden Panthers held 7-1 center Chris Marcurs to just nine points and five boards, significant because the tallest FIU player is 6-9.

Instead, guard Nashon McPherson and David Boyden led the Hilltoppers (15-5, 7-1) with 17 and 10 points respectively.

The Panthers, who relied on leading conference scorer Carlos Arroyo, played a delay offense in the first half, running the shot clock down and scoring only 13 points in the 20 minute period. They shot 28.5 percent in the first half, making just four shots from the field.

The FIU women's basketball team, meanwhile, is having a golden to remember. The Lady Golden Panthers are 15-2 and 7-0 in the conference following a 53 point second half effort to defeat Arkansas-Little Rock 80-57 last Thursday night. The Trojans of UALR are now 5-13 and 0-7 in the conference.

### SW Missouri falls

Western Kentucky's Lady Hilltoppers (14-6) defeated Southwest Missouri State 74-69 Monday. The Hilltoppers, led by ShaRae Mansfield's 33 points, knocked off 12th ranked SMS in dramatic fashion.

Eleven WNBA scouts were on hand to see SMS's Jackie Stiles, but it was Mansfield who stole the show, shooting 11 of 19 from the field and 11 of 11 from the free-throw line.

Carly Deer of SMS had a chance to send the game to overtime with the clock running out, but missed the three-pointer that preserved the victory for Western Kentucky.

### Tickets on sale tomorrow

Middle Tennessee baseball season tickets are scheduled to go on sale this Friday for the upcoming 2001 campaign. Playing in one of America's top conferences with one of America's top pitchers, expectations for Blue Raiders baseball is high. The season gets underway on Feb. 17 with a doubleheader against UNC-Asheville.

To reserve your season tickets call or come by the Middle Tennessee Ticket Office beginning Friday. The number to call is 615-898-2103 or 1-888-YES-MTSU.

The Blue Raiders will play 33 home games at Reese Smith Field. Chairback Season tickets run \$64, bleacher season pass \$35, family bleacher season pass \$50, individual game bleacher tickets \$4 and individual chairback tickets \$5. As always, students get in free with a valid MTSU Student ID.

The ticketing format is different to a year ago with the biggest change coming in the chairback section. The Blue Raiders are now offering on a game-by-game basis the sale of chairback seats as long as they are available.

The ticket office will also be selling season tickets at Friday's Groundhog Luncheon in the James Union Building on campus. The luncheon is scheduled to begin at 11:30 AM. For further information, please contact the Middle Tennessee Ticket Office at 615-898-2103. ♦

# Lady Raiders look to top 'Hill'



Photo by Kristy Dalrymple | Staff

Jamie Thomatis powers for two against the Privateers.

By Colleen Cox  
Staff Writer

The Lady Raiders head to Western Kentucky to face the Lady Hilltoppers in Sun Belt Conference action Thursday. The Lady Hilltoppers are coming off a huge upset of thirteenth ranked Southwest Missouri State.

The Lady Raiders had their own upset Saturday against New Orleans. New Orleans was tied for second in the Sun Belt Western Division standings when the Lady Raiders defeated them.

Western Kentucky comes into the game at third place in the Eastern Division of the Sun Belt while Middle Tennessee comes in at fifth.

Going by the numbers the teams are pretty even. Both teams are averaging 73.8 points per game.

The Lady Hilltoppers are giving up 70.8 points per game, and the Lady Raiders are giving up 71.2 points per game.

The Lady Raiders have a better shooting percentage at .460 to Western's .412. Middle is 6-0 when shooting 50 percent or better and 8-1 when shooting better than their opponent.

"Western Kentucky is traditionally one of the strongest teams in this conference along

## Sunbelt Conference Standings Women's Basketball

Institution	East		Overall	
	W-L	Pct	W-L	Pct
Louisiana Tech	8-0	1.000	17-4	.789
Fla. International	7-1	1.000	14-3	.875
Western Kentucky	7-2	.833	15-6	.706
Arkansas State	4-4	.429	10-9	.500
<b>Middle Tennessee</b>	<b>3-6</b>	<b>.286</b>	<b>10-10</b>	<b>.500</b>
Arkansas-Little Rock	0-9	.000	5-14	.294

West				
Institution	W-L	Pct	W-L	Pct
Denver	7-2	.667	15-4	.688
New Orleans	4-3	.750	10-6	.692
South Alabama	4-4	.429	11-8	.533
North Texas	3-5	.500	11-8	.625
New Mexico State	3-6	.333	6-13	.333
Louisiana	0-8	.000	6-15	.400

with Louisiana Tech," Lady Raider coach Stephany Smith said. "They'll be athletic."

Leading the attack for Western Kentucky are junior guard Natalie Powers and 2000 All-American forward ShaRae Mansfield. Powers is averaging 21.7 points per game and 22.5 in conference play. Mansfield is coming off a 33 point performance against Southwest Missouri State and is averaging 19.7 points per game.

The Lady Raider attack is led by forwards Jamie Thomatis and Joanne Aluka. Thomatis is averaging 19.9 points per game

and needs 21 points to move into 10th place on the all time scorers list at Middle.

Aluka is averaging 11.9 points per game. She is looking to continue her hot streak.

"Right now we're fighting for pride. We started out pretty rough and we refuse to use the excuse this being the first season in the conference," Thomatis said after the New Orleans game. "Right now it's all about saving face."

The Lady Raiders and Lady Hilltoppers square off at 7 p.m. The game will be televised on College Sports Southeast. ♦

# Blue Raiders face division leader tonight

By Nick Hefley  
staff writer

Middle Tennessee will host the Hilltoppers of Western Kentucky on Thursday night for the first time this season. Western Kentucky has dominated the Sun Belt Conference this year, thanks primarily due to the play of their big man, Chris Marcus.

Marcus comes into the game averaging 16.0 points per contest and is second behind Seton Hall's Eddie Griffin in rebounding in the nation, averaging 12.1 a game. Also, he is 11th in the country with 3.2 blocks per game.

Clearly, the Blue Raiders will have a lot on their hands in dealing with Marcus.

Middle Tennessee comes into the game losers of their last seven games, all losses in the conference.

They can only hope to win the rest of their games for the regular season and the first two games of the Sun Belt Tournament to put up a .500 season.

The Blue Raiders have been getting quality play lately from freshman Tommy Gunn and

## Sunbelt Conference Standings Men's Basketball

Institution	East		Overall	
	W-L	Pct	W-L	Pct
Western Kentucky	8-1	.889	15-5	.750
Arkansas State	6-2	.750	12-8	.600
Louisiana Tech	5-3	.625	12-8	.600
Arkansas-Little Rock	5-4	.556	11-7	.611
Florida International	1-7	.125	3-16	.158
<b>Middle Tennessee</b>	<b>1-8</b>	<b>.111</b>	<b>5-14</b>	<b>.263</b>

West				
Institution	W-L	Pct	W-L	Pct
New Orleans	6-2	.750	12-7	.632
Louisiana	6-2	.750	10-8	.556
South Alabama	5-3	.625	14-7	.667
New Mexico State	3-5	.375	7-13	.350*
Denver	3-6	.333	7-12	.368
North Texas	1-7	.125	4-15	.211

\*New Mexico State ineligible for postseason play due to internal investigation

sophomores Bryant Mitchell and Jani Hiltunen. They have been the main offense since Fernando Ortiz's departure two weeks ago.

Senior Freddie Martinez has finally gotten out of his mid-season slump where he only got 12 points in four games. He has rebounded and gotten his season total back up to 10.0 points a game, the only active Raider

to hold that distinction.

Western KY comes into the game leading the Eastern Division of the Sun Belt at 15-5 (8-1). They have also won their last five contests, making them the winningest team in the Sun Belt so far while Middle Tennessee is in the cellar of the Eastern Division at 5-14 (1-8).

The game starts at 7 p.m. at the Murphy Center. ♦



Photo by Matthew H. Starling | Chief Photographer

Demario Watson stretches out for a rebound last week.

## Intramural Basketball Schedule for Feb. 1

Thursday, February 1, 2001

League	Time	Place	Teams
MB/IV	7:00pm	RC C1	Team Catherine v. Raiders for Christ #1
MB/IV	7:00pm	RC C3	Stars v. D.C. Connection
MB/IV	7:00pm	RC C5	A - Team v. Crackers
MA/I	8:00pm	RC C3	Farmhouse v. Tha Realest
MA/I	8:00pm	RC C5	Rough Riders v. HB IV Vengeance
MA/II	9:00pm	RC C3	MEMPHIS v. Greekmixer
MA/II	9:00pm	RC C5	The Outcasts v. The Ruckus
WA/I	10:00pm	RC C3	Rollers v. The Rims
WA/I	10:00pm	RC C5	Tennessee v. Raiders for Chirst



## 2001 MTSU Preseason Basketball Tournament Results

### Round 1

Sigma Alpha Epsilon  
def. The Warriors

Sigma Phi Epsilon  
def. Tha Realest

Sigma Nu  
def. Greekmixer

Chat.-Atlanta  
def. Nu Upsilon Tau Sig.

### Round 2

Sigma Alpha Epsilon  
def. Sigma Phi Epsilon

**Championship**  
Sigma Alpha Epsilon  
def. Chat.-Atlanta

Chat.-Atlanta  
def. Sigma Nu


### THURSDAY

#### Women's Basketball

Lady Raiders at Western Kentucky  
Bowling Green, Ky. 7 p.m.

#### Men's Basketball

Blue Raiders vs. Western Kentucky  
Murfreesboro, Tenn., 7 p.m.

#### Men's Tennis

Blue Raiders at Chattanooga  
Chattanooga, Tenn., 3 p.m.

### SATURDAY

#### Women's Basketball

Lady Raiders vs. Florida Int'l  
Murfreesboro, Tenn., 2 p.m.

#### Men's Basketball

Blue Raiders at Florida Int'l  
Miami, Fla., 6:30 p.m.

### SUNDAY

#### Women's Tennis

Lady Raiders vs. Iowa  
Nashville, Tenn., 11 a.m.

#### Men's Tennis

Blue Raiders vs. Purdue  
Murfreesboro, Tenn., 11 a.m.



# Student Activities



## The Art of Kissing

Thursday

Feb. 8

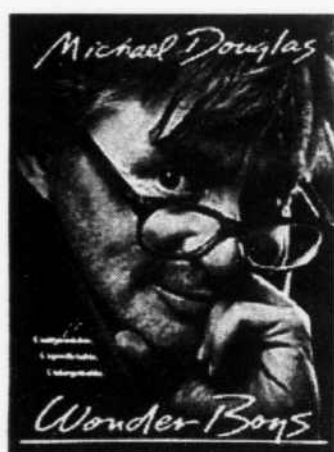
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## EMPLOYMENT

The Developmental Studies Math Lab is looking(ASAP) for patient, kind, reliable, and mathematically-oriented students to tutor in the Developmental Studies Math Lab this spring. Starting pay is \$6 per hour for qualified tutors. We need people during the following times:  
Mon. 8-9; Wed. 8:30-9, 10-1; Fri. 8-10:30.  
Tutors must agree to complete tutor training. We are also looking for a patient, flexible, and reliable student worker.

Looking for volunteer or paid tutors for all subjects. Contact Disabled Student Services at 898-2783.

**WANTED:** After-school tutors, immediate openings. 4 temporary positions available, needed 2:30-5:30 p.m. Monday-Thursday. Call 563-5518 M-F 10:00-6:00.

Need Psych or Ed major

for eight hours Sat. or Sun. Junior with superior gpa preferred. Must be reliable and love children. \$8/ hr call 848-9108 evenings.

**Camp Counselors-Gain** valuable experience while having the summer of a lifetime. Counselors needed for Outdoor Adventure, Athletics, Aquatics, and more in the Pocono Mtns. of PA. MEET the DIRECTOR January 24th-call 1-800-533-CAMP for an interview.

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Furnished Apartment for rent available now only \$355/month located at University Courtyard. Will pay first months rent and/or security. call Angela at 793-3359

University Courtyard Apts.-male unit 4 bedroom, 4 bath-1 room available. January rent already paid. Will pay \$300 deposit. Call 423-332-5484. call collect.

4 guys to share 5 bedroom house \$350/mo includes utilities and cable. Antioch area, possible group rate. Call Phil, 347-4729

Need sublesor for University Courtyard Apts. One of the cleanest apartments out there. 4 bed 4 bath. I will personally give the new leaser \$50 to use as

they like. Call 907-9611 ask for Forrest.

Apartment at University Courtyard 4 bedroom, 4 bath with one room available. \$450.00 A month. If interested, call 848-0214.

Two-story Townhouse Available Immediately. Two people needed ASAP to move in. Only \$320/month per person + utilities. Two bedroom, 1 and 1/2 bath. If interested, please contact Audrey 586-8467 or 890-0450

## ROOMMATE

Female roommate needed ASAP! Cost is less than \$350/month including utilities. Please contact Amanda @ 907-5720

Female roommate wanted. \$350/month including all utilities. No lease, no deposit. Approximately 15 minutes from campus. Call Lisa at 895-1949, if there's no answer please leave a message.

2nd Female roommate needed to share new 3br home in Eastwood S/D near MTSU. \$375/mo including utilities! Available now. 890-2782 or 896-0617.

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