



THURSDAY, JAN. 28, 1999

# SIDELINES



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MIDDLE TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY

Murfreesboro, TN

## Work orders cause delays in repairs

**Brian Forrester**  
Staff Reporter

Frustration begins with a light bulb burning out in a classroom and spirals upward through the hierarchy of e-mails and work order requests (WOR) from professors to Academic Affairs until it reaches Facility Services for execution. The system for submitting a work order request is set up in three main steps.

The first step is for the professor to send a WOR to Watson Hannah in Academic Affairs via e-mail. Hannah then prioritizes the requests so that Facility Services can implement its work force in the most timely manner.

However, the system has not been able to execute requests in a timely manner.

"We will get caught up," said David Gray, director of Facility Services. "We are behind the curb. Things have dropped between the cracks."

The latest concern is the constant request to replace light bulbs. These request have monopolized Facility Services' time and have prevented them from addressing other issues. The responsibility to replace light bulbs falls under both maintenance and custodial staff.

Due to work safety standards, the lights which are above 6 ft must be replaced by maintenance and any which are under 6 feet are the custodial staff's

responsibility.

The Business/Aerospace Building experienced several incandescent lights burning out at once. Due to the number of lights not working in classrooms, students were left in dimly light areas to take notes. According to one professor, the lighting was affecting night classes more than day classes. However, if it was over-cast during the day, then lighting was an issue.

Gray has assembled a "light bulb team" consisting of two-person teams responsible for replacing burned out lights. He hopes that the teams will take pressure away from custodial services and maintenance. Gray said the team will be given 4-day shifts to work in one building and then move on to a different building on the 5th day.

However, in the midst of this transitional phase, professors are still frustrated by the lack of efficiency needed to keep the campus running in areas besides changing light bulbs. These concerns are viewed as problematic and are growing concerns with obvious trends concerning maintenance in general.

Biology Professor Patrick Doyle, who is teaching at MTSU for his 33rd year, said, "It's very obvious that there is a lack of concern with making the campus work. One of these days it is going to get serious enough to appropriate money to maintenance."

Doyle took a casual walk through the Wiser-Patten Science Hall earlier last week. During his stroll he reminisced to a time when hallway floors were buffed almost everyday.

**"It has been brought to my attention by three different people that the custodian on day shift in Davis Science Building is using WD-40 to clean the water fountain - even on the part where the water comes out."**

- Ann Nored in a written request to Academic Affairs

"Now you are lucky if it gets done once a semester," he said.

He pointed out broken tiles that he said haven't been replaced since at least

last fall. Doyle pointed out garbage cans overflowing with trash that are an eyesore to both students, faculty and visitors.

Doyle pointed out that the handicap access doors do not work on a reliable basis. In the Wiser-Patten Science Hall there are two double doors which are accessible for handicap students. However, only three doors open when the doors are activated.

Several faculty members in the Wiser-Patten building and the Davis Science Hall are frustrated about the lack of attention. Requests are made and are not followed up by supervisors to ensure that work orders are taken care of.

Professors located in Wiser-Patten and Davis Science Hall have mentioned in several requests what indicates a delay in Facility Services executing requests made. They mention how things are not taken care of in a timely fashion.

One request mentioned that a restroom stall lock was neglected for 6 months. Others mention that "several lights," or "numerous lights" are not working. Another request says that in the Davis Science Hall, "We have to take a flashlight up there when we go up there, because it is very dark."

Ann Nored, chemistry secretary, sent a request to Academic Affairs which mentioned, "It has been brought to my attention by three different people that

the custodian on day shift in Davis Science Building is using WD-40 to clean the water fountain—even on the part where the water comes out."

This request was sent to Academic Affairs Jan 5, and as of Jan 24 it was still considered an open request.

According to the request, "Water fountain by elevator on 2nd floor is not clean. The handicapped doors on the South end of the building are not working. The trash is not being emptied very often. The front hall hasn't been swept in at least a month. HELP!!!!"

According to one WOR, "It is very annoying to me and seems highly unprofessional for an individual in a supervisory position to refuse to return phone calls or e-mails, make a promise, then refuse to make good on that promise."

"I realize this may seem like a minor request but it is nonetheless irritating not to have prompt follow up on what should not have been necessary for us to request in the first place."

Glenn Hanley, director of campus recreation, said that his department is suffering from a lack of attention from custodial services. Because campus recreation is an auxiliary program to the university it must support its own budget.

Unlike Peck Hall or Davis Science

See WORK ORDERS, page 5

## SGA sends money, helpers to aid APSU dorm residents

**Staff Reports**

As Austin Peay State University students prepare to return to class Thursday for the first time since a tornado struck the campus Friday, MTSU students are preparing to help APSU students recover some of their losses.

A bill to aid APSU was introduced in the Student Government Association earlier this week. The bill calls for \$500 to be sent to the Clarksville chapter of the American Red Cross. SGA will specify that the money be used to help APSU.

SGA President Jason Lawson said the bill had already passed in the House of Representatives and he expected it to pass in the Senate Wednesday night. After he signs the bill, it will be sent to Harold Smith, interim vice president for student affairs, for approval.

The SGA also is sponsoring a trip to Clarksville this weekend to aid in the campus cleanup. The students, who will carpool to Clarksville, will meet behind the Keathley University Center at 7 a.m. Saturday and expect to return to campus around 3 p.m.

Any student interested should stop by the SGA office in KUC 208 and leave their name and

phone number. Lawson said this information is necessary because students will be contacted should the cleanup be completed before Saturday.

For students who want to help but can't make the trip to Clarksville on Saturday, the SGA and Sidelines are teaming up for a donation drive for money to help APSU students. Money will be collected at both the SGA office and the Student Publications Office, which is located in James Union Building 306.

SGA and Sidelines are requesting that every student on campus donate \$1 to help students at APSU. Money will be collected at both offices until Feb. 5. If possible, a booth will be set up in the KUC at least one day next week for students to stop by with donations.

All money collected will be given to APSU's Operation Restoration fund to help students to replace personal items destroyed by the tornado.

Any person who wants to make a tax-deductible donation to APSU themselves can send it to the Operation Restoration fund, APSU Box 4417, Clarksville, Tenn. 37044.

Students with any questions about the SGA/Sidelines donation drive can call the SGA at 898-2464 or Sidelines at 898-2337. Students wanting to volunteer to help with APSU cleanup can call (931)648-8146. ■

## Woodmore Dining renovation will be completed in March

**John Garner**  
Staff Reporter

Imagine your reaction last semester if someone said to you, "Hey, let's go grab a bite and hang out at Woodmore."

When its extensive refurbishing is completed in March, Woodmore Dining Hall may turn out to be the newest campus hangout.

"We wanted to create an environment that would be as comfortable as your living room," said Dave Wallace, Aramark food services director. "That is, if your living room has eight televisions, a cyber-bar and a Burger King in it."

Before renovation began, Woodmore had been part of the meal-plan operation for residents and was chiefly frequented by athletes.

NCAA rules allowed for training-table seating, which wasn't favored by the majority of the students.

Since MTSU athletes have been mainstreamed into the general population, separate dining facilities are no longer needed.

Wallace began with no preconceived ideas of what changes needed to be made.

"If you're in the service business, you don't tell the customer 'We know what you want,'" he said. "Those days are gone. Now, we ask the students to tell us what they want."

He drew upon campus resources instead of outside influences. MTSU students had an active voice in selecting Burger King, Starbucks and D. C. Subs as the primary food vendors.

Wallace enlisted the expertise of Tim Graeff, associate professor of management and marketing.



Staff photo by Malco Takasu

An employee carries plastic out of Woodmore Dining Hall Tuesday.

Graeff conducted an in-class survey of his students last fall on behalf of the project.

One of Graeff's students, Sandy Barrett, ran another study of consumer habits on- and off-campus. Barrett surveyed groups drawn from a cross-section of the student population, soliciting opinions from people on meal and budget card plans.

"We've learned that good coffee was a high priority," Wallace said. "We took the idea one step further by bringing in Starbucks."

Students in need of a pre-exam

caffeine jolt can choose their preference from a variety of gourmet coffees, espressos, cappuccinos and lattes.

Burger King and D. C. Subs are two more new additions to campus culinary faire.

"People wanted a cold meal alternative. We know the aroma of B.K.'s charbroiled burgers will draw customers. "But students told us they just don't feel like a hot meal every day. D.C. is an upscale sub shop, everything

See WOODMORE, page 5

## Intermedia stops expanded basic cable service on campus

**Shawn Whitsell**  
Staff Reporter

The basic expanded cable was taken away from the MTSU campus Wednesday morning, leaving students with only basic cable (channels 2 through 22).

The Office of Housing and Residential Life as well as Intermedia, the local cable provider, received numerous calls from upset students.

Several calls poured into the Sidelines office with various tips of information. One student said he contacted Intermedia and was told that the cable node was

filtered, cutting off cable all over campus. Other sources claimed Intermedia wanted to double the price of cable and when the housing office declined this offer, cable was immediately disconnected.

An Intermedia customer service representative said it was a decision on the part of the housing department.

Several attempts were made to contact Debra Sells, director of Housing and Residential Life, but due to the number of calls coming in, she had to cancel all appointments to prepare a memo to the campus and meet with Intermedia.

Student Government Association President Jason Lawson said his office also was flooded with calls about the cable situation. He said the SGA knew nothing about the decision until Wednesday morning when the calls started.

Lawson also attempted to speak with Sells, but said they will not be able to meet until Thursday.

"I don't think changing the cable is the best move," Lawson said, adding that he thought that fewer cable channels would result in more boredom for students

See CABLE, page 5

### INSIDE

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### SPORTS

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MTSU poets enlighten listeners during the Hour of Power. See page 6.

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## ON CAMPUS

## LOOKING AHEAD

**JAN 28**  
Gamma Iota Sigma Insurance Fraternity will sponsor an "Outstanding Professor in the College of Business" election. A voting booth will be set up in the first floor south lobby of the BAS Building. Voting will begin at 7:30 a.m. and end at 6 p.m. People may contact Dr. Hollman at 898-2673 or Grant Lichtenwalter 890-1493.

**FEB 1**  
Golden Key National Honor Society will have a meeting at 5:30 p.m. in the KUC 312. Those interested may contact Chereese Vines at 898-3156. Those interested in applying for membership to the club must submit applications by Feb. 1. Those interested in applications may contact Dean Burke at 898-2750.

Pi Sigma Epsilon will host a new member recruitment meeting at 4:30 p.m. in BAS S126. The Management and Marketing Fraternity is open to all majors. Those interested may contact Dr. Katie Kemp at 898-2346 or Dr. Scott Inks at 898-2436.

Gamma Beta Phi will have a meeting on Feb. 12 at 5 p.m. in KUC 322. Those interested need to contact Chereese Vines at 898-3156.

## ON GOING

The Fellowship House will host dinner and Bible study every Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. located at the Fellowship House on 615 N. Tennessee Blvd. Contact Andrew Lee

893-1787 or Chris Nowlin at 867-7370.

Presbyterian Student Fellowship will host dinner and Bible study Wed at 6:30 p.m. located at the Fellowship House on 615 N. Tennessee Blvd following the study there will be wallyball at 9 p.m. at the Rec Center. For more information call Rich Zeigler at 893-1787 or Andrew Lee at 867-7370.

Raider Victory Fellowship will have weekly meetings and Bible sessions on Tuesdays at 7:30 p.m. at Corlew Hall room 719. They will meet on Wednesdays at 7 p.m. at Cummings Hall lobby and at 8 p.m. at Felder Hall room 208. Contact Ricky Walters at 317-4541.

Dragon's Guard School of Sword Fighting and Reenactment teaches swordfighting techniques and swordplay. The school meets for practice at 7 p.m. at Middle Tennessee Christian School gymnasium on Tuesdays and Fridays. For more information contact Hunter Jones at 896-4596 or e-mail at shadowh@bellsouth.net

MTSU Fencing Club will have practices every Monday at 8:30 p.m. till 10:30 p.m. in the Aerobics Room located in the Rec Center. The practices are geared to students of all skill levels. Contact Michael "Hunter" Jones at 896-4596 or e-mail at shadowh@bellsouth.net

The Kingwood Heights Church of Christ College Class will host

monthly devotions every second Thursday at 6:30. Kingwood Heights Church is located at 115 East MTC Road. Contact Chuck Mullins at 898-1086 or Alan Welken at 890-0940 for more information.

The Student Pagan Organization will have meetings Monday at 8 p.m. The meetings will take place on the 2nd floor of the KUC in the lounge area. For more information contact John Bryan at 898-3734.

The MTSU women's rugby team will have practices on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 5:30 till 7:30 p.m. The practices will be held at the Rec Center or the intramural fields if the weather is permitting. Contact Shannon Bustillos at 867-3592 or e-mail at sib2a@mtsu.edu.

Raider Victory Fellowship will hold Sunday services at 10 a.m. in the Murphy Center. Contact Ricky Walters at 907-4079 for more information.

Lambda Organization meetings will be held on Tuesdays at 7 p.m. in room 319 of the Business Aerospace building. For more information e-mail www.edu/~lambda.

Attention May Graduates! Graduating seniors will need to complete a 10 minute survey at the Graduation Fair that will be held Feb. 15-19 in the Alumni Center. The times are as follows: Feb 15, 10-6 p.m./ Feb 16, 10-6 p.m./ Feb 17, 10-6 p.m./ Feb 18, 10-3 p.m./ Feb 19, 10-3 p.m. For more information call Ruth Watson at 898-2854.

To submit an announcement for On Campus, submit information in person at James Union Building Room 310, mail information to campus box 42 or fax information to 904-8487. Due to space constraints, priority will be given to submissions with earlier deadlines.

## Police Beat

All information is based on official reports received from the MTSU Public Safety department. All charges are preliminary pending on the review by proper authorities. No statement of guilt should be inferred or implied until incidences have gone through proper legal procedure.

## Jan. 20

A student reported that their car had been stolen, but later found that it had been borrowed by a friend.  
A female reported that she had a possible back injury at the KUC Grill loading dock. She was transported by RCAS.  
A child fell at the Pittard Campus School and was transported by RCAS.  
A student resident from Jones Hall reported receiving obscene phone calls.  
A resident student from Lyon Hall reported receiving harrasing phone calls.

## Jan. 21

A female was assaulted in the Greenhouse Lot by an individual and taken to Health Services.  
A female fell and felt faint at the Boutwell Dramatic Arts building. She was transported by RCAS.  
Ron Howard, resident of Schardt Hall, was arrested for a warrant.  
A student tried to steal a magazine from the University Library.  
Public Safety responded and seized a substance from Lyon Hall. Housing will handle the situation.

## Jan. 22

A student reported that his wallet and pager had been stolen from the Mens Locker room in the Recreational Center.

## Jan. 24

Several callers notified Public Safety of a person who had broken out a window and threatened suicide.  
Public Safety responded to two females at East Main and Tennessee Boulevard. The two females reported that they had been followed by another motorist.

## Jan. 25

Robert Lee Wildon was arrested for driving with a revoked drivers license at Tennessee Blvd. and JUB street.

## Jan. 26

Public Safety responded to a call from Abernathy Loop saying that tires had been slashed on a vehicle.  
A cell phone was reported to have been stolen last week from Schardt Hall parking lot.  
An elderly female fell and cut her chin at the entrance to the track at the student recreational center. The female was transported to MTMC.  
A wallet was reported to have been stolen from the Rec Center.

## Jan. 27

A person reported that their vehicle was hit and run on Womack street.  
A shreader was reported missing from Jones Hall room 267. There was no evidence of a forceful entry into the room.



## NATIONAL NEWS

## Goodbye dummies, hello high-impact in new seat belt ads

**Washington (AP)**— The TV ads with the lovable-but-ill-fated crash test dummies Vince and Larry will be replaced next month with more shocking spots aimed at breaking through the recent plateau in seat belt usage.

Instead of seeing lifelike dummies dust themselves off after a crash, viewers will see human actors engaged in common moments that are cut short by an automobile accident.

In one spot, titled "Ice Cream," a husband out buying ice cream to satisfy his pregnant wife's midnight craving has his car hit as he backs out of the driveway. In a second ad, titled "Cruising," teenagers in two cars cruising down a street giggle until one of the cars is smashed by a speeding van.

After each scene, the caption on the screen asks, "Didn't see that coming? No one ever does. Buckle up."

"The idea behind the campaign was to really take a bold step and change our direction to reach those users who are taking short trips but not wearing their seat belts," said Ken Ulmer, spokesman for the Advertising Council. It is marketing the spots, made by the Chicago ad agency Leo Burnett, for the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

"We are not reaching part-time users, people who take trips to the store or out to pick up their kids. The statistics show they are at risk, too," Ulmer said.

Beyond their public appeal, Vince and Larry have gotten results. In 1985, about 21 percent of the driving population wore seat belts; in 1996, the figure was up to 68 percent.

That, however, is about where it has stayed.

President Clinton has announced a goal of getting seat belt usage up to 85 percent by the end of the year, but traffic safety experts concede there are some high-risk drivers who will never wear seat belts.

The new campaign is focusing on the casual wearer — someone who is not against buckling up, but who does not do so on every trip.

## Venezuela sues U.S. tobacco industry for costs of treating sick smokers

**Miami (AP)**— The Venezuelan government sued the leading U.S. tobacco companies Wednesday, becoming the second foreign country to try to recover the public costs of treating sick smokers.

"For decades, Big Tobacco's conduct has caused an incalculable loss of life, disease, disability, pain, suffering, illness and economic loss to the users of Big Tobacco's products," said the lawsuit, filed in Miami-Dade County Circuit Court.

The lawsuit seeks billions of dollars. Attorney Steven Marks, who is representing Venezuela, said economists have been hired to better calculate the damages.

Venezuela claims it suffered because of decreased productivity of its labor force and lost taxes. The tobacco companies knew their products were addictive and caused illnesses that killed Venezuelans, and also attempted to thwart attempts to reduce tobacco use, the lawsuit said.

"It mirrors the state and federal claims that were filed against the tobacco companies," Marks said. "Venezuelan lives are worth just as much as American lives."

British American Tobacco Co., a defendant, makes Lucky Strike, Kent and other cigarettes and controls about 76 percent of the Venezuelan market. Philip Morris Inc. controls most of the remaining market.

## Two octuplets upgraded to serious condition

**Houston (AP)**— The two largest of the seven surviving octuplets were upgraded from critical to serious condition and moved out of intensive care Wednesday.

Echerem and Jioke Louis, a girl and a boy, were moved from the neonatal intensive care unit at Texas Children's Hospital to a nursery designed for tiny infants strong enough to survive outside the ICU.

The other four girls and one boy remained in critical but stable condition in the ICU. The eighth baby, Odera, died a week after birth. Doctors said one of the girls, Chidi, has been removed from milk and formula feedings because of suspected inflammation of the intestinal tract.

The octuplets were born in December.



## WORLD NEWS

## Hungry quake victims loot stores, hopes for new survivors fade

**Armenia, Colombia (AP)**— Driven by hunger, survivors of a deadly earthquake dashed into supermarkets to strip their shelves clean Wednesday as shortages of food, water and antibiotics worsened the misery wrought by one of Colombia's worst disasters.

The toll from Monday's magnitude-6 earthquake in western Colombia reached 878 dead and more than 3,410 injured Wednesday, Red Cross spokeswoman Maria Perrelet said. That number was expected to rise as more debris was cleared.

Rescue teams arrived from Britain and the United States to help find survivors and pull bodies from hundreds of downed buildings in this city of 300,000 people. Using heavy machinery, rescuers uncovered corpses throughout Armenia, but hope of finding new survivors was dwindling fast.

With need overwhelming available supplies, Armenia's residents took matters into their own hands, breaking down the gates of a downtown supermarket and stealing rice, cooking oil, flour and rum.

Debris fell from the upper reaches of the damaged four-story building housing the store, sending panicked looters fleeing into the street in fear of aftershocks.

In all, 27 aftershocks have struck Colombia since Monday, and a 5.4-magnitude quake rocked the northeast Wednesday but caused no damage.

Luis Valderrama, 30, and two friends pushed a red supermarket cart loaded with goods down 19th Street toward their home in the El Pradito Bajo neighborhood.

"It isn't stealing. The store's totally destroyed, and nobody has a house, nobody has food. All this is to share with the people," he said.

Armenia police Chief Col. Dagoberto Garcia watched helplessly. "We don't have the capacity to stop it," he said.

Other police expressed sympathy for the looters.

"You can't fight against hunger," said police Lt. Jorge Duque.

## Hungry quake victims loot stores, hopes for new survivors fade

**Amsterdam, Netherlands (AP)**— Hoping to end the use of underage girls and desperate immigrant women as prostitutes, Dutch lawmakers began debating a plan Wednesday to overturn a 1912 ban on brothels.

Although prostitution itself is legal in the tolerant Netherlands, operating bordellos remains against the law. Still, they have long been allowed to operate in certain restricted districts as long as they followed strict hygienic standards and fire safety regulations.

The legislation now before parliament's lower house would reverse the ban. Supporters say that by legalizing and tightly regulating brothels, it will be easier to crack down on the exploitation of teen-age girls and women from Asia, Africa and Eastern Europe who are sometimes forced into prostitution.

Opponents worry that lifting the ban would allow brothels to flourish anywhere.

"This law tries to improve protections for prostitutes, and we're all working together for that," said Pieter Jan Biesheuvel of the opposition Christian Democratic Appeal party. "But if a community doesn't want any brothels within its boundaries, it should be able to refuse."

Supporters of lifting the ban disagree, arguing that legalization would give local officials more control over houses of prostitution, not less.

The bill, sponsored by Justice Minister Benk Korthals of the right-leaning Liberal Party, also is an attempt to control trafficking in drugs and weapons, which often occurs in the seedy neighborhoods where bordellos tend to flourish.

Korthals' legislation would toughen the penalty for employing underage girls and immigrants forced into prostitution from one year in prison to six years. A similar bill was introduced and debated last year, before lawmakers deadlocked on it and the session ended without a vote.

Prostitution is legal in the Netherlands for those over 18 years old, and prostitutes are required to report their earnings and pay income taxes.

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## Placement Office holds annual summer jobs fair

Rebecca Curtis  
Staff Reporter

Camps, parks, government agencies and businesses recruited MTSU students Wednesday at the eighth annual Summer Jobs/Internships Fair.

The job fair grew enough in size that the hallways of the KUC were used to accommodate many of the businesses recruiting.

This year, around 60 businesses participated, compared to 38 last year.

The Placement and Student Employment Center already has a web site, but another site specifically for the summer jobs/internships fair was added this year. The site address is

<http://www.mtsu.edu/~stuaaf/placement/sumem.html> and contains an updated list of employers offering summer work, the job type and the major that they are seeking.

The Summer Jobs/Internships Fair is just the beginning of the recruitment possibilities on campus.

The Placement Center publishes a recruitment calendar and a newsletter containing job opportunities. Registering at the placement center can give a student a competitive edge in a job search.

Admission to the College To Career Fair, sponsored by Middle Tennessee area universities and Nashville Area Chamber of Commerce, is only through registration at the

placement office. Some employers request a pre-interview selection prior to their campus recruiting dates.

Students already on file at the placement center are considered for these opportunities.

Coming in February is Teacher Recruitment Week.

Interview sign-ups begin Monday, Feb. 15, in the KUC and continue throughout the week. Representatives from school systems across the country will visit MTSU to interview prospective teachers, librarians and counselors for fall 1999. The roster of school districts will be sent to education candidates and updates to the roster will be published on the placement center web page. ■

## Sigma Alpha Epsilon hosts Miss MTSU, MT pageants

Courtney Ashford  
Staff Reporter

This year's Miss MTSU and Miss MT Blue Raider will be crowned Friday, Jan. 29, at MTSU's annual pageant sponsored by Sigma Alpha Epsilon, according to MTSU's director of Greek life. MTSU's yearly pageant will be held at 7:30 p.m. in Tucker Theater.

The director of Greek life, Victor Felts, explains that in this contest there is not just one winner; there are two. These two winners will go on to compete in

the Miss Tennessee pageant.

This pageant has grown from what it has been in years past. Felts explained that participation has increased. This year, it is expected there will be about 18 contestants.

The university's annual contest has been updated from the traditional beauty pageant.

"It's a scholarship pageant, not a beauty pageant," Felts said, emphasizing the scholarship awards available.

Because of this modernization, talent, not physical appearance, is the largest portion. Another major difference that will be noticed is

the category of swimwear being replaced by activewear. This is to provide contestants with a non-traditional alternative.

Exercise clothing may also be worn as long as it is categorized as activewear.

This event is usually a favorite among many sororities and fraternities. It is a night when a sorority can show its true sisterhood by supporting its members.

Jodi Herndon, a member of Delta Zeta sorority, said, "It helps unite all members of Greek life, and it goes for a wonderful cause." ■

## Eliminating Explorer from Windows '98 detrimental

Ted Bridis  
Associated Press

WASHINGTON—Microsoft's next witness at its antitrust trial told the judge in written testimony that government efforts to modify its popular Windows software slowed some functions sevenfold and prevented other programs from running at all.

James Allchin, a senior vice president expected to take the stand Monday, derided government efforts as a "Rube Goldberg mechanism" that made Windows "effectively useless in a commercial sense."

Microsoft released Allchin's 139 pages of written testimony Wednesday, even as the government ended its initial questioning of Paul Maritz, the senior executive responsible for Microsoft's most important consumer products.

The government sought to show that, over Microsoft's protests, Internet browser software was illegally built into newer versions of the Windows operating system and can be safely removed.

A software expert, Edward Felten of Princeton University, who wrote a removal program, testified previously that his procedure "does not prevent Windows 98 from (starting) properly, nor does it affect the stability of Windows 98 under ordinary use."

But Allchin said Felten's methods "seriously degrade" Windows, making parts of it run seven times slower and preventing consumers from using popular software by IBM Corp., America Online Inc. and others.

Justice Department lawyer David Boies, in a second day of aggressive cross-examination, pressed Maritz about Microsoft's efforts in 1995 to discourage Intel Corp. from developing new technology, called Native Signal Processing, that could compete with Windows.

The government has used the episode to support its charge that Microsoft illegally used its influence in the high-tech industry to stifle potential competition against its lucrative Windows.

"We didn't want to give Intel reason to feel they needed to go and develop system software," Maritz said, adding that Microsoft believed the new technology "was not in Intel's own interest."

Maritz later conceded, "We did think it was a bad thing for Microsoft. ... I hope we got our point across."

Allchin, a senior computer scientist for the company, rejected in his written testimony claims that Microsoft included its browser software within Windows to try to "crush" Netscape Communications Corp., whose own browser earned tens of millions of dollars. Allchin accused the government of trying "to cast such integration in a bad light, suggesting that it occurs only for improper purposes, namely, to force customers to take things they do not want. That is wrong."

On the stand, Maritz called it "inevitable we would integrate it into the Windows environment."

But he also acknowledged that Netscape's success proved "an added incentive to make as fast as progress as we could."

Allchin warned it would be a "recipe for disaster" for courts to impose limits on what could be added to Windows, adding that "this beneficial process is under attack in this lawsuit."

At one point, U.S. District Judge Thomas Penfield Jackson asked Maritz how far Microsoft might go.

"Can you think of any application that could not be integrated into Windows?" the judge asked.

"There aren't boundaries, your Honor," Maritz said.

Microsoft was expected to question Maritz further Thursday, and the judge said he will decide whether the company must turn over a controversial e-mail that could undermine one of its defenses.

The e-mail from Microsoft software engineer David D'Souza analyzed Felten's efforts to strip the company's browser software from Windows, which Microsoft claims is impossible.

Court documents said the message could be used to identify which parts of some shared software code relate to Windows and which parts relate to the Internet browser. ■



Photo by Alicia Fawley

Bethany Brent and Trina Weddington check out the displays at Wednesday's Summer Jobs/Internships Fair sponsored by the Student Placement and Employment Center.

## Astronauts: a threat to other life?

Elizabeth Sharpe  
Staff Reporter

Astronauts have been safely exploring outer space for several decades, but human contact could be the threat to extra terrestrial life, says Jay White, associate professor of astronomy.

White will be speaking at the next Honors Lecture Series on Monday, Feb. 1, titled "Welcome to my World, Now Go Home: ET

Bumper Stickers."

The lecture discusses the invasive experiments performed on other worlds and the possibility that the experiments could contaminate them.

According to White, backpackers have a policy to leave only footprints and take only photos.

"When we travel to other worlds, that's something we should keep in mind," he said.

In the past, NASA astronauts were briefly quarantined after

returning from outer space to ensure they had not become contaminated, yet no one considered possible harm to the alien world or its inhabitants.

Recently, NASA appointed a planetary protection officer, whose job is to consider the ethics of planetary exploration, particularly planetary contamination.

The Honors Lecture Series is from 3:40 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. in Peck Hall room 109A. It is free and open to the public. ■

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# Rec additions open in March

Kelly Finlen  
Staff Reporter

An alpine tower rope course, an indoor-soccer arena and an outdoor swimming pool/sunbathing area are all part of the new additions to the Student Recreation Center.

Most of the facilities in the 21,000 square foot addition are scheduled to open in early March.

"The pool will be open to students just after Spring Break," said director Glenn Hanley. "One side of the pool will have a zero entry, which is a ramped entrance to the water."

This will make the pool more accessible to children or people who just want to hang out in the water and get some sun." A sunbathing area on the sides of the pool will also add to its allure.

The 12,000 square foot indoor soccer arena will have artificial turf and dasher boards along the sides of the field. Registration for intramural soccer is underway at the Rec Center. The playing field will be 120 feet by 60 feet.

The alpine tower rope course will begin construction after the opening of the additions.

The course's many climbing challenges should be enjoyable for all levels of climbers. Teamwork challenges focus on problem solving and leadership skills. Hanley said the purpose of the course is to instill "confidence in yourself, which will make you a better student or member of the workforce."

Most of the center's intramural sports are starting their sign up periods.

Some of the sports available are basketball, indoor soccer, racquetball (singles), wrestling,

sand volleyball, softball, and karate instruction.

The outdoor activities department has many weekend trips planned throughout the semester, and some spring break adventures organized for those who wish to try something different.

Currently, spaces are still available for a multi-activity trip to Venezuela and a canoeing trip on the Rio Grande along the Texas/Mexico border. Also planned is a whitewater rafting clinic and a camping clinic.

Student Recreation Center hours are 6 a.m. to 11 p.m. on Monday through Thursday, 6 a.m. to 10 p.m. on Friday, 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Saturday, and 12 p.m. to 11 p.m. on Sunday.

For further information about any of the center's activities/programs, call 898-5157.

The web address is <http://www.mtsu.edu/~campus/>

## CABLE

continued from page 1

living in dorms. This boredom could lead to things like more complaints of noise from loud stereos and more false fire alarms.

"Students will be forced to find alternative activities," Lawson said. "Unfortunately, they aren't the best alternatives."

Lawson said students who live on campus probably expected to get expanded cable channels for the duration of the contract year, which will lead them to think they are not getting what they paid for.

According to the Sells's memo, expanded basic cable was not in the Intermedia/MTSU agreement and, due to the university's commitment to renovate residence halls, housing was not willing to pay for expanded basic cable.

Sells also said Intermedia would no longer give students the option to contract premium channels on an individual basis.

"Given the university's commitment to finance an increased amount of repair and renovation to our residence hall, and after discussion the members of the Residence Hall Association, the decision was made that the university would continue to commit only to basic cable service, not expanded basic," she said in the memo.

Expanded basic cable was restored to the campus sometime between 4:30 and 5 p.m.

Although channels 23 and up have been restored, it is only on a temporary basis. Cable is expected to return to basic channels only within a few weeks.

# Greek police find headless corpse, burned remains of former model

KAVALA, Greece (AP)—A Greek seaman showed police on Wednesday how he allegedly strangled his American girlfriend before hurling her headless body into a swamp, authorities said.

Handcuffed and under heavy guard, George Skiadopoulos, 24, led authorities to a swamp in northern Greece, where he showed them the location of Julie Scully's burned and dismembered remains.

A police diver discovered the former model's body packed inside a suitcase beneath five feet of water. Divers later combed a nearby beach where Skiadopoulos, a cruise ship petty officer, told police he had thrown her severed head.

Ms. Scully, of Mansfield, N.J., moved to Kavala last month with the intention of marrying Skiadopoulos, a cruise ship petty

officer she met on a Caribbean vacation.

The chief of the Athens security police, Gen. Pavlos Roubis, said Skiadopoulos was "blinded by his passion" on Jan. 8 when he strangled Ms. Scully during an argument on a muddy farm road.

He said Skiadopoulos was about to be drafted into the army and Ms. Scully, 31, was preparing to return to New Jersey.

After Skiadopoulos reenacted the killing on Wednesday, authorities charged him with premeditated murder. He was to be arraigned Thursday. If convicted, he could face life imprisonment without parole.

U.S. Rep. Christopher Smith, R-N.J., appealed to Greek courts Wednesday to "judiciously and expeditiously" resolve the case.

Tracey Allen of Ewing, N.J.,

said she was heartbroken at her friend's death. "We loved her very much. We're going to miss her for the rest of our lives," she said.

Ms. Scully's ex-husband, Tim Nist, could not be reached for comment.

Police said Skiadopoulos doused Ms. Scully's body with gasoline and set her ablaze. He then packed her corpse into a suitcase, using a hacksaw to cut off her head so the body would fit inside. He threw her charred head into the sea.

According to police, Skiadopoulos then traveled to Athens, the capital, concocting a story of Ms. Scully's disappearance that he told to police, the U.S. Embassy and reporters.

But after four hours of questioning, police said Skiadopoulos confessed to her killing.

Ms. Scully, who was awarded about \$600,000 in a divorce settlement, met Skiadopoulos on a Caribbean cruise in 1997 and apparently intended to begin a new life with him in Greece.

But she reportedly told her family on Jan. 6 that she missed her 3-year-old daughter, Katie, and wanted to return home to New Jersey.

Ms. Scully was known in New Jersey's capital, Trenton, for her appearance as a sultry "Page 6 Girl" in the Trentonian newspaper. She also appeared on the show "Hard Copy" in 1992 in a story about the Trentonian.

Ms. Scully attended Science and Engineering High School in Philadelphia and was planning to pursue an engineering degree before she decided to move to Greece.

## WORK ORDERS

continued from page 1

Hall, whose custodial services are funded by the university, Campus Recreation must allocate money for custodial services.

Hanley said that before the building was

completed an agreement and price was reached concerning the amount of service for campus recreational department.

"We pay for a certain amount of custodians and are not receiving that, but are still charged for that amount of service," said Hanley.

"Because of that, I think, the cleanliness of

our building is suffering."

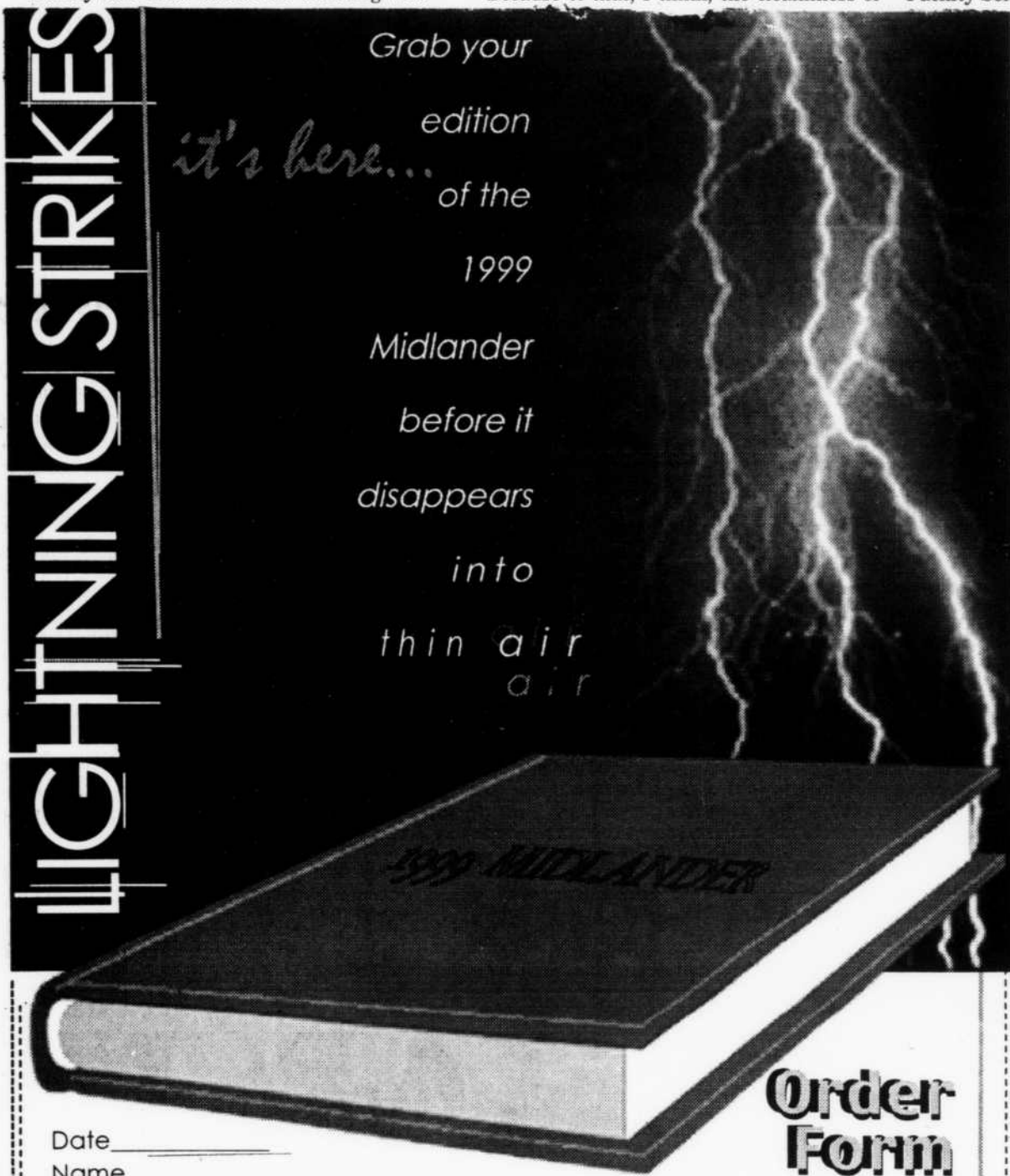
Hanley said he has called facility services five times and not had messages returned.

"The custodial issue is a continual problem." However, Hanley said, and professors from other departments agree, "not all areas of Facility Services is a problem."

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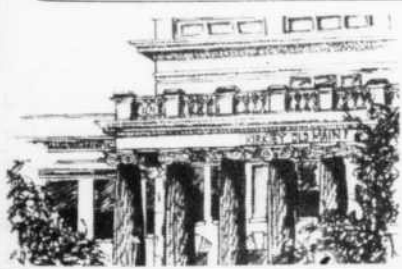
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5 ■ SIDELINES

THURSDAY, JAN. 28, 1999

# OPINIONS

"Were it left for me to decide whether we should have a government without newspapers, or newspapers without a government, I should not hesitate a moment to prefer the latter."

—Thomas Jefferson

Murfreesboro, TN

## Editorial

### Student should have their cable television

On Wednesday morning every channel above 22 was taken away from campus because of a contract dispute between Housing and Residential Life and Intermedia.

Sidelines staffers spent the day talking to residents, Intermedia customer service representatives and housing employees. A staff member had a scheduled appointment with housing director Debra Sells, but it was canceled.

As a busy students, we know how great it feels to be able to come back to our rooms and watch our favorite television shows after a long hard day. Students work hard to make this university successful, and we deserve expanded cable television. The university staff always say they try to do what's best for the students, and we truly want to believe this but it's very hard to tell when things like this happen. Students don't know all the reasons behind decisions, and it's up to the university to inform us because miscommunication leads to complication.

Students are paying customers of the university, and we should get what we pay for. If faculty and staff had to live on campus, we would not have this problem. This is extremely unfair because, for students who live on campus, this is our home away from away home.

Although students won't die from the lack of cable, it is still important that we have it, especially because of the great lack of activities on the weekend. When winter really sets in, many students are going to spend most of their time in their rooms watching television, but there is not much without expanded cable. Most students' favorite movies and television shows cannot be found on channels 2 through 22.

Although expanded cable has been restored to campus, it is on a temporary basis. Housing should do all they can to keep expanded cable and to make sure that students are informed the next time something like this happens. ■

## Salt Lake City sports-hungry babies

David Ignatius  
The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — A leading candidate for the most arrogant quote of the month (and it's a competitive field, to be sure) is Dick Ebersol, chairman of NBC Sports.

Asked recently about the Olympic bribery scandal, Ebersol blandly replied: "As far as the general public, it goes off their radar screen as soon as the competition and the athletes are on the air. ... The guy at home will say, 'When is the downhill coming on?'"

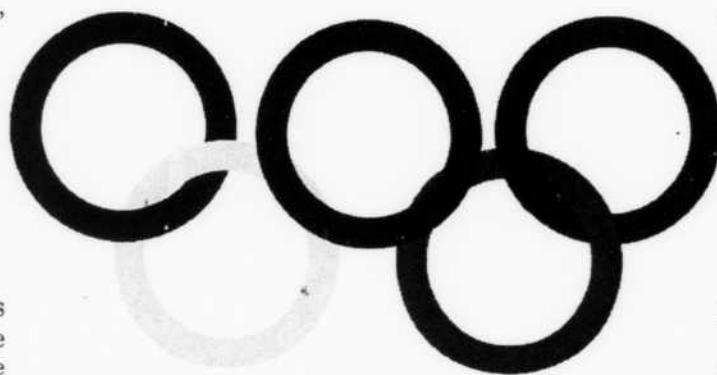
Ebersol has an understandable reason to play down the Olympic scandal. His network spent \$3.5 billion a few years ago to purchase the rights to the next five Olympic games—an investment that may turn out to be as prudent as buying lifetime rights to the political wit and wisdom of Newt Gingrich.

Maybe Ebersol is right to assume that sports fans are such captive couch potatoes that they'll watch anything that has the magic five rings attached. But it's also possible that the NBC executive is making the same mistake as the sports plutocrats who stumbled into the 1994 baseball strike and this year's basketball strike. The fans' tolerance is not infinite. At some point, their response to greedy promoters is likely to be: good riddance.

The Olympic bribery scandal may be the clearest example yet of how business is overwhelming sports. The process is out of control: Owners can't restrain themselves from throwing money at players, so they beg for salary caps; players care more about their multimillion-dollar paychecks than playing the game; cities become so desperate to win the games they throw bribes into the outstretched arms of the International Olympic Committee.

One can sympathize with the sports-hungry burghers of Salt Lake City. Though they've been cast as the villains of

the piece, they look more like babes in the woods — avaricious babes, certainly, but no match for the IOC. They had lost out to Nagano, Japan, for the '98 winter games — and this time, they weren't going to be chumps. They decided to play the game by what they understood to be its rules, which included cash gifts and college scholarships for IOC members. By the time it was over, the Mormons of Salt Lake City were even handing out free booze.



At the root of this mess is the monopoly power of the organizers. The IOC's control of Olympic-level sports is so complete it would make Microsoft blush. Imagine if Bill Gates had the power to award Windows to one country every four years: What country wouldn't pay handsomely for the privilege—under the table if necessary?

The monopolies exercised by Major League Baseball, the NFL and the NBA are similarly potent — especially when combined with the billions of dollars in television revenue. What drives the system is the monopolists' confidence that they own the only game in town. The owners pay too much for players, confident that the networks, in turn, will pay

too much for broadcast rights and the fans will pay too much for seats.

The money the television networks are paying for sports is staggering—probably beyond anything they can recoup. NBC and Turner paid \$2.6 billion in late 1997 for NBA rights through 2002—an investment whose value has surely been trimmed by the just-ended lockout; CBS, Fox, ESPN and ABC paid \$17.6 billion last year for NFL football rights. Even the networks doubt they can make the money back. Instead, they see sports as loss-leaders — brand-name events that will draw viewers to their other programming.

So rapacious has the sports world become that the first thing any new team owner does nowadays is sell the name of the stadium. Candlestick Park in San Francisco becomes 3Com Park, and soon San Francisco will get a new baseball stadium called Pacific Bell Park, named after a telephone company. Washingtonians, too, have an arena named after a phone company, at MCI Center. At least we don't have a bowl game named after a snack food, like the Tostitos Fiesta Bowl.

The sports plutocrats are betting, as Ebersol says so bluntly, that when it's game time, we'll all shut up and watch the tube. But there are signs that the fans' patience is wearing thin. It took baseball four years — and Mark McGwire and Sammy Sosa — to recover from the damage of the strike. It may take basketball nearly that long to recover from this winter's greed-fest. For the owners and players, it may indeed be about money — but not for the fans.

As for the Olympic scandal, the fun is just beginning. The European press has begun investigating IOC head Juan Antonio Samaranch and some of his associates — including some roguish characters who, to put it politely, would never make it to the cover of a Wheaties box. Stay tuned, sports fans. ■

## Spelling problems curable with 'Kommen Cents'

Amanda Johnson  
The University of Findlay

Americans have forgotten how to spell. Need proof?

Take the typical American day. You get up and enjoy your breakfast, maybe some Trix cereal, or if you really don't know how to spell, a few Krispy Kreme donuts.

You get dressed. Don't forget to put on your Soft'n'Dri deodorant.

On your way to work, you stop at the local All-Nite Quickee Mart to buy gas for your Infiniti.

You're in a hurry, so you go through the drive thru to get some koffee.

At work, you need a snack, so you run to the vending machine to buy a Krackel candy bar or maybe a Rice Krispy treat.

Fortunately, you had the right koins for it.

After work, you run a few errands. You go to the FotoMart to pick up the pictures from that basketball game you went to. What was the name of that team, the

Starzz?

And you need to pick up some all-purpose Kleener and some lite bulbs so you stop at Rite Aid. The good news is that you can buy them in the Valu size. But you know you are forgetting something, so you stop at the pay phone and use your FonCard to call home. That's when you remember you need to go to Banc One to cash your check.

Sounds like America needs a spell check. Everywhere you look, somebody is misspelling something to grab your attention.

I'll admit that it does serve its purpose.

Misspellings do grab my attention, but they don't make me want to buy a product. Usually, it scares me away from buying it. I mean, do you really want to trust your money to a bank that doesn't know how to spell "bank"?

Or get your haircut at a place called Kasual Kuts?

And how about taking something called Cold-Eeeze when you don't feel good?

No thanks. This trend is only going to

get worse.

After all, how are the future generations supposed to learn to spell correctly when nobody around them can?

Especially when we send them to a day care center called Kiddie Kollege, wearing Luvs diapers, to play with toys made by a company called Playskool.

Don't forget every little kid's favorite drink, Kool-Aid.

Maybe we should just take them to Toys 'R Us to buy a Lite Brite or some Play-Doh.

Maybe we should give them a reward for spelling things right — how about a Rain Blo lollipop?

It's obvious that it's too late for my generation.

We're the ones that like to watch the Xtreme games as we are drinking our Hi-NRG drinks or our Mello Yello. We like to listen to music by bands like Phish, Boyz II Men, 'N Sync or Blessid Union of Souls.

We're the ones who go and see movies called Antz. And instead of creating our own slang, we've just misspelled words to make them into new ones.

We're the ones that have playas.

And if we like you, you're either phat or kewl.

Some businesses misspell to be cute. Or is that kute?

I can't tell anymore. For some strange reason, they think all the words in their name should start with the same letter.

Take for example the name of a restaurant in rural Ohio, Korner Kafe. Then again, if they had spelled it right, it would be Corner Kafe.

I guess I'm wrong. Misspellings must be kute.

I wonder why none of my professors think that. One would think that with all the technology we have today, misspellings would never happen.

After all, everything is done on computers, which can highlight all the misspelled words for you (like its done for about half of the words in this article).

Most Americans recognize when something is spelled wrong. They laugh at it. After all, Americans use kommon sense. ■

## SIDELINES

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### BURNT TOAST



THE LESS I SAY, THE SMARTER I SOUND!

12/98

## Ventura causing new Populist rumble

Nick Gillespie  
Knight-Ridder Newspapers

OXFORD, Ohio — Jesse Ventura was sworn in as governor of Minnesota this month in the most refreshingly declassé inauguration since 1829, when Andrew Jackson's supporters wheeled a giant cheese into Washington as part of the celebration.

What one account called "Ventura's two-week long Power Bar-and-blues- fueled inaugural marathon" included the former professional wrestler releasing a bald eagle in his hometown of Brooklyn Park. (Ventura shaves his head.)

There was also a concert for 14,000 featuring teen-age guitar

phenom Jonny Lang and honky-tonk hero Delbert McClinton. Ventura loudly exclaimed "Hooya!" after delivering his first official address.

"We wanted to include as much of Minnesota as we could," explained the Gopher State's new first lady, Terry Ventura, before the festivities. "We want everyone to come the way they're most comfortable at a party - tux, tennis shoes or biker leather."

Now the party's over and it remains to be seen if Ventura can deliver on the promises of his campaign.

But whether he actually accomplishes anything legislatively during his tenure, he has already achieved this much: He has discombobulated members of elites who actually

mistrust the "common people" for whom they claim to speak.

Voters apparently responded to Ventura's combination of centrist substance and blunt style. Ventura has pledged to return budget surpluses to taxpayers and improve public schools, and his most memorable TV ad featured a Ventura action figure beating the bejezus out of an "Evil Special Interest Man" doll.

Yet the elites are more likely to see Ventura as simply one more lamentable manipulation of Boobus americanus.

Consider Ralph Nader, founder of the consumer group Public Citizen and an advocate of regulating virtually all economic activity in the name of social justice (save for that of the trial

lawyers who so generously support his various operations).

Although Nader has long employed classic populist rhetoric that advocates giving power back to the "people," Ventura's triumph using similar language inspired fear and trembling in the self-styled consumer advocate.

Not without reason: Ventura taps into the feeling that Americans suffer not from too little state presence in their lives, but from too much.

"Government cannot be your parent," the governor told voters who complain they can't afford housing and insurance.

"There's too many laws altogether," he told Jonathan Rauch of the National Journal, a weekly political magazine. ■

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# FEATURES

6 ■ SIDELINES

Murfreesboro, TN

## Students share

## powerful poetry

Shawn Whitsell  
Staff Reporter

Did you attend the open mic "Hour of Power," last Thursday? Well, if you didn't, then you missed the chance to be humored and enlightened by several great MTSU poets. I was in attendance and I must say that it was pretty nice, although I'm very partial to the one that was held last year.

The event is sponsored annually by Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. to promote unity, knowledge, power, fun and the night's theme, "kuumba," which means creativity.

For nearly two hours, poets, singers, and rappers blessed the mic with creative and powerful words to express personal epics to humor, educate, inspire, enlighten and motivate the audience. Topics ranged from sadness and death to love and relationships to God and religion and then some.

After listening to some of the other poets, I was inspired to share my world of poetry. I recited two originally poems entitled, "Change the Times," where I touched on a variety of social issues like drugs, God, negligent fathers, greed and poverty. My second poem, "Blessed" was a testimonial of how The Creator has blessed me with peace, love and happiness. It also explained that though life is not always a bed of roses, I am thankful to God for not moving mountains but giving me the strength to climb them.

One of the more memorable poems was one by John Moore. In this humorous poem, Moore described the

woman of his dreams both intelligent and "ghetto fabulous." He told us how he fantasized about her and the effect she had on him. But when he finally got up enough nerve to approach her all he could say was, "Whatcho Name Is?" The crowd seemed to really enjoy Moore's poem. It broke the mold of the serious poems that seem to be the norm.

Joseph Watts, a well-known poet here at MTSU, shared his poetry with us, prefacing it by letting us know how much it means to him.

"It's my life," he said.

Watts recited three poems, entitled "Long Ride Home," "The Unknown" and "The Indescribable Force." Though all these poems gave the audience something to think about, it was the sad "Long Ride Home" that deeply touched us. This poem tells of a family coming home from church. The mother dies in the car and the father and sister realizes what happens. The young boy has a feeling that something is wrong but he doesn't realize what has happened until they get home.

Watts informed the crowd that he plans to publish a book of poems. I am sure fans of his work would enjoy that.

Another poet who left a lasting impression on the audience was Versatile (Richard Hunter). Versatile is sort of a celebrity in poetry on this campus. As soon as the word of a poetry event gets out, everyone already knows he will be there, and he always is. Versatile uses his gift of articulation to inform his audience about what's really going on. He has a great ability to grab his audience by speaking of issues that hit close to home, like campus-related

issues. His poem "Blue Raider Hater," told the stories of all the "playa hater" going on at MTSU. For those of you don't know what "playa hater" is, I will try by best to give you an idea. Take the "playa hater" test. Guys, if you see another guy with lots of girls and you get jealous and start to tarnish his image just because he has something you want, then you are a "hater." Girls, if you see a girl who dresses better than you and you get jealous and start spreading rumors about her, then you, sweetheart are a "hater." Now that we're clear, lets carry on.

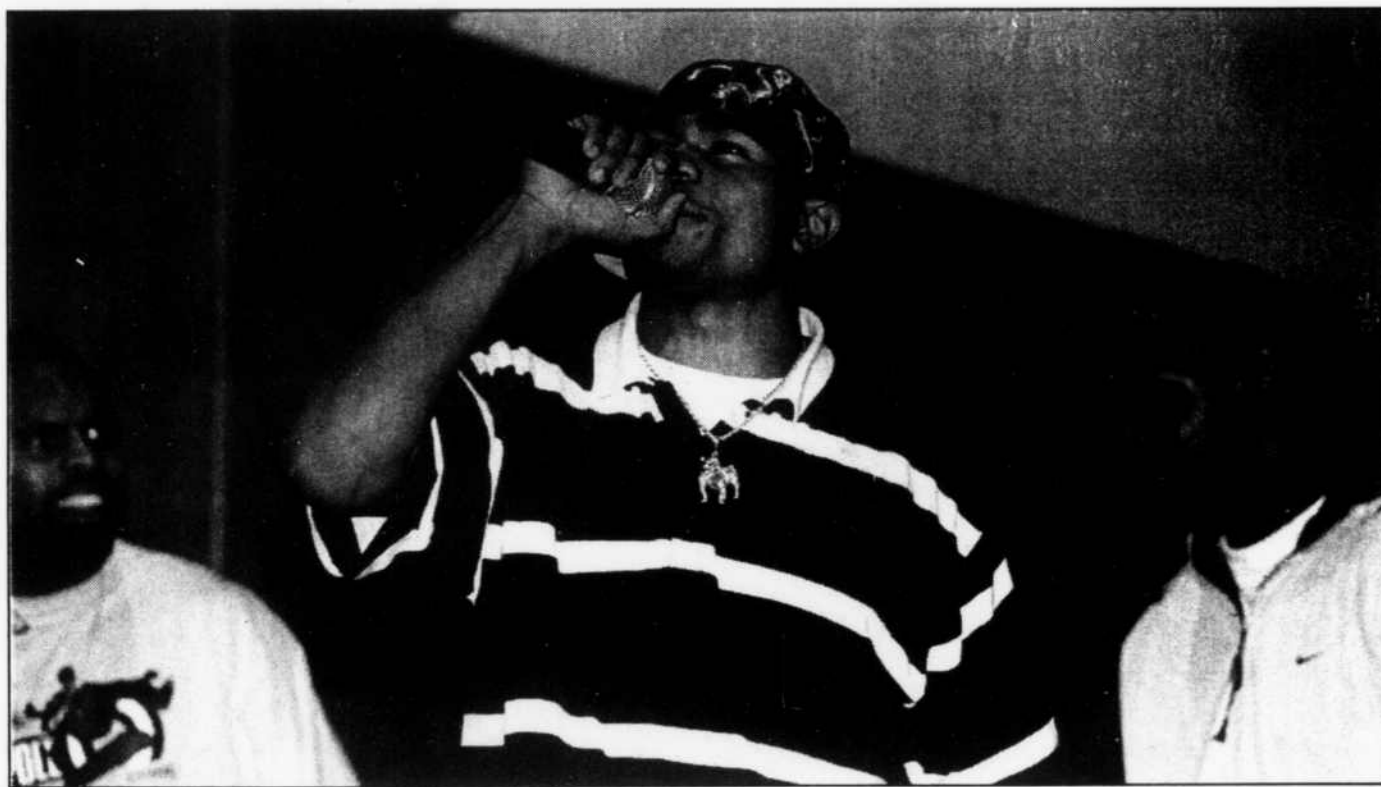
Versatile has my respect for speaking his mind for the name of art and progress.

Besides poetry, there were also several singers who graced us the their beautiful voices and the local Wu Tang-like rap group The Hillside Click gave us a huge dose of hip hop. They motivated the crowd with their catchy tune "What you Represent?" The crew would chant "What you represent? Hillside Hillside!" between verses. Although the large group barely had enough room on the stage, one group member informed me that the Hillside Click's roster of hip hoppers was much bigger.

"This isn't even half of us," he said.

The night was full of touching poetry that seemed to leave its mark on all of us. I believe we all gained a blessing of a little more power.

Afterwards, Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity and Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority held "An Alpha Affair," a party to benefit the United Negro College Fund. ■



Staff photo by Derrick "Private" Wilson

The Hillside Click entertain the audience with hardcore hip hop at the Hour of Power.

## Dorm room decor: go from drab to fab

Julie Hornsby  
Staff Reporter

Having trouble making that dorm room look less like a jail cell and more like a home? Here are a few things that will help humanize the dorm:

**1. Pictures of family and friends.** Nothing says home like...well, home. Put some pictures of family and friends on your desks, tables, and anywhere else you can think to put them. The more the merrier! Remember, don't hog all the space your roommate has family and friends, too!

**2. Plants.** You can't go wrong with plants. They're cheap and relatively easy to take care of. If you don't think you can keep a plant alive, try a cactus or two. Jazz up your window seal or desk with a plant and make the room look more alive.

**3. Colorful Curtains and bedspreads.** Take the bleak and make it neat with some color. Take your roomy out for a little shopping excursion and purchase a couple of colorful bedspreads and some bright, cheery curtains. Some suggestions: Check out the Martha Stewart

line at K-Mart. It's light and cheery, and inexpensive!

**4. A Rug or piece of carpet.** A rug or piece of carpet can help cover that harsh tile floor. Rugs can be inexpensive starting at around \$40.00. A small investment that can go a long way.

**5. Contact Paper.** The uses are endless. Use it on the inside of drawers or maybe even outside if you can find a favorite print. Put it in the closet on shelves or even on a desktop. Wherever you feel necessary.

**6. Knickknacks from home.** Use anything from home that makes you feel more comfortable. From stuffed animals to a favorite blanket, things from home are a warm addition to any dorm.

**7. Posters and/or Art prints.** Since you can't nail anything to the wall, buy some inexpensive posters or prints and tape 'em up. Put them anywhere you want to cover-up the unsightliness of harsh, white, cement walls. Art prints can be a very classy addition to any dorm and you can find them at any bookstore.

**8. Blankets and Throws.** Another

way to brighten a room is colorful blankets or throws. Hang them on the wall or put them across a chair or couch. Hanging them is an interesting option and can help break up the space.

**9. A Chair or Loveseat.** If it's an option, buy a chair or loveseat for the room. Again, it makes you feel more at home. If you can't afford something new, go by the Salvation Army. Sometimes you can find some good furniture at a really cheap price.

**10. Potpourri.** If you have a particular scent that reminds you of home, use it. If the dorm room smells good you'll be much more comfortable there. Remember no candles!

**11. Cork or dry-erase boards.** Hang a corkboard on the inside and/or outside of your door and tack some pictures of friends, inspirational quotes, or drawings on it. It makes coming "home" a little more pleasant. A dry-erase board is a great way to communicate with your roommate and neighbors. Tie a pen to the board and visitors can leave you messages.

One person suggested to me that stacking the desks on top of each other makes a good entertainment center, but



Staff photo by Amanda Virgillito

The eclectic collage of memorabilia helps make dorm feel almost like home.

that's only for the adventurous! Just think of your room back home and try to work with your roommate to recreate it. Anything personal can help boost dorm

room friendliness, but before making drastic changes, be sure to consult your roommate, she lives there, too. Good luck, and happy decorating! ■



# Not a nightmare, "In Dreams" awakens senses

Desson Howe  
The Washington Post

"In Dreams," Neil Jordan's surrealistic thriller, which stars Annette Bening in an exhausting, breakout performance, follows its genre requirements with such insulting woodenness, you know something else is going on. How could the maker of "Interview With the Vampire," "The Crying Game" and "Mona Lisa" display such robotic adherence to form without meaning to?

Methinks there is method to the madness, and quite possibly, madness behind that. The scenario is a throwaway structure - a child lost, a mother whose psychic abilities are used to track the killer, the grungy detective, the friendly psychiatrist, blah, blah, blah. But poke through the cavernous ribs of this formula and greater things are revealed.

Claire Cooper (Bening) has an idyllic New England life. She's married to a devoted husband, who flies 747s. She has a lovely daughter (Katie Sagona) who is excited about her coming role in the school play.

But Claire has been experiencing dreams and visions that connect her to traumatic events of the past and, tragically, the future. When she tries to convey these visionary warnings, she's treated with insensitivity by her husband and incredulosity by the local detective (Paul Guilfoyle).

Then, the unspeakable happens, the worst that can happen to a parent. The Coopers are devastated. Claire, with the help of the sensitive psychiatrist (Stephen Rea), finds herself linked even closer to the mysterious being that has caused her so much pain.

She also finds herself with disconcertingly easy access to three worlds. There is the "real" one in which everyone seems remote, helpless or vaguely suspect. There is the watery ghost town of Northfield, which was submerged to create a reservoir in the 1960s, but which still percolates with tortured memories for her adversary. And



Claire Cooper (Annette Bening) is a woman with a terrifying mind link with a madman who comes to her in her dreams.

there is the spiritual dimension where she can astrally visit the past, present and future.

As Claire, Bening plunges wholeheartedly into a whirlpool of madness, distress and clairvoyance. She leaves us unsettled rather than touched; we wonder whether she'll emerge sane or insane, defeated or triumphant. As her counterbalance, Robert Downey Jr. brings an extra eerie dimension to his performance born of his well-publicized struggles with addiction. But he more than admirably holds up his end of the movie's equation.

Jordan and his co-screenwriter, Bruce Robinson, have created an emotionally harrowing experience that seems equal parts artistic subversion, savage genius and sheer nastiness. And director of photography Darius

Khondji, who created stunning work in "Seven," "Delicatessen" and "The City of Lost Children," gives breathtaking form to that strange agenda.

Jordan is an odd, but hypnotic dreamer. He pulls us into a nasty nightmare, refusing to turn the lights back on when he's through. But then, this is a film about breaking through to the other side. Why should we, the audience, ever get back to Kansas?

Movies of the last 20 years (especially thrillers) have become so slickly routine, they have molded our sensibilities into a conventional, almost-crabby set of expectations. A shake-up like this can only be good for the system, ours and Hollywood's. If you're interested in the cinematic equivalent of white-water rafting, I say take the plunge. ■



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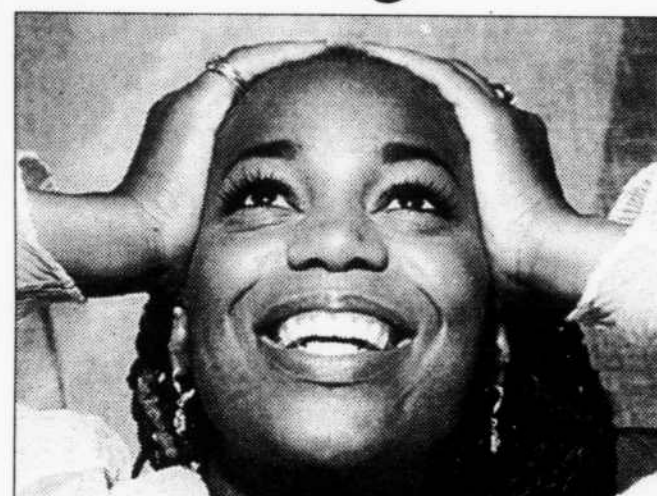
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# SPORTS

8 SIDELINES

Murfreesboro, TN

## Track teams collect four wins at meet

Staff Reports

The men's and women's track teams collected four wins Saturday over East Tennessee State, UT-Chattanooga, Western Kentucky and Vanderbilt in the final home indoor meet of the season.

On the men's side, Rob Jordan pulled a hat trick by finishing first in the long jump, triple jump and the 400

meters. Jordan also recorded personal bests in the long jump and the triple jump.

Also scoring first place finishes for the MTSU men were Carlos Clardy in the 55-meter hurdles, while Godfrey Herring sprinted to win in the 200 meters.

For the women's team, Naomi Anash shined for the Lady Raiders by winning the 200-meter sprint and the 400 meters. Stacy Acklin was strong

once again in the 55-meters as she came home first with a time of 7.14. Sabrina Smith rounded out Middle's perfect day with a win in the 800 meters in a season best time of 2:19.23.

The women's team scored a 50-47 win over ETSU, 52-46 over UTC and 56-21 over Vanderbilt. The men's scores were 61-51 against ETSU, 70-35 over UTC, and 76-7 versus the Commodores.

Middle Tennessee's next meet will be January 29-30 at the IKON Invitational in Johnson City, Tenn.

Ron Bramlett and Christian Nsiah made strides toward reaching the NCAA meets in March while competing in a separate meet at the Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, Colo.

Nsiah ran a 6.58 in the 60-meter preliminaries before pulling up with cramps in the finals. In the process,

Nsiah beat the defending NCAA champion from a year ago.

Coach Dean Hayes commented that "we sent those guys out there to get a chance to run in the high altitude."

Both performances should help the two track stars reach the NCAA Indoor Track and Field Championships to be held at the RCA Dome in Indianapolis, Ind., in March. ■

## Ali McGhee chases dreams on and off basketball court

Michael Barrett  
Staff Reporter

Ali McGhee for threeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeee!

If you have been to see the MTSU men's basketball team play lately, then you have heard that calling out from the voice of the arena public address announcer.

Senior lighting Ali McGhee has been lighting things up from behind the arc lately. He had a career high seven three-pointers against Austin Peay earlier this season.

McGhee transferred to MTSU from Wallace Community College in Alabama after graduating in December 1997. When asked what his greatest basketball memory is, he said, "Playing for the #1 team in the state (Alabama) and #10 junior college team in the country."

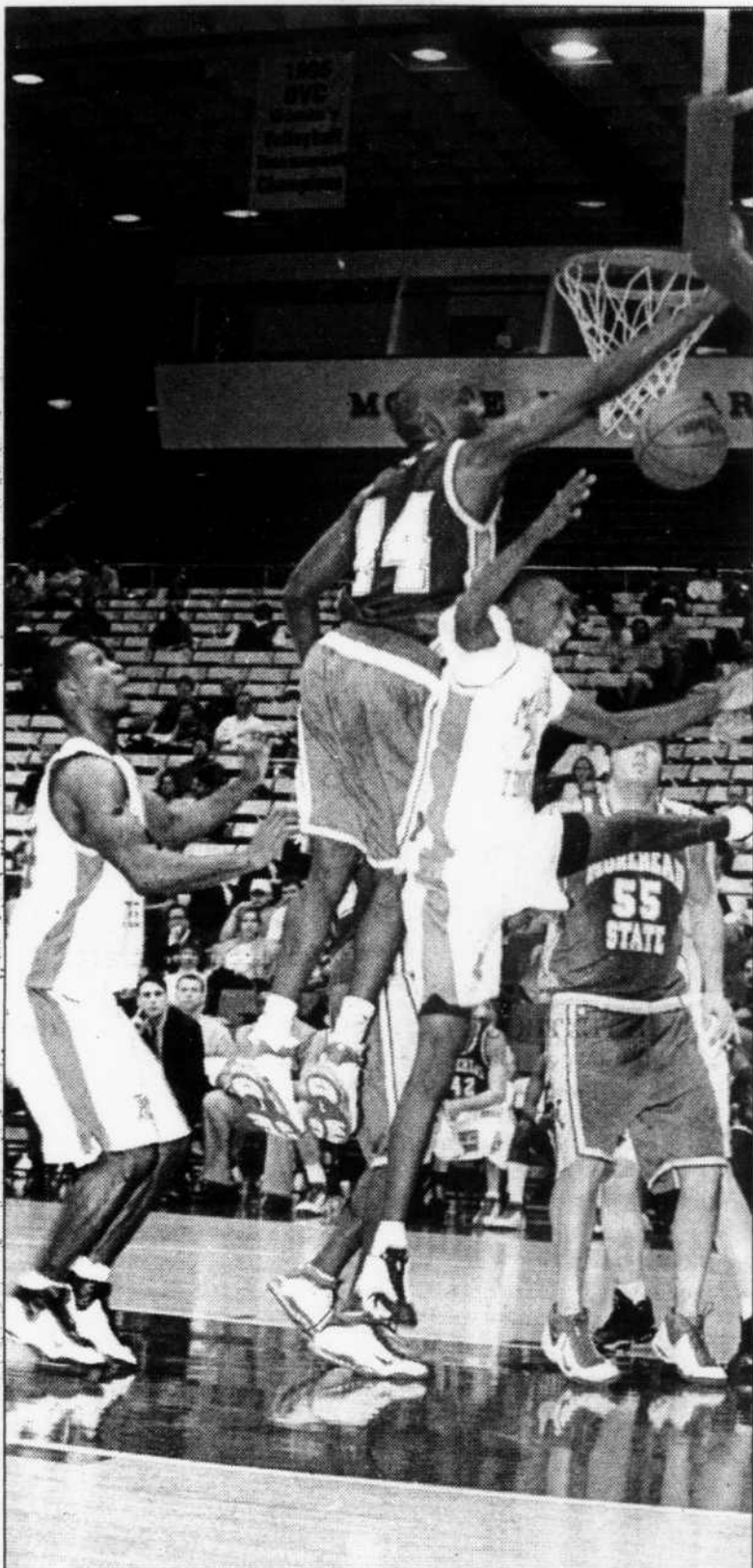
McGhee has played basketball all his life. Although he never played for his high school team, it did not stop him from chasing his basketball dreams.

His biggest inspiration to continue following his dreams came to him last summer when he had the chance to meet Chicago Bears running back Curtis Enis. McGhee says this meeting had a great influence on him.

"Mr. Enis told me to trust in God and to let Him do the rest."

McGhee is majoring in University Studies, but hopes when his playing days are over at MTSU, he will be able to continue to the next level.

He also plans to get married and take care of his daughter.



Ali McGhee, 24, used his blocking and shooting abilities to help the Blue Raiders topple Morehead State Thursday 75-62.

His advice to high school athletes is simply, "Do not give up on your dream. Have faith in God and you will accomplish anything you

choose." Ali McGhee is not only a fantastic athlete, but a great person both on the basketball court and the court of life. ■

Staff photo by Derrick Wilson

## OVC co-leader Martin comes to town Saturday

Josh Ezzell  
Staff Reporter

The Lady Raiders enter their upcoming contests against conference co-leader UT-Martin and sixth place Murray State with a four-game winning streak.

The Lady Skyhawks, who are in a three-way tie with the Lady Raiders for first place, handed the Lady Raiders their first conference loss in their previous meeting. In that contest, the Lady Raiders led at the half 34-33, but they fell

apart in the second half losing 90-70.

The Lady Skyhawks scored 57 points in the second half while shooting 56 percent from the field. Zabrina Harris did most of the damage with 28 points and 14 rebounds. Jamie Thomatis led the Lady Raiders with 17 points. This contest is winnable for the Lady Raiders if they play 40 minutes of tough basketball. If not, the Lady Raiders just might find themselves in second place.

On Saturday, the Lady Raiders will host the Murray State Lady Racers who are

currently in sixth place in the Ohio Valley Conference.

The Lady Raiders prevailed in their previous meeting; nevertheless, the Lady Racers should not be taken lightly. The Lady Raiders held the lead at halftime of their last meeting 35-34. If the Lady Raiders take Murray State lightly they might be trailing at the end of this contest.

The UT-Martin game is Thursday at 5:45 p.m. at the Murphy Center. The Murray State game is Saturday at 11:30 a.m. at the Murphy Center. ■

## MTSU men heat up, hope win streak carries into weekend

Michael Edwards  
Staff Reporter

The Blue Raiders are playing their best basketball of the season, and it could not come at a better time.

MTSU has won their last two games by decisive margins, rolling over Ohio Valley Conference opponents Morehead State and Eastern Kentucky allowing them to move into a tie for third place in the conference. They hope to continue their hot play against UT-Martin and Murray State this week at home.

The Blue Raiders' first

opponent is the SkyHawks of UT-Martin Thursday night. Martin is in a major slump, winning only 2 of their last 10 games. The SkyHawks are 2-6 in the OVC and 6-10 overall. They are next to last in the OVC standings. The Blue Raiders won the earlier season meeting on the road at Martin, 58-50.

MTSU will face the perennial OVC powerhouse in the form of the Murray State Racers this Saturday at the Murphy Center.

The Racers come into Murfreesboro with a full head of steam. They own the nation's longest home winning streak, now standing at 39 games, and

have won 22 straight over OVC opponents. They have not only been beating them, but beating them badly, with the average margin of victory a shade under 20 points.

Murray State sits atop the OVC standings with a record of 10-0 and 15-2 overall. The Racers defeated the Blue Raiders in their first match-up 84-74. This Saturday's showdown will be nationally televised at 3 p.m.

These next two games are of huge importance to the Blue Raiders. With wins in both games, they will put themselves in a great position for the OVC playoffs. ■

## Seles, Hingis win matches

MELBOURNE, Australia (AP)—Steffi Graf's nerves frazzled, Mary Pierce's shots misfired and the Australian Open's clashes of champions fizzled.

Monica Seles and Martina Hingis followed their game plans to perfection, both extending impressive Australian winning streaks as they advanced to a semifinal meeting.

In a match of two four-time champions, Seles pounded winners down the lines, retrieved some of Graf's best shots and won 7-5, 6-1 today. In 33 Australian Open matches, she has never lost.

Two-time defending champion Hingis won her 19th consecutive Australian Open match by outmaneuvering 1995 champion and 1997 runner-up Pierce 6-3,

6-4.

Thursday's other semifinal will be between No. 1 Lindsay Davenport, who won her first Grand Slam event last year at the U.S. Open, and France's Amelie Mauresmo, a former world junior champion who never before has advanced beyond the third round of a major.

See AUSTRALIA, page 10

## Super Bowl has rich history of memorable games

Michael Edwards  
Staff Reporter

Super Bowl XXXIII is just around the corner, and the game appears to have one of the best matchups ever. The Denver Broncos and the Atlanta Falcons will square off in Miami, Fla., Sunday for the football championship of the world.

Questions are sparked in my mind as to which is the greatest Super Bowl ever? Up until the first of January, I couldn't validly say which one was the best because I hadn't seen all of them. However, thanks to ESPN and its show, "NFL's Greatest Moments," I have seen all 32.

When I thought back, I came up with a few choices. I began with Super Bowl I. Of course, you have to mention it in a category for the most significant; however, it wasn't that

entertaining. In front of almost 62,000 people in the Memorial Coliseum, Green Bay won the game 35-10 over the Kansas City Chiefs.

The next good Super Bowl has to be Super Bowl III. The heavily favored Baltimore Colts came into the game looking to demolish the lowly New York Jets. The Jets and Joe Namath had other plans as Namath guaranteed victory before the game. Many times, a player will have a big statement but not be able to back it up on the field. However, Namath was 17-28 for 206 yards on the day. He was complemented by halfback Matt Snell who rushed for 131 yards. The Jets took a commanding 16-0 lead before Johnny Unitas broke into the endzone for what would be the Colts only touchdown of the day. The Jets won the game 16-7.

To find another outstanding game, you have to look two years later. The

### COMMENTARY

game was, of course, Super Bowl V. Held in front of almost 80,000 people in the Orange Bowl, the Cowboys and Tom Landry were taken to the wire by the same Colts that lost two years earlier. Dallas led the game until Rick Volk intercepted a Dallas Cowboy pass, which set up a Nowatzke run. That tied the game at 13 with time running out. The Dallas Cowboys again turned the ball over in the form of an interception. The turnover would be fatal. With five ticks left on the clock, Jim O'Brien kicked a 40-yard field goal that slit the throats of the Cowboys. Baltimore won 16-13.

Super Bowl XII was not necessarily the best Super Bowl ever, but it was one of the most significant. The Miami Dolphins finished the regular season with a perfect 14-0 record. The

first two rounds of the playoffs were no trouble. However, the Super Bowl was the game when all of the records are ruled useless and the men slug it out on the field. With Bob Griese at the quarterback slot and Larry Csonka as the bruising halfback, the Dolphins would not be denied that perfect record. The Dolphins went on to win the game 14-7, and their record moved to 17-0 on the season. To this day, no one has touched perfection quite like the '72 Dolphins did.

Now, to the more recent Super Bowls. I looked at all of the Super Bowls, and the next great game that I found was the Super Bowl in 1988. Super Bowl XXIII was the game that pitted the San Francisco 49ers against the Cincinnati Bengals. That's right, the Bengals. This is one of those games that I actually got to watch live.

The Bengals were led by Boomer Esiason and Ickey Woods. Woods was a one-year wonder. He had a fantastic year and invented his new endzone dance, the Ickey Shuffle, then he faded into the background. However, in this game he would play a big role. The 49ers and the Bengals were tied late in the game. With 3:20 to go, Jim Breech kicked a 40-yard field goal that put Cincinnati up by 3. However, standing on the other sideline was the greatest quarterback of all time, Joe Montana.

Montana engineered the single greatest Super Bowl drive that has ever taken place. Starting from his own 8-yard line, Montana marched down the field. After breaking off chunks of yards, Montana ran 10 plays and traveled 82 yards when he was stuck at the Cincinnati 10. After

See SUPER BOWL, page 10







## AUSTRALIAN

continued from page 8

On the men's side, 33rd-ranked Tommy Haas, a German who trains in the United States, advanced to the semifinals with a 7-6 (7-5), 7-5, 6-3 victory over American Vince Spadea, the conqueror of Andre Agassi.

In a semifinal matchup determined earlier, Sweden's Thomas Enqvist will take on 91st-ranked Nicolas Lapentti of Ecuador.

No. 6 Seles and No. 10 Graf started with a heavy-hitting replay of some of their six past Grand Slam tournament finals until Graf was serving for the first set at 5-4. Her serve broke down,

the rest of her game followed and Seles won eight games in a row before Graf's famed forehand helped her win one last game.

"I missed a couple of close first serves, and then a couple of double faults in between, and gave her so many chances with the second serves," Graf said. "I was thinking, 'What am I doing wrong?' and totally got lost in it."

Graf said she couldn't remember ever suffering such a lapse before.

"Obviously, I got tight and nervous, but I don't know why I couldn't change it around any more," said the 29-year-old holder of 21 Grand Slam tournament titles who missed much of 1997 and 1998 with injuries.

"I couldn't focus on the next point. I was just throwing the balls all over."

Seles is back after missing two Australian Opens for injuries and personal reasons. Her last Grand Slam tournament title was the 1996 Australian, which followed a 2 1/2-year absence from tennis while recovering from a stabbing at a tournament in Hamburg, Germany.

"I was just really proud of myself today. I just played my game the way I should have played all the years," said the 25-year-old two-fisted hitter who has added a one-hand forehand to her arsenal, widening her reach on the left-hand side. "I think it would help me tremendously, so I hope I'll be bold enough to just keep hitting them," she

said.

Seles said she had no special feeling about playing Graf, adding, "I really get a special feeling when I play any top players."

No. 2 Hingis said that against Seles, "You just have to keep her on the run and get a lot of balls back and ... be faster than her. She just goes for everything."

Against Pierce, "I was attacking her serve very well, and I hit some great returns down the line," Hingis said.

No. 7 Pierce stands wide of the center to serve, "so I had open lines and I went for them. That was very important because she was attacking my serve."

Pierce used her power to set up

some opportunities, but often missed or hit right to where Hingis was expecting the ball.

With a chance to break back to 2-2 in the second set, she hit a forehand long and then, after a good serve return put Hingis out of position, gave the 18-year-old Swiss player a ball she could lob back for a winner.

Hingis "really surprised me how she played today. She hit some amazing shots at times," Pierce said.

"I felt like I had a few chances. ... I was making a few too many unforced errors, and I missed a few easy shots."

Pierce also said an abdomen strain hindered her serving, and a cough and sore throat left her "a little winded and a little weak."

## SUPER BOWL

continued from page 8

calling a timeout, Joe came back to the line and called the play.

Everyone knew who was going to get the ball.

Everyone thought that Jerry

Rice would make the game winning reception, but just like in the 1981 NFC championship, Montana fooled everyone.

Joe dropped back and fired a bullet to John Taylor in the back of the endzone.

Taylor's catch put the 49ers in the lead for good. San

Francisco won the game 20-16 in front of 75,000 fans at Joe Robbie, currently Pro Player, Stadium.

There have been many more Super Bowls that have been worth watching; however, these are the ones that everyone will remember and talk about for

years to come.

So when I see the competition that has been mustered in the last few Super Bowls and the teams that are playing Sunday, I'd say the Super Bowl is back to being the single greatest sporting event in the world.■

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## Blue Raider Dining Presents PRE-SUPER BOWL XXXIII PARTY

January 28, 1999

4 p.m. to 7 p.m.

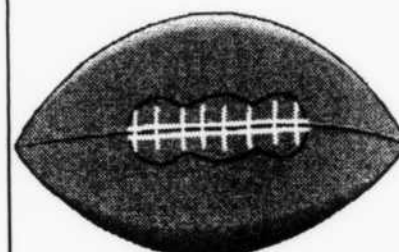
Corlew Dining Facility

\*\$5.65 plus tax for all cash customers

**GOOD FOOD, FUN GAMES, & GREAT PRIZES**  
Bar-B-Q Ribs, Wings, Sub Sandwiches, Ice Cream Bar,  
and much more!!



GAMES	TIME	PRIZES
Craziest Fan Contest	4-5 pm	\$50 Budget Card
"Pick the Score" Board	4-7 pm	Super Bowl XXXIII T-Shirt & Cup
Super Bowl Trivia *must register to participate	4-6 pm	NFL Monopoly Limited Edition Board Game
Pinata Smashing Contest *must register to participate	5-5:30 pm	Autographed footballs by new MTSU Head Football Coach: Coach McCollum
Paper Football Tournament *must register to participate	6-7 pm	1st prize: TN Nat'l. Championship Football Runner Up: Super Bowl XXXIII cap



\*All game participants must sign-up at **KUC ROOM 204** for the game they would like to play in by **WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 27, 1999 BY NOON.**

\*You can only register for one game.

\*Limited Participants: First Come, First Serve