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In love AND WAR



Two students prepare
for wedding, war

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newspaper

Middle Tennessee State University SIDELINES

MURFREESBORO,
TENNESSEE

Volume 78 No. 64

Campus Briefs

Delta Zeta Rock-a-Thon kicks off Thursday

Members of the Delta Zeta sorority will be holding their annual Rock-a-Thon from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. tomorrow. Members will be seated on the Keathley University Center Knoll in rocking chairs to take donations benefiting the MTSU Communication Disorders Clinic and Up 'Til Dawn.

MTSU to offer student health tests, screening

The MTSU School of Nursing, in conjunction with the Alvin C. York Veterans Affairs Medical Center will be offering prostate screenings for men, cancer screenings for women, blood chemistry tests and other screenings for both men and women tomorrow from 8 to 10 a.m.

Blood chemistry test and prostate screening fees are \$15 per person and the CA 125 cancer screening fee is \$25. Other tests are available at various prices, which can be e-mailed to anyone interested.

Other upcoming tests and screenings will be on March 6, April 3, May 1 and June 5. Fasting from midnight the day before is required to ensure accuracy.

Walk-ins are welcome, but appointments are preferred. To schedule an appointment or receive more information, contact Linda Lawrence, event organizer, at lawrence@mtsu.edu or by calling 898-5950.

Poets Protest War starting next week

Middle Tennessee activists and poets will participate in an International Day of Poetry Against the War on Feb. 12 at 11 a.m. at the KUC, Room 314. Students, faculty and community members are encouraged to listen and participate. This event is free and open to the public.

MTSU Martial Arts Club seeking students

The MTSU Martial Arts Club invites all students, faculty, staff and alumni to join them on Tuesdays and Thursdays at the Recreation Center's Aerobic Room from 8:30 to 11:30 p.m. for activities in martial arts training. For more information, visit their Web site at www.mtsu.edu/~mtsumac.

Keiko Nosaka plays 'Music from Japan'

The Keathley University Center Theater will be featuring internationally renowned Keiko Nosaka at 2 p.m. Feb. 16, sponsored by Music From Japan, an organization promoting Japanese music throughout the world. Nosaka will be playing the koto, an ancient Chinese instrument played with picks similar to those used by guitarists.

The concert is free and open to the public, but tickets are required due to limited space. For more information, contact Kiyoshi Kawahito, director of the Japan-U.S. Center, at 898-2229. ♦

Library trying out new spring hours

By David Sterle
Staff Writer

The James E. Walker Library will be staying open one hour later this semester on a trial basis.

Extended hours started Saturday, and the library will be open Sunday through Thursday until midnight.

"We will evaluate the extension at the end of the spring semester to see if we will continue it next fall," said Donald Craig, dean of the library.

Part of the supplemental funding of \$100,000 from President Sidney McPhee is supporting the trial extension.

A portion of the funding will go towards building up periodicals.

New Library Hours

Sunday - Thursday: 7:30 a.m.-midnight
Friday: 7:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m.
Saturday: 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

through Thursday.

The survey also concluded that students would like more materials, books and periodicals.

"With being an English minor and having to use the library to type papers, it will be nice to have the extra hour," said junior Katie Hendrix.

The extended hours have

also allowed the library to employ more students and part-time employees.

There will be lab assistants on the first floor for students who need help with computers.

The library also plans to stay open until 1 a.m. the last two weeks of the semester like it did last fall, Craig said. ♦

Students say, 'No blood for oil'



Photo by Chris Nichols | Photo Editor

MTSU students Anna Davis, left, and Chris Freeman, right, demonstrate their views on a war with Iraq yesterday.

Local Shell station site of protest

By Audie Sheridan and
Callie Elizabeth Butler
Staff Writer, Assistant News Editor

Protesters gathered yesterday amidst a chorus of sympathetic car horns to protest the pending war in Iraq.

Believing the motivation for war comes from a U.S. dependency on oil, participants lined the sidewalks on the Greenland Drive Shell station waving signs for the people driving by.

"This is part of an international day of

protest," said student event organizer Shannon Vick. "There are lot of groups all across the country doing this today."

About 15 people showed up to the protest, including mothers with baby strollers adorned in signs of protest.

Most of the crowd consisted of MTSU students possessing deeply felt opinions on the possibility of war and the importance of protest.

"[Political protest] let people know... that there are people out there who feel against the war and that they feel that way

strong enough to stand outside and hold a sign like an idiot," said student Anna Davis.

"The war is not all about liberating people, and I don't think they want us over there," Davis added. "We're alone in the U.N. and in our ideas. We're alone in going to war."

Joining MTSU students in the protest were members of the Nashville Peace and Justice Center and Middle Tennessee

See Protest, 2

Class urges children to know hometown

By Audrey Scruton
Contributor

Can you remember Elvis Presley's performance at Murchy Center in the 1970s, or General Douglas MacArthur's 1951 visit to Murfreesboro? As several students in Ronald Kates' Honors Interdisciplinary Seminar discovered, not many people on campus do.

If college students have difficulty remembering these events, even younger children surely do. With this thought in mind, Kates' class of 11 students began working with two classes at Pittard Campus School.

"We wanted to teach these kids to have a better appreciation for their hometown," Kates said.

Kates' class worked with both Cindy Cliche's first grade class and Jeff Duke's sixth grade class. MTSU students helped



Photo by Chris Nichols | Photo Editor

Assistant English professor Ron Kates sits and watches as Pittard Campus School celebrates its 74th birthday.

guide Cliche's first graders through the process of creating their own scrapbook of their school and community.

Several days in October and November were spent simply walking around the area while the children took pictures of what they felt was important.

"The different vantage points were interesting," Kates said. "It rained the first day we went out, so we had to stay inside. But when the weather cleared up a few days later, the sixth grade class took the first

grade class around with them, helping them with their collaboration. The two classes working together and teaching each other."

While the first grade was busy working on their scrapbook, Duke's 25 sixth grade students began a series of writing exercises concerning Murfreesboro history during the 1950s and the 1970s.

Kates' students assisted the

See Kates, 2

MTSU student gets a shot in Hollywood

Staff Reports

With her aunt and grandmother in the studio looking on, MTSU pre-med student Meosha Denton made her *American Idol* debut last night.

"I can't believe so many people are interested in me and want to see what I say," Denton, 20, said about the media coverage she's received since the show started. "It's cool."

On a new stage with no audience members to distract them, judge Paula Abdul told Denton, who sang "How Do I Live Without You," that she loved her voice tone.

Judges Randy Jackson and Simon Cowell, however, were less kind, asserting that she had a "so what" voice.

Cowell told Denton it was as if she had walked onto the stage a loser.

But the judges won't be the deciding factor in Denton's quest for stardom.

Viewers had the chance to vote for their favorite perform-



Denton

ers last night. The group of eight's results will be broadcast tonight at 7:30 p.m. on FOX.

Two contestants will make it to the next round.

"It's up to America," she said. Denton auditioned for the show in Nashville, Tenn., and made it, along with 31 other finalists.

According to the show's Web site, if Denton does not become the next *American Idol*, she plans on finishing school and becoming a trauma surgeon.

Denton's advice to other hopefuls is, "Be confident and don't let them see you sweat."

To find out more information about the show or Denton, visit www.idolnfox.com. ♦

Photo by Chris Nichols | Photo Editor
This wreath is a tribute to
the Columbia tragedy.

By Amanda Maynard
News Editor

Before the memorial at Johnson Space Center yesterday, MTSU was commemorating the loss of the space shuttle Columbia in its own way.

The Tennessee Center for the Advancement of Math, Science and Technology Education and the Center for Environmental Education collaborated to create a memorial wreath that now hangs on the door of the advancement center's Belle Air building office.

See Wreath, 2

CRIME LOG

Thursday, Jan. 23 – 6:11 p.m.
Medical emergency
Cummings Hall
 A male subject was having seizures. Ambulance service was notified.

Friday, Jan. 24 – 12:31 a.m.
Underage consumption
Scarlett Commons
 Leslie O'Bryan of Hendersonville, Tenn., was cited for consuming alcohol at an age under 21.

Saturday, Jan. 25 – 6:02 a.m.
Vandalism
Judd Hall
 Two residents came home to find that a rock had been thrown through their dorm window.

Sunday, Jan. 26 – 3:08 p.m.
Theft from vehicle
Health Services Lot
 A student reported that one tire from his truck had been removed and taken.

Sunday, Jan. 26 – 11:16 p.m.
Trespass warning
Corlew Hall
 Two individuals were escorted from campus for causing a nuisance in Corlew Hall.

Sunday, Jan. 26 – 11:37 p.m.
Communicating threats of suicide
Alumni Drive
 Officers responded to a fight call involving a firearm. Officers stopped a male subject and found a pellet gun in subject's possession. Subject made

threats of suicide during altercation. Subject was transported to emergency room.

Tuesday, Jan. 28 – 11:48 a.m.
Theft
Business Aerospace Building
 A cell phone was reported stolen.

Tuesday, Jan. 28 – 11:30 a.m.
Communicating threats of suicide
Scarlett Commons
 Student threatened suicide via telephone to Crisis Response. Crisis Response notified MTSU Public Safety. Housing, Public Safety and various school deans and counselors talked to subject. All was reported OK upon departure.

Tuesday, Jan. 28 – 7:57 p.m.
Disorderly conduct
Kirksey Old Main
 Male subject advised Public Safety that another male subject was stalking his ex-girlfriend.

Thurs. Jan. 30 – 3:54 p.m.
Arrest
Wright Music Building
 Clarence Taylor of Nashville was arrested and charged with one count burglary and two counts of theft. ♦

These entries were compiled from Public Safety's public media log. To report a crime call 898-2424.

Protest: Veterans join display

Continued from I

Veterans for Peace, along with other community members.

"I was drafted at the age of 19, and it was the students who led the fight [against war] back then," said Warren Duzak, a member of Veterans for Peace. "And that's why I'm here today."

Middle Tennessee Veterans for Peace is part of an international organization that has a membership of nearly 3,000 veterans who oppose war and want eliminate it as an instrument of public policy.

The Nashville Peace and Justice holds weekly rallies within the Middle Tennessee area that often attract up to 700 people. They joined yesterday's protest because of how important they think student involvement is.

"There is an awareness at MTSU. It's just a matter of organizing it," participant Susan McKay said.

"It's the oil, stupid," "Oil barons for Bush" and "U.S. oil addiction fuels war," were among the signs that drew a mixed response from the passing motorists.

Many drivers honked in approval in response to a sign that read, "Honk for peace," but the responses were not all positive. A teal Mustang stopped beside the protesters and proceeded to squeal his tires in protest, and another man leaned out of a truck and yelled out an expletive laced reference to hippies.

"We had enough people to make a statement," MTSU professor Michael Principe said. "And even people just honking their horns gets them involved." ♦

Kates: Honors interdisciplinary seminar project a success

Continued from I

class in researching events from these decades, such as General MacArthur coming to Murfreesboro and the Elvis concerts held at Murphy Center.

After finding information from the Internet, newspapers, photographs and personal interviews, the students wrote from different points of view.

"Some of my students wrote newspaper articles. Some wrote as students who were let out of school to attend the parade for General MacArthur. Some wrote as people who attended the Elvis concerts and actually got to go backstage," Duke said.

Kates' students proofread the children's work, offering helpful advice and constructive criticism. Duke praised the group and their effect on his class.

"My students learned the importance of writing and that writing can be fun and entertaining," Duke said. "I have noticed improvement in their writing since the project, and they seem to enjoy writing more, especially creative writing."

Cliche's students worked on a simpler writing project. MTSU students showed the first graders different pictures and asked them to create a story based on what they saw.

"We asked questions like: 'What's this person's name?' 'Are they married?' 'Where do they work,'" Kates explained. "It really helped them with their creative writing skills and got their imaginations flowing."

Both grades also participated in a language exercise in which Kates' students introduced the children to period "slang" terms, and then asked them to translate the phrases. This turned out to be a very humorous activity, Kates added.

"When one student was asked what he thought 'we danced until our dogs hurt' meant, he replied 'we danced until our kidneys failed,'" Kates said. "The kids laughed at the slang terms of yesteryear, but we had to remind them that in thirty years, people will be laughing at phrases like 'bling bling.'"

The activity proved to enhance the students' appreciation of language as well as history.

Although the original project was Kates' idea, his students worked hard to make the project their own.

"They added their own elements and opinions to it to make it a more personal project," he said.

"We brainstormed different activities prior to meeting with the teachers," senior Kristen

Long explained.

Kates' original project began as a way for students to appreciate their respective hometowns. Students unearthed historical information from hometown traditions and family folklore.

"It is a really valuable thing to do, getting students to realize how their hometown has shaped who they are," Kates said.

Some students created fictionalized accounts of historical happenings, while others created biographies and autobiographies. Many students are still continuing the work they started last semester.

In creating this project, Kates wanted to include many different aspects of education.

"It was an honors interdisciplinary seminar. There needed to be features of political science, English and others as well as the obvious historical perspective. It was really a synthesis of education," Kates said.

John Montgomery, dean of MTSU's Honors College, commended Kates' and his students for their work.

"Being involved in such a service learning project such as this causes students to be involved with the community itself. They are able to serve as a bridge from the classroom to the community," Montgomery

said.

Campus School celebrates its 75th anniversary one year from now, and a kick-off celebration is planned for Tuesday at 10 a.m.

Kates' students have helped with this celebration as well, encouraging alumni to return and tell their stories.

"We want to get people excited about their heritage so that they'll attend the kick-off," Kates said.

President Sidney McPhee and Campus School alumna Andy Adams, who is also head of NHC Healthcare in Hendersonville, are two people expected to attend.

Kates emphasized the overall purpose of the celebration, which is to increase community awareness of heritage.

"The more people that attend, the more memories there are to be shared."

"We want people to attend for themselves, not simply because of the famous alumni slated to be there," Kates said. "It's all about preserving our history and getting the kids excited about their heritage. We want to strengthen the bonds between MTSU, Campus School and the Murfreesboro community." ♦

Wreath: Secretaries compelled to share NASA's grief

Continued from I

The wreath was the brainchild of the advancement center secretaries Judy Carter and Karen Hargrove in hopes of commemorating NASA and the seven astronauts who lost their lives Feb. 1 when the shuttle disintegrated 39 miles over Texas.

Environmental education center staff members Pandy English and Renee Dunn, along with Carter and Hargrove, made the wreath, which is adorned with red and white ribbons and a U.S. flag.

A picture of the seven crew members lost in the crash was provided by Carter after searching through some material at the NASA education center. She found the picture tucked away among other material and was astonished.

"It was a shock when I came across it, and my feelings kind of overcame me," Carter said.

After Carter found the photo, Hargrove was compelled to create the wreath from material around her office, and the project was completed within fifteen minutes.

"I shared it with everybody. Karen and I were talking and she came together with the material in her office," Carter said. "She and other ladies made the wreath with the picture."

MTSU's connection to NASA includes a three-year \$525,000 grant that started the advancement center, which comes up for renewal in two years.

"Since we are affiliated with NASA, we feel like we are part of that group," Carter said.

The center's first mission is

to enhance the quality of mathematics, sciences and education at all levels in Tennessee.

"The wreath was a gesture of concern for the families and NASA in general," Ray Phillips,

director of the Center for Advancement of Math, Science and Technology Education, said. ♦



Signs of Love For Your Valentine

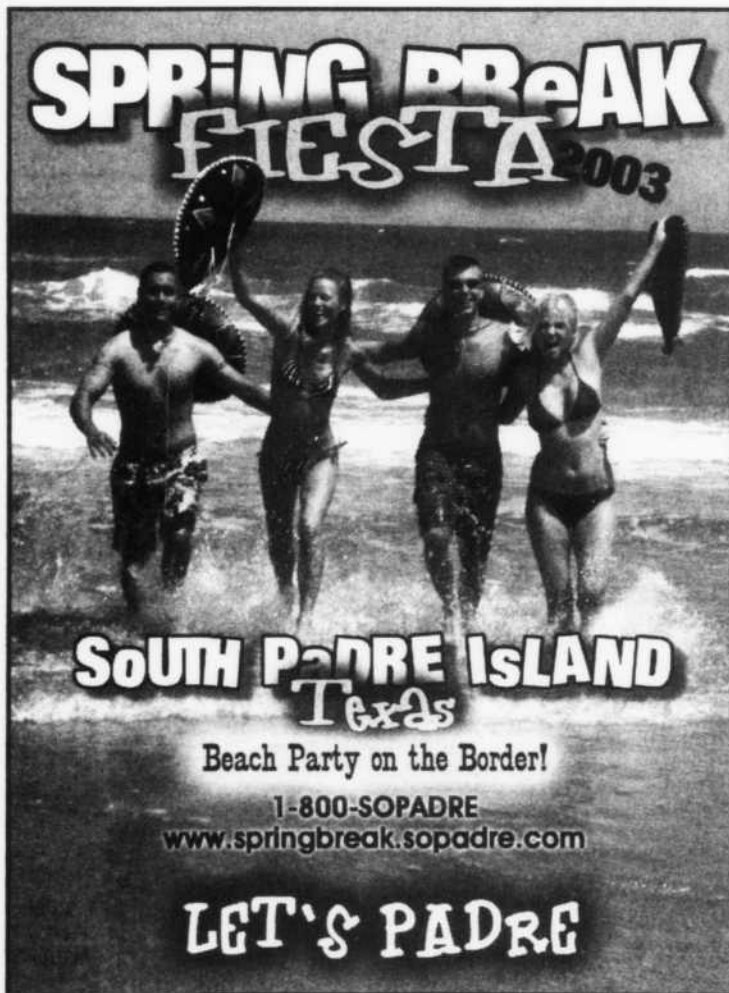
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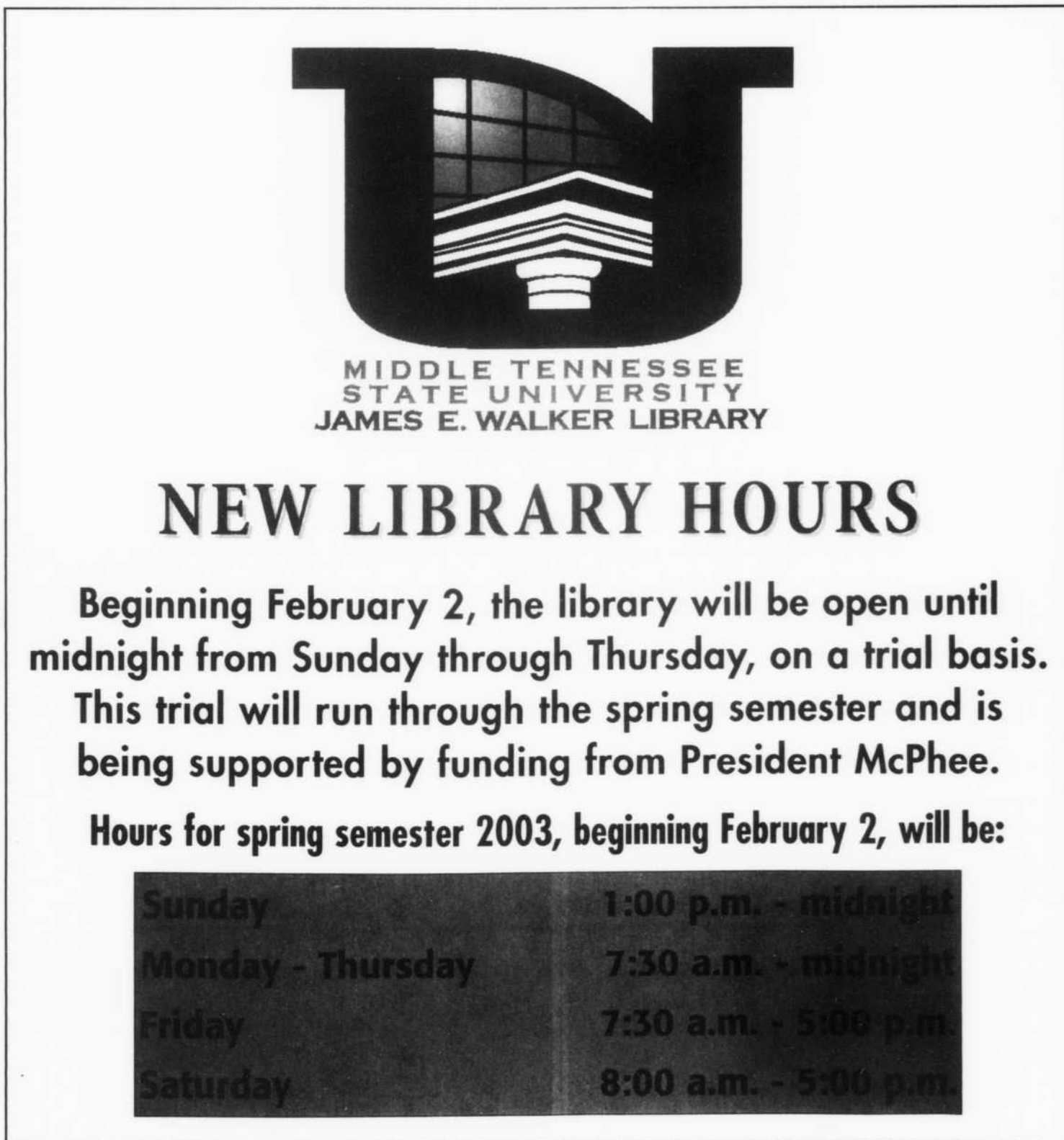
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NEW LIBRARY HOURS

Beginning February 2, the library will be open until midnight from Sunday through Thursday, on a trial basis. This trial will run through the spring semester and is being supported by funding from President McPhee.

Hours for spring semester 2003, beginning February 2, will be:

Sunday	1:00 p.m. - midnight
Monday - Thursday	7:30 a.m. - midnight
Friday	7:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Saturday	8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

OPINIONS

3 ♦ SIDELINES

Wednesday, February 5, 2003

Murfreesboro, Tenn.

From the Editorial Board

Low game attendance means no I-A status

T-minus one year, five months and 26 days. That's how long the Middle Tennessee athletic department has to shape up the program to I-A standards.

The NCAA has set up new guidelines that govern what defines a Division I-A school. MT is dangerously close to losing its I-A status, which would cost the school more than just bragging rights.

The new requirements for Division I-A status ask that each school have at least 16 collegiate teams, 200 full scholarships for athletes, five football home games and an average football attendance of 15,000 over three years. So far, the university offers 17 sports, 201 athletic scholarships, four upcoming Division I-A home football games and an average of 13,728 fans per game.

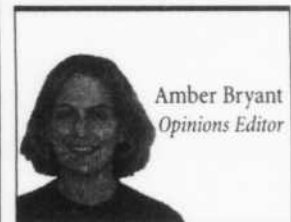
That means that, with the exception of the upcoming schedule, the athletic department has done its part to keep the I-A status of the school. While getting another I-A school to play here at Floyd Stadium shouldn't be too hard, the department needs to try to get better schools than North Texas and Temple University to play in Murfreesboro.

That leaves one glaring factor: fan attendance. Anyone who has ever gone to an MT football game knows that they can come 10, 20, even 30 minutes late to a game and still find plenty of seating practically anywhere in the stadium.

Sports fans in the Murfreesboro area need to stop taking their local team for granted. The Blue Raiders may not be at Bowl Championship level yet, and odds are they won't be for a long, long time. That doesn't mean football games here are a waste of time. It's always fun to come out and cheer the home team on. The more people who come to games, the more fun the games are. ♦

From the Opinions Editor

Mental illness valid issue, deserves social attention



Amber Bryant
Opinions Editor

Do you find yourself consumed by irrational thoughts or compulsions, you freak? Yeah, me too.

According to ABC News, you aren't alone. More than 3 million adults and 1 million children suffer from Obsessive Compulsive Disorder, a possibly hereditary mental illness believed to stem from a chemical imbalance in the brain, much like depression and acute anxiety.

Most people associate the disease with cute, almost unrealistic television personalities, such as Jack Nicholson's character, the lovable Melvin Udall, in *As Good As It Gets*, or Marc Summers of *Double Dare* fame – both wash their hands and straighten the fringe on rugs compulsively. However, as any sufferer knows, symptoms aren't so cut and dry. Research yields that each sufferer is different – some wash, some lock and re-lock doors and some have the same song repeating over and over in their heads for years. As a lifelong sufferer, I rarely mani-

fest my obsessions in physical activity. From childhood until high school, my anguish involved constant intrusive thought processes and remained entirely mental.

Unfortunately, the ignorant and uneducated always prevail. Once you've revealed your ailment, they ask questions like, "Does this bother you?" while simultaneously messing up a nearby stack of magazines, as if you were an experiment. OCD is just as notable as heart disease and cancer, only taken less seriously. The symptoms are enough to mentally exhaust a person to the point where suicide seems the only answer, so it can be deadly if left untreated. Therefore, it's a killer, albeit a silent and more abstract one.

Fortunately, many news sources are attempting to shed more light on mental disorders and educate the public on the severity of the issue. Until the limited medical research dedicated to mental illness produces a more effective solution than the oh-so-unhealthy Prozac pill, at least the Prozac has a chance to help by recognizing the issue, instead of just dismissing it as an intangible ailment invented for their amusement. ♦

Step back and examine views



Filler

Brandon Morrison
Staff Columnist

Just in case anyone wanted to know, the Catholic Church does not think that the *Harry Potter* book series is satanic.

During a press conference Monday, officials were asked about their feelings on the glamorization of magic and the occult in the popular books.

"I don't think there's anyone in this room who grew up without fairies, magic and angels in their imaginary world," the Rev.

Don Peter Fleetwood, one of the authors of the New Age release, said to reporters. "They aren't serving as a banner for an anti-Christian ideology."

The question about *Harry Potter* was brought up during a press conference about their newest public release, *Jesus Christ: The Bearer of the Water of Life – A Christian reflection on the New Age*. The document explores many aspects of New Age concepts including healing crystals, yoga and feng shui.

The report breaks down and contrasts the major differences between New Age and Catholic beliefs. It denounces almost every aspect of the New Age movement, which isn't

exactly a big surprise, since the report came from the heads of the Catholic Church. The report refers to feng shui as an "occult" practice with a focus on "being in tune with nature or the cosmos."

What is particularly surprising about the report is how it doesn't immediately dismiss everything related to New Age-ism. Monsignor Michael Fitzgerald, president of the Pontifical Council for Interreligious Dialogue, spoke of news conference aspects of New Age-ism, such as the emphasis on protecting the environment were viewed positively by the church.

The Catholic Church has faced some hard times recently with their appar-

ent hesitance to deal with their pedophile priests. The church seems to be trying to reach out and recover some of their respectability. The fact that the church has spent six years investigating many different aspects of New Age beliefs instead of immediately knocking everything related to New Age beliefs is a step up for the church. It's great to see the church actually look into an alternate belief instead of just focusing on itself.

Who knew that the Catholic Church could be a good example? We should follow their lead when dealing with beliefs other than our own. Instead of arguing against someone blindly, we

should examine their viewpoint a little to learn where they are coming from.

You might find out they're crazier than they appear, but you might also discover a better way to look at life through their eyes.

Whether the argument is about Buddha, Mohammed, Jesus, war, peace, aliens or complete nonsense, it can't hurt to switch sides for a minute just to see how they think.

Through their view, you might learn a little more about yourself. ♦

Brandon Morrison is a sophomore media design major and can be reached via e-mail at bjm2k@mtsu.edu.

Forget obesity, heart disease; must ... eat ... McDonald's



Thoughts While Driving
Gary Morrison
Staff Columnist

A recent CNN Web site headline reads as follows: "A federal judge dismissed a lawsuit Wednesday that alleged food from McDonald's restaurants is responsible for making people obese."

Thank goodness. But does the fact that such an issue actually needed a federal ruling point to the latest sign that the apocalypse is upon us?

When I first heard that McDonald's was being sued for causing the obesity of two teenage Bronx girls, I wasn't surprised. After all, our society has become so litigious that one can sue over any little thing – and often win big money. But since the case actually held enough water to require a federal ruling, I began to get worried. After all, if we're allowed to blame someone else for everything we do, where does the ultimate responsibility lie?

In this case, the girls' parents claim that responsibility lies with McDonald's. Judge Robert Sweet disagreed, saying, "Where should the line be drawn between an individual's own responsibility to take care of herself and society's responsibility to ensure others shield her? The complaint fails to allege the McDonald's products consumed by the plaintiffs were dangerous in any way other than that which was open and obvious to a reasonable consumer."

Amen, brother.

Obesity wasn't the only result of McDonald's food, according to the plaintiffs. Heart disease, diabetes, high blood pres-

sure and elevated cholesterol were also attributed to McDonald's fare.

Now, let me ask a question: Didn't these people see it coming? For crying out loud, you don't just wake up one day, look in the mirror and say, "Damn, what happened here?"

Weight gain is usually obvious, at least to the person gaining it. I don't know what the girls weighed before they started eating McDonald's food, but you'd think that they would've noticed some changes in their appearance.

Likewise, health problems such as diabetes and high blood pressure often include noticeable physical symptoms that might lead to a visit to a health care professional (for a reasonable person).

So, let's take a closer look at this situation. Obviously, the girls accumulated their perceived problems over a period of years, and during the bulk of those years, they were minors (one still is). What do the parents have to say? The father of the oldest girl claims that he always thought McDonald's food was healthy. There you have it; you can't argue with that logic. As long as he had considered the idea of whether or not the food in question was healthy, no blame can be put on the father, right?

What about the lawyer representing the plaintiffs?

He called McDonald's food "physically or psychologically addictive." I can definitely believe that. How many times have we all craved McDonald's french fries?

In a way, it's too bad the case lost, or perhaps we all could've been part of what would have no doubt been the largest class action suit in history. But the lawyer was actual-

ly onto something with a later statement blaming McDonald's billion-dollar advertising campaign: "Young individuals are not in a position to make a choice after the onslaught of advertising and promotions."

Now we're getting somewhere.

I've personally been down on marketing for a long time. The public is constantly bombarded with unsolicited advertisements for new cars, soap and, yes, even fast food. I count myself as one of the few that can resist such temptations and not buy a new car every week, change soap every day or eat fast food at every meal.

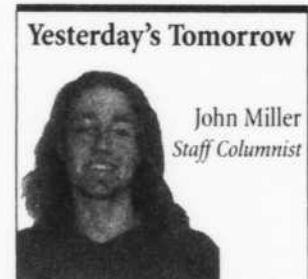
But it's difficult. If you combine McDonald's advertising with its alleged "physically or psychologically addictive" food, it's a miracle that everyone in the United States isn't suffering from obesity, heart disease, diabetes and high blood pressure.

This case is just the latest in a number of ridiculous high-profile lawsuits.

The cigarette companies lost out to the smokers, gun makers are blamed for murders and now McDonald's is blamed for obesity. If the next round of lawsuits aren't out yet, how about these suggestions: Let's sue the automakers for your car accident (it's the car's fault I can't drive), the breweries for your drunkenness (no one can have just one) and MTSU for not making you smart enough to know the difference between healthy food and McDonald's hamburgers. ♦

Gary Morrison is a graduate student in English and can be reached via e-mail at gwm2c@mtsu.edu.

Dreams of King's



John Miller
Staff Columnist

the people of the world are different based on appearance, culture and many other divisions.

However, in the end, don't all people have the same fundamental needs, desires and dreams?

To deny someone the opportunity to pursue the life of their choice based upon race, religion, sex, sexual orientation or any other difference is to go against the very ideals this country was founded upon.

It's true that, when this country was established, the majority of the laws were written to protect white, landowning males. However, over the past 200-plus years, the United States has made amazing progress toward equality on all fronts.

Have we as a nation eradicated racism and the many prejudices we have faced in the past?

No. Nevertheless, tomorrow is a new day. If you look at what the country was like just 50 years ago, no one can deny the progress we've made.

Hatred and prejudice is learned. If you take a group of 3-year-olds from all different races, religions, cultures and place them together in a room filled with toys, guess what?

Everyone plays together.

It isn't until we have learned prejudices from home, television or society that we begin to view others as different.

As I watched the documentary, I began to reflect on what I did on Martin Luther King Jr. Day. I did one of my favorite things – play basketball. I played with people of different races and had no idea what religion they were, or any other category that we separate ourselves and others into.

On the court, we were all the same – just human beings.

Have we lived up to King's dream? I would have to say we are not there yet, but we are well on our way. ♦

John Miller is a senior pre-law major and can be reached via e-mail at jcm2r@mtsu.edu.

E-mail us. We're lonely.
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Sidelines is the editorially independent, non-profit student-produced newspaper of Middle Tennessee State University. Sidelines publishes Monday, Wednesday and Thursday during the fall and spring semesters and Wednesday during June and July. The opinions expressed herein are those of the individual writers and not necessarily of Sidelines or MTSU.

Letters Policy

Sidelines welcomes letters to the editor from all readers. Please e-mail letters to slopinio@mtsu.edu, and include your name and a phone number for verification. Sidelines will not publish anonymous letters. We reserve the right to edit for grammar, length and content.

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BLACK HISTORY MONTH

4 ♦ SIDELINES

Wednesday, February 5, 2003

Murfreesboro, Tenn.

Calendar of Events

February 2003

All month "From African Warriors to Civil War Heroes"

Exhibit explores African-American history from Africa to America. Bradley Academy Museum and Cultural Center.

Feb. 5 2 p.m. "Fragments: Collages and Paintings"

Slide presentation and workshop by artist Jefferson Pinder in McWherter Learning Resources Center, Room 221. Free and open to the public.

Feb. 6 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. "Honoring Unsung Community Heroes - Unity Luncheon"

James Union Building, Tennessee Room. By reservation only.

Feb. 11 3 p.m. Seigenthaler Lecture Series

Bob Herbert from the *New York Times* will present a free lecture in the Business and Aerospace Building's State Farm Lecture Hall. Free and open to the public.

Feb. 13 7 p.m. "An Afrocentric Spirituality in the Midst of a Eurocentric Reality: How Afrocentric Spiritual Thought Can Empower the Black Community"

The Rev. Charles Woolery from Wesley Academy United Methodist Church in Harvey, Ill., will present a lecture and workshop in the Business

and Aerospace Building, Room S128. Free and open to the public.

Feb. 14 7 p.m. A Night of Smooth, Soulful Jazz

Marcus Sticks Finney, Todd Johnson and others will perform in the Wright Music Building Music Hall. Admission is \$2.

Feb. 21 and 22 Project Save-a-Student Conference

Sheraton Hotel, Nashville. For tickets and information, contact Office of Multicultural Affairs at 898-2987.

Feb. 24 7 p.m. "The Souls of Black Folks in 2003"

Francis Dorsey will speak in the Keathley University Center Theater.

Feb. 27 1 p.m. Graduate School Awareness

Information regarding graduate school requirements, exams and dates will be available in the KUC, Room 322. Workshop leaders Lukwon McClellan and Scott English, second-year medical students at Meharry Medical School, will help interested students refine their interests in medical school, law school or other graduate programs.

Feb. 27 7 p.m. Alumni Achievement Reception

Alumni Center

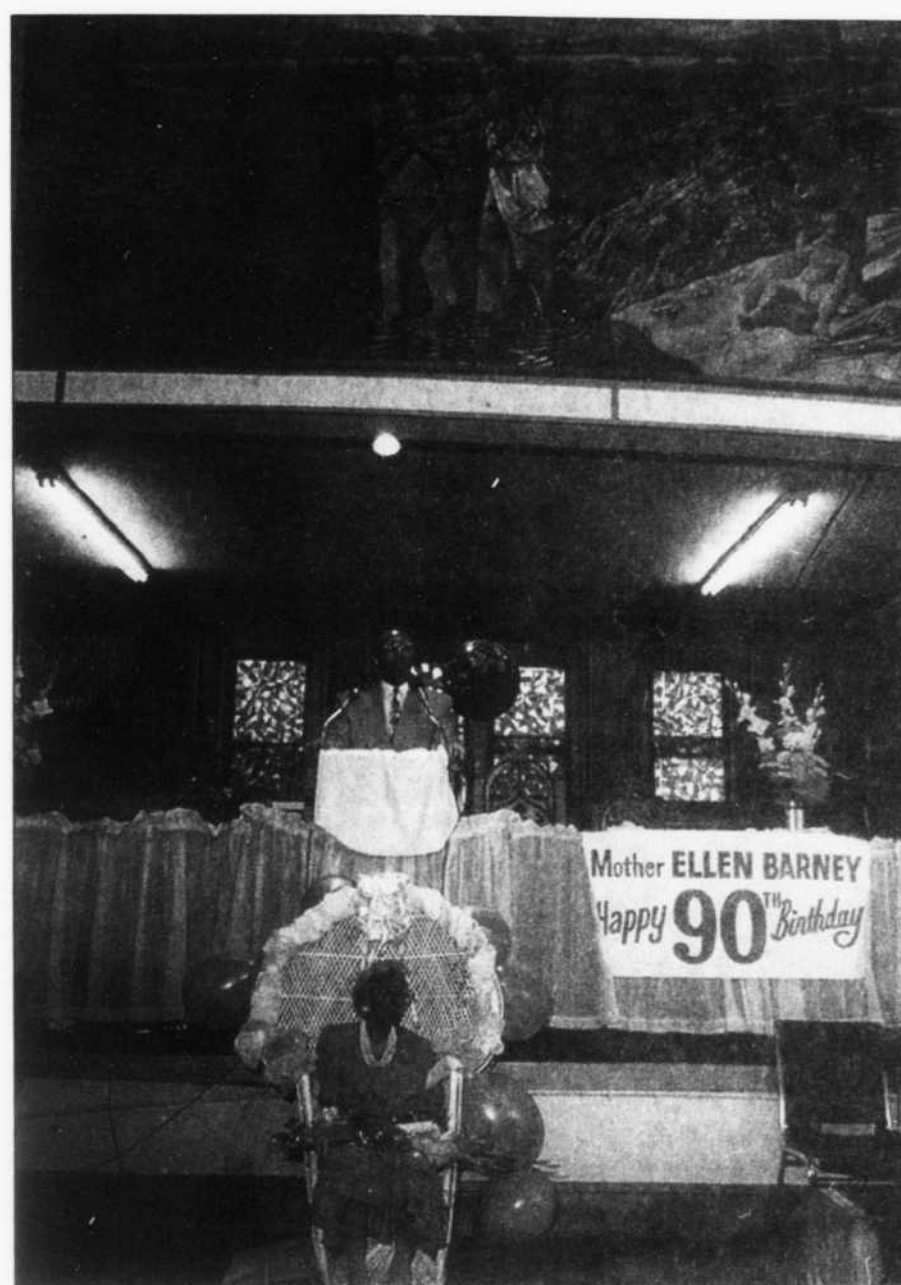


Photo courtesy of Arlene Gottfried

Photographer Arlene Gottfried documented Ellen Barney's 90th Birthday. Many of Gottfried's images are on display in the LRC.

Feb. 27-March 1 7 p.m. "A Woman Called Truth"

A drama about Sojourner Truth presented by MTSU students will be performed in Tucker Theatre. Students are admitted free with ID; others may purchase tickets for \$10 by calling 898-2640.

March 1 Porgy and Bess, African-American classical opera

Tennessee Performing Arts Center, Nashville

Bus leaves at 11 a.m.; lecture about the opera starts at 1 p.m.; performance is at 2 p.m. \$10 refundable deposit required. For information, call Dina Cancryn at 898-4556.

March 3 7 p.m. Gospel Extravaganza

Program will highlight a major part of black heritage and culture known as gospel music. Performers from the area will participate, including MTSU's Gospel Ensemble. Featured group will be Bethune-Cookman College Gospel Chorale in the Wright Music Building Music Hall. Free and open to the public.

March 5 2:30-5:30 p.m. "Pedagogical Changes for the 21st Century"

Faculty Enrichment Workshop
Craig Nelson, professor of biology from Indiana University, will present the workshop in the Business and Aerospace Building, Room S128.

March 17 8 p.m. Imani Wind, Woodwind Ensemble

Wright Music Building, Music Hall. Free and open to the public.

March 18 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Master class by Imani Wind.

For more information, call Dina Cancryn at 898-4556.

March 20 4 p.m. Pleas Award Reception

MTSU Foundation House. Reservations required. Contact Al Carter at 898-2098 for more information. ♦

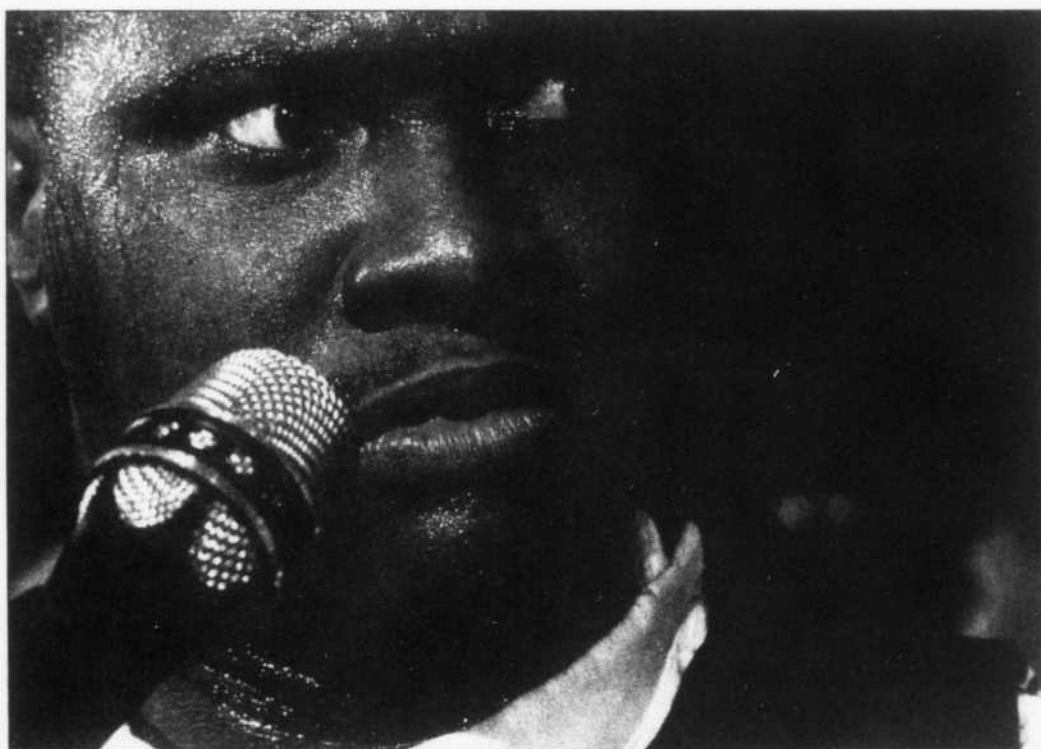


Photo courtesy Arlene Gottfried

Selwyn Rawls was another subject of photographer Arlene Gottfried, whose images are on display at the Baldwin Gallery in the Learning Resources Center.

Dubois' life full of research, activism

By Wendy Caldwell
Staff Writer

Black History Month 2003 is all about soul - a concept analyzed by writer W.E.B. DuBois in his 1903 book, *The Souls of Black Folk*.

In the book, DuBois tries to pinpoint what exactly separates the races. He remains optimistic, however, that racial prejudice can be lessened throughout the world by understanding.

To celebrate the 100th anniversary of the book's publication, Black History Month's theme is "The Souls of Black Folk."

Born in Great Barrington, Mass., on Feb. 23, 1868, William Edward Burghardt DuBois became one of the most influential activists in history.

W.E.B. DuBois was an intellectually gifted boy who was always willing to play an active

role in society. When he was 15 years old, he became a local correspondent for the *New York Globe*. His accomplishments became only greater.

Following his high school graduation, DuBois studied in Nashville, Tenn., at what is now known as Fisk University. He continued his education at Harvard University. During the course of his studies at Harvard, he was given the opportunity to study at the University of Berlin in Germany. He studied in Germany for two years before returning to Harvard to become the first black man to earn a Ph.D. from that institution in 1896.

DuBois began a career in teaching at Wilberforce University in Ohio. Following that, he was offered a special fellowship at the University of Pennsylvania, where he did extensive research on racial issues.

Upon completing his research, DuBois resumed teaching in Georgia at the University of Atlanta, where he established the first department of sociology.

In addition to teaching, DuBois was an important activist. DuBois aided in the founding of both the Niagara Movement and the National Advancement of Colored People. He also wrote several notable works on his findings during his race research in the United States and in Africa.

Among these works are *The Negro* (1915), *Darkwater: Voices from Within the Veil* (1920), *Black Reconstruction in America* (1934), *Black Folk in America: Then and Now* (1939), and *Dusk of Dawn: An Autobiography of a Concept of Race* (1940), *Color and Democracy: Colonies and Peace* (1945), and *The World and Africa* (1947).

DuBois participated in the fifth Pan-African Conference, the members of which elected him International President. He also served as chairman of the Peace Information Center.

It was his involvement in this organization, in addition to his membership in the American Labor Party, which caused the U.S. government to question his actions. When he urged that atomic weapons not be used, he was asked to register as a foreign agent. His refusal to do so led to an indictment under the Foreign Agents Registration Act. Though he was acquitted, the damage was done.

DuBois, alienated in his own country, accepted Ghanaian President Kwame Nkrumah's offer to direct the *Encyclopedia Africana*. He became a citizen of Ghana and member of the Communist Party until his death on Aug. 27, 1963. ♦



Photo acquired

"The Souls of Black Folk" by W.E.B. DuBois is the inspiration for Black History Month's theme this year.

Soul, spirit on display

File photo

This print is part of photographer Arlene Gottfried's book *The Eternal Light*. Many of Gottfried's photographs are on display in the Baldwin Photographic Gallery in the Learning Resources Center. The exhibition, which focuses on the spirituality of individuals, ends Feb. 27.



'Revolution' revolutionary

By Leonard Robinson
Special to Sidelines

Long before Public Enemy's *Fear of a Black Planet* and Boogie Down productions made *By All Means Necessary*, there was Gil Scott-Heron.

His ideas and influences are in the style of hip-hop artists such as Outkast, Tupac, Talib Kweli, Nas and many others. One of his most well-known albums is the compilation, *The Revolution Will Not Be Televised*. This album pulls together songs from his first three albums: *125th and Lenox*, *Free Will* and *Pieces of a Man* — all published in the turbulent times of the early 1970s.

Before anyone attempts to digest his music, he or she must realize Scott-Heron doesn't have the voice of Marvin Gaye or Donny Hathaway. Instead, his vocals stand alone with sincerity to capture his listeners and convey his message.

The first song is the title track of the compilation and is Scott-Heron's most famous song. The thunder in his message is at its highest decibels when he speaks certain parts of the song.

"Green Acres, The Beverly Hillbillies and Hooterville Junction will no longer be so damned relevant, and women will not care if Dick finally gets down with Jane on 'Search for Tomorrow,' because black people will be in the street looking for a brighter day."

Scott-Heron pays tribute to his favorite past jazz icons in the song "Lady Day and John Coltrane." The mellow beat complements his voice as he sings an ode to the musical greats and their ability to "wash your troubles away" when you listen to their music.

"Pieces of a Man," "Did You Hear What They Said," "A Sign of the Times" and "The Prisoner" are personal accounts in which Scott-Heron lets his soul cry.

In "Home Is Where The



Photo acquired

Gil Scott-Heron helped usher in a musical revolution with *The Revolution Will Not Be Televised*.

Hatred Is," Scott-Heron gives a first-hand account of the eyes of usage. He sings from the drug of a strung-out junkie and delivers the pain and anguish that one goes through trying to quit drugs.

"Home is where I live inside of my white powder dreams. Home was once an empty vacuum that is filled now with my silent screams. Home is where the needle marks tried to heal my broken heart."

During these songs you will find Scott-Heron in a state of vulnerability. His voice drips with sentiment over laid-back, somber beats that are dominated by the soft sounds of a piano and flute.

"The Revolution Will Not Be Televised" isn't dominated solely by poeems, introspective tracks. Poems such as "Brother," "Sex Education-Ghetto Style," "No Knock" and "Whitey On The Moon" are interludes between the tracks.

This album is an introductory course in the lessons of life with Scott-Heron as the instructor.

And if you would like to continue to study with him, check out *The First Minute of a New Day, From South Africa to South Carolina* and *Winter in America*. I guarantee you will realize that he is one of the most under-appreciated writers in music history. ♦

Washington was visionary reformer

Thursdays

Wesley Jackson
Staff Columnist



"Uplift!"

This was the creed, the command, and the battle cry of one of my heroes — Booker T. Washington. Today many people remember this great African American as a post-Civil War social reformer and the visionary behind Tuskegee University in southern Alabama.

What people do not always realize is the superhuman quality of this man.

Washington almost single-handedly tore himself from the cultural claws that slavery imposed on all black men and women after the Civil War.

He raised himself from being an impoverished, ignorant former slave, to become an author, educational leader, international speaker, and a dynamic political influence.

He practically built Tuskegee University, both its curriculum and its buildings, from scratch.

European royalty recognized and respected him for his insights into American culture, education and political policies. He acted as both friend and adviser to Teddy Roosevelt, counseling the president on how to lead a racially divided nation. On top of this, Washington was a loving husband and father and a devoted Christian.

He was, in short, a great man.

Washington fought the darkness of ignorance and poverty and became a beacon of light for his people and to his nation.

He fought for the equal rights of his people in political legislation. He wanted a level playing field for society; he wanted equal opportunities.

But Washington did not see politics as the salvation of his people, or as the healer of a prejudiced nation. Politics was important, but not all-important. Laws for equality desperately needed to be passed, but laws and political activism cannot heal the wounds of the soul.

Booker T. Washington and contemporary activist, W.E.B. DuBois, bitterly disagreed on this, and argued over methods

for social reform.

Whereas DuBois desired aggressive political action and protest to win the rights of black people, Washington saw that hard work, education, and personal integrity "settle the question of civil rights."

Washington knew that racial prejudices were a matter of the heart. Relationships needed to be restored.

He understood that both whites and blacks pursued a common goal — the American dream. Washington believed that healing would come to the nation only if both whites and blacks began helping and serving one another in pursuit of this goal.

If they could encourage, support and "uplift" one another, one day America could become a unified, prosperous and glorified nation.

Washington begged both whites and blacks to stop nursing old grudges and seeking revenge on the other race. He was adamant that equal rights laws be passed. But once those laws were passed, both races needed to begin earning each other's respect — something that laws and politics can never

accomplish.

Washington desired individuals, both white and black, to find their place in life, to find their contribution or calling to a community and work hard at it — be the best in that field.

In this way, they would become an invaluable, indispensable part of their community. In this way both races would learn to respect each other. Whites needed to earn the respect of blacks. And blacks needed to earn the respect of the whites.

By becoming an invaluable part of a community, each race and each individual would simultaneously gain the admiration of, and prosperity for, their nation.

Washington practiced what he preached. Through faith, hard work, education and self-discipline, Booker T. Washington became an invaluable member to his people and to America.

In so doing, he earned the respect of the world.

His legacy still challenges us. If we would make this nation great, if we would bring healing, may we heed his call: "Uplift!" ♦

Workshop encourages new understanding of race problems, issues

Column by Amy Staples
Special to Sidelines

I will always remember this year's African American History Month.

As part of the celebration, MTSU's Distinguished Lecture Committee brought the Basic Diversity Inc., a race awareness seminar program, for an intensive two-day workshop during the Martin Luther King Jr. holiday.

The program was founded by Dr. C. T. Vivian, a Civil Rights activist who served on Martin Luther King Jr.'s executive staff, and is run by himself and his son, Al Vivian, who appropriately spent holiday working with a group of eighty-even faculty and students.

"This isn't a touchy-feely, let's-all-sing-Kumbaya type of diversity training," Vivian warned us. It certainly wasn't, but that's what made it effective for me and has made the program an industry leader. I had to confront a series of questions that opened my eyes: "What do people of color and white people really have in common in America?" "Is there any problem that you have that wouldn't instantly be worse if you walked out of this building as a person of color?" "What have people of color in America ever done to white people that has earned them the discrimination they face?"

I found myself having to agree when Vivian said most white people don't even think about race much, nor speak to one another about the issues of race.

After developing this new and clearer understanding of the problems and issues on the first day, the next day we spent seven hours talking about what to do and expect as we went back into the world with our new eyes. Seven hours wasn't enough.

If it did nothing else, this workshop made me think about race more intensively than I ever have, and I was blessed with an interracial group of students and faculty willing to engage in an honest discussion of race.

One thing I'd like to see is an even larger group of students, faculty, and staff attend this workshop in the future. I believe this type of experience has power and ability to change the face of our campus for the better.

When Adonijah Bakari and I talked after last year's activities about changing the month-focus to a year-long format centered on interactive workshops and community service, I could not have imagined how that decision would affect my own life. I know it has made me a better person. ♦

Amy Staples is an MTSU professor of history.

Special thanks to the staff of *The Assessor* for their help with this special section.



Look closely and you'll find 32,000,000 trapped inside.

Here's a souvenir from a place the good times left behind. A hard place where one out of every eleven families in America is still struggling to survive. A cold place where one out of every six children still goes to bed wanting more, but less awake to even less. A little memento — but not for Americans caught in the grip of poverty. Because there are 32 million people who are desperately trying to break free.

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www.povertyusa.org

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In love AND WAR

Two students prepare for wedding, war



Photo by Jenny Cordle | Chief Photographer

Briana laughs as she shows her fiancé, Shannon, a photo of him opening Christmas presents. She says she thinks he looks like a little boy opening presents in the picture and hopes their future children look just as cute.

By Jennifer Bardoner
Staff Writer

Twenty-two-year-old MTSU senior Briana Bailey is one of those people who believes in the old line of faith, "Everything happens for a reason, even if it's really bad." Self-characterized as "dreamy," she now clings to that sentiment in the light of the "really bad" possibility of losing her boyfriend, 26-year-old MTSU senior Shannon Rich-Hill, to a war with Iraq.

The two had it all planned out, but like the rest of us, they are subject to circumstances. In fact, their entire relationship seems to be a product of circumstances. Briana had planned on going to the College of Charleston. She had been accepted, and her bags were packed. But she had a change of heart at the last minute. She calls it a fluke, but some might say it's fate.

"I was all set to go," she says, "but I guess I just chickened out."

MTSU promised to keep her closer to her mom, who still lives in

Tullahoma, and with whom she stays in close contact.

And, like any university, MTSU promised to introduce her to many new people. One of those people was Shannon.

After noticing him around campus, she finally got close enough to smell him, but the scent of the perfume he was buying for another girl was too strong. So, when he walked into the preventative and controlled crime class that she added to her schedule at the last minute, she was excited.

"He walked in, and I was like, 'Yea! Score!'" she admits with a smile.

If Shannon hadn't noticed her before, he certainly got the hint then.

"She kept batting her eyes at me every time I came into class," he says. His grin widens and he adds, "It made me blush."

At this point, Shannon shakes his head a little, his charming boyish features reddening slightly at the memory. Briana let her chirpy laughter burst forth for just a minute, which gives the

air a warm vibe one usually only feels in the presence of good friends.

"I was very shy and intimidated," Shannon admits.

If not for a mutual friend's encouragement mixed with Briana's boldness, she might still be making eyes at him from across the room. But now, the two sit side by side. It's the kind of display that makes you smile because, whether or not you've ever felt it, you know they're in love.

Their plans were perfectly in sync: get engaged, graduate together in August, take a year off to travel, plan a traditional church wedding with a beautiful outdoor reception, and get their feet in the door to careers in the FBI by joining the Office of Specialized Investigation in the Air Force together. Of course a family would begin to emerge eventually, but that's the one thing they don't totally agree on.

Although Briana's idea of a perfect family is five children — four boys and one girl — she's not quite ready to get started. Shannon, on the other hand,

wants to have them while he's young. Ideally, he wants a boy and a girl.

"He wants one in the next five years, and I'm like, 'I hope men can have babies by that time,'" she says with her good-natured laugh.

This is one of the only times their four-year age difference comes into play.

"I want to at least be in my mid-to-early-30s," Shannon says, "but she wants to wait until she's like 33."

But with the threat of war promising to throw a kink in their otherwise perfect plans, this issue takes a backseat. At the mention of Shannon's overseas assignment, the two suddenly switch gears. A quiet hush settles in, and some of the sparkle seems to fade from their eyes.

As a member of the National Guard, Shannon is taking advantage of the GI bill, which pays 75 percent of his tuition. After completing his first six-year term last May, he was free to go his own way, but the expenses of his senior year loomed in front of him. In order

to finance the last year of his college education, he signed up for another six-year term.

As a potential war with Iraq gets closer, reserves are being called into active duty. Although nothing is finalized, the two feel certain that after Shannon returns as a sergeant from an upcoming two-week leadership training camp, his skills as an armored cavalry scout will be called in on an overseas deployment.

"I don't want to go," Shannon admits. "It puts a hole in my graduation and everything. But I feel obligated because I know people over there. I don't just want to watch it on TV."

This is not new to them, both having had a military upbringing.

According to Shannon, this could put him two or three years behind because he will be approaching the age cutoff for the FBI, but Briana says she will definitely wait for him.

See Love & War, 7

Weekend guitar festival attracts talent

By Kristin Hall
Staff Writer

The second annual Tennessee Guitar Festival, which starts Friday, offers a wonderful opportunity to hear the soothing sounds of acoustic solo guitar performances by a wide range of talented performers.

Considered more challenging than performing in a band, solo classical guitar is second only to the human voice in range and variety of repertoire.

The festival opens with a faculty concert conducted by William Yelverton, MTSU's guitar studies director, and adjunct guitar professor Roger Hudson.

For seven days, the festival will feature solo classical guitar in concert every night at 8 p.m., and master classes during the afternoon, both located in the Music Hall of the Wright Music Building.

"I've always noted that it is really very inspiring to have guest artists perform and teach for my students," Yelverton says, "because they are able to hear a variety of repertoire played at a very high level."

Five award-winning MTSU students will also perform solo guitar pieces on Sunday.

For senior Brent Coleman, one of the five chosen to perform, classical guitar is a challenge he's dedicated his life to.

"Honestly, it wasn't an initial interest," Coleman admits. "I fell in love with it, though."

Coleman's commitment to the solo guitar has certainly paid off for him.

Two years in a row, Coleman has won third prize in the Beethoven Club competition, a private music club that sponsors a competition for musicians under 30.

He also received an honorable mention in the 1999 American String Teachers Association, a national competition.

Yelverton is proud of the talent level of the guitar program's students and hopes that this event will encourage more students to join.

"One of the main reasons I wanted to have this festival was to showcase the tremendous talent level of the students we have," Yelverton says. "I can confidently say that we have the most talented group of guitarists in the state."

Coleman, who plays guitar in the Nashville band, Coda, says playing in a band is a breeze compared to playing solo classical guitar.

"It's much more musically rewarding than any other kind, any other type, of playing," Coleman says.

Yelverton explains that the challenge in solo guitar is that the guitarist has to play the melody, the base and the chords at the same time.

Coleman admits he gets nervous, as he knows all performers do, but he finds a way to manage it.

"There's nothing more difficult than a guitar player can do than to put himself on stage with an acoustic instrument in a solo concert with a quiet audience," Yelverton says.

Playing classical guitar also requires approaches not normally used in a band situation.

"I guess what separates the concert-

classical guitar technique from other types of guitar technique is the right hand, the use of the nails on the right hand and the texture of the music," Yelverton says.

Yelverton has performed throughout the United States, Mexico, Canada and the Caribbean, and he includes elements of jazz, folk, Latin and flamenco music into his performances.

Many of this festival's performers have traveled throughout Europe and Asia performing classical guitar.

Michael Cedric Smith, a graduate of the Peabody Conservatory and currently on the faculty at the Conservatory of Music in Brooklyn College, will play Saturday night.

John Johns, director of guitar studies at Vanderbilt University's Blair School of Music, has played two concerts in France and will perform Monday night.

Miroslav Loncar and his wife Natasa Klasinc-Loncar, both natives of Croatia, have been performing as a duo for 15 years. They will be playing on Wednesday night.

David Leisner is a guitarist, composer and a master teacher at the Manhattan School of Music, and he will be playing original pieces on Thursday night.

Smith, Loncar and his wife and Leisner will each teach a free and open master class to explain guitar techniques to students.

During a master class, an MTSU student will perform, and the instructors will conduct an open lesson. Afterward, the audience will be invited to ask questions.



Photo by Chris Nichols | Photo Editor

Salome Sandoval, a student in Yelverton's class and performer at the upcoming Tennessee Guitar Festival, demonstrates her guitar-playing abilities.

"This is helpful because students who are learning the same piece of music can benefit by seeing it taught to someone," Yelverton says.

As the largest guitar festival in the state this year, the Tennessee Guitar Festival will feature both original works and standard works ranging from the Renaissance to the present day.

"The event of a solo guitar concert

is relatively rare, and to have so many in a row makes it a very special event," Yelverton says.

"This festival will give students, particularly prospective high school students, an idea of what to aspire to, what to shoot for in terms of guitar-playing ability."

For more information on the guitar festival, visit www.mtsu.edu/~yelverto/guitfest.html. ♦

Dear Annie



Dear Annie,

I was curious if you could explain something to me: girls. How is it a girl can sit there and tell a guy that they think they are such a great guy and go to the trouble to make them believe it just so they can make the guy feel like crap two days later?

How is it girls can be crazy and cold enough to say things like, "Please be single while I get my life figured out," and, "Make me hate you so I won't fall for you?"

Those were by two different girls, by the way, both of whom seem to have no qualms about regaling me with their current romantic interests. I assume that I am decently attractive and really haven't heard anything to the contrary. Some people even tell me that I am better than decent-looking, but I wouldn't want to give myself anymore than decent-looking.

I am very much not the typical guy. For example, girls are always going on about how guys are afraid of commitment, but I crave it. I have wanted to find someone I could share my life with for as long as I can remember. I even put the toilet seat down (granted not so much as a gesture toward the female population, but just because it seems reasonable to have a lid over the large basin full of unsanitary water).

So, I guess my question comes down to this: Is there still at least one girl out there who honestly wants to find something special, lasting and honest? Or should I just give up what little faith I still have in love?

— Losing Faith

Dear Losing Faith,

Never give up on love. Give up on girls who send mixed signals. My only explanation for why girls would make those statements is they haven't figured out what they want yet. I'm not excusing their behavior, I'm just trying to make sense of their comments. They are making you "safety guy," which is a guy that will be there in case what they want now doesn't work out.

For all guys out there, here are the dos and don'ts of being "safety guys." Do be a friend to women. Don't constantly listen to them whine about their failing love lives, especially if you like them as more than friends. Do keep your options and eyes open. Don't always be available.

Why do you listen to their "current romantic interest?" I realize that you're probably trying to be a good friend to them, but run, man, run! You don't have to subject yourself to their constant love life dramas.

You sound like you're a great, funny guy, and you put the toilet seat down! You're just going through hard times right now. Valentine's Day is right around the corner. I would suggest taking a chance and asking that nice girl that sits next to you in class if she would like to spend Valentine's Day with you. If she says no, then it's her loss. Try again, in a different class.

My point is: Don't get discouraged and stop trying. I know you will find love some day. You just have to be patient and wait for the right time. Don't lose faith!

Please e-mail your questions to DearMtsuAnnie@aol.com.

burnt orange peel!



by Old Man Antonjak

I HAVE FEARS, I'LL ADMIT, AND ONE IS GETTING OLD. IT MAKES ME REALLY WONDER WHAT THE FUTURE HOLDS.



WILL I STILL LISTEN TO MUSIC SO LOUD IT HURTS MY EARS? WILL I EVEN LISTEN TO MUSIC WHEN I'M GETTING ON IN YEARS?



WILL I EVER BE MARRIED WITH A HOUSE FULL OF KIDS? OR WILL I BE A LONELY HERMIT WHO RAISES MINIATURE SQUIDS?



WHEN I GET OLD AND WRINKLED, WILL MY MEMORY BEGIN TO SLIP? AND WHEN I JUMP ON MY SKATEBOARD WILL I BREAK MY HIP?



WILL I STILL HAVE THE TEETH THAT LINE MY BOTTOM JAW? OR WILL I EAT MY FAVORITE MEAL BY SIPPING THROUGH A STRAW?



BUT WHATEVER HAPPENS HAPPENS; IT'LL ALL BE REVEALED IN TIME. SO I GUESS I SHOULDN'T WORRY, AND END MY LITTLE RHYME!!



Love & War: Couple plans wedding in possibility of war

Continued from 1

They are both determined the circumstances that worked so well to bring them together will not rip them apart now. Both are willing to exchange the elaborate wedding for a spur of the moment union. Shannon's idea of spontaneity is the City Hall, while Briana's is Las Vegas.

"Let's do it right," she says, "so it will be silly instead of depressing."

Shannon tries to pull her head out of the clouds with reminders of finances.

"She forgets about the financial means it takes to get there, unless we hop a Greyhound bus," he says, adding that he'd rather spend money on a honeymoon in France.

Although they hold down three jobs between the two of them, Shannon claims it's really just enough to pay the bills. So, in this regard, they are more

than likely going to end up looking to their families, who are very enthusiastic about the wedding.

If the FBI is no longer an option once Shannon returns, they both still see opportunities in the military, something they refused to consider when they were younger.

However, right now they're hardly thinking that far ahead. They're concentrating more on just enjoying the time they have

together, which between their full-time student and job statuses, isn't much.

In spite of everything, they are looking forward to their Valentine's Day plans at Cedar Vine Mansion, a bed and breakfast near the State Park.

"We're having a Valentine's Day dinner, and then we're shacking up in the honeymoon suite," Shannon says.

Maybe Shannon will bring the ring. ♦



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SPORTS

8 ♦ SIDELINES

Wednesday, February 5, 2003

Murfreesboro, Tenn.

Football team gets new offensive line coach from Buffalo Bills

Staff Reports

After a stint with the Tennessee Titans and two years in the Buffalo Bills organization, Ronnie Vinklarek took a step down from the pros and filled the offensive line coaching void in the Blue Raider football program this week.

Vinklarek, who coached the Bills offensive line in 2001 and 2002, will replace Steve Campbell, who left MT for Mississippi at the beginning of the year.

"Ronnie will not only bring a great deal of experience to our

program, but he will add energy and a get-after-it type attitude," said MT head coach Andy McCollum.

"He has coached the game from every level and is very knowledgeable. He will be a great representative of our university and football program. I am excited to have him as a member of our



Vinklarek

staff."

In his coaching career, Vinklarek built offensive lines that protected Drew Bledsoe, and gave the former North Carolina State standout a 4,000-plus yard season. Vinklarek's line in Buffalo also helped former University of Tennessee star Travis Henry develop into a 1,000 yard runningback.

Vinklarek comes to MT with 23 years of coaching experience.

The former NFL coach's resume is impressive, as the Texas native has had stops at Oklahoma State, Valdosta State and Houston in the collegiate

level before coming to MT. Vinklarek has also been on the staff of the Canadian Football League's Birmingham Barracudas franchise.

At Houston, Vinklarek helped the Cougars to the 1988 Aloha Bowl and directed an offensive line that protected Heisman Trophy winner Andre Ware.

Vinklarek, who earned his bachelor's degree from Southwest Texas State in 1981, is married to the former Marianne Britz. The couple has two sons - Trevor, 5 and Trent, 3. ♦

"Recruiting Review"

Highlighting today's National Signing Day, the future talents of the Middle Tennessee football program will be on display at the squad's "Recruiting Review" event.

Several local and highly rated national high school players that have verbally committed to the Blue Raiders are expected to officially accept scholarships today, including heavily sought recruits Sean Mosley and Kwam Williams.

MT is expecting to hear from over 10 high school athletes today to complement the team's list of mid-term signees that include Tyrone Hicks and Joe Evilsizer.

Several mid-term signees are expected to attend "Recruiting Review." ♦

New Division I-A rules cause concern for football

By Osby Martin
Staff Writer

Twenty-eight schools have failed to meet new Division I-A requirements over the past two seasons, including Sun Belt Conference schools Arkansas State, Louisiana-Monroe and Middle Tennessee.

Beginning Aug. 1, 2004, the NCAA's new, tougher requirements become effective. According to the new criteria, schools wanting to become, or remain, Division I-A must issue at least 90 percent of 85 football scholarships by the August deadline. Eligible schools must also offer a minimum of 16 team sports and 200 total scholarships.

Both MT and the SBC both face potential damages, and some of the schools barely meeting requirements may not have enough time to meet the new criteria standards and deadline.

MT will be able to offer the 90 percent of football scholarships within the allotted time, and the school currently offers 17 sanctioned sports and over 200 scholarships. However, MT will have a rough time with attendance requirements and playing five Division I-A opponents at home.

Per NCAA rules, all teams must play at least five Division I-A opponents at home and average no fewer than 15,000 fans in the stadium over a three-year period to remain eligible. MT has only averaged 13,728 fans over the last three years and has failed to play more than four Division I-A opponents at home.

According to MT Athletic Director James "Boots" Donnelly, MT will be able to meet all of the new requirements by the deadline. He also stated that the SBC could have a harder time than MT meeting the requirements because a few schools are really struggling. He went on to say that for MT to boost attendance a few of things would need to happen:

- More fans need to come to the games
- MT needs to win
- Marketing and promotions have to improve
- MT needs big name players that attract fans

Donnelly would not discuss the possible financial implications if MT does not meet the requirements. He stated that he had no thoughts on the subject and that the department has never discussed going back to Division I-AA.

The potential penalties for not meeting the new requirements are probation for two years and being referred to as Division I-A unclassified. By having this classification, the school would be able to compete in Division I-A but would have certain strict guidelines. The guidelines are still open for consideration by the NCAA committee. After the two-year probation period, the school would most likely be moved down to Division I-AA.

The problem for the SBC comes if teams begin to drop Division I-A status.

See Division I-A, 9

McClinic is going clinical

By Michael Rutledge
Assistant Sports Editor

Banners and jewelry.

Those are just a couple of things Middle Tennessee women's basketball player Keisha McClinic would like to get during her college career.

"I would love to get that ring," McClinic said, referring to a basketball championship, "and we don't have a banner up there yet that says 'Sun Belt Champions.' That is something I want to be a part of."

Averaging seven points a game this season, McClinic wants to help give the Lady Raiders a push to the conference championships. The junior recreational therapy major also wants to pick up more than just a basketball while at MT. McClinic plans to work in sports medicine after she earns her degree.

"I love sports, and I want to be in or around sports even if I'm not playing," McClinic said.

The 5-foot-10-inch Stockbridge, Ga., native came to MT because of the atmosphere and the chance to play in a new conference, but she says it is the players, the academics and a love for the game that keeps her here.

"They really do have great academics here, and there is always a lot of activities going on," McClinic said of MT. "There are just so many different people here, and there is a great atmosphere, too."

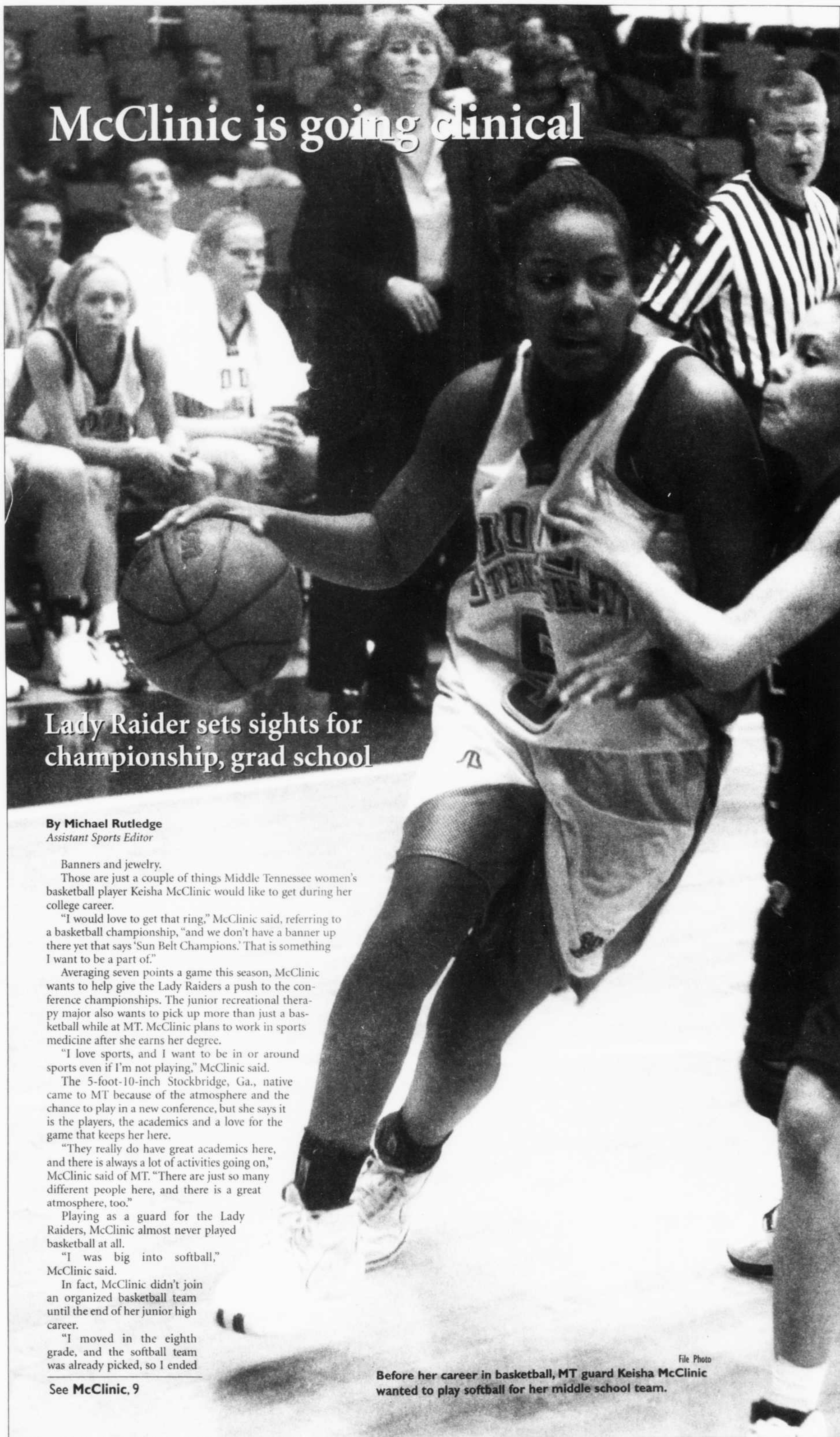
Playing as a guard for the Lady Raiders, McClinic almost never played basketball at all.

"I was big into softball," McClinic said.

In fact, McClinic didn't join an organized basketball team until the end of her junior high career.

"I moved in the eighth grade, and the softball team was already picked, so I ended

See McClinic, 9



Lady Raider sets sights for championship, grad school

File Photo
Before her career in basketball, MT guard Keisha McClinic wanted to play softball for her middle school team.

Backflip highlights Winter X

By David Hunter
Senior Staff Reporter

The big question coming into this year's Winter X Games was, "Is somebody going to be able to do a backflip on snow with a motorcycle?" The answer: yes.

The 2003 Winter X Games in Aspen, Colo., featured the big-air stylings of Mike Metzger. After winning the Summer X Games in August with the same move, "The Godfather" Metzger added a gold medal with his performance on the snow. In the first run, Metzger nailed a simple backflip, but on the second run, he did a no-footed backflip that won the gold.

"The jumps all worked perfect," Metzger said to ESPN. "You've got to know how far you're going in order to land it."

Caleb Wyatt and Nate Adams also nailed backflips in the contest. Wyatt finished third, and Adams, due to bad landings on his attempts, took home fourth place.

Winter X Games showed there was a new kid in the world of snowboarding with 16-year-old Shaun White.

At last year's Winter X, White took home silvers in both the Snowboard Superpipe and Slopestyle events. This year, he turned them into gold.

In the SuperPipe event, everyone was wondering about the three medalists from last year's Winter Olympics in the same event: Ross Powers, Dan Kass and JJ Thomas.

However, White stole the show with a Cap 720, Frontside Air to White Twist and a Stalefish 900 in the first run. White's showmanship earned him his first gold at Winter X.

"I always come in second for almost every event," White said to ESPN event media. "I'm stoked that I now have an X-Games gold. I rode as

hard as I could. It's just all about how big you go and your style."

Kass finished second, with Powers coming in fourth, and Thomas in sixth place.

A day later, White won his second gold in Slopestyle. The two golds earned him Outstanding Athlete of the Winter X Games.

The prize was a 2004 Jeep Wrangler Rubicon. Unfortunately, White does not yet have his driver's license.

On the women's side, hometown girl defeats defending gold medal winner in both Winter X and the Olympics in the SuperPipe.

Gretchen Bleiler nailed her signature trick, "The Crimper," to win the contest. Kelly Clark finished second.

In the Slopestyle event, Janna Meyen beat the weather and the completion to earn her first X gold. The event only had one run out of two, because a snowstorm struck the course.

Instead of tricks, it was all about very close racing in Snowboarder X. In the women's event, Lindsey Jacobellis came from behind to narrowly edge out Tanja Frieden by .029 seconds. This was the closest finish ever in Winter X history.

"Oh my gosh! I don't know how I pulled it off," Jacobellis said to ESPN event media.

On the men's side, the finish was slightly further apart. Ueli Kestenholz was able to stay ahead of a hard charging Xavier Delerue by .06 seconds to win gold.

Tanner Hall won his second consecutive gold in Skiing Slopestyle, but he had to do it coming from behind.

After sitting fourth place with one run to go,

Winter X Games VII Medal Results



Snowboarding Slopestyle

Snowmobile Hillcross
Skiing Superpipe
Moto X Big Air
Ultracross
Snowboard Superpipe

Skier X

Snowmobile SnoCross
Skiing Slopestyle
Snowboarder X

Shaun White
Janna Meyen
T.J. Gulla
Candide Thovex
Mike Metzger
Delerue/Zackrisson
Shaun White
Gretchen Bleiler
Lars Lewen
Aleisha Cline
Blair Morgan
Tanner Hall
Ueli Kestenholz
Lindsey Jacobellis

Jussi Oksanen
Hana Beaman
Carl Kuster
Tanner Hall
Dane Kinnaird
Wescott/Lind
Danny Kass
Kelly Clark
Reggie Crist
Karin Hutary
D.J. Eckstrom
Pep Fajas
Ueli Delerue
Tanja Frieden

Jimi Tomer
Lindsey Jacobellis
Steve Martin
Jon Olsson
Caleb Wyatt
Jacobellis/Lewen
Markku Koski
Hannah Teter
Enak Gavaggio
Cecilie Larsen
Tucker Hibbert
Jon Olsson
Michael Rosengren
Yvonne Mueller

Hall used a lot of air to nail an unbelievable run to take the victory.

Candide Thovex used the same element to win the Ski SuperPipe event. Hall finished second to add another medal to his growing collection.

Lars Lewen stopped the domination of the Crist brothers in Skier X.

Reggie and Zach Crist won the past two golds in this event, and Lewen won his first. Reggie finished second, and Zach was knocked out in the quarterfinals.

Cline held off Karin Hutary to win gold in women's Skier X, while Morgan passed D.J.

Eckstrom on the final lap to take the victory in snowmobile racing's SnoCross

In Hillcross, T.J. Gulla raced his snowmobile to the top of the mountain first to win his first gold.

In the tag team race with skiers and snowboarders, otherwise known as UltraCross, Xavier Delerue passed Seth Wescott at the halfway point of the course to bring home the win. His skiing partner was Kaj Zackrisson

The next X games event will be May 15-18 with the first ever X Games Global Championships from San Antonio, Texas, and Whistler Blackcomb, British Columbia. ♦

McClinic: Lady Raider on her way to third 200-point season

Continued from 8

up on the basketball team," McClinic added.

Fortunately, Keisha found a home on the court and has already made significant contributions to her team. The junior guard has played in all 21 games for MT this season, shooting just under .400 from the floor. McClinic is also the team's second leading rebounder, with 85 in the season, and has scored 136 points this season, fourth on the Lady Raiders' chart.

McClinic's basketball highlights at MT include a career best 19 points against Houston her freshman year. So far, McClinic has broken the half-century mark in points, as she has netted 573 marks in three years for MT, and is well on her way to her third consecutive season with more than 200 points.

"I also once took a game into overtime," McClinic said, laughing about her memory on the Murphy Center floor, "but I've never been to the NCAAs, and that is a

memory I'd really like to be able to take from here. We haven't really got to cut any nets down yet, either."

When McClinic isn't playing, she says she is studying or shopping. After graduation, McClinic isn't planning to end her education, as she is considering grad school.

McClinic and the Lady Raiders take on North Texas in Denton tomorrow night and return home to the Murphy Center Saturday against Denver. ♦

Division I-A: MT could face serious NCAA sanctions

Continued from 8

The criteria to be a Division I-A conference is having at least eight Division I-A members that satisfy all requirements.

A school can be included as

one of the eight Division I-A fall members only if the institution participates in a conference schedule in no fewer than six men's and eight women's conference sponsored sports, including men's basketball,

football and three women's sports including basketball.

The Sun Belt will soon have eight members when Utah State joins this year.

However, the conference could still be in jeopardy

because every current member has failed to either meet the attendance requirement or the five Division I-A home games stipulation. ♦

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Sun Belt Conference Women's Basketball News & Notes

Arkansas-Little Rock Trojans

Junior Charise Billingsley hit a career-high three treys against South Alabama on Jan. 30. Her eight rebounds against University of New Orleans on Feb. 1 was one away from her career-high, and her three offensive rebounds against the Privateers was a career-high. Billingsley averaged 11.0 points per game on the week, scoring 13 against South Alabama and nine against New Orleans.

Junior Asten Kennedy hit double digits for the second time this season with 11 points against UNO. Kennedy last hit double figures with 12 points against Murray State on Dec. 18. Kennedy also matched her season-high with nine rebounds against UNO.

UALR lost for the first time this season when holding an opponent under 60 points in a 57-52 loss to UNO. The Trojans had been 2-0 when holding their opponents under 60, defeating Southwest Texas 69-55 and Murray State 61-55.

Senior Eplunus Brooks continues her pursuit of the UALR career rebounding list. Brooks added 17 rebounds this week to give her 600 for her career. She needs to average 11.4 rebounds over the final seven regular season games to surpass Adrian Brown, who pulled down 679 rebounds during her career from 1981-84.

Arkansas State Lady Indians

ASU went 1-1 last week in Sun Belt action, defeating UNO 69-63 in overtime and losing to University of South Alabama 45-34. Against UNO, the Lady Indians erased a 12-point deficit late in the second half to send the game into overtime, in which ASU outscored UNO 12-6.

The Tribe had its lowest offensive output of the year against USA, scoring just 34 points which is almost 34 points lower than its season average.



2003 Sun Belt Conference Women's Basketball Records

East Division

	Conference Games				All Games				
	W	L	PCT.	STK.	W	L	PCT.	STK.	L5
Florida International	6	2	.750	W1	15	6	.714	W1	4-1
Western Kentucky	6	2	.750	W3	11	8	.579	W3	4-1
Middle Tennessee	4	4	.500	L1	11	10	.524	L1	2-3
Arkansas State	3	5	.375	L1	8	13	.381	L1	3-2
Arkansas-Little Rock	0	8	.000	L9	4	16	.200	L4	1-4

West Division

	Conference Games				All Games				
	W	L	PCT.	STK.	W	L	PCT.	STK.	L5
New Mexico State	6	2	.750	W2	12	8	.600	W2	4-1
Denver	6	2	.750	W1	12	10	.545	W1	4-1
South Alabama	5	4	.556	W2	13	8	.619	W2	3-2
New Orleans	5	4	.556	W1	8	12	.400	W1	3-2
North Texas	3	5	.375	L2	8	11	.421	L2	1-4
Louisiana-Lafayette	1	7	.125	L1	4	14	.222	L1	1-4

age. Casie Lowman lead the Lady Indians in scoring, assists, steals and free throw percentage. She is averaging 12.4 points, 3.8 assists and 2.1 steals while shooting 82 percent from the foul line. McKeirnan averaged a double-double last week with 10.5 points and 10.5 rebounds per game.

McKeirnan had a week-high 12 points and 11 boards against South Alabama, recording her 27th career double-double as a Lady Indian.

Catrice Webster has averaged 12.4 points and 5.6 rebounds over the last eight games while shooting 44 percent from the field.

Brooke Shelby was cleared to play last week. She saw action against both UNO and USA, scoring four points against UNO. Shelby had been out since Jan. 4 with mononucleosis. Arkansas State plays just one game this week, facing Arkansas-Little Rock in a league game on Saturday in Little Rock.

New Orleans Privateers

The Privateers went 1-1 against Sun Belt East Division foes Arkansas State and Arkansas-Little Rock

this past week.

Despite holding a 56-45 lead with 3:39 remaining, UNO was unable to seal the victory against Arkansas State on Thursday, as the Lady Indians closed regulation with a 12-1 run, eventually winning the game 69-63 in overtime.

The game was UNO's fourth overtime contest of the season, a new school record for most overtime games in a season.

Previously, UNO played three overtime contests in 1984-85 and 1996-97. One bright spot for the Privateers in the loss was the play of junior Jeannette Jimenez, who posted 20 points and 12 rebounds - both career-highs - for UNO's fifth double-double of the season. Junior Monique Taylor also notched double figures with 12 points.

On Saturday, the Privateers returned to Lakefront Arena for the first time since Jan. 6, defeating UALR, 57-52, to improve to 5-0 on the season in Lakefront.

UNO was led by junior Jasmine Smiri, who knocked down four three-pointers en route to 16 points. With the four treys, Smiri now has 80 for her career and has moved into a tie for fourth on UNO's all-time list.

Taylor only posted six points against the Lady Trojans, the first time since the South Alabama game on Jan. 4 that she has failed to score in double figures. ♦



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