



An editorially
independent
newspaper

Middle Tennessee State University SIDELINES

2003 National Finalist
Best non-daily
university newspaper
-Society of Professional Journalists

Volume 80 No. 20

Murfreesboro, Tenn.

Political groups anticipating presidential debate

By Hillary Robson
Staff Writer

The first round of presidential debates begins tonight at 8 p.m. The debate will be held at the University of Miami and will be the first chance for voters to see President George W. Bush and Democratic candidate Sen. John Kerry face off on important issues.

The debates are sponsored by the nonpartisan Commission on Presidential

Debates. The CPD was established to regulate the presidential debates so that voters can be properly informed about the candidates and their political platforms.

On campus, the Raider Republicans and College Democrats have events scheduled for interested students and faculty members to watch and discuss the debates.

Traditionally, undecided voters have been able to find their voice and solidify their views

after viewing the debates.

"I think [the debates are] going to help undecided voters make up their minds and motivate the decided voters to get out there and work even harder," said Christy Holden, president of the College Democrats.

Justin Owen, president of the Raider Republicans, had similar views regarding the impact of the debates.

voters determine where they stand," he said.

The College Democrats have planned a special intercollegiate event for students and faculty in support of Democratic candidate John Kerry in the form of a debate-watching party. College Democrats from MTSU, Tennessee State University, Belmont, Fisk and Vanderbilt universities will gather at the TSU campus in Nashville. Pre-debate activities begin at 6 p.m.

The debate-watching party

culminates with a views and discussion session hosted by Governor Phil Bredesen and Mayor Bill Purcell. They will speak about the issues and topics presented during the course of the debate in an open forum.

The Raider Republicans will hold a debate viewing at the Rutherford County Republican Headquarters on Maple Street in the Murfreesboro Square. Rep. Donna Rowland, state Senate candidate Jim Tracy and congressional candidate Oscar

Gardner are scheduled to attend.

"They will discuss their views [following the debate] and how they plan to help the president on the local level," Owen said.

Voter registration drives sponsored by both party affiliates and nonpartisan groups will be held on the Keathley University Center knoll from 10 a.m.- 4 p.m. through Friday.

See Debates, 2

Highland Games celebrate Scottish history, heritage

By Hillary Robson
Staff Writer

The ninth annual Tennessee Highland Games are this Saturday at the Tennessee Renaissance Fair grounds in Triune, Tenn.

The Highland Games are held in honor and celebration of Scottish history and cultural heritage. The athletic events are based on those practiced by Scottish clansmen for centuries.

Until last year, the games were hosted at MTSU. As they grew in popularity, the Heart of Tennessee Scottish Celebration Inc. sought a new location. The Triune grounds allow for the games to easily accommodate the estimated 8,000 to 10,000 visitors from across the world that plan to attend.

The weekend kicks off with free seminars open to the public at the Doubletree Hotel in Murfreesboro on Friday at noon. The lectures feature topics on the spread of the Highland (Scottish) cow to the west, genealogy, the impact of the Templar Knights in Scotland and basic Gaelic terminology.

When the gates open at 8:30 a.m. Saturday, 50 Scottish clans will have tents set up to help interested visitors seek out genealogical and historical information. The clans will also be represented in the annual Parade of Tartans.

The Highland Games will be hosted on the main field. Competitions include traditional Scottish athletic events that are geared to entertain the crowd and create a friendly competition between clans.

The Clachneart, stone throwing; Tossing the Sheaf, a weight toss and throw; Turning the Caber and the Haggis Hurl are a few of the scheduled competitions.

See Highland, 3



File Photo

A 2002 Highland Games participant tosses a shiel at the annual event.



Photo by Micah Miller | Staff Photographer

Campaign posters have been placed all over the KUC.

Candidates gear up for Homecoming

By DeAnn Currey
Staff Writer

Homecoming is just around the corner, which means it is time to cast votes and decide who will be MTSU's 2004 homecoming king and queen.

Candidates have been placing signs, flyers and banners all over campus for the past week, hoping to be named homecoming royalty.

Candidates are allowed to place as many flyers up on campus as they want.

The elections will take place Oct. 5-7. Voting will take place on PipelineMT.

"A picture and profile of each candidate will be available on Pipeline on Friday to help you decide who you want to vote for," said Lea Wilson, Election Commissioner for the Student Government Association, which facilitates the election.

The homecoming court will

be announced on Thursday, Oct. 8. In case of a tie, a run-off election will be held Oct. 12-14, and the court will be announced Oct. 15.

"The king and queen are representatives of the university," Wilson said. "The king and queen are also role models for the students on campus."

Out of the 19 people who are running for either king or queen, only 10 of them will make it to the court. The king and queen will then be chosen from that group. Winners will be announced at the football game on Oct. 30.

"I want to become more involved in campus life, build a closer relationship with faculty and students," queen candidate Victoria Denton said.

Keith Beckman, a candidate for king, is running for similar reasons.

"It's my last year at MTSU

See Homecoming, 2

London trip offers students taste of theater

By Melissa Bowman
Associate News Editor

MTSU students will have the opportunity to broaden their horizons with a trip to London over winter break.

The trip will be from Dec. 26 to Jan. 8.

Theater professor Richard Hansen is organizing the trip, which is offered by the Cooperative Center for Study Abroad.

"The trip is designed to do two major things," Hansen said. "It will immerse the student in the culture of London and England in general, and then more specifically look at theater."

There is no prerequisite or theater background required for participants. Hansen said any student could benefit from this experience, not just theater majors.

"You can obviously go to a play and enjoy it without being an actual seasoned theater person," Hansen said. "You go for entertainment."

Of course, there are other perks too, according to Hansen.

"This is also an immersion into the culture that regardless of what your interests are, you'll be able to experience things in London that you simply would not get anywhere else," he said.

During their stay, the group will attend six plays.

"I try to create a balance between classical and contemporary [plays], between serious and comic, between musicals and non-musicals," Hansen said.

In the past, students have attended big-name shows like *Phantom of the Opera* and *Les Misérables*, but Hansen doesn't limit the group to major shows.

"The National Theatre is a

great showcase for plays in London because they're subsidized by the government," he said. "They don't have to do things that are going to be sure-fire box office successes ... They can do works that are more risky, less guaranteed of a sure thing."

Students will also participate in two backstage tours and other day trips around London. However, students aren't limited to the planned events.

Hansen said the days are divided into three parts: morning, afternoon and evening. Usually only two of the three have scheduled activities, so there is opportunity for other sightseeing.

There will be other groups there with CCSA studying other subjects. If a group studying another subject is going on a trip and a theater student would like to tag along, that could be

arranged, Hansen said.

"I will work lectures around other activities the students might want to go to," he said. "If you are taking a psychology course and you wanted to tour Freud's home, you need to be able to do that."

"One thing that's always very popular with any of the students is a Jack the Ripper Walk. Ripper walks are only done at night. That's certainly something we would never want to deprive a student of doing," Hansen said.

Hansen described the trip as "a potentially life-altering experience."

"I have never yet experienced a student who was disappointed by doing the trip," he said.

Students who participate will earn three credit hours for the spring semester. Hansen will

See London, 2



File Photo

Students will see plays at theaters such as this one.



This week's poll question at
www.mtsusidelines.com
How do you feel about Ron Jeremy coming to campus?

Vote or die

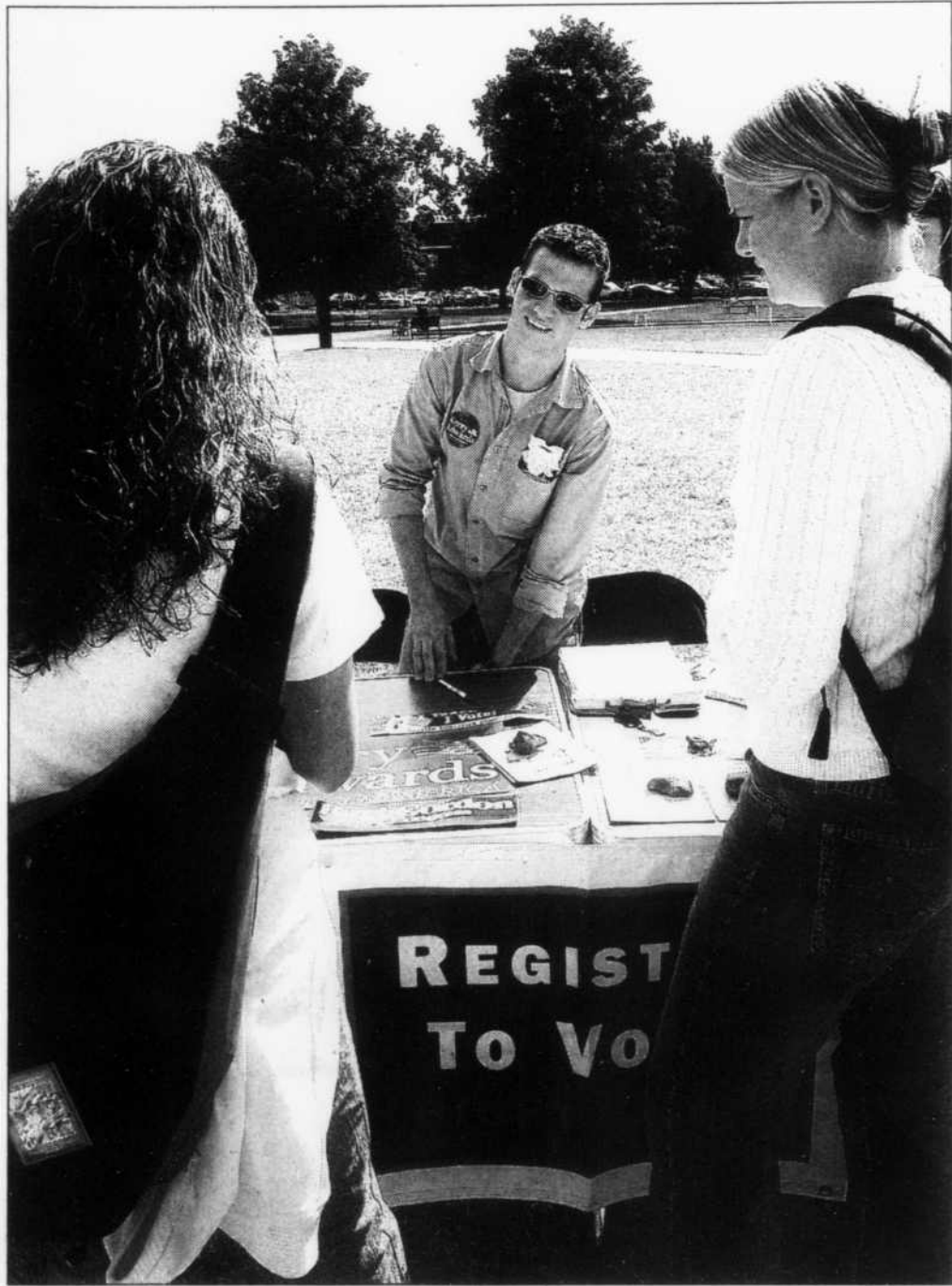


Photo by Steve Cross | Chief Photographer
Bobby Bush of the College Democrats speaks with Tatiana Steve and Lorelei Rackauskas about voter registration yesterday on the KUC knoll.

CRIME LOG

Compiled by Erica Rodefer - Campus News Editor

Sept. 22 - Wednesday

• 12:02 a.m.
Founders Lane
Scott C. Wesson, 19, was charged with simple possession of marijuana, unlawful possession of drug paraphernalia, resisting arrest and driving under the influence.

• 11:47 a.m.
Nicks Hall
Complainant reported witnessing someone stealing a stop sign.

• 4:22 p.m.
Observatory Annex Lot
Complainant reported that her vehicle had been keyed.

• 6:07 p.m.
James E. Walker Library
Juvenile was given warning for violation of library policy prohibiting the viewing of pornography. The suspect was given a trespassing warning.

Sept. 24 - Friday
• 4:45 a.m.
Nicks Hall
Male subject was issued a citation for underage consumption of alcohol.

Sept. 25 - Saturday
• 6:54 p.m.
Reynolds Hall
Delivery person complained that the Domino's sign was

stolen from his vehicle.

Sept. 26 - Sunday
• 12:54 a.m.
Student Recreation Center
Individual complained about stolen cell phone and clothes.

• 5:36 p.m.
Greenhouse Lot
Complainant reported stolen garbage can.

These entries were compiled from Public Safety's media log.

To report a crime or emergency, call 898-2424.

Debates: Events scheduled

Continued from I

Voter registration forms can also be located at the library and in the Adult Services Center in KUC, Room 322.

Future events for the College Democrats include a breakfast in honor of MTSU faculty and staff, hosted by state Senate candidate and MTSU alumnus Larry Trail on Oct. 4. Holder also said they were planning a "big event" in October, featuring a "big name" speaker.

The Raider Republicans will be focusing most of their efforts leading up to the election on the local level, encouraging volunteers to become active voices for Republican candidates across

the state. They plan an on-campus rally for state Senate candidate Jim Tracy on Oct. 13.

The College Democrats will be hosting a meeting prior to the debate at 6 p.m. in the Business Aerospace Building, Room 116. Carpools will be available for students who wish to attend the TSU event. The next scheduled meeting for the Raider Republicans will be Tuesday, Oct. 5, at 7 p.m. in the Business Aerospace Building, Room S118.

For more information about the Raider Republicans, visit their Web site at www.raiderrepublicans.com. The College Democrats have an e-mail list that informs registered mem-

bers about upcoming events and volunteer meetings. Sign up by sending an e-mail request to mtsucollegedemocrats@yahoo.com. Directions to TSU are available on their Web site, www.tnstate.edu.

The debates will air on ABC, CBS, NBC, FOX and cable news. The vice presidential debate at Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland, Ohio, is scheduled to air Oct. 5. The remaining two presidential debates will be held on Oct. 8 at Washington University in Missouri, and on Oct. 13 at Arizona State University in Tempe, Ariz. All debates are scheduled to air at 8 p.m. central time. ♦

Homecoming:

Continued from I

and I am looking to stay involved," Beckman said. "MTSU's homecoming is a good time for students and faculty."

If Paige Anderson becomes MTSU's homecoming queen, she would like to set aside funds to help beautify the campus and make students more aware of littering on campus.

"I think being homecoming queen would be a wonderful chance to celebrate what is the main part of MTSU," Anderson said. "It would also be a wonderful highlight of being a senior long after I finish college."

But if Rachel Edington becomes this year's homecoming queen, she wants to help increase school spirit and get more people involved with school activities.

"I appreciate the campus, and I would love to see the campus grow with more school spirit," she said.

Nick Fowler has a different perspective on the campaign.

"I'm hoping to get people involved who normally wouldn't be involved. Mind you, by 'being involved,' I mean clicking through some Web pages and voting for me. Beyond that, I don't really care what anyone does. I just want the crown." ♦

London: Travelers 'finish with a flourish'

Continued from I

give a few lectures over the 12 days, and the group will study plays they see, the texts of which serve as a textbook.

Hansen will give out handouts and a couple of quizzes during the trip. After returning, each student must write what Hansen refers to as an "experience paper" of about 17 to 20 pages, which counts for almost half the student's grade.

The program cost is \$2,895, which includes round-trip air fare, 12 nights in a four-star hotel with breakfast, tickets to six productions, a London

underground and bus pass, backstage tours and additional day trips to other locations around London. Any adult at least 26 years old may participate without student status, and MTSU faculty and staff receive a 10 percent discount.

Although there is not much financial aid available for study abroad programs, Hansen said students can get loans to cover the trip's cost.

He also recommends asking for early graduation presents from family.

"This is a great way for the students to finish up their college career with a flourish," he

said.

The first \$1,000 plus a \$200 application fee is due Oct. 1. The balance is due Nov. 12. Hansen encouraged students who are interested to contact the study abroad office immediately.

He said that if the deadline is too soon for anyone to let the study abroad office know, and they will be willing to work with interested students. The study abroad office is in Keathley University Center, Room 325, and Hansen can be reached at 898-2267 or by e-mail at rahansen@mtsu.edu. ♦

Hey, you.

Yeah, YOU.

You should write for *Sidelines' News* section.

Call us.
898-2336

E-mail us.
slnews@mtsu.edu

Make some money.

In Jail?

Call
Lucky's Bonding
890-7549

FREE INFORMATION -24/7

Been There,
Done That?

Got a news tip?

Call us.

898-2336

This space for sale

Get your message out to the MTSU community using *Sidelines* advertising.

We offer competitive rates for both local and national advertisers, and we offer discounts for on-campus advertisers.

You can either provide your own ad or we can built it for you. We offer color or black and white space, at a variety of sizes.

Call (615) 898-5240
or e-mail sladmgr@mtsu.edu
for advertising information.

www.mtsusidelines.com

MTSU Evening Extended School Program

Evening Care for children
Kindergarten through 8th grade
923 E. Lytle Street
(behind Bell Street Parking Lot)
(615) 904-8220
<http://www.mtsu.edu/~eesp>

Monday-Thursday 3:30-9:00

Activities:

homework help
art, science, music, etc. activities
themed/seasonal projects
special guests
special activities
qualified teachers

Fees:

\$32.00 weekly first child
\$9.00 daily first child
\$20.00 registration fee
\$18.00 weekly additional children
\$7.00 daily additional children

Tell us at
Sidelines
898-2816

Home City Ice

Great Part Time Jobs

Hiring Students for Part Time or Full Time Delivery Jobs

Flexible Hours & GREAT PAY!!

We offer 10-40+ hours/week

Earn \$7.00 to \$12.00 per Hour

615-833-3345

Located 15 Minutes From
Campus

Ask for Roy or Todd

Visit us on the Web at homecityice.com

Highland Games:

Continued from 1

The Highland Dance Competition will showcase the dancing talents of performers from all over the globe, including the United States, Great Britain and Canada.

Those interested in whisky tasting can visit the whisky (traditional Scottish spelling) tasting area inside a covered pavilion at 10:30 a.m., 1:30 p.m. and 3:30 p.m.

The event is judged by Anthony Burnet, a Scottish native and expert on Scottish whisky. Burnet is a spokesman on the single malt Scotch business and is regional director for Glenmorangie distilleries.

Live Scottish music will be performed by local and international artists. Five Tennessee bagpipe bands will perform throughout the day, as well as the Celtic band Clann An Drumma and the traditional Scottish folk singer Ed Miller.

This year the games also welcome Christian Celtic band the Ricblair Band for the first time. The Ricblair Band will play three sets of traditional and original Celtic music.

Additional events, including the best shortbread competition, the "bonniest knees" contest, whisky barrel races and arm whistling will be going on while the games are not in session. The Saturday events cul-

minate with a clan challenge tug of war on Saturday at 4 p.m.

Roaring magicians and face painters will be circling the grounds for the entertainment of children and their families. The "Great Annual Passport Search Contest" will provide hours of fun for kids. On entry, every child will receive a "passport" and can collect stamps from each clan tent in order to earn an entry into a prize-winning drawing.

An interesting array of vendors will be on-site. The Scottish Halo Design staff will provide traditional Scottish hair design. The Scottish Army will have authentic Scottish weaponry, and the Kilnsmen Knitwear will sell kilts and other Scottish clothing.

Following the games on Saturday, a free Cellidh (pronounced "Kaylee") party will be held at the Doubletree with a cash bar at 8:30 p.m. Bands featured at the games will be performing throughout the night.

Tickets are \$10 in advance, \$12 at the door for general admission, \$7 for students with ID and \$5 for children under 12. More information about the games can be found online at www.hotsc.com.

The Tennessee Renaissance Fair grounds are about 11 miles west of Murfreesboro off Highway 96 toward Franklin. ♦

Council discusses hotel, conference center tonight

By Nick Fowler
State and Local Editor

Discussion about a proposed hotel and conference center will continue at tonight's Murfreesboro City Council meeting.

The hotel and conference center plan has been dubbed Destination Rutherford.

"The development of the hotel and conference center should be a public-private partnership," Bill Jones of Destination Rutherford said at last week's city council meeting. Murfreesboro is being asked to fund development of the conference center, while Destination Rutherford will obtain private funds for the hotel development.

Jones cited a 2001 study by MTSU's Business and Economic Research Center, which he says, shows that Rutherford County could benefit from a hotel and conference center.

The BERC study showed that there has been a growth in population and employment, but average wages were declining, and that Rutherford County needed more diversifi-

cation in its economy.

Jones pointed out that many area businesses are forced to take conferences out of Rutherford County.

The hotel and conference center would bring more car shows, antique shows, religious and regional and statewide events to Rutherford County, according to Jones.

"We are certainly losing business to neighboring counties that needs to be here," Jones told the council last week.

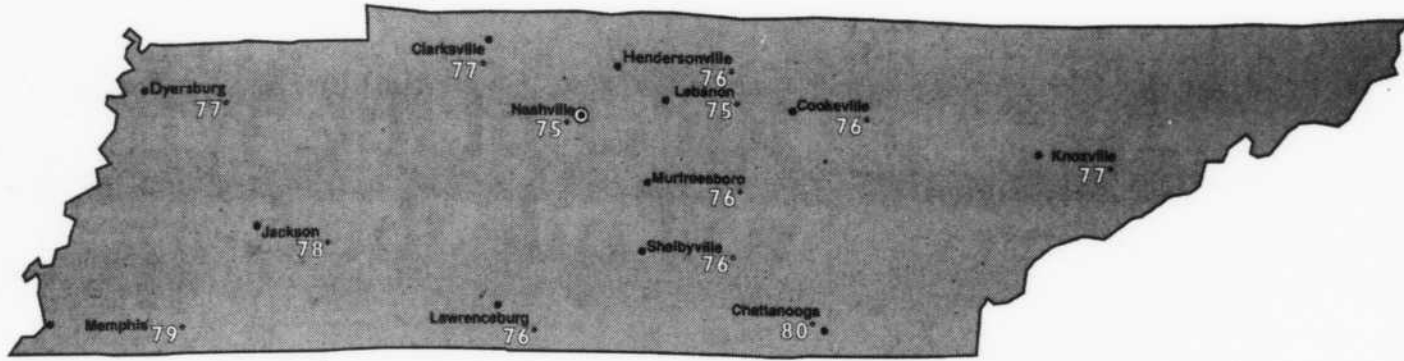
Destination Rutherford has already received responses from their request for proposals. The group asked that the hotel have a minimum of 250 rooms and have a banquet facility that can accommodate 1,300 to 1,500 people. The hotel must be full service and be rated 3.5 stars or better.

Destination Rutherford has raised \$3.1 million for the project from public and private sources. Murfreesboro, Smyrna, Lavergne and Eagleville have all contributed to the project.

The Murfreesboro City Council meeting is tonight at 7 p.m. in the council chambers at City Hall. ♦

Tennessee Weather – Thursday's Highs

From the Associated Press



Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday
82° ▲ 55° ▼	74° ▲ 40° ▼	72° ▲ 42° ▼	72° ▲ 46° ▼	74° ▲ 49° ▼

Board commissions study to evaluate teachers' pay

By Laura Lindsay
Staff Writer

City school teachers' salaries will be evaluated along with the pay rates of other city school employees, the Murfreesboro City School Board decided Tuesday night.

This study should provide the city school board and staff with information for the school system's pay philosophy and highlight anticipated challenges facing the city schools and attracting employees from a competitive market.

"We would like to pay those who are non-licensed better," board member Susan Andrews said.

Andrews said the board is also interested in doing this because of the current job market and economic state.

The board approved the employment of Steve Thompson, Burris & Associates, who will conduct the compensation study.

According to the compensation project proposal, the Murfreesboro City School System wants to update its wage and salary program for approximately 432 licensed, 92 admin-

istrative and 325 school support employees. The school system wants a comparison of its current system pay rates to those of other Tennessee city schools and to some competing employers in the local labor market.

This study should present the Murfreesboro school system with recommendations for adjusting pay steps, pay ranges and possible pay plan design changes for administrative and support positions, the proposal said.

Reports presented to the board included an update on Scales Elementary School, a progress report on the plan to replace classroom computers in Murfreesboro schools, as well as a report on the staff development plan for 2004-2005 and an update about Bradley School for the Arts.

Most of the classrooms in the Murfreesboro city schools are currently using computers that are six years old. Next year the city school hopes to replace many of those computers. The Murfreesboro School Board and staff discussed this as well as software needs and possible Internet access in schools.

In its assessment of professional and staff development for this 2004-2005 school year Murfreesboro City Schools have been focusing on measures implemented through the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001.

The city school system will implement activities in technology and special education as well as emphasizing programs for its teachers like "Motivation and Learning" and "Autism Training."

Teachers may be introduced to additional teaching methodologies and additional training may be required. These required trainings, which have been planned for the 2004-2005 school year, are new teacher induction, bloodborne pathogens, grade level meetings, Thinklink Learning, Assistant Principals' Academy and substitute training.

Along with meeting the state requirements, Bradley Elementary School is developing a school-wide plan to facilitate the development and implementation of an arts integrated curriculum, Bradley Elementary principal Bryan Wiles said.

"One of the strengths of

Bradley, we hope, is that they are going to use the art to get children more interested and to teach them the basic skills in a way that will really capture their imagination," board member Linda Ridley said.

For example, in the teaching you could involve the use of drama to walk students through some significant periods of history, board member Patrick McCarthy added.

Administration at Bradley have developed a two-year plan to achieve its desired level of art integration.

"We have involved community members and volunteers this year," Wiles said. "We have created an arts integration advisory committee. We have gotten those parents [with an art interest] together and gone through our plans with them."

"This group will meet every six weeks with our next meeting on Nov. 1. Anyone with an interest is welcome to attend. This year at Bradley we have seen a renewed enthusiasm."

In other business, the board also re-elected school board chair David Hopper, and current board member Mary Wade was named vice chair. ♦

Sidelines Classifieds

for student, non-commercial, non-retail purposes only

Students, go by the James Union Building, room 310, and fill out the proper form if you want your FREE Classified ad in Sidelines

Fill out the form by noon Friday and your ad will appear in the following week's paper.

Does your organization have an event you want Sidelines to cover?

Let us know at slnews@mtsu.edu

INSTRUMENT MECHANIC TRAINEE

Excellent opportunity for an Instrument Mechanic trainee to join the nation's largest public power producer, the Tennessee Valley Authority. Position is based at the Cumberland Fossil Plant in Cumberland, Tennessee.

Responsibilities include learning how complicated machinery works and how to troubleshoot problems. This three-and-a-half-year paid training program leads to the position of Instrument Mechanic, who maintains power station instrumentation and control equipment. Also carries out preventative maintenance routines and process control failure analyses.

Requires completing a combination of on-the-job and classroom instruction. IM trainee must prepare for class by completing homework and assigned readings, and taking quizzes and exams. Physical requirements include lifting, climbing, working from heights, and in adverse weather and temperature conditions. Ability to work rotating shifts, including weekends, overtime, and holidays will be needed.

Immediate availability. TVA offers excellent beginning salary (\$38,275) and benefits. (Current salary for Instrument Mechanic is \$54,375.) To apply, please visit our website at www.tva.com/employment. Then, review the complete job posting under Operations and Maintenance and see **how to apply** for full instructions. Closing date for this job is Oct. 10. Because TVA is a Federal agency, you must state your country of citizenship when applying.

TVA is an equal opportunity and affirmative action employer. TVA ensures that the benefits of programs receiving TVA financial assistance are available to all eligible persons regardless of race, color, sex, national origin, religion, disability, or age.

There is hope

There is hope
Volunteers of America

For people who have to deal with the harsh realities of life, Volunteers of America is there to help. We are one of the nation's largest nonprofit providers of affordable housing to families, the elderly, and people with disabilities.

The need is great. And we are there to offer support and compassion to help create positive change in a person's life.

Find out how you can help. Call 1.800.899.0089 or visit www.volunteersofamerica.org.

Volunteers of America
There are no limits on caring

Esquire Discount Liquors

check out our:
"Wine of the Month"

PRESENT MTSU ID FOR DISCOUNT
1118 Memorial Blvd. Murfreesboro 615.890.5456

STUDENT GENERATING PLANT OPERATOR

Excellent opportunity for an Assistant Unit Operator trainee to join the nation's largest public power producer, the Tennessee Valley Authority. Position is based at the Cumberland Fossil Plant in Cumberland, Tennessee.

Responsibilities include learning how to monitor equipment conditions and performance, accomplish preventative and minor corrective maintenance, and conduct process-control and failure analyses. This one-year training program leads to the position of Assistant Unit Operator (AUO).

Requires completing a combination of on-the-job and classroom instruction. Physical requirements include lifting, climbing, working from heights, and in adverse weather and temperature conditions. Ability to work rotating shifts, including weekends, overtime, and holidays will be needed.

Immediate availability. TVA offers excellent beginning salary (\$41,600) and benefits. (Current salary for AUO is \$53,335.) To apply, please visit our website at www.tva.com/employment. Then, review the complete job posting under Operations and Maintenance and see **how to apply** for full instructions. Closing date for this job is Oct. 10. Because TVA is a Federal agency, you must state your country of citizenship when applying.

TVA is an equal opportunity and affirmative action employer. TVA ensures that the benefits of programs receiving TVA financial assistance are available to all eligible persons regardless of race, color, sex, national origin, religion, disability, or age.

OPINIONS

4 ◆ SIDELINES

Thursday, September 30, 2004

Murfreesboro, Tenn.

From the Editorial Board

Questioning candidates jaded student-style

In an election where misinformation prevails over anything that will actually help an undecided voter, the debates may be the last chance Americans have to really understand who George W. Bush and John Kerry are.

So the Editorial Board is submitting a list of questions we would like to see answered during the debates because for some reason or another, they haven't made it clear to us.

- How does Kerry plan to win the peace in Iraq given the rise in insurgency and the lack of international support?

- Having initial doubts, why did Kerry still vote to give the president full authority before the Iraq war?

- Will this become another Vietnam and if so, what can be done at this point?

- Is it possible to rebuild a country so different from us in our own image? Should we not let the Iraqi people determine their own system of government?

- Specifically, how are you going to protect American jobs from outsourcing to other countries?

- How are you going to control health care costs when the standard career path is disappearing?

- Specifically to Kerry, does the government have a moral obligation to care for the health of its citizens? And what is the extent of that obligation?

- Should the minimum wage be raised? Why or why not?

- Is the gay marriage debate important to you, regardless of your position on the issue?

- Tell us about a mistake you have made in the last five years and what you've done, if anything, to rectify the situation.

- What is your plan to deal with the mass of illegal immigrants coming through our borders?

- Do you think third-party candidates should be included in the debates?

- Do you think Cat Stevens is harboring weapons of mass destruction?

Inquiring minds want to know. ◆

Ruler of the White House will rule the Supreme Court

I hate writing about politics, but I believe the upcoming presidential election deserves some special attention.

This election is significant for a reason that hasn't been mentioned much in the news – the issue of the Supreme Court justices.

It's possible that four out of the nine judges on the Supreme Court bench will be retiring or dying off within the next few years, leaving the next president with gaps to fill.

Out of the justices, John Paul Stevens is 84 years old, William Rehnquist is 79, Sandra Day O'Connor is 74 and Ruth Bader Ginsburg is 71.

These folks have done remarkably well despite their age. This particular group of judges has been together for around 10 years without meaning any replacements. It's been almost 200 years since any other single group of Supreme Court justices has been able to pull off that length of time together.

They could keep going strong for many more years to come, but the odds seem to be that at least one of them will decide to retire.

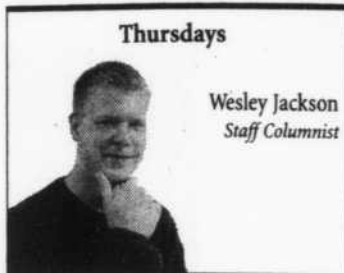
The other possibility is that one or more could succumb to age-related health infirmities.

When this happens the next president will need to appoint replacements. Though not always a sure fire predictor, it's likely that the sitting president will replace those vacancies with judges that share his values.

When the Supreme Court is one like ours – one which has been so evenly divided on issues such as abortion, marriage definitions and education – just one vote can make a crucial difference in rulings.

Therefore, just one newly appointed Supreme Court justice could revolutionize decisions made about the law. That fresh appointee could tip the scales one way or the other, making the overall tone of the rulings either conservative or liberal.

And since the Supreme Court has the last word of legal authority in our nation, the implications of that new judge are huge.



Thursdays

Wesley Jackson
Staff Columnist

We could be looking at *Roe vs. Wade* being overturned and gay marriage might receive entirely new forms of legal support or setbacks.

Besides the Supreme Court, the new leader of our nation will have several lower, federal judges to appoint.

These make a dramatic difference as well. Much more hangs on this election than merely the economy or the war.

Serious internal issues will likely be decided within the next few years that will impact the next few decades.

The frustrating thing about this election for me is seeing so many people who look at the coming election, shrug and say, "You know, I'm not very satisfied with either candidate this time around. Don't think that I feel like voting."

It's as if the election were ultimately unimportant to them.

I'll be the first to say that politics is important, but not all-important. God knows our county tends to suffer from that crazed mind-set that believes all of life boils down to politics, as if passing new laws could change people's minds and hearts, as if it could make pain, suffering and poverty disappear with the magic of a silver bullet.

That's wrong. Politics isn't our savior.

But politics and the lawmakers do influence our society in a significant way. They're ultimately there to uphold and enforce the moral standard of the nation.

The issue here is weighty. I would dare say that this one issue alone should almost be enough to drown out the various complaints and concerns of the presidential candidates on other matters.

There's a bigger picture involved here than just the economy or the war.

By voting in November you could very well have a more tangible impact on that moral standard than would have been possible in years past.

Your vote will elect a president, who could appoint a judge, who could tip the moral and legal scales for decades to come. ◆

Wesley Jackson is a senior English major and can be reached at wtj2b@mtsu.edu.

Bush needs more flexibility if he wants four more years

Grandstanding on the political high road seems more ridiculous with every piece of bad news that flows in from Iraq. As the candidates get prepared to square off in the semi-real debates, the semi-real Iraqi election seems to degrade further into a quagmire.

The ridiculous high road is the one that President George W. Bush took this week after Sen. John Kerry made an assertion that the war in Iraq was a diversion from the battle against al-Qaeda. Bush accused Kerry of undermining Iraqi interim Prime Minister Iyad Allawi's optimistic view of Iraq's future.

He went on to say that you can't lead this country if your ally in Iraq thinks you question his credibility. You might have to do a double take on that one considering the growing amount of animosity all over the world towards the United States because of Bush.

Kerry has finally started taking shots back at Bush after spending too much time on the defense against the propaganda-style swift boat ads.

After Bush cracked a couple of jokes about Kerry being a "flip-flopper" on Monday, Kerry shot back that the American people don't want to hear jokes and fantasy spin by the president, they just want the truth.

And to all those who are criticizing Kerry for speaking out against the war in Vietnam, does



Gagflex

Jason Johnson
Staff Columnist

that mean that they think Vietnam was a good idea? Any eighth-grade history book will tell you that the war in Vietnam is one of the United States' biggest blunders with no real purpose behind it.

Time magazine recently reported that many military intelligence experts believe that al-Qaeda has rebuilt its leadership structure and the United States military lacks the resources to regain control in Iraq.

It's become a puzzle that is nearly impossible to solve. We go into Afghanistan to get the people who are a genuine threat to us, but don't finish the job. We then proceed to invade Iraq because we are strangely paranoid that this broken down shell of a country is coming after us, and in the process create a major terrorist breeding ground.

Meanwhile, back in the States, many people believe that we went into Iraq to get Osama bin Laden. In short, we are losing credibility that we could actually lead the fight against future acts

of terrorism.

So taking the political high road, after all that has been said and done, is like swimming through a pool of vomit, and giving your hair a good combing when you get to the other side.

If the election turns out like recent news polls have, then Bush will win by a small margin. He has been successful at painting Kerry as man who changes his mind, or as Bush and conservative arms of the media would say, "flip-flops."

If Bush does win, we can only hope that he learns to change his mind and quit going full speed ahead into a bad decision.

One thing that the ABC poll pointed out was that many people think that it's a bad idea to switch presidents during a time of crisis. So now we know the secret to keeping a presidency.

First, run with a vice president that is so bad that nobody would ever want to impeach you.

Second, create a time of crisis so that you can scare people into thinking that they need you.

Third, run with a Christian agenda so that people think that you are a man of morals.

And fourth, let the background cronies do the dirty work while you come out clean and pristine on the high road. ◆

Jason Johnson is a senior journalism major and can be reached via email jcj2n@mtsu.edu.

Judge right to block controversial license plate

Sandi's Logic



Sandi Van Orden
Staff Columnist

The *New York Times* reported Sept. 26 that United States district Judge Todd Campbell ruled that a license plate saying "Choose Life" was unconstitutional.

At first glance it seems strange. Why would a judge decide that it is unconstitutional for someone to purchase a license plate stating his/her view on the abortion issue?

The reason is quite simple, once all the facts on the case are found. The Tennessee state legislature cannot give a forum to one side of political debate while excluding the opposing view from expressing its opinion.

"Those who wanted a license plate in favor of abortion rights had not tried hard enough to get a specialty plate passed by the General Assembly," those defending the Pro Life plates said, according to the article.

The problem with that argument is that in the 102nd and 103rd General Assemblies the legislature opted not to pass a plate with a pro-choice message.

So, Judge Campbell's ruling is saying that the state government cannot limit expression in an open forum, which in this case is on someone's license plate.

Tennessee Right to Life was expecting this ruling, according to the organization's Web site. An article on the group's Web site claimed that the ruling was for the political agenda of the judge.

It also reports that the group intends to appeal the verdict.

Why should Tennesseans worry about who has a specialty plate and who doesn't?

If residents of this state sit back while the government only allows one argument to be expressed in one area, it may only take time before the legislature decides to limit expression in other areas as well.

While individuals in the legislature have every right to their opinion, those legislators should not be able to prevent people with different opinions from expressing their views.

Tennesseans should be glad that there is a judge willing to tell the legislature when it crosses the line, and residents should also use their votes to put people in the legislature that will not try to allow expression of issues to only those who hold the same ideals.

If the legislature wants to allow a Choose Life license plate that is fine, but also allow one for the Right to Choose side of the debate. ◆

Sandi Van Orden is a junior journalism major and can be reached at slv2e@mtsu.edu.

SIDELINES

Middle Tennessee
State University
1301 East Main Street
P.O. Box 8
Murfreesboro, TN 37132

Editorial: 898-2337
Advertising: 898-2533
Fax: 904-8193
www.mtsusidelines.com

Editor in Chief	Jason Cox*
Managing Editor	Kristin Hall*
Production Manager	Brandon Morrison
Campus News Editor	Erica Rodefer*
Associate News Editor	Melissa Bowman
State and Local News Editor	Nick Fowler*
Opinions Editor	Matthew Adair*
Features Editor	Michaela Jackson
Sports Editor	Colby Sledge
Photo Editor/Features Design	Emily Nance
Chief Photographer	Steve Cross
Assistant Sports Editor	Jon Leffew
Copy Editors	Michaela Jackson, Marie Patrick, Juanita Thouin, Melissa Coker
Business Manager	Jeri Lamb
Sidelines Publisher	Wendell Rawls
Ad Design Manager	Meghanne Thompson

*denotes member of editorial board

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.

Letters to the Editor

Column was an embarrassment to paper, school

I was embarrassed by Ms. Klara Nizki's Sidelines article ["Getting exactly what we pay for at MTSU," Sept. 29] stating that "MTSU is the Wal-Mart of education."

Wait. I should clarify something. I was embarrassed for her. And she is a junior in business? "A big institution like MTSU should have several top recognizable programs." Nizki doesn't do her research very well.

If I were the editor of Sidelines, I would reprimand the person responsible for editing and proofing her article.

In my opinion, the only comparison that can be made to Wal-Mart is, perhaps, Sidelines.

Teresa Bragg
Parent of MTSU student

Want to tell your favorite columnist what you think?
Visit www.mtsusidelines.com.

Your
letters
rock
our
world.

Keep
them
coming
in, folks.

Really.
It's cool.

slopinio@mtsu.edu

SPORTS

Murfreesboro, Tenn.

Thursday, September 30, 2004

SIDELINES ♦ 5

MT volleyball squad welcomes two Arkansas teams

By Katy Hamlett
Staff Writer

MT's Blue Raider volleyball team is taking a few days off this week to prepare for a conference weekend at home.

The Blue Raiders will take on the Arkansas State Indians on Friday night, followed by the Arkansas-Little Rock Trojans Saturday afternoon.

"These are very important matches for us," MT head coach Matt Peck said. "We are 1-1 in the conference right now and two wins would make us 3-1."

The Blue Raiders haven't had a winning conference record in three years.

ASU is a traditionally strong team who will enter Friday's match on a seven-game winning streak. In their last victory the Trojans shut out local rival Arkansas Pine-Bluff 3-0.

ASU's new weapon of choice is former redshirt Amy Leadem, a 6'4" freshmen out of Tucson, Arizona. Leadem is currently ranked third in the Sun Belt Conference in blocks.

In 2003, MT lost both of their matches against the Trojans. This year, UALR will be entering the match coming off their first conference win of the season, a 3-1 victory against Florida International.

The Trojans have the tallest players in the SBC, with five of their 10 players standing six feet or taller.

Freshman Ivanka Davidova from Bulgaria is just over 6'6", but still figuratively looks up to senior Ivana Vracar for inspiration. The 6'2" Yugoslavia native is ranked third in the Sun Belt in service aces.

MT will be entering the weekend after a 3-0 conference

loss to Western Kentucky and two victories against Troy State and North Texas last weekend.

MT boasts senior Dara McLean, who was named SBC Offensive Player of the Week this week for the first time in her career.

"Dara had an incredible match against Troy and another great one against North Texas," Peck said. "So it's a great sign for us now that with so many people hurt, Dara has stepped it up."

Of MT's 12 eligible players, only ten were injury-free for the matches over the weekend. KeKe Deckard is expected to be back for the ASU and UALR games after a foot injury at the Miami of Ohio match.

"I think we've done great dealing with adversity," McLean said. "We've had five people

See Volleyball, 6



Photo by Micah Miller | Staff Photographer

MT head coach Matt Peck addresses his team during their match against WKU.

Family ties drive Fite to success

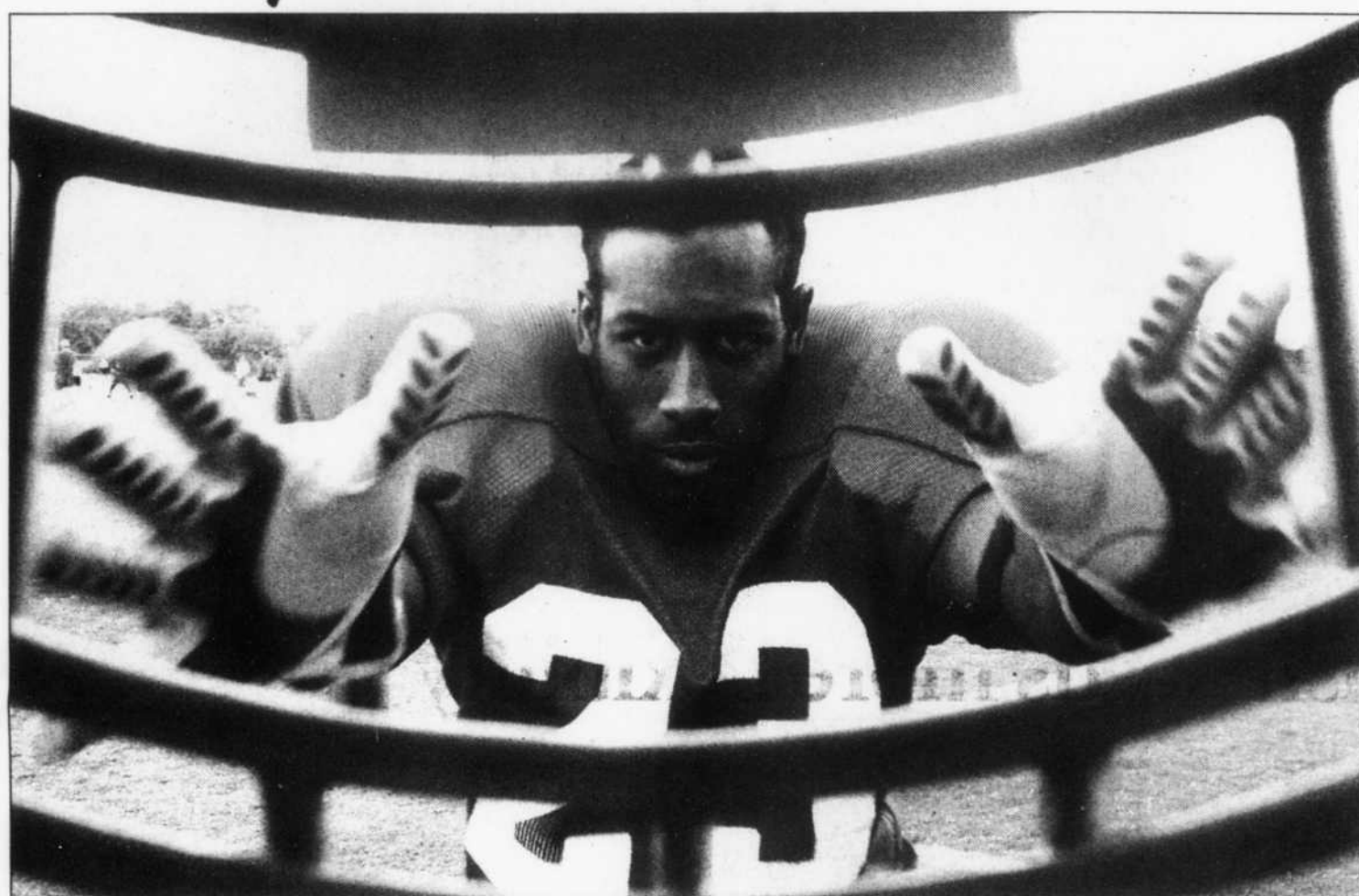


Photo by Micah Miller | Staff Photographer

Opposing offenses have been seeing plenty of MT's Alvin Fite, who has 20 total tackles and two fumble recoveries.

By Katy Hamlett
Staff Writer

Middle Tennessee senior linebacker Fite has an impressive frame.

Measuring 6 feet and weighing at 230 pounds, Fite makes his presence known on the field. But Fite's football bloodline, natural leadership skills and exceptionally personable attitude leaves an impression on most people he meets, both on and off the field.

Fite's team football career began in seventh grade, but his football genes go back much further.

Fite's uncle, Eddie Hill, was a first-round NFL draft pick in 1979. Hill played two seasons with the Los Angeles Rams and five seasons with the Miami Dolphins, with a total of three Super Bowl appearances. Norman Hill, Fite's youngest uncle, played briefly for the Seattle Seahawks before transferring to the short-lived USFL Denver

Gold.

Additionally, Fite's first cousin, Samuel Hardy, plays for the Knoxville Crusaders of the National Indoor Football League, and Hardy hopes to transfer to the upcoming season.

"My family is very blessed athletically," Fite's aunt Bernita Hill said. "AJ [Alvin] has good work ethics, but he also has natural God-given talent."

It was expected that Fite would attend Hillsboro High School despite being zoned elsewhere, because HHS is where the rest of his family graduated. It was at Hillsboro that Fite stumbled upon one of his primary mentors that would continue to motivate him throughout college.

"Alvin's my favorite kid I've dealt with in 23 years of coaching," Hillsboro head coach Ron Aydelott said. "We made it to the semifinals Alvin's senior year. The team then placed runner-up for two years and we

finally won the title in 2003. Alvin was the cornerstone, the whole beginning of that legacy."

Even at the end of his college career, Fite continues to look favorably on his high school football experiences. While he racked up an impressive list of honors, such as a two-time All State selection, Class 4A Defensive Player of the Year, and Tommy Owen Award winner (the most prestigious award in Metro Nashville), Fite's favorite memories are of the game itself.

"You just played for fun in high school," Fite said. "You didn't have to worry about anything else, you just got out there and played."

During high school, Fite's leadership skills became evident to his teammates and coaches, though his family knew of it all along.

"I constantly instill in him that he's a

See Fite, 6

Blue Raiders start SBC play in Miami

By Jill Davis
Staff Writer

The Middle Tennessee soccer team opens its Sun Belt Conference schedule tomorrow at Florida International (2-6).

Currently the Blue Raiders are 5-3 in non-conference games, but this conference opener has more value in it, according to MT head coach Aston Rhoden.

Rhoden said he hopes to see the team come away with positive results after a full hour-and-a-half workout against the Golden Panthers.

Most collegiate teams have one or two key players that stand out. Although the Blue Raiders have two premier scorers in Debs Brereton and Laura Miguez, Rhoden wants to see a collectively good game over a 90-minute period from a team, not individuals.

"We don't have any one great star," Rhoden said. "We've got a bunch of players who at any given day could be superstars."

Brereton has eight goals for the Blue Raiders, who have outscored their opponents 23-9. Rachel Holmes has four goals and one assist, while Miguez has added two goals and three assists.

Freshman keeper Jenny Manish has started all eight games for MT this season, earning four shutouts while garnering a 1.11 goals against average.

The Golden Panthers have lost two straight matches, including a 2-0 loss to Florida Atlantic on Tuesday. FIU is 1-4 against other Florida schools, with their only victory coming in a 2-1 decision over South Florida on Sept. 16.

Janessa Taddei leads the Golden Panthers with five goals, while Janet Ligouri has two scores and Kristin Hurst has one.

Those eight goals haven't supported goalkeeper Madeline Gannon, who has allowed 14 goals against 29 saves.

Although the game is the conference opener for both teams, Rhoden doesn't want to put too much emphasis on tomorrow's match.

"A win in this game doesn't guarantee we're going to win the rest of the conference games," Rhoden said. "Losing this game doesn't guarantee we're going to lose the rest of the conference games."

Historically these two teams have played extremely physical matches. Last season the Blue Raiders defeated FIU 2-0 for their first win over the Golden Panthers.

That match featured 47 fouls, including a red card for then-captain Jenny Cox.

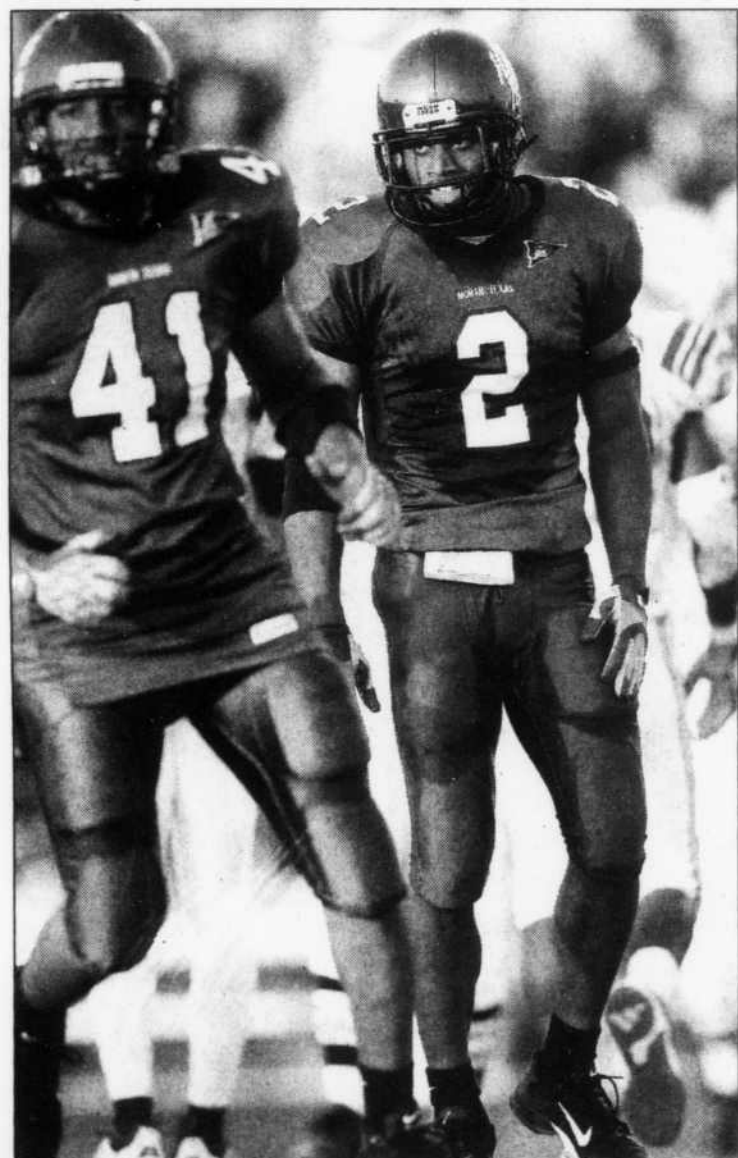
This year the Golden Panthers have earned eight yellow cards compared to MT's three, and FIU's total of 107 fouls nearly doubles the Blue Raiders' 58.

Neither team has collected a red card.

"They are the type of team that's going to make us have to play for the full 90 minutes," Rhoden said.

The Blue Raiders take the field against the Golden Panthers tomorrow at 6 p.m. FIU will then travel to Bowling Green, Ky., to play Western Kentucky on Sunday at 1 p.m.

MT returns home Monday to face Alabama A&M at 3 p.m. in a match that was originally scheduled for Sept. 26. ♦



North Texas shares MT's tough luck

By Chase Williams
Staff Writer

After losing each of their last two games by a single touchdown, the Blue Raider football team will travel to Denton, Texas looking for their first conference win of the season against defending Sun Belt champion North Texas on Saturday.

Both teams are coming off a loss: Middle Tennessee (1-2, 0-1 SBC) lost 24-17 Louisiana-Lafayette last Saturday, while UNT (0-4) was a 37-14 loser at Baylor last weekend. This will be UNT's first conference contest.

"They have had some tough opponents and a tough start, but they have had that before, too," McCollum said. "Their conference play starts now. As anyone in this conference knows, it's wide open."

UNT defeated the Blue

Photo courtesy of UNT Media Relations
Maurice Holman (41) and Markeith Knowlton are part of a UNT defense ranked in the bottom 10 in the country.

Raiders 33-28 last year in Murfreesboro. MT has never beaten the Mean Green.

The Blue Raiders possess the Sun Belt's best offense, averaging 390 total yards and 315 passing yards per game, which is seventh best in the nation. MT is scoring just under 28 points per game.

Quarterback Clint Marks continues to play well, having set a school record with 35 completions in a game last week. All-American candidate and Biletnikoff Award hopeful Kerry Wright continues to play well as receiver with 26 receptions for 316 yards and a touchdown. Nationally, Wright currently ranks third in catches per game.

Head coach Darrell Dicke's Mean Green offense has some firepower of its own. UNT running back Jamario Thomas averages 101 yards rushing per game and has three touchdowns in place of injured Patrick Cobbs, who announced yesterday that he has decided to redshirt this season. Quarterback Scott Hall has thrown for 559 yards for two scores and one interception.

"Darrell and his staff do a great job," McCollum said. "They are 0-4, but I assure you they have a lot of confidence going into conference play."

On defense, however, both teams rank near the bottom of Division I-A in separate categories. The Blue Raiders are 110th in passing defense, while UNT is 113th in run defense and 114th in total defense.

"They [the MT defense] are getting better back there, but we still have to do some better things technique wise," McCollum said. "They have faced three really good quarterbacks. We have to make sure the guys on the field are going to make plays when they have the chance or we are going to have to find others who can."

Marks, Wright, running back Eugene Gross and the rest of the Middle Tennessee offense will look to exploit UNT's defense — as long as they can keep penalties to a minimum after committing 13 last Saturday.

"What we have to cut out is we had one or two stupid penalties that hurt us and it's not intentional, but they are critical

plays and that's where you shoot yourself," McCollum said. "There's probably one or two [penalties] there that were stupid penalties on our part, but some of the others — well, you can't tell your kids not to play aggressive."

Both McCollum and his players know they'll have to play aggressively Saturday against a North Texas team hungry for its first win.

"I just take the approach that it's a conference game and we really need this win," Marks said. "North Texas is a great conference team. We have to go in there with our heads up and fight to get the win."

"We know they have a very good football team and we know the type of players they are going to have when we line up across from them," McCollum said. "That's why they have been champions for three years now. We have to make sure we don't beat ourselves. We are not good enough to have to overcome ourselves."

UNT and MT face off Saturday at 6:05 p.m. ♦

Sun Belt teams travel across country this weekend

By David Hunter
Senior Staff Writer

It is another week of Sun Belt Conference action with conference play heating up, while others have tough non-conference games.

Utah State Aggies (2-2, 1-0) at Troy Trojans (2-2, 1-0)

SBC foes will meet for the third time with the series tied at one. Last season, Troy's running back had a school-record 230 rushing yards in the 23-14 victory.

Last week, the Trojans lost to South Carolina 17-7, while the Aggies defeated University of Nevada-Las Vegas 31-21.

USU linebacker Robert Watts picked off two passes, including one he returned 90 yards for a touchdown. Watts was named SBC Defensive Player of the Week. USU punter/place-kicker Ben Chaet received the SBC Special Teams Player of the Week by hitting all three of his field goal tries, and punting for an average of 45.3 yards on six punts. Two of them went longer than 50 yards, and two others rested inside the 20-yard line.

Kickoff is set for 2:30 p.m. and will be televised on Comcast Sports Southeast, Channel 27.

Louisiana-Lafayette Ragin' Cajuns (2-2, 1-0) at Florida International Golden Panthers (1-0)

ULL will take on future SBC member FIU, who is a member of the conference in all other sports, but will join the conference in football next year. Last season, ULL took home a 48-10 victory in their first-ever matchup.



Last week ULL defeated Middle Tennessee 24-17, while FIU's game with Western Kentucky was postponed because of Hurricane Jeanne. This will be the first home game for the Golden Panthers after the first two were postponed because of hurricanes.

Kickoff is set for 5 p.m., and will be shown on the Sunshine Network on a tape delay.

Arkansas State Indians (1-3, 1-0) at Mississippi Rebels (1-3, 1-1 SEC)

These two teams will play each other for the

23rd time with UM leading the all-time series 19-1-2. The last time ASU defeated the Rebels was in 1915.



Last week, ASU won their conference opener over Louisiana-Monroe 28-21. ASU running back Antonio Warren Jr. was named SBC

Offensive Player of the Week after rushing for 175 yards in the victory.

Ole Miss lost to Wyoming 37-32 last Saturday. Kickoff is 2 p.m. on Saturday.

Louisiana-Monroe Indians (0-3, 0-1) at Wyoming Cowboys (2-1, 0-0 MWC)

This will be the third time both teams have played each other with the Cowboys winning the first two. This will be the first meeting since 1999.

ULM lost to ASU last week 28-21, while the Cowboys beat Ole Miss 37-31.

Kickoff is set for 2:07 p.m. on Saturday.

Idaho Vandals (0-4, 0-1) at Eastern Michigan Eagles (1-3, 0-1 MAC)

This is the first ever match-up between the two squads. However, the SBC is 2-0 this season against the MAC. Those two wins were Troy over Marshall 17-15, on Sept. 4 and MT's win against Akron the following week.

Last week, UI lost to Oregon 48-10, while the Eagles were beat by Eastern Illinois, 31-28. Kickoff is set for 5 p.m. on Saturday.

New Mexico State Aggies (1-3, 1-0) at Texas El-Paso (1-2, 0-1 WAC)



These teams will meet for the 81st time Saturday, with UTEP leading the series 46-32-2. This game will count as a SBC conference game for NMSU because of scheduling issues.

Last week, the Aggies were beat by in-state rivals New Mexico 38-3, while the Miners had the week off.

Kickoff is set for 8:05 on Saturday. ♦

Fite: Tamed wild side to become dominant force for MT

Continued from 5

born leader," Hill said. "It's a talent that God gives him and he uses it in a positive way."

But growing up, Fite wasn't always so angelic.

"We used to call him Tazmanian Devil," Hill said. "I thought between me, my mom and dad we'd kill him. He was a terror. But we knew he would hear the call to rise above all of that."

Though the "Tazmanian Devil" years were at times chaotic for his family, Fite learned to channel some of his intense childhood behavior to the football field.

"In football, you can hit people for free. When you're little and you hit somebody you get in trouble for it, but now you can do it and get a trophy," Fite joked.

With his antics under control, leadership skills firmly established and strength mounting by the day, in 2000 Fite became Nashville's hottest recruiting prospect. The Southeastern Conference was highly interested in Fite, including the University of Alabama and the University of Kentucky.

"I chose to come to MTSU for family

reasons," Fite explained. "I wanted to stay close to home. I wanted my family to be able to come see me play, and in case something happened, I would be able to get back and see them."

In 2002, Fite's "something" tragically happened. Fite's grandmother on his mother's side, his grandfather on his father's side and his father's only sister passed away within a few months of each other.

"Alvin's inspiration is my mother," Hill said. "When she was sick in 2002, he missed practices and she would not have it. She was his inspiration, his granny."

Despite personal tragedy, Fite played in all 12 games of the 2002 season, including the first start of his college career.

With his family being a main vein of inspiration, it's no surprise that Fite's games are a family affair.

Fite's grandfather on his mother's side is a retired Greyhound bus driver and has driven Fite's various teams anywhere they need to go. Fite's family is always a source of support during the games.

"My mom has always been there," Fite

said. "She's always been at every game. She's only missed two games since I've been playing anything."

Fite also has ample motivation to set an example on the field.

"I have a little brother, and I play my heart out for him because when everybody else is gone all you have is your family," he said.

This year Fite hopes to help lead MT to the New Orleans Bowl. But after this season, if Fite isn't taken in the NFL Draft, he wants to take his leadership skills off the field and into the classroom.

"I'm in health and physical education," Fite said. "I want to teach young kids. I want to help young kids with problems - I've always liked helping others."

But for now, Fite is concentrating on his final season with MT football.

"Winning means a lot to Alvin and he's a very determined guy," MT head football coach Andy McCollum said. "He's the kind of guy that you would want your son to be like. I would be proud to have a son turn out like Alvin." ♦

Volleyball: Fewer practices

Continued from 5

injured, including two starters, but I think we've dealt with it quite well."

MT's Monday and Tuesday practices were cancelled this week in order to recover strength from this past weekend and prepare for the conference matches this weekend.

"I'm not one to give people extra time but I thought it'd be a good thing," Peck said.

"We needed to give them rest because they worked very hard," she added. "We had three challenging matches in a row, [and] especially after losing the first match against WKU, I was very proud of how our team turned around."

MT will take on ASU at 7 p.m. Friday before facing UALR at 2 p.m. Saturday. ♦

Got something to shout about?


SIDELINES ONLINE

THE STUDENT NEWSPAPER OF MIDDLE TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY

Visit the message boards at

www.mtsusidelines.com

Sports Line: 898-2816



CAMPUS CROSSINGS

APARTMENTS

Thank you Campus Crossings residents we're so glad you live on the Border... Of Campus that is!

Good luck with your classes!
We know its going to be a great year!

285 N Rutherford Blvd
Murfreesboro, TN 37130
Phone: 615-867-7110

Middle Tennessee State University Student Government Association

2004 AIDS Quilt 5K Run/Walk

Saturday, October 9, 2004

7:00 a.m.

Registration begins at 6:00 a.m.

Dogs welcome!

Middle Tennessee State University

1301 E. Main Street

Murfreesboro, TN 37132

Registration and Kick-Off at Walnut Grove
(between Peck Hall and Cope Administration Building)

Divisions:

18 years old and under

18-35 years old

Over 35 years old

MTSU Greek Division

AIDS Quilt T-shirt guaranteed to those who pre-register!

Pre-Registration Date:

Price: \$15.00

On or before September 30, 2004 at 4:30 p.m.

Late Registration:

Price: \$18.00

After September 30

(you may register the day of the race)

Recognition presented to 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place in each division.
All proceeds will benefit the MTSU Student Government Association's official philanthropy~ the AIDS Quilt Project. The AIDS Quilt will be on display the weekend of November 12-13.

Questions about the race? Please call Megan at 615-491-2615.
Entry form and check may be returned to the SGA office in MTSU's
Keathley University Center #208

MT at North Texas GameDay Preview

By Colby Sledge and Jon Leffew
Sports Editor and Assistant Sports Editor



(1-2)

Pos.	No.	Name
Offense		
QB	17	Clint Marks
TB	20	Eugene Gross
WR (X)	1	Kerry Wright
WR (Y)	3	Chris Henry
WR(Z)	15	Cleannord Saintil
WR(H)	4	Pierre Ingram
TE	82	Jerrin Holt
LT	60	Willie Hall
LG	58	Quinton Staton
C	57	Marcus Gates
RG	71	Joe Evilsizer
RT	73	Germaile Franklin
Defense		
LE	94	Devarick Scandrett
NG	92	Jeff Littlejohn
T	93	Thomas Johnson
RE	45	Sean Mosley
SLB	40	Dennis Burke
MLB	23	Alvin Fite
WLB	41	Marcel Horne
LC	2	Danny Tolbert
LS	7	Kevin Copeland
RS	8	Jonathan Harris
RC	24	Bradley Robinson
Special Teams		
PK/P	46	Colby Smith
PK/FT	49	Paul Wheeler
H	47	Walt Bell
PR	1	Kerry Wright
KR	6	Lee Baker
DS	36	John Crawford

When UNT Runs

Patrick Cobbs, who led the nation in rushing last year, is out for the season after seeking a medical reprieve. Jamario Thomas, Cobbs' replacement, has been more than adequate, averaging 101.3 yards per game with three touchdowns. The MT run defense is allowing 127.3 yards per game, which isn't bad, but isn't great either.

Advantage: Even

When UNT Passes

UNT quarterback Scott Hall has capably handled the job this season, but he's nowhere near the caliber of the other QBs the Blue Raiders have faced this season.

Having said that, the MT secondary is 112th in the nation, giving up 305 yards per game. The holes in the defense will likely be less exposed this week, since the Mean Green offense has been dormant all season long.

Advantage: Even

When MT Runs

The Blue Raider running attack has been dismal, with Eugene Gross averaging a paltry 35.7 yards per game. The running game's ineptitude, however, can be partially attributed to the coaching staff's decision to throw the ball on nearly every down.

This would be a clear advantage for the Mean Green, except their run defense is currently giving up over 260 yards per game. MT faced a similarly poor run defense last week at ULL and gained just 94 yards, however, meaning they probably won't do much better.

Advantage: UNT

When MT Passes

Clint Marks set a school record last week with 35 completions and is now second in the nation in completion percentage (75.22). The MT offense is seventh in passing offense with 315 passing yards per game.

Kerry Wright scared MT fans when he slowly got up from a hit in the first half, but showed later he was fine.

The UNT secondary isn't much better than their teammates on the defensive line, but they'll certainly see a lot more action. The only question now is how MT plans on turning those statistics into points.

Advantage: MT

Special Teams

Colby Smith has proved to be consistent, if unspectacular, in taking over the placekicking duties for MT.

The Blue Raiders have also blocked three field goals in three games, and Kerry Wright is eighth in the nation with an average of almost 20 yards per punt return.

Meanwhile, UNT only has two punt returns all season, each of which were for less than five yards.

UNT punter Brad Kadlubar, is averaging over 40 yards per punt, but placekicker Nick Bazaldua is only 2-for-4 on the year.

Advantage: MT

Coaching

UNT head coach Darrell Dickey has won the SBC Coach of the Year award for the last three years and boasts an 18-game conference win streak.

However, Andy McCollum's teams have performed well in the conference, with the exception of any time they have faced the Mean Green (0-3 against UNT).

Both teams are reeling after tough losses last week, and the Blue Raiders are better on paper.

Advantage: Even

Intangibles

While the Blue Raiders are ranked 19th nationally in turnovers per game, the Mean Green have had trouble dealing with the loss of Cobbs and the death of former starting quarterback Alex Smith.

Even so, the Blue Raiders have never defeated UNT, and McCollum's team is averaging 10 penalties for more than 80 yards per game.

Advantage: UNT

Conclusion

Anyone who has watched MT during the last three years knows the team has been dominated by UNT.

This being said, the Mean Green just are not a good team this season. They were crushed by Colorado and Texas, then lost to Florida Atlantic, just like MT.

However, the Mean Green were thumped last week against Baylor. That's right, Baylor.

The Blue Raiders are due a victory, if only because of Marks and the high-powered passing offense. ♦



(0-4)

Pos.	No.	Name
Offense		
QB	11	Scott Hall
RB	20	Jamario Thomas
FB	37	James Mitchell
WR	81	Johnny Quinn
WR	80	Kevin Howard
TE	7	Andy Blount
LT	72	Joel Foster
LG	76	Lonnie Chambers
C	57	Andy Brewster
RG	67	Dylan Lineberry
RT	60	Jeremy Brown
Defense		
DE	85	Adrian Awasom
DT	93	Michael Pruitt
DT	95	Evan Cardwell
DE	44	Tommy Harrison
OLB	46	Shawn Early
ILB	51	Derek Mendoza
OLB	4	Brandon Monroe
CB	8	T.J. Covington
CB	18	Walter Priestley
SS	2	Markeith Knowlton
FS	1	Jonas Buckles
Special Teams		
PK	29	Nick Bazaldua
P	35	Brad Kadlubar
KR	3	Zach Muzzy
PR	81	Johnny Quinn
DS	84	Rusty Beck
H	81	Johnny Quinn



27



21

CLASSIFIEDS

Employment

\$15-\$150/HR Taking Surveys online.
PT/FT. Set your own hours.
www.getpaidgroup.com

Part-time Employment. You determine your own hours, your own pace and your own compensation. Great way to work around your current schedule, earn extra money and try a new financial services career. For more info., call Valerie or Reggie at 904-1871

Need Money? Student advisors are needed for 120 unit off-campus MTSU apartment community. On-site training, cash referrals and generous hourly salaries are included. Call toll free, 1-866-594-5470 to make an appointment with Kimberly Sanders.

Studying business? How will you gain real world experience? Don't wait until graduation to jump into a cold market. Are you willing to seek out leaders to learn from their experiences and mistakes? Get real before the real gets you. Andy @ 615-896-0311.

Female model wanted, 18-21, no exp. necessary, very flexible hours and great income opportunity. Call 615-812-9737 lv msg., if no answer.

Opportunities

The Tennessee Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation is seeking student tutors for the following ETIS courses: Statics, Instruments and Controls, Technical Drawing, Industrial Electricity. Please contact Barbara Knox at 898-5311 for more information, Jones Hall Room 333.

ATTENTION! We are currently recruiting volunteers to participate in a research study involving Depo-Provera. Who? Females age 18yrs. or older currently using Depo-Provera. Why? To determine the impact of what's in it for me? You will receive a free bone mineral density scan. Interested? Contact Stephanie Otto at 615-497-0016. Call Now, Space is limited.

LOVE SPORTS? Earn \$100 to \$1,000 a day in Sports Industry. No Exp. Nec.
1-800-314-1619 ext 60791

Guitarist starting a Metal band. Some

influences include Skid Row, Iron Maiden, Metallica, Queensryche, GNR and The Darkness. Need someone for vocals, bass, guitar and drums. Interested? Call 631-8920.

Are you an Undergraduate student interested in pursuing a PhD? If so, we would like to talk to you. To find out more information visit www.mtsu.edu/~mcnair.

Undergraduate research is beneficial for prospective PhD candidates. If you are interested in pursuing a PhD visit www.mtsu.edu/~mcnair for qualifying criteria.

Services

AUTOMOTIVE CAREERS Highline Luxury Auto Sales Administrative/Accounting, Customer Account Representative-Part-time. ALL NEW interactive Resume Service. FREE RESUME POSTING @ www.DealerClassified.com. (404)213-7196.

Horseback Riding Lessons - CHA certified instructor with 25 years experience is offering English and Western riding lessons. 15 min. drive from campus. Student rates. Call 615-536-5906.

ACCT tutoring for select classes and paper-editing through email. Reasonable charges. Please email: mtsueditor@hotmail.com

Lose Weight! I lost 20 lbs in 30 days. All Natural! 100% guaranteed. Ask for the discount! 888-531-2040.

Spring Break 2005! Travel with STS, America's #1 Student Tour Operator to Jamaica, Cancun, Acapulco, Bahamas and Florida. Now hiring on-campus reps! Call for group discounts! Information/Reservations 1-800-648-4849 or www.ststravel.com.

In Jail?

Call Lucky's Bonding, 890-7549. Free info - 24/7.

Travel

Spring Break Bahamas Celebrity Party Cruise! 5 days \$299! Includes Meals, Parties! Cancun, Acapulco, Nassau, Jamaica From \$459! Panama City & Daytona \$159! www.springbreaktravel.com 1-800-678-6386.

Sales

Miscellaneous

Entertainment Center - light brown, great condition. Has space for 27" TV, VCR/DVD player and stereo. Has shelf below and a small cabinet with door. \$50 Call 898-5172.

Washer & Dryer: Maytag \$150.00 obo for both. Call 895-1464 between 7&9.

Bicycle. Nishiki Bravo with lights and lock. Call 898-2135 days or 895-7663 evenings. \$175 obo.

JVC Pioneer flip down CD players-\$90. Pioneer 6-Disc CD changers \$125. Call 615-403-3154.

Scrubs for sale! Tops and bottoms available in x-small and small. Bottoms available in solid colors. Tops available in solids and patterns. Sets are \$8, tops \$5, and bottoms \$4. Also for sale, white lab coat in almost new condition. Coat is \$10. Please contact Nicole at 615-415-3720. leave msg.

SCUBA Gear. Used twice. Boots (fit size 10 women or 9 male), fins, snorkel, mask, weight, belt, weights and nice bag. \$175 - call 615-478-8596.

"WE PAY CASH" for DVD's and Games! DVD Plus, Open until 11 pm, Sunday thru Saturday. Located behind Coconut Bay Cafe by Stones River Mall. (615) 898-0090.

Automotive

98 Pontiac Firebird: silver, t-tops, chrome wheels very nice. 115,000 mi, \$7,000. Call 867-1898.

95 Camaro Z28. Blk. w/ blk. leather. \$4300. Call 615-474-7452.

2000 Nissan Frontier. Red SE Dessert runner. 5 spd. Loaded. New tires and brakes. \$8300. Call 615-482-1299.

95 Nissan Sentra 4D, PW, PL, Auto, 119k. Very Clean. Must sell \$2900 obo. Call Sameer 615-403-7393.

Toyota 4Runner: '93 V6 white, AM/FM, CD, PW, PDL, custom wheels, roof rack 191k. Auto. \$2900. Call 260-9088.

'95 Chry. Cirrus, avg. cond. 3500 obo. 429-5180.

2000 Ford Focus 52K 5 speed. 4 Dr

white w/ tinted windows. AC/heat AM/FM. \$4500 obo. Info. Call 615-482-7607.

1991 Mazda 626 LX 142K, 5 speed, AC/Heat, CD/AM/FM radio, and alarm. Good condition. \$1200 OBO. 867-1818.

'83 Volvo station wagon 240 DL. CD player, AC, cruise control, auto., good condition. \$2500/obo. Call 944-1894.

Roommates

Room for Rent. large closet, private bath, walking distance to campus. Rent \$275 plus 1/4 utilities. No lease Required. Call 945-3088 leave message.

Non-smoker roommate needed. 3 BD 2 BA apt. 1 block from campus. Private room, shared bath. \$200/mo & 1/3 utilities. Contact Toni @ 615-476-5916.

Female Roommate needed. 2 BD 2 BA apt. at Chelsea place, close to campus. Everything completely furnished. All you need is bedroom furniture. Rent is \$334 + utilities. If interested contact Stephanie 865-654-4678 or 615-895-3462. Email at Sab3r@mtsu.edu.

Roommate needed. 3 Bd/2BA new house. Eastwood Subdivision. \$400/month, split electric. Use of WV/D & digital cable with HBO, showtime & Cinemax. Call Mary 400-8957.

Roommate Needed: Private upstairs w/ kitchen, bath, bed & living room. All utilities included. 3 miles from Sam's I-24. Security system, digital cable & movie channels. Call Mary, 400-8957, \$600/mo.

Roommate wanted for 2 bedroom apartment. \$320/month. Call Drew 615-525-6969.

3 roommates looking for male roommate. \$350/ month pays for room, water, electricity, cable, internet, and some food at a Smyrna townhome if interested, call Brandon at 310-6822.

Roommate wanted to share 3 br house, walking distance to MTSU. Utilities, cable, AOL and laundry. \$375/month, all included. 890-2240 anytime. 893-1951, 9-5:30, Mon.-Sat.

Male, non-smoker roommate wanted to share 3 bd/2ba with female. 20 minutes from campus. Must sign 6 months or 1 year lease. \$350 plus 1/2 utilities. \$100 deposit required. Call Lisa 615-415-

9302-leave msg.

Female roommate needed at University Courtyard Apt. Rent is \$375 a month (Regularly \$395) First month's rent paid. Four bedrooms, 4 baths, fully furnished, room overlooks pool, all utilities included, free Internet access. If interested, please call (615) 310-1927.

For Rent

Clean and Spacious 2 BD apt., located within close walking distance of campus. Available immediately, \$600/mo. call 907-1080 or 542-3518.

Room for rent in new town house off of church street. Walk-in closet, full bath, W/D. \$375 + 1/2 utilities. Mature, dependable person needed ASAP. Call 931-267-6951 anytime.

Rooms for rent in a large homestead set on a 400-acre farm. Utilities included in flat monthly rent. Sept. rent is free with deposit! The house has a large front yard, 10ft. tall ceiling, fire places, large kitchen, and located with convenient access to all of Murfreesboro. One Large room downstairs with double closet \$350/month. Medium room upstairs for \$290/month. This is a great house at a great price for any student that is laid-back and professional. More more info. or apt., call Jake at 943-6141. These rooms with not be available for long so come see them now!!

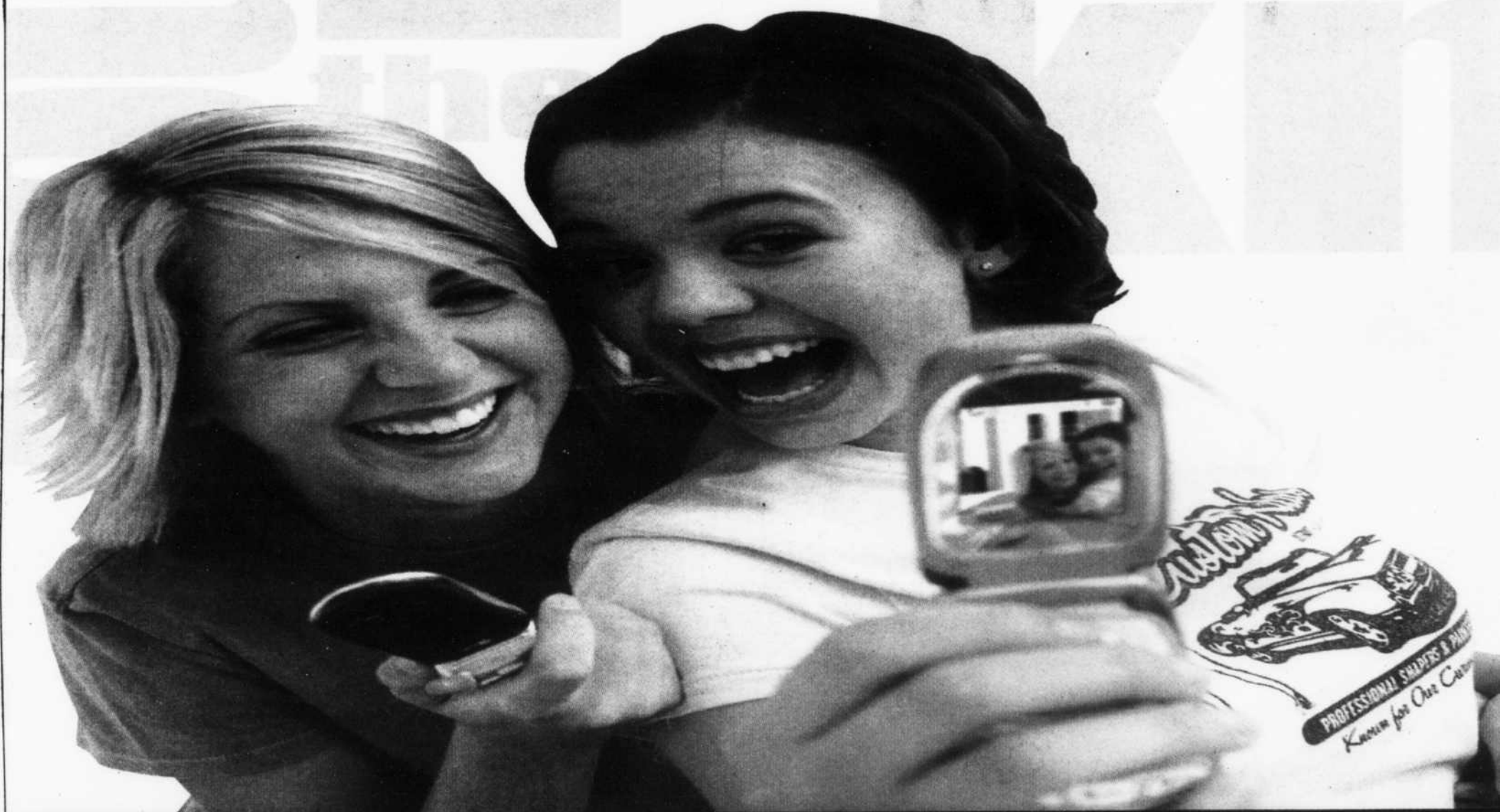
3 and 4 bedroom condos with 2 baths. Within walking distance of MTSU. Water furnished with washer and dryer possibly furnished. \$795/month with one year lease. Call 615-642-1555.

Got friends? Looking for an apartment? 4 BR/2 BA, remodeled apartment; very close to campus; \$295 per month / per bedroom. 615-758-9298

Policies

Sidelines will be responsible only for the first incorrect insertion of any classified advertisement. No refunds will be made for partial cancellations. Sidelines reserves the right to refuse any advertisement it deems objectionable for any reason. Classifieds will only be placed on a prepaid basis. Ads may be placed in the Sidelines office in James Union Building, Room 310, or faxed to (615) 904-8193. For more information call (615) 904-8154. Ads are not accepted over the phone. Ads are free for students and faculty.

10 DAYS to go



Fall Phone Fest

ends October 11th

Stay in the know with Verizon Wireless – America's

Whether you're snapping, TXTing or calling, Verizon **IN** the know with the stuff you need to know.

Sign up now and get Unlimited IN Calling to your Verizon Wireless country – from the America's ChoiceSM Coverage Area without a new 1-yr. Customer Agreement.

It's easier than ever to stay connected to the people, places and things you care about. Visit your nearest Verizon Wireless Communications Store and get in the know.



®

VERIZON WIRELESS COMMUNICATIONS STORES

Open Sundays.

BRENTWOOD
Maryland Farms
832-2355

DICKSON
Kroger Complex
446-2355

FRANKLIN
420 Cool Springs Blvd.
771-6448

Cool Springs Galleria
771-7971

GALLATIN
Shops of Village Green
452-7800

GOODLETTSVILLE
Rivergate Mall
859-2355

Taxes & surcharges apply & may vary. Federal Universal Service Charge of 1.97% (varies quarterly based on FCC rate) & a 45¢ R
Subject to Customer Agreement, Calling Plan and credit approval. \$175 cancellation fee, up to 45¢/min. after allowance, other charges & restrictions apply. Offers not available everywhere. Network details, coverage limitations and maps at verizonwireless.com. ©2004 Verizon Wireless.

et in.

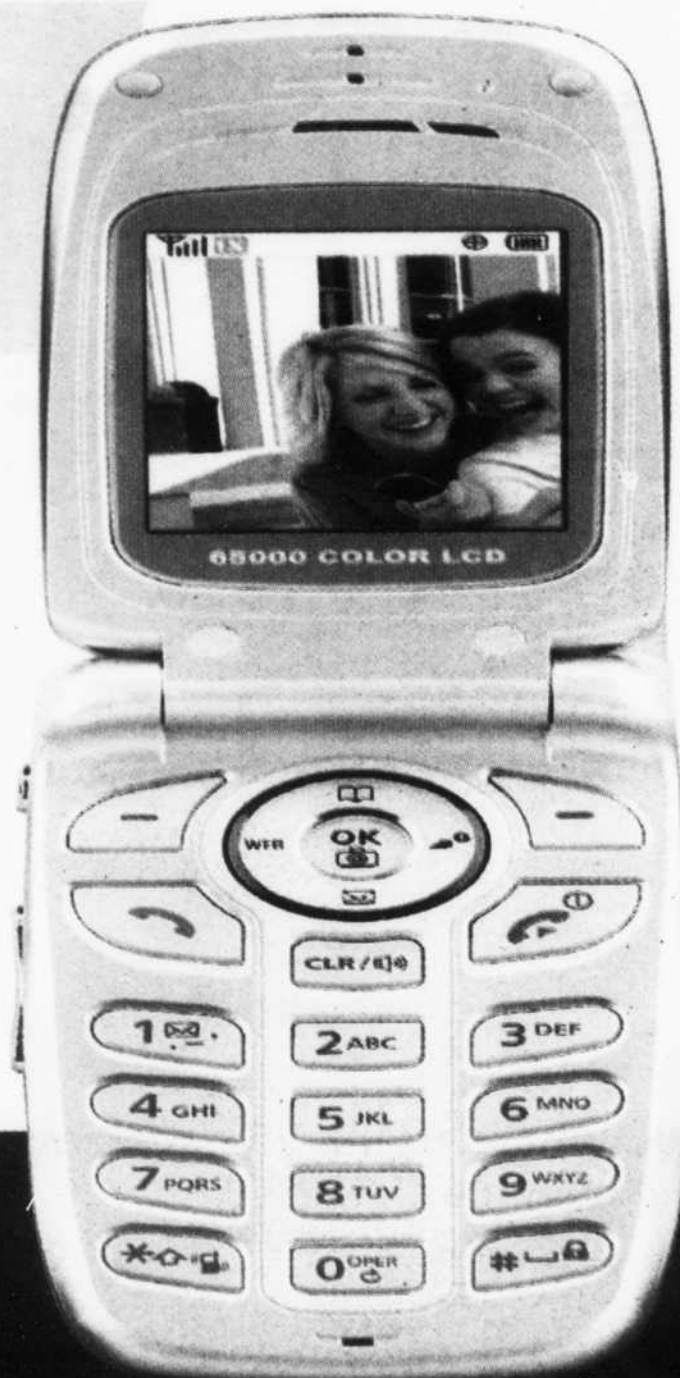
verizonwireless
We never stop working for you.®

Buy a
CAMERA PHONE
for only **\$4999**

Audiovox CDM 8910
With new 2-yr
agreement. Shipping
charges may apply.

and get a
COLOR PHONE FREE

LG VX3200
With new 2-yr agreement.
Shipping charges may apply.



Best Wireless Network.

Verizon Wireless keeps you

connected to family and friends – across campus or across the country – without using any plan minutes for \$39.99 monthly access with

Verizon Wireless. Things that matter most. Visit your neighborhood

SALEM/MSU

HERMITAGE
5036 Old Hickory Blvd.
902-6015

HICKORY HOLLOW
Across from
Hickory Hollow Mall
731-1055

LEBANON
Cedar Square Shopping Cntr.
443-2355

MURFREESBORO
1965 Old Fort Parkway
896-2355

**BUSINESS
CUSTOMERS
PLEASE CALL
1.800.899.4249**

Regulatory Charge per line/month are our charges, not taxes, for more details call 888-684-1888. Important Consumer Information: Restrictions per line. Activation fees: \$35 - 1yr.; \$15 - 2yrs. Calls outside America's Choice™ Coverage Area are 69¢/min. Cannot combine with other