



SIDELINES



Volume 74, No. 32

MIDDLE TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY

Murfreesboro, TN

Writing Center doubles in facilities

John Garner
Staff Reporter

Record numbers of MTSU students discovered the University Writing Center (UWC) last semester, paving the way for this campus resource to double in size and offer greater technical support to writers of academic papers.

The UWC occupies two sites in Peck Hall. Instruction in developing written communication skills is given in room 325, and the new computer lab in room 326 provides an environment where this expertise may be put to work.

"Staff members are available to assist the entire student population to write good, grammatical papers," said Margaret Ordoubadian, UWC director. "This is a cross-curriculum service. Our tutors will work with students in any course, not just those in English classes."

Students are encouraged to begin visiting early in the semester.

"It's best to start early," Ordoubadian said. "Students who develop the habit of systematically returning throughout the semester make the most progress."

Sessions are scheduled on the hour and half-hour and run for 30 minutes. While drop-ins are allowed if sufficient tutors are available, appointments are preferred. By the middle of the fall term, UWC tutors were overwhelmed by students looking for last-minute help.

The UWC staff has been augmented with four new tutors, increasing the roster to 14. Its personnel includes graduate teaching assistants and adjunct faculty members.

In addition to the regular services offered at its Peck Hall location, the UWC offers a new extension two times a week at the Cummings Tutoring Center.

While tutors will not edit a student's writing, they can help organize materials and show how to prepare a unified, coherent and developed paper.

"Just getting an academic paper started can be difficult," Ordoubadian

said. "Sometimes a student has nothing to say on an assigned topic. Our tutors can open your mind to new ways of looking at a subject."

"We can't bring every paper up to an A, but we can show how to be a better writer. Better grades will flow from that."

"Essay organization takes time," said Kelly McKee, UWC associate director. "It's never too early or too late to visit the writing center."

"Two or three revisions per paper is not uncommon. One session at the writing center may not be enough."

If time allows, tutors will accompany students to the computer lab and show them how to get the most out of the word processing programs. New software is on the way, promising to make writing a more interactive process.

"Most students aren't as comfortable with word processing as they could be," McKee said. "In many cases, they feel it's too much work to make the sort of global

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Staff photo by Derrick Wilson

Leann Garner and Mark Tullie review a paper at the improved Writing Center.

Female student assaulted last week in BAS elevator

Brian Forrester
Staff Reporter

The campus was saturated with fliers Jan. 15 announcing that a female student was assaulted in the Business/Aerospace building while in an elevator attempting to get to class the day before.

The female was going to the third floor when the elevator stopped and the doors opened to a large black male between 30- to 40-years old. The male stepped onto the elevator and had his hands in his pockets.

"He said, 'What is a pretty girl doing on the elevator alone?'" said Public Safety Director John Drugmand during a phone interview Wednesday.

He then stopped the elevator between floors, shoved the student against the back of the elevator and put his hands on her chest.

She struggled and was able to re-start the elevator and escape from the attacker.

According to a Public Safety official, the suspect appears 5'8 to 6 feet tall and weighing 200 pounds. He had no facial hair and was described as having dark hair cut in a round afro. The male was wearing a red and black plaid shirt or jacket with layered clothing underneath.

A Public Safety official said that there have been no arrests made. However, Drugmand urges all female students to register for the Rape Aggression Defense seminars. The class costs \$15 and takes approximately 12 hours to complete over the course of two days.

"This is absolutely the ideal type of instant that RAD would have benefited her," said Drugmand.

The next RAD seminar will be held on Feb. 16-18 at 324 W. Thompson Lane.

The seminar will last from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. Students who wish to attend should register with Public Safety by Feb. 9. ■

Holdin' on



Staff photo by Derrick Wilson

James Copas of Watertown rides a bull at the Tennessee Livestock Center on campus last weekend.

Tickets issued for illegal turns

Susan McMahan
Staff Reporter

More than 20 students got a \$100 surprise Wednesday when they turned left into the Tennessee Boulevard parking lot at the entrance closest to Faulknerberry Drive.

Officers from the Murfreesboro Police Department spent about three hours patrolling the entrance, issuing a \$100 ticket to anyone who made a left turn into the parking lot.

Mike Luzadder, one of the five officers who watched the lot, said the tickets were issued to remind students that the turn is illegal, and it can be dangerous. Several accidents have occurred when people driving on Tennessee Boulevard rear-ended cars waiting to make the turn.

Freshman Braxton Short, who got a ticket, said he did not see how the intersection was dangerous.

"I don't see how a left turn could cause an accident," he said. "I think they should make a more noticeable sign."

Short said he had not noticed the sign indicating no left turns into the entrance until Luzadder pointed it out Wednesday afternoon. Short usually enters the parking lot at that intersection, a habit he says he will break.

Luzadder said most of the students who received tickets will decide to stop using the entrance like Short did.

"The ones that got the tickets I'm sure have learned," he said, adding that he hopes other students will learn also.

Most students who received tickets were cooperative with the officers, Luzadder said, although questions were raised about the cost of the tickets.

"I just think it's kind of ridiculous," Short said after hearing the amount of the ticket. "That's unheard of."

The tickets were part of an increased effort by the Murfreesboro Police Department to make students aware of possible dangers on Tennessee Boulevard. Luzadder said two or

See TICKETS, page 2

URHA president, vice president resign

Roy Moore
Staff Reporter

Tamarah Daniel will officially resign her post as president of the United Residential Hall Association, effective Thursday, Jan. 21, citing scheduling conflicts for her decision.

Daniel made her decision public during the URHA's weekly meeting on Thursday and explained that her resignation from the SGA member body was "due to a hectic schedule."

"It's because I have had to take on a new job and had to work around my schedule, which left URHA out," said Daniel.

Daniel had led URHA since her elec-

tion in August and calls her departure "sad."

"I have liked working with everybody. This has been the very best year for URHA," said Daniel.

Her departure leaves treasurer Courtney Maxwell as the only remaining member on the URHA Executive Council.

Maxwell has already been serving as temporary secretary.

Ordinarily, the vice-president could automatically assume the position of president, according to URHA by-laws, Article VI.

However, the council has been without a vice-president since Shannon Brown resigned her post earlier in the school year for personal reasons.

Daniel did suggest that she would

remain as president and that a new vice-president be elected to run the weekly meetings and report to her.

"I wish there was an alternative to keep me from resigning," said Daniel.

Representatives of the various areas resolutely balked at this idea. In a vote of area representatives, all attendees either recommended that Daniel officially resign during the following meeting or chose to obtain their vote.

"It's a critical expectation that both the president and vice-president attend the meetings. It's their job to be a figurehead and a leader. Tamarah did take the job knowing that it would interfere with URHA," said Bobby Jones, Area V representative.

Jones said he wants the next president

to take URHA more seriously.

Representatives also rejected the idea of individual area leaders rotating the role as president.

Some believed that Tamarah was finally becoming comfortable in her role as president and that they enjoyed her brief tenure.

"I have mixed feelings about Tamarah's leaving. She's been professional and good for URHA. But she was lacking in leadership though," said Jones.

Nominations for executive council posts will be taken during the URHA meeting on Thursday night in KUC 305.

The actual vote will occur at the following meeting.

Students interested in filling the council vacancies may obtain applications

from the Housing office in KUC 301 and must obtain a signature list to be considered for candidacy.

Candidates must also maintain a minimum grade point average, be in good judicial standing and have lived in a residence hall for at least one semester.

Nominees must be elected by a two-thirds majority from all areas in order to join the Executive Council.

Jones has already expressed his possible interest in Daniel's vacated position of president.

Daniel plans to remain active in the URHA's new administration.

"I plan to work with the incoming president and I plan to continue to work with URHA because I don't want to give it up," said Daniel. ■

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ON CAMPUS

LOOKING AHEAD

JAN. 21
Lipscomb University Landiss Series will host A. Manette Ansay in a discussion, "Writing: Landscape and Character" at 7:30 p.m. in Swang Center, room 108. For more information call 269-1000 or e-mail Dennis.Loy@dlu.edu.

Lady Raider Basketball vs. Morehead State in Murphy Center at 5:45 p.m. Contact Ticket Office at 898-2103 for more information.

Blue Raider Basketball vs. Morehead State in Murphy Center at 7:45 p.m. For more information contact Ticket Office at 898-2103.

JAN. 24
Raider Victory Fellowship will have guest speakers for the Sunday service. The Tennessee Oilers wide receiver Chris Sanders and defensive back Sheeno Prader will speak on "What it takes to be a true Champion." It will be held at 10 a.m. in the Murphy Center.

JAN. 27
Placement and Student Employment Center will be sponsoring a summer jobs and internships fair at KUC room 322 and 324. The event will be between 1 and 4 p.m. Contact Janice Bowling at 898-2500 for more information.

June Anderson Women's Center will host a Math Anxiety workshop in the JUB dining

room at 3:00 p.m. Contact Mary Glantz at 898-2193 for more information.

ON GOING
The Fellowship House will host dinner and Bible study every Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. at the Fellowship House on 615 N. Tennessee Blvd. Contact Andrew Lee at 893-1787 or Chris Nowlin at 867-7370.

Presbyterian Student Fellowship will have Cell Groups and fellowship every Tuesday at 6:30 p.m. They will host Prime-time, fellowship and dinner every Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. Contact Rich Zeigler at 893-1787 or Andrew Lee at 867-7370 for more information or directions.

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

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

MTSU Fencing Club will have practices every Monday from

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

The Kingwood Heights Church of Christ College Class will host monthly devotions every second Thursday at 6:30. Kingwood Heights Church is located at 115 East MTCS Road. Contact Chuck Mullins at 898-1086 or Alan Welken at 890-0940 for more information.

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

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

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

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

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

Police Beat

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

Jan 8
At 12:13 a.m. two students tried to start a fire by the dumpsters located by Cummings Hall. The students were advised to make appointments with Dean Fitch.

Jan 11
At 4:47 p.m. MTSU Public Safety responded to a call reporting a stolen bookbag from a vehicle.

At 4:57 p.m. a vehicle was hit in the Davis Science building parking lot. The car suffered a broken mirror.

Jan 12
A car parked in the St. Marks Methodist Church parking lot was hit while the student was in class.

Jan 13
A person was arrested for driving on a suspended license.

Jan 14
Public Safety responded to a call reporting a strong odor coming from a room in Schardt Hall room 0020. They were

advised to let administration handle the situation.

Jan 15
A person said that he was shot at while walking back to his dorm from the Texaco gas station.

A student reported that a cassette player had been stolen from their vehicle that was parked in the Schardt Hall parking lot located on the south side.

Jan 16
A black kitten was found tied to the bumper of a vehicle in the Tennessee Livestock Center.

A caller notified Public Safety that a woman had fallen in the stairwell of the new library building. The caller said that the woman was bleeding from her nose, mouth, and leg.

Jan 17
Student called Public Safety reporting that a stereo had been stolen from their automobile while parked in the Family Student Housing parking lot.



NATIONAL NEWS

Michigan man pleads guilty to escaping 25 years ago

Martinsville, Va. (AP)— Nearly 25 years after he fled a Virginia jail work crew, Alfred Odell Martin III pleaded guilty Wednesday to escaping from his one-year term for selling \$10 worth of marijuana.

Martin, 49, who built a respectable life in Michigan, faces up to five years in prison at his February sentencing, but his family is hoping for probation.

"There is a huge sense of relief that this cloud that has been over him now for 24 years is going to be resolved," defense attorney Ben Gardner said.

The case prosecutor said she would not push for jail time for Martin, who returned to Virginia in December and is currently serving out his one-year drug term.

Martin had served less than two days of his sentence when he left a Martinsville jail work crew in February 1974. He married and settled in the Detroit suburb of Livonia where he raised three children and worked for a mortgage company.

Virginia first sought his extradition in 1974, but then Gov. William Milliken granted Martin legal asylum. The state sought him again in November, and this time a Michigan judge ordered him returned. ■

Strip-for-groceries teacher acquitted

Cincinnati (AP)— A male stripper who offered to perform at a party in return for groceries has been cleared of charges he misused food stamps.

Benford Clay, a substitute teacher in Dayton, attracted the attention of authorities with posters advertising his "Nastymixxx" dance service.

In the posters, Clay offered to dance at baby showers, birthday parties and family reunions but he also offered to accept food stamps as payment.

An undercover officer testified that Clay went shopping with her, picked out \$300 in groceries and insisted she use her food stamp debit card to pay. In return, he gave her a contract agreeing to perform at her party.

Judge Thomas Crush ruled Tuesday that because Clay himself did not use the cards, he could not be convicted of illegal use of food stamps.

"It's an interesting method of using food stamps," the judge said. "What can you say about this use of public funds, except that maybe some people aren't as hungry as they appear to be?" ■

Greenspan concerned about economy

Washington (AP)— While calling the economy's current performance "outstanding," Federal Reserve Chairman Alan Greenspan expressed worries today that the high-flying stock market could be headed for a tumble that could spell serious trouble down the road.

Greenspan also criticized a key part of President Clinton's Social Security rescue plan, saying the government could damage the economy by investing huge sums of money in the stock market.

None of Greenspan's comments today suggested to analysts that the Fed would be changing interest rates any time soon.

His expressions of concern about the altitude of the stock market gave support to views that the central bank is unlikely to rush to cut rates further unless global turmoil sends markets into a severe downturn such as occurred last fall.

Greenspan, an influential voice Congress often turns to on economic matters, said he supports Clinton's major idea to put 62 percent of the government's budget surpluses into Social Security's cash reserves.

He expressed serious reservations about a part of Clinton's plan that would allow a government board to direct about a quarter of those savings into stock market investments. It is unlikely that these investments could be insulated from political considerations, he said.

Rather, Greenspan said it is more important to use budget surpluses to reduce the federal debt as a way of boosting the national savings rate.

Greenspan noted that stocks have been climbing into record territory this year and called this fact unusual, given that corporate profits, the underpinning of stock prices, have been weaker.

He said this weakness in profits raised the "possibility that the recent performance of the equity markets will have difficulty in being sustained. The level of equity prices would appear to envision substantially greater growth of profits than has been experienced of late." ■



WORLD NEWS

Pinochet trial: Lawyers claim torture a borderless crime

London (AP)— Lawyers seeking to uphold Gen. Augusto Pinochet's arrest argued Wednesday that torture is so universally considered revolting that international law makes it impossible for any country to credibly contend its use is an internal matter.

In their third day before Britain's House of Lords, which is deciding whether to let the former Chilean dictator's arrest stand, lawyers for Britain and Spain insisted decades of legal decisions back their position.

Pinochet was arrested in London Oct. 16 on a Spanish warrant alleging he ordered murders, kidnapping and torture during his 17-year rule.

An official Chilean government report says 3,197 people were killed or disappeared at the hands of his secret police — including some Spaniards — after he overthrew elected Marxist Salvador Allende. New allegations by Spain say Pinochet also began ordering torture in the months before his Sept. 11, 1973, coup.

"It is clearly established international law and has been for many decades that torture is a crime ... and all states enjoy jurisdiction over it," Christopher Greenwood, a lawyer for Britain and Spain, told Britain's highest court. "It is simply not tenable to say today that torture falls within the internal rights of a country." ■

China imposes two-year sentence in first Internet dissent case

Shanghai, China (AP)— China extended its crackdown on dissent into cyberspace for the first time Wednesday, sentencing a software entrepreneur to two years in prison for giving e-mail addresses to dissidents abroad.

Lin Hai, 30, was convicted of subversion in a case that highlighted China's conflicting efforts to promote Internet use for business and education at the same time it is stamping out political activity.

Subversion is among China's most serious crimes and is normally used against political dissidents.

"The conviction of Mr. Lin is no more than a brutal act of suppression of dissent, and China will certainly be severely criticized," said Albert Ho, secretary-general of the Hong Kong Alliance for the Promotion of the Democratic Movement in China.

Lin, who owns a Shanghai software company, was arrested last March after he gave e-mail addresses of 30,000 Chinese computer users to "VIP Reference," a pro-democracy journal published on the Internet by Chinese dissidents in the United States.

Lin was fined \$1,200 and the "tools of his crime" were ordered confiscated: two desktop computers, one laptop computer, a modem and a telephone.

Lin's wife, Xu Hong, attended the half-hour sentencing but was not allowed to talk to her husband, and he did not speak. She and other spectators were barred from his four-hour trial on Dec. 4.

"This is the first time I've seen him since he was arrested," Xu said. She said she would not know whether her husband would appeal until he discussed the verdict with his lawyer. ■

NATO talks of diplomatic solution but positions forces just in case

Brussels, Belgium (AP)— NATO ambassadors dispatched strike forces closer to Yugoslavia on Wednesday — just in case hard-line Yugoslav President Slobodan Milosevic won't abide by their demands to halt the fighting in Kosovo — but held out hope that diplomatic solutions would defuse the crisis.

Even as Western diplomats sought peace in the violence-racked province, Serb police launched a new operation in northern Kosovo against ethnic Albanians fighting to secede from Yugoslavia. The battles killed at least two rebels and left a Serb mother and her two children injured.

"We were not surprised, but we were disappointed by the very stubborn and obdurate reaction we encountered in Belgrade," Gen. Wesley Clark, the allied commander in Europe, said Wednesday after 7 1/2 hours of talks that he and Gen. Klaus Naumann held Tuesday with Milosevic.

The 16 NATO ambassadors stressed after a meeting of the North Atlantic Council that they had not given up on a diplomatic solution for Kosovo. Nonetheless, they made "precautionary" military moves. ■

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ΦΧ

TICKETS

continued from page 1

three pedestrians, all students, have been injured in the past year on the stretch of Tennessee Boulevard that runs next to campus. This was the first time that officers have waited at the intersection for students to make the turn, and Luzadder said it probably will not be the last time.

The officers are concerned not only about the possibility of accidents at the parking lot entrance, but also the fact that many cars do not slow down at the Tennessee Boulevard intersections in front of campus. Luzadder said students can expect more enforcement at all of these intersections.

"Since we've been having nice weather, he said, "we're doing more traffic enforcement." ■

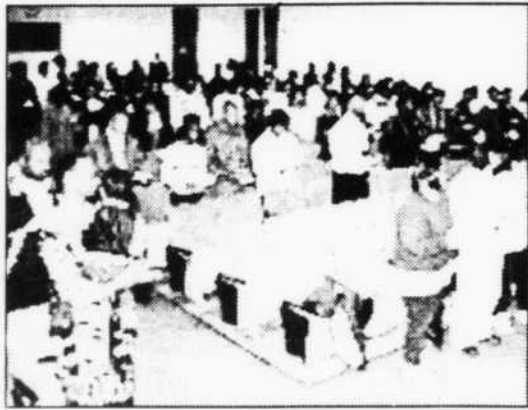
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MTSU remembers King



The memory of Martin Luther King, Jr. was honored this week in events sponsored by Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity and Multicultural Affairs. The esteemed civil rights leader, who was killed in Memphis in 1968, is best remembered for his "I have a dream" speech and his contributions to human rights.



Staff Photos by Derrick Wilson
Participants hold candles at the candlelight vigil at the Keathley University Center theater.

Above: Dr. Adonijah Bakari performs an African ceremony to remember loved ones who have passed on as Joseph Watts of Phi Beta Sigma and Tamarah Daniel of Zeta Phi Beta watch.



Right: Isasimu Harris and Delvin Caruthers of Kappa Alpha Psi display information to Freda Smith.

CENTER continued from page 1

revisions that would improve the quality of their writing.

"Composing on a computer allows one to do more than make superficial changes. The copy/paste functions are especially conducive to revision.

"We can help students become more familiar with the computer as a writing tool, show how to use its functions effectively so their time is productive."

Members of the MTSU teaching staff visit the writing center for help, too.

"We try to coordinate with the instructors, let them know what we're doing. This way we can develop more compatible ways to improve student grades," McKee said.

UWC tutors will visit classrooms and offer assistance to struggling students upon request from instructors.

Many college students haven't been taught the mechanics of grammar since high school. Throughout the semester, workshops are held to address some of the more common problems writers must face. Seating for these 50 minute

workshops is limited, and students who want to attend must sign up in advance.

The University Writing Center is open to all MTSU students on Monday and Tuesday from 9:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m., on Wednesday and Thursday from 9:00 a.m.-7:00 p.m., and on Friday from 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. Saturday hours are from 10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

The new extension at Cummings Tutoring Center is open on Tuesday and Wednesday from 7:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m.

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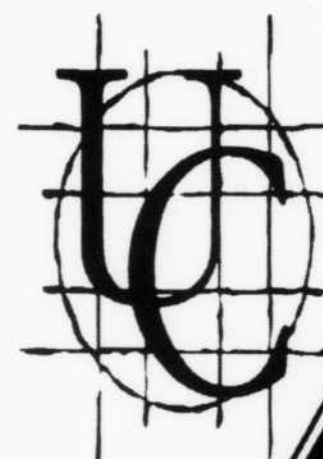
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4 ■ SIDELINES

THURSDAY, JAN. 21, 1999

OPINIONS

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

—Thomas Jefferson

Murfreesboro, TN

Editorial

Tickets for illegal turns should be issued

It's about time.

Although it is unfortunate that more than 20 students will be spending either \$100 or a day in court, all students now know that the Murfreesboro Police Department means business.

The sign reminding students that it is illegal to turn left from Tennessee Boulevard into the Rutledge Hall parking lot entrance closest to Faulkinberry Drive has been ignored for too long.

It's not like too much is being asked of students. All they have to do is drive down to the next entrance and turn at the Bell Street light. This act shows courtesy to other drivers, and it is also much safer.

More patrolling is expected at the illegal left turn entrance, and it will probably continue until students learn that they should use the correct entrance.

And, the patrolling is expected not only at that one entrance -- it is expected anywhere Tennessee Boulevard runs next to campus.

There's a reason for this increase. Students are getting more and more careless at all of these intersections, which increases the likelihood that someone will be hurt or even killed on Tennessee Boulevard.

Several students have already been injured while attempting to cross the street and countless accidents have occurred when drivers did not realize that traffic was blocked due to someone waiting to turn onto campus.

The solution is simple. Go ahead and get into the habit of turning at the light on Bell Street. It's not worth the \$100 it may cost for using the wrong entrance or the harm it may cause other students.

SIDELINES

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

CORRECTION

Jennifer Sykora, pictured in the Jan. 14 issue of Sidelines, was incorrectly identified as the new Student Government Association Speaker of the House in a photograph headlined "New speaker sworn in." She is actually the new Speaker of the Senate. Sidelines apologizes for the mistake.

Residence halls still suffering

Jamie Evans
Staff writer

For a school intent on improving its image and becoming the flagship in the Tennessee Board of Regents system, MTSU officials don't seem to be too concerned with the conditions of the residence halls — namely, the restrooms.

Decorated with graffiti glorifying the Ku Klux Klan and the anti-gay movement, the stalls in some of the dorm restrooms make truckstop bathrooms look like presidential suites. One wall even serves as a register for guys who have had sex with overweight women.

Some students have parents who visit them in their dorm rooms. What kind of impression does that leave?

Debra Sells, director of housing and residential life, said paint crews began working on the stalls in some residence halls during the winter break. But is it too late?

The restrooms have been in this condition since at least the beginning of the fall semester, and the crews just began in December.

Don Fox, housing coordinator for area II, said he heard there are possible renovations planned for the restrooms in area II scheduled to begin sometime in the summer.

SUMMER?!!

Maybe housing doesn't understand that students have to live in these places for the next three months.

I'm sure students in these dorms would like to shower for the remainder of the semester without worrying about contracting a fungus that the biology department is still trying to identify.

"The university is committed to the concept that residence halls should provide an atmosphere conducive to both living and learning, where, in a spirit of cooperation and consideration for others, students may live, and relax together," the student handbook states.

In Washington, that type of misleading phrase could get someone impeached. It is completely unacceptable for students to have to live in filth — no matter how many excuses housing makes.

However, even though housing officials have proven to be inadequate in dealing with the situation, they are not the ones who created the problem.

The bottom line is that the students are to blame for the vandalism. Obviously, not all of the students are to blame, just the redneck swine who think four-wheel drive trucks with mud flaps make up for intelligence. This is a university! An institution of higher learning where people invest money presumably to better themselves.

Still, housing could make it more of a priority repair the restrooms and make them more suitable. The issue is the right to exercise personal hygiene. There are students who don't go home on the weekends and must use the facilities the entire semester. ■

From the Mailbox

Information on academic misconduct corrected

Dear editor,

A good and informative article appeared in Thursday's Sidelines on the actions of the faculty senate, except that it incorrectly reported my comparison of current and proposed procedures concerning academic misconduct of students. Under the existing procedure, a student believing he or she has been erroneously accused of such misconduct may request a hearing before a Grade Appeals Committee, which has the authority to recommend a change of grade. Under the proposed policy, the hearing would be held before the University Discipline Committee, which may rule on the issue of misconduct but not assign a grade, and the grading process would be handled through normal procedures.

Sincerely,
Jerry Brookshire, faculty senate president

Smokers deserve to eat inside too

To the editor:

This is in correspondence to the column "More Seats Are Needed in the KUC," from the latest edition of Sidelines [From the Mailbox]. In response to Terry Campbell's very bad opinion, I think that since he thinks the idea of "picnic tables with umbrellas" is such a great one, let him be the one to eat outside in the rain. Why should we [smokers] forfeit our comfort for the pleasure of someone who wants us to go outside in the cold and rain to smoke? It is my belief that we all may catch pneumonia and die so Mr. Campbell can eat in the

KUC. He, himself, stated that there were other places to eat in the KUC that don't get utilized because most people don't know they're there. In such an event, why doesn't King Terry go eat in one of those unoccupied areas rather than devise some kind of anti-smoking movement to kick us out?

Angela Todd

"Sidelines" welcomes Letters to the Editor.
Please send letter to box 42 on campus or e-mail it to stupubs@frank.mtsu.edu
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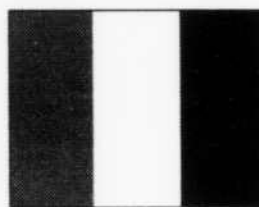
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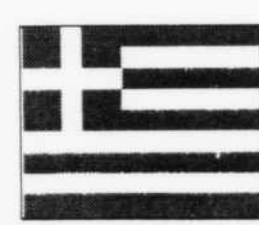
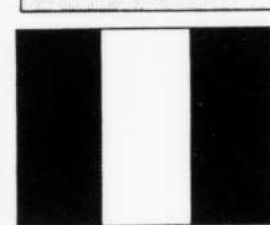
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FEATURES

5 ■ SIDELINES

Murfreesboro, TN

Convenient courses offered off campus online

Amanda Virgillito/ Staff Reporter

A new and rapidly growing way to receive credit is by taking an on-line course. This is a convenient way for students to learn in the privacy of their own home.

On-line courses at MTSU are ideal for the busy students who find it difficult to get to campus on a daily basis. Liz Johnson of the Continuing Studies program recommends on-line courses for upperclassmen, people who have families or full time jobs, and those who have internet experience. More classes will be added within the next year.

MTSU offers several on-line courses and has for the past two years. The first professor to offer such a class was Dr. Larry Burris, who teaches Mass Media Law. Other professors offering on-line courses are Dr. Donald F. Kendrick, professor of psychology, and Ken Blake, assistant professor of journalism.

Dr. Kendrick offers online versions of

classes such as sensation and perception, learning theories, basic statistics for behavioral sciences, and psychology labs. Ken Blake teaches media writing on-line.

Blake's media writing class desperately needed this internet based format. The original method of a media writing course involved the students typing and printing an assignment, and the professor then edited the work. Students would save information on a personal disk to make changes.

This was an inconvenient method for both the student and the instructor. Blake decided to have his students e-mail their assignments to him, and he could send their story back with a critique. This has been successful for three semesters, and students have the option whether to attend class or not.

Along with the available courses, the AT&T Learning Network has funded three classes offered by the Departments

of Educational Leadership and Elementary Education. Classes include technology in the classroom, microcomputers in the K12 educational setting, and educational technology in the elementary schools.

These courses train classroom teachers and educational administrators to use technology to aid in learning. Teachers can benefit from these courses because they are able to teach and take the course on their own time at home.

MTSU is part of the Southern Regional Electronic Campus, which is a 16 state organization of colleges and universities offering on-line courses. The states involved are Tennessee, Alabama, Oklahoma, South Carolina, North Carolina, Florida, Arkansas, Texas, Georgia, Kentucky, Virginia, Louisiana, West Virginia, Maryland, and

See ONLINE, page 6

Home away from home

OIPS helps international students adapt to American culture

Julie Hornsby/ Staff Reporter
Beth Sullivan/ Special to Sidelines

After an hour of listening to a lecture and madly scribbling notes, do you notice how your professor seems to subtly start speaking another language? At first, the lesson is in plain English, but by the end of the hour you begin to hear Chinese, Russian or Pig Latin. For students with whom English is a second language, this is a problem they deal with every day.

According to the Office of International Programs and Services, there are 344 students from 77 different countries currently enrolled at MTSU. Introduction into a new country can be very hard for these students. To help soften the initial shock of being in not only a new town but a new country, the Office of International Programs offers many helpful programs. First Friends and Conversation Partners are two helpful volunteer programs offered to international students.

Each semester the Office of International Programs holds an orientation for new international students. At orientation, the students get the chance to meet other incoming international students and become acquainted with the campus. Workers in the Office of International Programs also help the students with any problems or questions they may have about America and MTSU, as well as helping the students familiarize themselves with the registration process. Sure, TRAM seems simple to us, but for students that come from underprivileged countries, it can be very intimidating.

Assistant Director of International Programs Mary Grace Rounion says, "Adjustment is very hard for American freshman. It's double that for international students."

At orientation, students are given the chance to become involved in the First Friends program. First Friends is an organization that allows members of the community to "adopt" international students and gives the students a taste of life outside the college setting.

"We try to get students involved in the community. We realize that they need to study but we want them to

See HOME, page 6

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Students interested in applying for one of these scholarships should contact

Dr. Kenneth W. Hollman
BAS 330N (898-2673)
Middle Tennessee State University



The last date for submitting applications is February 10, 1999.

Classifieds

Notice

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The Murfreesboro City School Extended School Program is looking for PART-TIME STAFF. The primary duty will be supervising children in the before/after school program. Work site could be any of the ten city schools. Positions are for 5 days a week. Applications may be picked up from the Murfreesboro City Schools Extended School Office between 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., Monday - Friday. The Murfreesboro City School system does not discriminate on the basis of race, sex, color, religion, national origin, age, disability or veteran status in the provision of services, in programs or activities or employment opportunities and benefits.

The Department of Geography and Geology is in the process of hiring students to help with our Geology 100 labs. No specific area of expertise is required. Work includes showing up for the lab, assisting the lab instructor, making copies, grading papers, etc. If interested come by KOM 325B and see the secretary, Karen.

TaiChi instructor needed to teach a class for Continuing Studies. Please call 898-5168

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Roommate needed ASAP! Grad student, female, 24, seeking female roommate. \$195 rent (includes water and electricity). Call 867-4030 for details.

Services

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

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

- * professional, typeset quality resume which can be easily updated
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- * IBM compatible. The computer labs on campus can be used.

After purchasing your software in Phillips Bookstore, it must be brought to the Placement Center to load your information in the database for resume referrals to employer. Once registered via RESUME EXPERT, the Placement Center is able to track which companies individual resumes are referred and inform the individual upon request.

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Showcase of student work at Art Barn Gallery

Photos by Derrick Wilson

These pieces, titled Syble by artist Mike Teeter (left) and Spending Wills by Dustin Ogden (right), are two of the works currently on exhibit in the Art Barn.



ONLINE

continued from page 5

Mississippi.

There are several things to consider before taking an on-line course from another university. You must first be admitted by that particular university. Credits are transferable, but they must be approved by MTSU's course requirements. Also, an additional tuition and/or fees usually apply. While the schools sometimes do not charge out of state fees, the price of the course can be costly.

Before enrolling in an MTSU on-line course, students must meet some basic requirements. The student needs an e-mail account, either MTSU's frank or a personal account. The student must e-mail the professor of the desired course, and ask for permission to take the course. The student must also e-mail netcours@mtsu.edu for permission. The professor's e-mail account can be found at the previous address. If

the teacher admits the student, they must register by TRAM or WebMT.

There are also some hardware and software requirements for the courses:

- Windows 3.1, 95, or MacOS with at least a 486-equivalent processor
- 14.4 bps modem
- e-mail account
- internet connection through Internet Service Provider
- Netscape Navigator 2.0 or better
- Real Audio Player (free-see netcourses for details)

The on-line courses provided by MTSU and other universities across the country provide an excellent way for busy students to take the classes they need. However, there are some things to consider prior to enrollment. For more information, see MTSU's page at www.mtsu.edu-netcours, or call Liz Johnson at Continuing Studies at 898-5374. ■

HOME

continued from page 5

experience our American culture" enthuses John Eaves, director of InterFACE (International Friendship Activities and Cultural Exchange), the agency that provides First Friends.

The First Friends families help international students in a variety of ways. They might invite their student over for dinner, help her shop for supplies and introduce them to the American family. The First Friends family acts as a surrogate family for the student, since the student's own family is so far away.

This year 70 students chose to continue in the First Friends program Asaka Midorikawa is one of them. Asaka came to MTSU from Japan last fall and she says she enjoys visiting and eating dinner at her new "family's" house.

One of the biggest problems to face Asaka and many other international students is the spoken language. Although Asaka began studying English in grade school, she says language is the most difficult aspect of being a

student at MTSU. One program that helps students like Asaka break the language barrier is Conversation Partners. This program pairs American MTSU students with international students and allows them to practice their conversation skills on a regular basis.

Conversation Partners is a volunteer program. Currently the program has only ten volunteers. That's ten volunteers and about 160 students. Volunteers don't have to be able to speak another language, just hold conversation. Many students who do speak other languages volunteer and spend time in both languages, that way both parties benefit.

Asaka says, "I came here because I wanted to learn to speak English better" and she hopes to remain in America after graduation.

With the help of programs like Conversation Partners, her transition to life as a student in America will be much smoother. Volunteers are needed badly for this program and anyone

interested is urged to call the Office of International Programs.

Another way international students can converse with other students is at a monthly Coffee Hour. Coffee Hour is a get-together for all the international students and anyone else who would like to attend. Everyone is encouraged to attend coffee hour. President Walker often stops in to have a cup of joe, get to know the students and hear their concerns. The next coffee hour is scheduled for February 10 at 3:30 in the Hazelwood Dining Hall.

A future vision for the International Students Program includes an international house where students can interact with each other on a regular basis.

Mary Grace states excitedly that, "Then we could have a coffee hour every day!"

For now, volunteers are desperately needed in many ways. To help out, call Mary Grace Rounion at 898-5674. Please volunteer and help make an international student's American experience a wonderful one. ■

LRC Computer Labs Schedule for January 16-31, 1999		
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Wed	9:00 am - 10:30 am 1:30 pm - 2:30 pm 4:00 pm - 8:30 pm	8:00 am - 9:00 am 11:05 am - 9:30 pm
Thur	11:30 am - 12:15 pm 3:00 pm - 9:30 pm	8:00 am - 11:00 am 12:15 pm - 5:30 pm
Fri	8:00 am - 4:00 pm	1:30 pm - 4:00 pm
Sat	8:30 am - 11:30 am	Closed
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THURSDAY, JAN. 21, 1999

SPORTS

7 ■ SIDELINES

Murfreesboro, TN

Raiders go on the road again to lose to APSU

Michael Barrett
Staff Reporter

After the Blue Raiders huge win over mid-state Ohio Valley Conference rival TSU, MTSU headed up the road for another huge OVC battle with the Governors of Austin Peay.

They would need this win if they had any hopes of possibly turning their season around.

If the first few minutes of the game were to set the tone for the rest of the game, then the Raiders look to put their game into cruise control. MTSU jumped out of the gates early with an 11-0 lead. If basketball is a game of runs, than this one was a prime example. Just as MTSU looked to take control of the game early, the Govs answered back with an eleven point run of their own. This game looked to be as if it was going to be a shoot-out from the beginning. MTSU jumped out to another lead with the help of a huge 3 pointer by Ali McGhee and a nice alley-oop pass from Richard Duncan which was slammed home by Dale Thomas. With great play in the post early by Lee Nosse and Cedric Wallace, the Blue Raiders looked to be in good shape, but somewhat typical of their season, they just could not deliver the knockout blow. The Govs, led by star forward Trenton Hassell who led all scorers with 27, and their zone defense, had fought their way back. Hassell hit a big 3 point basket with a minute

remaining in the half to give APSU their first lead of the game 30-28. They would hold that lead heading into the locker room at the half.

The second half started with a 3 point basket by McGhee which would be his first of six in the half. Each basket by the Raiders was answered by one with the Governors, because MTSU was having trouble getting down the court and playing defense.

MTSU's shooting then went ice cold and APSU extended their half-time lead from two to ten with twelve minutes remaining in the game. If MTSU hoped to salvage their season, it was make or break time. They could not afford to fall any farther behind.

Coach Weil decided to call a time-out and settle down the troops.

After the TO, the Blue Raiders went on another run and cut the lead down to two with eight minutes remaining. With both teams falling behind by more than double digits and climbing back into it, this game was shaping up to be a nail biter. After a time out by APSU, the teams then put on a long range shooting clinic, with both teams exchanging 3 pointers their next two trips down the court. The Blue Raiders finally grabbed the lead 61-60 on another long range 3 pointer by Ali McGhee, who finished 7-14 from behind the arc and led MTSU in scoring with twenty-five points. The lead was short lived as APSU is

Trenton Hassell slammed it home on the next possession. The Govs then opened their lead back to six with a minute to go in regulation.

MTSU was not backing down. McGhee answered the call once again. He pulled up and hit his longest and definitely most dramatic 3 pointer of the game with forty-five seconds remaining. Richard Duncan then stole the inbound pass and converted the easy lay-up to cut the lead to one with thirty-seconds remaining. MTSU held the Governors on their next trip down the court and forced a turn over and now had a chance to win with only nine seconds remaining. Coach Weil then called a timeout and planned a strategy to win the game.

MTSU took the ball out at half court, where they quickly made an inbound pass to Duncan who was quickly fouled, but more importantly valuable seconds ticked off the clock. Duncan again received the ball and cut to the basket, but MTSU's chance at stealing victory from the clutches of defeat as Duncan slipped and APSU is J.J. Halliburton knocked the ball and the chance at winning the game out of his hands.

The Blue Raiders suffered yet another disappointing loss to bring their record to 3-5 in the OVC, and 5-13 overall. The Blue Raiders next game is at the Murphy Center this Thursday night. Come out and show your support.■

Duke, Miami will be hard to stop if they can rise to the occasion

Michael Edwards
Staff Reporter

The University of Connecticut Huskies have taken the NCAA men's Basketball team by storm while posting a 15-0 record through the first 2 1/2 months of the season.

In the Big East the St. John's Red Storm are finally living up to their potential and winning some basketball games. For the past few years, they have possessed the likes of Felipe Lopez, who was likened to his (Michael Jordan) Airness in high school, was one of the biggest busts that ever occurred. He was supposed to take St. John's back to the schools glory days. That is something that he fell well short of.

The Atlantic Coast Conference has been dominated the last few years by the Blue Devils and the Tar Heels. However this year another team is starting to rear its head. The

Terapins of Maryland are 4-1 in the conference and 16-2 overall. The Tar Heels, who squeaked out a victory in the Murphy Athletic Center, have started the season with a disappointing 3-2 conference record. Those losses do not include any games against their rivals on tobacco road, the Blue Devils of Duke University. Duke, on the other hand, could have the deepest bench in all of North America and it has shown in games against Kentucky and other top notch teams. Although they were upset by Cincinatti earlier in the year that was what one might call a fluke.

Cincinatti has a very talented team. Unfortunately, the extremely volatile coach Bob Huggins doesn't have what it takes to be the coach of a national championship team. If anything will help them get into a top seed in the "Big Dance" it will be their cup cake

See NCAA, page 8

New intramural tennis club open to faculty, students of all skill levels

Michael Edwards
Staff Reporter

With spring time just around the groundhog hole and after the weather that we have been blessed with this week, a new club has been born here at MTSU.

No, not one of those clubs that you made as a elementary school kid that was either boys or girls only, but the brand new tennis club.

Founded by Carrie Hupp, the officers of the club will include Amanda Haston as the

vice president and the advisor will be David Thornton.

Like many clubs, the tennis club will begin as an intramural activity, but Hupp hopes to start playing matches against other schools in the area. Sewanee was mentioned as a potential opponent.

If you are more of a hacker than a tennis player, have on fear. This club is designed for all levels of ability.

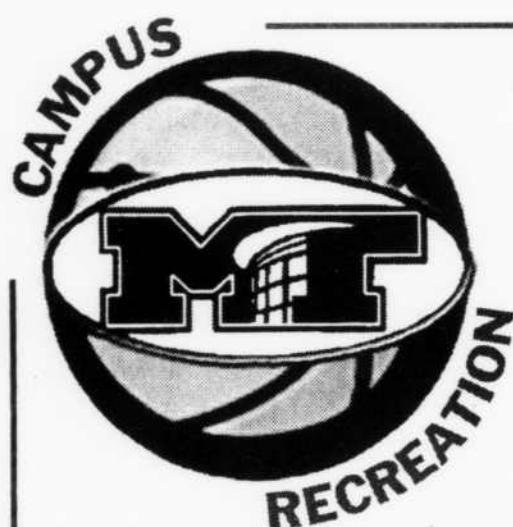
During the tennis season the players will play competitively for a very coveted prize. Following each night of play, the participating players will

attend the nearest pizza restaurant and eat. However, that's not the end. The losers are going to buy the winners their dinner.

Before you go and call the gambling commission, the dinner is strictly voluntary. The club has not started meeting, but the signups are now taking place.

The dues for the club are \$5 per year. The club is open to all MTSU faculty and students.

To learn more about the club you can jump on your email account and mail tennis @aol.com to sign up.■



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ALSO: Indoor Soccer Officials Training - Monday, January 25th, 6 - 8 pm

Flair wins on Monday Nitro

Josh Ezzell
Staff Reporter

If you want to read a Wrestling column every Thursday give me a — yeah!!!

That's right wrestling fans, every Thursday Sidelines will review and discuss the latest happenings in the WCW and the WWF.

Now, for the thousands of readers around campus, and the thousands more reading at home; ladies and gentlemen, let's get ready to rumble!!!

WCW Monday Nitro began with some unsettled scores from the previous night's pay-per-view Souled Out.

"The Nature Boy" Ric Flair started things off by calling out the former president "Eazy-E" Eric Bischoff.

It seems that Flair was steamed about the results of his tag team match against Barry Windham and Curt Hennig, and he believes that Bischoff was the cause of the beating that his partner, and son David Flair received.

Unexpectedly, David Flair

interrupted Flair and Bischoff's conversation and challenged "Eazy-E" to a shaved head match. In addition to this, Ric Flair agreed to forfeit the presidency to Eric Bischoff if his son lost.

With the help of referee Randy "Pee Wee" Anderson, the Four Horsemen showed why they are the original bad boys of Pro Wrestling.

Anderson slipped Flair a roll of quarters, and Flair responded by making change on Bischoff's head, and in the process Bischoff's chance to regain the company slipped away, as well as his hair.

In other action, the Disco Inferno defeated Wrath with Scott Hall's help; and Rey Mysterio Jr. continued to suffer at the hands of the Lex Luger and the rest of the NWO Wolfpack.

Well, you know what they say: What goes around comes around. The Wolfpack certainly got theirs, courtesy of Bill Goldberg.

In his three way match with Scott Hall and Bam Bam Bigelow he showed way he is

known as the man; whooping the NWO for about the thousandth time.

WCW prevailed and the NWO looked anything but "Just Too Sweet."

In other WCW news, there has been a rumor that "The Giant" is expected to sign a contract with the WWF, and that he will perform under his given name Paul Wight. His contract with WCW expires on Feb. 8.

Speaking of the WWF, Raw is War was on Monday night. I would like to begin this discussion by asking a question. How about Chyna?!!?

She had a field day with the men. She started by showing taped footage of "Sexual Chocolate" Mark Henry with Sammi; who turned out to be a man!

She followed this by giving the big man a low blow in front of his Mom. But Chyna refused to stop here.

Next she fought off the groping of Gerry Brisco and Pat Patterson to become the first woman to win a handicapped match.

Her match with dumb and dumber has to be one the most enjoyable ones that I have watched in a while.

In other action "The Road Dog" Jesse James defeated Gangrel to retain the Hardcore Championship, and the duo of Big Boss Man and Ken Shamrock once again attacked Jeff Jarrett and Owen Hart.

Does everybody want Head? That's what I thought.

Unfortunately, Al Snow was unable to get Head from Goldust, even though he won the match. Truly his dreams were shattered.

Last but not least we come to the main event.

As everyone knows The Corporation has had some internal friction between The Rock and Kane.

Nothing was resolved on Monday because of outside interference by Mankind and "Stone Cold" Steve Austin.

This sets up what promises to be a memorable Royal Rumble on Sunday.

Want to follow the WCW and the WWF? I have two words for you: Read Sidelines.■

NCAA

continued from page 7

conference. That's right the Conference USA, omitting Louisville, has to be the most overrated conference in the country. Even the Big Ten that produces the highest number of choke artists can't compare to the Little Debbie Conference USA.

For the first time since Arkansas possessed the "40 minutes of Hell" defense, parody has risen back to the top. In the eastern division, Kentucky, despite a tough home loss, are still the team to beat. However, Tennessee is a half game behind and own the early tie breaker. Despite a slow conference start, the Georgia Bulldogs are going to rise back near the top and give Kentucky a run at the title.

The west is a little more clear cut looking than the east. Surprisingly, Auburn is a basketball powerhouse. They went into Knoxville and came out with a 28 point win over the Vols. This game was played just a few days after the UT coach said that Auburn hadn't played anyone good, and that meant that their perfect record wasn't legit. If that game against UT wasn't a test, then the one that they played last night was. Whether they won or lost the game is the difference between man and boy. One might say that this is their right of passage into the elite class in the SEC. (Due to deadlines this story was written prior to the Auburn-Kentucky tip off.)

The favorite right now in my opinion is Duke. They have one loss and they are now playing like a well oiled machine. The sleeper team that I believe will rise to the occasion at the end of the year is the team from Miami. The Hurricanes have the best player in the country in Tim James. With his emergence the Canes will be hard to stop.■

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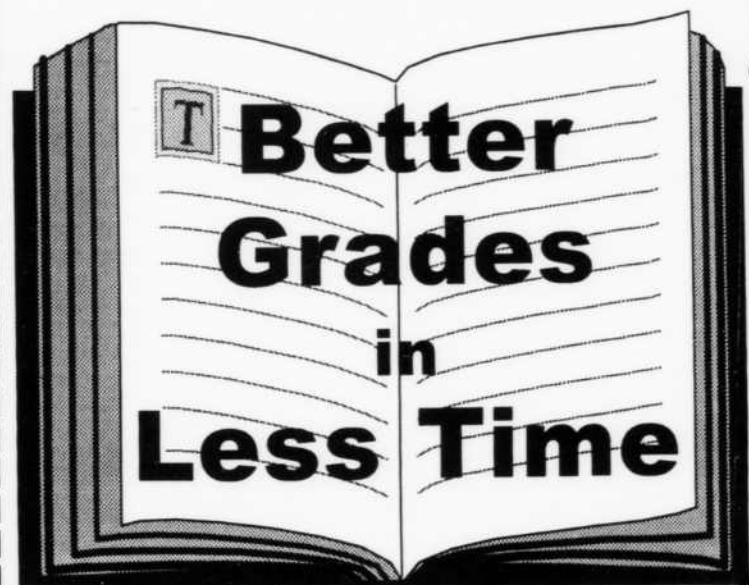
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