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Should sex offenders be required to register with Public Safety?

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MURFREESBORO, TENNESSEE

## INSIDE: International students should not have to check in Middle Tennessee State University

An editorially independent newspaper

# SIDELINES

Volume 77 No. 18

## Bill proposes immigrant student registration

By Charlene Callier  
MTSU Staff Capital Bureau

International students would be required to report to law enforcement monthly if a bill in the Tennessee legislature becomes law in response to the Sept. 11 attacks that would be a state effort to close a federal loophole.

HB 2000 and HB 2017 would require the University of Tennessee Board of Trustees and the Tennessee Board of Higher Education to create a registration system to ensure that stu-

dents who aren't United States citizens register with local police.

"We just want to know that students that come on a student visa are here to attend school and nothing else," said House sponsor Rep. Steven Buttry, R-Knoxville.

He said support for the bill resulted from the Sept. 11 attacks because some of the people suspected of involvement were in the United States on student visas. Currently, Tennessee has 3,656 international students.

The bills would have the universities devise a form for international students to take to local law enforcement, which would indicate on the form that the student has appeared before them to register. The form would then have to return to the university they are attending.

If an international student does not comply with the proposed requirements, they would become ineligible to attend a state institution of higher learning. Private colleges and universities are not mentioned in the

ills. One major roadblock may be the expense of the registration system. A fiscal note attached to the bill estimates the cost would be \$190,000.

Another objection comes from the international community and higher education itself. "I would feel awkward and violated by having to go to police station every month and give my attendance," said Nirisha Kuchimanchi, a University of Tennessee student from India. "I do understand their initial thought to account

for all the internationals, but I do not think that keeping a tab on students will resolve their sense of security."

Zaid Brifkani, an Iraqi student and president of the MTSU Muslim Student Association, said he wouldn't mind the government or any other information agency following up on information and checking backgrounds. He said some limits would have to be set, however, so no civil liberties would be violated.

"The reporting requirements might be a good thing, given the

events of Sept. 11," said Tech Wubneh, MTSU's director of International Programs and Services. "But the frequency of monthly check-ins would be an inconvenient burden for students. Sometimes students may get too busy and forget to report in."

"I think that it's not a good idea," said Mary Morgan, director of communications for the Tennessee Board of Regents. She said it's a federal matter that's driving the bill and thinks

See Students, 3

## Knights donate to HELP



Photo courtesy Ken Robinson

Gary Emory (left to right), Joel Lynch, John Zaccaro and Norbert Braunwalder of the Knights of Columbus present a check for supported sitting chairs to Project HELP Director Deborah Bauder. Project HELP is a program assisting developmentally delayed children from birth to age three.

## Open Line positions filled

By Jason Cox  
News Editor

Neil Price has been chosen as the first host for MTTV's new program "Open Line With President McPhee" after auditions held Monday.

In addition, Sidelines Opinions and Online Editor Patrick Chinnery was chosen as the field reporter, who will get questions from the campus and community.

Price has only been at MTSU for six weeks but has done work for University of Tennessee radio, Walters State Community College and WCRK of Morristown. In addition, he does sports broadcasts for MTTV.

"I think it is an incredibly great opportunity," Price said.



Chinnery

Even though I'm new at the university, I know the board well."

"Neil Price has a very take-charge kind of personality," Terra Grant, general manager of MTTV, said. "He's very articulate and is beginning to learn the history of MTSU. He has a great voice and is quick on his feet."

While Chinnery has no broadcast experience, he has written opinions pieces for

Sidelines since January of 2001.

"I'm all twitter with excitement," Chinnery said.

"This is going to be a great opportunity for this campus to get straight answers from a person who many see as unapproachable only because of his position."

"I think I'm going to bring a fresh style to the interview process," Chinnery said. "Too often, interviewers become concerned with getting face time; I don't feel there is enough emphasis on getting to the heart of the matter."

"Patrick has a great persona," Grant said. "We're really lucky he tried out."

Questions can be e-mailed to [openline@mttv10.com](mailto:openline@mttv10.com). The first show will be March 12. ♦

## Black alumni to be honored Friday

Staff Reports

MTSU will honor six alumni at the third Black Alumni Achievement awards tomorrow as a part of Black History Month.

The festivities will begin at 6 p.m. with a reception outside the State Farm Auditorium of the Business and Aerospace Building. This year's recipients are Tim Bowles, Donald L. Cleveland, Michael E. McDonald, John Harris, Willie

Shaw and Ronald T. Washington.

"We want to identify individuals who have excelled in their communities and their careers," said Ralph Metcalf, who is the director of Multicultural Affairs, as well as a member of the African American History Month Committee. "We want to give them the opportunity to share their expertise with the campus."

J. Stephen Barnes, program

coordinator of the Office of Alumni Affairs and African American History Month Committee member, sees the event as a way to recognize the achievements of alumni in their personal and professional lives.

"The honorees being recognized are well-deserving and truly characterize the quality of alumni that represents our university," he said. Before the ceremony, the honorees will be led on a tour of campus by MTSU President Sidney McPhee. ♦

## Profs project change in accounting

### Enron scandal shows need for questioning numbers

By India Stone  
Contributor

The effects of the Enron collapse on the accounting industry are yet to be determined, say professors at MTSU and CPAs in Murfreesboro.

Nevertheless, changes are on the way, MTSU accounting professor Larry Farmer sees two.

"There will be changes in the management of accounting firms and changes in accounting standards," Farmer said.

Arthur Andersen not only served as Enron's auditing firm, but doubled as its consulting firm as well. This created conflicts of interest that could have aided in the extensive misrepresentation of the financial status of the now-bankrupt Enron.

"Tremendous repercussions will come out of this," said Franklin Michello, MTSU finance professor. "New standards will come that will create

a firewall between the auditing and the consulting functions."

As for educators at MTSU and other colleges of business, Michello said changes won't happen right away but will manifest eventually.

"Teachers will focus more on asking the students to question the numbers more," Michello said.

Because the Financial Accounting Standards Board takes years to develop changes in its Generally Accepted Accounting Standards, those changes will take years, reach MTSU's business curriculum, Farmer said.

But Farmer believes students' attitudes toward the accounting profession will change more quickly.

"I'm very wary now about becoming an accountant," said Geoffrey McInturff, an accounting student. "I don't know if I want to be under that kind of pressure."

One possible sign of how sensitive such issues in the profession have become: Most finance professors at MTSU and accountants in Murfreesboro contacted for this story declined to comment.

Michello said he is glad he never experienced alterations in accounting records within corporations - he's been a finance professional his whole adult life.

Since the development of "special purpose entities" within corporations, one of the ways Enron temporarily hid its colossal financial losses, it is indeed difficult to differentiate a healthy company from a sick company. That's the reason for a new trend in the stock market, according to Steve Galbraith, chief investment officer at Morgan Stanley.

"Sell first and ask questions later on anything that doesn't look clean," Galbraith told a *Fortune Magazine* writer.

Of course, the Enron situation isn't the first time a company has skewed or factored its numbers to paint a prettier picture for the public.

"It is very common, yes," said Michael Hayes, a Murfreesboro CPA. Hayes said he had seen numbers-nudging in his professional life, "but I can't name any names, of course."

Farmer said it's not clear yet that Enron or Arthur Andersen actually violated accounting standards. "They may have bent

the GAAP rules, but I don't think they broke any of them," he said. "They may have distorted it enough that others may think they broke it."

Although some of this "distortion" is perfectly legal, as writer Andrew Serwer points out in a recent *Fortune Magazine* article, it's still deceptive.

"No one can count how many companies are playing loosey-goosey with their books right now," Serwer wrote. "We can only count them when they get caught."

So much focus has been put on increasing companies' stock prices, Serwer said, that CEOs will go to great lengths to make this happen.

And each company is different in the way it chooses to handle its financial documentation.

"Lawyers develop new types of transactions which fall inside the gray area between what's required and not required to be reported" in financial documents, Farmer said. "So it's up to the accountant."

For now, students might heed Michello's advice: "Don't take anything at face value." ♦

## EYESORE OF THE WEEK



Photo by Amy Jones | Chief Photographer

Trash cans obstruct the handicapped parking spots located behind the Health Services building.

"Eyesore of the Week" examines the inadequacies of our campus in hopes of drawing attention to flaws that need to be addressed. If you have seen any "eyesores" around campus, please let us know by calling 904-8357 or e-mailing [slmedit@mtsu.edu](mailto:slmedit@mtsu.edu).

SGA Candidates Speak

Questions for Student Government Association candidates

1. What kind of experience do you have that qualifies you for this position?
2. What do you feel are the top five most important issues on campus in need of addressing?
3. What will you do to increase student participation on campus events? How will you tackle the issue of student apathy?
4. What can be done about the lack of parking on campus? How should parking tickets be handled?
5. What changes, if any, should be made to the SGA constitution in the wake of the SGA Investigative Committee's findings?

**President**  
**Daryn Thornbury**

1. I have been involved in Student Government since my freshman year as a House Representative. Most recently I have served as one of four Executive Officers. Over the past year I have learned a lot about the SGA. I have seen and experienced firsthand the issues and problems within Student Government.

2. The issue I want to resolve is to fix Student Government. The SGA has changed significantly in the four years that I have been here. For the most part the changes have been for the better; however, these changes have exposed new unforeseen problems that need to be addressed. It is my goal to fix these problems now to allow the SGA in the future to focus on the important concerns of the students.

3. Many proposed solutions have been presented, yet no definite single solution has been identified. This will require a team effort and positive spirit. The university's athletic teams have already contributed to resolving this problem with their recent performances, particularly basketball, baseball and football.

4. Parking has been a tool for SGA candidates in the past to fuel support. There are plenty of parking spaces on this campus. The problem is their proximity to classrooms and residence halls. It all comes down to convenience. The thing we can address is student accessibility to specific lots during the university's non-business hours.

5. A complete revision of the SGA constitution is in order. There are literally too many problems to address in this format. This will require a collaborative effort of the new officers

and the investigative committee members as well as input from the SGA advisors. Again this is the most important issue to me. This needs to be accomplished in order that future officers can address more important student issues.

**Executive Vice President**

**Jason Searles**

1. Through two years serving in the senate and speaker pro tempore this year, attending various SGA leadership functions, and serving on a range of committees, I believe I am very qualified to serve as speaker of the Senate. I also possess a working knowledge of parliamentary procedure and have an established relationship with several administrators and faculty.

2. Parking, relationships between students and faculty and administration, keeping technology current for students to use, more campus involvement from students, and more accessibility to students of buildings on campus including expanded library hours and expanded hours of operation at the Recreation Center.

3. I think we are on the right track. Our president has made a stride toward a new structure in which students are a major part of this university. Also promoting events through new media, and trying to appeal to students through incentives and various forms of entertainment should help to encourage student participation on campus.

4. Obviously we all have to deal with parking every day. Unfortunately, there is no close parking for students anywhere. There is no quick fix. One thing that should be addressed is the Raider Xpress. If the Raider Xpress was reliable and timely,

then parking would not be as much of an issue.

5. I believe that there is a need to address some reform in the day-to-day operations of SGA. I believe that some changes in internal policies and

procedures may correct some of the questions and issues that have arisen. I also believe that proper leadership and vision through the Senate and the new executive officers can work together to patch any problems that may arise.

**Vice President for Administration and Public Affairs**

**Michele Butler**

1. I have been involved with

SGA for the past two years serving as a freshman senator and as a senator for the College of Education. Through SGA, I have been able to form a working relationship with

See SGA. 3

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And be Entered To  
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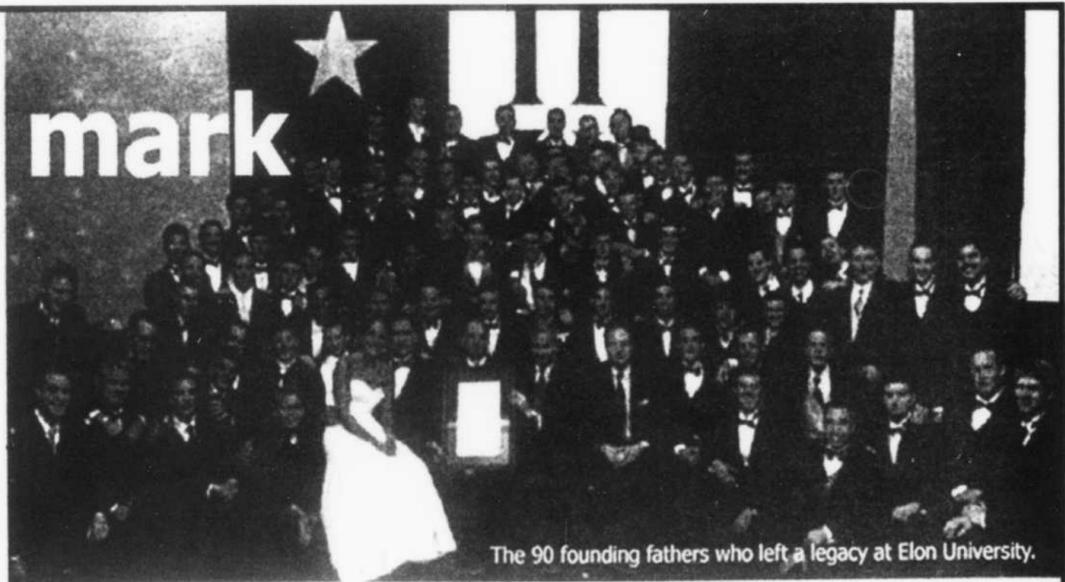


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- Information Meetings**  
*All meetings are in Keathley University Center Room 314, last approximately 20 minutes, and there's no pressure or obligation to join . . . just information.*
- Monday, February 25, 7:00 p.m.
  - Wednesday, February 27, 7:00 p.m.
  - Tuesday, March 5, 7:00 p.m.
  - Wednesday, March 6, 7:00 p.m.
  - Thursday, March 7, 7:00 p.m.
  - Monday, March 11, 7:00 p.m.
  - Wednesday, March 13, 7:00 p.m.

**Questions?**  
Contact Kenny Oubre  
1-800-929-1904 ext. 145  
[www.pikapp.org](http://www.pikapp.org)



## SGA: Candidates speak

Continued from 2

higher administration and have worked on various committees. I am also extremely involved through other campus organizations and have had the opportunity of holding leadership positions in these organizations.

2. Parking, campus/building maintenance, student participation, maintaining advanced technology throughout campus and regulation of the grading system.

3. Although I am Greek, I feel that there needs to be more focus to the Non-Greek students and the students who live on campus. There should be more activities during the weekends such as pep rallies, various entertainment and student picnics. These types of activities would enable the Greek and Non-Greek students to come together and help MTSU to not be known as a suitcase college.

4. There is really only one answer to the lack of parking on campus and that is to build more parking lots, but that does not look like it is going to happen anytime soon. My plans are to work on a parking garage to be placed where the funeral home used to be and to also provide more green spaces where some white space lots are located. I agree with the way that parking tickets are being handled, but I would like to see all lots become available to any pass after 5 and for Parking Services to remain open longer for visitors to obtain a visitor's permit.

5. There does need to be changes to the SGA Constitution, and I hope these issues can be addressed through a committee to re-work the constitution and be voted on by the Senate.

### Election Commissioner

Lisa Barkley

1. I have worked in the SGA office as the public relations director since October, and I serve as the secretary of the senate. I have seen how goals are accomplished in SGA on a first hand basis. I believe this insight and the fact that my insights are for the student body, rather than for my own personal gain, make me qualified for the office of election commissioner.

2. Parking, class scheduling, funding, student involvement – Students need to be more aware of what is happening on campus and to know the reasons behind it, and facility hours – many of the campus facilities are operating in outdated hours.

3. The only way to tackle student apathy is to show students how their involvement would benefit them; SGA does a lot for the students and most students do not even know about it. We just need to show students that we do listen to their concerns and that we do try to address them. However, we can not do anything without the support of the student body.

4. Nothing can be done about the parking problem without funding. In the mean time, there is plenty of parking on campus, it is just not good parking. It would be easy to park far away and ride the bus if the buses ran on a more regular and efficient schedule. Until we can afford a parking garage, my first concern would be to regulate the bus schedules. As for parking tickets, some reform may be in order, but without the SGA attorney general students would have no opportunity to appeal their tickets at all.

5. The constitution needs to be reviewed and the holes need to be sewn up. The investigation committee found that the constitution is written so loosely that it is hard to know what is allowed and what is not. This definitely should be addressed and the constitution should be rewritten so that all procedures and policies are more clear. ♦

## Students: Amendment offered to focus on rogue nations

Continued from 1

the proposal would treat international students as if they were evil.

"I'm concerned with the international students that will be singled out for no reasons," Morgan said, adding that TBR is working with legislators to amend the bill.

Sen. Tim Burchett, R-Knoxville, has already offered an amendment to the Senate version he's sponsoring. He

would limit the registration process to students from countries the United States is at war with or from countries the U.S. State Department considers sponsors of terrorism.

If it becomes law, the registration requirement would be ruled unconstitutional by courts, predicted Hugh Prevost, director of International Programs at UT-Chattanooga, because the state would be infringing on federal authority. "Local police would be in an

area where they are not equipped because they wouldn't understand the ins and outs of immigration, of all the rules and regulations," Prevost said.

Congress passed the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996 to begin a monitoring process, accessible by all higher education institutions, of student visas issued to international students. However, the Immigration and Naturalization Service is still

working to implement that process.

There was also a proposal at that time to put a ban on student visas for citizens of countries considered to be sponsors of terrorism: Cuba, Iran, Iraq, Libya, North Korea, Sudan and Syria. The process was put on the back burner until the Sept. 11 attacks prompted a re-evaluation.

"There was a loophole big enough to drive a truck through," Buttry said. ♦

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### Questions?

Contact Kenny Oubre  
1-800-929-1904 ext. 145  
www.pikapp.org



## Housing Reapplication Deadline March 4, 2002

The deadline for students living in on-campus to reapply for housing with priority for the 2002/2003 academic year is **March 4, 2002 at 4:00 PM**. Students need to complete the green reapplication form they received in their post office boxes, pay the \$200 prepaid rent at the business office cashier windows in the Cope Administration Building, 1st floor, and return the green reapplication form stamped "paid" to the Housing and Residential Life office in the Keathley University Center, Room 300, Monday through Friday, 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM, through Monday, March 4, 2002. Additional green reapplication forms are available in the Housing and Residential Life Office, Keathley University Center, Room 300. For additional information or questions, please contact Housing and Residential Life, 898-2971.



## KATY WANSING

For Election Commissioner,  
MTSU Student Government

## —Parking Ticket Appeal Reform—

## JARRET RICE

For Vice President of  
Administration and Public  
Affairs, MTSU Student  
Government



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**Vote for SGA Officers  
Feb. 25 - 27 on WebMT**

# OPINIONS

SIDELINES ♦ 4

Thursday, February 21, 2002

Murfreesboro, Tenn.

## Editorial

### International students should not have to check in

If some of Tennessee's legislators have their way, our international students will soon have to show their papers to university officials on a monthly basis.

Rep. Steven Buttry and Sen. Tim Burchett, two Republicans from Knoxville, have let fear of another terrorist attack override common sense by attempting to pile one more bureaucratic burden on our law enforcement and administration.

According to their bill, students who are studying in the United States on student visas would be required to take a form to an officer with Public Safety and have him or her sign the form. The student then would have to take the form back to the university.

In addition to increasing paperwork, it also places those seeking an education in this country in the same position that criminals on parole find themselves in. The only 'crime' these students have committed is educating themselves.

Again, it seems that legislators, though brimming with good intentions, are jumping at the first quick fix they see, ignoring the fact that civil liberties would be tossed aside in the name of safety.

The public's safety likely would not benefit from forcing students to register, despite the fact that some suspects in the Sept. 11 attacks were in the country on student visas. The vast majority of students are not here to blow up our buildings and kill people, citizens or otherwise. It also should be mentioned that the nation's second-largest terrorist attack was carried out by Timothy McVeigh, who was not only American but was also a veteran of Operation Desert Storm.

Also, in the case that a student did come here with dishonorable intentions, it is highly unlikely that getting a police officer to sign a form once a month would do anything to improve safety. These criminals, just like our own, know better than to tell the truth to a cop.

Finally, the students whose visas were expired were not tracked in any fashion by Immigration and Naturalization Services. This bill would do nothing more than pass on responsibilities that should fall squarely on INS - responsibilities that they have already neglected.

Let us not forget, we have always been and still are a nation of immigrants. There is no such thing as an American. ♦

## From the Opinions Editor

### Inquiring minds want to know - where's the snow?



Something's wrong, something's amiss. There are two things in this world that no amount of research and study will never allow me to understand.

The first is the lack of support for a Bob and Doug McKenzie statue in front of the Canadian embassy in Washington, D.C.

The second is why it is 60 degrees in the middle of February.

In the words of Dave Matthews, let's "ta-ta-

talk about the weather."

When all this crazy warm weather was going on in December, people thought it was just an extended Indian summer.

Then we had two days of cold weather, and people thought it was here to stay. Wrong.

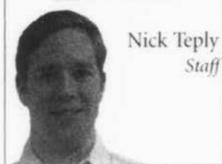
More warm weather, and my biology teacher, the fantastic Sarah Barlow, assured me and my class that things would chill soon.

Yesterday, she told us that spring was almost here. I'm still wondering when winter arrived, let alone made plans to leave.

El Nino be damned. Is it too much to ask for a little snow before March? ♦

## Abortion America's modern holocaust

### How I See It



Nick Teply  
Staff

In Noble, Ga., it seems ignoble acts were committed. Bodies lie strewn about on the property of the Tri-State Crematory. The press corps has flocked to this podunk town to investigate crimes against the dead.

It seems the crematory's furnace had simply broken, and management found matters more economical to simply not burn the corpses.

These people, who died for various reasons, have

found no sanctity in death. Families of the deceased are shocked to learn that the bodies of their loved ones have not been given the respect they feel the dead deserve.

This news story shocked the otherwise sleepy town of Noble. Someone walking their dog on Feb. 15 discovered a skull, reported it to the EPA, and the story grew from there.

If the dead are mistreated, and this makes national headlines, then why is the plight of the living simply ignored?

The living to whom I am referring to are those who are unborn who are destroyed before they even have a breath outside the womb. Those nameless

dead in Georgia once were living, breathing people. If they could speak up for the way they were mistreated, what would they say?

In the same manner, more than 3,300 infants are exterminated daily in the name of choice or convenience. These people also cannot speak as to their treatment. Some can only kick.

Others can have only a beating heart with which to respond. The argument will arise that these are not people, but "fetuses" and "potential life."

The truth is that these little ones are life, and can potentially, hopefully be born.

The rights of the living surpass the rights of the dead. One right of the liv-

ing is the right to live, and be born.

In Europe's days of Nazi rule, citizens living around the concentration camps ignored the slaughter of the multitude of Jews being sent there daily. Some even objected to this "final solution", but did nothing to stop it. While most people were not directly involved in the executions, they condoned the killings by their ignorance.

You may say that the Holocaust hardly compares to abortion in this country. You would be correct. Six million people lost their lives in the Holocaust.

Thirty-eight million have died from legal abortion in this country since

1973. Indirectly, too many Americans consent to the killing by calling the act someone else's choice. To some, abortion is merely a faceless medical operation, or a necessary evil.

Had the person in Georgia chosen to ignore the found skull, there would probably be no story today.

There wouldn't be 400-plus investigators and a media circus. Noble, Ga. would just be an unincorporated map dot on U.S. Highway 27.

My fellow Americans, we too have the right to choose. We may choose to ignore our modern Holocaust, or we can eliminate this atrocity. Facing our immorality would be noble. ♦

## When given a platform to speak, use it wisely

### On the Real



Shawn Whitsell

Last semester, I had the opportunity to speak to an audience of my peers at a journalism conference held in New Orleans. I spoke about my experience with being one of the few (sometimes only) African Americans on the *Sidelines* staff. I also offered advice about how to diversify a newspaper staff.

I didn't do any kind of preparation for the session. I just spoke from the heart, honestly shared my

experience and tried to answer as many questions as possible.

Though I was very grateful for the opportunity and somewhat nervous, I pretty much took the whole situation lightly. What amazed me was how attentive my audience was, which came as a bit of a surprise since I was a peer and not a journalist with 10 or so years under my belt. But they listened carefully and asked questions as if I was an expert.

Afterward, many of the audience members approached me to either ask my advice on specific situations or to tell me how much they enjoyed the session. I guess I must have done a good job because an older woman came to me and suggested

I become a teacher and a representative from National Public Radio approached me about an internship.

I do feel that I did a pretty good job, but I think one of the main reasons everyone was so attentive was because I was given a platform on which to speak and because of that platform, I was considered a credible source.

My point is that some of the audience members probably wouldn't even give me the time of day if we had met under different circumstances. But because I was standing in front of a room with a badge that read, "speaker," I was deemed worthy of being listened to.

The audience listened because of the position I

was in, not because they thought I was an expert.

It feels good to know that I can have that much influence but it can be also scary to know that there are people in the world who have a lot of influence but are using it to spread false information.

Entertainers and sports figures are always in the spotlight; therefore, there are lots of children (and adults) who look up to them. Any time celebrities open their mouths, children hold onto their every word. They believe everything celebrities say simply because of the platform they have.

Not everyone wants to be a role model but we don't really have a choice in that. It's the choice of those who look up to us.

The only choice we have is whether or not we want to be good role models or bad role models.

What I want everyone to realize is that you always have an audience. Someone is always watching, especially if you're often around children. So, be aware of that. When you're put on that platform, which you will at some point or another, be conscious and use your position wisely.

Whether you're a teacher, president of an organization, an adviser, big brother, or if you're just giving a presentation in class, you have the power to influence. So when someone gives you a platform, step up to it and make a difference in the lives of others. ♦

## Dr Pepper and God

Staff Editorial  
Daily Illini

(U-WIRE) CHAMPAIGN, Ill. - Round one. In the red corner, we have the heathen Dr Pepper, bearing on its newly designed can the words "One nation ... indivisible."

In the blue corner, we have the formidable opponent OneMillionMoms.com fighting for the inclusion of the words "under God" on the Dr Pepper can.

OneMillionMoms.com is a network of moms (and others) working to "stop the intentional exploitation of our children" on television.

That's one million moms with nothing better to do than separate their grocery products between those that reference God and those that don't.

Dr Pepper designed the patriotic can with the Statue of Liberty and Pledge of Allegiance, leaving out, of course, the part with "under God." Apparently, the company was worried about excluding non-believing Americans.

OneMillionMoms.com argues that this is offensive to those who do believe in God.

We're talking about a caffeinated beverage here, folks. These moms should not look for religious guidance in a soft drink can. This is Dr Pepper - not Rev. Pepper, not Pastor Pepper. It will not bring you closer to God if you drink it.

If these moms are really worried about television corrupting the youth of America, they should forget Dr Pepper.

They're close to having a real cause, and then they write letters to Dr Pepper/Seven Up, Inc., asking the corporation to make its product more religious.

Get a cause. When there's bigger fish to fry, why fight for table scraps?

For every letter sent to Dr Pepper, one letter could have been sent through Amnesty International to fight human rights violations abroad. One letter could have been sent to congressmen about the injustices at home.

OneMillionMoms.com members apparently have plenty of time at their disposal. They think it's offensive to exclude God on a Dr Pepper can - well we think it's offensive they're spending their time on such a trivial matter rather than addressing the real concerns our society struggles with.

A 12-year-old girl from Arkansas jumped into the controversy when she wrote a letter to Dr Pepper requesting the inclusion of "under God" on the can. She said she wants "to get Christians united in a boycott against Dr Pepper."

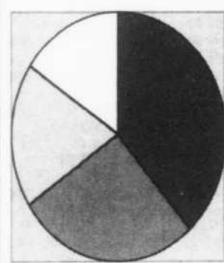
If she really felt as if Christians were being shunned by the soft drink can, maybe she should open her eyes to real religious injustices around the world and send her letter elsewhere. Or maybe she should just be a 12-year-old girl and not a political toy.

It's nice the Arkansas girl wants to unite Christians, but the executives at Dr Pepper wisely designed the can to unite Americans of all backgrounds.

Now if we could just work on uniting all human beings, regardless of religion or nationality, we might make some progress.

Martin Luther King Jr. fought for the rights of an entire race of people; OneMillionMoms.com members are fighting for a pop can. ♦

### Last week's poll results: Should sex offenders on campus be required to register?



- Yes - they deserve to have their crimes publicized
- Yes - it'll help protect students
- No - it's an ineffective use of the university's scarce resources
- No - they've done their time, let them be

Check out this week's poll at  
[www.mtsusidelines.com](http://www.mtsusidelines.com):  
Should cell phones be allowed to be brought into class?

Someone reads our PSAs.  
Riverdale football is being investigated for improper recruiting.  
Ha-ha.  
[slopinio@mtsu.edu](mailto:slopinio@mtsu.edu)

## SIDELINES

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

## Guitar Festival gains global participation

By Christopher Magan  
Staff Writer

Venezuelan classical guitarist and vocalist Salome Sandoval performed Tuesday night in the Wright Music Building as part of this year's Guitar Festival.

The 2002 Guitar Festival, organized by William Yelverton, associate professor of music and director of guitar studies, featured professional performers and a master class where students received a public lesson. This year's guests included Elliot Frank and Andrew Zohn and a performance by Yelverton himself.

The festival, which was first held in 1998, was made possible this year by a grant from the Public Service Committee, but Yelverton said he plans to it make a yearly event.

"The event gives students a great opportunity to listen to professional musicians and get information on practicing," Yelverton said.

Sandoval performed selections ranging from Mozart to traditional Spanish songs by Federico Garcia Lorca.

Sandoval began musical studies with Alejandro Vasquez in Venezuela. She earned her degree in classical guitar at the Institute for Musical Studies under Master Luis Zea, and now performs and teaches music at the



The 2002 Guitar Festival continued Tuesday night with international guitarist Salome Sandoval.

background — her father is an actor and her mother is a dancer — Sandoval started playing guitar and singing at the age of 10. She cites some of her musical influences as Alirio Diaz, Poco Lu Coia and Isabel Palacios.

She has participated in several national festivals, competed in international competitions and appeared on television, radio and movie soundtracks in Venezuela.

Interested in studying and performing outside of Venezuela, Sandoval was informed about MTSU's music program through the Internet and her friend Luis Miguel Lange Dao, who is a recording industry major.

Sandoval said that, after hearing Yelverton play, she became interested in studying at the graduate level with him as an instructor.

Yelverton invited Sandoval to this year's guitar festival after listening to her CD, viewing a videotape of her performing, and hearing about her interest in attending MTSU.

formers who is able to sing and play the accompaniment to the pieces she performs. This process usually requires two people, Yelverton said, and there are very few people who do this in the classical world.

The Venezuelan artist further develops her concert by incorporating several performance art pieces, such as poetry, acting and lighting between each selected piece.

She said hopes to make her guitar performance an overall artistic experience for the audience by "finding different ways to involve the audience in

the performance than other players do."

Sandoval has appeared on various recordings and has just released her first CD, titled *Cantando con el Fuego* (*Singing with Fire*), in which she combines her guitar and vocal skills on selections ranging from English Renaissance to popular Spanish music.

The 2002 Guitar Festival ended last night with a final recital by MTSU junior Brent Coleman's, which featured the music of Llobet, Aguado, Hudson, Morel and Downland. ♦



Salome Sandoval performs Spanish music from her homeland.

## Humor hails dysfunction



Photo provided

By Jessie Miraldi  
Staff Writer

The only word that could possibly describe the movie *The Royal Tenenbaums* is "quirky."

This off-beat comedy was a strange mixture of confusion and neurotic humor that has the audience continually running through a range of emotions from confusion and happiness to utter sadness, then back to happiness again. For everyone who ever thought their family was dysfunctional, the *Tenenbaums* will make you feel like the most boring family in the world.

The world stars Gene Hackman as Royal Tenenbaum and his wife Ethilene, played by Angelica Huston. Early in the film, Royal leaves his wife and

his three young children, who are well-known child prodigies. Chas, played by Ben Stiller, is a financial whiz known for his natural abilities to understand business. Margot, played by Gwyneth Paltrow is a young playwright who has already won a prestigious prize for her play, and is constantly reminded by

Royal that she is not actually his daughter, but adopted. The third son, Richie, played by Luke Wilson, is a champion tennis player, who won the U.S. Open three times. As the years pass, the genius of the young Tenenbaums is forgotten, and they all grow to be the dysfunctional and hilarious family that we get to know on screen.

When Royal suddenly comes back to the family, claiming a deadly illness and expressing wishes to get to know his children again, we suddenly find all of the Tenenbaums along with their extended families and friends back in the same house together, each fighting for attention and struggling with their feelings about their suddenly interested father.

Each of the grown children is screwed up in his or her own way, and they each slowly grow on the audience as we watch them struggle with themselves. The result is one crazy escapade after another, as Royal fights to push himself back into their lives.

The soundtrack seems almost randomly chosen and works well for this movie. It ranges from a sad slow instrumental version of The Beatles' "Hey Jude," played by "Devo's" Mark Motherbaush, to a fast paced song by the Velvet Underground.

Director Wes Anderson, who is known for his films *Bottle Rocket* and *Rushmore*, has done a great job with this film. He uses many interesting camera angles for an arrange of strange, but great, shots. He also uses a narrator to tell the beginning of the story of the *Royal Tenenbaums*, which was an interesting choice, and worked very well. Throughout the movie, the narrator occasionally will throw in a word or two about a character's thoughts, or just simply to clarify what is happening.

*The Royal Tenenbaums* has a huge cast and each actor gives a wonderful performance on the screen. Although the cast may be the reason many people come to see the movie, the quirky humor and lovable strangeness of the family that comes to life on the screen will not only keep the viewers in their seats, but keep them coming back for more. ♦

## Alternative Spring Break offers service opportunities

By Leslie Fike  
Features Editor

Every spring semester, MTSU students get one week in March to leave campus and escape the frustrations of class. For many, the break means seven days of sand and sun in a popular tropical climate spot like Cancun, Mexico and Palm Beach, Fla.

Students who don't intend to become beach bums and spend more than \$100, though, may be looking for an alternative choice for their spring break escape.

The Office of Student Organizations and Community Service and the Raider Coordinating Council of Organizations are sponsoring an Alternative Spring Break trip to Huntsville, Ala., to participate in the Habitat for Humanity Colleague Challenge.

"The alternative break program places teams of students in communities to engage in volunteer service and experiential learning during their vacations," said Chris Montague, interim coordinator for student organizations and community service. "Students leave behind the world of books and laboratories and enter communities grappling with issues as varied as urban poverty, racism, hunger, inadequate housing and environmental damage."

"Communities benefit from their tangible work completed, while students gain a broader understanding of the world around them," Montague said.

ASB allows students to do indoor and out-



Photo provided

Students learn to line dance Pipestem, W.V. style.

door work, such as painting, pollution cleanup and construction.

Last year, ASB traveled to Pipestem, W.V. and engaged in a variety of volunteer activities, including painting a couple's house, rebuilding their front porch and cleaning a polluted creek.

Becca Wilson, coordinator of student development, said the most rewarding part of any ASB trip, though, according to Wilson, is the residents' gratitude, even though the students are only there for a week.

This year, 15 students will participate in building houses for lower-income families while interacting with Huntsville's residents.

Students will be asked to bring money for food, leisure and admission to the NASA Space Center.

To sign up for this year's trip, pick up an application in the Keathley University Center, Room 306, by March 1. ♦

## CAMPUS EVENTS

Compiled by Leslie Fike | Features Editor

Thursday, Feb. 21

Pi Sigma Epsilon, a national sales and marketing fraternity, will host an informational meeting at 6 p.m. in the Business and Aerospace Building, Room 5301. For more information, call 405-1989 or send an e-mail to RussellFurney@bellsouth.net.

Monday, Feb. 25

"Survival in Its World-System Context" will be the topic discussed at the Survival Honors Lecture Series with speaker Edward Kick, professor of sociology and anthropology, in Peck Hall, Room 109A from 3 to 3:50 p.m. The event is free and open to the public. For more information, call 898-2152.

Wednesday, Feb. 27

The MTSU Social Work Forum and Phi Alpha is sponsoring a field trip to the Birmingham Civil Rights Institute. The bus will leave the James Union Building parking lot at 7 a.m. and is scheduled to return at 6:30 p.m. A refundable \$10 deposit is required. All deposits must be in by Feb. 22 and a Student ID must be presented when making the deposit and boarding the bus. For more information, contact Margaret Seime at 898-5766. ♦



email: lpa2d@mtsu.edu

## Sports Briefs

Compiled by David Hunter  
Staff Writer

### Baseball season ticket sales extended

Due to an overwhelming demand, the sale of 2002 baseball season tickets has been extended until March 1.

Less than 10 of the 285 chair back seats are left. The seats can be bought for \$64, a savings of more than \$85 for the regular \$5 single-game price.

An unlimited amount of family and single bleacher seats remain for \$50 and \$35.

More than 600 baseball season tickets have already been sold, according to the MT Ticket Office.

Last season the team set the single game and season attendance records for a team that finished 41-17 and shared the Sun Belt Championship.

The opening day crowd of 2,317 last Sunday was the largest opening day crowd in MT baseball history.

Those wishing to purchase season tickets can do so by visiting the MT Ticket Office or by calling 1-888-YES-MTSU.

### Blue Dawn reaches halfway point

Blue Dawn, Middle Tennessee's off-season football conditioning program, has reached its halfway point.

The program focuses on mental toughness with practices starting at 6 a.m. in the Murphy Center.

Players begin practice each day with team stretching. Players are then broken into groups based on their position to nine different stations inside the Murphy Center.

The stations are geared to improve agility, speed, quickness and mental toughness.

For every time a player decides to stack off during practice, the end of to do a penalty run at the end of the workout.

Players who don't compete at the highest level have to wear a red jersey for the next Blue Dawn. For this Blue Dawn, only one player had to wear a red jersey, and a handful of players received penalty runs.

### Western Kentucky suspends coach

WKU Athletics Director Wood Selig announced Monday that the school has suspended women's basketball coach Shawn Campbell indefinitely for inappropriate conduct.

He has been replaced by assistant coach Marti Whitmore on an interim basis. This was Campbell's first year with WKU.

Players, their parents and the fans had complaints about Campbell's offensive language during practices and games.

WKU is 14-11 overall and 8-5 in the Sun Belt Conference. The Lady Hilltoppers face the Lady Raiders tomorrow night.

The team will finish second in the Sun Belt East Division and receive a first-round bye in the postseason tournament.

The Lady Hilltoppers lost to No. 23 Georgia 76-58 Tuesday night.

### WKU men's basketball in top 25

After taking some time off of the top 25 rankings for 10 weeks, the Western Kentucky men's basketball team enjoyed a 14-game winning streak that returned them to the top 25.

The 14-game winning streak is the longest in the nation. The streak included a 100-63 victory over Division II Kentucky State University Tuesday night.

The Blue Raiders will try to end WKU's winning streak Saturday in their final Sun Belt game. ♦

# MT hosts SBC Track Championships

By Angelica Journagin  
Staff Writer

After winning indoor team titles last year, the Blue and Lady Raiders will be hosting 10 women's and nine men's teams at the 2002 Sun Belt Indoor Track and Field Conference Championships Feb. 23 and 24 at the Murphy Center.

For the Lady Raiders, they will be most competitive in the jumping events. As of Feb. 13, the Lady Raiders held the top three distances in the conference in the long jump and the triple jump.

In the triple jump, MT junior Kim Freeman is holding on to the top position at 41 feet, 3 inches, which provisionally

qualifies her for the NCAA Indoor Championships. Freeman holds the SBC record in the long jump and was named this week's SBC Field Performer.

Following behind her in the triple jump standings is Stephany Reid with 40 feet, 11.25 inches and Letitia Eady with a distance of 40 feet, 10.25 inches. Jameka Collins, Kiki Deckard and Rolanda Howard are also in the top seven. MT's clean sweep of the top positions is only broken by Clariaris Johnson from the University of Louisiana-Lafayette with a distance of 38 feet, 11.75 inches.

Leading in the long jump is Eady with

See Track, 8



Photo by Amy Jones | Chief Photographer

Blue Raider hurdlers prepare for the Sun Belt Championships.

## Raiders head to Western Ky.

### Men much improved, play No. 1 SBC team

By Justin Ward  
Staff Writer

The Blue Raider men's basketball team (13-11, 7-6) travels to Western Kentucky Saturday to face them for the second time and for the last game of the season.

When Middle Tennessee faced WKU earlier this season at the Murphy Center, they lost 85-45. The Blue Raiders played well, holding WKU to their lowest shooting percentage and their lowest scoring game of the year.



Photo by Amy Jones | Chief Photographer

Lee Nosse defends the lane.

The Toppers could just not make the shots to back up the defense.

Senior center Lee Nosse has led the team this season. He has surpassed the 1,000-point career mark and averages 19.2 points a game this season and 7.5 rebounds. He leads the team with his .415 shooting percentage.

Sophomore guard Tommy Gunn is another strong player for the Blue Raiders. He has been averaging 12.8 points a game this season and 4 rebounds.

Chris Marcus is leading WKU in scoring for the season averaging 12.7 points per game and 8.6 rebounds. David Boyden is right behind him with 12.1 points a game and 5.8 rebounds. He also leads the team with a .516 shooting percentage for the season.

"Our game plan is going to be the same," Blue Raider head coach Randy Wiel said. "We're going to make some adjustments because of Marcus. Marcus is not the focal point. If you pay too much attention to Marcus, the other guys will kill you. They're still the best three-point shooting team in the country. We're gonna give it our best shot."

The Blue Raiders were 5-22 last season overall and 1-15 in the SBC. They have made quite an improvement this year.

Nosse sat out most of last year because of an injury, and his presence this year has definitely been felt. Other players have been performing strongly this season preparing to take Nosse's place next year in leading the team.

See Men, 8

### Lady Raiders play for second

By Justin Ward  
Staff Writer

The Lady Raider basketball team (15-11, 7-6) travels to Western Kentucky (14-11, 8-5) tomorrow night for a showdown for second place in the Sun Belt East.

The Lady Raiders are coming off a 75-66 loss against Denver, the No. 3 team in the Sun Belt West Division, last

Saturday. MT is currently third in the East Division behind No. 2 WKU. A Lady Raider win tomorrow secures second place in the East and a first round tournament bye.

"We have to take care of business on Friday and try to finish second and get that bye," Lady Raider head coach Stephany Smith said. "If we can do that, then we won't play [in the tournament] until Sunday, which would be a big lift for our basketball team."

The last time the Lady Raiders played the Lady Toppers they lost 71-

See Women, 8



Photo by Amy Jones | Chief Photographer

Patrice Holmes fights for the ball against Arkansas-Little Rock.

## Softball team plays in Tech tourney

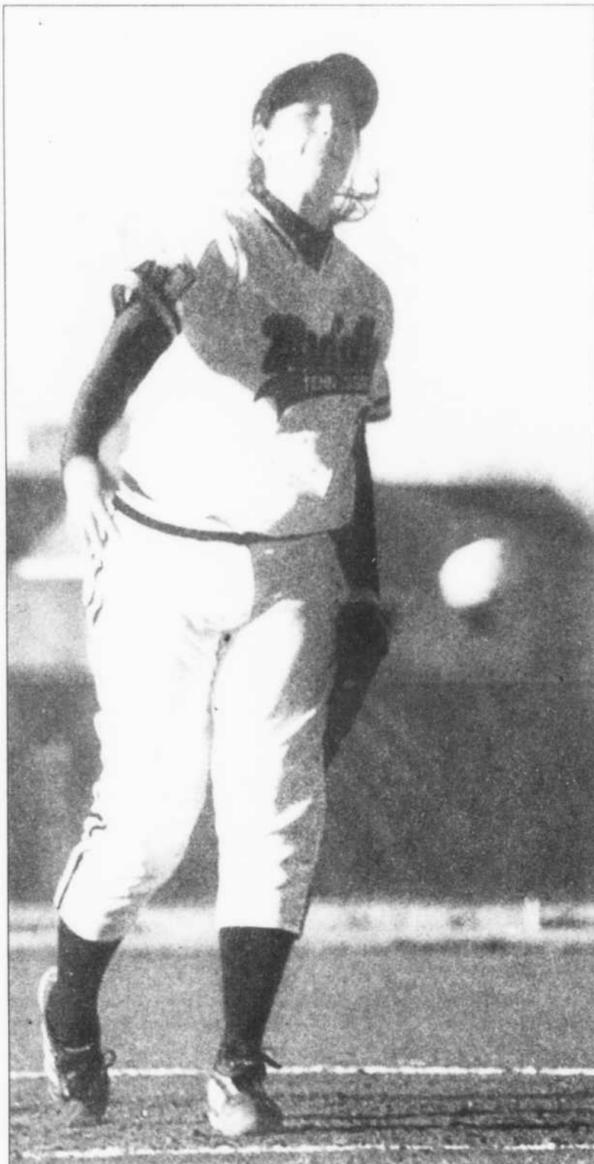


Photo by Amy Jones | Chief Photographer

Stacy Preator releases a pitch against Motlow State.

By Amy Jones  
Chief Photographer

The Lady Raider softball team (2-3) travels to Cookeville, Tenn., this weekend to participate in the four-team Tennessee Tech Tournament.

MT will join up with the University of Louisville, Bradley University, the University of Virginia and Tennessee Tech University to play two days of ball Saturday and Sunday.

The Lady Raiders begin the tournament with a game against Virginia. Having participated in the Triangle Classic at the University of North Carolina-Greensboro, Virginia goes into the tournament with a 5-2 record.

During the tournament, the Lady Cavaliers took big wins over the University of Ohio, UNCG, Robert Morris University, East Carolina University and Illinois University.

Virginia's Val Sevilla was named the Atlantic Coast Conference Softball Player of the Week. Sevilla is a first-year right fielder and pitcher. She threw a no-hitter against ECU during the Classic. Sevilla posts a .480 batting average with 12 hits in 25 at bats.

Saturday afternoon the Lady Raiders will meet up with the host Golden Eagles of TTU. Tech holds a 2-2 record with wins over East Tennessee State University and Jacksonville State University.

Stephanie Dallmann leads Tech in hitting with a .462 batting average. Dallmann has a home run and 6 dou-

bles in 4 games played.

Lori Bayless leads Tech in pitching with a 0.66 ERA. She has only allowed 2 runs and holds a 1-0 record.

MT will meet up with Louisville Sunday morning. The Lady Cardinals hold a 2-6-1 record and have won over MT's Sun Belt rival New Mexico State University during the Arizona Pepsi Challenge at the University of Arizona.

Leading the Lady Cards in hitting is Sara Bausher with 10 hits, 3 doubles, 1 home run and 3 runs batted in in 8 games played.

Jessica Rak leads Louisville in pitching with a 1.37 ERA and has only allowed 12 runs.

Sunday afternoon the Lady Raiders will play Bradley University. Bradley has not yet played in a game during the 2002 season.

Leading Bradley last season in pitching was Christian Evans, posting a 1.97 ERA and a 10-12 record. She allowed only 3 home runs.

During the Mardi Gras Classic in Monroe, La., the Lady Raiders went 2-3 and lost to the University of Louisiana-Monroe during the semi-finals. MT took wins over Troy State University and Tulsa.

Jennifer Martinez leads the Lady Raiders in hitting with a .357 batting average. She has 5 hits in 11 ABs. Stacy Preator leads in pitching with a 1.00 ERA. Martinez is close behind with a 1.05 ERA.

The Lady Raiders will kick off the Tennessee Tech Tournament Saturday at 10 a.m. ♦

## Golf team places 4th

By Angelica Journagin  
Staff Writer

After their best performance ever at the Lady Eagles Invitational, the Lady Raider golf team dropped one spot to finish fourth in the 2002 Southern Shootout in Birmingham, Ala., Tuesday.

The two-day tournament ended Monday with the Lady Raiders maintaining the fourth place position.

"This is definitely the toughest course we have played on this year," head coach Rachael Moore said. The Founders event is played on by Senior PGA Tour players in the Bruno's Memorial Classic.

Tamara Munsch maintained her sixth place position Tuesday by achieving an all-time team low of 80 strokes.

This contributed to the Lady Raiders' 19-stroke improvement over Monday's score, which brought MT's final score to 687.

UAB ended the tournament in first place with a 697 followed by the 679 tie between USA and TSU. The closest team after MT was Samford with a 699.

Hitting her best score ever was Kemmerlee Pennington, who had a 171 to tie for ninth place.

Amanda Harter shot a 175, followed by Kristin Lynch's 176. Rounding out the group was Kandace Burnett's 182.

The Lady Raiders play their next tournament at the Lady Moc Invitational March 1-3 in Lakeland, Fla. ♦

## Track: Raiders look to be in good position entering Sun Belt Championships Saturday

Continued from 6

a distance of 19 feet 09.05 inches, followed by Freeman and Howard. Deckard and Reid are also in top positions, with distances that place them in 5th and 6th respectively.

In track events, the Lady Raiders' 4 by 400-meter relay team is a second ahead of the competition with a time of 3 minutes, 47.08 seconds. Right behind them is SBC record holder, Florida International University at 3:48.33.

Rosemary Okafor will also be a contender in the 55 meters and 60-meter dashes. In both events Okafor comes in second place in the standings, however, in the 55 meters she is only .02 seconds behind the leader from

FIU. Okafor is also in 3rd place in the 200 meters followed by fellow teammate Bromeka Holmes.

MT's Kelley Smith trails North Texas' Anaka Clark in the 55 and 60-meter hurdles. In the same events MT's Rolanda Howard has a time that puts her in fourth behind Eboni Thomkins from South Alabama.

The men's track and field team will be led by Jasper Demps, Mardy Scales and Godfrey Herring who are coming into the SBC championship placing in the top three in several events. Scales is holding in the top position in the 200 meters with a time of 21.33 seconds. His biggest competition will come from Chris Johnson of the

University of Arkansas-Little Rock, who has beat him out of first in both the 55 and 60-meter dashes.

Behind Scales in the 200 meters is Herring at 21.62 seconds. Herring is at the number one position in the 400 meters, where he has not only provisionally qualified for the NCAA Championships but holds the SBC record.

Another member of the men's team that is currently holding a SBC record is Demps in the 55-meter hurdles. Demps goes into Saturday's meet with the top position in the 55-meter hurdles and second place in the 60-meter hurdles. Demps trails Greg Lee of UALR. Demps currently holds the SBC record in that event.

Another solid runner is DJ Spann who is in 3rd in the 55 and 60-meter dashes. The MT 4 by 400 Meter relay team is also running in first, after placing in first place continuously in their meets this season.

Chris Koger and Rob Jordan will also be competitors in the long jump and the triple jump where they both come into the meet at first. The only other field player placing in the triple

jump at 47 feet, 3.75 inches.

Qualifying events will begin Saturday at 10 a.m. and qualifiers will compete for the win Sunday at 9:30 a.m. ♦

## Men: Blue Raiders seeded third in tourney

Continued from 6

Junior John Humphrey has been hot in the latter part of the season scoring in double digits almost every game. Senior Demario Watson, who red-shirted this season, will be back

next season as a strong force on the team.

The Blue Raiders have clinched third in the Eastern Division of the SBC with their win over Denver last Saturday. No matter what the outcome of the game against WKU is

Saturday, the Blue Raiders will be playing the No. 6 seed from the West in the first game of the SBC Tournament.

The Blue Raiders play Western Kentucky Saturday at 7 p.m. ♦

## SIDELINES

### STUDENT BALLOT

## Nomination for Outstanding Teacher Award 2002-2002

I Nominate \_\_\_\_\_  
(Please Print Full Name of Instructor)

from \_\_\_\_\_  
(Department of Nominee)

for a

### 2001-2002 Outstanding Teacher Award

(Nominees must be full-time faculty members to be eligible)  
(Please type or print clearly)

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Please return this ballot to:

Office of Executive Vice President and Provost,  
119 Cope Administration Building  
Mailing address: Provost - CAB 119

Deadline

**Wednesday, March 20, 2002**

## CLASSIFIEDS

### Announcements

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Clubs\*Student Groups**  
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### Employment

Positions available for Midlander Marketing Staff. Job requirements are: Previous experience in Marketing and/or Advertising/ or classes that are equivalent to experience. Good customer relations/ or service. Goal oriented/ motivated. Must be able to work in office at least 10 hours per week.

Midlander Editorial Staff. Writers and Photographers. Fill out application, submit 3 samples of work

Christian Leadership desired for Summer Camp-Position. Riverview Camp for Girls on top of Lookout Mountain (45 min. S. of Chattanooga) in Mentone, AL offers a challenging summer for those who want incredible experience working with campers ages 6 to 16. Seeking females to work as counselors/activity instructors. Call for information on a challenging outdoor summer opportunity. Equestrian Program, Swimming, Tennis, Lifeguards, WSI, Canoeing, Gymnastics, Sports, Soccer, Basketball, Golf, Dance, Archery, Rifery, Arts & Crafts, Ropes Course, Climbing Tower and more! Call now for application and interview appointment @ 1-800-882-0722 or online [www.riverviewcamp.com](http://www.riverviewcamp.com). Will be interviewing on campus soon.

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# Baseball team plays three-game series

By Kevin Rose  
Staff Writer

After opening the season with a 6-5 home win against Austin Peay Sunday, the Blue Raider baseball team (1-0) looks to take its winning ways on the road.

The Blue Raiders travel to Troy, Ala., Friday to begin a three-game road series with Troy State University (5-5), a member of the Atlantic Sun

Conference.

The Trojans lost 13-0 to No. 25 Auburn Tuesday.

Three of TSU's wins have come against future Blue Raider opponent David Lipscomb. The Trojans swept the Bisons in a three-game series 8-3, 6-5 and 11-2.

TSU's other wins came against McNeese State University 7-4 and Alabama State University 12-6. Nichols State University swept a three-

game series with the Trojans at the beginning of the season. The Trojans' other loss came to McNeese State University in a four-hour, 10-inning slugfest 18-17.

Offensively the Trojans are hitting .317 as a team lead by Wade Millers' .486 batting average and Chad Howard's 2 home runs and 14 RBIs.

The Trojan offense also looks to wreck havoc on the base paths. The team already has 30 stolen bases in 35 attempts. Lance Newman leads the team with 10 swipes in 11 chances.

The pitching staff is led by Mal Winters who has a 2-0 record in two starts to go along with a 2.08 ERA. Trojan opponents are only hitting .290 against Trojan pitchers.

MT looks to bring hot bats again this weekend, after pounding out 13 hits against three Austin Peay pitchers. Outfielders Justin Sims and Marshall Nisbett

lead the Blue Raider attack with 3 hits apiece Sunday.

Travis Horschel will start tomorrow's game for the Blue Raiders. Right-hander Adam Larson, who saw 3 innings of action in relief Sunday, will get his first start as a Blue Raider Saturday. Left-hander John Williams will start Sunday for the Blue Raiders. Williams got the win for the Blue Raiders Sunday after pitching 6 strong innings.

MT's bullpen will get its first work this weekend after having Sunday off.

Larson did record the save in Sunday's game but will be used primarily as a starter, not a reliever. Tomorrow's game will start at 6:30 p.m. with the game being shown on Comcast Sports Southeast, cable channel 27. Game time for Saturday and Sunday is 1 p.m.

The Blue Raiders return to Reese Smith Field Feb. 26-27 for a two-game series against Eastern Michigan University. ♦

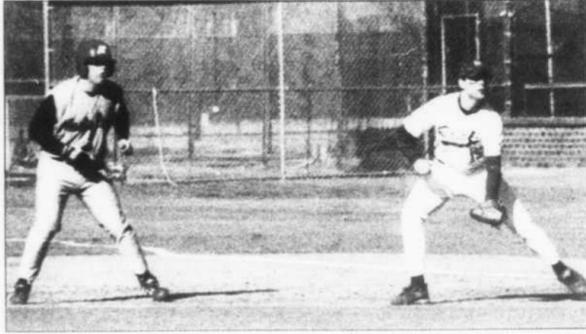


Photo by Amy Jones | Chief Photographer

Doug Kunicki attempts to hold an Austin Peay runner on 1st.



Photo by Amy Jones | Chief Photographer

Marshall Nisbett watches the play while running to third.

## Women: Vie for position

Continued from 6

66. MT led or was tied with WKU for most of the second half, but the Lady Toppers pulled away from the Lady Raiders in the end to win the game.

Senior Jamie Thomatis led the Lady Raiders in the game with 20 points, Jennifer Justice and Patricia Holmes each added 10 points. Renee Hall led in rebounds with 9.

Natalie Powers led the Lady Toppers with 27 points, and Kristina Covington backed her up with 18 points and a team-high 9 rebounds. Leslie Logsdon added 14 points for WKU.

Thomatis leads the Lady Raiders averaging 17.8 points a game and 6.2 rebounds. She also has a .519 field goal shooting percentage. Holmes has started her collegiate career well averaging 12.9 points per game and 7.8 rebounds. Justice is also in there with 8.2 points per game.

Powers leads the WKU offense, averaging 18 points a game and 4 rebounds. Logsdon backs her up with 13.1 points a game and 4.1 rebounds. Shelia Reese cleans up on the boards for WKU, averaging 7.9 rebounds a game.

The Lady Raiders can still finish second in the Eastern Division of the SBC with a win over WKU Friday.

"I feel solid about our chances," Smith said. "I feel like we are playing better basketball now, and we are gearing ourselves towards the tournament. We are a lot more focused now, and we finally realized what it's all about."

The Lady Raiders play the Lady Toppers in Bowling Green, Ky., tomorrow night at 7. ♦

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