



'Financial Peace' for college students

In Living, page 5



Despite success, Lady Raiders see room to grow

In Sports, 6

An editorially independent newspaper

SIDELINES

Middle Tennessee State University

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AD finalists articulate their plans

Candidates to meet with McPhee

By Colby Sledge
Sports Editor

Like college basketball's NCAA Tournament, the search for a new athletic director at MTSU has come down to the final four.

Four finalists for the AD position - Tom Collins, John Currie, Kathleen DeBoer and Chris Massaro - will meet with MTSU President Sidney McPhee and his appointed search committee today and

tomorrow.

Collins, DeBoer and Massaro all spoke with *Sidelines* and shared their interest in the position and their plans for leading the athletic program at Middle Tennessee.

"You've got a lot of potential in this athletic program," Collins said. "I think it's a growing university with a dynamic program that's headed in the right direction. That's exciting to me."

Collins is currently the associate athletic director for corpo-

How would the finalists address football attendance, gender equity and more at MTSU?
In Sports, Page 6

rate and community relations at Arizona State, where he has worked for 19 years. Collins isn't the longest-tenured candidate, however; Massaro has been with the University of South Carolina for 20 years.

"I love the University of South Carolina," Massaro said. "It has been my home and my love for 20 years ... but it has been an ambition of mine to be

a director of athletics and to be at a place where I can make a difference. Looking at this opportunity, I do believe I can make a difference."

DeBoer comes from a somewhat different background: She has been out of athletics for two years, working as the Commissioner of General Services for the Lexington-Fayette Urban County Government in Lexington, Ky. Before her work at her current post, however, DeBoer worked

See AD, 7

If funding is granted, Tennessee Boulevard could be a safer student crossing.

Photo by Rachelle Morvant
Chief Photographer

Students crossing North Tennessee Boulevard are confronted daily with a barrage of traffic. Officials hope to alleviate congestion in the future by widening the road.



Road widening could improve aesthetics, safety

By Esparonda Waller
Staff Writer

MTSU has made plans to improve North Tennessee Boulevard near Bell Street for the safety of students and to assure a pleasing appearance within the community.

The improvement project, if fully funded, will affect North Tennessee Boulevard from Main Street to Greenland Drive.

The university has requested \$4.5 million in federal appropriations for the improvements.

"The Transportation Reauthorization Bill is the funds used for the improve-

ments," said Joe Bales, MTSU vice president for development and university relations. "Every six years, the federal government authorizes money, mostly coming from the gasoline tax, to go back in the state and pay for projects."

The city and state have funding to widen the road, but it is separate from the university's request.

"Our community is home to one of the biggest and best universities in the state," U.S. Rep. Bart Gordon told *The Daily News Journal*. "Improving that entrance to the university is not only a logical thing to do aesthetically, but it also will improve safety of students who drive, walk or ride bicycles along that route."

"We are fortunate to live in a city with good schools, good jobs and a great quality of life. As we grow, though, we have to work harder to make sure our roadways and other infrastructure are well maintained," Gordon said.

According to Bales, there are several reasons why North Tennessee Boulevard was chosen for the improvement.

"Safety is our number one concern. As campus grows that area on the other side of North Tennessee is one of the areas where we have to grow in," he said.

"A lot of our students live in rental properties on that side of North

See Street, 2

Dormitory renovations underway to increase safety, functionality

By Katie Garland
Staff Writer

The MTSU housing department is in the process of improving housing standards.

"We're actually in the second year of a 10-year, \$70 million renovation campaign," said Sarah Sudak, the executive director of housing and residential life.

The construction began last year with a three-phase plan for Area Two. This area consists of Sims, Beasley, Gracy, Judd and Smith Halls.

"Last year, we took six months and renovated Sims Hall and six months and renovated Beasley Hall," Sudak said.

Following Sims and Beasley, Gracy Hall renovations began last May and ended in December, completing the first half of phase two.

The renovations consist of different things, depending on the building.

"Every building kind of gets some-

thing a little different. But, right now in the four buildings that we've done thus far, we've made them all American Disability Act accessible," she said.

In order to accomplish that task, ADA accessible entrances and exits were interior-entrance buildings.

For Gracy and Judd, exterior entrance buildings, that means installing ramps on both sides of the building.

These are not the only changes that have been made.

The plumbing has been torn out of the bathrooms, and new plumbing lines have been installed. There are also new sensor-controlled faucets and dryers in the bathrooms.

Emergency phones have also been installed in the quad-style bathrooms of Judd and Gracy.

See Housings, 2



Dorm improvements include handicap access ramps and emergency phones.

Photo by Rachelle Morvant | Chief Photographer



Photo by Jay Richardson | Photo Editor

Dennis Kramer, a professor in the psychology department faces unemployment if appeals to his dean fail.

Students continue petitioning to save Kramer's position

By Lauren Buckley
Staff Writer

A decision will be made regarding Dennis Kramer's reappointment at the end of the semester, according to Gloria Bonner, dean of the College of Education and Behavioral Science.

"His case is not unique," Bonner said.

Kramer, a psychology professor, received a letter from MTSU President Sidney McPhee March 26 that said that he would not be given recommendation for reappointment.

Students will be passing out T-shirts that say "Save Dr. Kramer" on Thursday and some plan to meet with Dennis Papini, psychology department chair, Friday.

Papini made the initial decision to recommend that Kramer not be reappointed for the next school year. By not being reappointed, Kramer can still teach at MTSU next year, but he will have to look for a new job during that time.

Kramer said Papini has given him two reasons why he will not be reappointed - that it was based on staffing issues and that

he could not reach the level of research necessary to achieve tenure.

But according to the psychology department's fall 2004, Kramer logged 967.7 hours of research, more than any other professor in that department.

Sidelines has requested copies of Kramer's 2000-04 evaluations by the tenure and promotions committee.

Kramer said if there is another reason for the decision not to reappoint him, no university officials have told him.

"This could have been about the [psychosexual adjustment] class, but if it is, they haven't told me," he said.

Much student opposition has arisen concerning Kramer's situation. Since a student protest held outside of the Bonner's office last week, students have made additional plans to schedule a meeting with psychology department chair Dennis Papini.

Kramer said he does not plan to be at the meeting on Friday.

"I think it's best if I stay

See Kramer, 2

City forces Comcast to lower install fees

By Dana Owens
Staff Writer

Murfreesboro lowered cable installation rates following a dispute with Comcast.

Comcast, Murfreesboro's cable franchise holder, filed national and local cable installation rates last year, said Dennis Oneal, a professor of electronic media communication. The differences between the rates caught the attention of the Cable Television Oversight Committee in Murfreesboro, he said.

Oneal, who is also the vice chair of the cable committee, said city residents were being charged nearly twice as much for cable installation than Comcast's national average.

The committee contracted Ashpaugh & Sculco, a Florida consultant company, to review the rates, Oneal said.

According to the consultant company's official report to the cable commission, the "data used by Comcast in this local filing is unsupported and inconsistent with the data used in Comcast's national FCC form ... and is an unreliable

basis to set equipment rates and installation charges."

In response to Ashpaugh & Sculco's recommendation, the city signed a rate order on March 14 lowering local installation rates, said Oneal.

For example, according to the report, local unwired cable installation would cost \$61.43. Comcast's national rate, on the other hand, is \$52.23. As a compromise, the city changed the rate to \$58.95.

Alan Bozeman, Murfreesboro's Channel 3 cable television coordinator, said what is likely to happen is that Comcast will appeal the decision to the Federal Communication Commission. Oneal said the FCC would then rule on the matter, but it could be a lengthy process. Rather than wait, there is a possibility that Comcast will negotiate with the committee, he said.

In past cases where the city won against other cable franchises, the companies had to refund the difference in rates to the citizens, Oneal said.

See Cable, 3



This week's poll question at
www.mtsusidelines.com

Who would you like to see as
Athletic Director?

Opinions 4 • Living 5 • Sports 6 • Classifieds 7

Kramer: Students to meet with dean

Continued from 1

Amanda Cotton, who is a master's candidate in psychology and organized the original protest, thought the first demonstration was ineffective. "I feel like our protests were on deaf ears. The experience was condescending," she said. "It was as if the administration

was patting us on the back and saying, 'We know what is best, now go on and be good students.'"

Cotton said she plans to work with the administration on this issue.

"We're trying to work with Dean Bonner, we're trying to work with Dr. Papini, we are trying to work with the adminis-

tration," Cotton said.

"We are trying to handle this in a mature, professional manner. We are not trying to get carried away by the police. We are angry, but we are trying to make the system work for us," Cotton added.

Students have created a Web site, www.drdrkramer.com, in response to the administration's

decisions to recommend that Kramer not be reappointed.

The site features official university documents, signed by the department chair and other faculty members, concerning Kramer's employment. ♦

Matt Anderson contributed to this story.

Street: Tree-lined medians part of road improvements

Continued from 1

Tennessee, and they walk to class," he said.

Bales also said the city's transportation plan was to create another entry into the city by building a new interchange at New Salem Highway.

"They have been slowly working on this section at a time from the new interchange, first to Church Street (now Sanbyrn Drive), then from Sanbyrn Drive to North Tennessee Boulevard," he said.

"We just realized that with the widening and construction into a primary entrance way into the city that the potential existence was for that street to be a high traffic, higher speed road adjacent to campus," Bales said. "We had some concerns from a safety standpoint of what that would do to the campus."

The university wants to make North Tennessee a boulevard with crosswalks and a divider in the middle, which will cause traffic to move at a steady pace through campus. According to an article from *The Daily News Journal*, the boulevard improvement plans will also include adding tree-lined medians, sidewalk buffers, park benches, bicycle trails and enhanced lighting.

Marilyn Battle, a senior child development major, said she often has to go to the Homer Pittard Campus School, which is on the other side of the student parking lot near Bell Street.

"When I drive from the Campus School, I am hesitant to pull out into the street because I worry that a student might decide to step out in front of me," she said.

"I think we do need a crosswalk that goes over the street so students can cross safely. Improvements will pay off in the long run," Battle said.

Douglas Wood, a junior broadcast journalism major, said he often parks in the parking lot across from MTSU on Bell Street.

"That is a dangerous street to cross, especially without the aid of a crosswalk. There is a lot of heavy traffic, and most of the time you have to use your own judgment," he said.

"I definitely think the road needs to be widened, and crosswalks will make it safer and easier for students to cross," he added.

The funds have not been approved for the project. The university will find out if they will receive the money in October. ♦

Dorms: Renovations include new furniture, facilities

Continued from 1

"[The phones] either directly report to the residence hall front desk when we're open. When we're not open, the lines go directly to the police station. You pick up the phone and dial right into a person," Sudak says.

All of the rooms have been repainted, retiled and now have all new furniture, desks, dressers, beds and hutches.

New laundry facilities have also been built into each building to replace a laundry building, which still stands in the area two's courtyard.

"Probably, the biggest selling

point, is that they all have what we call a four-pipe heating and cooling system," Sudak said. "This means students have individual temperature control in their rooms."

Area two is not the only group of dorms that has renovation plans.

"In May 2006 through August 2007, Monohan, Schardt and Reynolds renovations will begin, as well as half of Womack Lane. In May of 2007, we'll take Lyon, Mary and McHenry off-line and the other half of Womack Lane apartments until June or August of 2008," Sudak said. "That's where we are in the

sequence of organizing them. After that comes Deer and Knix, and then after that we'll move into Corlew and Cummings."

However, a brief renovation will occur in Corlew and Cummings this summer in order to install a fire sprinkler system.

The Tennessee Board of Regents has come out with new mandate to what universities have to do in terms of fire safety issues after the number of nursing home fires that have happened. Because of the height of the buildings, Corlew and Cummings are high priority buildings for MTSU, according

to Sudak.

"Actually, they're working now on the outside of the building. We have to have pumps that are going to have to be in place in order to pressurize the system ... They're outside now building those pump houses and trenching around the building," she said. "Then, when students leave in May, the contractors will move into the building and put sprinkler heads in every room."

So far, construction is right on track. All of the necessary buildings have closed and reopened as scheduled. ♦

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Student play parodies slavery, racial issues

Staff Reports

Students will perform George C. Wolfe's *The Colored Museum* Thursday and Friday.

The play is a series of 11 exhibits of black life in America. It begins at 7 p.m. in the Learning Resource Center, Room 221. Admission is \$5.

African American Student Association President Dennis Clark said the play was risqué and described it as a work of "black-black humor."

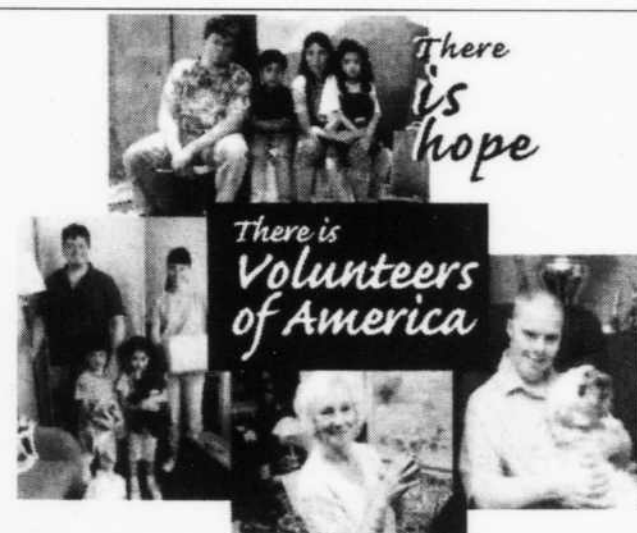
"One of the exhibits is a parody of slavery," Clark said. "It gives you a history and a message."

He compared the message to Bill Cosby's recent comments

about blacks and education. Cosby has said in several interviews that after how previous generations struggled for civil rights, today's black youths should do more to educate themselves.

Frank Rich wrote in a *New York Times* review that Wolfe's satire draws blood.

"Wolfe is the kind of satirist, almost unheard of in today's timid theater, who takes no prisoners," the review said. "The issue raised by his Hansberry parody percolates in every sketch: How do American black men and women at once honor and escape the legacy of suffering that is the baggage of their past?" ♦



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Cable: Comcast's rate problems not limited to Murfreesboro

Continued from 1

Every year, the cable company files complicated federal paperwork, not unlike taxes, O Neal said. This paperwork outlines the costs and charges for the company's services.

The Oversight Committee in Murfreesboro plays a role in setting prices and maximum rates for the area's cable, O Neal said.

After filing rates, Comcast must submit them to the cable committee for revision of the rates, Bozeman said.

Murfreesboro is currently the only city in Tennessee certified by the FCC to regulate

rates, he said.

"The cable commission thought it was important to review rates to help protect citizens," Bozeman said.

According to Bozeman, the problem with Comcast's filing is not limited to Murfreesboro. If the FCC makes a ruling on the matter, it will affect other cities in Tennessee and across the nation, he said.

"We're doing what we're supposed to do," O Neal said of the cable committee. He said they are "proudly serving citizens who are not getting a square deal." ♦

TennCare director says enrollment preservation exhausted

By Lucas L. Johnson II
Associated Press Writer

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP) — TennCare Director J.D. Hickey testified in federal court Tuesday that the state has exhausted all attempts to prevent disenrollment of 323,000 adults from the health insurance program.

"Frankly, the number one thing working against us is time," Hickey told U.S. District Court Judge William J. "Joe" Haynes.

The judge has told state officials and lawyers for TennCare enrollees that he wants to get to the bottom of the proposal for disenrollment and make sure the state has considered all alternatives.

During his testimony, Hickey repeated some of what Finance Commissioner Dave Goetz said under oath Monday. Both men said the administration knew last year that TennCare would exceed budget estimates, but believed planned reforms would fix the problem.

They said an "Oh, no" moment came in October to November when it became clear that long-standing consent decrees would need to be changed to achieve needed savings.

At that point, the administration began negotiating with Gordon Bonnyman of the Tennessee Justice Center in hopes of getting approval for more drastic reform that would help the state save nearly \$650 million on TennCare in 2006.

Hickey testified Tuesday that he presented Gov. Phil Bredesen with three plans, one of which would prevent disenrollment.

But he said that option failed after "relief from" consent decrees wasn't likely.

"What was not projected was that the TennCare program was going to require twice as much money as the state had coming in," Hickey said.

TennCare spokesman Michael Drescher said relief from consent decrees could save money in certain areas, such as pharmacy costs, which could be used to possibly bring some enrollees back into the program.

But he said the administration hasn't explored such a possibility in detail because of lack of cooperation from the Justice Center.

On Tuesday, the 6th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in Cincinnati expedited a hearing in one of the consent decrees that questions whether Haynes has the authority to review the governor's proposed cuts.

The court had scheduled the hearing for April 25, but reset the date for April 8 after a renewed request by state officials for reversal of the district court's orders halting the disenrollment.

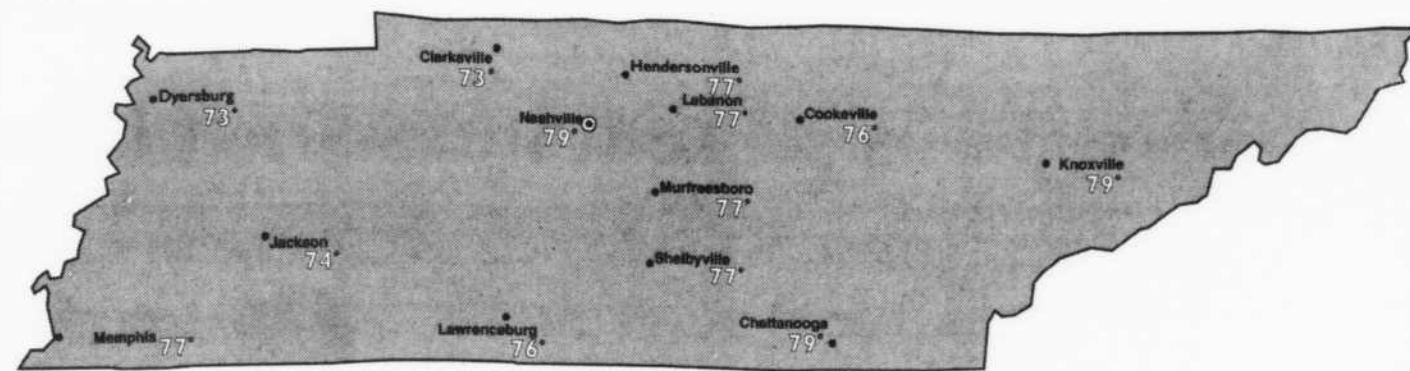
"No one wants to remove people from the TennCare rolls, but the faster we resolve these legal issues, the sooner we'll be able to gain control of this financially troubled program," said Bredesen spokeswoman Lydia Lenker.

Bonnyman said it appears "the courts are moving quicker than the state," but he's optimistic about the outcome.

"In the course of trial, we're confident the facts will come out," he said. ♦

Tennessee Weather – Wednesday's Highs

From the Associated Press



Thursday



Friday



Saturday



Sunday



Monday



Republican's blog causes stir at Capitol

By Matt Gouras
Associated Press Writer

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP) — A freshman Republican says his Web log marks the first time a Tennessee legislator has written an online diary of a General Assembly session.

But other lawmakers have been offended, saying Stacey Campfield's blog is unfair, full of malicious attacks on Democrats and a violation of the decorum required of lawmakers.

Campfield, who represents Knoxville, has used his online journal to poke fun at Democratic Senate Speaker John Wilder, among others, and calls gay adoption and abortion "the new face of the Democrat Party."

Campfield said his trips before House committees these days focus more on his blogging

than on his legislation.

But he says he won't stop, promising "to keep pulling back the curtain" on the way things are done in Nashville. The blog has been quickly linked by other conservative bloggers.

"A lot of people are just scared that what they don't want exposed will be exposed," he said.

In a recent Calendar and Rules hearing, generally a fairly procedural affair, discussion on one of Campfield's bills turned into a heated discussion about the blog.

"You are impugning the character of everybody down here that happens to be a little bit different than you," said Rep. Jere Hargrove, D-Cookeville. "Do you really believe what you put in this thing?"

"If I put this with material as scandalous and scurrilous as this, that attacks friends of

yours, will you put that in your blog?" he said.

"I might — I'd have to see what it is," Campfield said. "Maybe it's not blog-worthy."

"Well, let me tell you, this isn't outhouse-worthy," Hargrove replied.

Afterward, at the prompting of House Speaker Jimmy Naifeh, Campfield's bill was redirected to a committee it might never make it out of. Hargrove said later that Campfield should have realized that might happen.

"We do live by freedom of speech, but with freedom comes responsibility," he said. "Clearly what he's doing is not responsible."

The most contentious part of the blog is a reposting of an e-mail from another young Republican who has had run-ins with Naifeh this session, Rep. Chris Clem of Lookout

Mountain.

Under the title, "15 Ways to Kill the Tennessee Legislature," it offers such quips as "You define 'capitalism' as selling your vote for \$237,000" — a reference to brewing ethics allegations against Sen. John Ford of Memphis.

One comment that set Hargrove off said, "You believe that the gender roles are artificial but being homosexual is natural."

Hargrove said the broad-brush characterization is not only wrong, but has no place in the Legislature. Even during campaign season, such tactics wouldn't be tolerated, he said.

"Supposedly it was written in humor, but it wasn't funny," he said. "I am a Democrat, but I am a human being, too." ♦

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SIDELINES ONLINE

INTERNATIONAL CULTURE WEEK

APRIL 4-8, 2005

INTERNATIONAL BANQUET APRIL 9, 2005

MTSU will be celebrating its 15th annual International Culture Week April 4-8.

We are proud to have 243 international students holding visas enrolled at MTSU and we dedicate International Culture Week to our international students. The International Programs and Services Office is located in the KUC, room 124 and we provide services and programs for international students. The services and programs we provide range from keeping them in status with immigration to having monthly get togethers.

Here are some interesting facts about the international student population on our campus:

- Did you know that MTSU has students from 98 different countries?
- Did you know that the largest international student population on our campus is from South Korea?
- Did you know that international students bring diversity to our campus through their own cultures?
- Did you know that international students contribute to what you learn in the classroom by sharing their ideas and that this ties into their cultural upbringing?
- Did you know that international students make up the largest number of lab assistants in U.S. universities?
- Did you know that international students benefit the U.S. economy by providing over \$13 billion dollars into the system?

Tickets are now available for the banquet and may be purchased at the International Programs and Services Office, KUC room 124. Ticket prices are as follows:

Adult tickets: \$15
MTSU student tickets: \$8
Tickets for students from other universities: \$13
Tickets for children 12 and under: \$13

There is no reserved seating and tickets will not be sold at the door. We invite you to come by IPSO to purchase your ticket or call us at 898-2238. We hope to see you there!

International Culture Week will have the following events:
Monday, April 4, 2005: Cooperative Education Workshop focusing on how international students can participate in the Co-op Program. This will be in the KUC, room 210 from 10-11 a.m.

Tuesday, April 5, 2005: Income Tax Workshop focusing on informing the international students about income tax, who has to file and what forms have to be filed to IRS and define what IRS is and what they do. Taste of Nations will be in McCallie Dining Hall from 4:30-7 and is sponsored by the International Education and Exchange Office and ARAMARK.

Wednesday, April 6, 2005: Optional Practical Training Workshop focuses on informing international students of their ability to qualify for one year of full-time work with a company within the United States. This event will be held in the KUC Theater from 12-3 p.m. Coffee Hour is an informal gathering of students and community members. It is a social time to meet people from different cultures and to meet people from outside the MTSU campus community. This event will be held in Hazelwood Dining Room of the JUB from 3-5 p.m.

Thursday, April 7, 2005: International Cookout. This event is for our international students and introduces them to the American culture of a cookout. This event is held at the Recreation Center at the Sun Deck area from 4-7 p.m.

Saturday, April 9, 2005: International Banquet. The banquet is for everyone. The meal is entirely ethnic foods representing the four largest international student populations on campus. Foods from South Korea, China, Japan and India will fill the menu. There will be cultural exhibits from various countries and there will be four musical and theatrical performances. The scheduled performances will be by The Trabuco a Mexican Salsa Band, Maya a group representing India, Silviu Ciulei an MTSU international student from Romania, Acholi Sudan Community of Tennessee.

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From the Editorial Board Students deserve answer for Kramer's dismissal

Robert Glenn, vice president of student affairs and vice provost for enrollment, once said in an interview that students go to college like they go to an ATM.

"They want to go and put their money in the slot, take out what they need and leave," he said.

Glenn's observation is right on the mark. Typically, students do only what is necessary to earn a diploma, then get out of town.

The fact that students are protesting to save a single psychology professor is remarkable.

Students who enjoy Dennis Kramer's classes have made their opinions known. For whatever reason, Kramer's class is one students actually enjoy attending.

Around 100 students took a break from studying, working and partying last week to make their voices heard.

The psychology department chair has given two reasons for not reappointing Kramer – that the decision was based on staffing issues, and that Kramer has not logged enough research to achieve tenure.

While "staffing issues" is somewhat vague, we know that Kramer has logged quite a few hours of research. The official reasons for not reappointing him are inadequate. The students who are working on Kramer's behalf deserve better.

This situation deals directly with what type of college students want. To an extent, students deserve a say in what classes are offered and what is taught.

After all, we're the ones paying the bills around here.

We recognize that when it comes to tuition, athletics or parking, the administration has to do what is best for MTSU, even if it may be unpopular. But whether or not Dennis Kramer is employed at MTSU will have no substantive effect on the health of the university. It is far from a critical decision.

Unless there is something we don't know about the department's decision, the administration should give student opinion more consideration.

It's rare for students to take more out of MTSU than what they need, and the administration should take notice.

We urge the administration to give a better, more concrete explanation for not reappointing Kramer or reconsider the decision.

From the Opinions Editor Public needs to pay attention to changes shaping the world

Revolution seems to be in this season. If you've been watching the news on television, however, you might not have known it.

The central Asian country of Kyrgyzstan (pronounced "kur-ghee-stan") is the latest former member of the Soviet bloc to burst out in protest over a shift in political power. Askar Akayev, president for 15 years until he was ousted from that position recently, continues to waffle over whether or not he intends to resign from a position he might not officially hold anymore. Meanwhile, his successor, acting president Kurmanbek Bakiyev, scolded officials working for the now defunct Akayev administration for rigging elections and ignoring deep-seated corruption.

Here in the United States, we've been concerned with another voting debacle, however: the mangling of votes on *American Idol*. At least, that's what broadcast news has been telling me.

Perhaps I'm just not pop culture savvy, but, somehow, it seems that there is a world of difference between a major shift of political power in a country of strategic importance to the United States, and an error in displaying how many people voted on the next music sensation.

Yet, it's *American Idol* that breaks the headlines of the morning news. Kyrgyzstan may make front page news, but the odds are, if people don't know how to pronounce something, they're not going to make the effort to sit down and read about it.

I don't mean this to insult the intelligence of the public. The fact is, we're busy people. We're in a hurry, we have a great number of things to worry about during every second of every day and we don't usually have the time to sit down and try to make sense out of the news that's streaming past our eyes.

Either we, or our broadcast media, need to shift our priorities. Entertainment is a significant part to a culturally healthy civilization, but when the social structure of the world is shaking around us, we might want to pay attention to something more than an overly-hyped karaoke contest. ♦

Matthew Adair is a sophomore art education major and can be reached at matt.adair@gmail.com.



Matthew Adair
Opinions Editor

Preachers should keep out of politics

Skeptical Overtones



Brandon Bouchillon
Staff Columnist

One of the gravest misfortunes facing our nation today is the religious right's abuse of their weekly place in our lives and in our families. Going to church is a widely accepted tradition in America, but do we get more out of it than we truly realize? Have you ever been instructed who to vote for? Ever been told "God's pick" for a political position while fighting boredom through an entirely unrelated church service? Did the words "George W. is the man for the job" ever shatter the reverent air in a church? Think hard, it happens much more than people realize.

Every Sunday, all over this country, ministers armed with only seminary degrees feel inclined to weigh upon the slanting of our political views. This can be likened to putting books under the left legs of a table, so the scattered, formerly level objects slide clear off the right.

One of the ideals that early Americans revered was that of a separation of church and state. People fled England because they didn't have this and, in fact, needed it to worship as they saw fit. The very first amendment in the Bill of Rights states that, "Congress shall make no law respecting an estab-

lishment of religion." Should religious officials be allowed to use only their knowledge of moral law to influence an establishment of government which cannot and does not, in turn, acknowledge them back?

This separation is there so that the ethics of government are never influenced by the morals of religion, and people who can worship freely without being told how. It's a stipend of government being trampled on when those with "religious" authority tell us who to put in actual sovereignty over our country, because this is clearly dogma overreaching its bounds to influence the structure and process of government.

The problem could end here, but if you look at who they're telling us to vote for, it clearly doesn't. These rulers of govern-

ment, which the pious instruct us to elect, don't even exhibit the traits that religion puts such an emphasis upon.

The fear of more dead unborn fetuses lead the "upright" to elect a man with no reservations towards killing actual living, innocent people of Middle Eastern ethnicity. Justifiable, because they're probably terrorists, right? The very Bible which preaches love and not hate, is taught, and then churchgoers leave and elect as their leader a man who hates homosexuals and their decision regarding their own, private lives. We've taken our country into a war that has killed thousands of innocents, hand-in-hand alongside our own innocence, with no justifiable reason as the closed Bible in the corner screams from its bindings, "Thou shalt not kill".

By definition, this makes the religious leaders who influence our decisions regarding the government hypocrites.

This isn't meant to be a rant on the wrongdoings of the right-wing, because the left commit faults just as grievous, but that is an entirely different essay. What it comes down to is this: People should make their own thought-

out, logical decisions regarding who they vote for. This choice should come from their reasoning, their questioning and their deduction – not from the sermon notes of an already biased religious patriarch who "knows" what's best for the lot of us.

To quote the prophet of our era, Bob Dylan once said, "Gonna change my way of thinking, make myself a different set of rules. Gonna put my good foot forward and stop being influenced by fools." Americans must be strong-willed enough to place the burden of political decision upon themselves, not the so-called ordained who the close-minded look to for their political cues.

Until we, as a nation, look inside and find the ethical answers as to who should run our branches of government, we will never know peace. We will continue down this path, slanted to the right and led by the "righteous", until it ends at the foot of some great door with an unholy destruction lurking behind it as the religious prod us closer. ♦

Brandon Bouchillon is a sophomore journalism student and can be reached at bab2t@mtsu.edu.

Letters to the Editor

Kramer respected by students, faculty

To the Editor:

This is a student response to the termination of Dr. Kramer, a psychology professor at MTSU.

Dr. Kramer has been with the university for five years. He was due to be reviewed for promotion and/or tenure the beginning of next year (Fall '05). The president of MTSU has recommended that Dr. Kramer's contract not be renewed. As students, we see this as a grievous mistake. In a monumental disregard for the student voice, Dr. Kramer will not be with this university any longer.

Both faculty and students have voiced their disagreement with this decision. However, the administration has consistently ignored our petitions and protests. We, as students and members of the MTSU community, are being ignored! Why don't our opinions matter?

Please join us in our fight to stand up against the administration and make our voices heard.

Amanda Cotton
Masters Candidate, Psychology

Editorial flawed in reasoning about guns

To the Editor:

This newspaper's editorial board must be either frightened or ignorant of guns. That's about the only way one could explain the grossly inaccurate depiction they presented of handgun permit holders in the March 24, 2005, editorial titled "This isn't the Wild West; Guns have no place in bars." Though the piece at first seemed to be humorous, the joking manner was just a veiled attempt to insult the thousand of Tennesseans that legally carry firearms in self-defense.

Your article seemed to imply that those who want to take their guns into bars are macho men types who get excited by the fact that they are packing heat. On the contrary, the bill to allow handguns where alcohol is served is meant for licensed and trained permit holders who carry their weapons in self-defense. Also, your article seemed to imply that the bill is all about guns in bars. Well, bars are not the only places that serve alcohol.

Currently permit holders must leave their weapons behind if they choose to go to a restaurant or club that serves alcohol. Your article also implied that those carrying the guns would be drinking. Well, the bill clearly states that if a permit holder is drinking while in possession of a handgun they would be punished by law. I think we can trust permit holders to follow this rule, as I have yet to hear any news of wild permit holders shooting fellow citizens over traffic violations or looking at them the wrong way.

The bottom line we have been trusting permit holders for a decade in this state to lawfully carry their concealed firearms and they have earned our trust. (Look up any statistics on it and one will find that only about 1 percent have had their permits revoked and in most cases that was for activities prior to being issued permits) So why not extend their rights to social places?

Jacqueline Willison
Sophomore, Biology

Corrections:

In Monday's issue, the story "McPhee names four AD finalists" described MTSU student Michael Shirley as the only student on the AD search committee. The article neglected to mention track squad member LaToya Brown, who represents student-athletes on the committee. *Sidelines* regrets the error.

Also, in the story "The lesser-known side of sisterhood" that appeared in the Wednesday, Mar. 23 issue, Alpha Kappa Alpha's MTSU chapter was mistakenly referred to as Eta Phi. Their chapter here is Eta Psi, and its president is Ashley Hicks. *Sidelines* regrets these errors.

Angry at us? Tell us all about it.
slopinio@mtsu.edu

Switch to clean power important for campus, state

By Eric Blevins
Guest Columnist

Do you like to breathe clean air, drink clean water, eat clean food and appreciate the beauty of nature? I hope everyone has felt the joy of being able to do such things. Unfortunately, it's getting harder and harder to do them here in the Southeast.

The main culprit of these simple pleasures being needlessly taken away from people is coal burning and coal mining. Pollution caused by burning coal for electricity creates smog in the air we breathe, deposits mercury in the water we drink and the fish we eat and contributes to asthma problems.

According to the Allergy and Asthma Foundation of America, the two worst cities in the United States for an asthma sufferer to live in 2005 are Knoxville and Memphis, Tenn. To be fair, seasonal allergies contribute to this problem, but pollution is rampant in Tennessee. In 2002, the three states with the most "smog days" were California, Texas and Tennessee. Smog is ground-level ozone, and a smog day is a day in which at least one ozone monitor in the state exceeds the national health standard. Basically, it's becoming dangerous to go out and breathe the air in our state.

Perhaps even more frightening however, is mountaintop removal: blasting apart mountain peaks to remove coal. The practice has wreaked havoc in the Appalachian Mountains of eastern Kentucky and West Virginia, and it's moving to Tennessee. We don't want coal mining to destroy our beautiful Smoky Mountains and Cumberland Plateau.

Mountaintop removal drives families and small communities from their homes, buries natural water sources under debris, causes pollution of air and water from dust and debris created by blasting, reduces the quality of life of surrounding communities which drives down property values, damages nearby homes and scars Tennessee's beautiful landscape.

Somewhere between 15 and 25 percent of West Virginia's mountains have been leveled so far. Over 300,000 acres of hardwood forests have been cut down by mines in that state alone. Over 1,000 miles of streams have been buried. Regulators in Tennessee, West Virginia, Virginia and Kentucky have approved almost 6,000 valley fills, which will bury 75,000 acres of streams and many American homes.

The forest habitats being destroyed by this practice are some of the best in the United States. Full reforestation of these areas can take hundreds of years. Forests are the lungs of the planet, so this is something everyone should be concerned about. If you don't think it's a big deal, try not being able to breathe.

Fortunately, the Tennessee Valley Authority is taking steps to make Tennessee's electricity sources cleaner and greener. Through a program called Green Power Switch, TVA is making clean resources like solar, wind and methane gas available to consumers as well as commercial and industrial businesses.

Wait, it gets better. Students for Environmental Action here at MTSU has brought a resolution to the Student Government Association so that MTSU can participate in the Green Power Switch. The SGA is voting on it this Thursday, so if you know anyone in the SGA, tell them you don't want the beauty of Tennessee destroyed.

If you are in the SGA, please vote to keep Tennessee beautiful. If this resolution is passed, the students will be asked to vote on it this fall, so get out there and make your vote count. We're not talking about a few trees here, folks. These people are taking mountains away from us. To find out how you can do more to fight mountaintop removal, check out www.apvoic.es.org. To learn more about how you can participate in the TVA Green Power Switch program, go to www.tva.gov/greenpowerswitch. ♦

Eric Blevins is member of Students for Environmental Action and a MTSU alumnus.

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Letters Policy

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

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'Financial Peace' for college students

Counselor for Dave Ramsey to speak about student finances

By Mary Anne Dunavant
Staff Writer

Let's face it — the average college student is poor.

And why shouldn't he be? College students work jobs and try to keep up in classes, but when it comes down to it, students as a whole really don't manage their money very well.

Russ Carroll, a resident of Murfreesboro and lead financial counselor for Dave Ramsey, works with college students and helps them learn to spend wisely. Carroll often travels and conducts financial seminars and trains people to become financial counselors.

Carroll, a former staff member of Campus Crusade for Christ, has agreed to speak at the MTSU chapter on March 31 in the Business and Aerospace State Farm room at 8 p.m.

"I was on staff with Crusade for 12 years in Eastern Europe," Carroll says.

"I met Russ while I was raising support for Crusade," says Jenny Rone, an MTSU Campus Crusade for Christ staff member.

"We needed a speaker while Britt, the director, was out raising support," Rone says. "Russ had offered previously to come and speak about the history of Israel, Jewish culture or anything financial. Ben, one of our staff guys, couldn't believe that I knew him."

"I think it is great for him to come speak to college students because college students either set themselves up for financial success or failure," Rone says. "A lot of people get credit cards in college for the free T-shirt without knowing how to use them."

Although Ramsey's program is based on biblical principles, not all of his clients are Christians.

"About 50 percent of the people I counsel have no relationship with God at all," he says. "The program is something for everybody."

Carroll's lecture at MTSU will be open to all students who wish to learn more about responsible money management.

"I'll be introducing a financial compass that shows common [finance principles]. These principles are basic, but they are so elusive in American culture," Carroll says. "Life is a Crock-Pot — it's a slow cooking process over a lifetime rather than just a quick fix."

"I'm much bigger on application and taking time to make change rather than a quick fix," he says. "We need to understand the financial pulls — what they are and how to make the better choices."

"We have to pick and choose our priorities. America purchases 51 percent of the consumer goods in the world, and I've been in counseling for about 25 years," Carroll says. "You don't want to keep up with the Joneses. I counsel them."

Carroll met Ramsey in 1993 after moving to Tennessee from California, just as Ramsey was recovering from his financial crisis.

"It's kind of a Cinderella story," Carroll says. "I went to my Farm Bureau agent, and he had [Ramsey's] first book out, Financial Peace. My agent told me to call him, so I did. I went

to church with him one Sunday in Brentwood and we spent the afternoon talking," Carroll says.

"He was just coming out of his crisis, and we decided to start the Financial Peace University program about a month later," Carroll says. "My background was in counseling, so I counseled a lot of people."

Carroll's counseling is the clean-up process for the results of a media-dominated society.

"In America, we have not been taught how to handle money," Carroll says. "We are in a system that promotes products rather than how to spend money, and making the best choices is what handling money is about. It's common sense, but unfortunately it's not too common."

"Every day we are hit with 4,000 to 5,000 media pulls to buy things, and we don't even realize it," Carroll says, "but our minds don't forget. It clouds our ability to achieve the important good things."

Carroll works as a part of Ramsey's program to try to help people change the ways they think about money.

"Our whole mission statement is that the group provides biblically-based education and empowerment that gives hope to those who are financially healthy or financially distressed," he says. "Seventy-five percent of my counseling is crisis counseling."

Carroll provides financial guidance to people from all

walks of life.

"I have good synthesizing and problem-solving skills. I want to listen well, identify the issues that have gotten people to where they are and help them map themselves out by giving them guidance," he says.

"I love helping them move in a positive direction rather than the way our culture is pulling them, and I have a big heart for single mothers because it has become a common reality in our culture," he says, "and 90 percent of married couples say that money is the number one issue of conflict because they don't talk about it."

Today, the average college graduate earns less than \$30,000 per year, and many of these have already accumulated debt.

"People start out with great hopes but are trapped by student loan debt," Carroll says. "College students are branching out on their own for the first time, and they love to spend money. It's tight because they don't have a lot of it, and they have to make ends meet."

According to Carroll, people learn from a very young age how to use money by watching their parents.

"We grow up with either good modeling or not-so-good modeling in terms of taking care of money and how it is used," he says. "We have a program called Financial Peace for the Next Generation to educate young people, teach them how to save money and plan for long-term goals." ♦

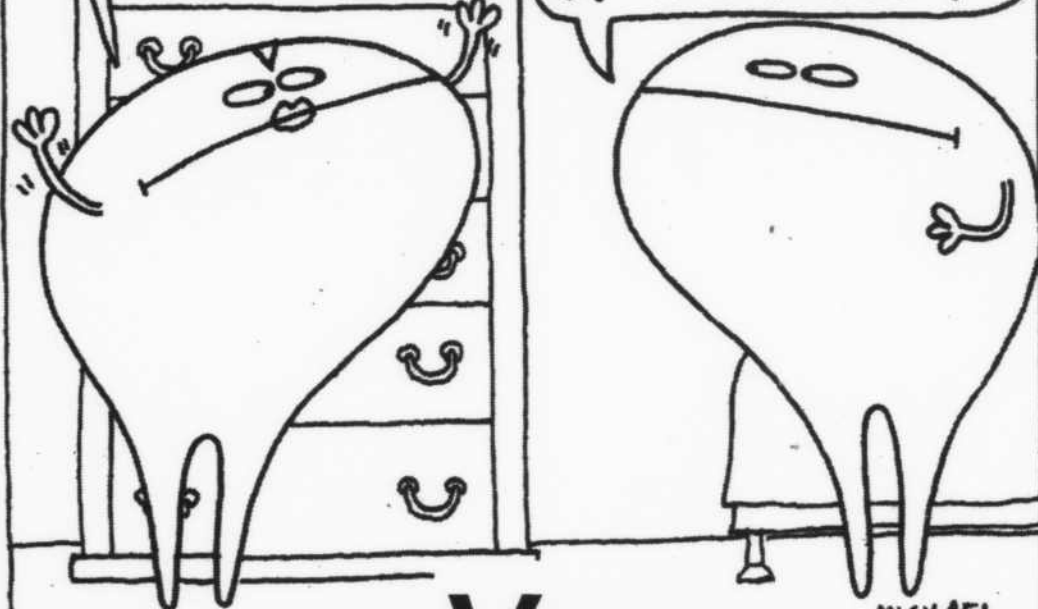
"College students are branching out on their own for the first time, and they love to spend money."

It's tight because they don't have a lot of it, and they have to make ends meet."

Russ Carroll
Lead Financial Counselor
for Dave Ramsey

Von, stop picking apart every little word I say! For once in your life, can't you just try to see the forest for the trees?

Okay....but when you say, "for the trees," do you mean, "in spite of the trees," "because of the trees," or "in the place of the trees?"



Greek Week

Kappa Delta focused on philanthropy

By Justin Peach
Contributor

For this year's Greek Week, Sidelines would like to highlight fraternities and sororities that exemplify school and Greek pride.

When thinking of a sorority to spotlight, the girls from Kappa Delta absolutely shine.

This sorority is a prime example of how Greeks should operate.

With 85 members representing every area of this great country, the ladies from Kappa Delta involve themselves in many activities both on and off campus.

One major priority for Kappa Delta and other Greeks is volunteer work.

A persistent rumor is that the only reasons Greeks do volunteer work is because they have to; this rumor was quickly dispelled after sitting and talking to a few members from Kappa Delta.

The girls not only love to help as much as they can, but

they also jump at the opportunity to do so.

"Being in a sorority is not all about the parties and socials," says Trish Mathias, Kappa Delta president. "We are all put in a great opportunity to give back, and we should do so."

When talking about the many philanthropic events in which Kappa Delta is involved, the girls especially enjoy their annual Shamrock Event.

"This is our biggest fundraiser of the year," Mathias says.

The Shamrock Event raises money for Prevent Child Abuse America.

The event is a carnival type occasion that is very family oriented.

There is a silent auction for gift certificates, face painting for children and adults and the big event, the Wing Fling.

The group sells buffalo wings from restaurants like Hooters, Wing Zone and KFC.

"This gives another way for

our local businesses to help out in the community also," Mathias adds.

The Shamrock Event also includes the Girl Scouts and Mix 92.9, making great cookies and music also available.

Last year the Shamrock Event raised \$6,000, and the goal for this year is set even higher.

Eighty percent of the money raised stays in Murfreesboro, and the other 20 percent goes to the national PCAA headquarters.

Come and support Kappa Delta and our community by attending this worthwhile cause which will be held April 9 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the field behind the James Union Building and the Alumni Center.

Tickets for the event go on sale a week early at the Keathley University Center and the Business and Aerospace Building. ♦

SPORTS

6 ♦ SIDELINES

Wednesday, March 30, 2005

Murfreesboro, Tenn.

THE SEARCH FOR A NEW ATHLETIC DIRECTOR



Photo illustration by Jay Richardson | Photo Editor

The new AD will have to deal with (clockwise from top left) rivalries, changing conferences, academics, gender equity and football attendance.

New AD must address same issues

By Colby Sledge
Sports Editor

This morning a new threshold has been crossed in the evolution of the Middle Tennessee athletic department. As the four finalists for athletic director meet with MTSU President Sidney

McPhee and the search committee today and tomorrow, several issues facing the athletic program will undoubtedly be brought to the forefront.

We presented these issues to three of the finalists, Tom Collins, Kathleen DeBoer and Chris Massaro. The fourth, John Currie, did not respond to phone

calls from *Sidelines*, but instead released this statement through MT Media Relations director Mark Owens.

"Mary Lawrence (wife) and I are looking forward to visiting this week. Middle Tennessee is an outstanding institution with a bright future," Currie said. "I enjoyed meeting with Dr. McPhee and

Steve Smith, and I am very excited to meet other members of the MTSU community."

So as interviews commence today, here's an exclusive preview of how the candidates will likely respond when the following topics are addressed. ♦

Tom Collins

Kathleen DeBoer

Chris Massaro

How can you make sure that "student-athlete" doesn't mean "athlete-student"?

"There's a whole culture that does that. The athletic department makes that a priority, and then everybody on the athletic teams has to live in that. I think we've done a good job of developing that culture [at Arizona State]. We've put a lot of money into our academic and student services area, so the student-athlete can have a tutorial program. We've bought laptop computers, and they can check those out when they go on road trips."

How important is gender equity in collegiate athletics today?

"First of all, I think gender equity is extremely important. It's the right thing to do. At ASU, the media guides for all the sports are identical, travel budgets are basically the same, the way teams travel is the same, the per diem is the same. For us at ASU, we treat the men equally as we do the women. We have very good women's sports, and I would think Middle Tennessee would want the same thing."

How will you improve football attendance and get fans excited about the team?

"[In 2003] we offered everybody who renewed their season tickets exactly the same rate as it was in 2002, and if they did that by April 2003, we gave them two free season tickets."

"We wanted to encourage everyone not to jump off the wagon even though we had a disappointing year. More importantly, we wanted to fill some more seats, so even though we gave away the seats, our hope was those people would ... get excited about Sun Devil football."

How can MT attract more in-state rivals, like Memphis and Tennessee?

"Certainly you have to take a look at that and find people who are willing to get together and find common ground, and maybe even sell a sponsorship around those things."

"For me, it would be no problem to call [Tennessee and Memphis]. Certainly if we could do some things with other schools within the state or close by and create some rivalries, it makes perfect sense to me. But you have to look at all the factors that are there."

Would you make moving out of the Sun Belt a priority?

"Relative to where you fit in your conference, I think that's a bigger institutional issue. I would be happy to help them do frame things, I'd be happy to help them do studies and look at the pros and cons of perhaps a different league. But again, I don't think those things are necessarily driven by the football program or the athletic department, I think that's a bigger institutional issue."

"The coaching staff is really the key. I've coached for 13 years, and I know those academic support people work their heads off, but if I wasn't pulling that kid out of practice or sitting that kid down when she wasn't going to class, then their efforts were largely in vain."

"I think I'm sympathetic to the issues, and yet I'm not going to ply a lot of folks with simplistic answers like, 'Hey, just do this! Just put more money into women's sports!' Where's that money going to come from? If it was that simple, anyone could do it, and we wouldn't have all these debates and discussions about what is a fair way to treat a female track athlete and a male track athlete, and are we doing that? Are we operating with integrity?"

"It's about 25 percent what you do and about 75 percent how you do it. And every part of the experience of being at an event, from how you're treated by the people helping you park, to how you're treated by the concession stand folks, to how you're treated by the usher that's helping you to your seat has to be a very intentional effort and experience that you enjoy."

"There's the coach's perspective: 'Who do I want to play?' Then there's the financial perspective: 'What does it cost me to play somebody?' And then third, there's the fans' perspective: 'Why don't y'all play somebody?' The goal as the AD is to be the mediator among all of those legitimate concerns. "MT wants to play Memphis because it would be a good gate for MTSU, but they don't want to play Tennessee State, because we don't have anything to gain there. We have everything to lose."

"The athletic director better always be looking ahead. The conference landscape is a moving target. The Sun Belt Conference is really a character. Putting together of unlikely characters. Even though geographically it's all over the map, people found like-minded schools unwilling to be independents and got them together. But if you're not looking at the conference landscape, you're not doing your job."

"My father was superintendent of schools, so growing up I had that ingrained in my head: 'Academics first, academics first.' That's my core philosophy of putting the student in front of the athlete, and realizing that athletics is the tail at the university, not the dog."

"I have four children: two boys and two girls. I would never give my boys more toys than my girls, and that's my belief: The women deserve equal opportunity. It's the letter of the law, but it also has to be a belief that goes all the way through the department, and it starts with the top of the department. Looking at those two girls, you can't say they don't deserve the opportunities my boys do."

"We've done a lot of little things that have added up to big things. In terms of group sales, we worked with the South Carolina Baptist Convention where we had a youth rally after a football game at a minor-league baseball park about a half-mile from the stadium ... and we were able to sell 3,000-4,000 tickets."

"I think you just have to be creative and brainstorm, and then put the amenities together."

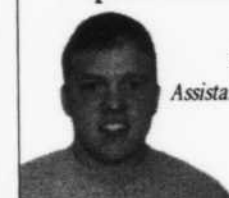
"People appreciate and love rivalries. We don't necessarily appreciate our rivals sometimes, but we do appreciate the rivalry. Part of it's paying attention to the product and growing the product even more to make yourself attractive to a Memphis or an Alabama-Birmingham in terms of home-and-home scheduling. I can see some natural matchups there that, in my opinion, would make sense for both sides."

"I wouldn't want to put a timetable on that. I think that first you have pay attention to your own product, so you are attractive should any kind of conference realignment come up."

"I see parallels to where Middle Tennessee is now to right before [South Carolina] entered into the Southeastern Conference. We always paid attention to the product, so when the SEC wanted to expand, we were attractive to them."

Why one candidate rises above the crowd

Sports commentary



By Jon Leffew
Assistant Sports Editor

Today marks one of the most important days in Middle Tennessee athletic history.

Yes, the baseball team plays at Tennessee Tech in an important game for in-state bragging rights, but the significance of today goes a little deeper.

You see, today is day one of interviews of the four finalists for the MT athletic director job.

All four finalists, Tom Collins (Associate AD for Corporate and Community Relations at Arizona State), John Currie (Associate AD for External Relations at Tennessee), Kathleen DeBoer (Commissioner of Lexington-Fayette Urban County Government in Lexington, Ky.) and Chris Massaro (Senior Associate AD for Ticket Operations at South Carolina) appear to be highly qualified for the job.

Whichever finalist impresses members of the media (and, more importantly, university officials) enough to earn the job has a pretty big job on his or her hands. So, for their sake, here's a short list of things to do that will certainly lead to success.

1. Find some way, or work some magic, to increase attendance at football games. While much has been made about this situation (or crisis, whichever you prefer), it remains very simple: People come to games, or the university loses mega money. Massaro, who has been in the ticket department at USC for 20 years, appears to be up to the task. The Gamecocks have ranked in the top 20 nationally in football attendance for the last six years.

2. Keep the good coaches and ditch the bad.

The athletic department made a wise decision in keeping Stephany Smith around, and this is definitely a step in the right direction. However, the new AD should also look into extending the contracts of men's basketball coach Kermit Davis and volleyball coach Matt Peck. In addition to this, the new AD should keep a firm grip on Andy McCollum's tight leash and see how the softball team performs in the next few years. This one appears to be a toss-up among all the candidates, but Currie, who played a major role in the hire of Bruce Pearl, could be the frontrunner.

3. Make sure MT's Academic Progress Report (APR) rises to respectability.

The new AD should make sure all athletic programs recruit the type of players that will represent the university well, both on the court/field and in the classroom. MT's APR was embarrassing, so this should be a priority. DeBoer expressed concern specifically about the APR in an interview with *Sidelines*, and all candidates appear to be concerned about academics and athletics.

Now, all of these things seem simple enough, so this looks like a tight race. Since he hails from that wonderful institution in East Tennessee, Currie will likely be a favorite. However, I've decided to give my endorsement to Massaro. In addition to USC's football attendance, Massaro has direct supervision over the Gamecocks' basketball program, which is currently in the National Invitational Tournament (NIT) semifinals.

Any of these candidates would probably do a good job, but anyone involved with Lou Holtz and Steve Spurrier gets my vote. ♦

Jon Leffew is a sophomore history major. He can be reached at jal3p@mtsu.edu.

Despite success, Lady Raiders see room to grow

By Jori Rice
Staff Writer

The Lady Raiders are starting to develop a pattern of success.

The Middle Tennessee women's basketball team made it to the NCAA Tournament for the second straight year, and for the second consecutive year, the Lady Raiders won their first-round game.

Earlier this month, MT, a No. 12 seed, defeated No. 5 seed North Carolina State 60-58 before falling to Texas Tech in the second round.

"I am proud of our kids for what they accomplished this season," MT head coach Stephany Smith told The Associated Press after the loss to TTU. "We're happy with tonight, but we have a lot to be proud of."

MT has posted two back-to-back 24 wins seasons (including this year's 24-9 record), and the Lady Raiders have now notched two straight Sun Belt Tournament titles.

"We knew going into this season was going to be very hard for us, so it was nice to reach one of our goals," guard Patrice Holmes said.

Holmes, a senior, will certainly be missed. Holmes led the team in scoring and assists en route to being named the SBC Most Outstanding Player for the third consecutive year.

"The team next year is going to have



The Lady Raiders won their second straight first-round game in the NCAA Tournament this season.

Photo by Rick Yeatts | Courtesy of Media Relations

to step up, because Holmes, Ciara Gray and Ditte Jakobsen will not be there," sophomore head Chrissy Givens said.

MT had a great deal of players stepping up during the SBC Tournament.

"We overcame a couple of players not on the team at the end of the sea-

son, but we made it work," Givens said.

The Lady Raiders' season was full of ups and downs, including a two-game losing streak to Western Kentucky and Florida International in early February that halted the team's seven-game winning streak.

"That was the toughest time for me, but as a team, we overcame it," Holmes said.

Givens' most memorable moment of the season was the Lady Raiders' 65-61 win over WKU in the semifinals of the SBC Tournament.

"We came together as a team,"

Givens said. "Everybody played their part."

That victory gave MT its third straight trip to the SBC championship game against Louisiana-Lafayette for the title and an automatic trip to the NCAA.

The Lady Raiders defeated ULL 67-52 in the SBC championship game, which marked the championship tournament title in school history.

"If you had told me back in October I [we] would be [winning a SBC title], I would have said 'You're probably right,' but as the season went on and we lost players and got struck with adversity, I wouldn't be so sure," Smith told MT Media Relations after that game. "It was a testament to this team's character."

For the Lady Raiders, next year means a fresh recruiting class and new opportunities.

"Our new recruiting is good and aggressive," Givens said. "I predict we will have to take control of next season, because it will be a new team. I feel we have the potential to go not only as far, but further than this year."

As for Holmes, who became perhaps the greatest player in the program's history, she will have to say goodbye to the Lady Raiders.

"It has been an amazing four years at MT," Holmes said. "I am going to miss Coach Smith; she was like a home away from home." ♦

AD: Interviews begin today

Continued from 1

at the University of Kentucky for 18 years as senior associate athletic director and as head volleyball coach from 1984-1993.

"[As a former head coach], it means I've sat on a bench with people behind me screaming at me," DeBoer said. "It means I've been in homes recruiting young people. It means that I've spent hours on the road trying to sell my program, and I've had to deal from an insider's perspective with compliance. I think one of the key roles of an athletic director is the support, evaluation and monitoring of staff, and I'm very, very glad I've sat in their chair."

The fourth candidate, John Currie, but released a statement through MT Media Relations director Mark Owens.

Currie cited his involvement in finding a new men's basketball coach at the University of Tennessee-Knoxville, where he currently works as an associate athletic director, as his reason for not commenting further.

"Mary Lawrence [Currie's wife] and I are looking forward to visiting this week. Middle Tennessee is an outstanding institution with a bright future," Currie said in the statement. "I enjoyed meeting with Dr. McPhee and Steve Smith, and I am very excited to meet other members of the MTSU community."

Currie will be on campus with Massaro today, while Collins and DeBoer will visit tomorrow. Each candidate will meet with the search committee for two hours before touring the campus and speaking to the media over lunch. ♦

CAMPUS RECREATION Spring 2005 Intramural Sports Schedule

EVENT	ENTRIES DUE	PLAY BEGINS
* Flag Football Tournament <i>Mandatory Captains' Meeting: Thursday, March 31 @ 5:00pm</i>	March 30	April 1-3
* Kickball Tournament <i>Mandatory Captains' Meeting: Thursday, April 14 @ 5:00pm</i>	April 12	April 18
* Softball "Under the Stars" <i>(One pitch softball tournament)</i> <i>Mandatory Captains' Meeting: Thursday, April 21 @ 5:00pm</i>	April 20	April 22
ALL DATES SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT NOTICE. ADDITIONAL SPORTS HAVE BEEN ADDED SINCE THE PUBLICATION OF THE CAMPUS RECREATION 2004-2005 CALENDAR.		

In the event of inclement weather, players may call the **IM Hotline** at 898-4FUN (4386) or the team captain may call Recreational Sports at 898-2104 after 4:00pm daily (or one hour prior to the first game time). We cannot guarantee that cancelled games will be rescheduled. For more information and weekly game schedules, stop by the Campus Recreation office. Schedules will not be given out over the phone.

Entries **WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED** unless they are filled out completely. All team entries require a specified entry fee. All entries are due by 5:00pm on the day of the deadline. **LATE ENTRIES MIGHT BE ACCEPTED WITH AN ADDITIONAL PENALTY FEE!!!** All teams are required to have a representative at the Captains' Meeting.

Classifieds

Automotive

1990 Lincoln Towncar, runs great, 2 year old paint job, 1 year old transmission, solid dependable car. \$1,750. Call 615-364-1004.

Ford Explorer Sport XLT, 2001 cd/cassette, keyless entry \$11,300. 615-409-6061.

1999 Dodge 4x4: Turbo Diesel. \$16,500 obo. Lists for \$18,465 in Kelly Blue Book. All pwr. New tires, am/fm/cd, automatic trans., tow pkg., excellent condition! Contact: mlb2e@mtsu.edu or 931-239-5613

Employment

Childcare needed in my home for 1 toddler Sat & Sun only. Good Pay! Must have references. 615-867-4201.

"Excellent opportunity for violin/strings teacher. Established clientele. Please email guitarlancer@hotmail.com or fax resume to 615-459-2557."

Make \$8-10 an hour

Work for an established Lawn Service. Full or Part time. No experience needed. Call Matt - 615-456-1793.

CAMP COUNSELORS

Gain valuable experience while having the summer of a lifetime. Counselors needed for Outdoor Adventure, Arts, Aquatics, and more in the Pocono Mountains of Pennsylvania. Apply on-line at www.pineforestcamp.com

CUSTOMER SERVICE REPRESENTATIVE
Stewart's Special Events is a locally owned and operated Special Events Party Rental Store seeking highly motivated individuals with excellent communication skills and a strong work ethic. We offer both part time and full time positions and a flexible work schedule from spring through summer. We offer a very competitive pay program and a positive work environment. Interested individuals may complete applications Mon-Fri 8:00-5:00 at 939 N. Thompson Lane, Murfreesboro, TN 37129.

SPECIAL EVENTS OPERATIONS ASSOC.
Stewart's Special Events is a locally owned and operated Special Events Party Rental Store seeking highly motivated individuals that possess a strong work ethic and the ability to work as a Team as well as individually. Must have a valid drivers license and a good driving record. Part time and full time positions available. Competitive pay programs and flexible work schedules are available. Applicants may complete applications Mon-Fri 8am-5pm Mon-Fri. at 939 N. Thompson Lane, Murfreesboro, TN 37129.

EARN 7,467 THIS SUMMER! Did you wait too long to find a great summer job last

year? If so, call John @ FASTRACK 615-394-2134 for more information.

Like outdoors? Camp counselors needed in the Nashville area. Whippoorwill Farm Day Camp needs lifeguards, rappelling, kayaking and general activity counselors. Bus transportation provided to camp. Call 615-799-9925 or email: Whippoorwill@starband.net

For Rent

Newer house for rent, 3br, 2ba, hardwood floors, w&d, lawn maintenance included in rent, 5 min from MTSU, 900/month. call Neil @482-1941 for more info.

2 mi. near MTSU, Immaculate 3 br 2ba, 1100 sq House. Large closets, appliances, deck, fenced yard. \$900/mo plus deposit. 615-791-6296.

Almost brand new house! Stone Gate Subdivision, 1 mile from MTSU. 3 bedroom, 2 bath, screened porch, 2 car garage, dishwasher, stove, side by side refrigerator with ice maker, microwave, washer and dryer all included. \$975/mo with \$500 deposit. No Pets. Call 615-895-0075 or 615-347-1676 for more info.

Newly remodeled condo for rent. 4bd/2bath, wash/dry included. Walking distance to MTSU. \$900/month. Call 804-3817.

Condo near MTSU for rent. 2 bedrooms left. 4 bed/3.5 bath for lease. Washer and dryer in Unit. 3,000 sq. feet. \$330.00 + 1/4 utilities per month. Valerie at 943-8274 or 904-1871.

Female roommates to occupy new 2BR 1BA cottage, private entrance, 2 blocks from MTSU. \$365 each per month includes heat and air, water, electricity, cable and internet. \$500 deposit, 1 year lease, no pets. 615-364-1004.

Miscellaneous

Reward!

Lost Wedding/Anniversary Ring belonging to my deceased mother. Ring is 3 attached parts with diamond in the center of a rose and the anniversary band. If found, call 615-423-6897.

MTSU graduate student needs wives of deployed soldiers for a focus group. Wives will be discussing family changes in war times. The purpose of this focus group is to help educate future military wives and make a significant contribution to the current literature on military families. For further info please contact Jenni Davis 615-217-0265, jtd2r@mtsu.edu or Dr. Catherine Stogner at 615-898-5522, cstogner@mtsu.edu.

Opportunities

100% paid tuition to MTSU. Work only one weekend a month. \$6,000 & \$10,000 bonuses available. Call or stop by to schedule a no obligation appointment. SGT. Brian Stacy Forrest Hill Military Science Department. 494-7682 or bstacy@mtsu.edu.

Flash is looking for talent to perform in a "Girl's Rock Flash show in March 2005. If interested, contact Brandon 898-2917.

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

Pets

Roommates

Female roommate wanted to share 2 bd. 2 bath. 495 (including utilities) a month. 5 minutes from campus. Fully furnished. Free cable internet, washer/dryer. Must be friendly, clean no smoking, and little drinking. Call Jessica @ 615-525-6752.

Male or female needed. 2 bd 1 bath. 297/month + 1/2 utl. Needed by April 30. 275-9075.

Need 2 roommates ASAP for nice 3bdr/2 1/2 bath cottage style apt. Rent is \$366/month, includes everything. Please contact Thomas at 615-653-3328.

Female Roommate Wanted: 2 bedroom, 2 bath \$300/mo includes all utilities. Call: 615-893-7755.

1 Roommate needed to share 3bd/2ba house w/ 2 other people. 1.5 miles from campus. \$450/mo- all inclusive. Available 4/1/05. Jennifer 615-474-2399.

1 roommate needed for 3 bedroom 3 bath apartment at Campus Crossings. Fully furnished. Workout center, highspeed internet, pool. \$439/mo. utilities included. Call: 615-482-3796.

Sales

New football table for sale, real wood, dark finish. Granite players. \$600 OBO. Call 931-801-4417.

Portable 7" DVD player w/ accessories, Initial IDM 1731, brand new, unopened box. \$150. jrv2f@mtsu.edu or 615-217-3883.

2004 Trek 4900 Alpha Aluminum Mtn. Bike. Bought in Jan and only ridden once. Excellent condition. Paid \$575 will settle for \$400. Adam 615-668-3822.

For Sale: Futon \$150, Full Mattress \$100, 13" TV \$50 mjw2k@mtsu.edu
7 ft. green checked couch. good condition, very comfortable. We just got a new couch and have no room. \$75 obo. Tim or Joe 615-893-1293.

512 MB (2x256MB) Crucial DDR266/PC2100 desktop computer memory; lifetime warranty; \$60; email cem2b@mtsu.edu.

ATI Radeon 9700 Pro (built by ATI); HDTV adapter included; 128 MB; AGP 8x; still under warranty; windows only; \$150; email cem2b@mtsu.edu.

Guitars, Amps and drums for sale. Peavey, Yamaha, Schecter, B.C. Rich, m Traben, Zildjian, Sabian, Sonor, etc. Music World & Drummers Den 893-4242, 2762 S. Church St. (located across from Indian Hills).

House for sale, walk to MTSU, hardwood floors, move-in condition, rented attic apartment pays \$350/month. \$114,500. 614-571-2291 or oliverkleban@hotmail.com.

The North Face Summit Series Jackets, new w/ tags, Men's \$125 (L,XL), Women's \$115 (M). 3 in 1 system with Goretex outershell and zip in fleece inner shell. grey, navy, royal, light blue, red and green. obo call 217-9569 or email ras2g@mtsu.edu.

Two Cabnet Computer desks. One desk type with cabinets overhead. One is a stand type with 1 drawer, no cabinets. \$30 for both. Email: deb_mtsu@yahoo.com. Call 615-563-4488 after 5:30.

Services

ATTORNEY

Christine Barrett
890-1300
320 West Main St. Suite 121 Murfreesboro, TN 37130 Visa/MasterCard Accepted.

Guitar and bass lessons \$10/hour. 15 years playing, 5 years performing/teaching experience. Will teach all styles of music. Call for details at 703-725-3273.

Sublease

Sterling 3335. Pool view, fast internet service, great roommates, needed for May-July. Great for summer school cheap housing. Candice 901-351-9915.

Female, non-smoker needed to sublease apt at Campus Crossing ASAP. Nice large bdrms with a private bath, in 3 bdrm apt. Utilities, cable, internet included. \$439 monthly. Jessica 351-4935, jla2i@mtsu.edu.

Need a place to stay this summer? 1br/1bt available at the Woods May 15th-August

15th. Rent is \$300 and includes all utilities with cable and high speed internet. Please call 407-375-4994 for more info.

Subleser needed to take over lease through August. 2 bed/2 bath apt. rent includes half water. 1st month rent free! only mins from campus. Call Tara @ 615-418-6919.

Female subleser needed ASAP! University Gables. Furnished, with utilities & internet included. \$375/month. \$300 off first month's rent. Call 615-319-2341.

I will pay you \$200.00 to sublease my apartment! Seeking female, \$375/month, all utilities included, washer & dryer, private patio, furnished, tanning beds, pool, computer center, transport to campus, fitness center, basketball and volleyball court & game room. Contact 615-308-5463.

Looking for a subleser for a 2 bedroom apt at Campus Crossings for the months of May-August. If interested call 931-237-1318.

1 Roommate needed or 3 bed 3 bath apt. Campus Crossing. Fully furnished. Workout center, highspeed internet, pool. 439/month. Utilities included. call 615-482-3796.

Subleser needed for a 2bd 2 ba apt. @ University Courtyard, all utilities included. Male or female because there is no other occupant as of right now and probably won't be until lease is up. Rent is discounted \$30 from \$525 to \$495. Move rent has been paid! Lease ends in July. March in ASAP! For more info call 313-433-8427 or email: Hnp2b@mtsu.edu

SUMMER SUBLEASER NEEDED
Female subleser needed for a 1BD in a 4BD/4BA at Campus Crossings Apartments. LR, DR, Kitchen, Wash/Dryer, utilities and cable, high speed internet, pool, workout center, 400/mo includes all of the above. 3 other roommates periodically gone for the summer. Mid May until Fall Semester. Call Carrie: 865-740-9133 or Steve: 865-405-4833

Travel

Policies

Sidelines will be responsible only for the first incorrect insertion of any classified advertisement. No refunds will be made for partial cancellations. *Sidelines* reserves the right to refuse any advertisement it deems objectionable for any reason. Classifieds will only be accepted on a prepaid basis. Ads may be placed in the *Sidelines* office in Mass Comm, Room 269, or faxed to (615) 904-8193. For more information call (615) 904-8154 are not accepted over the phone. Ads are free for students and faculty for the first two weeks.