

WEDNESDAY

FEBRUARY 14, 2001

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In FLASH, page 7

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In Opinions, page 4

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SIDELINES

Middle Tennessee State University

MURFREESBORO,
TENNESSEE

Volume 76 No. 53

www.mtsusidelines.com



Photo by Matthew H. Starling | Chief Photographer

(Above) Gore waves to the crowd as he makes his way to his first class session at MTSU. (Right) Michael Principe is surrounded by reporters as he answers questions about his protesting Gore's being allowed to teach on MTSU's campus.

More Gore...



Gore enters uncharted territory

By Kristy Dalrymple
Staff Writer

Students began arriving for the 4 p.m. lecture as early as 2:30 in the afternoon for the hopes of a front row seat to one of the most talked about lectures in school history.

At 3:30 p.m. the check-in process for Al Gore's community building class began. All students had to show their student IDs in order to receive their name tag and admittance into the lecture hall. There were two cops at the entrance the students used and two Secret Service agents where Professor

Al Gore would enter.

Most students didn't know what to expect from the class but all waited anxiously for Professor Gore to walk through the doors of the State Farm Lecture Hall in the Business and Aerospace Building.

Gore walked in unannounced, waved to the audience and took a seat at the front of the room. When Interim President Eugene Smith announced Gore, he received a standing ovation.

"I am going to expect that at the beginning of every class," Gore said jokingly at the welcome he received.

Gore thanked the university and all the faculty in assisting him with putting the class together so quickly.

"I am quite keenly aware that this is not the normal pace with which a course is developed and offered. I am extremely grateful for the hard work and courtesy that made this possible," Gore said.

Gore began the lecture like all first-day professors. He gave an overview of the course and what students could expect. He then admitted to the class that he was scared to death of teach-

See Gore, 2

Gore's presence sparks protests

By Eilene Yeale
Staff Writer

Middle Tennessee Solidarity, a campus organization promoting socialism, feminism and anti-racism, protested Monday afternoon against Al Gore's course on community building.

The protest began on the steps of the James Union Building at 3 p.m., one hour before Gore's class was to begin. The protesters marched across campus to the Business and Aerospace Building, the site of Gore's first lecture, chanting, "Al Gore's a corporate

whore. We demand so much more," and carrying signs reading, "Practice What You Preach" and "Money's Tyranny is Shamefully Ugly."

The protesters believe it hypocritical for Al Gore to claim to advocate community building while supporting organizations like NAFTA, which attempt to globalize the economy, which they say has very negative effects on many third world communities.

By allowing free trade between Mexico, Canada and the United States, making it oftentimes more profitable for a corporation to move across

the border, and by giving corporations the ability to avoid U.S. governmental regulations on health, safety, labor and the environment in this process, members of Solidarity claim that it is a social injustice to allow communities to be exploited in the name of corporate profit.

"We're demonstrating not so much against Al Gore, but just that he represents a political movement that undermines communities, and then when asked to teach a class on community building, he's wel-

See Protest, 3

Campus divided on courtyard construction

By Jennifer Cathey
Staff Writer

Some students, faculty and staff are frustrated that the \$1.4 million courtyard project has taken priority over desperately needed buildings and equipment for the art and science departments.

The legitimacy of these complaints, however, mainly depends on where the funding to build the courtyard is coming from.

Mike Glower, from the Business Administration Office said the funding for the courtyard came from "state funds left over from the Library."

Jerry Preston from the Tennessee Board of Regents explained this concept further. "[The courtyard] was a part of the initial scope...[The funding] was allocated for the courtyard."

Carolyn Gray, a secretary in the biology department, had much to say on the issue.

"We need a whole new building," Gray said. "We all need the money. We had trouble with the heat. Ask the students about it.

In one room [the students] had to sit with gloves on because the heat wouldn't work. We need help."

Leon Nuell, a professor in the art department, said the department needs "space, equipment and faculty."

When asked about the reaction of other faculty members to the project, Nuell had this to say: "I don't think we discussed it, but when we see funds spent on projects other than academic funds, we are more wary than not."

In light of the fact that both the art and science departments are in need of new equipment and new buildings, many students are upset about the cost of the courtyard.

"I think the money would be better spent on a new science building," said freshman Kim Ryan.

Melanie Ross said the art department is in need of the funds.

"The funding for [the courtyard] was funding from the art

See Project, 3

Students advance to state pageant

By Amy Calloway
Staff Writer

Two MTSU women will advance to the Miss Tennessee Pageant after being crowned at the 25th Annual Miss MTSU Scholarship Pageant sponsored by Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity Feb. 9 in Tucker Theatre.

Miss Middle Tennessee State University Ashley Brooks and Miss Middle Tennessee Blue Raider Leah Leonard will advance to the 2001 Miss Tennessee Pageant where they will compete for the title and a chance to go on to the Miss America Pageant. Brooks was sponsored by Precision Printing, and Leonard was sponsored by Area II Government and family.

Brooks and Leonard will each receive \$1,000 scholarships raised by Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity.

"Over the last four years that I have been director, Sigma Alpha Epsilon has given out over \$10,000 in scholarships," said Rob Patterson, executive director of the pageant.

The pageant winners are selected based on several phases of competition, which include an interview and talent, evening gown and swimsuit competitions. Twenty-six girls competed for the title.

"This year was the most talented set of girls we had ever seen," Patterson said.



Photo by Jonathan Trundle | Staff

Mistress of Ceremonies was Holly Thompson of WSMV Channel 4 News. Thompson graduated with honors from MTSU.

With a theme of "Back to the Seventies," the pageant featured the talent of Los Vatos, Fred Toler, the MTSU Senior Dance Company and the 2000 pageant winners, Kathryn Fowler and Courtney Blooming.

Entertainment included "Do a Little

Dance," "Hot Stuff," "YMCA," "How Deep Is Your Love" and "Dancing Queen."

"This was the best show we had ever seen, and Tucker Theatre was sold out," Patterson said.

The first, second, third and fourth runners-up for the pageant were, in that order, Stephanie Plemons, Brooke Burns, Haley Hopper and Carrie Smith.

The overall winner for the swimsuit competition was Hannah Bible, and the overall winner for the talent competition was Ashley Brooks.

"It was very fun," said Becky Robertson, a contestant in the pageant. "The girls were incredible and we all bonded."

Other winners included: Heather Brigman, People's Choice Award; Angela Willett, Public Relations Award; and Courtney Stinson and Leah Walker, Miss Congeniality Award.

David Swain, executive director for surrounding pageants, said this was the best preliminary he had seen in the past 16 years he has been involved, Patterson said.

Other contestants were Ashlee Blanks, Jessica Campbell, Erica Drew, Ashley Eicher, Jessica Heim, Jocelyn Howard, Catherine Jones, Amanda Keller, Jean Mertz, Claudia Perry, Summer Pulley, LaTonya Vaughn, Jill Willis and Lesley Wilson. ♦

CAMPUS BRIEFS

Compiled By Rebecca Pickering, News Editor

Jazz performance builds series

The Middle Tennessee Jazz Orchestra will perform alongside saxophonist Dick Oatt at 7:30 p.m. Thursday in the Wright Music Building. This concert is the second performance in the three-part MTSU Jazz Artist Series. Tickets are \$12 for the event but MTSU students, faculty and staff are admitted free. Tickets may be purchased at the door or in advance by calling Dana Landry at 898-2724. ♦

Pacific security specialist lectures

The Japan-U.S. Program of MTSU will host James Auer of the Vanderbilt Institute for Public Policy Studies in a lecture Saturday. Auer will discuss Pacific Asian Security after the Cold War. The lecture will be in the Suntrust Room in the Business and Aerospace Building from 2-2:30 p.m. There will be a brief social period before

and after the lecture, and American and Japanese refreshments will be served. For more information contact the Japan-U.S. Program at 898-2229. ♦

Deadline extended for writing contest

The African American History Month Committee will be accepting submissions through Monday at noon for a writing contest. The submissions may be fiction, non-fiction or poetry on the theme of "Creating and Defining Community." Complete contest rules are available in Peck Hall, Rooms 223, 332 and 109C. The winner will receive a \$25 gift certificate. ♦

International coffee open to all comers

International Programs and Services is hosting their monthly International Student Coffee Hour today from 3:30 to 5 p.m. in the

Hazelwood Dining Room of the James Union Building. Everyone is invited to mingle with international students and faculty members and enjoy free refreshments. ♦

Job fair to offer opportunity to teacher candidates

The Nashville Area Teacher Recruitment Fair will be held Tuesday, Feb. 27 at the I-24 Expo in Smyrna from 10 a.m. until 5 p.m. Teacher candidates will have an opportunity to meet school recruiters, gain employment information and interview on-site with approximately 100 school districts from several states.

MTSU will also host representatives from several school districts which will conduct on-campus interviews throughout the month of February. Priority sign-up for the campus interviews will be held Monday at 4:30 p.m. in the Keathley University Center, Room 322. Interview appointments can be made after Feb. 19, as long as space is available, by contacting the Placement Center at 898-2500. ♦

Gore: Syllabus, Secret Service make for interesting day

Continued from 1

ing this course.

The official title of the course is Community Building: A Comprehensive Family-Centered Approach. It will be comprised of ten sessions total which will be taught by Professor Gore, as well as MTSU faculty and several guest professors. The goal of the course is to teach the basics of family and community building through their relationships together.

Each session will be focused on different aspects of the community as a whole. Ranging from the prenatal child to parents education and intergenerational relationships, he will tie the whole course together in the end by looking at the challenges that face the family and community in the future.

The first lecture was conducted by Professor Gore and special guests, Congressman John Lewis of Georgia and Denise Fairchild, founder and president of the Community Development Technologies Center at Los Angeles Trade Technical College. All three worked together to create a foundation for the course

and discussed what a family is, what a community is, and how they are intertwined together.

The lecture itself was conducted much like a community forum. There were cordless microphones in the aislesways for students to pass around when there were questions and comments. Everyone in the lecture hall stayed focused on class, and once Gore began the session, it was conducted in the same manner as any other lecture. Gore encouraged audience participation, and his lecture was both serious and entertaining.

"John and I are kind of like test pilots," Gore said. "What that means is this course is not yet safe for a real professor to teach. So if we crash and burn, the emergency exits are here, on the sides there, and back there."

As the session got underway everyone became more relaxed. The students got involved in brainstorming ideas about a family and shared personal experiences from their families. Gore also appeared to gain confidence and get comfortable with what he was doing. Gore never said anything about the election; he stayed focused on

his current project, the class.

The first lecture was primarily background information that will be used throughout the course. All the ideas presented will be used for the rest of the semester as he attempts to teach the students how to develop a stronger community for the future.

There are no set tests or assigned papers for the class which is offered for two credits on a pass-fail basis. MTSU professors in each of the four departments under which students registered will meet in separate sessions with class members next week. Delmar Walker, Ed Kimbrell, John Vile and Ed Kick will oversee each students work for their respective departments.

After the class, a reception was held for everyone in the lecture to meet and talk with Gore. There were no public media allowed in either the lecture or reception. The reception lasted for about an hour. The Secret Service agents allowed Gore to mingle through the crowd of students but always had their eye on him. Gore made himself very accessible to the students and

faculty present, and appeared eager to talk with everyone.

The concept for the course first came to light two years ago at a Family Policy Conference, called Family Reunion, which took place in Nashville. The conference is an annual meeting that Gore and his wife host every year. The meeting two-years ago focused on families and communities.

Gore said that at the end of this meeting he issued a challenge to all academic experts who were in attendance. He challenged them to attempt to develop a new course, curriculum, and eventually, a degree program that would specialize in family-centered community building.

University of California-Los Angeles was the first university of 18 to answer the challenge. UCLA developed a national consortium to develop the curriculum for these courses.

MTSU is one of two flagship schools that are testing the curriculum. However, all 18 universities in the consortium have helped in establishing the curriculum. ♦

Project: Mixed emotions

Continued from 1

department," Ross said. "There are so many other things they could have used."

"I think the money used toward the courtyard would have been better used to repair existing buildings," freshman Amanda Alexander agreed.

Several students also spoke of the inconvenience the project has caused. The construction has made it more difficult to access the University Library, the Bragg Mass Communication Building and the Business and Aerospace Building.

"It's really not the distance but the obstruction of traffic flow that makes the construction project a nuisance," Wood Hall resident Rebecca Dobbs said.

Other students are in agreement with Dobbs on this issue.

"The traffic tends to get confused," said Sarah Saussy. "Sometimes I find people walking in my lane."

Megan Sample added, "It's absolutely ridiculous. I have a class to be at by 11:00 a.m., and I can't get there on time because of all the construction."

Professors also harbor different opinions on this issue. Alfred Lutz, a professor in the Honors College, seems to see both sides of the issue.

"If you are really concerned with beautification, you should support the art department, because they produce beautiful objects," Lutz said, adding, "I think the beautiful courtyard would make the trailer offices more beautiful." ♦

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Drunk Buster goggles educate about drunken driving

By Charlene Callier
Staff writer

A fraternity at MTSU donated \$629 to the police department to begin a Drunk Busters program to inform students about the harm of drinking and driving.

Mark Wilson, president of the alumni chapter of Sigma Phi Epsilon, presented MTSU's police department with a check to purchase Drunk Busters goggles to use for demonstrations to area students and organizations.

The police department conducted its first demonstration with Chi Omega sorority Feb. 4 to explain the importance of not driving while under the influence of alcohol and drugs.

"These goggles have the natural adaptation of being drunk," said Sgt. Steve Scott.

Officer Brett Huskey and Matthew Foster showed the group a video dealing with the effects of drunken driving.

After the video, the group put on the Drunk Busters goggles and participated in a variety

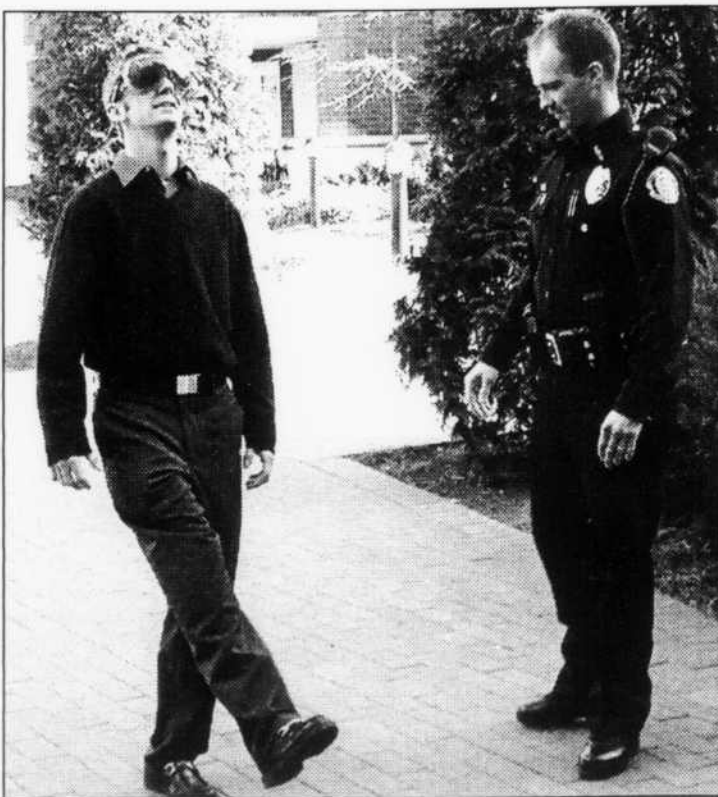


Photo by Amanda Pitt | Staff

Police Officer Andrew Watts, Student Resource Officer and DARE instructor for campus schools gives a demonstration of being intoxicated to Neal Hilton. The demonstration followed a donation to the campus police by the Sigma Phi Epsilon fraternity.

ety of activities to test the effects of being drunk. The goggles simulate impairment effects such as reduced alertness, confusion, slow reaction and distance perception.

The officers concluded the presentation by answering questions the group had dealing with the goggles and driving under the influence of alcohol and drugs.

"The presentation cleared up misconceptions of DUI and the reasons why police officers do a lot of the things they do," said Huskey.

The Drunk Busters goggles represent being intoxicated in the daytime while the Twilight Vision goggles represent driving while drunk at night. Each pair of goggles represents a different blood alcohol level ranging from .08-.15.

"The program really showed girls how it feels to be drunk," said Emily Buttrey, Panhellenic president and Chi Omega member. "It reinforced that they shouldn't drink and drive."

Some of the statistics the officers cited were that the average drunk driver drives between 81 to 85 times a year in the general public between the hours of 10 p.m. and 3 a.m.

One half of the fatalities in Middle Tennessee are alcohol related. Ninety percent of DUI drivers are not hurt in accidents, but the majority of innocent victims are injured.

The group also learned one could be charged with DUI for marijuana or any drugs that affect the ability to drive safely.

Officers told students that anyone who doesn't consent to taking the test can lose driving privileges.

The officers also informed students that if someone drives your car, you are held responsible for that person if they are arrested for driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs.

"The more groups that ask for this presentation, the more groups that will understand why this is a problem," said Scott.

For more information on scheduling a Drunk Busters presentation, contact Scott at 898-2424. ♦

Protest: Campus groups face off at the Business and Aerospace Building

Continued from 1

comed with smiling faces," said Solidarity member Ryan Husak. "We think there should be some kind of tension here. That's the main focus of our protest."

Michael Principe, a philosophy teacher and active Solidarity member said, "This is an occasion to remind people of

the issues, it is in the spirit of anti-globalization."

The protesters themselves were soon greeted with protesters of their own.

Retired history major Pete Roode said he believes that Solidarity members don't focus on the real issues, such as tax reform, welfare and child health care. Roode also said corpora-

tions are not community killers, because they offer jobs to many people who might otherwise not have any work at all, and, in effect, end up equalizing the first and third world countries a little bit more, as more capital is generated in underdeveloped countries.

Roode, along with a dozen others, protested against

Solidarity and in support of Gore with signs and literature expressing their opinions.

"There are much better things to protest about," philosophy major John Hall said, "such as campus funds being put to better use instead of so much of it going to build new structures to make the campus look better."

He believes that just as Solidarity is not censored, they should not try to stifle Al Gore's right to speak his mind.

"This is a center of learning," Hall added, "and we shouldn't censor people because of their opinion." ♦

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OPINIONS

4 ♦ SIDELINES

Wednesday, February 14, 2001

Murfreesboro, TN

From the Staff

New constitution worthy endeavor by student gov.

Today is the last day for students to vote on a proposal for a new student constitution, and we would like to endorse Student Government's initiative.

Still, not everyone agrees with us.

Some students have contacted us to express their discontent about the coverage of the proposal and one controversial point in the new constitution.

The controversial issue deals with the last line of the constitution which states that all legislation passed under the current constitution will become null and void if the new constitution is approved by the students.

Both SGA President John Marshall and Speaker of House Matt Walker have been quoted as saying that any legislation that is still relevant under the current constitution will be re-presented if and when the new constitution is passed.

This issue is really a vacant concern. The point of the new constitution is to make the system more efficient. It is not intended to overrule old legislation.

Our coverage of the new constitution has also been called into question. Our lack of coverage is nothing more than a myth used as an excuse for laziness and apathy.

During the first month of this semester, we have published a half dozen articles on the new constitution and its issues — three of which were lead stories on our front page.

There are roughly 12 issues in a month. Do the math, that averages out to be a story about the constitution in every other issue.

Besides that, we have also written an editorial explaining the finer points of the proposal and a held poll on our Web site about SGA involvement in student life.

All of these stories, editorials and polls are available in the archives on our Web site.

So, before those complaining students point the finger, maybe they should do a little research into the facts.

For those wanting the full text of the new proposed constitution, it is available at www.mtsu.edu/~sga.

A different feminist view

Women must do their share to achieve equality, independence

Kristy Adams
Staff Columnist

They're not meant for you.

Back to my point, though. Is it wrong that some women, whether they realize it or not, feel this way? I don't necessarily believe it's our fault that we think like this. Like I said, it's something we were taught.

For us, it's always been completely natural. For many centuries before us, men have been expected to uphold a supreme kindness toward women. But due to that kindness and special attention we have received, we are considered inferior and helpless.

Here's where my accusations of hypocritical behavior come into place. If you look back at the past few decades, you'll see just how much women have progressed.

We struggled throughout the sixties and beyond to become socially accepted by men. After thousands of years, women finally realized they were getting the short end of the stick when it came to freedom.

It's rare these days to find a woman content with spending her life as a housewife. Instead, women want to work. Not only that, but women want to work with men, make the same salaries as men and receive the same promotions.

If we're denied these requests, we accuse sexist behavior and demand equality.

I'm not saying this is wrong either. I am, like most women, all for equality.

In fact, I'm extremely proud that the female population has stood up for what they believe is right and just. We have definitely come a long way, and I'm not about to bash that. We have shown, as a whole, that we are not inferior.

Do women really practice being equal though? Many of us want to change the things we don't like about being a woman and keep the things we do like.

We like to "have our cake and eat it too." By this, I mean women want the respect men give to each other, and they also want men to continue respecting them as ladies.

This makes the male role almost impossible to live by. We need to learn to respect men enough not to expect this from them.

With all we've learned in our past, this behavior is completely natural, but also extremely selfish and overly demanding. If women are strong enough to evolve and rise successfully, we are more than capable of evolving personal relationships to an equal level.

If you're expecting an equal relationship of any kind with the opposite sex, you should expect it in all aspects. The word "Woman" does not make us inferior, nor does it make us superior.

It does not mean we owe the world, nor does it mean the world owes us.

So, the next time you ladies go on a date or even just hang out with a guy, keep in mind that in order to get the respect and equality you want, you must make sacrifices. ♦

Rock on Fu Manchu

Wes Cobb
Staff Columnist

Cranial Smorgasbord



Imagine a garage situated somewhere in the suburbs of So Cal. Blacklight posters of skulls and bikers provide a background for a beat-to-hell drumkit and several Marshall stacks. Paraphernalia is scattered about the room, which is blanketed under a dank haze. Four hippyish-looking guys rise from their bean bags and go to their respective instruments. The hiss of amps on standby becomes a rumbling thunder of fuzz and fuzz. The influences are obvious; Black Sabbath, Jimi Hendrix, the Ramones, yet at the same time these guys have a sound that is all their own.

This is Fu Manchu, the greatest rock band of the 70s and today. They live in a world of custom vans and muscle cars, of fuzzy dice and 8-track players. They provide a refreshing change from the wuss rock and whiney punk wannabes that are have a stranglehold

on the airwaves today. These guys know that their music is out of style and they don't care. All Fu Manchu is concerned with is pumping out massive amounts of pure sonic testosterone for anyone who appreciates REAL rock. When singer/guitarist Scott Hill's stoned out voice sings of "Burning Road" and a "double-nickel ride-by" you can just imagine yourself tearing up the road in a Chevette or a Barracuda, headed for some all-night

beach party or dive bar. There is no trendy fake angst and anger in their rock either. All the power in Fu Manchu's music, it actually makes you feel happy. Whenever I pop in one of their CDs while driving down the road, I'm compelled to make this ridiculous, "Yeah, I'm cool and I rock" face while nodding to myself in agreement with my excellent taste in music.

This is music to drive dune buggies to. This is music to skate in an empty pool to. This is music to play air guitar to. This is music to rock your silly fricken' face off.

If talent gained the recognition that trendiness does, Fu Manchu would usurp mediocre metal bands like Godsmack and crappy wuss-rockers like Vertical Horizon to ascend the throne as the rock gods that they are. Rock out. ♦

SIDELINES

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Sidelines regrets that in Monday's issue, two columns were mistakenly cut off. The full versions of both articles are available at www.mtsusidelines.com

***** Dear Annie *****

Dear Annie,
I don't know what to get my girlfriend for Valentine's Day. I want it to be something better than the average guy... something special. I am working on a low budget. Can you please help? - A Cupid Drop-Out

Dear Cupid Drop-Out,
First of all, be on your best behavior - you know, that gentlemen stuff your Mom taught you. Now having cleared that up, let's start from the least expensive gift and work our way up. One suggestion would be the gift of time. You could dedicate a day to your favorite girl. This

means you will do things she likes to do, without complaining. It could be shopping, a walk in the park or going to watch a "chic flick." I know this may be painful, but it is just one day out of the year.

Roses are always great. Instead of buying a dozen roses, you could buy one perfect rose. Now, I wouldn't stop there unless you just met. You could include a love letter or poem. However, if writing is not your thing, you could buy a romantic card or a small teddy bear. Girls love a romantic gesture.

Taking your girl out for dinner and dancing is a popular Valentine evening. However, since you

are working on a budget, how about cooking her dinner? I know what you're thinking, "I can't cook!" My response is "sure you can." Anyone can follow a recipe. Fixing pasta with a marinara sauce (you know, a jar of the red stuff) is easy. Atmosphere is everything. Before your girlfriend comes over for dinner, fill the room with candles and play soft music. Then, after dinner, play her favorite song and ask her to dance. Also, opt for a bottle of champagne instead of your usual six pack.

Whatever you do, make it a gift from your heart. Romantic thoughts, genuine efforts and your time are some of the most valuable gifts.

The Gore-y Truth: He's an adjunct

By Andy "Sunfrog" Smith
Guest Columnist

Monday, former vice-president Al Gore will start preaching "community building" at an institution that clearly treasures profit and privilege more than affinity and cooperation. Since Gore announced his plans, many MTSU teachers, students, and administrators have been pandering to his notoriety in a public frenzy reminiscent of teenyboppers at an N'SYNC concert. In rolling out the red carpet for Gore, MTSU chooses the cult of celebrity over the calling of integrity.

But the hype surrounding Gore's teaching here isn't surprising. MTSU's attempt to transform itself from a provincial college into a prestigious university is not based on grassroots values. Multimillion dollar developments and media savvy have not magically improved communal relation-

ships on this campus. Constructing bigger and better buildings cannot replace the need for fairer and more egalitarian treatment of those who teach, work, live and learn here. A glitzy media image of pseudo-community combined with a money-grubbing bureaucratic tyranny, reflects the neo-liberal economic philosophy and practice of both Al Gore and MTSU.

We may have Master Classrooms, but part-time professors with a Master's Degree cannot earn a living wage teaching in one. Since Al Gore will only teach one class, once a week for 12 weeks, doesn't he qualify as a part-time professor?

Currently, MTSU employs approximately 300 adjuncts to teach many lower division and some upper division classes. These teachers work for pitiful wages, receive no health benefits or job security, and typically depend on other sources of income to survive.

Adjuncts who work in distance-learning have slightly more earning potential. When tuition increased last fall, money was allocated for a "faculty raise," but not a penny more went into the pockets of part-time faculty. To put it bluntly, the money used to hastily bolster MTSU's image and embrace people like Al Gore has been stolen from MTSU's adjuncts, GTAs, food service workers, secretaries, custodians and student-workers who work for a pittance.

Last November, Gore campaigned as a champion of workers and the environment, but the Clinton-Gore policies supporting corporate globalization have meant misery—not manna—for the underpaid underclass of the world. Of course, the repercussions of neo-liberal economics are even worse in developing nations than for the academic proletariat in America. The widening gap between rich and poor is a global

problem fostered by a common enemy.

People who care about community should skip Gore's class, learn more about the new global capitalism and do the difficult, yet unglamorous, task of forging genuine solidarity in their classrooms, clubs, dorms, families, workplaces, unions, churches, housing cooperatives and neighborhoods. Despite this gory situation, many people at MTSU share an unwavering love for their work, this campus and each other. Everyday, fragile but meaningful glimpses of community come from informal gestures of generosity and conviviality. You can't learn this from a big shot politician. ♦

A widely published poet, essayist, and radical journalist, Andy "Sunfrog" Smith earned his Master's degree from MTSU in 1999. He is an adjunct professor in English and Women's Studies. Contact him at awsmith@mtsu.edu

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.

The Two Minute Drill

R. Colin Fly
Sports Editor



Intramural Update

In men's basketball action, Beta Theta Pi defeated both Sigma Chi and Pi Kappa Alpha to run their record to 3-0 and jump to sixth in the overall top 10 rankings.

In women's basketball action, Chi Omega crushed Delta Zeta 42-14 to stay undefeated and in first place on top of the women's overall rankings.

Here are some selected scores from last week's action. ♦

Men's A League 1

Corlew Magic 69,
Rough Riders 59
HB IV Vengeance 2,
Farmhouse 0 - forfeit

Men's A League 2

The Ruckus 78,
Dam Ba Jam 37
The Outcasts 59,
MEMPHIS 45

IFCA League 1

Kappa Alpha (1) 56,
Alpha Tau Omega (1) 28
Beta Theta Pi (1) 87,
Sigma Chi (1) 37
Alpha Phi Alpha 47,
Sigma Phi Epsilon (1) 18
Alpha Tau Omega (1) 40,
Sigma Nu (1) 19
Beta Theta Pi (1) 56,
Pi Kappa Alpha (1) 42
Kappa Alpha (1) 73,
Sigma Chi (1) 23

IFC B League 1

Sigma Alpha Epsilon (1) 50,
Pi Kappa Alpha (2) 27
Alpha Gamma Rho 31,
Kappa Alpha (2) 23

IFC B League 2

Alpha Tau Omega (2) 45,
Sigma Nu (2) 28
Beta Theta Pi (2) 39,
Pi Kappa Alpha (3) 26
Kappa Alpha (3) 2,
Sigma Chi (2) 0 forfeit

Sorority A League

Alpha Delta Pi 51,
Zeta Tau Alpha 9
Chi Omega 42,
Delta Zeta 14

Swing easy when it's breezy

Moore returns

By Noelle Ball
Staff Writer

"I was very fortunate. I just happened to be in the right place at the right time," says MTSU's head men's golf coach, Johnny Moore.

Twelve years ago, Coach Moore owned a private company and lived in Hendersonville, Tenn. with his wife and four children.

"I've played tournament golf for years and just got fortunate."

When Moore noticed his alma mater searching for a golf coach, he applied, was offered the job, and never looked back. He has no intentions of leaving the university. He says he will be here "as long as they will let me stay."

Moore is a native of Nashville and graduated from Isaac-Litton High School. He then received a football scholarship to Middle Tennessee and earned a bachelor's degree in business.

Prior to college, Moore never played golf.

"I was trying to get out of spring practice and decided to try out for the golf team. I've been playing ever since," Moore jokes.

After graduating from MTSU, Moore owned a wholesale distribution company of power supplies and competed in golf tournaments in his spare time.

Twice Moore has been named the State Senior Amateur Champion.

In 1991, he qualified for the U.S. Senior Open and played in the first senior open that Jack Nicklaus competed in.

Moore is still competing with the Society of Seniors but shoulder surgery kept him out temporarily. This summer he hopes to be back.

"There is nothing like competitive golf," Moore says.

Competing isn't his only passion. Coach Moore is devoted to his players and his dedica-



Moore

tion shows.

He proudly speaks about the team and also his baby granddaughter, who celebrates her first birthday in April.

Moore led last year's golf team to the NCAA Division I tournaments where they ranked 49th out of 300.

He says the biggest difference from other sports is that they play teams from all conferences, not just Sun Belt members.

The golf team has a fall season and a spring season. They kicked off the spring season this weekend in Gulfport, Miss. at the Beau Rivage Classic against Southern Mississippi. From there the team will travel to Florida three times, Alabama twice, and finally to the Sun Belt Conference Championship in Dallas, Texas.

"We get to meet some really neat people everywhere we go," Coach Moore said of the constant traveling. "We have gotten to go to some great places."

"I like it all: traveling, recruiting, practice, competition," claims Moore. "I never dreamed I would coach. Guess I sort of came in the backside. Most people coach for a while and then pursue another career. I did it the other way. But I love my job, the people I work with and the university. I'm lucky to do what I love." ♦

MT finishes tenth in season opener

Beau Rivage Classic (1st Day Results)

TEAM STANDINGS

Sam Houston State (889)
: Tennessee (898)
South Florida (903)
Louisville (903)
Louisiana-Monroe (906)
Southeastern Louisiana (907)
: Tulane (907)
: Memphis (920)
Southern Miss (*score not reported)
Middle Tennessee (921)
South Alabama (923)
Florida State (928)
Denver (928)
Cincinnati (932)
Wyoming (935)
Troy State (939)

MT RESULTS

T-12th Patrick Williams (76-73-76=225)
T-26th John Beddies (76-80-72=228)
T-61th J.R. Wade (73-83-81=237)
T-61th Dane Randle (81-76-80=237)
T-67th Taylor Bowers (78-80-81=239)

MT Media Relations

GULFPORT, Miss. - The Middle Tennessee golf team finished 10th at the Beau Rivage Classic on Tuesday with a 54-hole total of 921. The tournament was the first of the 2001 spring season.

"Our inexperience really showed this week," head coach Johnny Moore said. "We just didn't score very well or take advantage of opportunities. It's just our first tournament and I expect us to be better the next time out."

The Blue Raiders were led by sophomore Patrick Williams, who finished in a tie for 12th with a 225. Newcomer John Beddies, who had the team's low-round of the tournament with a 72 on Tuesday, totaled a 228 to place in a tie for 26th. Junior Dane Randle, who has not played since the fall of 1998, came in tied for 61st with teammate J.R. Wade. Both shot a three-round score of 237. Rounding out the scoring for Middle Tennessee was freshman Taylor Bowers, who fired a 239 to finish tied for 67th.

The field of 16 teams was considered very strong with Sam Houston State winning the tournament easily with an 889. Tennessee finished second with an 898.

The Blue Raiders will be back in action Feb. 23-25 at the Ron Smith Invitational in Tampa, Fla. ♦

Intramural Basketball Schedule for Feb. 14-15

Wednesday, Feb. 14, 2001



League/Time	Place	Teams		
IFCB/I 6 p.m.	RC C3	Alpha Gamma Rho	v.	Sigma Alpha Epsilon III
IFCB/I 6 p.m.	RC C5	Kappa Alpha II	v.	Pi Kappa Alpha II
IFCB/II 7 p.m.	RC C3	Beta Theta Pi II	v.	Sigma Phi Epsilon II
IFCB/II 7 p.m.	RC C5	Sigma Nu	v.	Sigma Chi II
IFCB/II 8 p.m.	RC C3	Pi Kappa Alpha III	v.	Kappa Alpha III
IFCA/I 9 p.m.	RC C1	Alpha Tau Omega I	v.	Sigma Alpha Epsilon I
IFCA/I 9 p.m.	RC C3	Sigma Phi Epsilon I	v.	Beta Theta Pi I
IFCA/I 9 p.m.	RC C5	Sigma Nu	v.	Sigma Chi I
IFCA/I 10 p.m.	RC C1	Pi Kappa Alpha I	v.	Kappa Alpha I
IFCA/I 10 p.m.	RC C3	Alpha Phi Alpha I	v.	Beta Theta Pi I
IFCA/I 10 p.m.	RC C5	Sigma Alpha Epsilon	v.	Sigma Chi I

Thursday, Feb. 15, 2001

League/Time	Place	Teams		
MB/IV 7 p.m.	RC C1	Crackers	v.	Team Catherine
MB/IV 7 p.m.	RC C3	A-Team	v.	Raiders for Christ #1
MB/IV 7 p.m.	RC C5	RFC #2	v.	D.C. Connection
MA/I 8 p.m.	RC C3	The Realest	v.	HB IV Vengeance
MA/I 8 p.m.	RC C5	Farmhouse	v.	Corlew Magic
MA/II 9 p.m.	RC C3	Greekmixer	v.	The Outcasts
MA/II 9 p.m.	RC C5	Memphis	v.	Dam Ba Jam
WA/I 10 p.m.	RC C3	The Rims	v.	R.F.C.

Intramural Basketball Rankings As of Thursday, Feb. 5

Men's Overall Top 10

1. Greekmixer (1-0)
2. Tha Realest (1-0)
3. Alpha Phi Alpha (3-0)
4. Sigma Alpha Epsilon I (2-0)
5. Corlew Magic (2-0)
6. Beta Theta Pi (3-0)
7. The Outcasts (2-0)
8. HB IV Vengeance (1-1)
9. Charlies Angels (2-0)
10. Rough Riders (1-1)

Men's A Top 10

1. Greekmixer (1-0)
2. Tha Realest (1-0)
3. Corlew Magic (2-0)
4. The Outcasts (2-0)
5. HB IV Vengeance (1-1)
6. The Ruckus (1-1)
7. Rough Riders (2-1)
8. MEMPHIS (0-2)
9. Dam Ba Jam (0-1)
10. Farmhouse (0-2)

Men's B Top 10

1. Charlie's Angels (2-0)
2. The Rebels (2-0)
3. Crackers (2-0)
4. D.C. Connection (2-0)
5. Riders (1-0)
6. The Chiefs (2-0)
7. Dore's (2-0)
8. The Underdogs (2-0)
9. Hurricanes (2-0)
10. Reynolds Raiders (0-1)

Women's Overall Top 10

1. Chi Omega (2-0)
2. Rollers (2-0)
3. Tennessee (2-0)
4. Alpha Delta Pi (1-0)
5. D.C.F. (0-1)
6. Zeta Tau Alpha (1-1)
7. The Rims (0-1)
8. Alpha Omicron Pi (0-1)
9. Delta Zeta (0-2)
10. Raiders for Christ (0-2)

IFC A Top 9

1. ΑΦΑ (3-0)
2. ΣΑΕ I (2-0)
3. ΒΘΠ I (3-0)
4. ΚΑ I (2-1)
5. ΠΚΑ I (1-2)
6. ΑΤΩ I (1-2)
7. ΣΦΕ I (0-2)
8. ΣΝ I (0-2)
9. ΣΧ I (0-2)

IFC B Top 10

1. ΣΑΕ II (2-0)
2. ΒΘΠ II (2-0)
3. ΣΦΕ II (1-0)
4. ΣΑΕ III (1-0)
5. ΠΚΑ II (0-1)
6. ΑΤΩ II (1-1)
7. ΚΑ II (2-0)
8. ΑΓΡ (1-1)
9. ΣΝ II (0-1)
10. ΚΑ II (0-2)



7 Day
Sportscast

THURSDAY

Women's Basketball

Lady Raiders at La. Tech
Ruston, La., 7 p.m.

Men's Basketball

Blue Raiders vs. La. Tech
Murfreesboro, Tenn., 7 p.m.

SATURDAY

Baseball

Season Opener
Blue Raiders vs. UNC-Asheville (DH)
Murfreesboro, Tenn., 1 p.m.

Women's Basketball

Lady Raiders vs.
UL-Lafayette
Murfreesboro, Tenn., 7 p.m.

Women's Tennis

Lady Raiders at
Georgia St.
Atlanta, Ga., noon

Men's Basketball

Blue Raiders at
UL-Lafayette
Lafayette, La., 7:05 p.m.

SUNDAY

Baseball

Blue Raiders vs. UNC-Asheville
Murfreesboro, Tenn., 1 p.m.

Women's Tennis

Lady Raiders at
Georgia Tech
Atlanta, Ga., noon

FLASH

Wednesday, February 14, 2001

Valentine, the movie review: p8

Trent Summar: p10

Top 10 Valentine's gifts: p8

sidelines

LINE UP

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 14

ALVIN YOUNGBLOOD
HART
w/Greg Foresman,
8 p.m., Exit/In \$10 adv.,
\$12 door.

REID RICHMOND
8 p.m., Bunganut Pig,
Murfreesboro.

THE GLORIOUS
RETURN
10 p.m., The Boro Bar &
Grill.

THE LONELY HEARTS
CLUB BLUEGRASS &
ACOUSTIC NIGHT
feat. Stella Parton, Thom
Bresh & Muriel Anderson,
7:30 p.m., Belcourt
Theatre \$20.

THE GOSSIP
w/Slipshat, 9 p.m., The
End \$5.

HONKY TONK VALENTINE'S
DANCE FEAT.
PORTER HALL Tenn.
10 p.m., Faces Restaurant
& Lounge.

THURSDAY, FEB. 15

CRANK LIKE FRANK
10 p.m., The Boro Bar &
Grill.

TRASH 9000
9 p.m., The End \$5.

KENNETH WRIGHT
BAND
8 p.m., Bunganut Pig,
Murfreesboro.

SPLIFF
10 p.m., Sebastian's &
Diana's Brew Pub.

VENUS HUM
w/Swan Dive, 9 p.m.,
Exit/In \$7.

FRIDAY, FEB. 16

AUDITY CENTRAL
feat. DJ Spoon, Mindub &
Chek, 9 p.m., The End \$5.

ST. SOMEWHERE—A
JIMMY BUFFETT TRIB-
UTE
9 p.m., Exit/In \$6.

MINUS ONE
9 p.m., Bunganut Pig,
Murfreesboro \$5.

THE DAVENPORTS
10 p.m., Sebastian's &
Diana's Brew Pub.

A PERFECT CIRCLE
w/Snake River
Conspiracy, 7:30 p.m.,
Municipal, \$25.

MILKBONE
9 p.m.-midnight, Harvey
Washbangers.

JANIE GREY
10 p.m., The Boro Bar &
Grill.

SATURDAY, FEB. 17

DRIVING MISS CRAZY
9 p.m., Bunganut Pig,
Murfreesboro \$5.

DEL BEATLES
9 p.m., Exit/In \$10.

BIG JIM SLADE
w/Vaccine, 9 p.m., The
End \$5.

GOLD ROOM
w/Team Charisma, 10
p.m., The Boro Bar & Grill.

SILENT FRICTION/
ESPOSITO/LIFEBOY
8 p.m., Indinet Record
Shop \$5.

JUNK BUDDHA

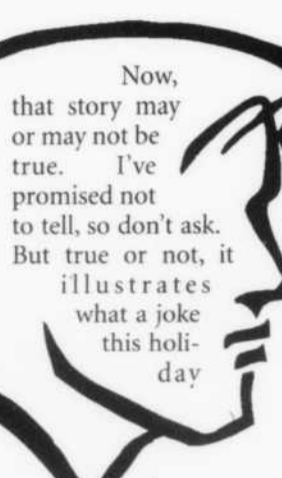
See LINE UP, 7

Why Valentine's is meaningless to me

By Patrick Chinnery
Staff Writer

A few years ago, there was this guy named Patrick who believed his girlfriend when she said that they weren't going to exchange gifts on Valentine's Day. When the magical night came and he showed up at her house empty-handed, he got dumped.

Fast-forward one year: Patrick and the girl are going out again. And, once again, they decide to not buy gifts for Valentine's Day. When the magical night came and he showed up at her house with a necklace, he got lucky.



Now, that story may or may not be true. I've promised not to tell, so don't ask. But true or not, it illustrates what a joke this holiday has become. Girls have been conditioned to expect roses, wining and dining. Guys have been conditioned to provide all those things or face the consequences.

Many people have termed this event a "Hallmark holiday."

The conspiracy of Valentine's Day goes much deeper than just Hallmark; all companies want to make their mint in the market.

There's the American Card Company, Russell Stover, the Kroger discount floral shop and the Necco candy company (the maker of the little hearts that I and millions of others devour by the handful).

Even for those who don't have girlfriends, it's hard to escape the vicious marketing scheme. I offered to take out a female friend who

See From the guy, 7

Valentines of yore Simplicity gone but not forgotten

By Rachel Robinson
Staff Writer

For the longest time, Feb. 14 has struck fear in the hearts of men and put twinkles in the eyes of women. Valentine's Day is the holiday for love and passion. Huge hearts adorn Wal-Mart shopping aisles and jewelry "sales" make incomes stretch.

The earliest memory I have of V-day is from the second grade. Everyone in my class exchanged valentines and made mailboxes out of old shoeboxes. We decorated them and

showed them off. We were proud of our little treasure boxes and how much work we had put into them. And all that hard work paid off on the big day when secret crushes were revealed. Nothing was better than seeing that boy across the room slowly and nervously making his way toward you, valentine in hand. I can only imagine

what the poor guy felt like, but for us girls, it made our hearts flutter. I would even suspect that some of us still have our very first valentine. (I do — yes that's Sap with a capital "S")

Now that years have past, V-day has taken on many different meanings to me. When the fateful day creeps up I do not find any of my childhood fantasies in sight. Instead, I see a country that is bent on the

See From the girl, 7

Literary Liaison

*I Feel Horrible.
She Doesn't*

*I feel horrible. She doesn't
love me and I wander around
like a sewing machine that's
just finished sewing a turd to a
garbage can lid.*

--Richard Brautigan

Casting call in Nashville

By Leslie Carol Boehms
Flash Editor

With the onset of reality-based TV, many have wondered where the eccentric trend began. The answer: MTV's smash-hit *The Real World*.

Bunim and Murray, producers of *The Real World*, will be in Nashville today for an open casting call. Winner will be voted into the 11th season of the show.

The open call will be held at Exit/In, 2208 Elliston Place, in downtown Nashville.

The call will be held from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

For those considering the outing to Nashville, you must first be between the ages of 18 and 24. Also, producers request that you bring a recent photo.

The seven lucky winners chosen

from cities all over the country will be provided with free rent for five summer months. This 11th season of *The Real World* will be held during the summer



months of 2001, the first time the series has ever been shot during

summer. It takes a little bit of courage and a lot of gall to convince these producers who has a *Real World* per-

sonality. A potential candidate must be willing to share their life - all of their life - with millions of viewers. And don't even mention the re-runs.

"We look for characters from real life; people with strong personalities who are unafraid to speak their minds," says Jonathan Murray, an executive producer of *The Real World*.

The casting department at *The Real World* has the job of screening tens of thousands of candidates across the country.

According to executive producer Mary-Ellis Bunim, the greatest challenge of the casting department is to find cast members who "represent a perspective we haven't yet seen on the show."

So if you think you're up for the dissection of *The Real World* experience, be seen at Exit/In today. Word of advice: don't be late! ♦

The vagina speaks A celebration of womanhood

By Rachel Robinson
Staff Writer

Feb. 14 is a special day in the hearts of most women. It's Valentine's Day. This not only means a day to celebrate love, but also a day to celebrate a new hope for women that have been the victims of violence.

V-Day is part of a global decision to end violence against females. Inspired by the idea to end violence against women, the worldwide V-Day movement began Feb. 14, 1998 in New York City. In hopes of raising awareness of the project and money for it, annual theatrical and artistic events are produced in local and international venues.

Nashville's own Vanderbilt University took part in this year's V-Day celebration by hosting Eve Ensler's Obie Award-winning play, *The Vagina Monologues*, at Benton Chapel in the Divinity School Feb. 8-10.

The play, other than having a very catching title, has raised some eyebrows as well as awareness



Pictured above: Eve Ensler, author of the novel and play production of *The Vagina Monologues*.

about rape, incest, genital mutilation and other acts of violence that destroy

many women daily. Six years after the play's debut, it now holds the 1997 Obie

Award and there is a published book ver-

See Vagina, 7

Movie rentals that break hearts

By Zack Hansen
Staff Writer

It's Valentine's Day - the most pointless holiday of the year. What a wonderful time to make single people feel miserable. If you despise this waste of a perfectly good February day as much as I do, rent one of these films and watch it by yourself.

Take comfort in knowing that even in the movies, there's not always a happy Hollywood ending, and you will find your Valentine's Day to be much more satisfying.

So, if you find a crappy love story satisfying, read my top five worst love story video rentals, pick the one most applicable, pop some popcorn, get a beer and enjoy the misery.

Five: *Casablanca*

After seeing this film for the first time, one never forgets Rick telling Ilsa that she absolutely has to get on that plane. Even though it is something he doesn't want her to do, it must happen, no matter how painful the consequences may be. If she really loved him, it would make sense that she would've defied his orders and stayed with him.

One can easily picture Rick sitting by himself at a bar, drowning his sorrows in cheap liquor for the rest of his life.

Four: *Manhattan*

Woody Allen's best film opens with him dating an underage girl whom he truly loves. He knows she is young, however, and should have the chance to live her life and

fall in love with men her own age. He ends the relationship and she is crushed. After he begins seeing other women, with little success, he realizes he really loves the young woman. But, by this point, it is too late.

This film is a prime example of how women manipulate the minds and hearts of men and ruin their lives in the process.

Three: *Being John Malkovich*

When a puppeteer takes over the body of John Malkovich, he is loved by a woman who won't accept him as he "normally" is. Everything he does is for her, and yet, she continues to use him, giving false affection in return. His final fate is to inhabit body after body - wishing he could be with her until the end of time.

This movie shows how even though a woman can appear to be quite loving, underneath may exist a deceitful greedy beast that consumes the souls of men.

Two: *The End of the Affair*

As this film proves, any movie whose opening line is "this is a story of hate" will be a truly depressing one. In it, a writer embarks on a passionate affair with the wife of one of his friends. When she calls it off, he goes in search of the reason for the breakup. To him, the quickness with which love has been transformed into animosity is unfathomable.

This is another instance of how a woman can make a man feel as if he is her everything, and then drop him without explanation.

See Rental, 7

Rentals:

Continued from 6

One: *The Umbrellas of Cherbourg*

This is absolutely the saddest love story ever filmed. It is a French film from 1964, in which every line of dialogue is sung. It starts out as the basic boy and girl in a love movie - the boy must go off to war and so on. He returns and discovers she has married someone she doesn't love. Then, he sadly goes on to do the same.

Here is a case of trust being totally insignificant in a supposedly loving relationship. For anyone who has been betrayed by a lover, this is an excellent film to relate to. ♦



Line Up:

Continued from 6

10 p.m., Sebastian s & Diana s Brew Pub.

SUNDAY, FEB. 18

GRAND THEFT AUDIO
7 p.m., 328 Performance Hall Tickets \$5.

MONDAY, FEB. 19

JONATHAN BIRCHFIELD
8 p.m., Bunganut Pig, Murfreesboro.

TUESDAY, FEB. 20

PROJECT 1
10 p.m., Sebastian s & Diana s Brew Pub.

MOSTLY JOHN
8:30 p.m., The Boro Bar & Grill.

The Vagina Monologues:

Continued from 6

sion.

Monologues is based on Ensler's interviews with hundreds of women with a variety of backgrounds, including gay, straight, young, old, black, white, rich and poor. The responses to Ensler's questions cover an abundance of topics involving the basic biology of a woman, sexual abuse, childbirth, orgasm and even the avoidance of the "V" word.

Some of the questions asked to the women included, "If your vagina got dressed, what would it wear?" Obviously, the answers were broad and produced a spark in the reader. That same spark is produced throughout the play.

The play was originally produced as a solo work, but since its debut Hollywood starlets such as Claire Danes, Brook Shields, Calista Flockhart, Nell Carter, Alanis Morissette, Brett Butler and Rosie Perez have graced the stage in the performance. Vanderbilt's production includes 13 actresses from the Actors Bridge, ranging in ages from 19 to 60.

Although the play's concept

of celebrating womanhood is not new, the way in which it is presented is.

Vali Forrister, who co-directs Vandy's production with Elizabeth Bell, says, "We all enter the world through the vagina. It's not a word we use very often. But until we are proud of it, we won't embrace ourselves fully."

Unfortunately, by the time this is published, the play will have already had its run at Vanderbilt. The only thing this writer can offer is information about the play and encouragement to see it at any cost. *The Vagina Monologues* is not just a play for females. Men, who are brave enough to see it, will leave the theater with a renewed appreciation for the female gender. If this rare treat ever comes to Nashville again - pray it does- every woman should make plans to see it. If you're one of the many men that still find the female persuasion hard to figure out, find some guts and explore the monologues of vaginas.

For more information about V-Day or *The Vagina Monologues* visit www.vday.org or www.broadway.com. ♦

Valentine from the guy:

Continued from 6

was recently dumped, so she wouldn't feel lonely (and because she looks incredible in her black dress). One night out is going to cost me well over \$125. I feel sorry for the people who have full-time significant others.

There are occasionally those who can buck the system and I applaud them for it. I have a good friend who, to protect what reputation he has built for himself, we'll call "Alex." Alex has got it figured out. Each year, once those candy hearts hit the stores, he heads to Kroger, picks a small bag off the shelf and heads to the bathroom, where he sits in a toilet stall and eats them. Sure, it's petty larceny, but it's beating the system.

One year, Alex took his anti-Valentine's plan a step farther. He laid out his plan for me one night: "I'm going to start flirting with someone in the middle of January, be dating them by the middle of

February, and we'll get each other great gifts. Then, I'll dump her the next week."

"But Alex, won't you have to buy her a gift?" I replied.

"Nah, I'll get my mom to pay for hers."

Sure enough, that's exactly how it went.

Looking back, I suppose Alex should be condemned, not condoned, but at least he...well, never mind, he's a jerk. I digress.

Valentine's Day brings out the best, or the worst, of everyone. The day encourages materialism and lying. Whether it's your girlfriend saying she doesn't want anything or an a-hole like Alex carrying out his master plan.

Love can, and should be, expressed on uncelebrated days like June 18 and October 2. Florists are just as, if not more, eager to sell a dozen roses in August than they are this month. So, head off the beaten path, deal with the consequences and celebrate your true love another day. ♦

Valentine from the girl:

Continued from 6

notion of this Hallmark holiday. I don't mean to sound cruel or bitter, but Valentine's Day is too commercial.

I guess when I think about it, the holiday always has been a market booster, but throughout the years, it has lost its simplicity. I know a few girls who would be insulted if they didn't get flowers for V-day, but I also have friends with significant others that don't celebrate the day.

I just wonder why one day has to be singled out for love. Why not everyday? And what about us single gals and guys? It's an outcast holiday for us.

I am guilty though. Every year I become a victim of the

Hallmark disease. I make little gift bags for my friends or goodie baskets for family in celebration of the big day. But, every year these gifts are hand-made and personalized, not typical and generic.

This is what Valentine's Day means to me. Working hard for my treasure box and then giving it away. All of the preparation and thought that goes into each gift makes them special.

I'm obviously not boycotting V-day, and the way I preach about it may sound hypocritical, but I feel like the holiday has lost its genuineness. I believe the few of us that still cherish V-day should bring it back and not forget it again. ♦

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Avoid a date with this 'Valentine'

By Steven Murden
Staff Writer

During Hollywood's recent revival of horror films, there have been few that have had the potential to stand the test of time. Prior to viewing *Valentine*, the latest edition to the generation X pile of scary movies, I had hoped for just such a film. However, as I watched the feature, I was left unsatisfied until the final moments.

The opening of the film is scary enough with its flashback to a junior high dance and all the generic hair spray and styles of the late '80s.

It depicts the horrible cruelty a young boy endures at the hands of his classmates. The events of that night leave him emotionally scarred and eventually turn him into *Valentine's* cupid masked murderer.

This is perhaps the most frightening aspect of the film because everyone has either been on the giving or receiving end of such malice.

Like most films, *Valentine's* plot is exhaustively unoriginal

- a scorned lover returns to take his revenge, yah-da, yah-da, blood, guts and all that. The movie's only saving grace is its Valentine's Day twist. The killer taunts his victims, five post-college women, with maggot filled candies and sadistically poetic cards that, for example, read "Love is an arduous trek, especially with blood flowing from your neck." How terrifyingly romantic.

Are you scared yet? The killer is even arrogant enough to initial his valentine and reveal his identity as the "loser" from the junior high dance. His ominous presence as the murderer - black clothing and unemotional cupid mask - is strangely reminiscent of Halloween's ever-silent killer Michael Myers.

As the film rolls on, the ladies line up, one by one for their horrifically predictable deaths that, surprisingly, climax at a Valentine's Day party.

Director Jamie Blanks shot a blank as he attempted to build tension with murders so

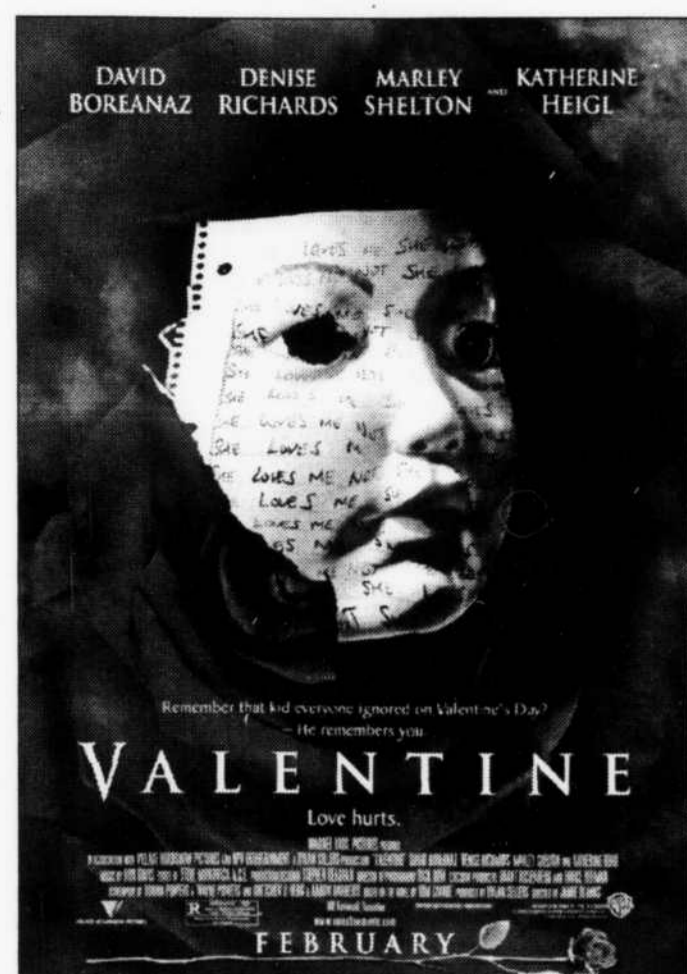
precisely timed that you could set your watch by them.

Valentine's characters, most notably played by Marley Shelton of *Sugar & Spice*, Denise Richards of *Wild Things*, and David Boreanaz of TV's *Angel*, might as well wave goodbye to each other and the audience each time they become isolated or enter a dark room.

Valentine had the potential to be quite frightening, however, its use of the typical formula for slasher genre movies killed those chances (No pun intended).

In a last ditch effort to "Wow!" audiences, the director saves the best for last.

Only seconds before the credits roll, *Valentine* shocks audiences with a revelation that leaves the fate of its survivors uncertain. Though this is a fantastic and original ending. It makes me take back what I said before. *Valentine's* final seconds are its scariest, because now we know there's going to be a sequel. ♦



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Top 10 best Valentine's Day gifts

By Rachel Robinson
Staff Writer

Top 10 lists are over done, but not all of the lists are the same. This list promises to help you find that perfect gift for your sweetie this year and also gives some pointers for what you just shouldn't do. If you can bare one more top 10, then take notes - here are the Top 10 Best Valentine's Gifts.

10. Jewelry. Calm down, this doesn't mean it has to cost next semester's tuition. Silvery jewelry is very popular right now and extremely inexpensive. I suggest going to an antique store for a piece with a true story behind it, or better yet, make one. Get creative with it.

9. Flowers. Roses, daisies,

wildflowers - whatever tickles your (or your sweetie's) fancy. The more unusual and unexpected, the more memorable.

8. A genuine date. This means any date, but it only involves the two of you. You can go all out with expenses, or kick back with a video. Remember, actions speak louder!

7. Redeemable love coupons. You make a booklet of favors that you know your significant other would enjoy (backrubs, a #8, a free car wash, etc.). Then, they get to redeem them at their will.

6. A home-cooked meal. This means you cook for them. (For extra creativity combine #'s 6-8) Become chef for the evening. Cook their favorite entrée, get a nice bottle of wine

(or a 2-liter) and don't forget dessert. For a flawless meal, experiment before the big night.

5. A calendar. It sounds corny but listen. Take the best 12 pictures of you, or the both of you, to Kinkos. For about \$20 they will create a calendar with one photo gracing each month. This gift truly keeps on giving all year long.

4. An original painting by you. This one is simple. Either you can draw or you can't. If this one just isn't doable with your artistic merit, skip to #3. Otherwise, make your sugar some new fridge art.

3. A love letter/poem. This is definitely the original expression of love. Words last forever. Don't be generic, be original. If your writing ability isn't top

notch, get one off the Internet, but re-type it and put it in a pretty frame. Don't forget to explain that you tried to write an original, but this one said exactly what you wanted to, only better.

2. A love mailbox. Probably one of the most inexpensive, yet personal gifts. Get a unique glass container and tear 30 strips of colorful paper. On each one write a trait about your sweetie that you love and put them in the container. Everyday they can read one. Trust me, your significant other (especially girls) will melt with this one.

1. Yourself. Sounds easy huh? If you really care about this person, just be yourself and give completely to the relationship: devotion, trust, hope - all

of it. This is the all around gift. Meaning it's good for friends as well as sweethearts. Relationships need to be built on honesty, so tear down your walls.

Love for anyone is worth the risks.

The worst thing you could ever give someone is false appreciation. Little things still count in the game of love. The best gift I ever received was from one of my best friends. It was a paper towel piece with a picture of a rose on it. I can't speak for guys, but most girls will love anything you give them. Just remember to be creative and simple.

There is no need to stress over something that's suppose to come from the heart. ♦

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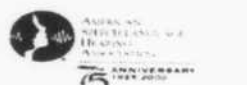
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Hunny Bunny.

Katrina,
Thank you for being a special part of my life. I hope your days are as good as the days we've shared. May all of your dreams come true!
Happy Valentine's Day!

Charvis,
"Love thyself, put no one above thee, can't nobody love me like I love me"
C-Vo

Mom,
I wish I could be there to spend this day with you, but since I can't, I want you to know that every day, you are my Valentine.
Happy Valentine's Day! I love you.
Kris

To Kyle,
Happy Valentine's Day! I love you (Sweet Pea).
Mom

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Summar: New breed of country

By Becky Currey
Staff Writer

When you picture country music, images of Garth Brooks, Hank Williams, Jr. and George Jones often come to mind.

A new breed of country music, from this heritage, can be found in the music of Trent Summar and the New Row Mob. The band's recently released self-titled CD continues to redefine the boundaries of country and rock'n roll music. With a clever blend of old southern values and upbeat rock music, Summar continues in the current trend of crossing over from country to pop music.

Trent Summar, a resident of Tennessee, has been in the music arena for many years. His talent was first discovered in the third grade, where he was picked by his music teacher to sing "Thank God I'm a

Country Boy." He has previously released an album with his former band, Hank Flamingo. Hank Flamingo's album received positive reviews, earning them an appearance on the Conan O' Brian show and a moderately successful video which aired in moderate rotation on Country Music Television.

The new album runs about thirty minutes and contains many stand out tracks. The tracks are short, yet are very upbeat and fun. Summar wrote the majority of the tracks using past hits.

Summar's vocal style is very similar to country artist Aaron Tippin's and the popular duo Brooks and Dunn. Summar is very gifted and pays particular tribute to his home state on the final track, "Lookout Mountain." Other standout tracks include "The Beat Don't Ever Stop," "Be So Blue," and

the album's first single "New Money."

The album's upbeat feel helps it fit into the current trend of rock'n country. Trent Summar and the New Row Mob are one in a long line of artists who have succeeded in the country-pop crossover.

Summar and the Mob are currently on tour celebrating and supporting the release of their new album. Before seeing them, buy the CD and earn a little appreciation for the music. It's a great addition to any CD collection and will turn anyone into a country fan, whether they like country music or not.

In addition to being a great CD, the music shows how fun



life is, and how important one's background and home really are. Summar has a musical gift that he has fun sharing with others.

Overall, the music is great and fun to listen to when you get bored or want to have a little fun. Summar has done, and continues to do, a great job displaying his feelings in the music he loves and lives by.

Trent Summar and the New Row Mob is worth just a one-time listen, but is still great to have in any collection. ♦

Last minute ideas for Valentine's fun

By Kristy Adams
Staff Writer

It's Valentine's Day. The holiday that everyone either dreads or bases their whole existence on. Have you made plans yet? For all you single people, don't waste another Valentine's Day being depressed and lonely. Here are some suggestions to occupy that time without a significant other.

1. Go to Bongo Johnny's. Every Wednesday is college night where students only pay \$5. For those of you that are legal, they have penny drafts all night long. They're not doing anything special for couples, so singles shouldn't feel uncomfortable.

2. Rent a funny movie. What you need is a laugh, so no romance/happy-ending flicks. How about Dumb and Dumber? With that movie you won't feel like you're the only one striking out for a date. Invite some single friends. Movies are always better with a crowd.

3. Have a girls/guys night out. Forget the opposite sex! Who needs them when you've got true friends that won't break

your heart? Girls- have a slumber party-lounge around in your pajamas, fixing each other's hair and listening to "Independent Women." Guys- Go to a sports bar. Watch some basketball, then play your own game in the backyard. You should even place bets. After all, it is a holiday and you have a single life to celebrate and enjoy.

4. Play hide-and-go-seek in Wal-Mart. It's a big store and there's plenty of good hiding places. Make it challenging - like you can only hide in departments that start with one of the letters in your name.

5. Indulge yourself. Make this a night for you and you alone. Take a bubble bath. Order your favorite sundae at Baskin Robbins. Buy that certain CD you've been wanting. Push aside those reasons why you haven't been treating yourself. No one deserves to be pampered more than you.

For those of you who are planning a date but just don't know that special something to do, here's some ideas.

1. Make dinner together. Wear some old clothes and make a mess. Have a food fight in the process. All your fun and hard work

can then be rewarded with your favorite meal. Not only will it be a special Valentine's Day, but you'll also have your personally created meal.

2. Dress up in your finest and go downtown. You'll look and feel important and special. This will also give you a chance to wear your old prom dress or suit. While you're downtown, take a buggy ride or ride the carousel at Riverfront Park.

3. Hold a scavenger hunt. Distribute notes around town, sending your significant other on a wild goose chase until they find you at a memorable spot (i.e. where you kissed for the first time).

4. Write a compliment letter. What better time to tell someone what you like best about them. People love getting compliments, especially from that special someone. It's more meaningful than a flower or candy.

5. Take a picnic. I realize it's a little cold outside, so do it inside.

If you didn't previously have any plans for this romantic holiday, I hope I've given you some ideas. Date or no date, I wish you the best Valentine's Day possible. ♦

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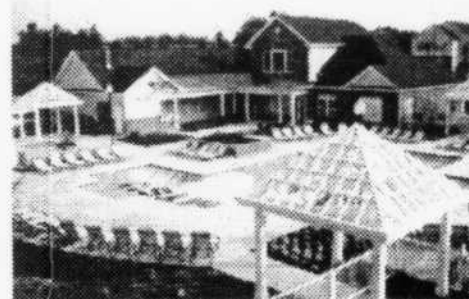


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