



# SIDELINES



Volume 75, No. 15

MIDDLE TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY

Murfreesboro, TN

## Close parking limited for first home game

Heather C. Whitehead  
Staff Reporter

MTSU is expecting 27,000 fans or more to attend the university's first Division 1-A home game against Wofford College at 4 p.m. Saturday. So where are all those fans going to park?

"There will be ample spaces to park," said Roy Brewer, security officer supervisor, "but anything close to the stadium will be packed."

**See page 5B for a complete preview of Saturday's game.**

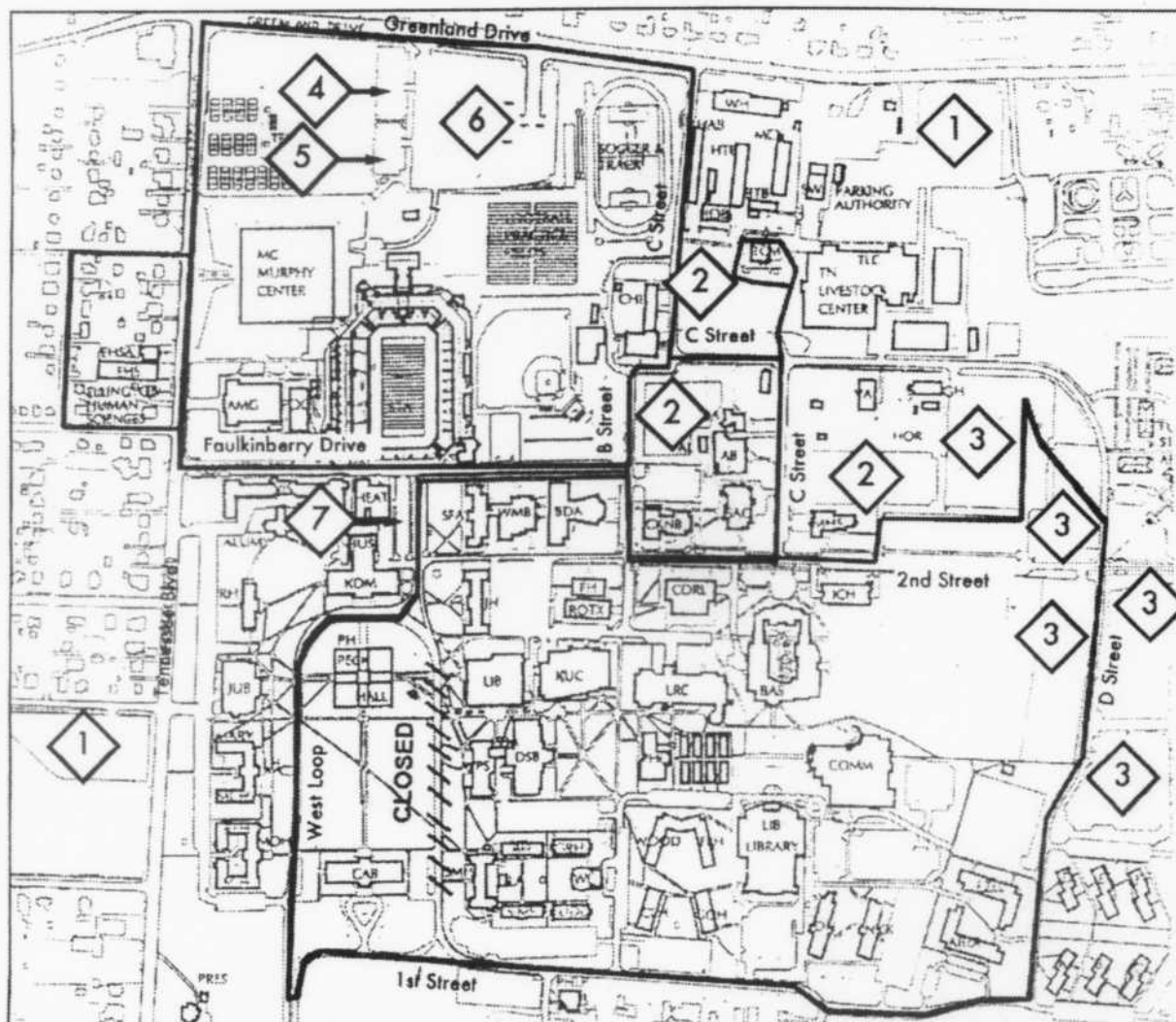
Brewer also advised that fans grow accustomed to entering the university from Rutherford Boulevard and searching for available parking on the east side of campus.

Brewer said there will be no organized off-campus parking with shuttle bus service to the stadium this year. He said this will not be necessary, since there were empty parking spaces still left on campus last year when there was a shuttle bus service.

"There is plenty of parking on campus, as long as fans realize that they may have to walk a short distance to the stadium," Brewer said.

Faulkinberry Drive will be closed at both the Tennessee Boulevard and A Street entrances.

"All the Blue Raider Athletic Association members have



Lot 1: General public parking.

Lot 2: General public parking.

Lot 3: General public parking.

Lot 4: Media and athletic staff parking.

Faulkinberry Drive will be accessible from Tennessee Avenue only to team buses and emergency vehicles.

Lot 5: Parking for persons with disabilities.

Lot 6: Parking for BRAA members.

Lot 7: Parking for sky-suite holders.

reserved parking," said Ty Coppinger, director of the Blue Raider Athletic Association (BRAA).

The Greenland Drive parking lot will be reserved for BRAA members.

The parking lot adjacent to the Middletown Business Building will be

reserved for leaseholders of the 15 BRAA sky suites, located on the stadium's top level.

Sky-suite leaseholders are individuals and corporations who rent the private suites in return for donations to the BRAA.

Meanwhile, portions of the Greenland Drive parking lots will

be reserved for handicapped parking, media and athletic staff.

The easiest way for other ticket-holders to get in and out of campus will be on 2nd Street off of Rutherford Boulevard.

Fans will find open parking in

See **PARKING**, page 3A

## Man pulls knife on student

Jamie Evans  
Staff Reporter

A female student allegedly was attacked yesterday while walking to her car in the parking lot behind the John Bragg Mass Communications Building at approximately 10:15 a.m., according to MTSU Public Safety.

The student had just reached her car when she was approached by a man with a knife. She screamed for help after seeing another student close by, and the man fled.

"We're not real sure what the intentions were at this point," said Roy Brewer, security officer supervisor.

The student reported the incident 30 minutes after it happened. Brewer said she apparently left the scene and went home before reporting the incident to Public Safety.

"As of yet, we have not turned up any leads or suspects," he said.

Public Safety officers are looking for a white male in his 20s, with brown to dark brown hair and a goatee. The suspect was approximately 5'11" and 185 pounds.

The report said he was wearing blue jeans, a dark shirt (blue or black), work boots and a dark fishing hat. The knife had a single blade with a brown handle.

Brewer said Public Safety officers are very interested in anyone fitting that description between the hours of 9 - 11 a.m. in the Mass Communication Building or Recreation Center area.

Anyone with information should call Public Safety at 898-2424.

## Speaker says global village popular again

R. Colin Fly  
Staff Reporter

Professor Gary Wolf will speak in the Honors Lecture Series this Monday about the life, times and views of Marshall McLuhan.

lecture, which will take place at 3:40 p.m. in Peck Hall 109A.

Technological determinism is the concept that technology determines social changes and our own actions.

The question the lecture title poses has two possible answers, Wolf explained. The first is in the

## Library switches to new web-based catalog system

Kelley Ferguson  
Staff Reporter

Voyager, the new on-line catalog system for accessing books and journals in the library, made its debut on the MTSU campus the first week of classes.

"We are hoping to make the student's lives

easier," said Diane Baird, user services librarian at the MTSU University Library.

Voyager is a web based system, which enables students to find books and journals through a process similar to surfing the web. The program is located online at <http://voyager.mtsu.edu>.

Students also have the option to print or e-mail the catalog information from Voyager,

Baird said.

"It is incredibly easy to use," said junior Jene Davidson, a criminal justice major.

Baird encourages student input regarding the new system. A suggestion box is available on the MTSU homepage under MTSU library, then found by following the Services and Information link.

"I've heard good things," Baird said. "Some don't like it, but some do. We would like to have student input. I hope we can continue to improve it."

In the future, students will be able to link to other web pages from Voyager.

"The ability to link is what most people will find beneficial," said Baird.

Users can also be notified through e-mail when books are overdue and receive other library notices.

Baird also states that students will find Voyager easy because the instructions are on the screen where one can point and click to attain information. The old system, PALS, relied on command prompts.

Voyager is an Endeavor Information Systems product. A MTSU committee spent a year writing specifications they felt would benefit MTSU.

"Voyager is personalized to the university," Baird said. "We went through the possibilities and choices to make it our own."

The Library of Congress, East Tennessee State University and the Natural History Museum in New York all have catalog systems similar to that of MTSU.

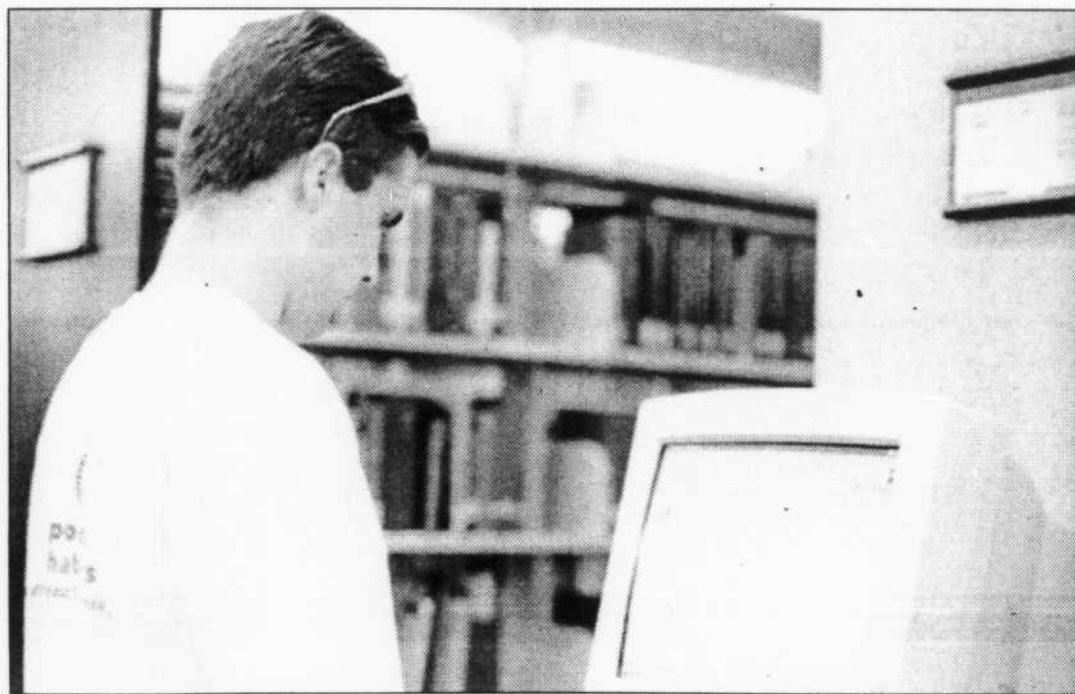
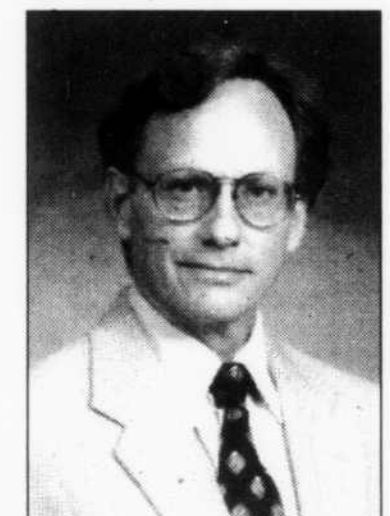


Photo by Claudia Lombardo

A student uses Voyager, the library's new catalog system, to search for a book.

**Lecture:**  
**"Technological Determinism: Was Marshall McLuhan Correct?"**  
**Gary Wolf**  
**September 20**  
**3:40 p.m.**  
**Peck Hall 109A**

Wolf, a former journalist, will discuss "Technological Determinism: Was Marshall McLuhan Correct?" in the



Wolf

eyes of academia, and the second is among media scholars.

"In the 1960s, Marshall McLuhan was accepted as a prophet of future media," Wolf said. "Academia set out to discredit him because they did not read or understand him."

McLuhan, a former literature professor, became vastly unpopular. However, with the advent of the Internet, his ideas of a global village are becoming popular once again.

"The new electronic interdependence recreates the world in the image of a global village," McLuhan wrote in his 1967 book, "The Medium is the Message."

The lecture will tell of McLuhan's life, some of his ideas

See **MCLUHAN**, page 3A

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### SPORTS

Lady Raider Hailee Walsh wins OVC Player of the Week. See page 5B.

### FEATURES

Feeling ripped off by campus bookstores? Try the online alternative. See page 1B.

### WEATHER FORECAST



THURSDAY  
SUNNY  
HI 80/LO 51



FRIDAY  
SUNNY  
HI 76/ LO 48



SATURDAY  
SUNNY  
HI 76/LO 54



# On Campus

compiled by  
Wesley Bush

to submit an announcement for On Campus, come by the James Union Building Room 308.

## Sept. 13-21

The Student Government Association will hold three mandatory meetings for those interested in competing in Homecoming events. The meetings will be held each Tuesday at 5:30 p.m. in KUC 322. For further information, come by the SGA office (KUC 208) or call 898-2464.

## Sept. 16

A Sacred Harp Singing School will be held in the Music Hall of the Wright Music Building from 11 a.m. to noon. For more information, call Stephen Shearon at 898-5984.

Middle Tennessee Students of Objectivism will hold a video-lecture, "Introduction to Objectivism", by Dr. Leonard Peikoff, at 7 p.m. in KUC 313. For more information, contact Luc Travers by phone at 898-9531 or by e-mail at mtso99@aol.com

## Sept. 18

Campus Recreation is sponsoring a Backwoods Mini-Triathlon at 9 a.m. Students may compete alone or as a team of up to four. The cost is \$10 for students and \$15 for guests. Competitors should arrive at 8:30 a.m. For further information, contact Campus Recreation at 898-2104.

## Sept. 19

Campus Recreation is sponsoring a rafting trip on the Ocoee River. Students, faculty and staff who are interested should contact Mitch or Sean at the Campus Recreation Center or call 898-2104. The cost is \$20, and only 18 rafters will be accepted for each date.

## Sept. 20

MTSU's chapter of the Society of Professional Journalists will meet to welcome new members and show how America's largest network of working print and broadcast reporters work to serve journalism, its practitioners and the freedoms under which they work. The meeting is from 5 to 6 p.m. in Mass Comm, Room 104. For more information, call Kevin Koelling at

904-8193.

## Sept. 21-22

The Golden Key National Honor Society will hold two chapter meetings at 5:30 p.m. in Room 105 of the Cason-Kennedy Nursing Building. Contact Jenny Crouch at 898-2815 for more information.

## ONGOING

Volunteers are needed for Homecoming preparation and Homecoming week. Anyone interested should call 898-2464 or come by the SGA office in KUC 208.

The peer education program (SHARE) is currently accepting applications for the 1999-2000 school year. Applications can be picked up in KUC 303. Those interested may also call the peer education office at 898-5453 for more info.

Lambda Association welcomes new students and invites all to attend meetings every Tuesday night at 7:00 p.m. in BAS S118. Contact Talia Elwell at 907-2195 or visit the website at [www.mtsu.edu/~mtlmbda](http://www.mtsu.edu/~mtlmbda).

MTSU Rugby Football Club invites interested students to attend practices every Tuesday and Thursday at 5:30 p.m. across from Circle K on Main Street. No experience necessary. The "Moosemen" were the 1999 Southern Champions and ranked ninth in the nation last year. Call Evan or Todd at 907-5075 for further information.

MTSU Women's Rugby invites interested students to attend practices every Tuesday and Thursday at 6:30 p.m. at the intramural fields. For additional information, contact Stacey Venanzio at 893-1786.

Campus Crusade for Christ will hold CRU, its weekly meeting, on Thursdays at 7:30 p.m. in LRC 221. Everyone is welcome to attend. For more information, call Rich Humphrey at 896-2039 or e-mail him at [rich.humphrey@uscm.org](mailto:rich.humphrey@uscm.org).



## World News

### Pope says elderly must be treated with dignity

VATICAN CITY (AP) — Stressing the need to respect human life, Pope John Paul II said Wednesday that the elderly must be treated with dignity and love. The pope, at his general audience in St. Peter's Square, welcomed participants from a convention at a Catholic university in Rome studying ways to combat euthanasia. Opposition to euthanasia has been a major theme of his papacy. John Paul told the group that he hoped the meeting would help spread the message that the "inalienable rights of the human being" must be respected, including those in the "evening" of their lives.

### Former Mexican anti-drug prosecutor commits suicide

MEXICO CITY (AP) — Mexico's former top drug prosecutor committed suicide Wednesday in the United States, where he faced money-laundering charges, his lawyer said in Mexico City. Mario Ruiz Massieu, who had been under house arrest in New Jersey since 1996 while battling extradition, was charged in a Houston court last month with laundering \$9.9 million in suspected drug payoffs during his term as assistant attorney general. Lawyer Javier Olea Pelaez, speaking to a local radio station, did not give details of the suicide. The Mexican government had accused Ruiz Massieu, 48, of covering up the 1994 slaying of his brother, a ruling-party leader, while accepting millions in bribes from drug traffickers.

### North Korea earns \$1 billion a year in missile exports

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — North Korea has sold at least 490 Soviet-style Scud missiles to Pakistan, India and Middle Eastern countries since 1991, a South Korean scholar said Wednesday. The sales have earned the Asian country \$1 billion a year in badly needed cash, said Kim Chul-hwan, a professor at the Korean National Defense University. "North Korea builds missiles for exports," he said at an international seminar. Washington has identified North Korea as the world's No. 1 exporter of missile equipment and technology. This week, the North's government pledged to freeze testing of its long-range missiles during talks with the U.S. on improving relations. Kim said North Korea completed plants in 1991 that enable the country to produce up to 150 Scud-B and Scud-C missiles a year.



## National News

### Hurricane Floyd hits North Carolina, Georgia coasts

COCOA BEACH, Fla. (AP) — Coastal residents from Georgia to North Carolina braced Wednesday as Hurricane Floyd — somewhat weakened but still fearsome — thrashed along the coast, whipping rain through deserted streets and pounding beaches with heavy surf. Thousands of Florida residents were without power, but the state escaped the worst as the hurricane turned onto a path aimed at the Carolinas. North Carolina's Outer Banks were ordered evacuated for the second time this month. The storm weakened slightly yesterday morning to a Category 3 storm, with sustained wind blowing at 125 mph instead of the peak of nearly 155 mph when it battered the Bahamas.

### Hackers infiltrate Nasdaq, Amex Internet sites

WASHINGTON (AP) — Computer hackers vandalized the Internet sites early Wednesday for Nasdaq and the American Stock Exchange in a bold electronic affront to the world's financial markets. A group calling itself "United Loan Gunmen," infiltrated the computer running the Web sites for Nasdaq and Amex just after midnight. It was extraordinarily unlikely the hackers would have been able to manipulate any financial data within the exchanges. Nasdaq recently acquired the American Stock Exchange. "Our sites are working perfectly," spokesman Scott Peterson said. "We take these allegations seriously, and we are investigating these claims."

### DOE announces preliminary findings, corrective actions

EVANSVILLE, Ind. (AP) — The Paducah, Ky., Gaseous Diffusion Plant has its problems, but nothing serious enough to pose a current risk to plant workers or the general public, according to a team of investigators from the U.S. Department of Energy. The team, which recently spent time at the western Kentucky plant, reported that its preliminary findings also indicate that general radiation risks are low and radiation-protection programs have improved during the past decade. Energy Secretary Bill Richardson said Tuesday. "At the same time, we don't have to wait for their final report to start work on corrective actions in the areas where the team has identified room for improvement," he said in a statement. Energy officials in Washington discussed the findings during a teleconference with reporters Tuesday.



## State News

### Feds say Tenn. may be illegally funding nursing homes

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP) — The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services says Tennessee uses an "impermissible tax" to fund its Medicaid nursing program. This means the state may have to repay \$800 million or more in federal matching funds. In a Sept. 1 letter to TennCare Director Brian Lapps, HHS officials notified the state that Tennessee's \$2.600-per-bed nursing home tax, together with its system of \$2.600 "Granny Grants" to qualified non-Medicaid nursing home residents, is illegal. HHS intends to send a team of auditors to determine how much the state must repay the federal government, according to the letter from Sally Richardson, director of Medicaid and State Operations for HHS.

### Chattanooga couple travels to Tenn. River to study its health

CHATTANOOGA, Tenn. (AP) — A Chattanooga couple have set out on the Tennessee River in their homemade boat for their annual study of the waterway's biological health. Leaf and Cielo Myczak left Tuesday aboard their 30-foot boat, Broadened Horizons, for a 1,200-mile journey to the Ohio River. They have made the two-month trip each year for the past 10 years. The Myczaks said awareness of the river's environmental needs has improved, but conditions have been strained by increased use and development. This summer's drought has made conditions worse, they said.

### TVA scaling back debt repayments for more power

KNOXVILLE, Tenn. (AP) — The Tennessee Valley Authority will use money that could have gone to retiring its \$26 billion debt instead to buy new electric capacity and air pollution controls for its coal-fired power plants. TVA Chairman Craven Crowell, as the only sitting member on TVA's three-member board, approved the move Wednesday as part of TVA's \$6.7 billion budget for fiscal 2000. He said the tradeoff is worth it. The valley's economy is booming and it needs TVA's electricity, which had a record-setting, near-capacity summer. TVA adopted a debt reduction plan in 1997 and a rate increase aimed at cutting TVA's long-term borrowings in half by 2007 — to about \$13 billion. The goal was to cut interest expenses that consumed as much as 37 cents of every dollar TVA earned in power sales. The goal, still, is to get that down to about 25 cents by 2001.

# Attention: Students, Staff, & Faculty

The University Rules Committee annually reviews MTSU's promulgated institutional rules. This material appears in the 1999-2000 edition of the Student Rights & Responsibilities publication. Proposals for changes to existing rules, or for the creation of new rules, must be submitted no later than September 28, 1999, to Dr. David Hays (MTSU Box 30). Regulations appearing in the MTSU Traffic & Parking Rules pamphlet are also a part of the University's institutional rules. Proposed additions or changes in these rules must be submitted to Ms. Connie Hagberg (MTSU Box 147), also no later than September 12, 1999.

Proposals are to be typed and must contain the following information: (1) the text of the rule as it now appears; (2) the text of the rule as proposed; and (3) a statement of rationale which supports the proposed change. Item (1) should be disregarded if the proposal is for a new rule.

The Rules Committee will conduct an organizational meeting on September 21, 1999, in Room 212, KUC. Subsequent meetings of the Rules Committee will be announced via Sidelines and on All-In-One.

## SENIORS AND GRADUATE STUDENTS CAREER PLACEMENT ORIENTATION

*You're Graduating— Now the Job Search Begins*

### Resume Writing and Interview Preparation

Thursday, Sept. 16, 3:00pm, KUC 316  
Monday, Sept. 20, 11:00am, KUC 322

Sponsored by the MTSU Placement Center  
KUC 328, 898-2500

Studies show that damage from the sun to a child's skin can actually increase the odds that they will develop skin cancer as adults. In fact, it is estimated that 80% of a person's total lifetime sun exposure occurs in the first 18 years of life. So protect your children. Keep them out of the sun during midday. Cover them up. Give them hats. And teach them to use sunscreen. For more information, call 1-888-462-DEEM or visit [www.aad.org](http://www.aad.org).



AMERICAN ACADEMY OF DERMATOLOGY

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*Think you ought to be in pictures?*

## Ford Model Search

Friday, September 17

Center Court • 6:30 p.m.

The Ford Model Agency's New Faces Director from New York will interview aspiring models for:

Children's Division (ages 5 - 12)  
Men's Division (ages 13 and up) • Women's Division (ages 13 and up)  
Bring a recent photograph and complete a short application.  
Applications are available at the mall office and Customer Service Desk.

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MALL

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Hours: Mon. - Sat., 10 a.m. - 9 p.m.; Sun. 12 - 6 p.m.

Great  
shopping.  
Only  
better.





# State's ACT scores lower than national average

Rachel Pickel  
Staff Reporter

The clock is ticking and pencils are sharpened, but if you are a Tennessee student taking a standardized test, the odds may be against you.

Of all U.S. high school students who took the ACT college entrance exam this year, only four states scored below Tennessee.

Tennessee's average score this year was 19.9, which is slightly higher than last year's state average.

Although the score is higher than those of Louisiana, Mississippi, South Carolina and North Carolina, it is considerably lower than the national average of 21.

Dennis Gailbreath, MTSU's assistant director of career counseling and standardized testing, says this may not be cause to worry.

"There are several factors you must consider when looking at statistics such as these," Gailbreath said.

First of all, in Tennessee this year 77 percent of students took the ACT exam whereas nationally, only 33

percent of students take the test.

"The low scoring could be due largely in part to the high numbers of students in Tennessee who take the test," Gailbreath said.

Gailbreath said that in most states, the ACT exam is optional.

Therefore, in many cases only college-bound students choose to take the test.

In Tennessee, however, students are required to take the ACT exam if they are not enrolled in a vocational program, often causing the average to fall.

Gailbreath says that the scores at MTSU are generally higher than the state average, but it is hard to make an accurate comparison when you have some states such as New Jersey, where the average score was 20.7 but only 4 percent of students took the test as compared to Mississippi, where the average score was 18.7 but 80 percent of the students took the test.

For students who must take the ACT or another standardized test again, MTSU does offer help. Contact the Continuing Studies department in Room 113 of the Cope Administration Building, or call 898-2462. ■

# Sex offending students may have to register with campus

Jennifer Tzall  
San Diego State University

Existing law requires any person who has been convicted of a sexual offense to register with their local police as a sex offender for the rest of their life.

Assembly Bill 1193, will extend this law to include any out-of-state person working, attending or residing at a University of California, California State University or any community college.

The bill, introduced Feb. 26 by Assemblyman Bill Leonard (R- Rancho Cucamonga), was approved Sept. 1 by a 32-0 vote by the State Senate, where it was amended.

It was later sent back to the Assembly Concurrent to approve the changes made in the Senate and is now on the governor's desk waiting to be made a law.

"Under current law, sex offenders from other states who are not current, permanent residents of California are free to enter our state and go to work or college without the knowledge of California law enforcement," Leonard said in a press release. "This loophole threatens the safety of Californians and puts law enforcement at an extreme disadvantage. AB 1193 fixes that."

This bill will also increase the penalty for not registering as a sex offender within 30 days of moving from six months to one year in jail.

"AB 1193 brings California into compliance with federal sexual offender registration laws," said Bill Lockyer, attorney general and sponsor of the bill, in a press release.

"This will reduce the chances of sex offenders being in the state without law enforcement's knowledge, while at the same time avoiding a loss of over \$5 million annually in federal funds due to non-compliance with stricter federal law."

People attending universities in California don't have to register with the university police unless they are living on campus.

"The police would like to know about all sex offenders," Lt. Charles Schwoerke of the San Diego State University police said. "As of now there are sex offenders attending SDSU, but there are none living here legally. Some could be illegal and not have registered."

Diane Gibson, a biology junior, said sex offenders should have to register with the university regardless of whether they live on campus.

"They should have to register on campus because of what they've done," she said. "People have a right to know."

Lucy Franco, a biology junior, agreed with Gibson.

"SDSU is a big public place," she said. "It's a community."

On occasion, if an offender is on parole, his parole agent will make him register with the university police.

"I think people attending or working (at a California college or university) should register with the university police," Schwoerke said. "Personally, I think the crooks should spend as much time in jail as possible."

Gibson said sex offenders should not be allowed to live on campus because the dorms are supposed to be a safe environment. ■

# College students on drugs could lose financial aid

Adolfo Mendez  
TMS Campus

WASHINGTON - Forget January 1, 2000. Apparently, a more important date — for high school and college students, anyway — could be July 1, 2000.

Software experts are saying widespread chaos is unlikely to occur when computers role their dates into the New Year, so don't worry about Y2K. But there could be many students adversely affected by another date — July 1 — for an unrelated reason.

That's when a federal law goes into effect that could strip students of their college financial aid for any drug conviction, no matter how minor. One conviction could mean a student would lose work-study and financial aid for a full school year.

A Republican-controlled Congress approved the new provision, which is part of the Higher Education Act, and President Clinton signed it into law in October 1998.

Drug policy reform advocates are mobilizing on college campuses

across the country to overturn the provision.

"Twelve student governments have endorsed a resolution calling for the drug provision to be overturned," says 20-year-old Kris Lotlikar, campus coordinator for the Drug Reform Coordination Network, a Washington, D.C.-based nonprofit organization.

The NAACP and — according to Lotlikar — students on 150 campuses support H.R. 1053, a bill sponsored by U.S. Rep. Barney Frank (D-Mass.), to repeal the drug conviction provision. At George Washington University, in Washington, D.C., student activists plan to convene the first-ever student-run "Sensible Drug Policy Convention" in November, said Lotlikar, a junior at Rochester Institute of Technology in New York.

Convention planners have the backing of NAACP's Youth and College Division, which will co-sponsor of the event, according to Hewitt Senghor, the organization's national college coordinator.

"This is a NAACP bread and butter issue. It's our mission to work

against anything that works against the advancement of young people," Senghor says.

The problem, says Senghor, is that the new federal aid restriction could worsen an existing imbalance in the justice system when it comes to blacks and whites in jail. Already, more whites are arrested for drug-related offenses than blacks. But African Americans face convictions at higher rates than whites, she says.

National rates of imprisonment for African Americans are higher than for other groups and the number of black drug convictions far outpace that of whites, according to The Sentencing Project, a Washington, D.C. nonprofit group that analyzes criminal justice policy.

Come July, minorities will add another whammy to the existing disproportionate number of drug convictions, Senghor argues: a possible loss of their financial aid.

"You could be a high school senior and make a mistake [with drugs] and be hurt by this law," Senghor says, adding that the NAACP is going to take up the issue at its October board meeting. ■

## PARKING

continued from page 1A

the lots by the Recreation Center, the John Bragg Mass Communication Building and parking lots near the greenhouse and orchard.

Another smart entry into campus is through East Main Street, at the university's main entrance. There is expected to be less traffic on the south end of campus.

Other parking availabilities include the lots across from the Art Barn, behind Cason-Kennedy Nursing Building, near the Holmes Building, the Bell Street parking lot and at the Tennessee Livestock Center.

Those parking at the livestock center are encouraged to access Greenland Drive from Rutherford Boulevard, then turn left into the lot.

"The idea is to come early enough so that you can enjoy the walk and still arrive in time for the kickoff," Brewer said. ■

## MCLUHAN

continued from page 1A

and continue through his battles with academia, as well as how his concepts are viewed today.

"Most of McLuhan's real work happened during the decline of his career. Even scholars rarely know much of what McLuhan wanted to leave behind," Wolf said. "This includes his four laws of media."

Wolf will explain some of McLuhan's later ideas in the lecture on Monday.

Wolf attended the University of Indiana. He has worked in television, print and radio journalism, admitting that he is "a master of none."

Wolf waited 15 years to return to school to receive his master's degree at Southern Illinois University. He has crossed the country in his career including jobs in Idaho and Arizona as well as spending his grade school years in Latin America.

He began teaching media writing in Illinois. He is now in his fourth year on the journalism staff at MTSU. ■

## Murfreesboro Missionary Baptist Church

816 N. Church Street  
896-0720

Pastor Darren Boone



## BOWL SHAGADELIC SUNDAYS

"Be There or  
Be Square"  
\$12 Per Lane,  
Per Hour  
Starts 8:30 p.m.  
941 NW Broad  
896-0945

## COMING SOON

CAREER DAY

FOR ALL STUDENTS

Tuesday, September 28, 1999  
Murphy Center Track, 10am - 3pm

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Few people will ever set foot in an office like this. But then, few people have what it takes to be a Marine Officer. Officer Candidates School (OCS) is the first step towards preparing you for a future beyond anything you could imagine. At OCS you'll develop the qualities you need to

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FRESHMEN-GRADS (ANY MAJOR) WHO WANT TO BE A PILOT CAN BE GUARANTEED THE OPPORTUNITY. SEE CAPTAIN RAINS AT THE CAREER FAIR ON 14 SEPTEMBER OR CALL 1-800-621-5510 FOR MORE INFORMATION.

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# Schools reach out to suicidal students.

Yuan-Kwan Chan  
Northwestern University

WILLIAMSBURG, Va. (TMS) — One day, a student at the University of Minnesota who was concerned about a poem hanging on a classroom's door called Ralph Rickgarn.

Apparently, the classmate had been writing and posting a daily series of poetry about a clown who progressively became more depressed.

Rickgarn, the university's coordinator of student behavior for the housing and residential life, read the poem, knocked on the student's door, and spoke to him.

"He was trying to communicate to people [that he was going to commit suicide]," Rickgarn said. "People would say, 'Oh, he's an English major type,' but the poems took a far more sinister twist."

According to the Center for Disease Control in Atlanta, suicide was the ninth leading cause of death among Americans from 1993-1995, but the third highest among 15-24 year olds, comprising about 16 percent of all U.S. suicides during that time period. The CDC also estimates that more than 10 percent of college students have seriously considered taking their lives, with younger students at greater risk than those over age 25. Suicide risk is also highest among white students; 87 percent of U.S. suicides occurred among whites.

With those numbers in mind and an age-old awareness of the academic pressures each new school year brings, colleges and universities across the country are taking strides to help students overcome suicidal tendencies.

Take, for example, Harvard University, where graduate chemistry student Jason Altom killed himself in the fall of 1998.

In a suicide note left behind, Altom explained how he arrived at his decision and even suggested changes the university could make to avoid sending other students to the brink.

School officials took Altom's advice and promptly changed its policies regarding the supervision of some graduate students.

Harvard assigned some students to three-member advisory panels — Altom was bitter because he felt he was at the mercy of only one instructor — urged students to take advantage of new programs designed

to boost their social lives and arranged for them to see off-campus psychiatrists.

Harvard officials say they're looking into expanding those changes to include undergraduate students as well.

"There has been over this last year a review of undergraduate advising and discussion among students and all of our undergraduate concentrations," said Margot Gill, Harvard's administrative dean of graduate school of arts and sciences.

Despite an acute awareness of student suicide and a desire to prevent it, many colleges and universities find it hard to know exactly what they're up against. Many schools are quick to concede they find it hard to keep records of student suicides or attempted suicides, which in turn makes it difficult to spot national trends or understand the real magnitude of the problem, many researchers say.

Suicide statistics are not completely accurate because they depend on the "population of those who are coming in telling us," Rickgarn said. Compounding the problem of accurate data collection on college campuses is that school counseling centers and health services can only report on suicides for three-quarters of a calendar year; students are not on campus during holiday breaks. Varying school sizes also make it hard to make direct comparisons, Rickgarn said.

Researchers at the University of Chicago completed a 10-year study of student suicides at Big Ten universities.

They found that the largest number of suicides occurred among students between the ages of 20-24 — a group that included a fair number of graduate students.

Contrary to the CDC's findings on a national level, the Big Ten study indicated that older students were greater suicide risks because of added stress that came from job searches and a myriad of personal responsibilities that included marriage and kids. The U of C researchers also found that student suicide rose during stressful times of the year, such as final exams — a nasty cycle likely to hit students in quarter systems rather than semester systems.

Dr. Morton Silverman, director of student counseling and resource services and an associate professor of psychiatry at the University of Chicago who headed the Big Ten study, said there are differences between people who attempt and complete suicide. ■

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### Corrected Copy

Memo to: The MTSU Community  
From: Vic Montemayor, Chair, General Studies Committee  
Date: 9 September, 1999  
Re: General Studies Mission Statement

The University Committee on General Studies, formed by President Walker at the beginning of Fall semester 1998, concluded its first academic year of work at the end of April this past Spring semester. Our work culminated in a draft of a Mission Statement for the General Studies Program at MTSU, which was distributed to the university community last April. At that time you were told that you would be hearing from us again in the Fall. Incredibly, that time is now.

The draft includes a proposed Mission Statement for the General Studies Program, as well as proposed general statements of methodology and structure for the program. The committee is asking for additional reactions and suggestions—in general, for any feedback you might have. We have already received a good bit of thoughtful feedback about the proposal during the summer, but would like to give you another chance to respond. Please see the minutes of the committee meetings at our website <<http://www.mtsu.edu/~genstud>> if you would like to follow our discussions leading up to the distributed draft version of the Mission Statement.

If you do wish to send us your thoughts on the draft Mission Statement, please e-mail us at [wbadeley@mtsu.edu](mailto:wbadeley@mtsu.edu), or send campus mail to the General Studies Office at MTSU Box #78. We look forward to hearing from you!

### General Studies Mission Statement: Draft

#### Mission Statement

The General Studies Program is at the core of Middle Tennessee State University's educational mission. It provides students with a broad, general background in the arts and sciences, as well as intellectual skills and affective competencies. The General Studies experience gives students opportunities to use various technologies to collect information, to judge competing claims of evidence and systems of thought, and to make well-reasoned ethical, political, and personal decisions. The program assists students in developing the ability to reach an objective view and understanding of their world, its institutions, and of themselves. The university major is designed to provide students with an in-depth, detailed exploration of a discipline or to provide training for a career. In contrast, General Studies allows students to acquire the background knowledge and skills to enhance the major (reading, writing, thinking, perceiving, speaking, listening, and performing). The General Studies Program creates in students an awareness of the multifaceted and diverse world and encourages them to become active lifelong learners and participants in society.

The General Studies Program is a configuration of courses designed to link the cultural legacy of the past with the technological demands and global concerns of the contemporary world. The program fosters students' abilities to think independently and critically; to analyze and evaluate beliefs and attitudes, data and ideas, issues and values; to gather information through various methods of inquiry; to integrate and synthesize new ideas and information; to communicate effectively in a variety of contexts and media; to weigh options and make decisions based on rational, ethical, moral, and aesthetic considerations; and to integrate acquired knowledge and personal experience with historical, cultural, and contemporary perspectives in a changing and diverse society.

#### Assessment

Assessment is at the core of the General Studies Program. To increase accountability and maintain the integrity of the program, there will be on-going evaluation of the component courses and of the degree to which these courses fulfill the mission and standards that define the program. Such monitoring and oversight of the program will bridge the gap between the expectations that have been set for the students of Middle Tennessee State University and the skills, knowledge, and attitudes that those students have actually acquired. By these means, the General Studies Program is capable of evolving as a dynamic, coherent, meaningful, and contemporary reflection of the mission of the university.

#### Vision

General Studies will provide all students with the intellectual building blocks that will make it possible to find meaning in an ever-changing world. The general studies curriculum will be integrated throughout the typical four-year program and will not be confined strictly to the freshman and sophomore years. It will interface with all other components of the baccalaureate degree. It will both focus on the content of specific traditional liberal arts and sciences courses or subjects, and it will emphasize the methods of inquiry and the rigorous intellectual skills demanded by a variety of fields and the interdisciplinary nature of education. Such a program will emphasize the artistic dimension, multiculturalism, values, ethics, global issues, and the individual's responsibility as a citizen to the society of the present and to posterity.

We envision a general studies curriculum that introduces all students to both the traditional content of the liberal arts and sciences as well as to the methods of inquiry and the perspectives of newer academic fields, that helps students sharpen their critical and analytical skills and develop as informed independent thinkers, and that provides a capstone experience to enable the student to integrate and synthesize material from a variety of areas in the undergraduate educational experience. The ideal will occur when the student is able to connect learning from one subject to another and to discover the correlation that exists among all academic pursuits. To the degree that learning becomes less fragmented, the General Studies Program will be successful.



# Many Russians suffer through inspections after terrorist attacks

Angela Charlton  
Associated Press

MOSCOW (AP) — Two barrel-chested riot policemen dragged the small, dark man Wednesday from his meat pie stand at Moscow's sprawling Luzhniki market as other vendors and shoppers nervously huddled nearby. One officer pinned the man's head to the side of a police truck as the other fingered through his identification documents.

Everything was in order; so they let him go. The vendor, an Azerbaijani who gave his name only as Sasha, said it was the fourth time he had been stopped in three hours. Seconds later, the two troopers were questioning another frightened man.

"Who else but Chechen terrorists would kill our Russian grandmothers?" asked Vladimir Khomich, a riot police commander directing raids on Moscow markets. The 200 officers in Khomich's unit detained 200 people in one hour.

The inspections are part of a massive security sweep aimed at lifting the fear gripping many Russians in the wake of suspected terrorist attacks that have killed more than 275 people. Two apartment buildings in sleepy Moscow residential neighborhoods were shattered by suspected bombs during the past week.

People nervously discuss the explosions at work, at bus stops and on the subway, wondering who is responsible and when the next explosion will come. Most Russians live in the same kind of grim, nondescript apartment buildings as the two buildings shattered by blasts in Moscow.

"We don't know if it will be us next. We lie awake at night and worry," said Vladimir Busov, a merchant.

Checkpoints have been set up on main roads leading to Moscow and hundreds of police and Interior Ministry troops swarm through railway stations and the city's subways. They demand to see identity documents and harshly question whomever they deem suspicious.

Favorite police targets are dark-skinned people assumed to be from the Caucasus Mountains region, where Islamic rebels are battling government troops in the republic of Dagestan.

Russian authorities suspect that the militants — and their commanders from breakaway Chechnya — are behind the explosions.

The singling out of people from the Caucasus region brings quick approval from many Russians, who feel a racial and religious enmity for people from that region that stretches back centuries. TV newscasts feature

images of police roughly rounding up suspects and handing out punches and kicks for no apparent reason.

"Now we will have a chance to bomb them. To give them back something of what they have given us," said Busov.

Khomich, the police commander, insisted his troopers were not picking on any particular ethnic group. He pointed to a blue-eyed blonde woman staring glumly from one of the police vans, waiting to be evicted from Moscow because she didn't have a permit to live in the capital.

Around her sat a dozen black-haired men with passports from Afghanistan and the Caucasus. The capital is a magnet for the jobless, looking for the chance of a better life, and for thousands of small traders who pour in every day from the provinces.

Some people questioned by the police quietly slipped the officers money and were allowed to walk away.

Thousands were picked up in Wednesday's sweeps. A few were found to have illegal weapons or drugs, police said, but nearly all were detained for not having proper residence permits, a Soviet-era requirement long criticized by human rights groups.

A family of three refugees from Tajikistan said they had been living in a shed for months because they had no way of receiving a residence permit.

Major police crackdowns have been conducted before in the capital, and comfort many Russians shaken by rising crime.

Some residents have taken matters into their own hands, taking turns guarding their apartment buildings. Police have evacuated several buildings after residents reported suspicious bags or materials that turned out to be harmless.

One customer, who forgot his briefcase at a Moscow restaurant and returned to fetch it, was questioned by police for 30 minutes before it was returned — even though police found nothing except a few newspapers and a banana.

Police have detained 27 people suspected of being accomplices in Monday's blast or another apartment explosion last week, Alexander Vildyayev, deputy head of the Moscow police, told a news conference Wednesday.

The first claim of responsibility for the blasts came Wednesday, when an anonymous caller told the ITAR-Tass news agency that the blasts were in response to Russian attacks on Islamic villages in Dagestan and neighboring breakaway Chechnya. The caller claimed to be from a little-known group called the Dagestan Liberation Army. ■

## PEDESTRIAN AND VEHICLE TRAFFIC TO BE BLOCKED BEHIND KUC

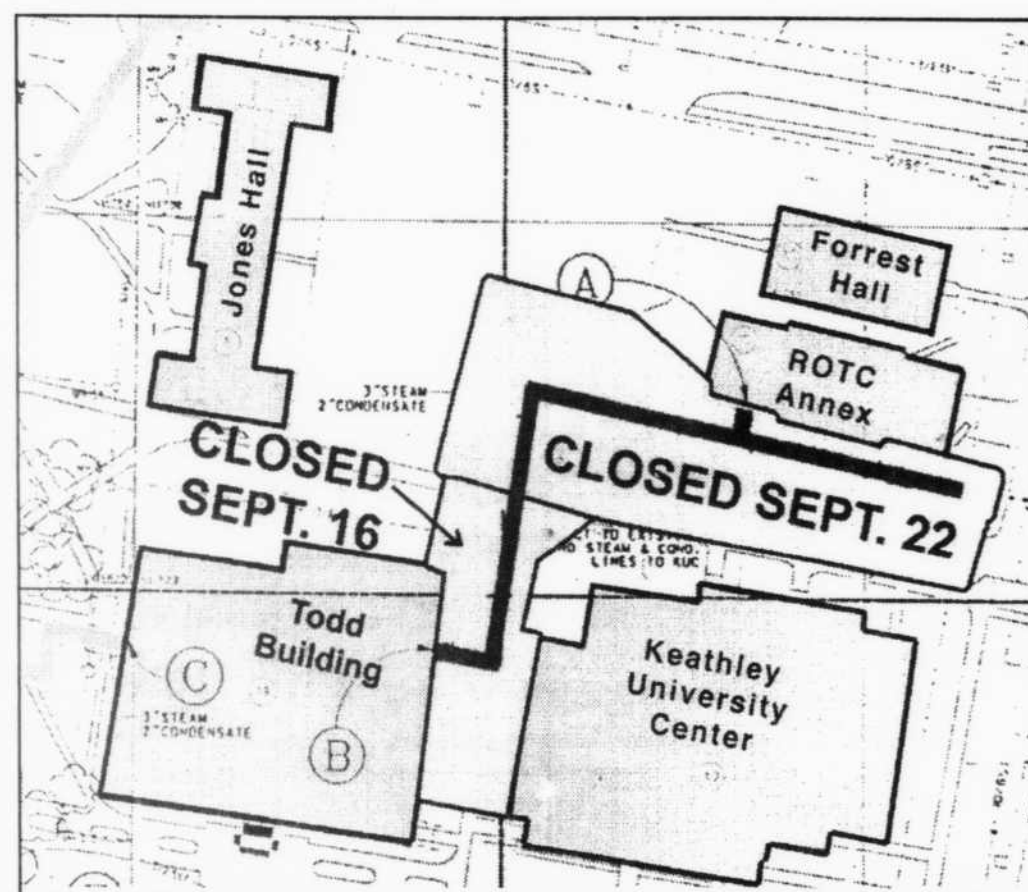
Steam line construction between the ROTC Annex and Todd Building is expected to block pedestrians and vehicle flow behind the KUC for most of this semester according to Bill Smotherman, director of Construction Administration.

"The pathway between KUC and the Todd Building may be blocked as early as Sept. 16," he advises. "The entire area behind the KUC will be blocked, possibly as soon as Sept. 22. Steam lines have to be installed on grade. They can't dip below or rise above other utilities. Because of this the entire ditch must be open at one time to be sure there are no conflicts with other utilities. Barricades and signs will be installed."

According to Smotherman, students and staff can expect fencing, which will be erected to isolate the work area.

"Some frequently traveled routes will be blocked, making it necessary to seek alternate routes. Depending on weather and unforeseen problems, the fencing will be up until at least Thanksgiving."

Questions regarding the project may be directed to the Construction Administration office at 898-2967.



# TAKE THE POWER BACK

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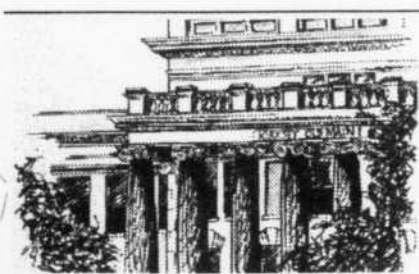
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6A ■ SIDELINES

# OPINIONS

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

—Thomas Jefferson

Murfreesboro, TN

## Editorial

### Students should display more school spirit

Saturday brings a little bit of history to MTSU: the Blue Raiders' first Division I-A home game.

Saturday also presents the opportunity for the MTSU community to turn over a new leaf by coming out to Floyd Stadium at 4 p.m. to support the football team.

It's no secret that this university lacks school spirit. Evidence is abundant, from the lack of attendance at sports events to the lack of people who buy yearbooks to the lack of people who vote in any on-campus election, whether it's for homecoming queen or SGA president.

Different groups have tried different tactics to promote school spirit. The yearbook tried giving away free Goo Goo Dolls and Hank William Jr. concert tickets to those who bought yearbooks.

That didn't increase Midlander sales.

Starting Friday, Phillips Bookstore will begin a promotion to up the attendance of volleyball and soccer games this season. Students who attend seven games will be in the running to win a free computer.

We'll wait and see how well that works.

Sidelines certainly doesn't have the answer to this problem. Hey, we'd be happy if we could bribe everyone into picking up our paper every Monday and Thursday.

But this is a new semester, and it's never too late to start having some school spirit, even if you've never participated in a single on-campus activity in your college career.

We're not saying you must attend sports events, because not everyone enjoys things like that. But if you do like football, there's a game right here in Murfreesboro on Saturday.

What's the catch?

No catch, but there are some perks. Students get in free with their student I.D.s. And, for those diehard UT fans (nothing's wrong with a little Big Orange Fever), MTSU plays at 4 in the afternoon and chances are you'll be home in plenty of time to see the Vols take on the Gators down in Florida.

You don't have to stop wearing your UT merchandise or attend every campus event to be a supporter of MTSU. But this university is growing, and with increased numbers come increased activities. Just try some out. You might be surprised how much fun you'll have. ■

## Corrections

The article "Bored in the 'Boro? Here's what to do" that ran in the September 9 issue contained several mistakes. Main Street is an 18 and over performance hall, not a 21 and over dance club. It is not open on Sundays, and the band Fleming and John played on Sept. 12, not Sept. 11. Also, Main Street has not changed its name to The Bigg House. Sidelines apologizes for the errors.

The article "Appeals court decision backs Kentucky student censorship" that ran in the September 9 issue was written by the Student Press Law Center, not the Sidelines staff. Sidelines apologizes for the mistake.

## SIDELINES

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

## The Codebreaker's Almanac

by Dylan Ross, Staff Columnist

# West fails moral test in East Timor

In my last column, I provided a summary of the troubling history between the United States and Indonesia, the nation responsible for the present havoc in East Timor. In light of this history of complicity with Suharto's repressive military regime and its successor government under Habibie, it is safe to say that present offers of support troops for a planned United Nations expedition to East Timor is much too little and far too late.

This is especially true when we see the latest news: 200,000 refugees forced out of East Timor, the nation's infrastructure in ruins, and both the militias and Indonesian regular troops committing further atrocities daily.

Now that the situation has exploded into violence, we are forced to see the cost of Western support for Indonesia. The United States and its allies can no longer overlook East Timor as an inconvenience just behind the global shop-front, try as they might.

The morality and politics of Western economic imperialism reveal themselves all too clearly in the present situation, and their stench cannot be ignored.

The fact that the United States has been satisfied to let the suffering in East Timor continue for 24 years is tragic. That the State Department insisted, when confronted with the reality of widespread murder in the streets of Dili, that Indonesia take responsibility and restore order in this tiny province, is absurd, as if the very government that trained, organized and armed the militias had any interest in restraining their actions.

But the State Department can eventually see through its own illusions if it is given appropriate motivation: once uniformed Indonesian soldiers joined the militias in murdering East Timorese citizens in the streets, and it was apparent that no amount of smoke or any number of mirrors could turn these soldiers into a disorganized mob of East Timorese getting overly enthusiastic in expressing their political views, it was decided that a United Nations peace-keeping expedition might be justified.

This coyness, while inexcusable, is at least understandable.

During his 34-year reign in Indonesia, General Suharto was courted by the United States as a fervent anti-communist. As such, the less appealing habits of his regime were overlooked.

These included the brutal repression of dissent within Indonesia, where "disappearance" was a common fate for advocates of democracy.

But the United States is loyal to its friends, especially when they are in control of massive mineral resources and a market of 200 million. So U.S. military aid to Indonesia, doubled after the 1975 invasion of East Timor, continued to fall into the hands of the Suharto regime.

And when he was deposed by mass pressure (and to the credit of the Indonesian people) last year, the friendship of the United States was easily transferred to the new military regime that took Suharto's place.

This is the morality of the global marketplace, which is so belatedly held up by the pundits of the "new world order."

We are assured that the flow of massive amounts of capital across national boundaries is bringing the people of the world closer together, that our interests are converging as money accumulates in the hands of a few transnational corporations and their official boosters — formerly known as national governments.

## The fact that the United States has been satisfied to let the suffering in East Timor continue for 24 years is tragic.

But until the not so recent crisis in East Timor ("crisis" seems to be the word we use for a long-term atrocity once it gains recognition in the mainstream media), the suffering of this small nation on the other side of the world seemed incredibly far away, untouched by the attention of the West.

And in the face of the hypocrisy of U.S. foreign policy, which holds "humanitarian intervention" as a principle in any case not involving an economic ally in the role of aggressor, we are bound to feel as though our own government is rather remote from our interests.

Even at this late date, we must hope that something can be done to aid the people of East Timor.

But we can't let ourselves be taken in by the rhetoric that will inevitably spew forth from the State Department.

We can't forget that the U.S. government had reasons for ignoring — and even contributing to — the mounting horror in East Timor for so long.

These reasons had nothing to do with any principle outside of money and influence. And even now, this government is acting with incredible inertia in the face of atrocities too horrible for the international community to bear any longer.

The "moral test," as political critic Noam Chomsky calls the present situation, has clearly been failed.

The only moral thing would be for the government of the United States to attempt some correction of its past offenses against the people of East Timor by intervening decisively to end the slaughter and wholesale leveling of the entire East Timorese nation.

Such decisive action would include economic embargoes and outspoken, not grudging, support of the UN expedition.

As of yet, however, such action has not been taken. ■

# Universities should not have right to censor college publications

Steve Cagnina  
Staff Columnist

The Supreme Court's recent ruling that college press does not deserve First Amendment protection is atrocious. In essence, they are saying that the institutions responsible for teaching our future reporters about First Amendment rights and its implications do not have to respect the First Amendment.

This stinks. The ruling lets any college censor its university's newspaper. Colleges are a sensitively political place; most sophomore students at MTSU can tell you that politics reign supreme in many departments at this university.

And if bad politics hurts students, how can that be exposed? One way is for the university's press to report its negative effects, unfettered by political influence.

But the Supreme Court says no. It says that a university is allowed to control its press, which means that dissenting voices will be quashed. Bad news is not a good thing to the party in control. Ask yourself this: Would you allow a story to be printed about yourself that would cause you embarrassment?

Probably not. The First Amendment is there to make sure that power can be embarrassed when it deserves it.

A couple of years ago, "Sidelines" printed a story about homosexual pornography being made in the dorms.

This was a great story, and like most great stories, it was also embarrassing to those who had a bad hand in it.

And the university got a black eye because negative press is not good for an establishment, such as MTSU, which seeks nobility and prestige.

Do you think that story would be allowed today in "Sidelines"? Maybe. Maybe not.

This should not be the case.

The story should be allowed to run if it has merit. Period. Now, thanks to the Supreme Court, a story may have to possess merit and be beneficial to the powers that be.

I think it is imperative that students write or e-mail Dr. Walker, and let him know that we like our press free.

Let the powers that be know that a puppet press is a joke, and that even if it protects the university from a black eye in the short run, in the long run it will destroy its credibility as a symbol of intellectual freedom. Universities are supposed to seek the ideal.

Totalitarianism is only an ideal to the tyrant. ■

## Interested in speaking your mind?



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# It's long past time to cut out dissection

Neal D. Barnard and Karen M. Pirozzi  
Knight-Ridder Newspapers

We're lucky today. We know plenty about hearts. We know how they pump blood, and we understand the intricate pattern of muscle activity that sends oxygenated blood from the heart around the body.

Sometimes doctors can even fix hearts that aren't working right. We're also lucky to have pictures, videos, plastic models and computer models of hearts to help teach about them in schools.

So now there's no excuse to kill animals for dissection so students can acquire this knowledge about the heart and the rest of the body.

But many grade schools and high schools still use dissection as a means of education. Experts estimate about 6 million cats, dogs, frogs, sharks and other animals are killed each year to this end. Truly, dissection may induce more hardening of the heart than learning about the heart among students. Cutting open an animal just to see what's inside teaches that life is disposable and that self-interest rules.

When we use alternatives to dissection, we support quality biology instruction. And we also model respect for living beings. And changing teaching practice provides a wonderful opportunity to discuss the need for compassion

and the tremendous wealth of resources we have to learn about life, rather than death.

Old-school teachers may argue that nothing can compare to seeing

the "real thing," yet, the fetal pig or frog is being used as a substitute for a human.

Computer simulations of human anatomy come amazingly close to the "real thing." Much more than a damp, dead animal.

Even highly respected medical schools such as Harvard, Yale, Columbia and Stanford have eliminated animal labs that were once used for teaching. If a doctor can graduate from a top-notch medical school without cutting up a cat, 10th graders hardly need the experience.

Dissection telegraphs students the message that life is cheap. However, dissection itself isn't.

A school with five biology classes, for example, will spend about \$1,300 to buy 35 bullfrogs per class every year. By contrast, the "Digital Bullfrog" CD-ROM requires a one-time outlay of just \$200. Of course, CD-ROMs and other virtual models also expose students to the latest learning technology. Their use combines the teaching of biology and computers, a potent pairing for students' futures. Studies have shown that students learn just as well with models as with animal dissections.

Other studies have shown many children find dissection troubling. While few have the nerve to dissent or even question their elders, these compassion-oriented youngsters nonetheless find the experience upsetting, a circumstance which may turn them off from pursuing medical or science careers.

These children, and most caring adults, would be even more upset if they knew the details of how these animals come to be embalmed with formaldehyde.

Investigations have shown that many frogs and sharks come from the wild, causing serious depletion of natural populations in some areas, not to mention disruption of the ecological balance of which they were part.

These animals often suffer before they are horrifically killed by workers who have become hardened to inflicting pain.

Many of the 100,000 cats killed each year for dissection come from animal shelters, breeders and pet stores.

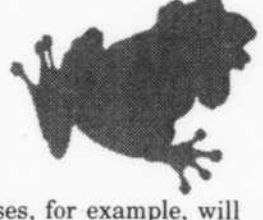
Sometimes they are family companion animals who have been stolen by dealers' minions from neighborhoods and yards.

Even though legislation exists prohibiting pet stealing and abuse, the practices remain widespread. Investigators tell stories of witnessing still-living cats deliver kittens en route to the gas chamber.

One saw workers aim hoses at kittens born on a loading dock, drowning them over a 45-minute period. The investigators reported more abuses and violations of the law and human decency than can be outlined here.

While no educator would condone these practices, many unwittingly support them through their purchases.

But we're lucky. Today's children can learn about biology, technology and respect for life all at the same time, simply by taking advantage of what modern science has made available. ■







# Bill Bradley not afraid to be liberal

**Bill Thompson**  
Knight-Ridder Newspapers

Bill Bradley is a liberal. Some readers might assume that I offer that description for the purpose of insulting Bradley, since I'm inclined to disagree with liberal thinking on most issues. Well, OK - all issues.

No insult is intended. I'm merely stating what had to be obvious to anyone who listened to the speech that Bradley delivered the other day in Crystal City, Mo., as he officially announced his candidacy for the Democrats' 2000 presidential nomination. Bradley didn't use the L-word, but he couldn't have made his views any clearer if he'd taken a deep breath and said: "I'm a liberal, and I'm proud of it."

The former senator and ex-basketball star drew some criticism for failing to detail specific policy proposals. But I say there was no need for details. Bradley articulated his philosophy in general terms; voters are smart enough to figure out what sort of policies will eventually be embraced by a liberal who is concerned about health care, education and campaign finance, among other issues.

Bradley's generalization, in fact, was far more enlightening than the wear-'em-out-with-details approach that defines the stealth liberalism of the Clinton-Gore administration. Clinton and Gore have spent two terms bragging about "reinventing government" and that "the era of big government is over" while devising new means of injecting government into the lives of Americans.

Unlike Clinton and Gore, Bradley

does not feign disdain for a federal government that he believes can be the driving force in delivering the American dream to those who have been left behind.

Bradley's disdain flows more toward the "trifling things" in which government involves itself, an apparent reference to the endless parade of small but intrusive programs that have been the hallmark of the Clinton-Gore years.

It will be interesting to see if Democratic voters are brave enough to support a candidate who dares to stand on the liberal principles that its most recent standard-bearers have pushed into the background. Clinton and Gore are no less liberal than Bradley, but they have labored tirelessly to create the illusion that they are centrists.

Having won two presidential elections with this strategy of deception, will the party of Franklin D. Roosevelt be inclined to put its beliefs on the line with a ticket headed by the unabashedly liberal Bradley?

No one could blame the Democrats for playing it safe, for nominating Gore in the hope that he can replicate the winning formula of 1992 and '96. But how illuminating it would be for voters if Bradley were to take on the Republicans.

The Grand Old Party's nominee will be a conservative - either runaway front-runner George W. Bush or one of the other would-be presidents laboring in Bush's shadow. As the greatest nation on Earth embarks upon a new century and a new millennium, what more could our people ask for in a presidential election campaign than a serious debate about the proper role of

government in a free society?

The competition between liberals and conservatives in this country has too often degenerated into a battle of sound bites. If the right has succeeded in degrading the word "liberal," well, the left has likewise done plenty of damage to "conservative." A contest between Bradley and Bush, if these two end up as their party's nominees, would be an issue-based showdown in which two honorable and thoughtful individuals could compare and contrast their ideas in the starkest terms in the most demanding arena available to those who practice the art and science of politics. ■

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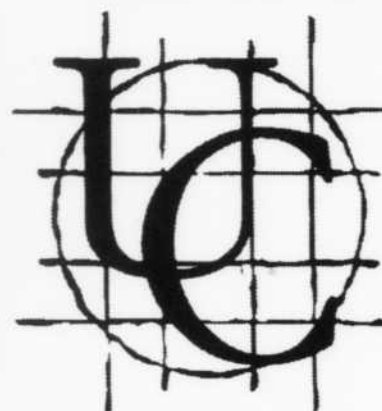


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# FEATURES

1B ■ SIDELINES

Murfreesboro, TN

## OWL helps older students adjust to college life

Ruth Peltier  
Staff Reporter

Adult students at MTSU have created an organization that helps them adjust to college life, according to representatives of the group.

The organization, Older Wiser Learners, is a support group for non-traditional students. They gather in the Adult Services Center, located in the Keathley University Center Room 320. They share the good and bad of college life, said Virginia Ellis, the secretary at the center.

In the center, there is a study area with three computers and an eating area with a table, refrigerator and microwave. Coffee is available for 25 cents and the University Grill is nearby. A comfortable lounge area encourages students to share experiences, concerns and solutions they have found to problems, to celebrate their successes together or to perhaps work on the jigsaw puzzle currently in progress. The walls are

decorated with the finished puzzles, most of which are pictures of owls.

Ellis explained that the center is a central place where students can get college catalogues, schedule books and other information at times when most university offices are not available.

Ellis said "One of the best-kept secrets on campus seems to be the fact that green and black parking passes can be obtained there by anyone wishing to avoid the long lines at the parking office."

The center can also usually find a student in an emergency. Recently, a school called the center to report that a child had fallen and needed to go to the hospital for stitches. Sherry Scott, vice president of OWL, made several telephone calls and finally located the child's mother. Another time someone called the center because a student's father had suffered a heart attack. The caller knew what classes the student was taking but not which one he was in at the time of the call. Ellis closed the office and went from class to class until she located him.

Adult students can fill out a form at the beginning of each semester listing their classes and where they are likely to be found between classes.

According to Scott, the OWL group also sponsors a sister organization called Pinnacle. This is an honorary society for students over 25 who have GPAs of 3.0 or above.

Together, the two organizations provide mentors to help adult students adjust to their new roles as college students. A newly enrolled student is paired with a mentor who is in similar circumstances, usually someone with the same major. This gives the new student someone to talk to who can relate to his or her situation. The mentor will answer questions, offer advice and be a friend to the new student.

Activities planned by the OWLs this semester include going to see performances of "Twelfth Night" at Tucker Theater on Sept. 21-24 and a tailgate party for the homecoming game Oct. 2. They are meeting for the tailgate party at 5 p.m. in the parking lot across from Scarlett Commons.

OWL and Pinnacle hold an annual family dinner in late November to initiate new members of Pinnacle as well as to celebrate the Thanksgiving holiday. The date for this gathering has not yet been set.

According to Scott, adult learners are non-traditional students. Many of them are older than usual college age, but regardless of their age, these are students with adult responsibilities. They may work full time and attend school in the evening, or they may have children or dependent adults at home. They



Photo by Malko Takasu

Karla Sullivan and Sherry Scott council sophomore Sherry Robertson at the Adult Services Center.

must learn to balance their education with work and family, to set priorities and goals.

Scott said, "They do not have any backup, no parents to turn to, when things go wrong."

There are many reasons an adult might decide to attend MTSU, according to Scott. Some of them chose to wait awhile after high school to enter college. Others are returning to a university education that they interrupted to marry or raise children. Many have found that they require further education to suit new career plans. Some are lifelong learners who

value education for its own sake.

Ellis insists that adult students are serious about their education. They are likely to attend classes regularly and to arrive on time. They generally have higher grade point averages than their younger classmates. She added that she frequently finds them in the center working on homework that is due the next week.

"They know what they want to do and they set out to do it," Ellis said.

The officers of both OWL and Pinnacle will accompany Carol Ann Bailey, director of the Adult

Services Center to the National Conference of Adult Services in October. The Association for Non-traditional Students in Higher Education presents this seminar to help the leaders of organizations that work with adult students to grow in leadership skills. The people who attend will also bring back the latest information on what is happening among other organizations dealing with non-traditional students.

Membership in OWL costs \$20 a year and members get a cut rate of \$10 on the OWLs' new blue T-shirt. The shirts are usually \$12. ■



Photo by Malko Takasu

Carol Ann Bailey, Director, offers a smiling face and a helping hand.

## Double click to save money On-line textbook companies offer an alternative

Shane Newsome  
Staff Reporter

It looked like a hive of crazed bees.

The bookstore was packed wall to wall with students scurrying back and forth between the maze of shelves. Books were being taken with ravenous desperation. Cashier lines swelled as nerves grew tense and pocketbooks vacant.

As students, we have all experienced the anguish that comes from textbook shopping. Cyberspace merchants have seized the frustration as a medium for profit, and as a result, students who would rather be on-line than in line have that choice.

On-line shopping is a relatively new craze that bloomed in the public eye soon after the formation of Amazon and E-bay. Consumers were presented with new methods to purchase goods in the privacy of their homes with the convenience of their computers. It was only a matter of time before on-line commerce began catering to demographic groups such as college students.

A student in pursuit of textbooks over the Internet can easily find several stores that sell such products by typing in a search on his or her favorite search engine. From there, the possibilities are seemingly endless.

One popular site for on-line college shopping is studentmarket.com. Here, a student can buy anything from furniture to contact lenses. Textbook shopping is transferred to a subsidiary site known as bigwords.com. This site is being pushed on commercial television by popular MTV comedian Tom Green. "We won't rip you off," the commercial slogan says. "At least not as bad."

The site acts as a search engine. Consumers are provided with three separate criteria. As long as the author, title or ISBN number is known, the book can be called up by the engine.

Another interesting method available to consumers is the ability to search by university.



Students select the state in which they attend, the university, the department of study and the professor. The catch here is that professors must contact the site with their lists of requirements. The site includes a link where students can e-mail information concerning the program to their professors, and even enters the class in a prize drawing for the end of the semester.

Using three textbooks, I began to use the search engine at bigwords.com. The textbooks include "Pride and Prejudice" by Jane Austen, "The Uses of Enchantment," by Bruno Bettelheim and "The Media Writer's Handbook - A Guide to Common Writing and Editing Problems" by George T. Arnold.

I was initially disappointed by the search engine's failure to find the books upon entry of the titles alone. After entering the ISBN number on the back of the book, the engine retrieved all information necessary to order the book. Compared with the Blue Raider Bookstore, bigwords.com will save you an average of 97 cents per book. With an average class load of 15 credit hours, a student could save a little under \$5. Standard shipping over three to five business days is provided free of charge for customers ordering over \$35 worth of books. Next-day delivery is available for an additional \$11.90 per single text order with a \$1.95 charge for every additional text.

Customers may check the status of their order via a password protected e-mail query. I received a message informing me of a delay due to the high volume of orders.

This was a disappointment, seeing as to how it was nearly a month into the semester at the

time of my query.

I was also disappointed at the negligible savings offered to a student. In most circumstances, a customer would need their text immediately, and the next-day shipping expense destroyed the benefit of any initial savings.

On the other hand, I found the site and their promise of satisfaction and security very comforting. Bigwords.com offers a 15-day money-back guarantee. This guarantee offers a full refund of competitor's prices as well as a \$5



credit if a customer has solid proof that another outlet sells for less. If the order is damaged, or if the wrong order ships, bigwords.com will replace the order for free and cover shipping and handling charges.

Safety is guaranteed through the use of SSL encryption, which is the current standard of on-line commerce security. All transferred credit card information is encrypted through this process. In the unlikely event that someone cracks the code, bigwords.com will charge nothing to your account. Bigwords.com does not accept any payment form other than a major credit card. Another site for on-line textbook shopping is textbooksusa.com. After visiting the site, I quickly learned that it was a subsidiary of Amazon. Textbooksusa.com offers similar search parameters as those of bigwords.com.

I was very disappointed to find that all search parameters failed on the three textbooks. I expected more out of this site. A link to Amazon was provided on screen. After visiting the Amazon site, I was able to find the textbooks. Unfortunately, the prices were higher than both bigwords.com and

the Blue Raider Bookstore.

Security is provided through SSL encryption. Additional safety features include the ability to give only the last five digits of a credit card on-line, while verifying the rest over phone lines. Credit card information is stored beyond the grasp of cyber thieves on a computer without internet access.

Amazon doesn't offer free shipping on purchases over \$35, so bigwords.com remains the cheaper option.

Anystudent.com is a site that doesn't directly sell textbooks but searches other on-line stores for the cheapest available price. The search engine is very easy to use, and the lists of sites and corresponding prices for text offer enjoyable convenience. This would be my first stop in search of a textbook on-line.

Varsitybooks.com is another excellent on-line source for textbook shopping. This site is designed much like bigwords.com. Searches can be initialized through university, title, author, ISBN or



course. Varsitybooks.com offers similar security and guarantees to those of the other on-line stores. I was surprised to find that on some texts, varsitybooks.com was actually cheaper.

After researching this alternative method of textbook shopping, I have concluded that the easiest way to purchase your books is through a local bookstore. I spent more time on-line searching for the books than I did in the bookstore. Also, it may not be convenient for those who have no idea what the ISBN number of their textbook is. However, it would be wise to take note of the existence of such options and to make use of them in the event that your local bookstore is out of stock. ■

## Just for the Health of It

### Are You Getting Enough Sleep?

Kelley Dodd  
Staff Reporter

Do you find yourself hitting the snooze button every morning before your first class? Are your eyelids unbelievably heavy as you attempt to listen to your professor's lecture? Does it take a large amount of caffeine to get you through the day?

If so, then you may suffer from sleep deprivation. According to the National Sleep Foundation, fewer than one in four people are getting enough sleep. Studies reveal sleep is important to all aspects in our daily lives, from learning (which is what you are here for) to looking and feeling your best.

Without adequate amounts of sleep, a healthy lifestyle is almost impossible to achieve. Your mind cannot function well, your mood is altered and all of the systems of the body are thrown off balance.

For many college students, "pulling an all-nighter" to prepare for a next day exam is a common ritual. However, by doing so you are actually harming your body and you may be distorting your concentration, which can have an adverse effect on your grades.

Health professionals recommend adults to strive for eight hours of sleep each night, although a minimum of 6.5 hours is often enough to squeak by on for most nights. Unfortunately, many of us are barely keeping our heads up off of our desks in class after only logging in four or five hours of sleep from the previous night. Was that late-night movie really worth it?

For those of you who are in desperate need of some extra snooze time, here are some suggestions.

- Avoid caffeine and nicotine in the late afternoon and evening (or at least try to reduce your intake of these substances).
- Make sure your sleeping environment is cool, dark and quiet.
- Go to bed and get up about the same time every day.
- Read a book or magazine or listen to soothing music in bed before calling it a day.
- Avoid eating a large meal right before bedtime. Your digestive system will be going into overdrive, which can make you restless. If you get hunger pangs before heading off to sleep, have a small, light carbohydrate snack such as graham crackers and milk.
- Try to deal with problems before going to bed. Worrying about something can make you toss and turn all night.
- Exercise on a regular basis for at least 30 minutes three or four days a week, but not right before bedtime. Your racing heart can make you more alert, which works against sleep.

Look at sleeping from this perspective: your body and mind are exhausted from the day's activities and sleeping is the best way to replenish yourself, both physically and mentally.

Although a late-night party on Thursday and an 8 a.m. class on Friday may not be a pleasant experience, make sure to allow ample time for rest. You are in college and you deserve it. ■



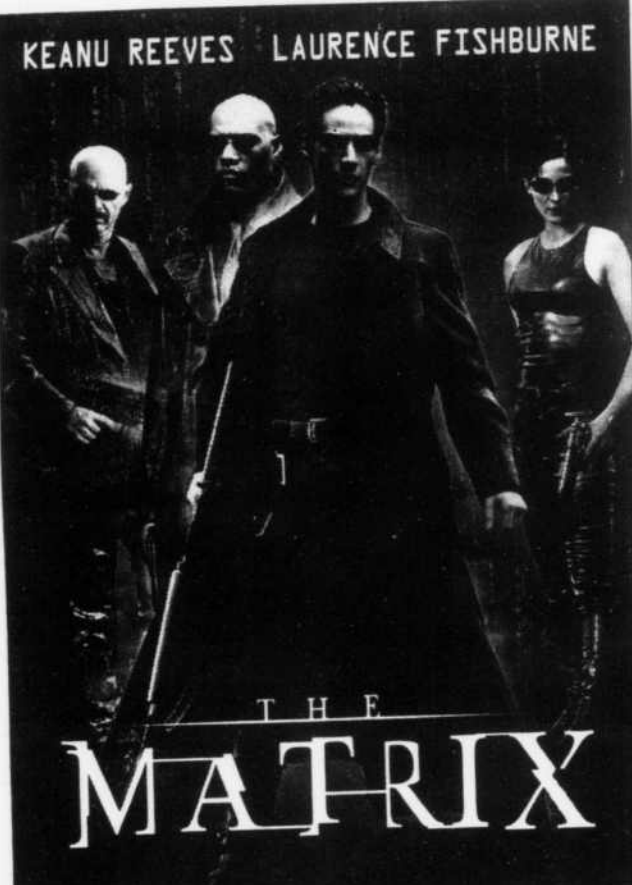
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## Boxers, beer score big with college students

CHICAGO (TMS) — Netscape's Web browser is better than Microsoft's, and I.B.M. is significantly cooler than Apple.

Or so says a recent survey of 1,200 college students conducted by Student Monitor for a slew of private companies — including computer and software manufacturers and traditional and online media corporations — interested in tapping into the college-age market.

The survey took a look at

students' spending habits and opinions. It found that Web-surfing students preferred Netscape over Microsoft's Explorer by a margin of 58 percent to 27 percent, and that 5 percent had bought textbooks sold online. A whopping 80 percent agreed that boxers are much cooler than briefs, and 39 percent believed the country is "right on track." Another 77 percent said drinking beer was in, and 59 percent said the same about body piercing. About 30 percent of students said they performed volunteer work, while 17 percent said they regularly attended religious services.

Among this year's field of presidential contenders, Texas Gov. George Bush garnered the most among those surveyed with 14 percent.

Student Monitor, based in Ridgewood, N.J., conducts industry-specific studies and surveys starting at \$12,000. ■



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## Separating Myth From Reality In Tampon Debate

Apoorva Mandavilla  
 New York University

NEW YORK (TMS) — Attractive young women sashay across college campuses everywhere wearing the latest flattering fashions and gossiping, laughing, chatting and flirting with confidence and abandon.

But ask any of them about their own bodies and what happens inside them, and they're almost sure to shrink back in awkward silence.

Posing a few general questions is likely to reveal that many young women know much less about the tampons they insert into their bodies every month than the things they choose to eat, drink and wear.

The Food and Drug Administration estimates that nearly 70 percent of women use tampons. Because of their size, easy-to-use applicators and ability to minimize the "ick factor" of menstrual cycles, the small, cylindrical tubes are particularly popular with young women.

Labels on tampon boxes often say little about their contents — except that they are made of cotton and rayon. And, much like cigarette packs, each box comes with a warning. In this case, it's about the risk of toxic shock syndrome, or TSS. Despite the health risk, few women know what causes TSS (The Staphylococcus bacterium is the culprit), and even fewer make an effort to learn about it.

False rumors about tampon safety rear their ugly heads periodically, most recently striking the Web. An e-mail message posted on a Web site and sent to thousands of women across the country alleged that rayon fibers foster the growth of the bacterium that causes TSS and that all-cotton tampons are the only safe alternative.

The message, which originated from an unidentified graduate student at the University of Colorado at Boulder, also claimed that tampons contain dioxin, a dangerous toxin, and that tampon manufacturers include asbestos in tampons to make women bleed more.

Many women quickly dismissed the asbestos rumor as false, and it died an early death. But reports on dioxin and its links to TSS have proven remarkably persistent. As a result, there are still numerous Web sites encouraging women to protect themselves by using all-natural tampons.

Because it's hard to separate well-intentioned Web sites from those with ulterior motives, women searching for the truth need to do their homework as Forbes magazine recently reported when it found one site urging women to use all-cotton tampons. The magazine revealed that the site was backed by Bio Business, one of the few companies manufacturing all-cotton tampons.

Much of the confusion about dioxin and tampons centers around the process used to bleach the cotton and rayon contained within the applicators.

Chlorine-based bleaching processes, once used by tampon manufacturers, release dioxin as a byproduct. The controversy is over how much dioxin is in the tampons and whether the government adequately regulates the manufacturing process.

The FDA and tampon manufacturers contend that because the bleaching process now in use is an elemental chlorine-free or ECF, which does not produce dioxin, tampons are safe for use.

Women's Health Research, a Washington-based advocacy group for women's health research issues, responded to consumer concerns earlier this year and investigated the claims.

"As far as we can tell, it's all urban legend," said Beverly Dame, director of communications for the organization, adding that the group's medical board findings were consistent with the FDA results.

Although there is no conclusive evidence about dioxin's effect on humans, the Environmental Protection Agency classifies dioxin as a potential human carcinogen. Because of the EPA's findings, the FDA tested tampons and found that they contain amounts of dioxin at nearly undetectable levels.

"Like a teaspoon in a lake that is 15 miles long and 20 feet deep," said Dame. ■

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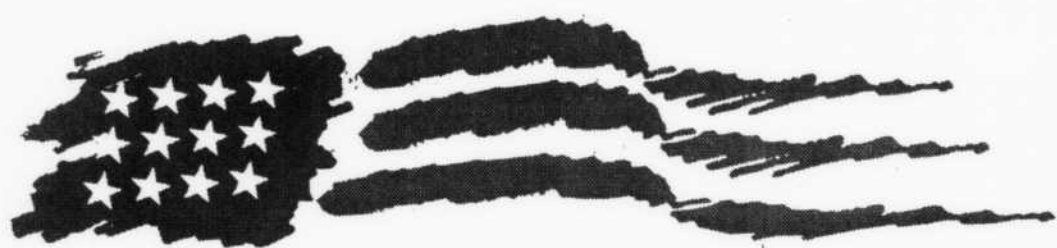
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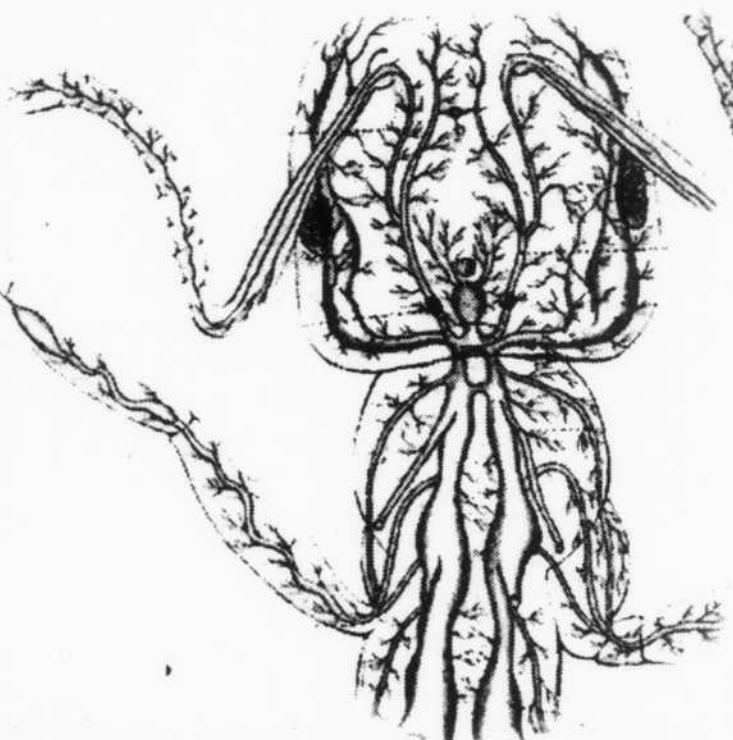
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# COLLAGE

## FALL 99

MTSU's creative arts journal is now accepting submissions in:

Photography, poetry, essay, sculpture, mixed media, short story, painting, drawing, or anything original and creative.

**Deadline for submissions:**  
**Friday, October 1st at 4:00 PM**

Submissions must follow Collage guidelines.  
For information call 898-5927 or visit JUB #308

## September 19-25

	19-Sep	20-Sep	21-Sep	22-Sep	23-Sep	24-Sep	25-Sep
Time	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
6:30 AM	MTSU Bulletins	MTSU Bulletins	MTSU Bulletins	MTSU Bulletins	MTSU Bulletins	MTSU Bulletins	MTSU Bulletins
7:00 AM	Mexico	Mexico	Mexico	Mexico	Mexico	Mexico	Mexico
7:30 AM	France	France	France	France	France	K-12 Students	France
8:00 AM	Spain	Spain	Spain	Spain	Spain	K-12 Students	Spain
8:30 AM	Sweden	Israel	Israel	Israel	Israel	K-12 Students	Estonia
9:00 AM	Turkey	Sociological Imagination	Communicating Through Literature	Sociological Imagination	Communicating Through Literature	Israel	Poland
9:30 AM	Taiwan	Growing Old in a New Age	Living with Health	Growing Old in a New Age	Living With Health	Lithuania	Poland
10:00 AM	Romania	Growing Old in a New Age	Living with Health	Growing Old in a New Age	Living With Health	Turkey	Taiwan
10:30 AM	South Africa	Japan	Japan	Japan	Japan	Dubai, UAE	Romania
11:00 AM	South Africa	Basque	Basque	Basque	Basque	Basque	Dubai
11:30 AM	Dubai	SCOLA Schedule	SCOLA Schedule	SCOLA Schedule	SCOLA Schedule	SCOLA Schedule	SCOLA Schedule
12:30 PM	MTSU Bulletins	MTSU Bulletins	MTSU Bulletins	MTSU Bulletins	MTSU Bulletins	MTSU Bulletins	MTSU Bulletins
1:00 PM	China	Russia	Russia	Russia	Russia	Russia	China
1:30 PM	China	Sweden	Estonia	Sweden	Estonia	Sweden	China
2:00 PM	Germany	Germany	Germany	Germany	Germany	Germany	Germany
2:30 PM	Germany	Germany	Germany	Germany	Germany	Germany	Lithuania
3:00 PM	Israel	Portrait of a Family	Literary Visions	Portrait of a Family	Literary Visions	Latvia	Galicia
3:30 PM	Armenia	Portrait of a Family	Literary Visions	Portrait of a Family	Literary Visions	Argentina	China
4:00 PM	Basque	K-12 Teachers	Nutrition Pathways	K-12 Teachers	Nutrition Pathways	K-12 Teachers	China
4:30 PM	Poland	K-12 Teachers	Argentina	K-12 Teachers	Argentina	K-12 Teachers	Hungary
5:00 PM	MTSU Bulletins	MTSU Bulletins	MTSU Bulletins	MTSU Bulletins	MTSU Bulletins	MTSU Bulletins	MTSU Bulletins
5:30 PM	Inside Academia	Recollections	MTScene	Recollections	MTScene	Recollections	Iceland
6:00 PM	France	Recollections	Andy McCollum Show	Recollections	Andy McCollum Show	Recollections	Iceland
6:30 PM	Italy	Quebec	Quebec	Quebec	Quebec	Quebec	Catalunya
7:00 PM	Croatia	Sociological Imagination	Communicating Through Literature	Sociological Imagination	Communicating Through Literature	NASA	Croatia
7:30 PM	Croatia	Sociological Imagination	Communicating Through Literature	Sociological Imagination	Communicating Through Literature	NASA	Croatia
8:00 PM	Hungary	Growing Old in a New Age	Living with Health	Growing Old in a New Age	Living With Health	NASA	Italy
8:30 PM	Hungary	Growing Old in a New Age	Living with Health	Growing Old in a New Age	Living With Health	NASA	France
9:00 PM	Iceland	Portrait of a Family	Literary Visions	Portrait of a Family	Literary Visions	NASA	Quebec
9:30 PM	Finland	Portrait of a Family	Literary Visions	Portrait of a Family	Literary Visions	NASA	Basque
10:00 PM	Korea	Andy McCollum Show	Nutrition Pathways	Andy McCollum Show	Nutrition Pathways	Andy McCollum Show	Korea
10:30 PM	Quebec	Inside Academia	Greece	Inside Academia	Greece	Inside Academia	Jordan
11:00 PM	Greece	France	France	France	France	France	Greece
11:30 PM	Greece	Italy	Italy	Italy	Italy	Italy	Greece

## Colleges Roll Out National Campaign To Fight Binge Drinking

**Christine Tatum**  
TMS Campus

CHICAGO (TMS) — More than 100 colleges and universities are behind a national ad campaign aiming to curb binge drinking and alcohol abuse among students.

Plans were in the works long before Colorado State University students hurled beer cans and booze bottles at police officers trying to prevent them from rushing the field after the Rams' Sept. 4 upset win against UC-Boulder. Long before Madison police spent a night over Labor Day weekend breaking up brawls involving about 70 students leaving bars near the University of Wisconsin.

And long before you or anyone you know decided to spend tonight catching a buzz, getting blitzed or puking in a toilet.

The campaign, expected to cost more than \$750,000 and launched by the National Association of State Universities and Land-Grant Colleges, its 113 member institutions and the Kellogg Commission on the Future of State and Land-Grant Universities, is one of many urging everyone to discourage — and discontinue — risky drinking habits. Ads are expected to run throughout the month in dozens of college and mainstream newspapers.

Many universities backing the effort are also pushing campaigns of their own, including Michigan State University (where they're still prosecuting students for participating in an alcohol-fueled riot after the Spartans were knocked out of the 1999 national men's basketball tournament), the University of Delaware (frequently pegged with having one of the nation's heaviest drinking student bodies) and MIT (which made major changes in housing policies after first-year student Scott Krueger's 1997 drinking death in an off-campus fraternity house).

Dartmouth College, UNC-Chapel Hill and Washington State University are hitting bulletin boards and air waves to tell students that recent campus surveys revealed many of their classmates drink little or not at all.

Even municipalities are blasting their own safe-drinking messages. The City of Boston hired an ad agency that consulted with about 100 college students and came up with a "Party Smart" campaign filled with images so disturbing the city's transportation authority refused to display them on subways and buses. One ad shows students appearing pale and disoriented wearing clothes soiled with vomit and urine.

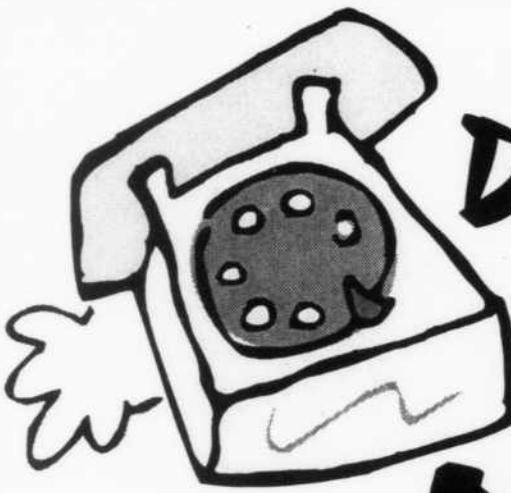
"I don't think people are going to stop drinking because they see one poster or 50," said Jennifer Talbot, a student at the University of Georgia. "But it's safe to say that they'll re-think their approach. Already, I hear people talking about how getting wasted and puking everywhere or passing out is so uncool."

The ad campaign follows a 1997 Harvard University study of more than 14,500 students at 116 colleges and universities. It found that 43 percent of those surveyed were binge drinkers. Ditto for 80 percent of student respondents who were involved in greek organizations.

School presidents throughout the U.S. identify alcohol abuse as one the most serious problems facing higher education today.

"Our campuses are working hard, but we can't solve the problem alone," said C. Peter McGrath, president of NASULGC. "Too many students come to us as problem drinkers."

Indeed, the Harvard study also revealed that one-third of survey respondents started their binge drinking while in high school. ■



## Do We Have Your Number?

We'd like to be sure we have your correct telephone number for the 1999-2000 MTSU telephone directory which will be on campus in October.

If you're a full-time student (an undergraduate taking 12 hours or more or a graduate student taking 9 hours or more), you will be listed in this directory. A campus phone number will be given for residential students, the local number for others. If you provided some other number when you applied for admission (like your parents or where you lived two years ago), you can correct that number as well as your address by going to the Records Office, Cope Administration Building 106, by Wednesday, September 22, 1999.

**If you do NOT wish to be listed in such a directory, you must notify the Records Office in writing no later than Wednesday, September 22, 1999. The easiest way is to go by Cope 106.**

Faculty and staff numbers also will be listed in the telephone directory along with University offices and a guide to services.





THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 1999

# SPORTS

58 ■ SIDELINES

Murfreesboro, TN

## Blue Raiders home opener Saturday

Michael Edwards  
Staff Reporter

For the first time in school history, MTSU will play as a Division I-A football team in Floyd Stadium at the "Fight on Faulkinberry."

The Terriers will give the Raiders a look that they have not seen yet this year: the wishbone offense. Wofford will come out with three running backs behind the quarterback and probably only one receiver. The Raiders will have to adjust to this smash mouth formation.

"Now we go against Wofford, and we have to handle the option and the play action pass that comes off of it," Head Coach Andy McCollum said. "Anytime you do play an offense like that it presents problems."

The problems for the Raider defense could start with the absence of starting cornerback Jermaine Francis and starting defensive end Jeff Thomas. They both went down with injuries in the Arizona game.

Francis could very well be back before Saturday, but Thomas is doubtful. Francis mentioned to Coach McCollum that he would be back.

Keith Dollar stepped up in place of Jermaine Francis early in the Arizona game, and Brent Walker and Wes Stephens replaced Thomas. However, even though the Raiders had comparable replacements for one game, the depth is not there to have prolonged injuries to key players.

"We can't afford to lose anyone," McCollum said.

For MTSU, the key to stopping the option is for all 11 defensive players to stay on their assignments and force the runs to the inside. However, it's not quite that simple.

If the Terriers start to run well, the Raiders will be susceptible to a play action pass. In this instance, the quarterback will run to one side or the other as if he was going to run, until he takes a step back and throws to a receiver.

"It will be a great challenge for our defense to stop the run while not succumbing to the play action," McCollum said.

Quarterback Travis Wilson presents another problem for the Raiders. Wilson many times out of the wishbone will become a fourth running back. However, athletic quarterbacks are nothing new for

guard, is 6 feet 4 inches but weighs only 252 pounds. Last but not least, Greg Rhoads at right tackle weighs 276 pounds and is 6 feet 2 inches tall.

Tight end Travis Brightbill failed to catch a pass last week against I-AA's top ranked team, Georgia Southern.

Jeff South was the top receiver last week with a four catch, 42 yard performance.

The Raiders will counter with a very good corp of receivers. Kendall Newson has a streak of twelve games with a catch, including five receptions for 61 yards against Arizona.

Tyrone Calico caught nine passes for 79 yards last week, with six of the nine receptions coming in the first half. He was two catches away from tying a MTSU single game record for passes caught.

Hansford Johnson caught a pass for a touchdown in the first two games. Johnson is a sneaky receiver that can get open.

There is no question that the Raiders need to jump in the lead early, and the way to do that is to dominate the line of scrimmage. MTSU finally has an opportunity to do just that. Mississippi State and Arizona were big and fast and didn't let the Raider offensive line push them around.

This time MTSU has the size advantage with an average weight of 288 pounds and an average height of 6 feet 3 inches. The Raiders should be able to control the line of scrimmage on offense. Wofford's defensive line weighs in at an average of 270 between three players.

The Terriers will go with a 3-4 defense much like the set the Raiders use. Linebacker Ben Dae recorded 12 tackles against Georgia Southern last week and forced a fumble. Tommy Woods, Kevin Hudson and Mark Rogers-Berry round out the Terrier linebackers.

The MTSU linebackers will really have to be on their toes this week against the wishbone. Kendall Solomon, Eugene Shaw, Marcus Harvey and Keith Pauldo will have their hands full.

Wofford gave up 189 yards



the Raider defense. There are few quarterbacks in America that are as athletic as Ortege Jenkins.

"They have talent and athletes. Their quarterback is very versatile," McCollum said.

The Terrier starting backfield consists of Will Hunter, Tony Hudson and Nathan Price. However, 11 men carried the ball at least two times. They totaled 56 carries and 269 total yards for an average of 4.8 yards per carry.

Backup quarterback Allen Thompson led the Terriers with 57 yards on three carries, while fullback Tony Hudson carried 12 times for 49 yards.

The Wofford offensive line averages 6 feet 2 inches and 265 pounds across, not including a 6 feet 3 inch, 250 pound tight end.

Left tackle Stacey Clark weighs in at 300 pounds while standing 6 feet 5 inches. Left Guard Darin Shelly stands 6 feet tall and weighs an even 300 pounds. Center Bailey King weighs 250 pounds and is 6 feet tall. Eric Nash, the right

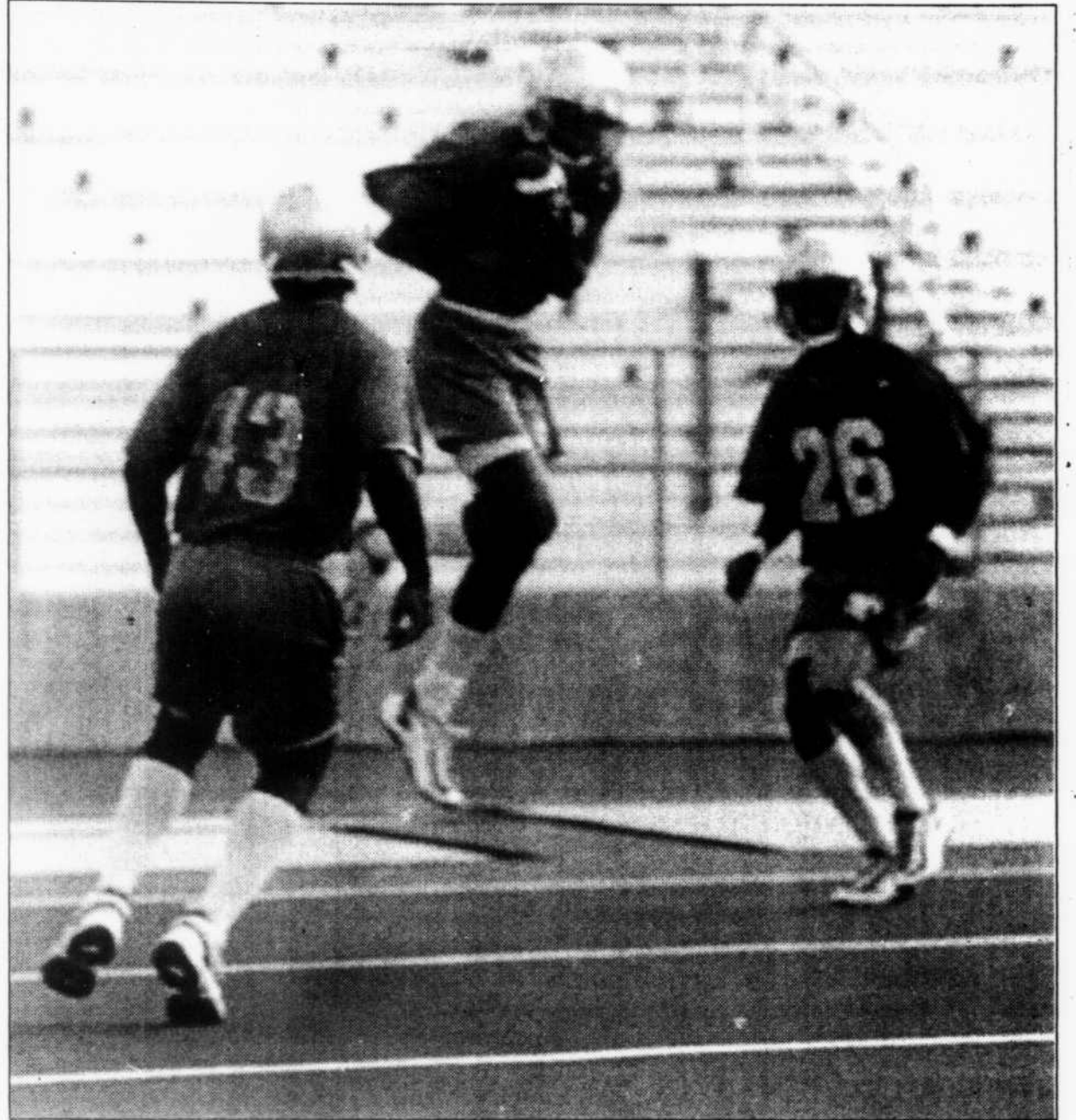


Photo by Derrick Wilson

Blue Raiders prepare for the home opener against Wofford

passing and 491 yards of total offense last week against Georgia Southern. The Raiders should be able to pass against Wofford and run the ball as well.

MTSU's Jamison Palmer broke out against Arizona with 10 carries for 72 yards, including a 36 yard touchdown.

In the event that Jermaine Francis does not play, senior Keith Dollar will have to step in and play just as he did against Arizona. Dollar made five stops, four were

solo. Despite Francis' absence, Mario Kelso stepped up and made 18 tackles against Arizona. MTSU held Ortege Jenkins and the Wildcats to 135 yards passing for the game.

There is a new face on the Raider punt team and that is Keegan Ray. Ray has eight punts for a 45.4 yard average. That is good enough for ninth best in the nation.

The Raider team wants a full house at Floyd Stadium on

Saturday, but the loyalty of the community and student body remains to be seen.

"Our kids deserve to walk in our house and see a full stadium," McCollum said.

The bottom line is, if MTSU does not turn the ball over they have a great chance to move to 1-2 on the year.

"We are not a good enough football team to overcome turnovers and mistakes," McCollum said. ■

## Lady Raider wins OVC Player of the Week

Staff Reports

Sophomore Hailee Walsh earned OVC Player of the Week honors for her play on the soccer field.

The Leawood, KS native scored two goals and had an assist in wins over Tennessee-Martin and Mars Hill.

This is the first OVC Player of the Week honor for Walsh this year. Last year she earned the honor twice.

"I am proud of the way Hailee has been performing this season," said head coach Colette Gilligan. "She stepped up big for us this last year and she has continued this year. All of her success is due to her hard work during the off-season, in practice and in games."

"It is not surprising at all to the coaching staff at all that Hailee won the OVC Player of the Week honor. She was named OVC Player of the Week twice last year. It is a tribute to her intensity that she is rewarded like this."

Walsh is the leading scorer in



Staff Photo

Hailee Walsh in action against the Samford Bulldogs

the Ohio Valley Conference, having totaled 10 points with four goals and two assists. She led the conference in scoring last year with 30 points and earned first team All-OVC honors for her efforts.

In addition, she set single season marks for points (30) and goals (13) as well as becoming

the all-time leading scorer.

Currently, Walsh leads the OVC in goals with four and is second in assists with two. Teammate Sarah Schultz is the assists leader with five.

The Lady Raiders are currently in first place in the OVC. The Lady Raiders next game is Sept. 18 at Appalachian State. ■

On Nov. 14, a personal computer will be given away at the Southeast Missouri volleyball game, courtesy of Phillips Bookstore.

To be eligible to win, a student must attend seven out of ten of the following games and register with his/her student ID.

Sept. 17, volleyball vs. Eastern Kentucky, 7 p.m.

Sept. 22, soccer vs. Tennessee Tech, 4 p.m.

Sept. 26, soccer vs. Southeast Missouri, 1 p.m.

Sept. 28, volleyball vs. Belmont, 7 p.m.

Oct. 16, volleyball vs. Austin Peay, 2 p.m.

Oct. 24, soccer vs. Arkansas-Little Rock, 1 p.m.

Oct. 27, soccer vs. Chattanooga, 4 p.m.

Oct. 27, volleyball vs. Murray State, 3 p.m.

Nov. 4, volleyball vs. Tennessee Tech

Nov. 14, volleyball vs. SEMO, 2 p.m.

The winner will be announced at the Nov. 14 volleyball game.

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## At least we are not Vanderbilt

A View from the Top  
A sports commentary



Michael  
Edwards  
Columnist

Hey, here's a four-word joke for you: the Vanderbilt football program. As you all know Vanderbilt is in the Southeastern Conference, and has perennially been the conference's whipping boy for in lifetime.

Why is Vanderbilt in the SEC? Each year Vanderbilt promotes their football team intending to excite their fans about the upcoming season. Every year, fans shell out hundreds of dollars for season tickets. I have just one question for those people. Why?

When Watson Brown left and Gerry Dinardo entered, Vanderbilt hopes were running high. Dinardo turned that football program around and was headed to make them as good as they can be. However, after getting beat by a combined score of 127-14 two years straight by Tennessee. DiNardo left for Louisiana State, where his team has been ranked as high as seventh.

So Vanderbilt went to Rod Dowhower. He was very popular coming in to the first season. Dowhower was going to open up Dinardo's option offense into a passing offense. That was going to make things more exciting. Exciting for whom? The only group of people it was exciting for were their opponents like North Texas and Northern Illinois who had a chance to beat an SEC team.

Dowhower's tenure as a Division I-A head coach came to a halt very quickly. Vanderbilt was

once again in the cellar. Even Kentucky and Hal Mumme turned their program around and were beginning to be contenders in football.

Then for Vanderbilt comes phase three of its attempted turnaround. The title is Woodyball. Woody Widenhoffer took the helm at one of the worst football playing universities in the South. Widenhoffer became the man that would turn the program around.

The first year for Widenhoffer went well; the Commodores won



some football games and were beginning to look promising.

However, the wins were mainly due to their outstanding defense, and when those top notch defensive players left, the Commodore defense left with them. Vandy was ranked last in the SEC in total defense last year.

But when VU almost knocked off Alabama this year, people began to think this could be year that Vanderbilt turned its program around. Again.

Just seven days later however, the Southeastern Conference's worst team was being beaten by Northern Illinois 28-3 early in the game. Vanderbilt did come back to win, and everyone was saying this was a valiant effort by the Commodores. No it wasn't.

Vanderbilt was playing a terrible football team. They should have come back.

Now, after almost 500 words of Vandy bashing, you are probably wondering what is the point of this commentary. First of all, Vanderbilt has no business being in the top football conference in the country, the SEC. Vanderbilt does nothing but bring the entire persona of the conference down.

Secondly, if there is a team to support in Middle Tennessee, it should be MTSU. Yes that's right, MTSU. After watching MTSU get defeated by Mississippi State, but fighting to the bitter end, I began to feel a sense of pride for the Blue Raiders. Just as I did when the basketball team gave the North Carolina Tar Heels a run for their money.

MTSU students and area residents should start to take some pride in the MTSU athletic department. No we are not ranked in the top 100 of Division I-A football programs, but we are going in the right direction and swiftly.

Remember this: Arizona owned a ranking of three in the preseason, finished the 1998 campaign with a 12-1 record and were ranked 19 before they played the Blue Raiders. We didn't beat the Wildcats, but we did earn respect by losing by only 15 points. Arizona did not take their first string out at the end of the game either.

The last point is that MTSU tickets are cheaper than Vanderbilt's.

On Sept. 1, 2001, MTSU has Vanderbilt on the schedule. Let's congratulate Vanderbilt for taking a bold step in giving MTSU a chance at beating them.

Support the Blue Raiders this season. It could be worse; we could be Vanderbilt. ■



# SEC East prepares for big weekend

Associated Press

## FLORIDA

Gators coach Steve Spurrier feels Tennessee's 14-game winning streak might work to his advantage in at least one way.

No. 4 Florida (2-0) should know what to expect Saturday from the second-ranked Volunteers in the always-critical Southeastern Conference game.

"When you play a team that's won every game for two years, they don't change," Spurrier said.

He recalled playing Alabama in the SEC title game in 1996. During film work, Florida's talented receivers noticed the Crimson Tide played tight man coverage on almost every down. They were elated.

"I said, 'Yeah, they're No. 1 in the nation in pass defense, that means they're not going to change too much,'" Spurrier said.

The Gators practiced to play against the bump and run and Danny Wuerffel threw for six touchdowns in a 45-30 victory.

Spurrier expects Tennessee to use the same schemes it has since 1996, when several Volunteer coaches co-opted some Nebraska schemes into their own plan.

"It's pretty good stuff," Spurrier said. "They teach it, their guys get in position, they don't make many mistakes. They turn 'em loose and let 'em play."

## GEORGIA

Cory Robinson wasn't supposed to start for the No. 11 Bulldogs (2-0, 1-0 SEC), but he sure has taken advantage of the opportunity.

The junior cornerback leads the nation with three interceptions and also has a fumble recovery, accounting for half of Georgia's SEC-leading eight takeaways.

He started the first game only because Jeff Harris had to sit out preseason practice while resolving academic problems. Robinson responded with two interceptions and a fumble recovery against Utah State.

Harris reclaimed his starting role last week against South Carolina, but Robinson started at the other corner with Tim Wansley

nursing a thumb injury. Robinson came through another interception and a 21-yard return.

"He's been Johnny-on-the-spot," coach Jim Donnan said. "We knew we had a good player since we redshirted him as a freshman and he was out there on the field covering Hines Ward and Corey Allen. He makes things happen."

The Bulldogs are off this week. Their next game is Sept. 25 against Central Florida.

## KENTUCKY

As Kentucky (1-1) prepares for Indiana and option quarterback Antwaan Randle El, freshman wide receiver Octavius Bond is making an encore appearance of sorts.

When Bond was at Mt. Carmel High School in Chicago and Randle El was at Thornton High School in nearby Riverdale, Bond impersonated Randle El for the Mt. Carmel scout team prior to its game against Riverdale.

This week, he's doing the same job for Kentucky, trying to prepare the first-string defense for the kinds of moves they'll see from the Indiana sophomore, who's equally

dangerous as a passer and a runner.

"He was Randle El in high school and he's Randle El now, so he knows how to play Randle El," defensive coordinator Mike Major said this week.

Major said the 6-foot-1, 185-pound Bond volunteered for the assignment.

"He mentioned that he'd done it, so coach (Hal) Mumme asked me and I said 'Yeah, we'd love to have him. He's been Randle El before, we'll let him be Randle El again,'" he said.

Like the versatile Randle El, who plays point guard on Indiana's basketball team, Bond also is an accomplished all-around athlete. In addition to being a standout wide receiver at Mt. Carmel, Bond was a four-year track letterman and qualified for the state meet in the hurdles, long jump, triple jump and two relays as a senior.

"He's a very good athlete, gives us a real good look," Major said.

**SOUTH CAROLINA**

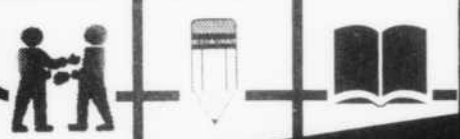
See SEC, page 7B

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## HOT FACT #3

Students consider using the Internet to be one of the top ten "hottest" things  
to do on campus, along with \_\_\_\_\_.

A. using a cell phone B. listening to music C. going to the movies D. going to fraternity parties

Now that you've spotted this week's Hot Fact, log onto [www.coolcore.com](http://www.coolcore.com) to answer the question. Once you've completed all four Hot Facts you will be automatically entered for a chance to win in the Hot Facts Sweepstakes. If you missed one of the previous Hot Facts, don't worry. Just log on this week and you can answer the question you missed.

Be sure to look in next week's paper for the FINAL Hot Fact!

Open to U.S. residents, who, as of 9/6/99, are enrolled in a U.S. college. No purchase necessary to play. Void in Florida and where prohibited. To enter via internet: Access the "COOL FROM Nestea Hot Facts" Web site at [www.coolcore.com](http://www.coolcore.com) starting 12:01 AM (ET) on 9/6/99 through 11:59 PM (ET) on 10/2/99 to see that week's Hot Facts on screen. Every time you log on, you will be instructed to complete the on-screen entry form, including your name, the name of the college you are attending and the letter A, B, C or D, representing the words(s) which complete(s) the Hot Fact(s) for that week. Answer(s) need not be correct to be eligible but you must submit your answer to each of the four Hot Facts (one Hot Fact published each week as described in Rule #1 of the Official Rules) to be entered into the sweepstakes. Starting 12:01am (ET) on 9/27/99 through 11:59pm (ET) on 10/31/99, all four Hot Facts will appear on screen in case an Internet participant misses one or more of the Hot Facts(s) that were featured. While you can, if you wish, log on each day, only one sweepstakes entry per e-mail address that includes all four answers will be entered into the sweepstakes drawing. To enter via mail: On plain 3" x 5" paper, hand print your complete name, address, zip code, (optional) daytime and evening telephone numbers and the words "COOL FROM Nestea Hot Facts". Mail your entry in a hand-addressed 4-1/8" x 9-1/2" (#10) envelope, with first-class postage affixed, to: COOL FROM Nestea Hot Facts Sweepstakes, P.O. Box 4941, Blair, NE 68009-4941. Limit one entry per envelope. Entries must be received by 11/15/99. IMPORTANT: On the lower left-hand corner of your mailing envelope, you must indicate the name of the college you are attending. For Official Rules, by which entrants are bound, including a list of participating colleges, send a SASE to: Hot Facts Rules Request, P.O. Box 4948, Blair, NE 68009-4948.

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## SEC continued from page 6B

Maybe South Carolina should change its nickname from Gamecocks to Hurricanes.

Two weeks ago, the Gamecocks (0-2, 0-1 SEC) opened the Lou Holtz era with a 10-0 loss at North Carolina State as Hurricane Dennis, by then a tropical storm, dumped rain onto the field for three hours.

Now, South Carolina is set to play its home opener Saturday night against East Carolina with Hurricane Floyd threatening the state.

"I take that old saying, into every life some rain must fall, but let's not get ridiculous about it," said Holtz, whose team lost to Georgia 24-9 on a warm, clear night last weekend.

More than 80,000 people are expected at Williams-Brice Stadium for Holtz's home debut, which could still be rescheduled if Floyd makes it impossible to play.

A decade ago, the Gamecocks faced a similar situation with Hugo, which battered the state two days before a game against Georgia Tech at Williams-Brice. A crowd of more than 60,000 showed

for South Carolina's 21-10 victory.

"A lot of people used that game as a relief to get their minds off of what they faced the past few days," school spokesman Kerry Tharp said.

### TENNESSEE

There are several streaks on the line when No. 2 Tennessee (1-0) visits fourth-ranked Florida for the early lead in the division race.

The Vols have the nation's longest winning streak at 14 games, tied for the third longest in school history. Tennessee has won 17 straight SEC games, including two league title games, three games short of a school record dating back to the late 1930s.

Florida has the nation's longest home winning streak at 29 games, including 16 straight SEC wins.

Tennessee has won seven straight games against ranked teams, but has not won in The Swamp since 1971, losing six in a row.

The Gators have outscored the Vols by a cumulative 215-136 in those six games, an average score of about 36-23.

### VANDERBILT

The Commodores (1-1, 0-1) will have captain Ryan Aulds back as they try to end an 18-game losing

streak in SEC road games at Mississippi.

Aulds, suspended indefinitely the week before the season began, has been cleared to play by coach Woody Widenhofer.

"When he was suspended, he wasn't allowed to come around at all, so I don't know if he's ready to play," Widenhofer said. "He was out with us last week ... so we'll just wait and see."

Aulds was the starting nose guard before being arrested Aug. 26 and charged with drunken driving. He is due in court Sept. 21 and is listed at No. 2 on the depth chart behind Tyler Unzicker.

If Aulds is in shape, the Commodores could use him. Vandy hasn't beaten Ole Miss at Vaught-Hemingway Stadium since 1992 and hasn't won on the road in the SEC since beating Kentucky in 1994, two of its three SEC road wins this decade.

Widenhofer expects a typically hostile SEC crowd.

"These home games are what the fans at those places live for. They make it really hard to get a good feeling for a game when you walk into a hostile territory like that," he said. ■

# Classifieds

## Notice

Sidelines recommends that you use discretion before sending money for any advertised goods and services. We recommend that you get in writing a full description prior to sending money.

**CAST AND CREW NEEDED!** MTTV producer seeks talented cast and crew for upcoming television show. For schedules, info and audition information, contact: Justin Moores @ 898-3810 or jorson2@gtmail.net.

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Wanted: Child care for 7 year old girl. M-W-TH 3:30-5:30 near MTSU. Must have transportation. Experience and references required. 896-2157, 347-3595.

WANTED: Cheerleading, Teaching, Dance, and Baton teachers. Good Pay. Must have transportation. 896-4683, 347-3595.

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Need credit hours? Student Photographer wanted to shoot pictures at a special event. For more information please call 736-1402.

Telemarketer for video company. \$7-15 hr. Homebased, Call Dennis @ 367-0388.

Student Bus Drivers-Taking Applications NOW for Fall '99 Semester Shuttle Services Part-time Work \$7.50 per hour Position Responsibility: To drive shuttle bus on campus Requirements: Tennessee Commercial Driver's License, Class B, Endorsement P, One year of bus driving experience preferred.

Application Procedure: Complete a part-time application, available by calling: Patty Feller #8029 or 904-8029 (off campus)- Ed Barlow #8144 or 904-8144 (off campus)

JDs Sports Grille, new restaurant in Smyrna, located on Enon Springs Road near Nissan Blvd. Opening September 1999 Accepting applications now for waitress and cook assistants. Pick up Job Applications at the MTSU Student Placement Office.

## For Sale

New Microwave, never been used!! White, touch pad, and turntable. \$50 firm. Call Erica @ 898-4004.

Large dorm fridge, good condition- \$75; white karate suit, also good condition- \$25; answering machine- \$20; call 849-1240.

Peach Queen Anne sofa and ottoman- like new, \$150. Call 907-5725

**\* Super Yard Sale\***  
Closing Antique mall booth. Hundreds of items. Dressers, tables jewelry, glassware, plus 1, 2, 4 drawer filing cabinets, doll clothes, various factory sealed BROTHER printing cartridges (small & medium), civil war artifacts, wooden cigar boxes (beautiful), European tobacco displays, etc., etc. Saturday, September 17 8am - 3pm Dow Street off Clark (Dr. Riel's parking lot).

Queen Size Mattress Set- quilted top. New, never used, still in plastic. Ten year manufacturer's warranty. Mfr Sug Retail \$650; Will sell \$195.00. Call 895-7477 or 406-2605.

## Roommate

Need a roommate? Students with non-commercial interest may place ads at no charge in the Sidelines Classifieds. Come by our Student Publications office in the JUB room 306.

Roommate needed to share two bedroom apartment. Less than one mile from campus. \$275 a month includes rent and utilities. Call 848-5665

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

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

- \* professional, typeset quality resume which can be easily updated
- \* user-friendly
- \* IBM compatible. The computer labs on campus can be used.
- After purchasing your software in Phillips Bookstore, it must be brought to the Placement Center to load your information in the database for resume referrals to employer.
- Once registered via RESUME EXPERT, the Placement Center is able to track which companies individual resumes are referred and inform the individual upon request.

Pharmaceutical and Biotechnology Industry Guides Second Edition, Institute for Biotechnology Information. Guides to access Drug Companies, Bio-Tech Firms and more. Come visit the Placement Center to look at this publication.

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### THE FOLLOWING ARE IMPORTANT DATES FOR ALL ORGANIZATIONS TO KNOW

- ♦ **STUDENT ORGANIZATION ORIENTATION**  
(Mandatory for all presidents; advisors may also attend)
 

September 2nd	KUC 324	3:00
September 7th	KUC 324	4:00
September 8th	KUC 324	5:00

\*You only need to attend ONE session

- ♦ **ORGANIZATION INFORMATION REPORT/STATEMENT OF ASSURANCE FORM**  
Due to KUC 306 no later than Monday, September 13th

IN ORDER TO BE UPDATED, ALL ORGANIZATIONS MUST COMPLY WITH BOTH OF THESE REQUIREMENTS. NO EXCEPTIONS.

- ♦ **STUDENT ORGANIZATION FAIR**  
September 15th KUC courtyard 10-2

\*\* Organization Information Report/Statement of Assurance form now available in KUC 306. Student Activity Fee applications now available in KUC 130.\*\*

Got a news tip? Call Sidelines at 898-2336

## 30th Anniversary

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## Vokoun gets chance to start for Predators

Associated Press

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP) - Nashville Predators goaltender Tomas Vokoun has come a very long way in a very short time.

At this time last year, he was a little-known minor leaguer with an NHL goals-against average of 12.00. Vokoun surprised everyone by going 12-18-4 in 37 games with Nashville, including the franchise's first shutout: 2-0 over Phoenix on Jan. 15.

Now, with No. 1 goaltender Mike Dunham staying away from training camp because of a contract dispute, the 23-year-old Vokoun finds himself the team's top goalie.

In his first exhibition start Tuesday in Detroit, he stopped 15 of 16 Red Wings shots in 30:07 of playing time. Vokoun left with a 2-1 lead, though the Wings ended up winning 4-2.

"I know it's going to be tough, maybe even tougher than it was last year, because people expect much more from me," said Vokoun,

who's from the Czech Republic. "But you can't worry about this stuff. You've just got to work hard in practice, do your best every day and then hopefully good things will happen."

Dunham was 16-23-3 but was limited to 44 games because of groin injuries. His agent, Bob Murray, is reportedly seeking about \$1 million more than the Predators have offered. Murray and Predators general manager Dave Poile went several weeks without speaking, but are talking again now.

"You're never going to accomplish anything unless you've got good, solid goaltending," Poile said. "That's what we had last year with both Dunham and Vokoun, and that gave us a chance as an expansion team to be competitive."

Vokoun's play has given his teammates confidence in him.

"Tomas established himself last year as a No. 1-caliber goalie," center Greg Johnson said. "He's young, and he's only going to get better. Tomas got our first shutout

here. We had him in net half the season and we feel very comfortable with him."

Predators coach Barry Trotz gives Vokoun high marks for his work at camp.

"Tomas has been very steady, very professional about what he's doing," Trotz said. "The way it sits right now with Mike out, Tomas is going to get an opportunity to be a better goaltender. That's key for him, because if he performs very well it's going to be hard to take him out of the net."

The Predators gave up a league-high 33 shots per game last season. The strain that put on Nashville's goalies made Vokoun's off-season commitment to fitness critical.

"I think he's always had talent, but now he's really become a better athlete," Poile said. "He's made the biggest improvement that he needed to do - his own conditioning and preparation. Tomas has become much more fit than he's been in the last couple years. That, in itself, is going to take his game to a higher level. ■

## More titles won't come easily for Gordon

Dick Brinster  
University of Texas-Austin

LOUDON, N.H. (AP) - Jeff Gordon has won as many races this year as the combination of Bobby Labonte and Tony Stewart.

This is being called a bad year for Gordon, while the Joe Gibbs Racing drivers are touted as definite contenders next year for the Winston Cup title.

Although he won't argue the point, three-time series champion Gordon knows fate as much as any factor is a major contributor to success in stock car racing.

"If you hang around this sport long enough you find out that good fortune isn't with you all the time," said Gordon, who still is tied for the lead in victories this year. "Sure, it's frustrating, but we've run well all year, and that's all you can ask for."

Well, if that's true, and the sixth-place standing entering

Sunday's Dura Lube 300 at New Hampshire International Speedway is reflective of his season, what can he do next year.

"Finish!" Gordon said. He did not finish six races - a certain death knell for serious championship contention - and that series-worst figure has overshadowed a season in which he has won five times.

"But I have to be encouraged, because it's been a lot of crazy things like power steering that never breaks, a transmission, blown engine, cut tires," said the 28-year-old driver. "None of those things has happened twice."

He won't bemoan his fate knowing that he won 33 races in the previous three seasons in part because his luck was good. This year, he might easily have won three more races, but had solid efforts curtailed twice by rain and once by an empty gas tank on tracks where he has few peers.

And then, there has been the competition. Points leader Dale

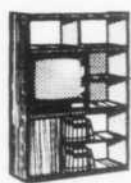
Jarrett has emerged as a superstar. Mark Martin has been less spectacular than he was in 1998, but as consistent as ever. Martin's teammate, Jeff Burton, has won five times.

Throw in Labonte, a four-time winner; and rookie sensation Stewart, who got his first victory Saturday night in Richmond, Va., and the list of what former champion Rusty Wallace calls "the usual suspects" is growing.

Gordon concurs. And he knows the youthful status of Labonte, Stewart and Burton, and the arrival next year of Busch series stars Dale Earnhardt Jr. and Matt Kenseth, will make future titles harder to come by.

"The competition has been getting better every year," he said. "It's never going to be as easy as it was to win the championship."

"And you just can't have a lot of problems like we've had. You just can't win the championship with six DNFs." ■



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