



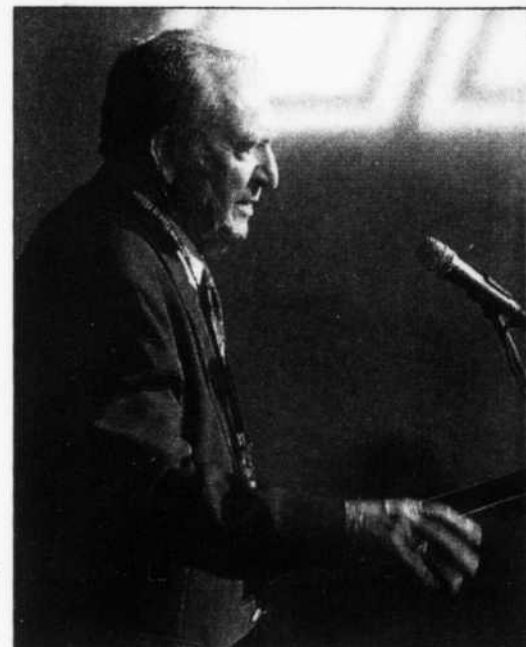
This week's poll question at  
www.mtsusidelines.com  
Have you or do you plan on  
watching the Democratic National  
Convention?

## Inductees enter Hall of Fame New Kennon building opens for ceremony

See page 8

Middle Tennessee State University

# SIDELINES



An editorially  
independent  
newspaper

Volume 80 No. 09

### CAMPUS BRIEFS

#### Rock 'n' Roll Camp held until Saturday

The Southern Girls Rock 'n' Roll Camp began on campus Monday. The camp, which offers females ages 12 to 18 a chance to learn more about the music industry while receiving instrumental instruction, runs through Saturday.

For more information, call 898-2193.

#### CUSTOMS session held for freshmen

There will be a CUSTOMS session for incoming freshmen held July 29-30. CUSTOMS is MTSU's new student orientation program.

For more information, visit Room 326 of the Keathley University Center, call 898-5533 or visit the CUSTOMS Web site at [www.mtsu.edu/~customs](http://www.mtsu.edu/~customs).

#### MTSU convocation features Garrels

University convocation will be held Aug. 29 at 2 p.m. in the Murphy Center. Anne Garrels will be the speaker for the event.

For more information, contact News and Public Affairs at 898-2919.

#### Exams, graduation Aug. 12 - Aug. 14

Final examinations for summer classes in Sessions III and IV will be Aug. 12 for classes that meet Monday through Thursday and Aug. 13 for classes that meet Monday through Friday.

MTSU's summer commencement ceremony will be held in the Murphy Center at 10 a.m. Aug. 14.

For more information, call News and Public Affairs at 898-2919.

#### Next Sidelines issue hits stands Aug. 30

Sidelines will cease production for the remainder of the summer. The next issue will be Aug. 30, when classes for the Fall 2004 semester begin.

For more information or to provide news tips, contact the Sidelines news desk at 898-2336.

#### Recruitment dates set for NPC, IFC

Sorority recruitment will take place Aug. 22-26 for organizations in the National Panhellenic Conference. Women interested in participating in recruitment can apply online at [www.mtsu.edu/~greeks/npc.htm](http://www.mtsu.edu/~greeks/npc.htm).

Fraternity recruitment will take place Sept. 13-18 for organizations in the North American Interfraternity Council. Applications are available online at [www.mtsu.edu/~greeks/ifc.htm](http://www.mtsu.edu/~greeks/ifc.htm).

For more information, contact the Greek Life office at 898-5996 or via e-mail at [greeks@mtsu.edu](mailto:greeks@mtsu.edu). The Greek Life office is located in Room 326H of the Keathley University Center. ♦

## Offenders must register with state

By Nona Kempton  
Staff Writer

Convicted sex offenders will have to register in person with local authorities when a stricter law goes into effect Aug. 1, law enforcement officials said.

According to Beth Denton, public information officer for the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation, Tennessee's sex offender registry will become a statewide database that will be maintained and accessed by all the state's law enforcement agencies, including MTSU campus police.

"There are 6,853 sex offend-

ers registered already, and we think we are at a 60 percent compliance rate at this point," Denton said.

"This law has a lot more teeth to it," MTSU police Lt. Jim Fanguy said, "and we were told in training that publicity for the new law has already increased compliance."

In the former system, people required to register as a sex offender had 10 days to register by mail with the TBI.

The new law will require sex offenders to register in person with their parole or probation officers within 48 hours of release from jail or prison. It

will also require offenders who are no longer on parole to register with local police or sheriff's departments.

The new registration will include a picture, fingerprints and information about the offender's current residence and employment. If a registered offender moves, changes jobs, enrolls in school or leaves the state, the information must be updated within 48 hours.

Fanguy said that he and Lt. Darrell Collins attended a four-hour training session about the new system two weeks ago at the TBI headquarters. He said he has not been notified of any

registered sex offenders enrolled at MTSU, but that could change with the new law.

"If an offender lives in Giles County, works in Maury County and goes to school at MTSU," Fanguy explained, "then he would have to register in Giles County, who will then notify the authorities in Maury County and here at MTSU."

Fanguy said that since the new system is online, information about a registered sex offender would be readily available when police pull up a record during an investigation, including traffic stops.

All offenders will be required

to register at least once per year; violent offenders, including those convicted of rape and aggravated sexual battery, will have to register four times per year.

"Because the rate of recidivism is so high with these types of offenses," Fanguy said, "we want to keep track of these individuals - where they live, where they work, where they go to school."

Denton said the tougher policy allows local law enforcement to keep better tabs on offenders in the area.

See Offenders, 3

## Parking fees rise for fall

By Kristin Hall  
Managing Editor

Freshmen and sophomores will have to pay an increase of \$50 in access fees next semester for a total of \$301, which will go to fund a 10-year parking plan.

According to Ron Malone, director of events and transportation, Parking Services will need to raise \$30 million to add several new features to improve parking on campus.

"The freshmen paid for it last year and freshmen and sophomores are responsible for that increase this year," Malone explained.

The phased-in fees increase was established so students who will not benefit from the plan do not have to pay the increased fees.

Faculty, staff and administration will also have to bear the burden and will pay \$85 for a white parking pass, a \$20 increase.

Malone said that the bidding for the construction of phase one of the plan would begin this fall.

The surface lot plan includes:

- 3,500 new spaces on surface lots.

- Widening of Rutherford Boulevard.

- A new shuttle entrance to Greek Row at the south end.

- Shuttle lanes for Raider Xpress buses.

- More lighting and bike lanes.

"Regardless of whether you drive or not, you'll be able to take advantage of improvements we are making in the interest of our campus," Malone said.

Most of the new parking spaces will be on the perimeter of the campus, but Malone said that with improved shuttle service, students would find it quick and easy to get to classes.

With parking being a heated issue on campus, students have varying opinions about the plan.

"It's just a few dollars, so that's not such a big deal," said Stacey Smith, a senior mass communication major.

Smith said that she hasn't seen any problem with the buses maneuvering through traffic, so she questioned the need for a shuttle lane.

Willette Grady, a senior elementary education major, said she tends to park in the lots farther away and takes the bus into campus.

"Shuttle lanes would be nice, especially during the first few weeks of school," Grady noted.

Jason Smith, a junior politi-

See Parking, 3

### Get your money for nothin'

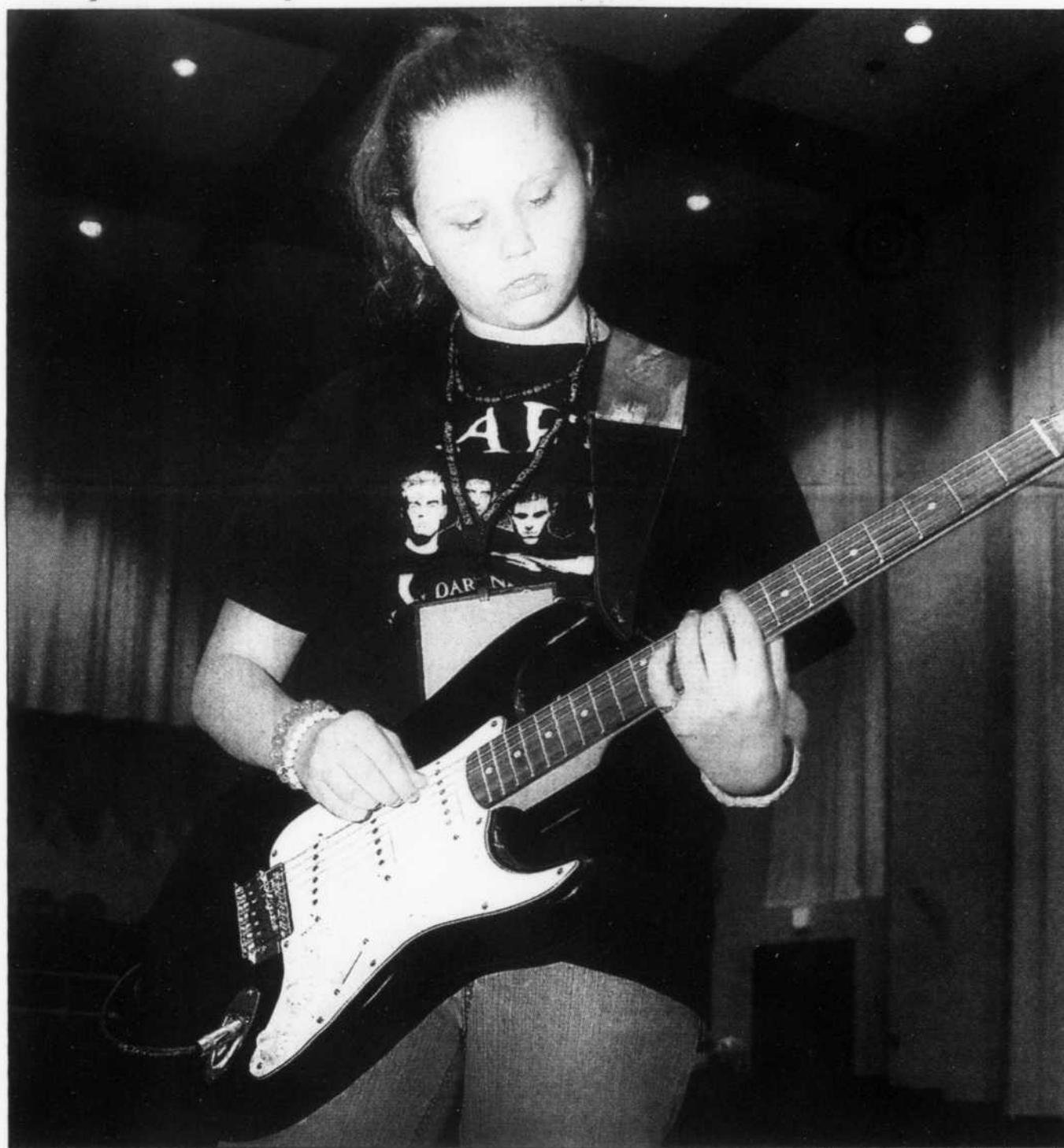


Photo by Steve Cross | Chief Photographer

Chris Webb hones her guitar skills at the Southern Girls Rock 'n' Roll Camp held on campus this week. This is the second year for the camp, which is sponsored in part by the June Anderson Women's Center.

## Writer's Loft expands circulation to MTSU

By Brandon Morrison  
Staff Writer

Being a writer is a daunting task, according to The Writer's Loft founder Roy Burkhad.

"As a writer, we have the wonderful privilege of giving a voice to the voiceless," Burkhad said. "There are millions of people all over the planet that have important things to say, but they have no way of communicating it. Even if they do, they don't have time. If they have time and a way to communicate, they don't have the venue."

"As writers, we have access to all these things. That's a privilege and a responsibility to be

social and to look out into the world and find people who need voice."

The Writer's Loft serves as a literary program for potential writers. The program, now in its third semester, gives writers a chance to work with published authors from around the country to improve their writing.

The program has decided to expand the distribution of its magazine, *The Literary Trunk*, to MTSU students.

"This [The Literary Trunk] has been a product for our students and our mentors and our supporters," Burkhad said.

See Loft, 3

Photo provided by J. Intintoli

Silas House, author of *Clay's Quilt* and mentor for The Writer's Loft, appeared at the Murfreesboro Library for a public reading of his book on March 3.





## CRIME LOG

### Thursday, July 15

• 1:59 a.m.  
Tennessee Boulevard  
Enrique Camorlinga of Murfreesboro was arrested for driving under the influence (first offense).

### Thursday, July 15

• 12:10 p.m.  
Alumni Memorial Gym  
A bike was reported stolen.

### Friday, July 16

• 5:58 p.m.  
Clement Hall  
Multiple items were stolen from residents of Clement Hall.

### Sunday, July 18

• 11:30 p.m.  
Clement Hall  
Christopher Harris of Memphis was arrested for simple possession of marijuana and outstanding warrants.

### Monday, July 19

• 2:30 p.m.  
Todd Library  
Tools were reported stolen from the library.

### Wednesday, July 21

• 4:20 p.m.  
Tennessee Boulevard at Greenland Drive  
Mary Jessica Thompson of Murfreesboro was arrested for driving on a suspended license.

### Thursday, July 22

• 11:14 p.m.  
Tennessee Boulevard at Greenland Drive  
Vincent Batts of Murfreesboro was arrested for possessing a drug without a prescription, careless driving and violating the seatbelt law.

### Saturday, July 24

• 4:14 a.m.  
Blue Raider Drive  
Mitchell Clayborn of Murfreesboro was arrested for public intoxication. Clayborn, who is not a student, was also issued a trespass warning.

### Saturday, July 24

• 4:19 a.m.  
Kirksey Old Main Building  
The glass of two doors on the third and fourth floors of the KOM was broken. Two doors on the first floor of the building were found propped open.

### Saturday, July 24

• 8:30 a.m.  
Wiser-Patten Science Hall  
There was a possible forced entry of Room 212 of the Wiser-Patten Science Hall as glass from the door was found on the floor. At the time, it was unknown as to whether or not any items were taken from the room. Room 111 of the building was found propped open, although nothing appeared disturbed. Maintenance was notified.

### Sunday, July 25

• 1:09 a.m.  
Rutherford Boulevard  
Chase Andrew Pendergast of Murfreesboro was arrested for driving under the influence (first offense).

### Monday, July 26

• 8:25 a.m.  
Art Barn  
A painting was reported stolen from the Art Barn.

### Monday, July 26

• 7:59 p.m.  
Clement Hall  
A subject was reported to have made threats with a firearm.

These entries were compiled from Public Safety's media log. To report a crime or emergency, call 898-2424. ♦

## Bredesen fills vacancies for three TBR positions

### Staff Reports

Gov. Phil Bredesen filled three vacancies in the Tennessee Board of Regents last week, making it more representative of Tennessee's racial make-up.

Agenia Clark, the new 7th District citizen representative, a n a r d Roddy, who will serve as the East Tennessee at-large citizen representative, will bring the total of black members on the TBR to three, or approximately 16 percent of the 18-member board. Black citizens made up 16 percent of Tennessee's population, as recorded by the 2000 U.S. Census.

Previously, the board consisted of one black member, or about 5 percent of the total Board. This was a main consideration in making the decision, according to the governor.

"In finding the right persons to fill the open positions on the Board, not only was it important to find people with the

right knowledge and experience for the job, but to find members who reflect the great diversity of our state," Bredesen said in a press release.

Fran Marcum was also appointed as the 4th District citizen representative. Each of the new members was appointed for a six-year term.

"We look forward to getting to know each of them better and to working with them in our system's continuing efforts to maximize access to higher education for all Tennesseans," TBR Chancellor Charles Manning said in a press release.

"It is especially exciting to have two additional African-Americans on the board and to have a net addition of one woman," he added. "These appointments change the face of the board in some respects, making it more representative of Tennesseans as a whole, and we welcome that increased diversity." ♦



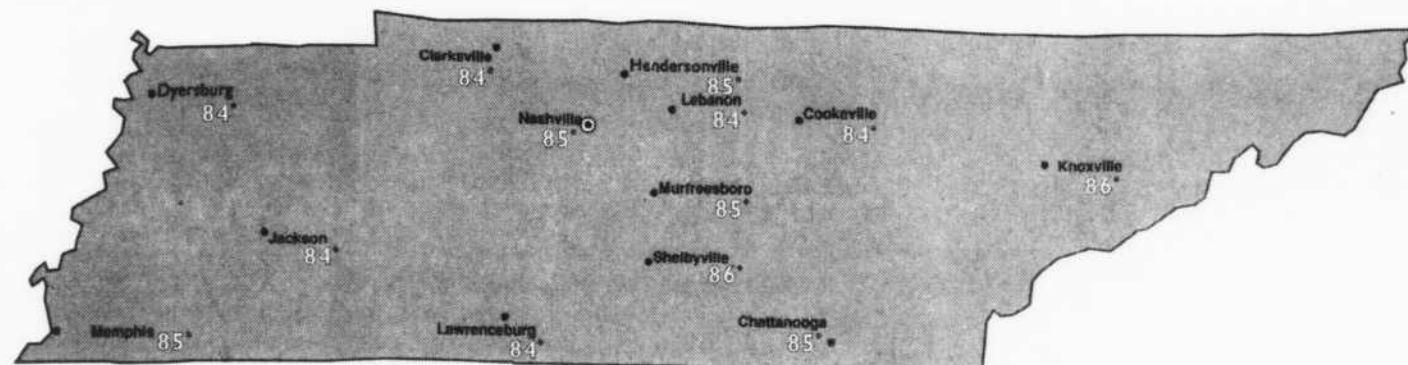
Clark



Roddy

## Tennessee Weather – Wednesday's Highs

From the Associated Press



### Thursday



### Friday



### Saturday



### Sunday



### Monday



## Relax and Ride adds new buses

By Matt Anderson  
Staff Writer

The Regional Transportation Authority recently added two "suburban-style" buses to its Relax and Ride commuter bus service, which runs between MTSU and Nashville.

"They've been upgraded for longer commutes, so that they're more comfortable," Hanne Flippan, Marketing Director for RTA, said.

The upgrades include high back reclining seats, individual reading lights and overhead parcel compartments. The buses are wheelchair accessible.

"The trip to work for the Rutherford County 'Relax & Ride' commuters is now a much more comfortable and relaxing trip," Nashville Mayor Bill Purcell said in a press release. "The level of comfort with amenities such as high-back seats, overhead parcel racks and individual reading lights is refreshing."

Purcell also serves as RTA chairman.

The buses carry about 125 passengers a day to stops in Smyrna, Lavergne, Antioch and Nashville. MTSU's stop is located outside the James Union Building. Flippan expects the passenger load to fluctuate as school starts.

Fares from Rutherford to Davidson county are \$2.25 one



Photo provided by Brooke Pruitt

The ribbon-cutting ceremony for the new Relax and Ride buses was held at dawn July 21. The new buses feature reclining seats and are wheelchair accessible.

way, but a reduced rate of \$1.00 is available to MTSU students and faculty.

MTSU Director of Events and Transportation Ron Malone says the buses are helpful to commuters, but they are part of RTA's larger plan for the stretch of I-24 between

Murfreesboro and Nashville, which officials refer to as the "southeast corridor."

Future potential plans include a light rail system or special bus lanes. Officials are now holding town meetings to get the public's input.

"A light rail is more of a

monorail type of train," Malone said. "It's a lot lighter; it's what most countries in Europe are using."

"It would run all day, not just during commuter times," he said. "They're looking for ways to move individuals from Nashville to Murfreesboro." ♦

## Two-week program instructs teachers, gifted students

By Alex Miller  
Staff Writer

More than 200 elementary, middle and high school students and 45 Tennessee teachers attended the sixth annual Academy for Teachers of the Gifted hosted by MTSU.

The Academy for Teachers of the Gifted is a two-week summer program. During the first week, teachers from all over Tennessee converged on the MTSU campus to learn techniques designed specifically for the teaching of gifted students.

Jim Delisle, professor of education at Kent State University and author of more than 200 articles and 11 books, addressed the teachers, as did a NASA intern.

Gifted students from Rutherford County flocked to MTSU to take courses in math, science, reading, computer, and

contemporary issues. Teachers applied what they learned during the first week to the courses they taught during the second week.

Since the academy is supported in part by an Improving Teacher Quality Grant, the focus of the academy has to be on math and science, but teachers tried to make their activities broad enough to encompass a variety of academic disciplines.

Primary school students made instruments out of plants and played them in the Mass Communication building where they cut a compact disc. They also cooked s'mores with solar ovens that they made out of pizza boxes.

Middle school students learned to predict the weather and videotaped their weather reports at the McWhorter Learning Resource Center. They also launched model rockets,

competing to achieve the highest altitude.

High school students scoured the campus for edible plants and talked to MTSU faculty members about alternative fuels.

"There were so many projects. I was just amazed," said Bella Higdon, director of the Academy for Teachers of the Gifted. She has taught at MTSU for more than 20 years and currently serves as the Associate Dean in the College of Education and Behavioral Sciences.

According to Higdon, the purpose of the academy is to "provide training and experience to teachers of students with unique gifts and talents."

Higdon said the only problem with the academy is that they have to limit the number of teachers. More than a hundred applied to the academy, but the grant was only big enough to let

45 attend.

The academy speeds up the process for applicants who still need to earn the minimum professional development hours to meet employment standards for teachers of gifted students.

Teachers receive six hours of professional development credits, or three to six hours of graduate credits if they pay MTSU tuition and complete a research project in the fall.

The academy awards teachers a \$500 stipend upon successful completion of the program.

Donations from Jennings and Rebecca Jones and an Improving Teacher Quality Grant awarded by the Tennessee Higher Education Commission funded the academy, which is free and open to any gifted student in Rutherford County.

The program lasted 11 days, July 12-23. ♦

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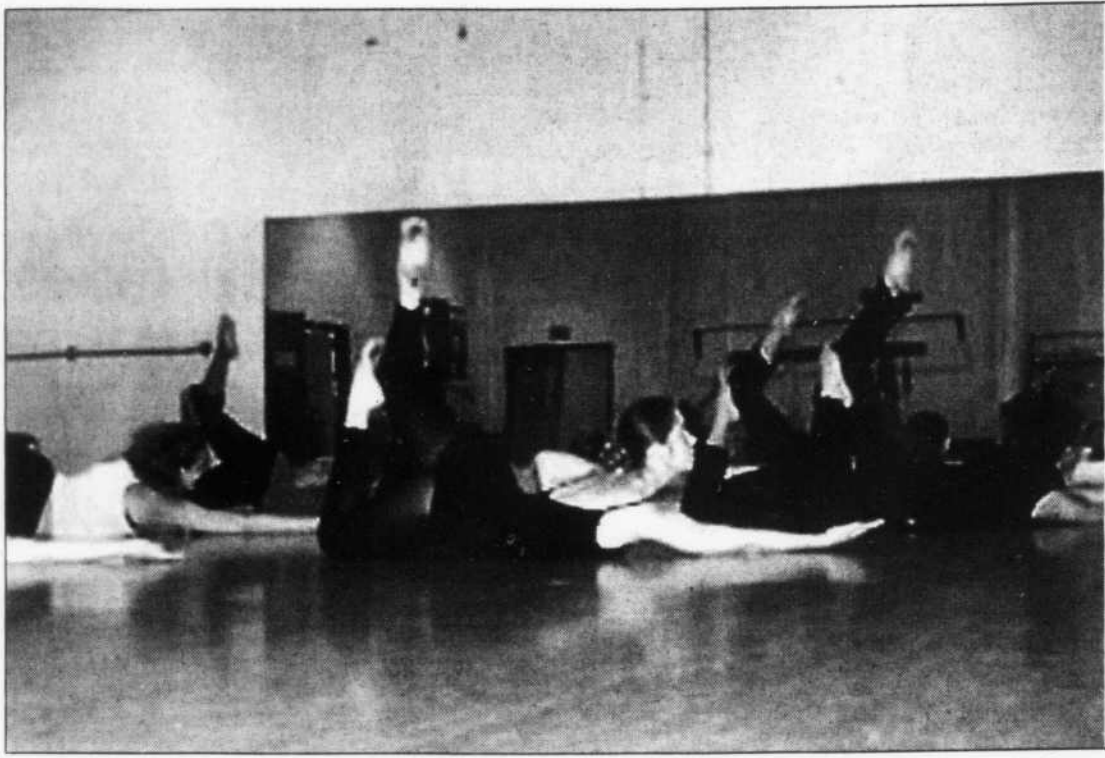


Photo courtesy of MTSU Performing Arts Company  
Participants in last year's Summer Dance Intensive, hosted by the MTSU Performing Arts Company, enjoyed a week of instruction in several forms and styles of dance.

## Weeklong dance intensive offers training for all levels

By Emily Nance  
Staff Writer

The MTSU Performing Arts Company will once again be putting on their Summer Dance Intensive at Murphy Center beginning Aug. 9.

The Summer Dance Intensive was developed out of MPAC's continuing goal to create new outlets for serious dance performers and to stimulate new ideas in dance within the community, according to a press release.

The theme for this year's event is "Raising the Barre with a New Attitude."

"Several of us at one point were looking at the dance variety we have in this area," said Valerie Hackworth, MPAC's communications director.

"We are a semi-professional, recreational group of dancers, but we want something challenging and something that's going to give us the opportunity to learn more and advance in dance," she added.

Ballet, modern, jazz, African, hip-hop and Latin jazz are among the types of classes offered for beginners to professionals during the third annual

weeklong workshop.

"A lot of our people that come up just decide they want to take the class and they come up that week and take the classes," Hackworth said.

The faculty and staff include dancers from all over the United States. Many of this year's instructors have studied in New York City and performed with some of the most elite dance troupes, including the Alvin Ailey Repertory Ensemble and the Martha Graham Center for Contemporary Dance.

Kevin Viega from Florida will be teaching Horton technique. Viega has danced professionally with Danny Sloan Dance Company of Boston, the Dallas Black Dance Theatre of Texas and others.

Sonje Mayo, who trained as a classical ballet dancer in South Africa and England, will be teaching pilates.

A dancer in the Opening Ceremonies of the 1996 Summer Olympic Games, Leon Von Brown, will be teaching jazz.

Dianne Maroney-Grigsby will be teaching modern and jazz. She received her training in New York City and has per-

formed in Europe, Asia and Africa.

Mary Arwen, who currently dances with the local company Epiphany, will be teaching the Graham technique.

Puerto Rican native and current MTSU faculty member Francisco Ramos will be teaching Latin dance.

Director of MPAC and 1994 MTSU graduate Angela Armstrong will teach pilates and aerobics. Armstrong has been teaching dance at MTSU since 1997.

"Between last year and this year we had a six percent increase in attendance so we are hoping for another six percent increase this year," Hackworth said.

The cost of the five-day workshop is \$110. One day is \$30, and a single class is \$15. A \$15 registration fee is required.

"[We wanted] something to take away with us, a new dance experience," Hackworth said. "[The Summer Intensive] grew out of that need. There are several recreational dancers in this area and we all need new outlets." ♦

## Offenders: Failure to register now a felony

Continued from 1

"Reports will be run so that we will know when it's time for people to re-register. Failure to register on time will be a felony now," Denton said.

Before the new law, failure to register or keep a registration current was a misdemeanor in Tennessee. After Aug. 1, non-

compliance is a felony that could carry a prison term.

Denton said that the decision to prosecute an offender for failing to register is left to county prosecutors once a violation has been verified.

She said that the new law and the new registration system were patterned on methods used in other states.

"We modeled ours after other states that were at least at an 80 percent compliance rate."

The TBI Web site allows the public to perform a search of the sex offender list for a specific person.

"If you are concerned about the neighbor two doors down," Denton said, "you can search by name, address and county." ♦

## Loft: Program offers much to non-students

Continued from 1

"Now, it's a way to showcase our work."

According to Burkad, the expansion of *The Literary Trunk* is in response to the closing of *Collage*, a literary arts magazine formerly published by Student Publications.

Burkad pulls their mentors from all over the country, including two from the MTSU faculty.

Alvin Knox is an English professor at MTSU and participates as a mentor for the Writer's Loft.

WMOT News Director Randy O'Brien is another men-

tor for The Writer's Loft. O'Brien is a published novelist, and is also a frequent short fiction and screenplay writer.

Mentors at the Writer's Loft guide up to five students per semester by giving pointers on drafts students send. According to Burkhad, many of the students start off very timid, but soon blossom in the program.

"People by nature are humble. They come to the table and they say 'Well, I want to be a writer, but I've only done this or that.' Then I say let's not talk about what you haven't done, let's start fresh," Burkhad said.

One student who participates in the Writer's Loft pro-

gram was chosen to attend the Sewanee's Writer's Conference. Another student recently started on a Master of Fine Arts Writing Program at MTSU.

The Writer's Loft offers plenty to non-students as well.

"A tremendous amount that the Writer's [Loft] offers is free," Burkhad said.

The program offers three public book readings per semester, as well as literary panel discussions at Davis Kidd's book store.

Future plans for the Writer's Loft include a smaller version for middle school students and a program geared towards participants in the military. ♦

## Parking: 10-year plan implemented

Continued from 1

cal science major who also works for Parking Services, said it's just a matter of convenience for some students.

"There are some students that don't like walking," Smith said. "On the other hand, all you have to do is get up early, and you won't have to worry about walking."

While he said that he thinks the parking situation now is no trouble, he said the 10-year plan won't benefit him.

"That's frustrating to me to know that I have money going toward parking that I'm not even going to see," he said. ♦

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# OPINIONS

Murfreesboro, Tenn.

Wednesday, July 28, 2004

SIDELINES ♦ 4

## From the Editorial Board

### Jump on the new bus, get on the bandwagon

With two new buses added to the Relax and Ride service between Murfreesboro and Nashville, we'd like to encourage our readers to take advantage of public transportation.

Taking the bus is an effective way to get from here to there, in addition to the many perks of leaving your gas-guzzling sport utility vehicle in the driveway while you work for the Man 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

For one, rising gas prices have many wondering where to cut corners in their budgets. Taking the bus to work means shelling out less money for gas. Also utilizing public transportation also down on those pesky car maintenance costs, such as oil changes and transmission flushes.

Taking the bus means fewer cars will be on the already overcrowded roads, cutting down on some of the standstill traffic we're all too familiar with during the morning and evening commutes. Fewer cars on the road causes a decrease in the production of the environmentally unfriendly fumes that create all kinds of problems for our ever-fragile planet, which is currently being strangled by our aerosol hairsprays and unrecycled aluminum beer cans.

Lebanon, our friendly neighbor to the northeast, is getting a commuter rail system, and it's about time Murfreesboro did the same.

We've got plenty of people who could benefit from such a system, and if it means not having to deal with the constant road construction, lane closures and congested traffic, it's definitely worth looking into.

With so much traffic traveling between Nashville and Murfreesboro every day, we're surprised public transportation isn't already a staple for Murfreesboro residents.

MTSU students and faculty can benefit from a reduced rate, so there's no need to fill up your tank and illegally drive in the high occupancy vehicle lane at a ridiculous speed on your way into town.

Cities with high traffic volumes use public transportation, and while we may not be ready to put in a subway system, we definitely need to take some steps to cut down on the number of cars that clog I-24.

So sit back in your reclined seat, eat your breakfast cereal bar with half the carbs and enjoy the smooth yet affordable ride to and from work. ♦

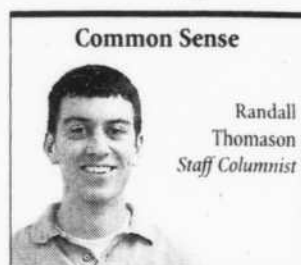
## Sen. Clinton expresses socialist message on taxes

Sen. Hillary Clinton showed her true colors recently at a fundraiser for one of her California colleagues in the Senate, Barbara Boxer. The New York senator, speaking to a crowd that included many who paid thousands of dollars to attend, said the following about recently enacted tax cuts:

"Many of you are well enough off that ... the tax cuts may have helped you. We're saying that for America to get back on track, we're probably going to cut that short and not give it to you. We're going to take things away from you on behalf of the common good."

Clinton is the country's most dangerous political figure, and these comments provide scary insight into what we can expect if we elect John Kerry to the presidency, or one day elect Clinton herself (perish the thought).

The former first lady's remarks shed valuable light onto her mindset regarding the American workforce. She obviously believes that wealth is not individually earned, but rather is owned by the gov-



Common Sense  
Randall Thomason  
Staff Columnist

ernment and distributed at government's discretion.

Aside from the fact that she lied about who benefited from the Bush tax cuts (every citizen that pays income tax received a rate slash), the very idea that she thinks the government can "take things away from

Clinton's comments are also noteworthy because she echoes the ever-pervasive cries of the Democratic Party that seeks to use class warfare to persuade voters.

The Democrats are in the business of buying votes by promising largess from the federal treasury to those who contribute next to nothing in federal income taxes.

Their solution to every problem is a tax increase, but the public often goes unalarmed because they are promised that the rate

economic environment is also going to take a downturn.

It is the wealthy that hire workers for their businesses; it is the wealthy that purchase expensive luxuries that keep untold numbers of industries busy, thereby keeping workers employed.

It is the wealthy that invest large sums of money in various holdings that help drive the economy forward which ultimately makes it easier for the rest of us to try to improve our own standards of living.

The most troubling aspect regarding Clinton's comments at the fundraiser is that neither she nor her party has any sort of an uplifting message regarding those of us who either are or will soon be attempting to carve our own place in the American economy.

Democrats don't seek to inspire us to achieve, but rather seek to lower everyone to the least common denominator through socialist programs and tax increases on those evil, filthy rich elitists.

I don't want to be led by a party or an individual who promises me some

form of economic security by taking away money that was rightfully earned by someone else and passing it along to me.

I want to be led by someone who is inspirational and creates an environment where I am free to map my own course in life and become self-sufficient.

Hillary Clinton, John Kerry and other like-minded liberals promise government involvement to maintain a strong economy, when we really need political leaders who will keep government off of our backs and allow us to use the ingenuity and freedom that has propelled this country to become the greatest economic power in the world's history.

So my message to Clinton on behalf of the new conservative movement well afoot in this country: Take your socialism somewhere else, because it's not wanted here. ♦

Randall Thomason is a junior mass communication major and can be reached at [rthomason@raiderrepublishers.com](mailto:rthomason@raiderrepublishers.com).

"Democrats don't seek to inspire us to achieve, but rather seek to lower everyone to the least common denominator through socialist programs and tax increases on those evil, filthy rich elitists."

you on behalf of the common good" clearly shows her elitist attitude.

She believes government knows how to distribute and spend money far better than you and I do.

increases are only going to affect the top 1 or 2 percent of wage earners.

This is an economic impossibility because if government saps extra money from its wealthiest citizens, the overall eco-

## Letters to the Editor

### Don't be petty, liberals, be respectful

So apparently, "some people have sent care packages and donated to veterans' charities" ("Liberals do support veterans, despite conservative opinions," July 21). Gee, do the liberals want a cookie? Conservatives have been doing that and fighting the war against terrorism.

On Memorial Day, conservative radio talk show host Steve Gill raised monetary funds and took up donations in a very successful drive for Project Unlimited Support, an organization that sends these things to soldiers abroad and also to their struggling families here at home. But I suppose that was a fluke.

I, for one, do not think military equipment grows on trees, Mr. Majors. Perhaps that is why my president (the one that you claim lies) approved the largest increase in the defense budget since the Reagan administration - 26 percent.

His proposed plan for 2005 has an increase of 7 percent from last year. But the president whom we all know did lie (that would be Bill Clinton) decreased defense budget spending by nearly \$10 billion and funneled that money instead through liberal social programs. Perhaps that is what made us vulnerable to attack.

How can the liberals still bash the effort in Iraq? Ted Kennedy said, "To gain political advantage over the Democrats, President Bush is lying to the American public by exaggerating the threat posed by terrorism."

Yes, Ted, and in the words of renowned lawyer Mark W. Smith, "British prime minister Tony Blair, Secretary of State Colin Powell, Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld and the American and British military and intelligence services all worked in conspiracy with President George Bush to fabricate reasons to invade Iraq." Right.

Bush is not lying, by the way. For 12 years, Saddam had been lying to U.N. weapons inspectors, going so far as kicking them out of the country, and violating nearly every sanction the United Nations put on him after defeating him in Kuwait.

This, coupled with the fact that he was raping, torturing and slaughtering 500,000 of his own population and harboring terrorists, led to us to get involved again. And let's not forget it was Clinton who reconfigured our intelligence community, making it a poor source of information. Bush was right: Militant Islamists really do want to kill us.

Is America really so bad? Is Bush really so bad? Let us stop being petty and realize the blessings that we as Americans are able to enjoy on a daily basis that other parts of the world don't even know.

[We have] luxuries like air conditioning, cars, television, stereos and clothes washers and dryers. Even Americans defined as living in poverty have these things. Iraq was, under Saddam, primitive compared to this lifestyle.

Yes, the Bush family is wealthy, but I suppose that the Heinz family is impoverished? I don't think so. Kerry married the ketchup queen. He doesn't know poverty any more than Bush.

So as an outcry to the liberals, please stop bashing the current leader of our country and start showing him the respect he deserves.

Kara Watkins

### Conservative columnists need more space

Where do I begin?

Let's start with Kristin Hall's "Free Bobby Fischer" from July 21. Here, I read about Fischer's capture after 12 years on the run.

To finish the editorial, she implores President George W. Bush to "forgive Fischer's trespasses." Is he a judge? Oh, I see, grant an Executive Order because of his duress that resulted from fame. Boo, woo.

I know that the following phrase is a mind-set rather than common law, but what ever happened to "Let the punishment fit the crime?"

Liberals see the phrase differently, "Let the punishment fit the crime, but not if you are famous, a woman, poor, your parents are divorced, etc." Laws are established to provide order, not excuses and not to harbor criminals.

Mr. Blevins and Mr. Majors: Have you ever thought about one of the reasons why a Democrat would be faster at raising taxes than a Republican is to keep people poor? Why? As the stereotype goes, poor people vote Democrat because they are scared with rhetoric such as yours. Interesting how that works out.

Ms. Crotzer's editorial, a bright light among the other liberal scare tactics, demonstrated something that she learned, a life lesson if you will. What makes the article more engaging is that she did not blame her ailing foot on Bush.

Please hire Kara Watkins and allow Mr. Wax more space for his few-and-far-between editorials. Individuals such as these use logic and do not sacrifice truth by their emotions.

Luke Anderson

Senior

College of Basic and Applied Science

Do you want to berate us in public?

E-mail us at [slopinio@mtsu.edu](mailto:slopinio@mtsu.edu)

## SIDELINES

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### Letters Policy

Sidelines welcomes letters to the editor from all readers. Please e-mail letters to [slopinio@mtsu.edu](mailto:slopinio@mtsu.edu), and include your name and a phone number for verification.

Sidelines will not publish anonymous letters. We reserve the right to edit grammar, length and content.

## Armstrong's sixth win embodies perseverance

An American success story rode its way into Paris and the history books over the weekend. The hero of that story was a Texan on a bicycle, who beat the clock and the competition the same way he beat cancer.

Lance Armstrong has just captured his 6th consecutive Tour de France victory. There are only a handful of legends who have won five tours, including Armstrong, but five was not good enough - he needed six.

The road to success has not been easy for Armstrong. Cancer pushed the cyclist to the brink, almost taking his life. The very next season, however, with a renewed spirit and rigid determination he won his first tour.

No one hates to see an American win the tour like the people in France, especially not a cocky Texan who, one year earlier, was thought to be finished.

Scandal and rumor circled Armstrong concerning dope and steroid usage. Investigations were conducted and nothing was ever found. Armstrong would never live it down, though.

Early in the summer there were many people in and around the tour who said that Armstrong had no chance. They said he was too old and his competition was too fast. Armstrong overcame time and time again.

The man seems to have a knack for tackling the problems of life the same way he tackles the mountains in France: with vigor.

Often times, we complain about the storms life blows our way. I think that if we put into perspective some of the incredible things we can do with determination, we will see that there really is no mountain too high.

Perseverance is something that is sometimes hard to find these days. In the fast paced, instant gratification society that we live in, working hard and long for things is not always the cool thing to do.

This July, you may notice many people wearing yellow armbands that say "Live Strong." Proceeds from the band, however, go straight to cancer research and are still available at any sporting goods store.

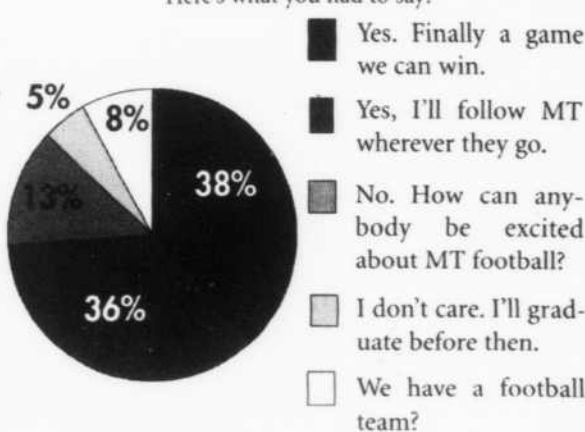
I think Armstrong getting the coveted sixth win - which has eluded his sport's greatest athletes through the years - is very fitting. I think he has inspired many people. I would say that Lance Armstrong embodies the American spirit.

There are two bottom lines today. The first is that Armstrong didn't just win the tour, he won big. The second is that no mountain is too high and no obstacle too tough to overcome. ♦

Trey Porter is a junior journalism major and can be reached at [yellowcardswEEP@yahoo.com](mailto:yellowcardswEEP@yahoo.com).

### Sidelines online poll results

Last week we asked readers, "Are you excited that MTSU will play Vanderbilt in 2005?" Here's what you had to say:



126 people voted in this poll. Be sure to vote in this week's poll, "Have you or will you watch the Democratic National Convention?"

Poll results are not scientific.



## Alternative marriages destroy the foundation of matrimony

In mid-July, proponents of traditional marriage suffered a setback when the U.S. Senate voted down an attempt to begin discussion on the federal marriage amendment.

The first sentence of the failed amendment said, "Marriage in the United States shall consist only of the union of a man and a woman."

Amending the Constitution is a serious matter. Our founding fathers demonstrated much wisdom and brilliance when they developed the Constitution, and they intended that Congress would create laws and the judiciary would interpret them.

But liberal judges in Massachusetts didn't get the memo.

More accurately, the judges didn't want to just interpret the law. They wanted to create it. Thus they stripped Congress' power by legislating their own liberal agenda when they legalized homosexual marriage.

Since the Massachusetts judges hadn't been able to see their policy legalized through the legislative branch, they took it upon themselves to enact their agenda.

Now America is left to deal with the consequences.

Why is homosexual marriage a problem? First of all, homosexuality is a problem. It's not healthy.

In 1995, Pierre J. Tremblay, an expert on suicide presented a lecture titled, "The Homosexuality Factor in the Youth Suicide Problem" to the Canadian Association for Suicide Prevention. Tremblay concluded, "Gay males are at least two to three times, and maybe four times more likely to commit suicide than heterosexual males."

Ignoring the empirical evidence, liberals blame society for lack of understanding or acceptance of the homosexual

### Reality Check



Justin Wax  
Staff Columnist

lifestyle. But is society blamed for lack of understanding when heterosexuals commit suicide? No.

The argument that society is to blame for homosexual suicide fails to account for the problems and struggles that heterosexuals faced when they took their lives.

The common thread is that all of the people who committed suicide felt that their problems were too much to deal with. It's simplistic and irresponsible to blame society as the source of homosexual suicide.

Conservatives, on the contrary, attempt to solve the struggle of homosexuality by going to the root of the problem. They recognize that homosexuality is an internal battle.

As a result, conservatives advocate internal healing to help escape the lifestyle. One group in particular, Exodus International, has helped many individuals leave the homosexual lifestyle and experience this internal healing.

Yet homosexuality is not limited to each individual. It affects society.

Cheryl Jacques, spokesperson for the gay activist group, Human Rights Campaign, called supporters of the marriage amendment "hate-filled people who will stop at nothing to achieve their discriminatory, offensive goals."

Jacques must think a lot of Americans are hateful bigots,

considering the fact that the vast majority of Americans oppose homosexual marriage. Perhaps Americans oppose homosexual marriage because they have seen the consequences in Europe.

Stanley Kurtz, senior research fellow at the Hoover Institution, wrote in a February issue of *The Weekly Standard*, regarding homosexual marriage in Scandinavia, "It has further undermined the institution. The separation of marriage from parenthood was increasing; gay marriage was rising; gay marriage has added to the factors pushing those rates higher. Instead of encouraging a society-wide return to marriage, Scandinavian gay marriage has driven home the message that marriage itself is outdated, and that virtually any family form, including out-of-wedlock parenthood, is acceptable."

Homosexual marriage isn't the only problem facing the family. But it should still be taken very seriously because it will bring disastrous consequences if it is not outlawed.

Psychologist and founder of Focus on the Family, James Dobson wrote, "If [marriage] is not exclusively between one man and one woman, then any combination of temporary relationships could qualify, such as two men and three women. Polygamy itself would be legal. In short, if marriage means everything, then it ultimately means nothing."

Does anyone really want to live or raise children in that kind of America? In November, let your voice be heard by voting for candidates who want to protect marriage. ♦

Justin Wax is a sophomore history major and can be reached at [jtw2n@mtsu.edu](mailto:jtw2n@mtsu.edu).

## Kerry doesn't flip flop on issues; Bush's record speaks for itself

The president accuses his opponent, Sen. John Kerry, of "flip flops."

The greatest one George W. Bush and his henchmen espouse is that of Kerry's vote on the Iraq war's \$87 billion supplemental funding bill. Kerry voted against it and Bush paints him as unpatriotic.

Instead, Kerry was voting as recommended by well-respected group "Veterans for Common Sense," which urged no blank check and to set conditions on the funds for Iraq.

In fact, it was a coalition of 16 organizations that sent a letter to all members of Congress on Oct. 16, 2003, pleading them to "send a clear message to the administration to change its course in Iraq and to do far more to obtain the resources and expertise that are needed in Iraq from the broader international community."

Personally, I think Kerry's vote on that bill was appropriate.

Let's explore the Bush administration record in terms of flip flops. There are millions, to be sure, but we'll just delve into a few famous campaign promises versus the real record, shall we? I think after reading these, you'll agree Bush is full of hot air.

Q: Didn't Bush promise to restore integrity and accountability to the White House?

A: He went to Iraq based on lies and erroneous judgments and has yet to acknowledge his administration's flawed judgment (although recently his British counterpart Tony Blair apologized to his country for his erroneous actions).

Also, it was announced last week that the vice president will face criminal indictments for illegal activities while he was chief executive officer of Halliburton and for also illegally intervening to win Halliburton a \$7 billion no-bid contract according to the White House counsel's office. Isn't that called war profiteering?

Furthermore, Cheney refuses to disclose documentation that would lay to rest (or confirm)

### Dalmatian Nation



Maura Satchell  
Staff Columnist

accusations that this administration's energy policies are based on the needs of the big energy companies and not those of the best interest of the country.

If this administration is so hell-bent on restoring integrity, shouldn't Cheney disclose all of those documents? Set a good example.

And if that's not enough, Tom Delay, the Republican House Majority Leader, is also under indictment for violating election laws.

And don't forget the investigation into the leaking of the identity of the CIA spy, Valerie Plame, and the investigation into House Republican bribery and corruption charges during the Medicare drug benefit vote. Restoration of integrity, indeed.

Q: Didn't Bush campaign as a uniter, not a divider?

A: His Republican Congress has attempted to create the most divisive legislation in history, with the gay marriage act and other such legislation.

His recent no-show at the NAACP Convention was one of the most glaring examples of this attitude. Rather than go there, break bread with his opponents, take the time to understand where they are coming from and give them a voice, he dissed them.

His party's control over Congress has led to some of the most devious and vicious behavior in the annals of American lawmaking.

Sadly, statesmanship has given way to partisanship to the point where Republicans target those Republicans who dare "cross the aisle" in effort to find common ground and support other Republican candidates against them.

Also, I don't think what Bush did in going to war in Iraq was a very unity-building kind of behavior. It eradicated all of the goodwill our country earned after Sept. 11, 2001 and cut loose allies with whom our country had fought side by side throughout three centuries.

Q: But aren't we safer now, like Bush says?

A: The 9/11 commission outlined 10 missed opportunities in its report — six of them occurred during the Bush administration.

Rather than focusing the military's might and efforts on capturing Osama Bin Laden, Bush gave the order to attack a toothless historical enemy to settle an old score.

Now, our all-volunteer military is stretched so thin we have had to remove troops from the Korean peninsula (where the next-door neighbor, North Korea, continues to build nuclear missiles that can hit California).

Our military is at such a precipice that the flap of a butterfly's wings in Istanbul could cause the Pentagon to reinstate the draft here.

Journalists covering the current Democratic National Convention in Boston were told to carry gas masks in case of a terrorist attack there. That doesn't sound too safe to me.

In short, this has been a dishonest and deeply partisan administration and we're not safer by a long stretch.

John Kerry voted against the \$87 billion but at the request of a highly respected veterans organization and 15 other organizations who wanted to internationalize the effort.

We need a president who really will restore integrity, will act as a true uniter, and will truly secure our borders by rebuilding historical and much-needed alliances and mind the military like one who has been there. ♦

Maura Satchell is senior mass communication major and can be reached at [mws2d@mtsu.edu](mailto:mws2d@mtsu.edu).

## Tennessee needs reforms to combat police irresponsibility, misconduct

Police irresponsibility has come up as an issue to Tennesseans, especially to the MTSU community.

Several weeks ago a drunken driver, an off-duty officer, hit an MTSU student. The officer was intoxicated to the tune of twice the legal limit and there is a hint of controversy because some in the community feel that the officer received special treatment.

Last week, *Sidelines* reported that Kenneth Litchford Jr. is suing the Rutherford's sheriff's department for an ongoing case of mistaken identity gone seriously wrong. The lawsuit brought up by the man who was falsely arrested cites gross misconduct by police.

Is responsibility lacking in Tennessee's police community? Tennessee needs to review what the responsibility standard is for law enforcement and determine if hiring and investigative reforms are needed.

While the community understands the immense pressures that law enforcement employees face, we also must do something when it is clear that integrity and accountability is lacking. Almost all the police do

### 21st Century Patriot



Jeremy Majors  
Staff Columnist

their jobs properly, yet in this field of work mistakes are costly. Citizens demand the best and they deserve it.

I have had my own experiences with police work gone wrong. One morning several years back, I awoke to a loud thunderous noise at 4 a.m. and found that eight police officers were standing outside my door with shotguns and pistols drawn.

They were searching for someone who hadn't lived there for quite some time. An officer had actually come to my house several months before looking for the same person, and I told her that the individual didn't live there.

I had no idea who they were looking for, but the individual must have been dangerous for the police to have all that fire-

power. It was upsetting to say the least.

When I was a bartending during a police convention once, an off-duty police officer asked me to allow his underage daughter to drink at my bar. I, of course, said no.

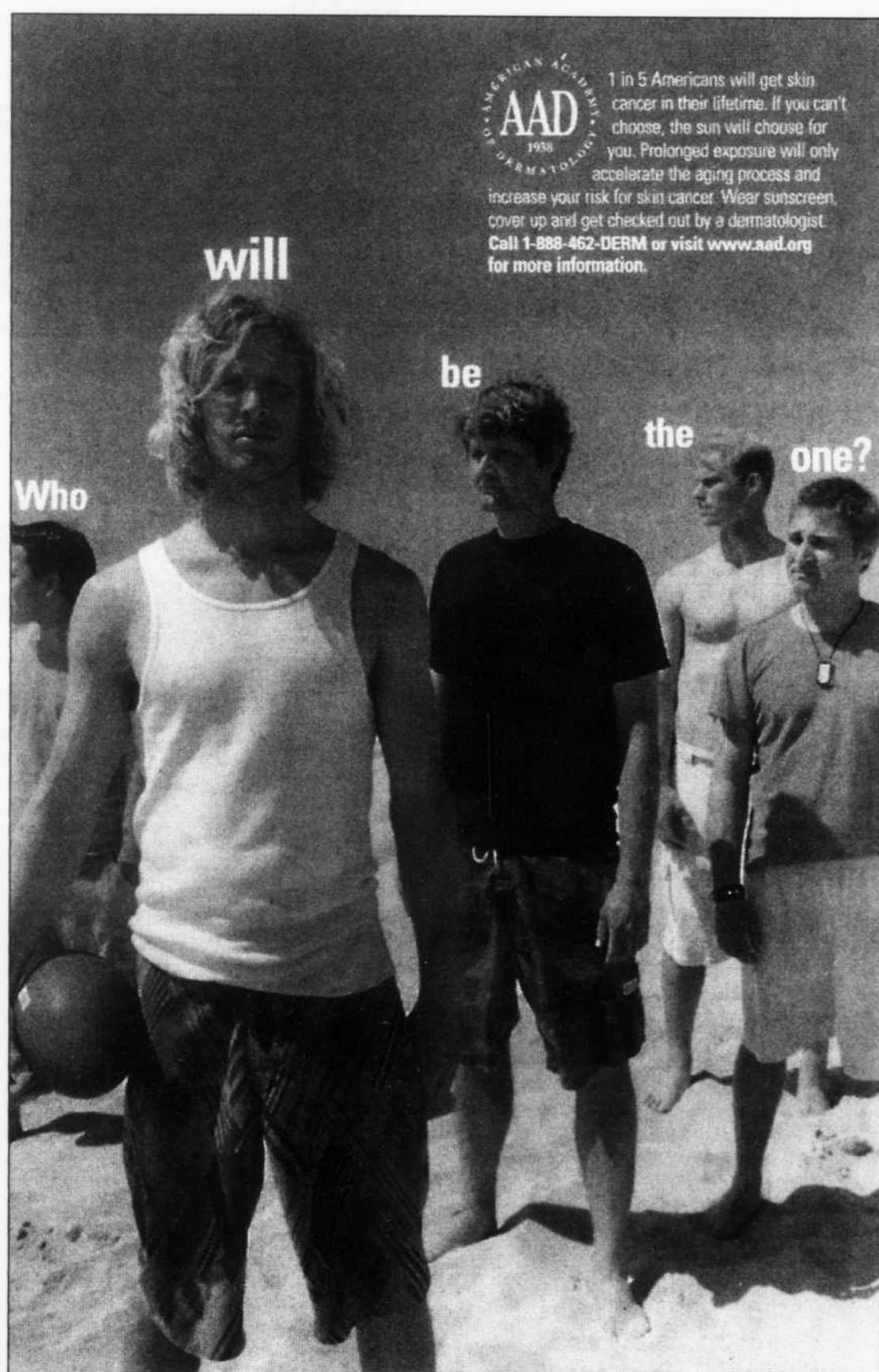
Later I saw her drinking and had to take the beer away. The officer clearly felt no moral obligation or commitment towards justice or respect for me, as a citizen and the business that I was working for.

What are the standards for police investigation and how can we raise the bar to ensure fair and equal treatment for everyone? These incidents are not isolated.

As I said before, the police as I do good work. I appreciate their service to the community.

However, I hope that the leadership in the police community will raise the standard of hiring and investigating in Tennessee if reform is the solution to ongoing problems. ♦

Jeremy Majors is a senior international relations major and can be reached at [jnm2g@mtsu.edu](mailto:jnm2g@mtsu.edu).



**SIDELINES ONLINE**  
Middle Tennessee State University



## Cure summer boredom with Oprah



### A 'Sidelines' editor finds penance through the healing power of Oprah

By Joey Hood  
Features Editor

I woke up this morning with an inventive plan to combat my summer boredom, a plan that involved the daytime diva, Oprah Winfrey.

Why not make an Oprah-inspired collage, I asked myself. After a long, awkward pause, I finally answered my own question.

Oh, why not, I told myself. You only live once.

For the next hour, I cadged around my mother's magazine collection, leafing through yellowing copies of *O* magazine.

I carefully considered each image of Oprah Winfrey before hacking over them with my trusty pair of scissors.

To further my extent into suburban disillusion, I made out a list of requirements each Oprah image must meet in order to secure its place on my collage. ("Does Oprah look a little too happy in this photograph?")

After acquiring a sufficient amount of Oprah pics, I began piecing together my Oprah collage.

I must say that all aspects of Oprah's life are accurately represented in my collage.

There's a picture in my collage of Oprah snapping her fingers in unison, on the cover of *O* magazine with the caption "Live Your Life!" in italics.

Then, there's the photo of Oprah dancing alongside a swooning Billy Crystal.

Crystal looks nebbishly constipated in the picture, but Mother O still holds court with the fading comedic icon.

It's an oreo fusion of neurotic Jew-ness and cosmopolitan blackness. I bet that Martin Luther King Jr. is smiling somewhere in the heavens.

In another image, Oprah reveals in her airbrushed glory.

In a teal sari (stolen from her own costume department, nonetheless), the broadcasting maven strolls on an abandoned beach. The picture seems to be saying, "look at me, I'm Oprah. I'm able to stroll needlessly down abandoned beaches. I'm that rich."

Finally, I offset the overt Oprah abundance with a svelte, red 'O.' In case you are slow on the uptake, dear reader, the 'O' stands for not only Oprah, but her reigning omnipresence as well. It represents the matronly essence of a national guardian angel.

Look to the heavens, my friend. That star in the north leads to Chicago.

By the way, during the construction of my collage, I noticed that the headlines in *O* magazine are usually punctuated by the word, 'girl.'

For example, instead of "Exercise Your Total Body," Oprah oprah-fies the headline to read "Exercise Your Total Body, Girl." I must say that the added 'girl' gives the headline an added kick, a kick that's desperately absent in other womanly periodicals. ♦

### 'Napoleon Dynamite' teems with cult-inspired absurdity

By William C. Fancher  
Staff Writer

"Girls only want boyfriends who have good skills," says young Napoleon Dynamite, before realizing that he does have one skill: he can draw, sort of.

Napoleon draws bad pictures of imaginary animals, such as unicorns and ligers (a cross between a lion and a tiger), and he draws unflattering caricatures of people without realizing it, a skill he has in common with the movie he's in.

*Napoleon Dynamite* follows its titular character through pathetic days in an Idaho town filled with maddening characters.

To call it a slice of life isn't quite right; that phrase implies

some connection to reality, of which this movie has none.

Napoleon is one of the most irritating and deservedly outcast movie heroes in recent memory, but he makes us laugh because he is not so much an actual character as he is a collection of our most awkward moments brought to life.

He is played as well as he possibly could be played by actor Jon Heder.

Efren Ramirez plays Pedro, the high school's lone Mexican student, and grown-up child actress Tina Majorino plays leading lady Deb.

Writer-director Jared Hess strives for the same brand of offbeat humor found in films like Wes Anderson's *Rushmore*, but only succeeds partially.

The film has very funny

moments, but the characters and situations do not have enough emotional appeal to make them weird for more than just the sake of being weird.

We find that *Napoleon's* quirky characters eventually wear out their welcome by the film's end.

There is also the matter of subtle and not-so-subtle '80s references permeating through this contemporary story, catering to Gen-Y retro hipness in a way that seems incongruous with the self-involvement and cultural stupidity of the characters. But to be fair, I did laugh at Napoleon's Trapper Keeper, Deb's sideways ponytail and the use of the *A-Team's* theme song.

Oh, and stick around after the end credits. ♦

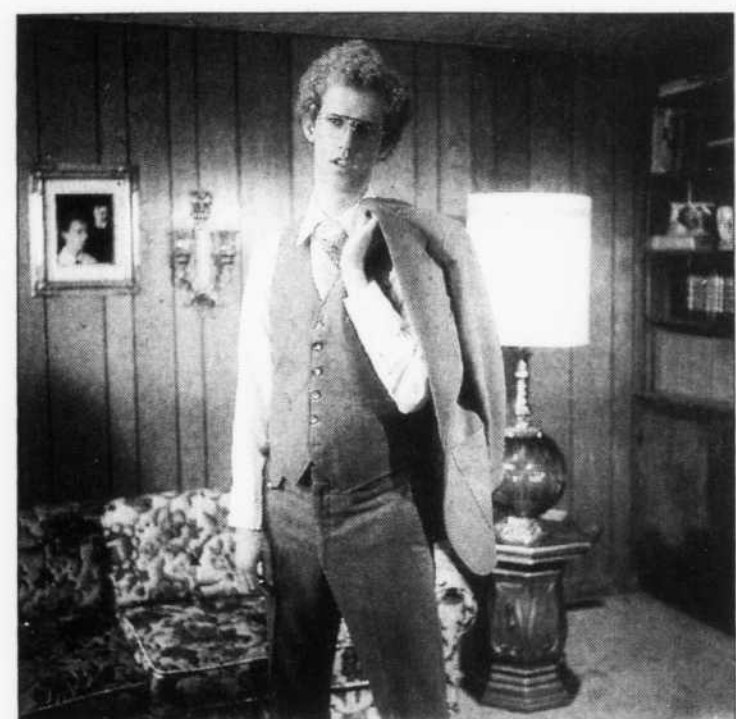


Photo provided by Rottentomatoes.com

Newcomer Jon Heder stars in 'Napoleon Dynamite.'

#### Napoleon Dynamite (2004)

Rated: PG  
Starring: Jon Heder, Jon Gries, Haylie Duff

☆☆ 1/2

(out of 4 stars)

### 'Tokyo Godfathers' indulges in ultimate anime badness

By Sarah Crotzer  
Staff Writer

In February, I told you about a wonderful anime film called *Millennium Actress*, which despite being made in 2001, has only recently been released to theatres and digital versatile disc.

*Millennium Actress* was a moving, powerful film that mixed reality and fantasy, and I waited anxiously to catch director Satoshi Kon's next work.

In a testament to the success of *Actress*, Kon's *Tokyo Godfathers* came out here almost as soon as it was released in Japan.

*Godfathers* is completely different from *Actress*.

We are given a paper-thin plot device, stretched out beyond belief with various flashbacks, obstacles and unlikely conflicts.

The characters do not help the situation. Gen is a middle-aged man with an unlikely past.

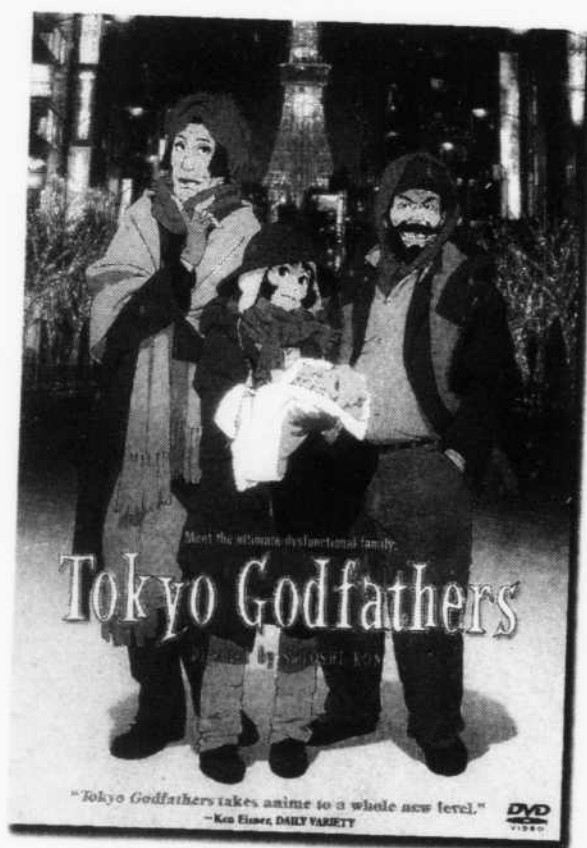
The other two protagonists — Hana and Miyuki — are very irritating.

Hana is a high-strung transvestite — a fact that is beaten over our heads roughly twice a minute — and Miyuki, while slightly more realistic in approach, is just a bitchy teenager.

Unfortunately, the limitations of animation only make the situation worse; the contorted and over-emphasized expressions only add to the characters' believability.

Perhaps that's the film's core problem. There's nearly no reason for *Godfathers* to be animated at all.

Here's the kicker. I watched the whole film, but I honestly could never understand what the director was trying to do.



#### Tokyo Godfathers (2003)

Rated: PG-13  
Starring: the voices of Toru Emori, Aya Okamoto, Yoshiaki Umegaki

Movie: ☆

DVD: ☆☆☆

(out of 4 stars)



# Dear Emily



Dear Emily,

My girlfriend has a bad habit that is driving me nuts. She is constantly on her cell phone, whether we're in the car, taking a walk or even on a date. She never hesitates to answer it, even when I make a point of turning mine off or even leaving it in the car when we're spending time together.

Sometimes she seems to feel bad about answering and tells me, "This will only take a minute," but it

almost always turns into a long conversation and I am forced to wait around until she is finished.

I love her, but I am beginning to feel like I never have her undivided attention. Our conversations have to be squeezed in between phone calls.

What can I do? I'm just getting really frustrated the longer this goes on and I feel like telling her it's either me or the phone.

Please help!

Hang Up and Talk to Me

Dear Hang Up,

For starters, your girlfriend is not the only one without cell phone manners. At the mall the other day, I observed several couples.

One person was happily gabbing on their phone while their partner looked bored

and frustrated.

Cell phones are a rather new "convenience" and therefore introduce new conflicts into our lives.

I understand your frustration, but before you give your girlfriend an ultimatum, see if you can calmly explain that her constant phone conversations get in the way of your relationship.

Make sure you clarify why it bothers you. Tell her that it's not because you are jealous of her other friends, but because it detracts from your time with each other and makes you feel pushed aside. Tell her that you'd like her undivided attention because you are willing to give her yours.

See if you can come up with a compromise on cell phone usage when you're together. Obviously she has not picked up on your hints of leaving the phone in the car.

So ask her directly if she will leave her phone behind, or turn it on vibrate while you're spending time together. Make a joke of it if you can to avoid a potential conflict.

I think usually the offender is simply oblivious to the irritation they are causing, whether it be with friends or significant others. More than likely, she is unaware of your feelings on the matter, but since it bothers you, chances are good that her cell phone over-use is annoying other people around her as well. You could be doing her a favor.

The bottom line is she needs to stop treating you like you're less important than whoever gets the urge to call her. If she cares about you enough to listen to your concerns, she will probably begin to realize that not all calls are so critical that they can't be returned later.

Good luck! ♦

# Word Search

The Simpsons

W E T T O P T E N S X A E D G  
E T R R T E N A P C S B O K R  
O A R V D H M G C S R H M A L  
B M E S P R I N G F I E L D J  
O A P U K F L L I B I E M O O  
J R X R E D V M H B K U L O R  
O G S L O U I O B R L I S A H  
R E U D L R S E B N L M R A L  
L A R A T I N D I M T H O R L  
P E M D M M M S R E D N A L F

Word Bank:

Apu

D'oh

Moe

Springfield

Homer

Mmm...

Flanders

Bart

Lisa

Marge

# An eBay addict tells the tricks of his studied trade



Commentary

Thomas Balch  
Contributor

eBay is a great Web site to use if you want an alternative to a garage sale.

But keep in mind that you are relying on pictures and a product description to sell your wares.

You're also taking the buyer's word that he will shell out the payment.

I have made more than \$5,000 in the past year selling both used and new goods.

But the amount of work involved can result in a feeling that it is not worth the hassle.

At a garage sale, the customer picks up the item and leaves with it.

With an eBay sale, you have to wrap it carefully and take it to the post office for delivery.

You have to notify the buyer that the package has been sent (usually by e-mail) and hope that it is delivered.

In some cases, if your descriptions are not crystal

clear, the buyer will feel that the item does not reflect your description.

Thus, you are introduced to the tricky world of refunds.

At eBay, one can buy automobiles, boats and almost anything imaginable.

Just like any other business, eBay is 'buyer beware.' There are scam artists out there who will take your money and give you inferior products in return.

It seems like a lot of sellers find something they can get a bargain on locally and sell it to a wide market that does not have the same access.

For instance, I discovered two years ago that tubs of Oxy-Clean were selling on eBay for quite a bit more than our local Sam's Club charged.

To go one step further, I contacted the manufacturer and found a wholesaler willing to sell it in bulk.

Some manufacturers will work with you this way and some will not.

Ebay sellers are looking to make the margin from people who do not have access to these stores.

I also shop stores like Target and J.C. Penney for their

clearance racks.

This winter at J.C. Penney's, I bought several summer maternity blouses marked down to \$1.99, which were originally \$22 each.

Nope, I'm not pregnant. I sold them on eBay in the spring.

If you want to start selling on eBay, here are a few tips.

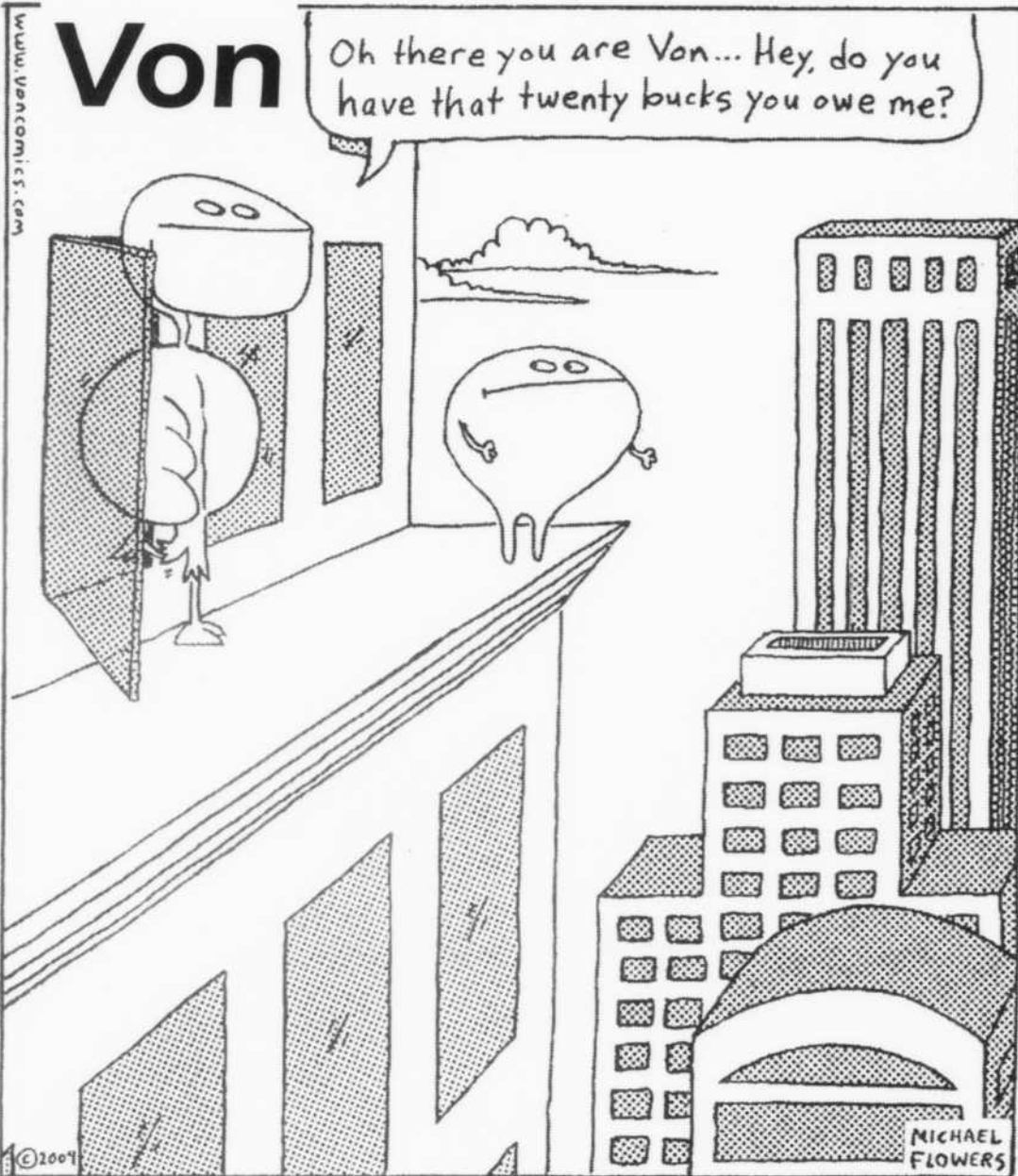
First, let's say that you have an item that typically receives bidding around \$10.

Instead, you should start it at \$9.99. If you start an auction at \$10, you pay a small fee, but if you drop it down to \$9.99, your fee will be reduced.

Having a picture in your auction is very valuable in helping to get bids.

As long as you have a scanner, many items such as books, compact discs, records and other semi-flats can be scanned with good quality.

I have enjoyed my experiences on eBay and would recommend it to potential sellers who are well organized and have the time to partake in the maddening world of Internet shopping. ♦



Returns to newsstands August 30 in the back-to-school issue

# flash



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# SPORTS

8 ♦ SIDELINES

Wednesday, July 28, 2004

Murfreesboro, Tenn.

## Raiders ride: Two football bus trips planned

By Colby Sledge  
Sports Editor

Bus trips for the Florida and Louisiana-Lafayette road games in the upcoming football season were announced yesterday by their respective sponsoring organizations.

The Blue Raider Athletic Association is backing a trip to Gainesville, Fla., for the Sept. 4 season opener at Ben Hill Griffin Stadium, affectionately known to Gator fans as "The Swamp."

The trip includes two nights' lodging and transportation via Grey Line bus.

"We originally had planned to take a plane, but we didn't get enough response, so we had to cancel it,"

Deborah Guest of the BRAA said.

The bus will depart the MTSU campus at 2 p.m. on Sept. 3, stop for dinner outside Chattanooga, Tenn., and arrive at the Quality Inn in Lake City, Fla., at 1 a.m. The bus will then arrive in Gainesville at 2 p.m., three hours before the scheduled 5 p.m. kickoff.

The group will then spend a second night at the Quality Inn before beginning the return trip at 9 a.m. Sunday. Estimated arrival time in Murfreesboro is 6 p.m.

The total cost of the trip is \$210 per person: \$70 for transportation and \$140 for lodging (\$70 per night). Tickets to the game are not included in the package but can be purchased for \$25 each through the Middle Tennessee Ticket Office by calling 898-

2103.

Guest said the BRAA will take as many buses as necessary to fill all reservations, which must be made by Aug. 20. Interested fans can contact the BRAA office at 615-898-2210.

Three weeks later, the Student Government Association will sponsor an overnight trip to New Orleans for the Sept. 25 game against the Ragin' Cajuns as part of its annual "Road Rally" series.

Last year, SGA sponsored three trips for road contests at the University of Georgia, the University of Missouri and Clemson.

"This is the only trip we have planned for now," said Candice Haynes, Vice President of Administration and Public Affairs for

SGA. "There's a possibility we'll do another one, but we'll see how the season goes."

"We're trying to appeal to as many people as possible, and [New Orleans] was the best pick," SGA President Jon Stewart said.

Buses will depart on Sept. 24 at 10 a.m. from the Tennessee Livestock Arena parking lot for New Orleans, where the group will stay at the Riverside Hilton in the French Quarter. On Saturday, the group will leave New Orleans around 3 p.m. and head to Lafayette for the 6 p.m. kickoff. Buses will begin the return trip to Murfreesboro immediately following the game.

The cost of this trip is \$55 per student, which includes a ticket, trans-

portation and the hotel. Food is not included. Extra money will be needed for food or anything else you wish to purchase.

The \$55 fee, along with student identification, is due at the time of registration. Registrants must also identify their roommates. There will be four people per room and no coed assignments are allowed. Exceptions will be made for married couples.

The registration deadline is 3 p.m. on Sept. 7. Currently there is a limit of 300 seats, and no refunds will be given.

Interested students can sign up in the SGA office located in Room 208 of the Keathley University Center. Online payments will be available soon on the SGA Web site. For more information, call the SGA office at 898-2464. ♦

## Inductees enter Hall of Fame



Stephen B. Smith, MT alumnus and former Blue Raider pitcher, speaks to the crowd at Saturday's Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony. Smith led the Blue Raiders to an Ohio Valley Conference championship in 1977.

Photo by Kevin Lane | Staff Photographer

## Hilltoppers on top; MT ties for fourth in academic honors

### Staff Reports

Western Kentucky led the Sun Belt Conference in top student-athletes last year as Middle Tennessee finished in a tie for fourth.

WKU placed 67 students on the Sun Belt Commissioner's List, a compilation of all student-athletes with a grade point average of at least 3.50 for the previous two semesters or three quarters.

New Mexico State, who is leaving the conference after this season for the Western Athletic Conference, was second with 63

athletes.

MT participates in all conference sports except women's swimming and diving. MT had at least one athlete from each of its participating sports except women's soccer on the list.

A total of 494 athletes met the criteria, up from 464 in 2002-03. Additionally, 550 athletes made the Sun Belt Academic Honor Roll, including 68 MT athletes. The Honor Roll recognizes student-athletes who maintained a GPA between 3.00 and 3.49 for the last two semesters or three quarters. ♦

### Sun Belt School Rankings

(In order of number of athletes on list)

- |                             |                                |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1. Western Kentucky (67)    | 9. South Alabama (29)          |
| 2. New Mexico State (63)    | 10. Florida International (25) |
| 3. Denver (49)              | 11. New Orleans (21)           |
| 4. Arkansas State (44)      | 12. Utah State (16)            |
| 5. Middle Tennessee (44)    | 13. Louisiana-Monroe (6)       |
| 6. Louisiana-Lafayette (43) | 14. Idaho (5)                  |
| 7. North Texas (43)         |                                |
| 8. Ark.-Little Rock (39)    |                                |

Total: 494 athletes

### MT Athletes on Commissioner's List

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| Baseball (6)                               | Muriel Ledbetter, So., Finance                |
| Charles Akers, Sr., Business Education     | Courtney Mitchell, Sr., Physical Education    |
| William Copeland, So., Exercise Science    | Kip Phillips, Sr., Biology                    |
| Shane Kemp, Sr., Exercise Science          | Patricia White, Fr., Undeclared               |
| Jonathan Miller, Fr., Marketing            | Diana Wilkes, So., Animal Science             |
| Jonathan Swing, So., Construction Mgmt.    |   |
| Adam Warren, Fr., Undeclared               |   |
| Men's Basketball (1)                       | Men's Tennis (1)                              |
| Steven Thomas, Sr., University Studies     | Anant Sitaram                                 |
| Women's Basketball (3)                     | Women's Tennis (2)                            |
| Amber Benjamin, Fr., Undeclared            | Carien Venter, Sr., Exercise Science          |
| Chrissy Givens, Fr., Athletic Training     | Jacqui Williams, Fr., Exercise Science        |
| Krystle Horton, Fr., Undeclared            |   |
| Football (4)                               | Men's Track and Field/Cross Country (7)       |
| Robert Billings, Sr., Aerospace            | Robert Etheridge, Sr., Physical Education     |
| William Brasch, Sr., Liberal Studies       | Carlos Gonzalez Santos, Sr., Exercise Science |
| Joseph Montalbano, Sr., Finance            | Gregory Jones, Jr., Chemistry                 |
| Matthew Turnbow, So., Exercise Science     | Chris Michael, Fr., Undeclared                |
| Men's Golf (2)                             | William Parker, So., Entrepreneurship         |
| Blake Bivens, Sr., Physical Education      | Bryan Picklesimer, Sr., Physical Education    |
| Patrick Williams, Sr., Marketing           | Jonathan Sturm, So., Psychology               |
| Women's Golf (3)                           | Women's Track and Field/Cross Country (5)     |
| Nicole Biles, Sr., Business Administration | Kimberly Alsobrook, So., English              |
| Jung-Yeon Kim, Fr., Athletic Training      | Kelley Enoch, Sr., Interior Design            |
| Kristin Lynch, Sr., Accounting             | Jennifer Howard, Sr., Education               |
| Women's Soccer (0)                         | Lauren Milbourn, Sr., Speech and Theatre      |
| Softball (8)                               | Katie Mirgliotta, Sr., University Studies     |
| Leora Brannon, So., Math                   | Volleyball (2)                                |
| Brandy Davis, Sr., Physical Education      | Hannah Randolph, Fr., Nursing                 |
| Jennifer Dorais, So., Nursing              | Victoria Monasterolo, So., Economics          |

## New Kennon building opens for ceremony

By Colby Sledge  
Sports Editor

Smiles beamed and tears flowed as three former Blue Raiders were inducted into the Middle Tennessee Hall of Fame Saturday night.

The induction ceremony marked the grand opening of the Emmett and Rose Kennon Hall of Fame building. Emmett Kennon, a former football and baseball athlete at MT, donated \$1.5 million for the construction of the building in 2002.

Kennon and his wife were extremely pleased with the

building as they accepted thanks and congratulations from various members of the community.

"This is going to be a great place," Kennon said.

Kennon, who graduated in 1938, also served as sports editor for *Sidelines* for three years and as editor of *Midlander*, the now-defunct student yearbook, for one year.

Thirteen former inductees in attendance were also recognized, including Kennon, who was inducted in 1997.

MTSU President Sidney McPhee addressed the crowd of

nearly 200 and called for a standing ovation of the Kennons, declaring Emmett "the epitome of a real, ideal Blue Raider."

McPhee also commended each of the inductees and reminded the guests of the NCAA-mandated attendance requirement of 15,000 fans per home game for the upcoming football season.

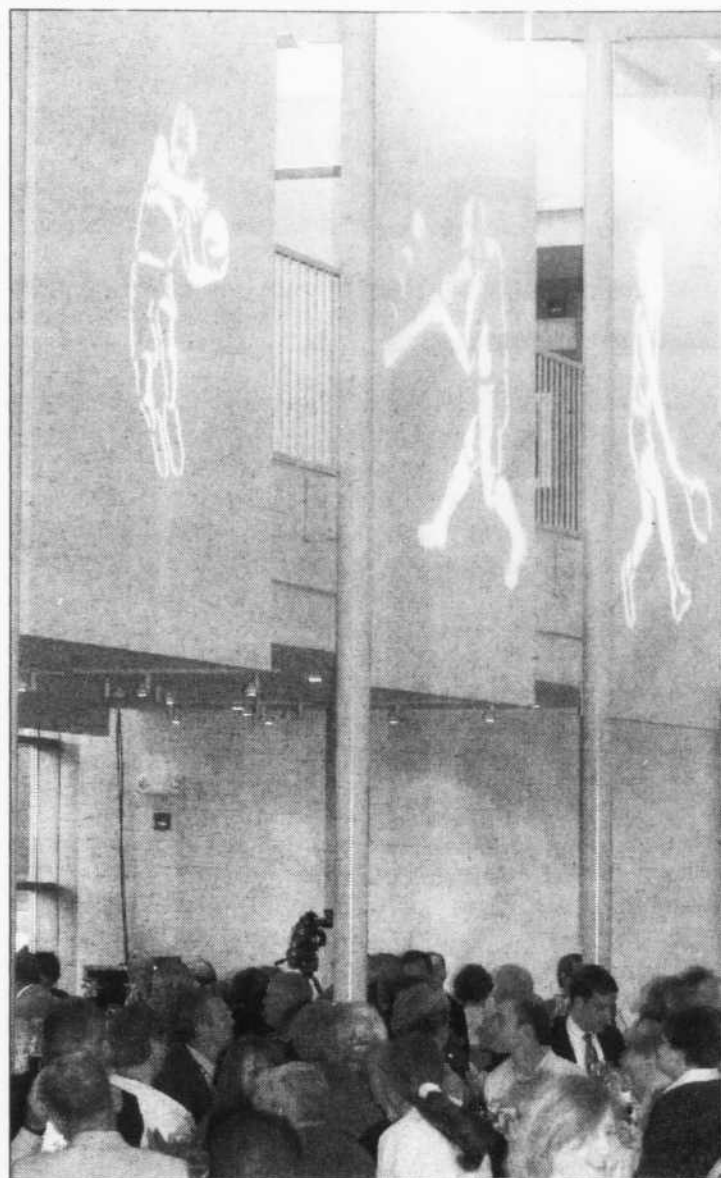
"We need our Blue Raiders to show up," McPhee said. "We will not fail. If you haven't bought your season ticket, I

won't let you out of the building. I'll lock the doors."

Athletic director Boots Donnelly, who was inducted into the Hall of Fame in 1993, entertained the crowd with the story of when Kennon made the decision to donate the money during a road trip to Louisville.

"We stopped at a service station and all three of them [Kennon and two other passengers] got out and got a drink," Donnelly said.

See Ceremony, 9



The Emmett and Rose Kennon Hall of Fame opened its doors Saturday for the induction of three members.

Photo by Kevin Lane | Staff Photographer

## The Last Word

Each inductee finished his speech with a closing that emphasized how much the university and the city of Murfreesboro meant to him. Following are the closing statements from each inductee:



Jackson

"It's been in my heart for a long time to express my appreciation for all the friends I've made here and how much they've meant to me over the years. So I say to you: Make sure you promote those friendships, because the older you get, the more important they become."

— Joe B. Jackson

"I can never repay what MTSU has done for me. Never. I'm going to try, but I can't. My last waking moments I'm going to be thinking about being a Blue Raider."

— Stephen B. Smith



Smith



Martin

"Had it not been for athletics, I wouldn't have the opportunities that I had, I wouldn't have met people I met, I wouldn't have made friends that I did, and I certainly wouldn't be standing here, being inducted into the Middle Tennessee Hall of Fame."

— Bill Martin



## Ceremony: First in new Kennon building

Continued from 8

"And all three walked out the store without paying. I came out of the restroom and the guy behind the counter asked, 'Are you with those three gentlemen?'" Donnelly said. "So I walked outside and Emmett walked up to me and said, 'I'm going to give to you a million dollars for a Hall of Fame building.' And I said, 'Hell, you won't even buy a Coke!'"

Former Murfreesboro mayor Joe B. Jackson was the first inductee to speak. He emphasized the role that fate played in bringing him to Middle Tennessee State Teachers College and the importance of then-assistant football coach

E.K. Patty, who spoke with Jackson on their cross-country trip back home after World War II.

"Fate plays into our lives quite often," Jackson said. "Fate changed how I viewed my future completely."

Jackson, who graduated in 1949, played football and basketball for three years and baseball for two years. He played football under Charles M. Murphy and also served as the president of the student body in his senior year. Jackson served as mayor of Murfreesboro from 1982-1998.

Former basketball and baseball player Bill Martin delivered the second speech and had trouble gathering his emotions

while trying to begin his remarks. After a few moments, Martin spoke of how being a Blue Raider was the greatest bonus to his life.

"It was much better than I could have expected," Martin said. "If nothing else had happened other than getting my degree, I would have been happy."

Martin starred on the basketball and baseball squads in the mid-1960s, despite an injury that sidelined him for a year in basketball. Martin came to MTSU after taking two years off from school to work and support his family. He previously attended Paducah Junior College in Paducah, Ky., and currently lives in Kentucky.

Stephen B. Smith spoke last and opened by describing his experience at MTSU as having "a shaky beginning and a fairy-tale ending." Smith was referring to his comeback from a car accident that left doctors saying he would never walk again, much less play baseball. Smith paid no attention and worked his way back to pitch in his senior season, leading the Blue Raiders to the Ohio Valley Championship with a 5-2 victory over Murray State in 1977.

"Coming back here is easy, because I don't have any regrets," Smith said. "I've worked harder than anybody else."

The MT Hall of Fame began in 1976 with its first induction class of Horace Jones, Teddy Morris and Murphy. The Kennon building is the first permanent housing for the Hall of Fame, which had previously been at the Blue Raider Room on the west side of Floyd Stadium before renovations in 1998.

The new building, which features a meeting hall and a museum section that is still in progress, will officially be dedicated Oct. 9 before the home football game against Arkansas State. ♦

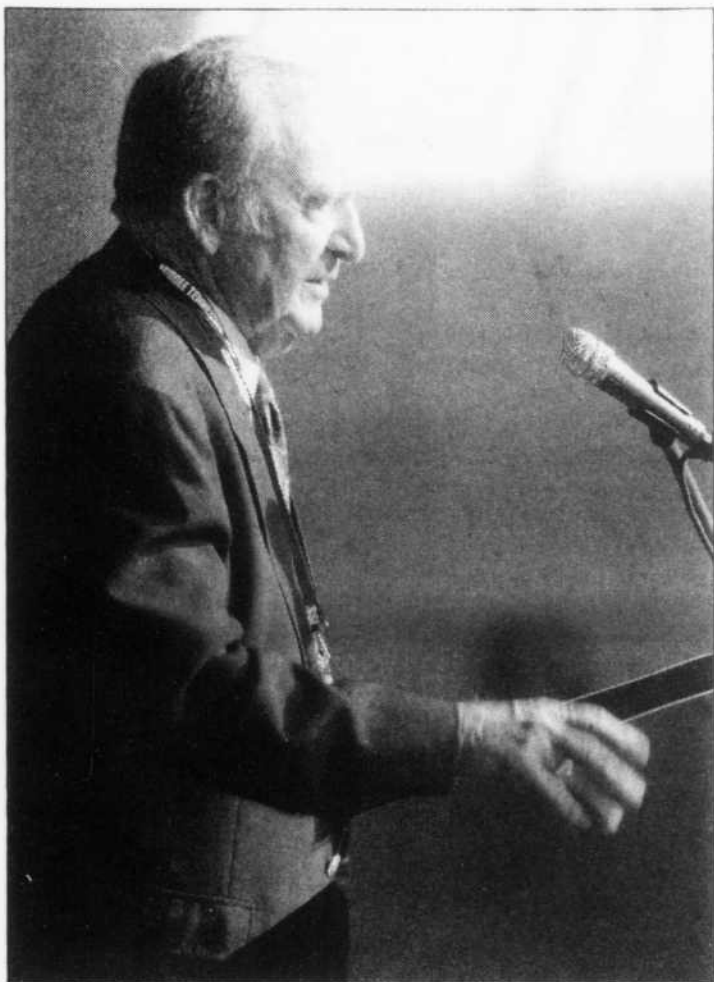
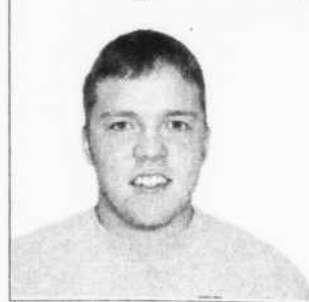


Photo by Kevin Lane | Staff Photographer

Former Murfreesboro mayor Joe B. Jackson delivers his induction speech during Saturday's ceremony at the brand new Emmett and Rose Kennon Hall of Fame.

## Titans' record will suffer from offseason departures

### Sports commentary

Jon Leffew  
Staff Columnist

Letting go is a part of life.

Unfortunately for the Tennessee Titans, this theme has become all too familiar lately, as the departure of several talented players will likely leave this team reeling this season.

Gone is the team's leading rusher for the past eight seasons, Eddie George. George signed as a free agent with the Dallas Cowboys last week after the strapped-for-cash Titans were forced to let him go.

Also gone on the offensive side of the ball is young and talented wide receiver Justin McCareins, who made a name for himself during the 2003 season.

However, perhaps the most unnoticed and biggest loss of the offseason was the retirement of quarterback Neil O'Donnell.

Sure, the Titans have the services of NFL Most Valuable Player Steve McNair, but his playmaking abilities are continually overshadowed by his propensity to get hurt, and any injury this year could be the final straw.

So, without the proven leadership of a veteran like O'Donnell, the Titan offense could very easily

sink.

On the defensive side of the ball, the Titans do return one of the game's most experienced and respected secondaries.

The foursome of Samari Rolle, Andre Dyson, Lance Schulters and Tank Williams will begin their third season together in the defensive backfield, and Dyson feels their communication will be a key for the team's success this year.

"We know what to expect from each other, we know where everybody is going to be and we trust each other," Dyson told [www.titansonline.com](http://www.titansonline.com).

The trust Dyson spoke of was nowhere to be found during the offseason, as two of the Titans' biggest defenders signed to play elsewhere.

Jevon Kearse, who has battled with injuries and double teams since a ferocious rookie year, signed a multi-million dollar contract to play for the Philadelphia Eagles.

Robaire Smith, another former Titan defensive lineman, chose to take his 6-foot-4-inch, 310 pound frame to the Houston Texans, where he signed as a free agent.

With the departure of Smith and Kearse, several unheralded Titans will have to step up on the defensive front, which will put more and more pressure on the Tennessee linebackers and defensive backs.

This being said, these guys have played together for three years, all the while enjoying success.

However, since the bucks stopped flowing during the offseason, it can be safe to say that the buck will stop here.

At best, this group of unproven stars with an ironman leader will finish a game above .500 and flame out during the first round of the playoffs. ♦

Got something to shout about?  
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## CLASSIFIEDS

### Employment

Need Money? Student advisors are needed for 120 unit off-campus MTSU apartment community. On-site training, cash referrals and generous hourly salaries are included. Call toll free, 1-866-594-5470 to make an appointment with Kimberly Sanders.

### Services

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### Sales Automotive

'91 Nissan 300zx. Black w/grey cloth, 5sp., new engine w/ 88k, 117k on body, 99% perfect interior. A beautiful Z that turns heads. Asking \$6995. 615-243-6875.

2001 GZ250cc. Green Suzuki Motorcycle/ kept inside. All accessories included. \$2900. Please contact: Marsha Mann 615-237-3189.

17" Giovanna racing wheels with tires, \$600 firm. 615-542-7998.

'97 Ford Explorer, Eddie Bower, Fully loaded, 101 k miles \$6,000 obo. 6,500 obo w/ system-Alpine CD, 2-12" infinity subs w/ amp. Please Call 615-498-1099.

'92 4 DR Ford Taurus-3.8 L V6 SFI-103K, CD, Runs great, Heat works. No A/C. \$1250 obo. 615-217-6945.

2001 Chevy Cavalier, 21K miles, Black 4 door, Power Everything, CD, Keyless, Great Gas Mileage., \$7900 OBO. You will not find a better deal! Call 615-579-

7072.

White '95 Chrysler Cirrus LS - ok cond./stereo system ready/alarm/\$2800 obo. Call Leigha 429-5180 M-F 8-5pm.

### Miscellaneous

Scuba gear!! Fins, booties, mask. \$200. Call Amanda 653-3046.

Nishiki Bravo Bicycle with lights and lock. \$175.00 Call 895-7663 and ask for Sam.

I'm moving away and must sell these items!

- Full-size bed - mattress, box spring and frame. Good condition, perfect for college house or apt. \$85.
- Kenmore Washer - sturdy, full size. 3 yrs old, works great! \$75
- Wood desk - Has drawer and storage shelf. Great for college students. \$25.
- Wood bookshelf - Sturdy, four shelves, adjustable \$25. Call 218-1236. Ask for Andy.

Moving Sale - Futon \$45, twin bed & frame \$40. Call barbara if interested - 615-481-3620.

"Graduation tickets needed for Aug. 14th. Large family coming from far away...please...call Alex Smith at 615-907-8580"

### Roommates

Roommate wanted. 2 BD house 1 block from campus. June. \$297.50 + utilities. Private BD. Extra attic storage. Big back yard. Friendly neighbors. Contact 217-1920.

Roommate wanted. \$247.50/month, water paid, other utilities shared. 15 min. walk from campus, Call Brian 895-7792.

2 Female roommates needed 1300 Sq. ft home located on Woods Edge, off Rutherford. 2 miles to campus, large fenced in backyard. Please call 615-496-6117 for more information.

### Roommate Needed!!!

Roommate needed to share 2BR/1BA apartment one block from MTSU. \$272.50 plus 1/2

off all utility bills. W/D available. Availability is in July. Please call Crystal 615-397-6418 for any questions.

Roommate to lease upstairs apt. Stove & refrigerator furnished. Electricity, water, digital cable with movie channels and security system paid. \$250 deposit. No Smoking. 3 miles from Sam's. \$600/mo. Call 615-893-0806.

### For Rent

Luxury Townhouse for Rent Two bedroom, 2.5 baths, hardwood, fenced backyard, 2-miles I-24 Exit 81, walk to Barfield Elementary. Charleston South Development. No Smoking, No Pets. Washer & Dryer. 615-867-1016.

Apt. for rent 2 BD, 2BA, large living room w/ fireplace. Water included, gated, nice community. Access to exercise room, pool and Laundry facilities. Call 615-867-9527.

Nice 4 bedroom 2 bath Condo within walking distance of MTSU. Appliances, laundry hookups and water furnished. Call 615-642-1555.

Recently renovated 3 BD, 2 BA house with central heat and air within walking distance of campus. Available June 1, 2004. References required. Call 893-4768 or 907-1080.

### House for Rent

Walk to MTSU from this beautiful house on Greenland Drive. This house is ready for your New and Exciting 2004-2005 Academic Year at MTSU. Move in after 8/1/04. Fantastic location, quiet environment - Spacious rooms for 4 students as a group, \$300 x 3 + 350 x 1 a month (or \$312.50 x 4) + 1/4 utilities. \$350/person security deposit, 1 year lease. Circle drive, patio, 2-car carport, hardwood floors, new carpets, new roof, refrigerator, built-in oven, washer & dryer, dishwasher, central H/A, fireplace with gas logs. Call 615-898-2005.

Like New, 3BR/2BA Home for rent. All appliances plus washer&dryer included. 5 minutes from MTSU. Lawn Maintenance included in rent. \$885 per month. Call Neil for more info 615-482-1941.

Townhouse for rent, 2 bedrooms,, 1.5 baths, fireplace, washer and dryer hookups, \$550 per month, available August 1, 2004. Call Bob: 615-566-5100

Got friends? Looking for an apartment? 4 BR/2 BA, remodeled apartment; very close to campus; \$295 per month / per bedroom. 615-758-9298

3 bedroom, 1 bath house for rent. Walking distance from MTSU. Washer/Dryer included. Parking for 3 cars. Great yard, excellent condition. References & deposit required. Students welcome. No Pets. 615-578-0382.

Walk to campus! Just 2 blocks from MTSU. Beautiful energy efficient townhouse with soaring entry. 2 bedrooms and 2.5 baths and new carpet. \$750/mo. Contact: 615-566-1735.

### Subleasing

Need a person to take over a year lease for me. I am moving out of the area for another job. The lease is from August 1, 2004- July 31, 2005 at University Courtyard. It is a 4-bedroom, 4-bath apartment for \$395 a month. All utilities included: water, electricity, heat and air, garbage, local phone and cable TV w/3 HBO's. August month's rent is free. Please call Blaine for questions! 731-693-4447 (731 is a West TN area code).

Summer sublesser needed for room in fully furnished, pool-side apt. at Sterling University Gables **ASAP** !! \$330/mo. gets you access to hot tub, pool, workout facility, sand volleyball, game room, and free tanning. Washer/dryer, T1 internet, & utilities included. Friendly roommates already there. Call Nathan 513-739-

2010, email [jinj2d@mtsu.edu](mailto:jinj2d@mtsu.edu)

6019.

Summer sublesser needed for a 1 BD in a 4BD/4BA at Raiders Crossing, LR,DR, Kitchen, Wash/Dry., utilities and cable, high speed internet, pool, workout. \$400/ month includes all of the above. 3 other roommates gone for the summer; you will have it to yourself. Mid May until Fall Semester. Call Carrie @ 865-740-9133, or Steve @ 865-405-4833.

1 BD in a 4 BD apt. for sublease in University Courtyard. Take over lease ASAP. All inclusive rent is \$355/month. 931-624-3500. Ask for Jeff.

Summer sublesser needed. 4 BD 2 BA Apt at Sterling University. Will pay May and August rent. Poolview, 24/hr work out facility. Call Kara 812-5272.

Summer sublesser needed. Female sublesser for 1 BD in a 4BD/2BA at Sterling University Gables. Early May-August. Rent is \$335 including ALL utilities! May's rent and August's rent ALREADY paid! Please contact Elizabeth at 907-7336!

Male sublesser needed for a 4 BD/4 BA apt. @ Raiders Crossing. Great roommates, free tanning, work-out facility, gameroom, pool, hot tub. \$399 rent, includes water, electric, premium cable, and T1 internet W/D included. \$11 phone bill. Available in May. Call Brad at 653-5338

Male or female sublesser needed for summer @ Sterling University Gables. Great roommates! \$350/month. Call David @ 498-2513 anytime.

Female Roommate wanted @ Sterling Gables in furnished 4 BD, 2 BA including washer/dryer. Access to fitness room, tanning bed, pool, hot tub. Rent \$330/month, includes water electricity, ethernet. Move in ASAP until August '04. Call Megan @ 364-

4BD/ 4BA Apt. Female sublesser needed ASAP! Awesome roommates! Tennis court, basketball court, outdoor pool, free tanning. University Courtyards. Top floor apartment. \$395/ month. All utilities included. Call 289-7931 if interested.

Do you want to get off Campus for the summer? Spacious BD with personal full bath, clean carpet, furnished(w/washer/dryer) with **ALL** utilities included!!! Share with one respectable female roommate. Downstairs unit in University Courtyard for \$485/month!!! Call for negotiations: 904-8861 and ask for Jamie L. Looking to sublease as early as May 2004.

### Pets

Female Cat for sale. She is very friendly and sweet. She loves to play. She gets along with other pets and can be inside or outside. Please call Melissa 615-591-7151 or 615-414-6321.

Free to a loving home. Beautiful gray spayed female cat. 3 years old, declawed and completely house trained. VERY LOVING. Call 898-2853 or 848-0035.

### Policies

Sidelines will be responsible only for the first incorrect insertion of any classified advertisement. No refunds will be made for partial cancellations. Sidelines reserves the right to refuse any advertisement it deems objectionable for any reason. Classifieds will only be accepted on a prepaid basis. Ads may be placed in the Sidelines office in James Union Building, Room 310, or faxed to (615) 904-8193. For more information call (615) 904-8154. Ads are not accepted over the phone. Ads are free for students and faculty.



## Super Bowl tickets highlight items in Raider Roundup

### Staff Reports

Two tickets for Super Bowl XXXIX in Jacksonville, Fla., and several other items will be up for auction at the 2004 Raider Roundup at the MTSU Foundation Reception House Friday.

The Blue Raider Athletic Association hosts the annual auction in order to fund scholarships.

The event will be held from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. at the Foundation House on 324 W. Thompson Lane. Cost of the event is \$50 per person, which includes dinner catered by Southern Delights and refreshments throughout the evening. Dress is casual. For more information, contact the BRAA at 898-2210.

The following are some of the items available for either the live or silent auctions:

- Dinner with President and Mrs. Sidney McPhee
- Tires serviced by Cleveland Tire Service
- Middle Tennessee apparel and items donated by Phillips Bookstore, Agees Sporting Goods, Blue Raider Bookstore and the MT athletic teams
- Autographed Evil Knievel T-Shirt from Bumpus Harley

- Davidson
- Coca-Cola items
- Ajax Turner items
- Sam's Club gift certificate
- Elrod & Company gift certificate
- Airline tickets given by Wright Travel
- Tickets to Tennessee Aquarium
- Dollywood Holiday Tickets
- Tickets to Chaffin's Barn Theatre
- Golf games at The Governors Club, Temple Hills and other courses
- Rugs donated by House of Carpets and City Tile
- Hotel accommodations
- Oil changes
- Floral arrangements
- Signed sports memorabilia
- Zoo tickets
- Savings bonds
- Golf bags
- One-week stay at Lorraine & David Singers cottage at Tims Ford
- One-week stay at Greg Cantrell's condo in Florida
- Sapphire ring donated by Middle Tennessee Coin & Jewelry
- Middle Tennessee charm donated by Bell Jewelry
- Nashville Symphony tickets
- Fireplace insert donated by Vicks Small Engine Repair
- Electric grill donated by Murfreesboro Electric. ♦

## Summer X Games go live for first time

By David Hunter  
Staff Writer

The best athletes from six different action sports in the world will be heading to Los Angeles for the 10th annual Summer X Games.

For the first time in the event's history, the action will be televised live on ESPN and ABC. This is the second year in a row that the city has hosted the event.

There are several changes that will be part of this year's event. SportsCenter will report live from the Summer X Games, just like they did earlier this year at Winter X.

Most of the competitions will take place for the second year in a row at the Staples Center, home of the NBA's Lakers and Clippers. The Skateboard Street (men's and women's), Big Air, Vert (men's and women's), Moto X Step Up and Best Trick, Bike Stunt Park and Vert and Aggressive Inline Vert events will all take place at the Staples Center.

The Home Depot Center, home of Major League Soccer's L.A. Galaxy, will host the Moto X Freestyle, Supercross and the Bike Stunt Dirt event. The Huntington Beach Pier will host the surfing event, "The Game." The Game is an event with two teams of 10 surfers each that pits the East Coast surfers against those from the West Coast. The Long Beach Marine Stadium will have the men's and women's Wakeboard events.

All the events will be done in a finals-only format known as "Best of the Best," eliminating the prelims as in years past. Most events will have 10 participants.

Two new sports will be added to this year's event: SuperMoto X and Skateboard Big Air.

SuperMoto X is a motorcycle race that combines all forms of racing. The course is a combination of dirt and pavement. The racers come from all types of motorcycle events, including road racers, supercross riders and some riders that will be in the freestyle event. Those riders include multi-time Supercross Champion Jeremy McGrath and four-time Moto X Freestyle gold medalist Travis Pastrana.

The other debut event, Skateboard Big Air, has a 60- to 80-foot takeoff ramp, then goes to a gap jump, finally lands on a quarterpipe where tricks can be done.

Events taken out of this year's games include Aggressive In-Line and Skateboard Park, Bike Stunt Flatland, Downhill BMX and Skateboard Vert Doubles.

The X Games began in 1995 in Newport, R.I., and stayed there in 1996. San Diego (1997-98), San Francisco (1999-2000) and Philadelphia (2001-02) have also hosted the X Games.

Bike Stunt rider Dave Mirra and skate-



Photo by Dom Cooley | ESPN  
Mike Metzger pulls a backflip during the X Games Ticket Kickoff Event in Los Angeles June 17. The Summer X Games will begin in L.A. on Aug. 5.

boarder Tony Hawk have the most X Games medals with 16 apiece. Hawk will not be competing this year, but will be a commentator. Mirra has the most golds with 11.

The Summer X Games take place Aug. 5-8. Live coverage will begin live at 8 p.m. Aug. 5 on ESPN, with additional coverage on ABC throughout the weekend. ♦



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