

Health: Student diets unhealthy

Continued from 1

In regards to an unhealthy diet's effect on the body, there have been increased instances of colon cancer among people who eat large amounts of red meat, Spangler said.

A healthy diet, as described by the United States Department of Agriculture, is one that "emphasizes fruits, vegetables, whole grains and fat-free or low-fat milk and milk; includes lean meats, poultry, fish, beans, eggs and nuts; and is low in saturated fats, trans fats, cholesterol, salt-sodium—and added sugars."

The reasons students do not eat healthily vary.

Freshman and Electronic

Media Communication major, Britainé Bell said she feels campus dining does not provide enough variety of fruits and vegetables.

"They don't cook enough vegetables, and they don't serve the right kinds of vegetables with the meat," she said.

Brittany Lewis, sophomore early childhood education major, said she believes the reason students do not eat enough fruits and vegetable on campus is because they are not cooked properly.

She said the placement of fruits in the McCallie Dining Hall may be another reason students don't eat enough of them.

"They put the fruit right by the desserts," she said. ♦



Photo by Josh Daugherty | Staff Writer

Forrest Hall: History discussed

Continued from 1

has done everything in its power to make sure the facts are presented fairly at the forum and strives to have an open dialogue about all the perspectives without devaluing one perspective and esteeming another.

"History is always biased, [but the administration] will do what they can to present the facts," said Nick Mackie, freshman anthropology major.

The community response and the student response will lead the administration to decide what will happen next in the conflict over Forrest Hall, Taylor said.

"[President Sidney] McPhee and all of those involved are [saying], 'Let's have a dialogue about it and see what that dialogue is,'" Taylor said. "[The

administration cannot ignore] the fact that there were people upset."

However, Taylor said the administration would not make a hasty decision concerning Forrest Hall.

An important role of MTSU as a learning institution is to educate students and then allow the students to make up their own mind about issues they deem important, Taylor said.

"Hopefully folks will make up their own minds, [and] that will also help the institution find out what really matters to our students," Taylor said.

The lecture will be Monday at 4:30 p.m. in Learning Resource Center room 221.

The town hall meeting will be Wednesday, April 11 at 6:30 p.m. in the Patterson Park Community Center. ♦

Campus battles downloading

Bowling Green State University students face lawsuits for illegal 'piracy'

By Christie Kerner

The BG News

BOWLING GREEN, Ohio - It's only a click away, but downloading music isn't as simple as it seems.

Music theft has increasingly become a threat to the recording industry and continues to be a problem with college students.

In a Web interview with college journalists on Feb. 28, Mitch Bainwol, CEO of Recording Industry Association of America, said he continues to see a problem on college campuses.

"We clearly are seeing continued widespread piracy—theft—on college campuses, despite innovative businesses' models like Ruckus' offer of free legal music to any student," Bainwol said.

The University is not exempt from this problem as Bowling Green State University's Internet Technology Services continues to be proactive in stopping students from doing this illegal activity.

"Our goal is to prevent people from hurting themselves through security presentations and notifications, so that these students don't get into deep

trouble," said Toby Singer, executive director of ITS.

RIAA president Cary Sherman said he believes all students are aware it's illegal.

A recent survey by the Intellectual Property Institute at the University of Richmond School of Law found more than half of college students download music and movies illegally.

ITS Information Security Officer Kent Strickland said he feels it's a continuing problem on campus with more penalties than most students realize.

"Not only is it illegal, but it is not a good security practice with identity theft being a major risk when using these services," Strickland said.

On Wednesday, RIAA launched its second wave in preventing this illegal activity from happening.

In recent years, once the activity of illegal downloading was discovered the suit was sent to the university because the association was not able to figure out which student was violating the law.

RIAA will now send a pre-lawsuit letter to the school before filing the lawsuit in hopes to immediately notify the student being convicted and

allow 20 days for the student to respond in order to reach a settlement, said Steve Marks, general counsel for the association.

This settlement would prevent a lawsuit from ever being filed by reducing fines and keeping it off students' permanent records.

RIAA officials sent 405 pre-litigation settlement letters to 23 universities this past week.

"There will be 400 letters like this sent every month to different universities," Marks said.

The RIAA also will continue to send Digital Millennium Copyright Act notices, which inform the university students are violating the law. Penalties will vary depending on the university.

This process is anonymous, so no particular university is targeted. Illegal downloading, though, increases the chances universities will receive the notices.

While students may question the harm in downloading a few songs, Strickland believes it will hurt universities facing lots of letters.

"Everyone wants to save money, but the university has to pay for higher speeds to control the use of available bandwidth

and possibly increasing such things as tuition," Strickland said.

Not all students agree. "It's a problem but shouldn't be a high [priority] on everybody's list," said freshman Angela Warnck.

"I don't think it should be illegal to download songs that are say 20 years old because you would think they have gotten enough money from it," sophomore Kyle Riesterer said.

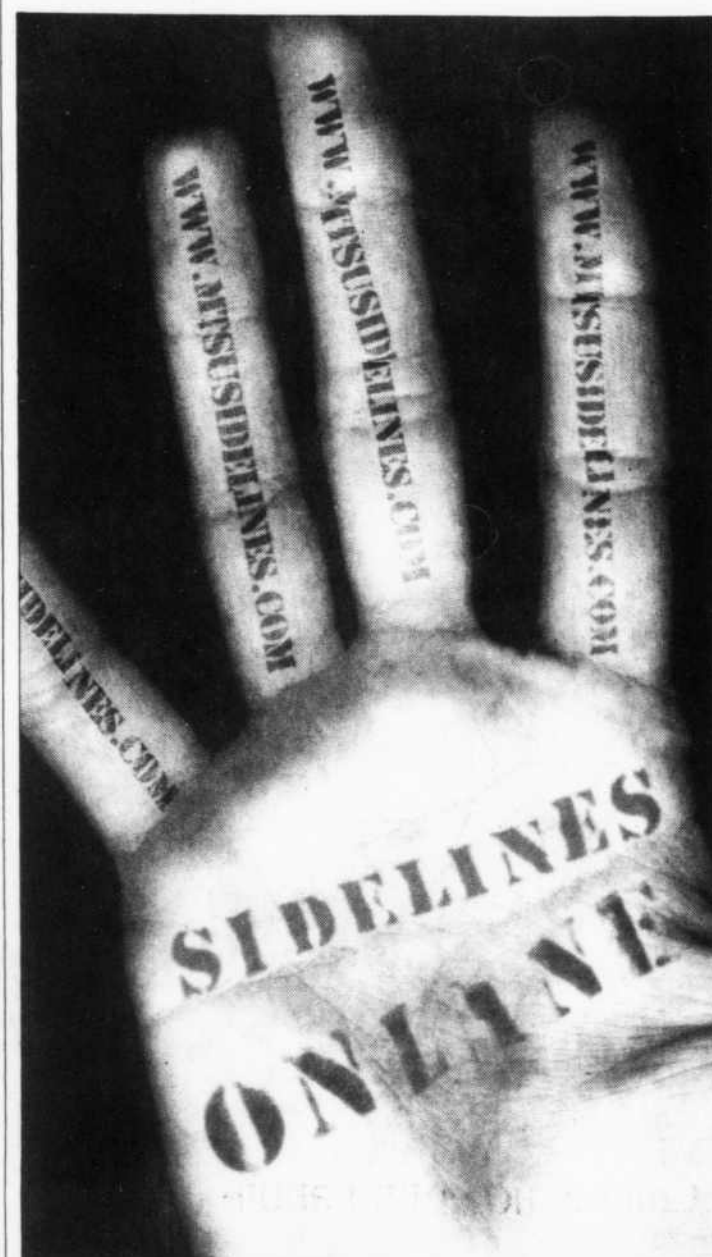
Sherman said he hopes the new policy will make students more aware of the risks they are taking when they download songs.

"By increasing the number of lawsuits, we're letting them know that the risk of getting caught is greater," he said. "That's also why we're bringing more lawsuits on a single college campus."

Cindy Fuller, communications coordinator of ITS, said she has high hopes for helping students navigate this issue.

"Education is a big part of what we can do," she said.

"The sad part is people feel that they are invisible. However, if you talk to someone that has been caught, it's a whole different story," he said. ♦



Rec Center sidewalk closed for repairs until Wednesday



Staff Reports

A portion of the main sidewalk that leads from the west side to the east side of campus, by the Paul W. Martin Sr. Honors Building and runs next to the Student Recreation Center, closed March 21.

The construction is to tie in the remaining portion of the storm sewer lines and re-pour the sidewalk.

The portion of sewer lines is from Blue Raider Drive running east towards Greek Row.

This process may take up to a week. The sidewalk will reopen this Wednesday. ♦

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Campus Briefs

National journalists speak about women in media

The Seigenthaler Chair of Excellence in First Amendment Studies will present "Women and Media: Are Women's Voices Heard in Mainstream Journalism?" this afternoon.

The lecture begins at 2:20 p.m. in the State Farm Room of the Business and Aerospace Building. The panel will feature national journalists from The New York Times, People magazine, as well as reporters from The Tennessean and local TV station WSMV.

At 6 p.m. a keynote address will be given by Lynn Sherr, a correspondent for ABC's 20/20. She will speak about women in politics and media.

The lecture is free and open to the public. For more information contact Beverly Keel at 898-5150.

Deadline for SGA scholarships extended

The Student Government Association has extended the deadline for several student and faculty awards.

The Johnna L. Percy community service award is named after former SGA Senator Johnna Percy, who was killed in an automobile accident in 2005. During her four years at MTSU, Johnna was especially involved with community service events. Applicants for this award should be an MTSU student involved in student organizations, SGA and/or MTSU activities in addition to having made significant contributions in the area of community service to the MTSU community and/or the Murfreesboro area.

The John T. Bragg Sr. distinguished service award is issued to recognize an MTSU faculty or staff member who has made significant contributions in service to MTSU.

The Bob Womack Distinguished Faculty award is given to an MTSU faculty member who has made significant contributions in the classroom. The recipient of this award will also have \$1,000 in books donated in their name to the James E. Walker library.

Applications for these awards are available in the SGA office.

All SGA awards forms should be filled out and turned in no later than this Thursday to Keathley University Center room 208. Award recipients will be honored at the SGA banquet on April 18.

For more information contact the SGA office at 898-2464 or www.mtsu.edu/~sga.

Collage accepting applications for fall 2007 staff

Collage, a journal of creative expression, is accepting applications for the fall 2007 staff.

Positions include online editor, designer, assistant editor, literature arts editor, assistant literature arts editor, visual arts editor, assistant visual

arts editor and editorial review staff.

During the fall 2007 semester Collage plans to introduce "Collage TV" and also needs staff members familiar with visual communications. "Collage TV" will consist of visual submissions graded by a review staff and will run on MTTV.

Applicants do not have to be honors students but must be full-time MTSU students with at least a grade point average of 3.0. Applications are due April 13.

E-mail collage@mtsu.edu for more information or an application or stop by the Collage office, Paul W. Martin Sr. Honors Building room 224.

Forensic anthropologist to visit MTSU March 27

William M. Bass, an internationally recognized expert in the field of forensic anthropology who has gained prominence through his research facility, the Body Farm at the University of Tennessee at Knoxville, will deliver a free and open guest lecture this Tuesday at 7 p.m. in the State Farm Room of the Business and Aerospace Building.

Bass's visit will mark the formal kickoff for the Forensic Institute for Research and Education, FIRE, which is led by Hugh Berryman, and serves as the inaugural talk in the university's newly established William M. Bass Legends in Forensic Science Lectureship.

"We are honored to have William Bass not only be our inaugural speaker, but also serve as a member of our external board for the institute," Berryman said.

The William M. Bass Legends in Forensic Science Lectureship will be held once each spring and fall semester and feature prominent experts from within the forensics field. Each lecture will be open to the public and free of charge, Berryman said.

Bass, along with his co-author Jon Jefferson, has become a successful fiction writer. His Body Farm has been featured in fiction and nonfiction books as well as on television programs such as "The Dead Zone" and "CSI."

Bass received his bachelor's degree at the University of Virginia, his master's degree from the University of Kentucky and his Ph.D. from the University of Pennsylvania.

For more information regarding the March 27 lecture, please contact Connie Huddleston in the College of Liberal Arts at 494-7628.

Majors fair for students March 28

The MTSU Career and Employment Center will hold its second annual majors fair for all majors this Wednesday from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. on the second floor of the Keathley University Center.

Advisors from each college will be there to answer any questions students might have.

For more information call 898-5364 or visit www.mtsu.edu/~career.

International Banquet to be held March 31

The International Banquet will be held this Saturday in the James Union Building. The menu will consist of dishes from around world including Ireland and Germany.

Attendees will have the opportunity to sample Irish stew, vegetable stir-fried rice, shrimp coconut curry, tandoor chicken, German port schnitzel, beef fajitas, Asian cole slaw, sushi and assorted desserts.

Socrates Garcia, a guitarist from the Dominican Republic and an MTSU student, will provide the evening's entertainment.

Other entertainers scheduled to perform are Russian harpist Svetlana Yatskaya, Japanese percussionist Junko Tanaka, Def Leprechaun and dancers from Tango Nashville.

Tickets for the International Banquet are \$16 for adults, \$14 for children age 12 and under, \$14 for students from other colleges or schools, and \$10 for MTSU students. Tickets will not be sold at the door.

The doors will open at 4:30 p.m. for the viewing of cultural exhibits and the meal will begin promptly at 5 p.m.

For more information call 898-2238 or visit room 124 of the Keathley University Center.

Locals hunt for eggs at Oaklands Saturday

An Easter egg hunt will be held on the lawn of Oaklands Historic House Museum this Saturday. This event is geared towards children two to 10. The event offers children a chance to hunt for eggs filled with candy and prizes. Children should bring their own baskets in which to collect eggs.

"Oaklands is looking forward to hosting the children of the community during our third annual Easter egg hunt," said Mary Beth Nevils, educational director. "This is the perfect time for families to come and experience spring at Oaklands and enjoy the daffodils in bloom."

Admission is \$2 per child. Tours of the mansion are also available for \$7 for adults and free for children 12 and under on March 31.

Parents are also encouraged to bring cameras to take photos of their children participating in the egg hunt.

Oaklands Historic House Museum is located at 900 North Maney Avenue in Murfreesboro. The house is a nationally registered historic landmark that reflects a time of prosperity in the Old South.

For more information call 893-0022 or visit www.oaklandsmuseum.org.

Students encouraged to complete dining survey

The Aramark dining styles survey for the spring semester is ready for students to complete. These

surveys allow students and faculty to supply feedback on the quality of food available on campus as well as provide suggestions on how to improve campus dining.

The survey is estimated to take 10 to 12 minutes and all responses are kept confidential.

Students who respond to the survey will be entered to win one of six \$50 gift cards from Amazon.com.

To complete the survey, go to www.collegediningsurvey.com/mtsu.

Acclaimed music industry executive to speak

Music industry executive Tony Brown, producer of more than 100 Number One hit singles and winner of more than a dozen Grammys, CMA, ACM and American Music Awards will speak to students on April 3 at 7 p.m. in the State Farm Lecture Hall of the Business and Aerospace Building.

Brown's visit to MTSU is part of the 2007 SunTrust Lecture Series.

"Tony has been very generous with his time and has visited the MTSU recording industry department whenever we have asked him," said Bob Wood, coordinator of production and technology for the department. "His commitment to helping educate the next generation of music industry professionals is laudable, and our recording industry students find immeasurable from the advice of such an industry luminary."

Brown, a native of North Carolina, has a musical background including playing piano in his family's gospel group as a teenager, touring with the Oak Ridge Boys, playing piano for Elvis Presley's final United States tour and playing piano for bandmate Rodney Crowell's Cherry Bombs when Crowell went solo.

Brown would eventually end up in Nashville working for A&R of RCA Records. His producing work for Shirley Caesar got him noticed by Jimmy Bowen who was then the chief of MCA. Bowen's mentorship helped guide Brown's talent and experiences, leading him to the president's office at MCA Nashville in 1993. There, he worked with artists such as Vince Gill, Reba McEntire, George Strait, Trisha Yearwood and Wynonna Judd, among many others.

In 2002, Brown joined friend Tim DuBois to found Universal South Records, but stepped down last December.

Brown's four nominations for the 2007 Academy of Country Music, which were announced earlier this month, include Album of the Year, Single of the Year and Vocal Event of the Year.

Brown is also the reigning Country Music Association producer for "Believe," the 2006 Single of the Year by Brooks & Dunn.

For more information on Brown's visit contact Wood at 898-2532.

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Clean: Campus cleans energy

Continued from 1

solar energy, call stations located around campus are fueled with solar power.

Various other projects have received funding from the Clean Energy Initiative.

After a visit in February, funding was approved for the expansion of the Greenland recycling drop-off area, where students and members of the community can bring recyclables. Funding for more recycling bins throughout campus have also been approved.

The initiative has set aside money for one Raider Express Bus to be run entirely on waste vegetable oil. It will also assist as a premium for the purchase of hybrids for the school's motor pool.

Energy standards have also been implemented for all new buildings on campus in hopes that it will reduce overall energy use. ♦

Easy Cost Saving Tips for Summer Energy Use

— Set the thermostat at 78 degrees when air conditioning. Cost will increase by about 5 percent for every degree cooler.

— Even the smallest lights are heat sources. Turning off lights while not in the room will save energy from lighting and from air conditioning.

— Wash clothes in cold water. Heating water is the third highest user of electricity in the average Middle Tennessee home. When clothes require a hot wash, a cold rinse can be used.

— Use compact fluorescent bulbs. They use up to 75 percent less energy and last about 10 times as long as regular light bulbs.

More energy saving tips are available from Middle Tennessee Electric at electric.mtnet.edu and energy.mtnet.edu.

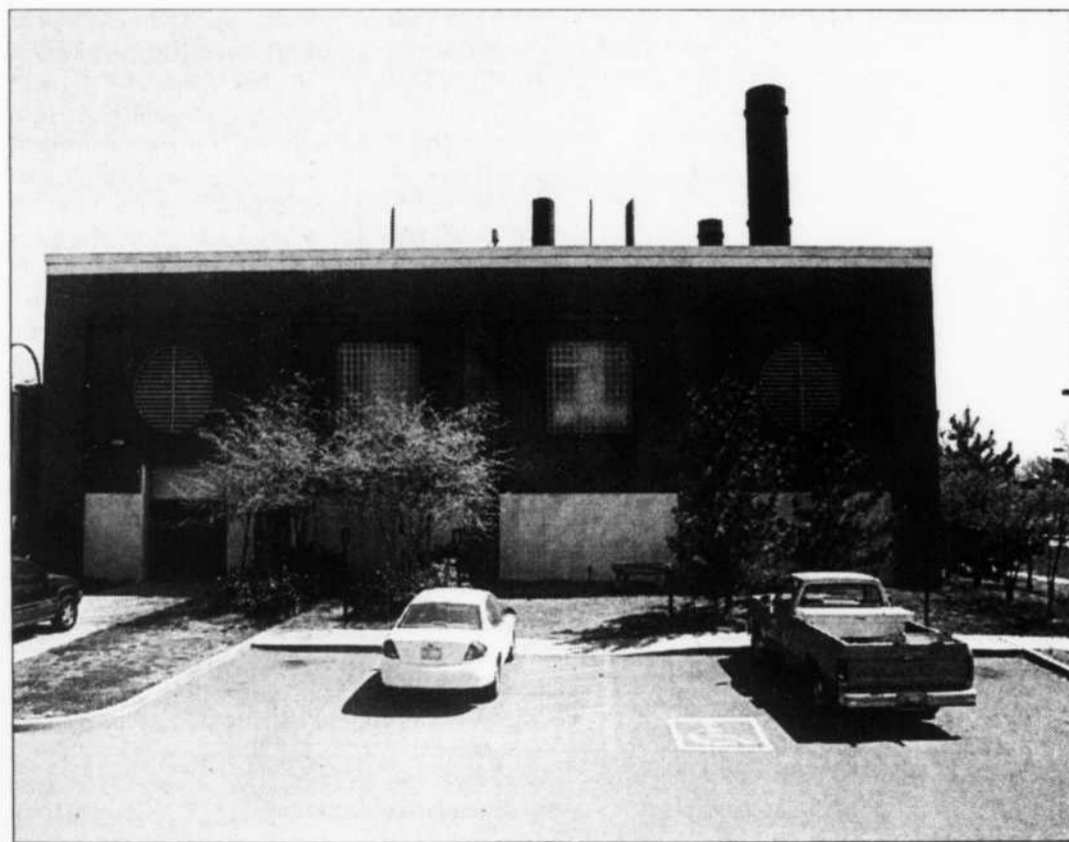


Photo by Langston Gatewood | Contributing Photographer

MTSU has slowly become more energy efficient, from installing solar panels to hopefully running a shuttle bus solely on vegetable oil. The Central Utility Plant, above, is the source of energy for the campus.

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Miscellaneous

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 adver-

tisement it deems objectionable for any reason. Classifieds will only be accepted on a prepaid basis. Ads may be placed in the Sidelines office in Mass Comm, Rm 269. For more information, call the business office at 615-898-5111. Ads are not accepted over the phone. Ads are free for students and faculty for the first two weeks.

OPINIONS

From the Editorial Board Forrest Hall shows racism present, despite ignorance

So just when we thought the Forrest Hall debate was over, it returns with a vengeance. Granted, from a slightly different perspective.

MTSU, and later the City of Murfreesboro, will host informational lectures on Nathan Bedford Forrest. Sadly, the historical facts surrounding the Ku Klux Klan and Forrest went all but unnoticed last semester as Student Against Forrest Hall petitioned to remove the war general's name from the ROTC building.

Regardless of whether the university decided to hold the lecture due to a Nov. 20 *Sidelines* editorial board ["Hasty Forrest decision causes more problems than it solves"] that encouraged informed discussion on the matter, we applaud the initiative.

In fact, we think all the students who signed their names on the initial petition to have the building's name changed – all the real names at least – should feel obligated to sit through the lecture. If students are going to nobly stand up against tyranny and racism, they should at least make an effort to be informed on the matter they so fervently oppose.

These days, it seems, all one has to do is cry "racism!" to get attention and possibly cause change. Judging by the statewide media coverage and reaction of the MTSU community and administration, Students Against Forrest Hall were very aware of the fact.

It's likely that the group was more interested in proving a point than changing a supposedly offensive name.

No one wants to be labeled a racist, especially a distinguished university in the South. But racism in the United States today is like the elephant in the room. We all know it's there, waiting patiently in our not-so-subconscious to pop out and be quickly politically corrected away.

Should we then adjust our history and portrayal thereof to fit the hypersensitive P.C. nature of the 21st century? It seems as though we already are. Indian mascots are being removed from schools, terms of reference to race are being eliminated and official apologies are being issued.

However, in the long run, how many problems is this solving? Perhaps it is just enabling Americans to ignore the said elephant for just a little while longer rather than facing and eliminating it head-on.

At least for now, MTSU has the right idea: Combat racism with education rather than ultimately insignificant actions. We can only hope it sticks.



Frank Hasenmueller

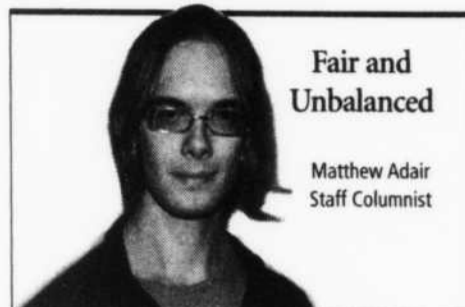
RIAA, not downloads, spoils music

What does the Bush administration and the U.S. recording industry have in common? Both seem bent on fighting a war with a losing strategy.

The Recording Industry Association of America's losing battle is, of course, the ongoing question of downloading music from file sharing programs such as Gnutella and Limewire. The latest episode in this fight hits fairly close to home – 20 Vanderbilt University students, as well as other Tennessee college students, were accused of illegally downloading material and charged hefty fines of several thousand dollars. The bill could have been even higher – one student, University of Tennessee sophomore Chelsea Conn, could have faced a fine of \$1 million, if she hadn't settled out of court with the RIAA.

The RIAA's penalties cannot legitimately be thought of as a way to recoup the financial damage done by illegal downloading, especially since studies have shown that the 'damage' being done is negligible. In an analysis released in March 2004, two researchers at Harvard Business School and the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill concluded that even with billions of music downloads occurring every week, the impact this has on the recording industry's profits cannot account for more than a minuscule fraction of losses suffered by the music industry.

In fact, the real criminal in all of this remains the business itself, which essentially commits grand theft against artists – especially new artists – every time a contract is signed. Labels will dig in to get a share of the money in clause, and musicians need to sacrifice goats and dance naked under the full moon at Stonehenge – or, at least, buy an incredible lawyer – to get the label to budge



Fair and
Unbalanced

Matthew Adair
Staff Columnist

even a few percentage points. The result is that artists often see a tenth, if that much, of the income from record sales.

Who exactly is robbing whom, here?

I won't try to contest that downloading music off the Internet is illegal. As it stands right now, it is. Copyright law has not kept pace with technology, and most attempts to change the law have been driven by the recording industry, not the public. Thus, instead of getting rational legislation that protects artists while respecting the rights of consumers, we have instead been handed legal travesties such as the Digital Millennium Copyright Act and the Copyright Term Extension Act, which drive dynamite into the foundations of the public domain, the concept of copyright and the ability to openly share information, ideas and innovations.

What is needed is real protection for artists and listeners, and not for ClearChannel and the big labels. We download music for personal use, to stick in our iPods and store in our computers. We don't profit from this music by selling it, and the only people we distribute it to is to our friends, free of charge and without expectation of earning any money. Services such as Limewire and Gnutella are as popular as they are because they provide an effortless way to share work from artists that we enjoy. These file sharing

networks are often times an excellent guide to what people are listening to, and the music industry would be wise to pay attention.

The interests of the RIAA have been represented in Congress long enough, and it is time for us to be heard over their voices. We should press our legislators to clarify our copyright law to state that downloading music for personal use is not a crime, and is legally indistinguishable from copying a television program onto videotape or DVD for use at home, or – to use an even older example – taping music off of the radio to listen to in the car.

Furthermore, artists should have the right, if this is not already protected by law, to pull their entire body of work from a recording label and publish it elsewhere, even outside of the major circles of the industry, without damage or penalty. It is disgraceful to the art of music and entertainment that creators retain few of the rights to their own work, and that the ownership of some of the most profound music in recent history, as well as some of the worst garbage, is bought and sold like eggs, iron and oil.

The big businesses at the helm of the music industry have raked in their profits without question for long enough. If this country and its people believe so strongly in the power of the free market to promote the best work, then it is time that the hands playing with that market were more than those of the ultra-rich and phenomenally powerful. Let's change copyright to the way it ought to be, because good music shouldn't cost an arm, leg or lawsuit.

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

Letter to the Editor

Film warns against hatred, doesn't promote it

To The Editor:

Did the editorial board even watch "Obsession, the Movie" "Obsession" promotes intolerance of Islam," March 19? "...Another excuse to unite students in hate," you say?

The only hate being promoted is what the movie is trying to warn people about. Hate and intolerance is being promoted by radical Islamic groups around the world, and their actions were honestly depicted in the movie, from Islamic sources themselves. The movie "Obsession" is not promoting hate. The movie is simply the messenger. However, as in most cases in the news media today, if the message is not palatable to the sensitivities of our politically correct, liberal, tolerant, morally subjective, multicultural society, just accuse the messenger of intolerance and hate and sweep the facts aside.

My mother, who just recently passed away, was raised in Nazi Germany. She lived under that Nazi regime that brought their radical, hate filled ideas to the zenith of power. It was able to do so because of people just like you on the *Sidelines* editorial board, people who thought the Nazis were really not much of a threat and would not be able to gain enough power to intimidate the rest of the population into falling in line with their radical ideas.

My mother's cousin, a Christian, was put in a concentration camp. Her first husband and her mother were killed in the war, and she lost her home and possessions when it was destroyed by British and American bombing raids. She and her family cheered, though, when the Allied bombs were dropped on them, because they knew it was one more step in rescuing them from Hitler's "Thousand Year Reich."

She only wished that the lives of her family and millions of others had been spared by earlier action, before Hitler's radical ideas took root in a minority of the population and gained power over Germany.

The old saying "those who ignore history are doomed to repeat it" is worth repeating here. Does the *Sidelines* editorial board know what is going on in the world? Have you noticed that Iran is controlled by a lunatic fringe of radical Islamists, on the verge of obtaining nuclear weapons? Have you noticed that the president of Iran has asserted that Israel will be destroyed? Have you noticed the "goose stepping" soldiers of the Revolutionary Guard of Iran, and their clients in the Middle East, Hamas and Hezbollah? What does all this remind you of? Maybe you think these are just good folks having fun marching around playing soldier.

The ironic thing is that they do not need you, the editorial board of the *Sidelines*, to defend or deny their radical Islamic actions. They hate you as much as they hate everyone else who does not agree with their version of radical Islam. You, as journalists, if you can honestly call yourselves that, do not serve the public by accusing the movie of hate when it is actually the radical Islamists in that movie who are the perpetrators of hate. The movie is just the messenger.

We ignore the fact of the spread of radical Islam at our peril. Just ask my mother.

Michael Westphal Hiatt
Director of the department of geosciences

Divided system fails to provide choices

Despite the growing number of protests against the Iraq war and the "mandate" Democrats in Congress received in November, legislators are accomplishing vexingly little to help end the war by extricating the troops, rather than egressing through Iran.

This seems in part to be the fault of overreaching Democrats whose election hinged on opposing the war. They appear unwilling to compromise with those moderate Republicans whose support for the war is waning but who are unwilling to go as far as their Democratic counterparts to end it.

The result is a whole lot of noise and nothing binding. While House Democrats turn up the volume on plans to pull troops from Iraq, their legislation has little chance of getting through the more contentiously held Senate, and the White House has made clear its intention to veto any such bill that crosses the president's desk.

An unfortunate side effect here is, for all their anti-war posturing, Democrats are accomplishing little to actually force President George W. Bush to end this mess. Although the Senate will likely insure he never even has to veto such a bill, his early threat to do so reflects genuine fear of any legitimate opposition to his cause.

Regrettably, it seems unlikely



iscaRIOT

Daniel Potter
Staff Columnist

Democrats will capitalize on this weakness by embracing a sufficiently moderate stance to win the allies across the aisle they'll need to make anything stick. Loudmouth partisan rhetoric is what got them elected, so why mess with a winning strategy?

The resulting impasse lays bare an intrinsic flaw with our two-party representative democracy. A country's future should never be limited to only two options, especially when they're about as different as Coke and Pepsi. Republicans and Democrats are barely distinct from one other, and even then it's mostly by marketing.

Fitting American values to a one-dimensional spectrum is a fool's task, as vulgar as it is meaningless. One needn't be politically radical to find her choices severely limited by our binary democracy.

Here in Tennessee, this was readily visible during the last election. The Democratic candidate was ostensibly for the war

and against gay marriage and abortion, while the Republican candidate was the same, only more so.

See also: The 2004 presidential election, when the frontrunner for either party favored continuing the war in Iraq. None of the above, please?

Clearly, the current system affords us little to decide beyond which puppet will fail to represent our interests for the next few years, yet the presence of an illusory choice seems enough to satisfy the vast majority of us, willfully ignorant and apolitical as we generally are.

After all, apolitical ignorance is bliss, while the current political landscape is utterly depressing. With the Bush administration assuring Americans it will do everything it can to circumvent attempts to halt its increasingly unpopular and unproductive war, we have plenty to worry about beyond the deadlocked Congress.

The most recent debate over federal prosecutors being fired for political reasons results from the renewal of the Patriot Act – which never should have passed in the first place – where a provision was quietly added enabling the attorney general to appoint such prosecutors without Senate confirmation, further undermining democratic leadership.

Coming on the heels of Lewis

Libby's conviction for obstruction of justice, this seems to reflect an administration with very little desire to represent the interests of the American people, and even less competence at effectively concealing its own sinister and unconstitutional agenda.

Indeed, the seditious avarice of such men as Cheney and Rove is evident, but the United States seems to simply prefer the blinds drawn to such matters. We'll be duped yet again, if we allow it.

Surely there must come a time when we as Americans will recognize our national identity is being maligned by the selfish ambitions of madmen at the helm of an absurd war. As the current Congressional standstill on the matter shows, in such circumstances we cannot rely upon our so-called democracy to right this horrible wrong.

With thousands of Americans and tens of thousands more Iraqis dead, and hundreds of billions of dollars wasted for reasons still unexplained, America cannot endure much further abuse. The potential damage between now and January, 2009, is incalculable.

Let's not wait until then to demand better.

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FEATURES

Amber Perkins won't back down

Student leads anti-Forrest Hall group, plans to keep trying

By Sarah Lavery

Features Editor

Looking out the window of her Corlew Hall dorm room in 2002, Amber Perkins had a direct view of the ROTC building. She hardly gave it a second thought. Born and raised in Nashville, Perkins was used to the Southern mentality and Civil War commemoration. The words "Forrest Hall" didn't mean much to her.

Now, she has publicly – and frequently – been called a racist. A bigot. A rabble rouser. Ignorant. After turning in the petition to change Forrest Hall to Student Government Association, she's become the spokesperson for the ongoing controversy, and judging by the myriad of Facebook discussions of the issue, a scapegoat for those who defend the building's name.

But Perkins seems to have a permanent smile on her face despite experiencing the obvious backlash of spearheading such a controversial cause. The petition to change Forrest Hall may have, for the moment, stalled. Perkins's will to create change, though, is still going strong.

The daughter of a kindergarten teacher and a truck-driver, Perkins didn't grow up with the idea of activism hammered into her head. In fact, Perkins's current notoriety makes her mother sort of nervous. "My co-workers saw you on the news, Amber," she said to her daughter when the public battle first began. "What did you do now?"

Perkins, a senior sociology

major, first heard about Forrest Hall's history from a few senior friends.

"They wanted to change the name, but no one had put together an organized effort," she says. "So the petition has, basically, been the effort of three years."

Perkins became aware of the issue in 2002, but she didn't do much at first. She had no idea how to go about making an actual change. This year, though, Perkins met a few students who shared in her love of activism, and the plan fell into place.

They were aware, though, that the community might not welcome their cause with open arms.

"The worst we thought could happen was we would get kicked out of school," Perkins says. "Or our course work would just be dropped."

Before starting the petition, Perkins conferred with Sylvester Brooks to see what she might be up against. A black activist who used

The worst we thought could happen was we would get kicked out of school. Or our course work would just be dropped.

—Amber Perkins

to stand near the Keathly University Center and throw rocks at the Nathan Bedford Forrest commemorative plaque, Brooks knew a bit about stirring up controversy.

He told her to put on her battle gear.

"[Brooks] told me to expect a lot of attack from the [Ku Klux Klan] and the media and the citizens of the Murfreesboro community," Perkins says. "But after the whole thing started, I took my profile picture off of Facebook, so no one would know who I was. The attacks have been mostly limited to e-mails."

During the height of the issue

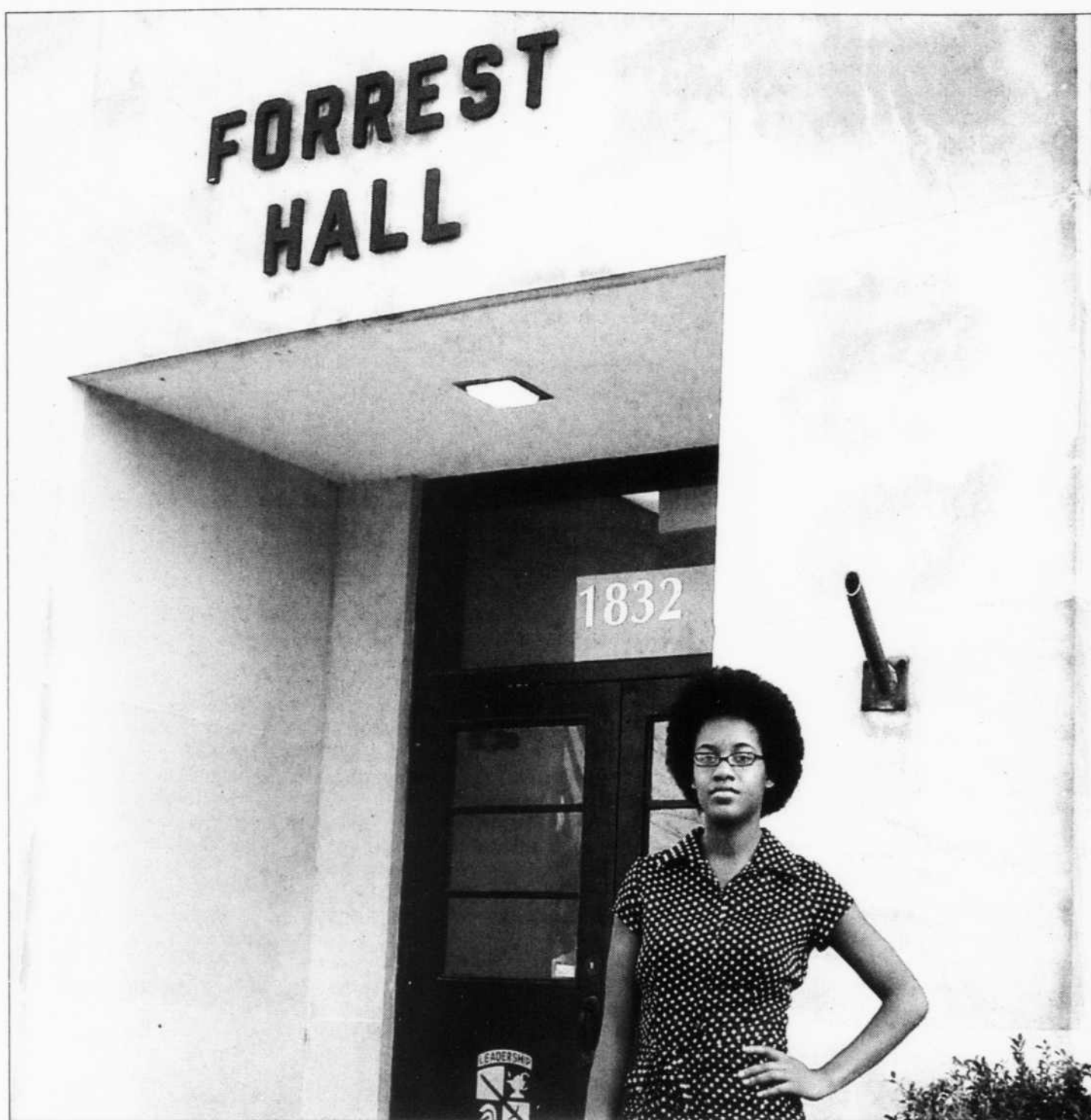


Photo by Sarah Lavery | Features Editor

Senior sociology major Amber Perkins stands in front of the contested ROTC building. Perkins organized the effort to remove the Confederate General's name from the building and turned in a petition for an official name change to the Student Government Association.

last semester, Perkins's mailbox was full. Though she still gets at least one message a day, the constant e-mails and remarks from teachers, friends and strangers was a little overwhelming.

"Usually, they rant about the 'true history' and blah, blah, blah," she says. "And I always respond to them. I tell them to come to our meetings and voice [their] opinions, but I don't argue."

Understanding history has become the center of the debate, and students have rallied to the defense of both sides of the issue.

Some claim that Nathan Bedford Forrest is a figure that represents the South's tawdry racist history, while some declare him an ingenious military figure that just got a bad reputation.

For students in support of the building's name, accusations that Perkins and her "posse" just don't understand history have been frequent.

"There are conflicting sources. I'll admit that," Perkins says. "But KKK Web sites have his picture everywhere, so you can't really argue what [Forrest]

represents now."

In 1968, Sylvester Brooks wrote in a guest column in the MTSU student paper, "You cannot seek a newer world while clinging passionately to the relics of days long given to the past. One cannot move forward if his mind is constantly moving backward."

Brooks lived in an era of radicalism and student political involvement, however. MTSU has since removed Forrest mascots and Confederate flags from events, and the Nathan Bedford

Forrest plaque is long gone.

Perhaps Perkins is MTSU's Sylvester Brooks for the 21st century, or perhaps her nay-sayers are right, and she did just feel the need to stir up controversy. However, one thing for certain is that Perkins is not going down without a fight.

"Everytime I walk by that building, it reminds me that we haven't advanced that much," she says. "It's taken years for us to get this far with the petition, so if it doesn't pass, we'll just keep trying." ♦

MTSU bathroom graffiti decorative, damaging

Students use bathroom walls for creative expression, add hours to janitorial work

By Steven Cope

Contributing Writer

To most people, the word "graffiti" usually refers to the spray paint they see on walls, sidewalks or an overpass. This is the most common type of American and European graffiti. It is not, however, what most MTSU students should think of when they hear the word.

Bathrooms, and especially bathroom stalls, on the MTSU campus and surrounding areas are filled with the thoughts of the student body. Guy's bathrooms are usually filled with political statements. You can be sure that any mention of President George W. Bush adorning the walls of boys' rooms will be closely followed with a swastika. Scattered among the political statements are some funny quips, general references to women and the occasional racial statement.

The trend is not limited, though, to just guys' bathrooms. That's right, women – you're not off the hook. According to Morgan Stevens, a sophomore broadcast major, women do it too but not like the guys.

"It's usually about someone doing something with someone else's boyfriend or something like 'Tina loves Billy,'" she says. "It's never nice and always something immature and seems to always involve someone else's name."

There are different opinions on campus about whether or not it matters. Lucas Offutt, a senior business marketing major, does not seem to be bothered by it. "I like [graffiti], as long as it's not racial slurs – that bothers me. But personally, I think it's funny," Offutt says.

Stevens, however, does not agree. "It's destruction of property," she says. "People complain about the environment, but then they trash campus property."

Cleaning the majority of bathrooms on campus is the responsibility of MTSU Facilities Services.

Assistant Vice President David Gray says he has "seen a rise in bathroom graffiti in the last few years." He mostly attributes this to the "\$650,000 taken out of the [Facilities Services] budget about four or five years ago."

Gray remembers when he had to let about 18 individuals go from his department.

"Some were painters, and now we are down to about two to three painters for campus," he says.

Facilities Services, according to Gray, cleans about 300 bathrooms every night.

"The KUC is probably the toughest [to clean]," Gray says, "and then [it's] a toss up between all the other educational buildings."

Gray has been trying to find ways in his budget to fix the problem, but says he "just can't stay ahead." One of the solutions he has considered was to have a designated area on campus where graffiti is allowed. He points to Vanderbilt University, where a hallway is allotted for students to write almost anything on the walls, and then they come in and whitewash it every four years.

This is something both Morgan and Lucas find interesting.

"It would help," Morgan says. "It would benefit the campus and cause less graffiti."

Lucas, however, says, "It would be real cool, but it would promote graffiti in other places."

The possible solutions to relieve bathroom graffiti are few and far between.

Unfortunately, lack of funding limits the solutions even more. The main thing MTSU can do is look at other campuses and other cities. So, whether it is paint, ink, chalk or graphite graffiti, remember that it is the students at MTSU doing it.

Maybe students just want to express their creativity, or maybe they just get bored while waiting for human nature to take its course. Either way, student expression manifests itself on the walls of MTSU's bathrooms everyday. ♦



Photo by Adrian Smith | Contributing Photographer

Some bathrooms frequented by college students, such as this one in the Campus Pub, barely have an inch of wall space not covered by anecdotes and declarations that Bob loves Sue 4ever. Graffiti may be pretty, but the work it requires of janitors is not.

SPORTS

Martial Arts Club continues to serve community

By Clarence Plank

Sports Editor

The of the club are set to begin their workout. The room is noisy as people wrestle on the floor and another punches a dummy near a large window.

The Martial Arts Club at the Recreation Center offers opportunities for students and members alike to learn martial arts. MAC meets every Tuesday and Thursday nights at 8:30 to 10:30 p.m.

Gilberto Mendoza club president of the Martial Arts Club has been studying martial arts since 1995. Mendoza, Jeff Martin and Billy Colepaugh teach the self-defense classes.

"I really became interested in martial arts after watching the Ultimate Fight Championships. So, I picked up every book that I could find and rented every video I could find to teach myself," Mendoza said. "Then I got to the point where I could not teach myself. I came to MTSU and found the club. I started to learn more and more from different members."

The club was founded in 1999 by Billy Colepaugh and others. Billy is still active with the club and he came back this semester to take some classes at MTSU. The club covers all the different styles of martial arts.

"The club was opened for the purpose of people who worked and went to school that did not have time to go to their Dojo," Mendoza said. "This was opened so they can go and continue training at their own pace and not only that, but to be able to pick up new styles or forms of martial arts."

Club membership is really cheap for MTSU students. The membership fee is \$15 dollars for a semester or \$7 dollars a month.

"It's really low and everyone can afford it and we work with students who can't afford it," Mendoza said. "Our main goal is to get people in here to find something they like doing and not only that, but also learning self-defense. There is something out there that they can do to make them feel good about themselves and also maintain a healthy life. That is our main goal."

The MAC holds fundraisers to raise money for Saint Jude's Hospital Habitat for Humanity and Project Help.

They have won four rewards for their involvement in the community at-large.

They sell doughnuts, take donations and hold sparring tournaments that are free for the public to watch.

Their next sparring tournament is April 21 at the Rec. Center basketball courts from 7 to 10 p.m.

Kasey King, vice president of the MAC, joined the club in the fall of 2006 and got involved with the club for many different reasons.

"Martial Arts is a very traditional, disciplined, and honorable 'sport'. It requires commitment and time," King said. "It is one of the best ways to learn about respect and [how] to earn it; not to mention it is a great way to stay in shape. All of these aspects, along with the beauty of the art, caught my eye and sparked my interest."

The recent sparring tournament of last year has helped in the increase of enrollment into the club, with a growing diversity of membership.

"That tournament helped out the club out a lot because it helped the club grow. The last tournament we only expected maybe 50-60 spectators to show up mainly family or friends or something like that to show up and to root for the participants," Mendoza said. "We actually had close to 300 spectators and everybody loved it. What they learn, they can actually use and it gives them an opportunity to learn and see where they are at. It is one of those things that the martial artist, here love."

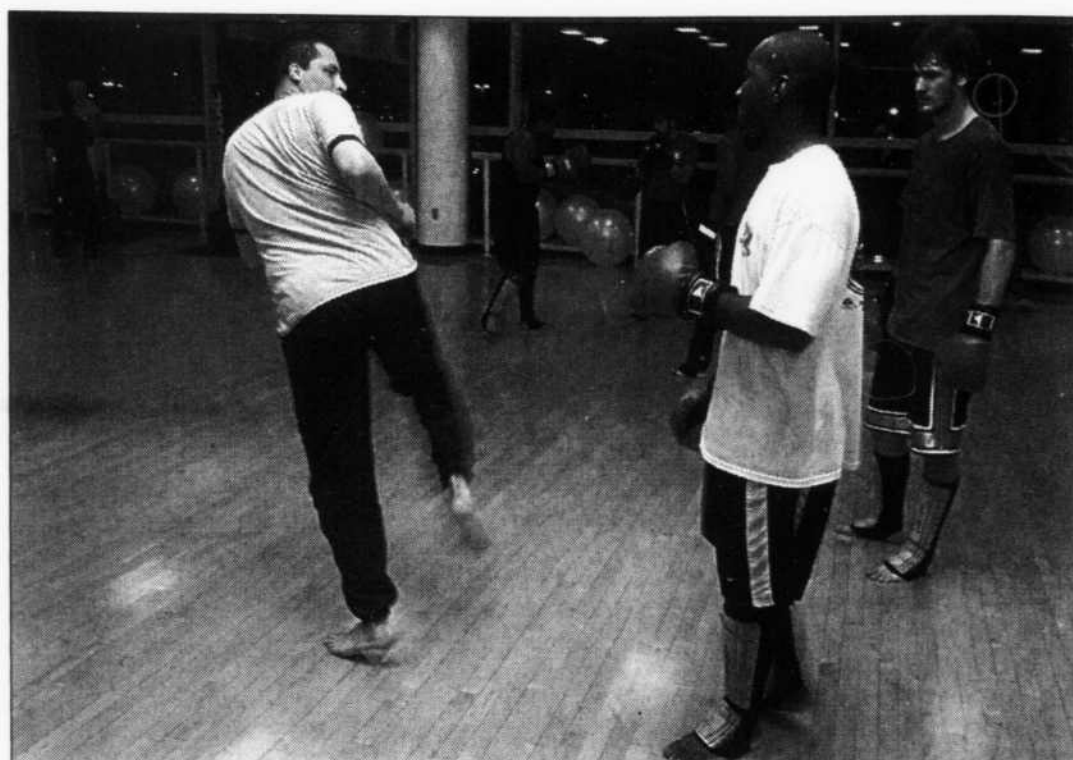
The club raised over \$200 dollars from the people that came to watch the sparring tournament, with all of the money going directly to St. Jude's Hospital.

The atmosphere of the club is comforting to those who want to learn martial arts.

"The Martial Arts club is a welcoming environment that offers free self-defense classes. Not to mention, the club is willing to work with all different experience levels from beginner to advanced," King said. "When females come to try out the free self-defense class they realize exactly how welcoming and open the club really is. They find a sense of comfort/safety in the club."

They offer a wide variety of different styles and martial art forms for someone to learn, and teach techniques in the self-defense class in order to drop an attacker and get away.

The members of the club have been actively involved in martial arts for years before joining the club at MTSU.



Gilberto Mendoza shows Lawerence McCoy and Josh Giles how to do a roundhouse kick. Mendoza is the president of the Martial Arts Club.

The club has recently been looking into creating scholarships, but as of right now there is no such thing, they are working on that.

"As of right now we don't have any. I have been wanting to even if it is only to pay for a book or two, to help the students out," Mendoza said. "That is something we have been working on for about two or three semesters now. We have come to a lot of agreements to who will get it and the classification [they need to be]."

Everyone is invited to come out to the sparring tournament on Apr. 21 at 7 to 10 p.m. and watch the MAC spar with each other in order to raise money for Saint Jude's Hospital.

The Club offers many different type of martial arts styles like Tae kwon do, Tae chi, Kemp, Brazilian Jujitsu and Kendo.

For more information about the club please call Gilberto Mendoza at 615-389-3344 or drop by every Tuesday and Thursday night at 8:30 to 10:30 p.m. on the second floor in the aerobics room of the Rec Center. ♦



Freshman Josh Giles and senior Lawrence McCoy practice some moves at the Martial Arts Club.

Middle Tennessee wins deciding game against Arkansas State Indians in SBC

March 25
Middle Tennessee 7
Arkansas State 5

March 24
MT 3
ASU 4

March 23
MT 6
ASU 7
Next Game at Memphis,
March 27

By Cody Gibson

Staff Writer

In thrilling fashion on Friday night, the Blue Raiders dropped a heartbreaker to the Arkansas State Indians 7-6 in extra innings.

In a game that featured five lead changes, the Blue Raiders had 10 hits with Dennis Taylor and Drew Robertson leading the team with two apiece.

Wayne Kendrick and Bishop Rawley had two RBI's to pace the Blue Raiders for the game.

The team got a decent outing from Matt Scott who gave Middle Tennessee six innings of work only allowed five runs and handed the Blue Raider bullpen a one-run lead, but with a solid Arkansas State offense and a home field advantage Middle Tennessee had a lot going against them.

Josh Yates of Arkansas State terrorized the Blue Raiders with two home runs and four RBI.

Brett Reilley took the hard luck loss allowing an unearned run in the bottom of 10th inning.

Saturday, the Blue Raiders took some momentum after USA ended their three game winning-streak the day before.

Brad Robinson took the mound for Middle Tennessee. and had a solid performance for the Blue Raiders, scattering three runs and eight hits over 5 2/3 innings.

Then, the bullpen took over. After getting the loss Friday, the Blue Raider bullpen



Senior Brett Reilley catches an in-field pop fly as the first baseman runs to cover first base just in case he miss-plays the ball.

dominated giving, up only one hit over the final 3 innings of the game.

Rawley continued his 13 game hitting streak with two hits and one RBI. Also, the team received much of their run production from the top of the lineup as Matt Ray and Matt Campbell scored one run apiece got on base two times on the game.

Reilley collected the save and Robinson picked up the win for the Blue Raiders.

The final game of the series was held on Sunday.

Austin Peay travels to Murfreesboro to play Middle Tennessee on Tuesday.

The Governors bring a 12-8 record to the contest, and are led by J.B. Gilbert and Will Hogue.

Hogue and Gilbert are the only players who are hitting over .300 on the season lead the team in all major categories.

Austin Peay has done an excellent job of creating opportunities and playing small ball in achieving their winning record.

The other player to watch for the Governors is Ben Wilshire. Wilshire has compiled a .71 ERA in 9 appearances on the season.

If this is a close contest look to see Wilshire in the later innings of the game. The Blue Raiders throw out the first pitch at 6 p.m.

The Blue Raiders beat Arkansas State in 14 innings for their fourth series win in

Jonesboro and their first series win in the SBC.

Middle Tennessee beat ASU 7-5 on Sunday after Travis Matthew throws a scoreless inning to relieve his first win.

It was the longest game for the Raiders since, March 20, 2005 against Missouri State. Both of the games in this series has gone the distance stretching into extra innings.

Doug Birkofer hit an infield single, with Matt Ray right behind him with another single. Myles Ervin walked with one out in the top of the 14th to load the bases for Kendrick who hit a single to score a run.

Both teams combined for 31 hits and left 36 runners on base.

Brett Smalley pitched for seven innings allowing only five runs on 10 hits. Brett Reilley and Josh Anderson pitched a couple of scoreless innings to keep the Raiders within striking distance of taking the lead.

Adam Warren had three hits. Zach Barrett and Rawley Bishop each had two hits in the game.

Middle Tennessee face Austin Peay on Tuesday at 6 p.m. Then the Raiders go to Nashville, Tenn., to play top-ranked Vanderbilt.

Then MT comes back home to face Louisiana-Monroe back home at Reese Field. ♦



I am Sportacus

J. Owen Shipley
Staff Columnist

The 06-07 Lady Raiders season by the numbers

The Lady Raiders' record-setting season has been called "one for the books" by the Media Relations office so many times, you would think they were known for building libraries not playing basketball. Every college, no matter how small, has a Media Relations office whose job it is to make their team seem exciting. Other than the tedious nature of collecting stats I'm guessing this was an easy year for Mark Owens and his staff.

This team sold itself. 30 wins and a perfect 21-0 record in the conference, led by the Academic All-American Player of the Year, Chrissy Givens. Oh, and Givens also happens to be the nation's 4th best scorer. They played with class and character, but most importantly as Graham Hays of Espn.com said in his blog last weekend-the "Blue Raiders make basketball fun."

Givens, who is simultaneously the most over-bearingly confident and nicest athlete I've ever met, has been nothing short of breathtaking this season.

Pulling in rebounds, getting steal after steal, taking effortless jumpers and tossing mind-blowing passes that always seem to hit their mark.

Her confidence stems from her hopeful nature rather than an egotistical "me-first" attitude so common in show stopping athletes. She gives every ounce of credit for this season to head coach Rick Insell, who she called the "Greatest coach in America" in her blog leading up to the Marist Game. She truly believed that MT was final four-bound and they would have been if they had been seeded anywhere but Dayton.

All four years of Givens' tenure as an MT student-athlete have ended in a Sun Belt Conference championship. She never knew anything but success in her - soon to be in the hall of fame - white and blue jersey. Yet this fierce competitor, this natural-born scorer has actually been criticized by her coach for not shooting enough. She shared the ball with her teammates too often and passed up good looks at the basket.

How can someone who scored 20+ points in over 20 games this season be so humble? Because this MT squad really did play as a team.

Unfortunately for them, they ran into a Marist squad with just as unselfish and talented of a leader in Alisa Kresge.

This team's legacy won't end with the numbers. But to put it in perspective, let's look at just two more stats. The Blue Raiders forced over 850 turnovers with their fast-paced, full-court-pressure defense. As Hays said, "A team has done its job defensively when it forces 500." We're talking about a women's college hoops team whose lowest score of the regular season was 61. That's what a lot of teams with winning records average.

So what now? What will MT do without Givens? Well, expect more on that next week, but for now I want to point out that Givens wasn't just at MT to play. She was a leader who never let up on her teammates or herself and always pushed those around her to play hard as hard as possible instead of just hard enough.

Just before playing Marist, Givens wrote in her blog

See Sportacus, 7

Student trainers assist athletes in Rutherford County

By Clarence Plank
Sports Editor

The Student Athletic Trainers Association and Murfreesboro Mayor Tommy Bragg have signed a proclamation making the month of March National Athletic Trainers Month.

This is the second time this proclamation has been signed by the mayor of Murfreesboro.

The SATA already recognize the month of March as the month to raise awareness about athletic trainers as health care professionals and not just people who work with athletes.

Andy Braden, representative for the SATA talked about what sets an athletic trainer apart from a personal trainer.

"We are not personal trainers," Braden said. "We deal with injury prevention and care [for] athletic injuries. We help prevent injuries. We don't necessarily treat someone that is healthy."

Personal trainers work with someone to help them to get in shape by exercising and setting up a dietary program.

Athletic trainers treat injuries when they happen and set up ways to prevent future injuries.

They learn many different ways to treat physical injuries and teach athletes to strengthening and stretching techniques for prevention of injuries.

"As a first year student in the program, we are assigned to an MTSU sports team for the semester," Braden said. "Each student is required to put in a minimum of at least 200 hours at the clinical site during the semester."

Starting in the fall students go through a rotation to different clinical sites located in Rutherford County, with other clinics set up in neighboring counties where some students may live.

"We rotate every fall," Braden

said. "We split up to cover all the sports at MTSU and make sure there is adequate coverage at the high schools."

With about 40 student athlete trainers they have a good amount of coverage for the surrounding area with some of the students li

Braden said. "Students assist in the prevention, care and rehabilitation of athletic injuries to our beloved Blue Raider athletes."

Earlier in the month the group got together to help Habitat for Humanity build a house in LaVergne, Tenn.

During the fall the SATA works to raise money for conference in Jan. and Feb. They are working on doing a Home Derby sometime in the near future.

For more information contact associate professor of Health and Human Performance at 904-8192 or e-mail hbinkley@mtsu.edu. ♦



Photo courtesy of the SATA

The Mayor of Murfreesboro Tommy Bragg and representatives of the Student Athletic Trainers Association are gathered as Mayor Bragg signs the proclamation.

From left to right Kritsi Phillips, associate professor at MTSU Helen Binkley, Kevin Wolff, Bryan Beasley, Mayor Tommy Bragg, Andy Braden, Brad Rohling, Sadie Coffey and Blake Jeffers. They are the representatives of the SATA from sophomore to senior classifications within the SATA.

Blue Raiders sports briefs

Men's tennis fail to win Rice Invitational

The Blue Raiders fell to Rice after losing a close doubles point match.

Andreas Siljestrom fell to Ben Harkett 7-6, 7-6 in the deciding singles match in tiebreakers.

Middle Tennessee 9-11 were up after two matches as Joao Paoliello split sets at No. 5 before they were stopped.

The Owls won the Nos. 2 and 3, 8-6 to get the first point of the match.

Andreas Siljestrom and Marco Born beat Jason Mok and Tobias Scheil, 8-5. Rice's Ben Harknett and Christoph Müller defeated Morgan Richard and Marc Rocafort, 8-6. Rice's Ralph Knupfer and Filip Zivojinovic defeated Marc Boiron and Paoliello, 8-6.

In singles Rice (12-7) won all three singles matches.

Müller defeated Born, 6-3, 6-4. Mok beat Alex McCann, 6-1, 6-2. Harknett defeated Siljestrom, 7-1 in the first-set tiebreaker and 7-2 in the next.

Rocafort led Knupfer, 6-3, 5-4. Richard 7-6, 2-3 over Scheil. Paoliello and Zivojinovic, with Zivojinovic winning the first set 6-4 and Paoliello was up, 6-0.

"It was really a close match, just like we've been playing all month. We're so close yet so far," MT head coach Dale Short told MT Media Relations. "If the guys keep giving the effort they gave [Sunday], we'll be OK. We're just a penny away."

"We've lost a lot of confidence because we've lost so many close matches," Short told MT Media Relations. "I feel like we're still capable of winning the conference. We just have to get over the hump and win a tight match."

The Blue Raiders come home this weekend March 31 after facing South Florida during the week.

The Blue Raiders fell to Oklahoma on Saturday after winning the doubles point and loss momentum heading into singles action.

After a short rain delay before they move the series indoors. MT has lost four of five singles match after receiving the first point in doubles.

Oklahoma's Ryan Thomas and Marek Velicka beat Boiron-Paoliello, 8-1. Born-Siljestrom defeated Andrei Daescu and Vaclav Kucera, 8-4.

Rocafort-Richard defeated Federico Chavarria and Rob McKenzie, 8-6, for a doubles point.

Oklahoma rallied (14-2) in the singles matches, winning three straight points.

The Sooners' Kucera beat Siljestrom, 7-6, 6-3. Velicka defeated Born, 6-4, 7-1. Daescu dropped Rocafort, 6-2, 6-3.

Richard defeated McKenzie, 6-4, 6-4. Chavarria beat Alex McCann, 6-1, 6-0.

"We're really struggling right now. We can very close but can't seem to close the deal," Short told MT Media Relations. "We played well in doubles but then not as well in singles. Our confidence is really low, but we've got another opportunity on Sunday against a very good team."

Women's golf miss chance at fourth straight win

Women's golf team fell in the Cincinnati Spring Invitational after winning three straight tournaments on Saturday.

The Blue Raiders shot a second-round 317 and fell out of first place to finish third.

MT (626) was ahead by a one stroke lead over

Princeton (622) going into the final round, only to watch Florida Atlantic (620) pass them both to win the tournament. The Blue Raiders were six shots from taking first place.

"Shooting a 317 in the final round was disappointing," Middle Tennessee head coach Rachael Short told Media Relations. "We struggled at times and left some shots out there and that was the difference in a six-shot finish, but we had some really good moments, too, and we need to carry that into this tournament Monday."

Leigh Wilkins in the first round got a par-72, with a 79 in the second round and led the Raiders with a 154, tied for fifth place.

Clara Leathers shot 80 in the first round after two days she finished with a 157 and tie for ninth. Taryn Durham shot an 82 and was tied for 14th with a 158 and tied with Maggie McGill.

MT heads to Hot Springs Ark., to play against Arkansas Little-Rock and North Texas at the UALR/North Texas Classic at the Diamante Club on Monday and Tuesday.

Softball team take two games from series with USA

The Blue Raiders softball team lost the last game of the series against South Alabama on Sunday 1-0.

MT starter Lindsey Vander Lugt (12-12) loss, after giving up no earned runs and seven hits, striking out three and walking one in the game.

South Alabama's Tara Donaldson drove in Ashley Elmore giving the Jaguars a 1-0 lead.

Vander Lugt in the fifth inning turned a double play and got the Blue Raiders out of the inning.

Shelby Stiner in the bottom of the fifth hit a ball into shallow right to break up the South Alabama

no-hitter.

Middle Tennessee dropped to 5-4 in Sun Belt Conference play.

MT travels to Cookeville, Tenn., to face Tennessee Tech on Wednesday at 2 PM. MT returns to Blue Raider Field for a doubleheader against in-state rival Memphis on April 4th.

The Blue Raiders beat South Alabama 11-9 after belting out four homeruns, including a two-run walk-off homerun in the ninth inning.

Linden Jones lost in relief for the Jaguars, giving up three runs, including a homerun, on six hits, striking out two and walking two in the game.

South Alabama led as they scored four runs on four hits in the first.

The Blue Raiders responded with four runs on four hits to tie the game, 4-4. Corrie Abel led off the inning with a single up the middle. Abel, Ashley Cline, Martha Davis and Katie Mielke would all score in the inning.

South Alabama's Jenny Stevens hit a two-run homerun putting the Jaguars back on top 6-4. Muriel Ledbetter was second base, when Whitney Darlington hit a shot to shallow center. Ledbetter scored and Darlington crossed home plate, 6-6.

Martha Davis, hit a home-run, her first of two in the game in the fourth inning.

The Jaguars led 9-8 heading into the ninth. Shelby Stiner was on second base. Melissa Weiland hit a walk-off homerun to win the game.

Abel went 5-for-5 with two runs. Davis went 3-for-5 with three RBI and two home runs. Darlington went 3-for-5 with three RBIs and an inside-the-park homerun.

The Blue Raiders travel to Cookeville on Wednesday to face Tennessee Tech. ♦

Blue Raiders track stars place second at Alabama Relays in the first day of events

Courtesy of
Media Relations

The Blue Raiders track team qualify for the outdoor NCAA Regionals as Raiders post second place finishes.

Erika Palmer, Veronia Patterson and Sean Waller all placed second.

Patterson and Waller both posted NCAA Regional qualifying marks, leading the Middle Tennessee contingent Saturday at the Alabama Relays in Tuscaloosa, Ala.

Palmer posted a time of 11.85 in the 100-meters finishing second behind Kimberly Mulkey of Ole Miss.

The Blue Raiders posted a pair of second-place finishes in the final event of the day, the 400-meters.

Patterson ran 55.13, placing second behind Western Michigan's Becky Horn, before Waller was second in an NCAA qualifying mark of 46.99, behind Cornelius Duncan of Southern Miss.

Middle Tennessee also had several other good finishes in the first outdoor meet of the year, including Patterson posting an NCAA regional qualifying mark in the 400-meter hurdles. Patterson finishes in 59.60, third in the event.

Junior Stephanie Tamgho also

placed third in the long jump with a mark of 20-1.5, while freshman Sangau Zamzam was fourth in the 800-meters in 2:13.88.

Freshman Sarah Nambawa finished sixth in the 400-meters in 56.11, while senior Shanna-Kay Campbell placed seventh in the 200-meters in 24.41.

Freshman Brittany Cox was seventh in both the discuss and shot put, posting marks of 133-8 and 45-7.75, respectively.

For the men, senior Jermaine Barton finished sixth in the 400-meters in 47.84, while freshman Julius Kurui placed seventh in the 3000-meter steeplechase in 10:09.22 and sophomore Samuel

Adade was eighth in the 200-meters in 21.45.

In the field events, senior JaKeith Hairston finished fifth in the long jump with a mark of 22-4.5, while Waller was sixth in the event with a mark of 22-2.5.

"We had some really good performances and did well - Erika, Zamzam, Veronia and Sean," MT head coach Dean Hayes told MT Media Relations. "And Julius ran his first steeplechase today and got over the hurdles well. It was a good day in all."

For more information go to www.goblueraiders.com for further information about Sunday final day at the Alabama Relays. ♦

Sportacus: Numbers

Continued from 6

"the younger girls decided that the tournament was a great time to refocus. LOL."

Okay maybe she didn't intend that to be as sarcastic as I read it. But I am sure her team had won 27 straight when she wrote it. Wins were not enough for her. She cared how the team won. She wanted people to remember the Lady Raiders.

This has to bode well for next season. I'm not sure if Amber Holt, Johnna Abney and company can step out of the shadows of

Chrissy Givens and Krystle Horton to forge their own identity, but if Givens has her way it will happen. Givens and Insell worked too hard to make this year about a team and not about one player. Givens may be graduating, but the lessons learned by the remaining Raiders won't go to waste. If they do she'll be in the stands, letting them have it. ♦

J. Owen Shiply is a junior English major and can be reached at myspace.com/lamsportacus.

It's nearly the end of the Spring semester and pretty soon a lot of the different sporting events will come to an end.

Get them while you can,
with pen in hand.

Come draw your sword and become a sports writer.

Looking for reporters for a certain desire to bring home the stories.

If this is you please apply within.

This means you.

Mass Comm Room 269

Meeting at 6 p.m. on Monday

Become a sports writer over the Summer.

To apply please come by the office in Mass Comm building Rm. 269.

It is the the bottom of the ninth for the Spring semester.

As we go from March to April in the days ahead.

There is a possible homerun derby and a marksman competition coming up next month.

If you get a chance checkout the free self-defense class the Martial Arts Club is offering to students.

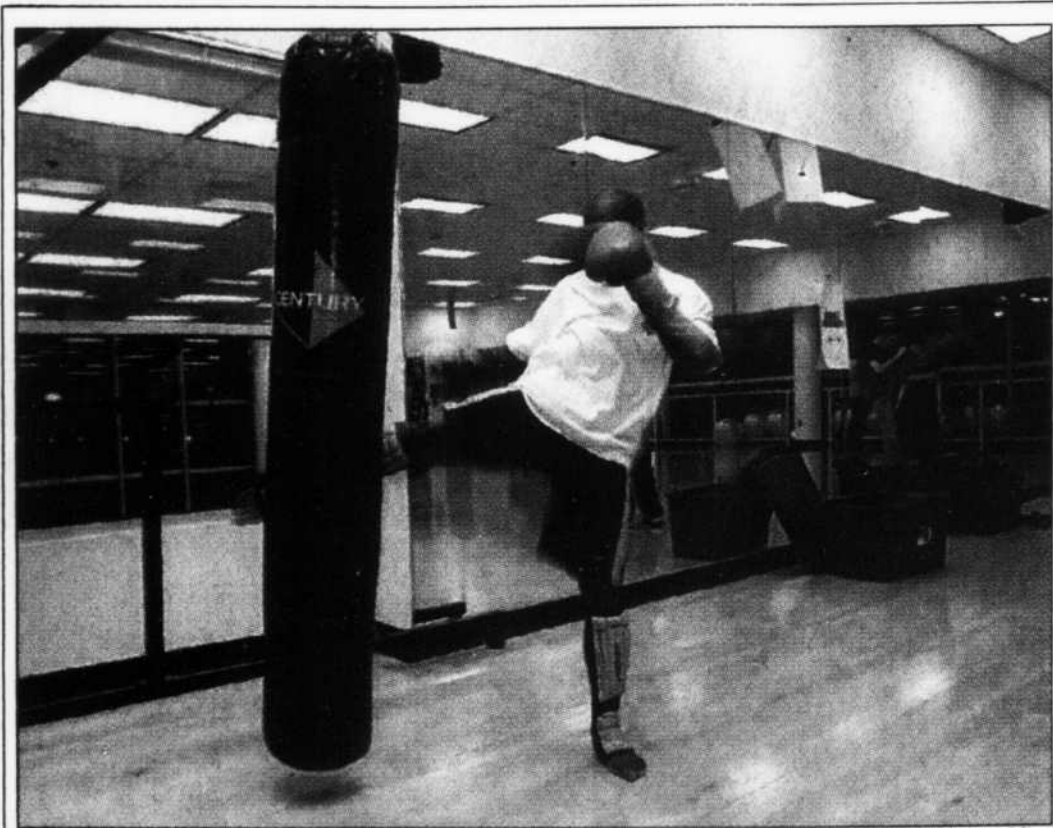


Photo by Chris Barstad | Photo Editor
Senior Lawrence McCoy warms up with the bag over at the Rec Center. McCoy is a member of the Martial Arts Club.

Men's tennis scores

Rice 4, Middle Tennessee 0

SINGLES

- 1. Ben Harknett (Rice) def. Andreas Siljestrom (MT), 7-6 (1), 7-6 (2)
 - 2. Ralph Knapfner (Rice) vs. Marc Rocafort (MT), 3-6, 5-4, unfinished
 - 3. Christoph Müller (Rice) def. Marco Born (MT), 6-3, 6-4
 - 4. Tobias Scheil (Rice) vs. Morgan Richard (MT), 6-7, 3-2, unfinished
 - 5. Filip Zivojinovic (Rice) vs. Joao Paoliello (MT), 6-4, 0-6, unfinished
 - 6. Jason Mok (Rice) def. Alex McCann (MT), 6-1, 6-2
- Order of Finish: 3,6,1*

DOUBLES

- 1. (4) Born-Siljestrom (MT) def. Mok-Scheil (Rice), 8-5
 - 2. Harknett-Müller (Rice) def. Richard-Rocafort (MT), 8-6
 - 3. Knapfner-Zivojinovic (Rice) def. Marc Boiron-Paoliello (MT), 8-6
- Order of Finish: 1,2,3*
- Oklahoma 4, Middle Tennessee 2

SINGLES

- 1. Vlacav Kucera (OU) def. Andreas Siljestrom (MT), 7-6, 6-3
- 2. Andrei Daescu (OU) def. Marc Rocafort (MT), 6-2, 6-3

- 3. Marek Velicka (OU) def. Marco Born (MT), 6-4, 7-6
 - 4. Morgan Richard (MT) def. Rob McKenzie (OU), 6-4, 6-4
 - 5. Federico Chavarria (OU) def. Alex McCann (MT), 6-1, 6-0
 - 6. Joao Paoliello (MT) vs. Sergey Avdeyev (OU), 1-6, 3-2, unfinished
- Order of Finish: 1,3,2,4,5*

DOUBLES

- 1. (4) Born-Siljestrom (MT) def. Daescu-Kucera (OU), 8-4
 - 2. Richard-Rocafort (MT) def. Chavarria-McKenzie (OU), 8-6
 - 3. Ryan Thomas-Velicka (OU) def. Marc Boiron-Paoliello (MT), 8-1
- Order of Finish: 3,1,2*
- William & Mary 4, #39 Middle Tennessee 3

SINGLES

- 1. Andreas Siljestrom (MT) def. Colin O'Brien (WM), 6-4, 2-6, 6-1
- 2. Alex Cojanu (WM) def. Marc Rocafort (MT), 6-4, 7-6 (8)
- 3. Keziel Juneau (WM) def. (113) Marco Born (MT), 6-7 (5), 7-5, 7-6 (9)
- 4. Alexander Zuck (WM) def. Morgan Richard (MT), 6-3, 4-6, 6-4
- 5. Marwan Ramadan (WM) def. Alex McCann (MT), 6-2, 6-4
- 6. Joao Paoliello (MT) def. Richard Wardell (WM), 6-1, 6-2

Order of Finish: 6,5,1,2,4,3*

DOUBLES

- 1. (4) Born-Siljestrom (MT) def. Cojanu-Juneau (WM), 8-6
 - 2. Richard-Rocafort (MT) def. O'Brien-Wardell (WM), 8-6
 - 3. Zuck-Kavi Sud (WM) def. Paoliello-Marc Boiron (MT), 8-3
- Order of Finish: 3,1,

Women's Golf

Cincinnati Spring Invitational
Crystal River, Fla. - Plantation Inn GC

Final Team Results

- 1 Florida Atlantic 311 309 620
- 2 Princeton 310 312 622
- 3 Middle Tennessee 309 317 626
- 4 Cincinnati 313 315 628
- 5 Illinois 320 312 632
- 6 Yale 326 324 650
- UAB 326 324 650
- 8 Sienna 333 340 673
- 9 Rutgers 337 341 678

MT Individual Scores

- 3 Middle Tennessee 309 317 626
- T5 Leigh Wilkins 75 79 154
- T9 Clara Leathers 80 77 157
- T14 Taryn Durham 76 82 158
- T14 Maggie McGill 79 79 158
- T25 Mallory Bishop 79 84 163

National Athletic Trainers' Month
Kicks off March 1, 2007.
"Quality Health Care and Wellness"

See story on page 6 for further details

NATA official key messages

- 1. The National Athletic Trainers' Association represents professionals who specialize in prevention, assessment, treatment and rehabilitation of injuries and illnesses
- 2. Athletic training is an allied health care profession. Certified athletic trainers hold at least a bachelor's degree and are focused on injury prevention, assessment, treatment and rehabilitation. They are required to pursue continuing education to retain their certification, which is awarded by an organization independent of NATA.
- 3. Athletic trainers provide value and a financial return on investment to secondary schools, occupational employers, physicians, hospitals and clinics. Their emphasis on injury prevention, assessment, treatment and rehabilitation improves employee productivity and performance that can result in lower liability and health care insurance costs.
- 4. Athletic trainers are medical professionals who are experts in injury prevention, assessment, treatment, and rehabilitation, particularly in the orthopedic and musculoskeletal disciplines.
- 5. Athletic trainers are a key component of the health care team, which includes physicians and other allied health personnel. Because of their focus on injury prevention, assessment, treatment and rehabilitation, certified athletic trainers lessen the burden on the public and private health care systems.
- 6. Athletic trainers have introduced federal legislation that will allow them to work with physicians to treat Medicare patients for musculoskeletal injuries. The "Access to Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation Services Improvement Act" will allow Medicare beneficiaries to access the services of athletic trainers, who are qualified, licensed and certified therapy providers.

March 2007
**NATIONAL
ATHLETIC
TRAINING
MONTH**
Quality Health Care
and Wellness



Photo by Megan Allender | Staff Photographer
Senior Brett Reiley finishes up his pitch to home plate at a game earlier in the season at Reese Field.

TUESDAY NIGHT
SCORES
SOFTBALL

IFC B LEAGUE 8 PM

SAE	19	PIKE (B)	29
SIGMA PI	01	BETA (B)	5

IFC A LEAGUE 9,10 PM

AGR	6	KA 9	
TKE	4	PI KAPPA PHI 2	

SIGMA PI	9	PIKE (A)	18
SIG EP	2	BETA (A)	5

SAE	21	SIGMA CHI	
16			
ANGRY APES 1		ATO 5	

CO REC LEAGUE 11 PM

THE NADS	15	REBELS	8
BTS	12	KAPPA SIG 2	

WEDNESDAY NIGHT
SCORES
SOFTBALL

MEN'S A LEAGUE 9pm & 10pm

Fire 1804	10	University Gables 15	
Ninja Turtles 1		Rawdogz 7	

Blue Ballaz	9	Tighty Whites 21	
No Doubt	4	Hard Hitters 4	

Lions	21	Tigers	16
Army ROTC 5		Great Bambinos 12	

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