



VOL. 81 NO. 60

STATESBORO, TN

Gore lectures on campus today

By Tom Cheradur
News Editor

Former Vice President Al Gore will give a free public lecture today, focusing on global warming, in honor of International Earth Day.

The lecture will address the media's coverage of environmental issues and "make students totally aware of the propaganda that there is no global warming," said Edward Kimbrell, interim director of the John Seigenthaler Chair of Excellence for First Amendment Studies.

The Bush administration's official stance on global warming is contradicto-

ry to Gore's current public service campaign to alert consumers of its dangers. But despite this, Kimbrell said he expects Gore to avoid the politics surrounding global warming, instead focusing specifically on the role mass media plays in the public understanding of global warming.

"Gore has given [versions] of this



Gore

speech before but of course the student body is constantly changing," Kimbrell said. "I'm sure he'll add new approaches to the issue."

In addition to delivering his personal message, Gore will address MTSU's Students for Environmental Action, an organization dedicated to using clean and renewable energy sources on campus.

The SEA invited Gore to address the student organization in cooperation with the College of Liberal Arts, because Gore's campaign relates to a recently launched SEA initiative that endorses switching 10 percent of the campus's total power consumption to clean renewable resources.

"I expect him to talk about phrases used in the media like 'global warming' and 'climate change,'" said Anna Fitzgerald, SEA member and former president of the student organization.

Even President Bush's comments are a form of media because words and phrases used to talk about environmental issues have a big impact, Fitzgerald said.

"Because the term global warming was over-used in the past by the media, it has a negative connotation," she said. "I think now they're trying to use 'climate change' as a replacement phrase but the severity of the issue is not perceived the same way."

Fitzgerald said the term "climate change" is just a way of "fluffing up the problem."

Gore is the most knowledgeable American leader on this subject, said Anantha Babbili, dean of the College of Mass Communication.

"I tend to think he sees the impact of environmental issues not just in America, but of the world at large," Babbili said.

Gore's lecture begins at 4 p.m. today in the Business and Aerospace Building. The lecture is free and open to the public.

'War in Iraq' panel to address democracy

By Mark Logan
Assistant News Editor

A panel discussion called "Democracy and the War in Iraq" will be held at 4:30 p.m. today in the James Union Building, Room 204, coinciding with the three-year anniversary of the U.S.-led campaign.

The panel was organized by MT Solidarity, a campus-based chapter of the national non-profit political organization.

"I want people to think about democracy, because it's a difficult concept," said philosophy professor Michael Principe, the organization's treasurer, who will introduce the panel and speak about democracy theory. "There are problems even in thinking about what it means to live in a democracy, let alone trying to institute in Iraq."

Principe said his introduction will focus on democracy from a broad, theoretical standpoint, then panelists will address more specific examples.

"I'm going to talk about what it means when we say we live in a democracy," Principe said. "It's important to look at who we are, and who we want to be—especially at a time when we're attempting to form a democracy somewhere else."

Following Principe's introduction, three speakers will make individual presentations on the topic and answer questions from the audience after they conclude.

Panelist Chris Comstock, a member of MT Solidarity, said she thinks people are ready to talk about the issues the panel will address.

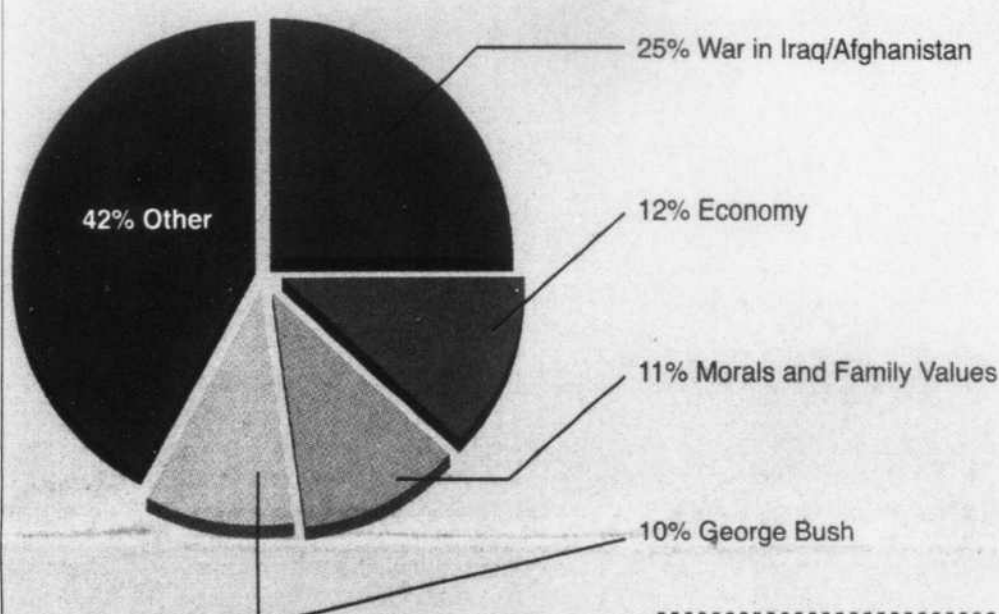
"We want there to be a resource for people who are interested in these issues," Comstock said. "A lot of people may know what's going on, but they want to make sense of how it links to their daily lives."

Comstock said her presentation will begin by addressing large issues like the Patriot Act and the role mass media plays in a democracy. She will also talk about her personal experiences at anti-war rallies.

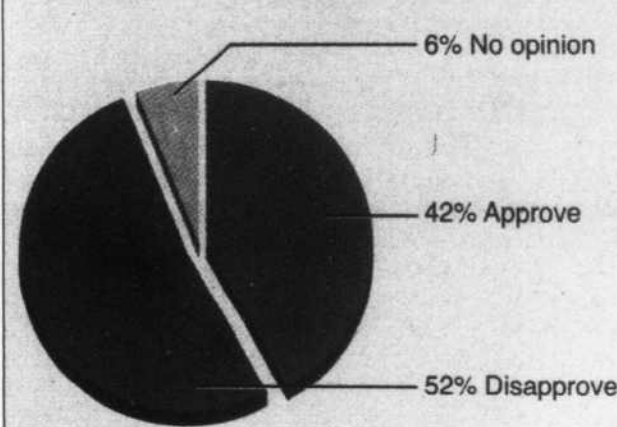
"We're seeing all these bills that designate free-speech zones—places where you have freedom to speak, but where no one listens," Comstock said. "The media has a way of de-normalizing people who speak out. They paint them as people who are outside of the normal public."

Also serving as panelists will be MT Solidarity members Jessica McKee and Jase Short.

Major Problems Facing America



President Bush's Approval Rating



Based off results for the MTSU Poll Spring 2006

58%
of those polled do not want the next president to be similar to Bush.

63%
of those polled are dissatisfied with the way things are going with our nation

MTSU hires new chief of police

"I believe the department is in good shape"
- Captain Carl Peaster

By Wes Murchison
Staff Writer

After an 18 month search, MTSU has hired Captain Carl Peaster of Georgia Southern University in Statesboro as the new public safety director and chief of MTSU Police Department.

Peaster was chosen from more than 40 applicants because of his prior experience with two college campuses and a bachelor's degree in education, according to John Cothern, vice president of business and finance.

Peaster, who starts his position April 3 at a salary of \$70,000, will be taking the place of Jack Drugmand, who retired in Oct. 2004.

Peaster had strong references to go along with his credentials, Cothern said.

"He was described to me as being passionate to a fault," Cothern said.

Peaster started his career in public safety in 1983 as a part-time service officer while he was a student at the University of Georgia. Before he left in 1992, he was a lieutenant in charge of a patrol shift.

For the last 14 years, Peaster has been employed by Georgia Southern University, which has a student body population of approximately 16,000.

Peaster said he will rely on past experience at GSU and UG to prepare him for the increase in student population.

The new chief said he is somewhat concerned that MTSU employs the same number of police officers as GSU with a significantly larger student population.

"It is going to be a challenge," Peaster said, but also said he will not make any major changes.

"The department is in good shape," Peaster said. "I believe in changing things that need to be changed and not throwing out the baby with the bath water."

He said it is the people within a police department that defines his administrative philosophy.

"Number one, it is important to hire quality people, support them, train them and put them in a good environment so that they will blossom," Peaster said. "The other part of that is policy, which has to be well thought out and implemented."

"That doesn't mean it is absolutely strict or can never be bent," Peaster said. "The third part is direction, [because] if you don't have it, what you're doing doesn't matter."

Among some of the other applicants interviewed for the chief of police job were Al Carter, former assistant chief of police at Nicholls State University in Louisiana, Sylvia Russell, assistant chief of police at Tennessee State University and interim police chief Roy Brewer at MTSU.

"Faculty and students all need to have confidence in the competence of their police department," Peaster said.

Photography exhibit shows people behind poetry

By Josh Orendorf
Contributing Writer

Who are the people behind poetry?

Margaretta K. Mitchell attempts to answer that question with her nationally recognized photographic exhibit on display in the Learning Resource Center's Baldwin Gallery.

Mitchell's exhibition, which coincides with National Women's History Month observance activities on campus, showcases portraits of 47 poets and illustrates the influence of women in the arts.

"She's very good," said Tom Jimison, Baldwin Gallery curator and professor of photography at MTSU. "I try to look for stuff that stands out, that's different, and Mitchell has a body of work that no one else really has. She's shown what a woman photographer can do."

Mitchell will visit MTSU April 3 to give a short lecture, as well as participate in a poetry reading and book signing.

Now in her 60s, Mitchell first conceived of the idea to create a series of black-and-white images displaying the connection between poetry and pictures after regularly attending the "Lunch Poems Reading Series" at the University of California, Berkeley.

The series, held the first Thursday of every month,

is a concept by UC Berkeley professor of English and accomplished poet Robert Hass. In 1996, Hass, along with his assistant Natalie Gerber, invited 10 campus notables to read their favorite poems at the school's Morrison Library at noon.

The notables, however, were far from traditional poets. They ran the gamut of professions, from engineers and actors to Olympic medalists and anthropologists.

Despite the hodgepodge collection of participants, the readings garnered an outstanding response, and the "Lunch Poems Reading Series" grew in popularity.

As the series became more acclaimed, Mitchell, a California resident and UC, Berkeley graduate started a book project entitled "The Faces of Poetry" in which she spotlighted her favorite poets from the series by photographing them.

"In each one she's trying to bring out a little bit of that person," said Jimison. "She's trying to call attention to contemporary poets – to give them a face, to put them out there. They're all similar, but different."

The resulting portraits will be accompanied by biographical information of each poet as well as an example of the poet's work.

See Photography, 3



Photo courtesy of Margaretta Mitchell
Fanny Howell, a writing teacher at the University of California San Diego, is just one of photographer Margaretta Mitchell's poet subjects that comprise the "Faces of Poetry" exhibition on display in the Learning Resource Center Baldwin Gallery.

LOCAL FORECAST

Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
HI: 50° LO: 28° PRECIP: 30%	HI: 50° LO: 29° PRECIP: 20%	HI: 56° LO: 33° PRECIP: 20%

NEWS

Pay Equity for women

The effects of stereotypes held against working women in the past and present was the subject of a discussion led by journalism professor Jane Marcellus as part of MTSU's observance of National Women's History Month.

FEATURES

Katrina in the Boro

As heated debates in the media have pointed out—and victims of Hurricane Katrina admit themselves—there is still a long road ahead until a full recovery from the strongest hurricane ever recorded to hit the Gulf of the United States can be achieved.

SPORTS

NCAA Tournament

Chrissy Givens had 25 points, 11 assists and seven rebounds but missed three of four free throws in the final 4 minutes. Johnna Abney, a 5-foot-4 freshman, scored 15 on 5-of-9 3-pointers. Krystle Horton and Tia Stovall added 10 points apiece.

MTSUSIDELINES.COM

Online today



Sidelines online is uploaded.

LOG ON!

Got a news tip, band listing, campus organization activity, column or story idea or a gripe? Check our Web site for contact information.

LETTERS POLICY

Sidelines welcomes letters to the editor from all readers. Please email letters to slipino@mtsu.edu, and include your contact information for verification.

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

Sidelines is the editorially independent, student-produced newspaper of Middle Tennessee State University. Sidelines publishes Monday and Thursday during the Fall and Spring and Wednesday during June and July.

Playwright teaches, inspires students

By Sarah Crotzer
Staff Writer

Award-winning playwright Carson Kreitzer visited MTSU last month to lead a group of 13 students in an intensive, one-week course in playwriting.

The course, held Feb. 20-24, was the latest in a yearly series of visiting artist seminars hosted by the University Honors College, each featuring a professional writer or illustrator as guest lecturer.

Kreitzer, whose plays include "The Love Song of J. Robert Oppenheimer" and "Self Defense, or Death of Some Salesmen," chose the theme of "Road Trip" for her seminar.

Students were asked to choose a location, real or fictitious, and allow it to be the inspiration for their work.

The idea came from her lat-

est play, "Flesh and the Desert," Kreitzer said.

"It's a kaleidoscopic portrait of Las Vegas, and I was really inspired by the challenges I set for myself in writing about a place, and letting the people come out of that place, rather than a more traditional way of writing a play," Kreitzer said. "I thought it would be a really interesting exercise for students, and a way to let yourself be surprised by the play, rather than setting out and knowing what it is ahead of time."

Kreitzer led students through four afternoon sessions as they shared their writing aloud and worked with timed exercises both in class and at home. The final day included a public reading of selected new material.

"I had a great time in the class," said junior Brandon Faulk. "I got insight into a

playwright's writing process, and I was surprised that a lot of writers have very similar processes. I think we're all pretty neurotic about our work."

"Before the class, I was excited, but at the same time I didn't really know what to expect," Faulk said. "I was sad when it was all over; we made a tight-knit little group, and we all just clicked at the writing table."

McFall Castleman, a senior, said the seminar provided her with focusing techniques.

"Carson really stressed just sitting down and writing, just getting it out there," Castleman said. "I'm on a roll now. It's been so intensive, and you would think that it would be stressful, but really it was just a week-long ecstatic experience."

Kreitzer said she was pleased with the results.

"I have been delightfully surprised in the kind of work that

can get done in a week," she said. "It's a very intensive attack and I really found that more people than I thought are coming out of this class with a project to work on for an extended period of time, and I think that's wonderful."

Kreitzer added that she knows not all of the students will pursue playwriting, but said theater is an important genre for everyone to study.

"This ancient medium is possibly the most basic way we have of telling stories to each other, very much like telling stories around the fire," she said. "There's something about theater as a sacred space that is very different from television and film, and coming together as an audience to witness something and to experience something together, I think, is very much like a religion for me."

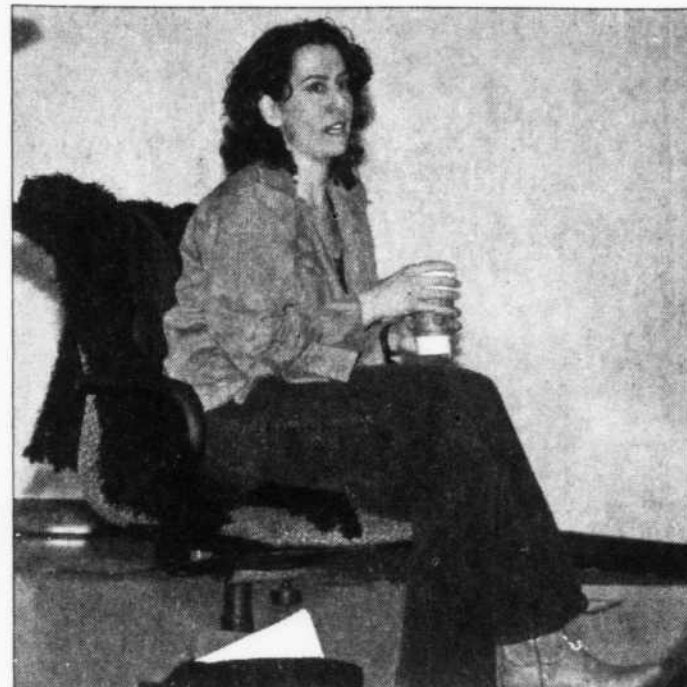


Photo submitted by Georgia Dennis
Playwright Carson Kreitzer discusses her work, which she calls a "kaleidoscopic portrait of Las Vegas," in the University Honors College auditorium. Auditions happened earlier in the week.

Hands-on program to be implemented next fall

By Michelle McCrary
Staff Writer

A new program based on hands-on learning will be implemented for the fall 2006 semester.

The experiential learning or EXL program has been created as a project to enhance student learning as well as to enhance other programs such as study abroad and undergraduate research.

Its goal is to provide students with opportunities for hands-on experience in their fields of study,

valuable networking and business professional skills and an opportunity to explore career paths through real-world experience.

Jill Austin, chairwoman for management and marketing believes that by choosing to participate in the EXL program students will benefit from the hands-on experience and community volunteer work they are in which they are required to participate.

"An EXL Scholars designation not only allows students to see how their discipline works, what their specific job market is looking for, but they will also learn how important it is to give back to the community through their volunteer work," Austin said.

During the week of spring break a group of recreation and tourism management students got to experience first-hand what the EXL program would be like.

This group of students helped to refurbish a playground for the Pass Christian school district in Mississippi, as well as hold a career day for middle school students there.

Jennifer Lynch, a graduate stu-

dent for recreation therapy believed the trip was ambitious considering the type of work being done.

"We didn't really see how this would help the ravaged area, but seeing those kids' faces when we were finished was the best part," Lynch said.

Jacob Hall, a graduate student for recreation administration thought the trip was shocking, but also very rewarding.

"It was amazing to see the tent city outside Gulfport," Hall said. "It was sad and shocking to see groups of people who didn't know where their next meal was coming from."

Hall said he also believes that this trip was a great way to get out of the classroom and apply the knowledge that he has learned at MTSU.

"This trip was a great experience for those who got to go," Austin said. "These students were able to apply their practical knowledge of their discipline as well as gain some volunteer experience."

The EXL Scholars program requires that students take 16 to 18 hours of EXL-designated class-

es, which may be a part of the required general education major or minor requirements. EXL classes include internships, study abroad, applied learning, service learning, creative activity, teacher education and laboratory experiences.

It also requires that students participate in one external activity in the form of a volunteer project with a community organization, business or scholarly research project. This activity requires the student to interact with people outside their department or outside the campus community.

Students also have to participate in an MTSU internal service component, where they will either participate in a leadership role in a campus-sponsored charitable activity, volunteer with a campus office to assist other students or be a campus leader.

Students' activities have to be documented via an E-Portfolio.

"The E-Portfolio is the only required one-hour class that students must take," Austin said. "It requires students to set up a Web site that will show what they have been doing in their courses and volunteer work."

"What's great is that the Web site can be saved onto a CD which can be used in a job interview or in addition to a resume. It shows an employer what the student has experienced."

Austin wants students to understand that the EXL scholars program can be included in the 120-hour program.

"Students will still choose their major and degree as they do now, but if they take the EXL option it means they will get more applied experience in their major field, which will help to get jobs after graduation or even entry into graduate school."

With the EXL Scholar's program students will take all general education and major courses in which some of those courses will be designated EXL, which will have a different teaching method than regular courses.

"An EXL Scholar's program merits more of a certification as opposed to an actual degree which says that a student has the experience and adds to the academic value of a degree, because not only is a student learning specific theories but is able to apply those theories," Austin said.

Vineet Tomer, a computer science engineer and former MTSU student said he believes that practical knowledge is needed along with the textbook knowledge received.

"It's very important for students to know what's going on outside textbooks," Tomer said. "In my field, where you have so many program languages, you actually need to go out and see what they are and how they're being used. You need practical experience."

Austin said she believes that employers would favor an EXL scholar's designation on a degree over a basic degree.

"If there's some proof on a transcript that a student has real discipline and work experience in their field or area of study, then a student might get that job more easily as opposed to someone who is just out of college but has no real work experience or knowledge," Austin said.

"Having a degree is the most important thing, but by having the EXL designation it shows that the student already has experience in that particular field they are applying for."

Changes on campus address growth

By Michael Crabtree
Staff Writer

MTSU started construction on a new entrance on Rutherford Boulevard, broke ground on a multi-acre parking facility and revealed plans for a new \$5 million baseball facility.

Changes have become a common occurrence on campus the past few years with renovations on the Murphy Center and the Todd Art Building.

According to *The Record*, MTSU recently surpassed UT Knoxville as the largest undergraduate college in the state.

The new parking lot on Rutherford is an indication of changes to come, and a way to address the campus' consistent growth, said Parking Services Manager Nancy Weatherly.

"The lot across from Greek Row is getting ready for that day," Weatherly said.

Enrollment has increased by several thousand students in the past few years. The current spring enrollment is 20,951 undergraduate students, a

substantial increase since 2002, when undergraduate enrollment totaled 18,771.

Many students credit MTSU's affordability and nationally recognized programs as being a large draw for the school.

One advantage MTSU has is participation in the Academic Common Market. The organization, a collection of primarily southern universities, allows students from any member state to attend an out-of-state university without paying the tuition difference, provided the students study in a program they cannot get in their own state.

Some of MTSU's most notable programs, including recording industry management, aerospace, nursing and horse science programs, are not offered in many surrounding states.

"Of the 9,400 undergraduate transfer students at this university, 3,000 of them completed course work at an out-of-state institution," said Sherian Huddleston, assistant vice provost for Enrollment Services.

Huddleston said the location of campus, in the center of the state, is a large draw for Tennesseans. "Many people just don't want to be that far from home," Huddleston said.

Murfreesboro has also experienced tremendous growth in the past few years. Rutherford County is the fastest-growing county in Tennessee, according to the latest census, taken in 2000.

MTSU's campus can house roughly 3,300 students, and there is a large need for more student lodging.

"People are doing their research and seeing that enrollment is going up every year," said Angel Hendrix, property manager at Campus Crossings apartment complex.

Soon there will be many changes both in Murfreesboro and on campus, and MTSU has a very aggressive five- and ten-year plan that will accommodate the increased population, Hendrix said.

Collage now accepting applications for next year's staff

Collage, MTSU's literary and arts magazine, is now accepting applications for the position of editor-in-chief for the fall 2006 semester.

Applicants must be full-time students, maintain a 3.0 GPA or better and provide two letters of reference as well as two writing/artistic samples of work.

This position requires a time commitment of approximately eight hours of work per week. The editor is required to organize staff meetings, write letters, interview prospective staff members, edit documents and meet with the advisory board. Current editor Jessi Torres will be fully training the next editor before he or she takes over the position.

"This position is highly rewarding and wonderful opportunity to gain hands-on experience in the field of publishing," Torres said.

The editor-in-chief will receive use of the office in the Honors building, experiential knowledge of magazine production, copies of the magazine to add to his or her portfolio and a letter of recommendation upon successful completion of service.

The editor may use Collage working hours for scholarship required service hours, for work-study or as an on-campus practicum.

Interested students may pick up an application at Room 224 of the Honors building, or they may e-mail Torres at collage@mtsu.edu. Applications are due by Tuesday, March 21, 2006.

Capital punishment discussed in panel

By Mark Logan
Staff Writer

Four women held a panel discussion about the negative consequences of capital punishment Wednesday, each of them sharing direct experiences with Tennessee's death penalty system.

"I'm not a public speaker, I'm just a mother with a story," said panelist Joyce House. Her son, Paul House, is a Tennessee death row inmate who was incarcerated for rape and murder in 1985.

"My son kept saying, 'The justice system works. They won't convict me for a crime I did not commit. But they did,' House said.

Her son still maintains his innocence after 20 years on death row. His case has gone to the Supreme Court, and should be decided by June, according to House.

The other panelists included Regina Hockett, who opposed a death sentence for the two young men responsible for shooting her 12-year-old daughter, Linda Manning, and Catherine Brockenborough, an attorney who has represented 15 death row inmates.

The purpose of the panel was to show the human side of Tennessee's death penalty according to Amy Staples, a history professor who moderated the event.

"Most of us never think about the death penalty, or do so only superficially, especially here in Tennessee where we've had only one execution in the last 45 years," Staples said. "These women don't have that luxury. Each of them have been affected in a very profound and personal way by this state's death penalty system."

The panel was organized by the Tennessee Coalition to Abolish State Killing and the Women's History Month Committee.

Antoinette Rocke, a junior education major who attended the event, said the panel was very powerful.

"I was very moved by the stories," Rocke said. "The death penalty has become such a sensationalized issue in the media, and these stories made it real."

CHELSEY PLACE

now preleasing for summer & fall

be sure to ask about our specials

6 two bedroom floor plans

call or come by today

805 Bradyville Pike
Murfreesboro
615-893-3518

FACE CHALLENGES.

HELP OTHERS.

MAKE A DIFFERENCE EVERY DAY.

BUILDING TEAMS IN:

Sales, Lot, Cashiers,
Specialty Sales and Freight

BENEFITS:

- Full and Part-time Benefits
- Tuition Reimbursement
- Future Builder 401(K)
- Bonus Opportunities
- A Career with Growth Opportunity

Ready to join our team?
Full, part-time and seasonal opportunities available. Apply online today.

careers.homedepot.com

The Home Depot is an Equal Opportunity Employer.
Bilingual candidates are encouraged to apply.
Available positions may vary by store.

You can do it.
We can help.

OPINIONS

Activity fee increase not justified

By Matthew Hurtt
Hurtt Pride

On May 1, Student Government Association President Paul Bryant Fulcher will step down so newly-elected Jay Cash can take his place. Before stepping down, however, Fulcher is going to sell his conservative principles for just pennies on the dollar. Wait, am I turning on my own Party? Previously angered liberals will surely be intrigued by this dilemma.

President Fulcher proposed to the student body last week a \$16 increase in the student activity fee. This will raise the fee from \$20 a semester to \$36. For those of you who do not know what the student activity fee does, it pays for guest speakers (like America's sore loser, Al Gore, who is on campus today), concerts, sports clubs and various other student-related things on campus.

Conservatism is not about raising tuition, Mr. Fulcher.

He reasons that the "only \$16" increase will allow for more distinguished speakers, lower ticket

prices and better-funded sports clubs. By tossing out some questions that he thinks we all ask ourselves, Fulcher attempts to legitimize the \$16 increase. One question in particular is, "Why is homecoming run by the Greeks?"

Not to anger my Greek friends, but they are the only ones who care about homecoming, anyway. It is a popularity contest similar to high school homecoming that Greeks think is important. The popularity aspect is not.

Fulcher also notes that there is nothing to do on campus on the weekend. This is a school, not an amusement park. If I wanted to do something on campus over the weekend, then maybe I would not mind paying this increase. The problem is, I do not want to do anything, and I am pretty sure that 90 percent of the school population feels the same way.

As for sports clubs, I do not participate in them, so why should I give them money? This is welfare – plain and simple. If people want to play sports, then THEY can pay for it.

Paying an extra \$16 at the

beginning of each semester would barely reduce the concert ticket prices that Fulcher describes. All other funding would go to other unnecessary proposals by the president, such as so-called leadership camps.

The point is that we are all poor college students. While, in fact, this proposed increase is not that much, it gives future SGA presidents the right to ask for more money. We can not allow this increase to take place.

Why pay for something most of us do not even use? I think that the people who actually care about these issues should pay for them. It is not for the entire campus to pick up the tab for the few who participate in these events.

This time it is not about conservative or liberal, Republican or Democrat; it is about greedy hands stealing from the pockets of hard-working college students.

Be Loud. Be Proud. Say NO!

Matthew Hurtt is a freshman history/political science major and can be reached at mch2x@mtsu.edu

Campus safety seems to be insufficient

By Sara Bryant
Student Guest Columnist

One rape is one too many, a fact that many people try to hide beneath the rug. The school has a responsibility to insure the safety of its students, and students are responsible for taking the necessary steps by insuring their own personal safety. Unfortunately, safety is an issue that is often pushed to the side.

MTSU has made many efforts in protecting its student population, but there is still much room for improvement. For example, many dorms such as Wood and Felder need to have the locks fixed so that residents may enter and exit the building using their keys, ID cards, etc. Wood has multiple exits, but residents are actually only able to enter through one of these doors – despite having keys. This is extremely dangerous.

Though these doors were made to lock from the outside for the residents' protection, the safety of these students is actually at a much greater risk. More often than not, a door will be left propped open so that residents can enter and exit the building without the inconvenience of having to go around the long way.

Despite the threats of punishment from the school, students are often willing to take risks for the sake of convenience.

This problem, though inconvenient, is a simple fix. We need to take care of this before it becomes a real problem. Let's not wait for an innocent girl to be raped because a fellow resident propped the door open. The cost of changing the locks for the sake of the students will be well worth it in the end.

Installing better lighting in dark areas and posting full-time security in parking lots are two more ways that the school can help to prevent criminal activity. Criminals tend to like sticking to the shadows, so we need to make every effort to make such places safer. The area around the library is extremely well-lit, and is thus, a much safer place for students to be. If we could provide this kind of lighting all over campus, criminals would have fewer places to hide.

Having security posted full-time in such areas would also help to prevent crime. If somebody is in trouble, then help would be immediately accessible. It would be much better than having to wait for a patrolling officer to

show up. Sometimes that one minute wait can be one minute too long.

The university cannot be held entirely responsible for keeping people safe though. Students need to make some effort in protecting themselves. Watch your surroundings and always keep something at hand that you can use to protect yourself. Don't walk around alone late at night. Take self-defense classes such as the PHED-1250 course that the school offers.

It is vital that you take every opportunity to protect yourself. Letting your guard down only makes you an easier target. Crime can happen anywhere; campus is no exception. The worst mistake you can ever make is assuming that you are safe.

Rape, kidnapping, burglary and assault are all crimes that have occurred on this campus. Keeping ourselves safe needs to be the number one priority of the school and its students.

It is our duty to work together to make this school a safer place.

Sara Bryant is a sophomore English student and can be reached at seb3p@mtsu.edu

Ribley's Believe It or Not!

SPIRO AGNEW
VICE PRESIDENT UNDER NIXON, WAS
FORCED TO
RESIGN
FOR COMMITTING
TAX EVASION AND BRIBERY!

DICK CHENEY BUT--!
SHOT A 78 YEAR OLD MAN IN THE
FACE AND HASN'T FACED ANY
CHARGES!
EVEN AFTER ADMITTING
ALCOHOL WAS PRESENT!

MEMOS REFUTING THE VERY BASIS FOR THE
INVASION OF IRAQ WERE GIVEN TO
PRESIDENT BUSH

PRIOR TO THE WAR

BUT HE WAS UNABLE
TO ACT ON THEM ...

BECAUSE HE WAS BUSY PUTTING
THE FINISHING TOUCHES ON THE WORLD'S
LARGEST BALL OF TWINE, LOCATED ON HIS RANCH IN
CRAWFORD, TX! IT'S 33 FEET IN CIRCUMFERENCE
AND WAS CONSTRUCTED OVER 21 YEARS!



THE ANSWER TO YESTERDAY'S
Ribley's
CLASSIC BRAIN TICKLER



WHICH HAS A LARGER SPINE?
THE GUPPY (POECILIA RETICULATA)
OR A
DEMOCRATIC SENATOR?
ANSWER:
**THEY ARE OF
EQUAL
SIZE!!**

USA TODAY - WWW.USATODAY.COM/NEWS/WASHINGTON/2006-02-15-CHENEY-TV_X.HTM
THE NATIONAL JOURNAL - HTTP://NATIONALJOURNAL.COM/ABOUT/NJWEEKLY/
STORIES/2006/0302N31.HTM

Letter to the editor: 10 Commandments shouldn't be posted

To the editor:

I'm writing in response to Matthew Hurtt's March 16, 2006 column. I'm stunned to hear someone who is so clearly a member of the majority claim to be persecuted because he can't force his beliefs on the minority.

Nobody is telling Matthew Hurtt what he can and cannot do in his church. Rather, Rep. Donna Rowland is proactively trying to sneak the Ten Commandments into public buildings. Donna Rowland is not trying to enable the display of historical documents in public buildings.

In fact, any public building in the state is welcome to hang copies of the "Magna Carta,

Mayflower Compact, Declaration of Independence, United States Constitution, Bill of Rights, Constitution of the great state of Tennessee and other such historically significant documents." We don't need a law for that.

I think Mr. Hurtt knows that this is really about chipping away at the wall of separation between church and state (based on his reference to South Dakota banning abortion and the tone of his editorial). He is hoping for a court battle to make it OK to inject religion into the public square.

I have three problems with that. First, Rutherford County already tried it and lost. If you want to try to undermine the bedrock princi-

ples of religious liberty in this country, at least think up something new.

Second, the Ten Commandments are not "just another historical document." In fact, they are sacred to most of the population of this state. Trivializing them in this way borders on blasphemy.

Finally, it should go against the religion Matthew Hurtt claims to observe to use such subterfuge and trickery. What good is Matthew Hurtt's morality if he's willing to set it aside to get his way?

William Langston
Associate Professor
wlangsto@mtsu.edu

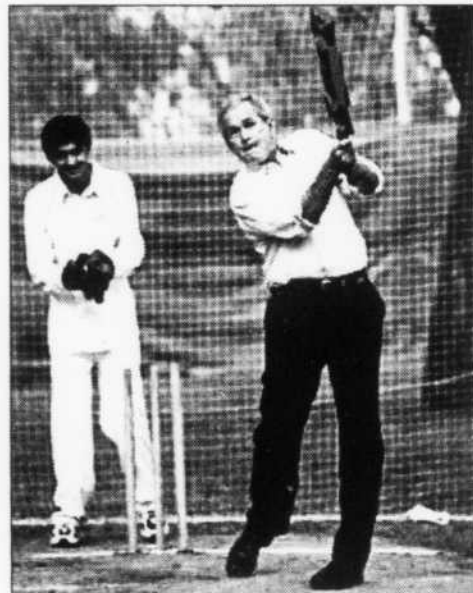


Photo by Eric Draper

"What we're trying to do in Iraq is 'write cricket bats,' so that when the country is stable, the whole region will see a lasting peace," President Bush said in India, quoting a line from a Tom Sheppard play. (This was not a real quote)

"Rejoice in the tax base always, and again I say rejoice."

— 'Boro Mayor Tommy Bragg
tells President McPhee.



by Jeremy Wyatt

Unbuckling the Beltway

Suggested lines for President Bush's humorous speech to the Gridiron Club:

- 1.) "Condi and Laura have had their exercise routines taped by a local news channel in Washington. But, somehow, when I routinely exercise my rights under the Constitution to enforce the NSA program, the media thinks that's bad."
- 2.) "Some people want my brother to succeed me in 2008. Others want the junior senator from New York to take my place. Well, to quote my friend Sam, 'Priority number one for conservatives is preventing that b-word from becoming president.'"
- 3.) "One of my recent aides was arrested for theft. The bad news is that he took body armor belonging to economically disadvantaged high school graduates recently targeted and recruited by our military."
- 4.) "My biggest temptation as your president does not involve any of my interns. It is deciding when or if I'll pardon Karl Rove and Scooter Libby for allegedly 'covering up non-crimes.'"

Opinions Editor's note: This section takes the news and exaggerates it, or makes it up completely. Outside of this box, you're free to think for yourself.

Staff SIDELINES

Sarah Mullen, Editor
Michaela Jackson, Managing Editor
Tom Cheredar, News Editor
David Hunter, Sports Editor
Casey Phillips, Features Editor
Phillip Buck, Exposure Editor
Tim Hill, Opinions Editor
Matt Orenstein, Design Editor
John Hreha, Layout Design
Erica Hines, Layout Design
Meghanne Thompson, Ad & Layout Design
Adam Casto, Photo Editor

MIDDLE TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY

1301 East Main Street P.O. Box 8
Murfreesboro, TN 37130

Editorial: 898.2337
Advertising: 898.5240
Fax 904.8193

FEATURES

Murfreesboro not quite Big Easy

By Mark Bell
Staff Writer

As heated debates in the media have pointed out—and victims of Hurricane Katrina admit themselves—there is still a long road ahead until a full recovery from the strongest hurricane ever recorded to hit the Gulf of the United States can be achieved.

While many have forgotten the tragedy of Hurricane Katrina, a few transient students at MTSU live with daily hopes and worries: Hopes for a time to return home or to school and worries about actions being taken by the government to ensure the best help for Katrina victims.

As of this semester, 14 of the original 28 students who came to MTSU after Katrina were still enrolled, according to a document released by the admissions office.

Despite all the difficulties plaguing Katrina relief efforts, most displaced students say they are simply dreaming of the day when they can return home and get back to a normal life.

Among those displaced students is freshman accounting major Dallas Joseph Willensky III, formerly of Loyola University in New Orleans.

Willensky said the challenges facing students from affected areas were difficult, especially when coupled

with the stresses of finding new living arrangements, making new friends and adjusting to different teaching styles.

"It was a really hard adjustment, especially since it's my first year in college," Willensky said. "It was a struggle just to get my focus and motivation on going back to school."

Willensky went from attending a school with about 4,000 students to an institute with five times that number. He said coming to MTSU was a last minute decision because he knew there would be no going back to Loyola for some time.

Willensky added that he feels the government could be doing a better job when it comes to restoring some type of normalcy to the ravaged areas of New Orleans.

"There's not enough emphasis on the problems in New Orleans," said Willensky. "Everyone wants to believe that it is a temporary problem when it's not."

Freshman chemistry major Allison Kennedy

can confirm the confusion still plaguing Louisiana after a trip to Xavier University in New Orleans on Martin Luther King Day.

"There was still a lot of damage, trash and debris when I visited the university to pick up some things I had left behind," Kennedy said.

Xavier University of Louisiana reopened in January, and Kennedy said his main hope for now is to successfully enroll for the fall semester.

Senior EMC major Barbara Planells said she wanted people who are taking advantage of the government and Katrina victims to know what they're doing is shameful.

"They should be really ashamed of themselves," Planells said. "When I was down for spring break I saw people who still can't find jobs and people without homes, and I would like to say to the people who are doing things like this to re-evaluate their lives and take a look

in the mirror because they are the worst people in the world."

Planells came to Murfreesboro with her family a n d

fiancée just three days after the Katrina disaster from Kenner, Louisiana, a parish just outside of New Orleans. Now her family and fiancée have returned to Kenner to rebuild, and she had to stay behind.

"I was attending the University of New Orleans and made a last-second decision to attend MTSU," Planells said. "The main thing for me was that I wanted to get back to school and have a bit of normality in my life. Now, my family has returned home to rebuild, and it has made things even harder."

Planells said she believes everyone should continue to keep the ongoing struggle for the people of New Orleans and other victimized parts of Louisiana fresh in their minds. The struggle of finding a job, rebuilding a home and finding food are just a few examples of what residents of these ravaged areas are facing.

"People need to realize that it is an ongoing struggle and nothing is really back to normal," she said. "There are people who don't have food, bodies are still being found everyday and people are living in tents."

Planells said she believes the biggest help anyone could give is to help rebuild homes.

"People need homes to feel normal again," Planells said. "The greatest thing I can ask is for people to help rebuild

homes."

Freshman mass communications major Jessica Lynn Johnson was attending Dillard University in New Orleans when disaster struck, forcing her to evacuate to Texas.

"I evacuated to Pasadena, Texas with my brother in a reserved car," Johnson said. "My brother and I evacuated on Sunday morning just before the storm hit that Monday, and after going home and seeing the damages, I decided to come to Tennessee two weeks later."

Johnson, like many of New Orleans former residents, is upset about the way the government is handling things in New Orleans and especially upset about the way Mardi Gras was handled this year.

"I think Mardi Gras was a bit inappropriate after a disaster of this magnitude," Johnson said. "There are better ways to get funds back in to New Orleans."

Johnson said the hardest thing for her is waking up and not being at home. She said coming to a realization of what is going on is really starting to get to her, which she attributes to not re-enrolling at MTSU this semester.

"I couldn't get re-enrolled back to MTSU because I didn't have my transcripts from high school, and they were impossible to get," Johnson said. "It all became very overwhelming and I just gave up."

Thoughts of her deceased grandfather also affected Johnson's spirit when it came time to re-enroll.

"My grandfather was sick before the disaster, but afterwards his condition worsened as he was being transported to numerous areas," Johnson said. "He eventually lost his energy and passed away."

Displaced students said they want everyone to know that the problems resulting from the disaster have not been fixed. They want everyone to remember there are still people being found dead everyday and they ask for the prayers and dedication of hard working people to help rebuild the homes that they long for so much.

Normalcy is the word of the day for the transient students at MTSU. It's all they want, all they are looking for and the only thing that seems completely out of reach right now.



Photo by Adam Casto | Photography Editor

Dwight's Mini Mart: No vision, no problem

By Jessy Yancey
Staff Writer

What do birthday cards, panty hose and a sign that reads "No Brain, No Headache" have in common?

They can all be found in Dwight's Mini Mart, the convenience store located on the second floor of the Keathley University Center. The store also houses ice cream, laundry detergent and energy drinks, among other college student necessities. Standing behind the counter, you can find Dwight Johnson, the store's owner.

"I try to sell a little of everything except gas and beer," the native of Portland, Tenn., says.

In that respect, the minimart across from the KUC Grill is just like any other convenience store—except that Dwight just happens to be legally blind.

He hasn't been blind his whole life, and he believes it is easier for him since he lost his sight at a later age.

"There's so many things you can't explain, you can't understand," Dwight says, listing the motions of sweeping the floor, dance movements and measuring distance. "It's easier for me to get an impression of how large this room is; I can hear the fridge running back there."

Still, he admits there are some things that have come out since he lost his vision that he doesn't quite comprehend—he just can't think of any on the spot.

Dwight didn't completely lose his vision until 1987, but his eye problems date back to his youth.

"When I was 12 years old, I was in an auto accident that fractured the skull around the eye," he explains, adding that the bone he damaged is called the orbit. "It severed the optic nerve of my right eye."

The injuries he sustained didn't cause Dwight to immediately lose his vision; it was actually a combination of the orbit fracture and his diagnosis with glaucoma, a disorder associated with increased pressure within the eye, in his other eye at age 30.

"I tried drugs, laser treatments and surgery," he says, "but it kept decreasing until I was left with no vision."

Although the glaucoma also caused the de-pigmentation in his left eye, Dwight is thankful it wasn't inherited by his family.

"My children and grandchildren all have 20/20 vision," he reveals.

Imagine how hard it would be to gradually lose your eyesight. Now imagine the difficulty of slowly losing your eyesight while you're trying to graduate college.

That's exactly what happened to Dwight when he was attending the University of Tennessee at Knoxville.

"I couldn't read anything on the board," he recalls. "but most of the time, [the professors] would say what they were writing." Still, he'd often have to copy other students' notes.

Other obstacles included reading textbooks and taking tests. Dwight had to use special magnification in order to decipher the tiny print.

"Not just normal glasses or contact lenses," he points out. "Sometimes I'd get special help from the instructor taking exams because I couldn't read the material as fast as the others."

Before Xerox, he explains, there was Mimeograph, which was purple, blurry and nearly impossible to read if you had bad eyesight. To help, his professors would give him the original typed copy that was much easier to read.

"I didn't always need it," he adds, smiling.

The phone rings, and Dwight answers it effortlessly. He walks around while talking, just keeping a hand on the counter. When the call is over, he feels around to hang up the phone.

But how is someone who can't see able to run his own business?

Part of it goes back to his time at UT, where he graduated with a degree in business. He actually got the job through Tennessee Business Enterprises (TBE), which is, according to their Web site, "one of the best-kept secrets around."

The program, which is a self-described public/private partnership, allows legally blind Tennessee residents to work with the state to provide vending and other food services.

"I'm a subcontractor," explains Dwight, who has been a member of TBE since 1989. "I'm self-employed. All of the merchandise belongs to me, but I have to pay TBE a percentage of sales every month—so it's not like I'm getting a free ride."

Before coming to MTSU, Dwight worked at the Nashville Metropolitan Bordeaux Hospital and

Columbia State Community College. In order to transfer, he had to bid on the position he now holds.

"It's kind of like moving up," he says.

Dwight has operated the minimart since 1994, though it has since transformed from a part of the former third-floor game room to its current location. In the 1990s, the third floor of the KUC accommodated a game room that included air hockey, pool tables, video games and a jukebox.

"In the middle of that, [TBE] put a minimart but still called it a game room," recalls Dwight.

Then came the Internet boom, and suddenly, few students wanted to pay money for games they could play online in their dorm room for free. In early 2002,

the university made plans to permanently close the game room and relocate only the minimart to the second floor. For a while it was still known as "the game room," until a friend of Dwight's suggested changing the name to "Dwight's Mini Mart."

"It wasn't my idea," he says modestly.

The "No Brains, No Headache" sign above the coffee pot, however, was his idea; he picked it up in nearby Bell Buckle, although he seems worried that someone would take offense. He also found another sign he really wanted to buy for his store.

"I sell what the guys call dip, tobacco," Dwight explains. "The sign said, 'Never slap a man with tobacco in his mouth.'"

A customer comes into buy a cup of coffee and hands Dwight a five, telling him what he's buying and how much the dollar bill is worth. Seemingly with ease, Dwight opens the drawer of the talking cash register and hands the man his change.

"Thank ya," Dwight says as the man grabs his plastic foam cup.

Usually, a device called the Noteteller 2 aids Dwight in telling the difference between the different dollar bills. Demonstrating, he slides a \$20 bill into the little black machine. A mechanical voice says, "Twenty."

"It recognizes every bill we use," Dwight says, listing everything from \$1 to \$100, including the rarely used

\$2 bill. "And my cash register talks, too."

However, in some cases, Dwight has to rely solely on customer honesty. As the only place on campus to carry tobacco products, the minimart sells lots of packs of cigarettes. Although the majority of campus is over the age of 18, there are a few freshmen who are still minors when they come to college.

"I ask them for their birth date," he says, simply. "That's the only means I have."

He adds that he wouldn't make any profit if he had to pay someone \$6 an hour to stand beside him to check driver's licenses.

"It's not easy to make up a lie," he says. "As far as I know, I've only sold two packs to people who aren't 18."

On occasion, the Department of Agriculture sends in someone under the age of 18 to make sure Dwight is doing his job.

"Last time they came, they sent me a letter thanking me for my not selling cigarettes to minors," he says in his easygoing tone of voice.

Dwight says some people, when asked their birth date, tell him the true year even if they are under 18, possibly thinking he won't notice. He just tells them he can't sell them the product and puts it back on the shelf.

"People associate blindness with mental retardation," he says.

Some people will speak in a louder tone of voice when they realize he can't see. Others will hand him change, press it down into his palm and say in a slow voice, "Now this is a dime."

"People think I'm retarded," he says. "Maybe I am, but that just comes with age."

Others, he says, are just shocked and wonder how people don't steal from him. He agrees that he wouldn't trust the general public, but on a college campus people seem to be trustworthy, for the most part.

"People are honest, or I couldn't afford to be here," he says. "People are glad that I'm trying to make a living instead of sitting back letting the government provide [for me]."

He adds that one reason he works is because the government doesn't provide enough. The other reason is the sense of accomplishment he gets from his job.

"I make my own hours as long as I abide by my contract," he explains. It's the middle of spring break; he doesn't even have to be working right now.

"I have nothing else to do," says Dwight. "I'd rather be here. The slower pace is good enough for me."

People are honest, or I couldn't afford to be here. People are glad that I'm trying to make a living instead of sitting back letting the government provide [for me].

— Dwight Johnson, owner of Dwight's Mini Mart

SPORTS

Women lose in NCAA's

Saturday, March 18

MT 71

Utah 76

By Bob Baum

AP Sports Writer

TUCSON, Ariz. (AP) — Shona Thorburn brought Utah back from the brink of a first-round upset in the NCAA tournament.

The senior guard scored eight of her 21

points in the final 4 1/2 minutes and the fifth-seeded Utes rallied from a 15-point second-half deficit Saturday to beat No. 12 seed Middle Tennessee 76-71.

Kim Smith, a four-time Mountain West Conference player of the year, struggled most of the game but scored five as Utah outscored the Blue Raiders 15-4 over the final 4:13.

Jessica Perry scored 13 of her season-high 14 points in the first half for Utah. Smith and Heidi Carlsen added 13 points apiece.

Chrissy Givens had 25 points, 11 assists and seven rebounds but missed three of

four free throws in the final 4 minutes. Johnna Abney, a 5-foot-4 freshman, scored 15 on 5-of-9 3-pointers. Krystle Horton and Tia Stovall added 10 points apiece.

The Utes were 19-for-21 free throws, 8-for-8 by Thorburn, compared with 3-for-8 by Middle Tennessee.

Givens' 10-footer put Middle Tennessee ahead 67-61 with 4:34 remaining. Smith responded with her only 3 of the game to cut it to 67-64. After Givens made one of two free throws to boost the Raiders' lead to 68-64 with 3:56 to play, Thorburn followed with her only three-

pointer in five attempts to cut it to 68-67 with 3:08 left.

Givens missed two free throws with 2:41 to go. Utah turned it over, and Givens hit Stovall for a layup. But Stovall was called for an offensive foul to erase the basket, and Thorburn's three-point play gave Utah its first second-half lead, 70-68, with 1:07 left.

Thorburn made two free throws to boost the lead to 72-68 with 32.2 seconds left. Julie Larsen's two free throws with 12.4 seconds put Utah ahead 74-68. Abney's three-pointer cut it to 74-71 with 4.3 seconds to go, but the Utes threw the

length of the court to Smith for a layup to seal the victory.

The Blue Raiders scored the last 10 points of the first half, including a pair of 3-pointers by Abney, to tie it at 31-31, then outscored the Utes 17-5 to start the second, taking a 48-36 lead on Starr Orr's 15-footer with 12:42 to play.

Middle Tennessee stretched it to 57-42 after Stovall's driving layup with 10:11 remaining.

The Utes scored the next 11 to get back in it, capped by Thorburn's three-point play that cut the lead to 57-53 with 8:04 to play.



Photo courtesy of MT Media Relations

MT forward Tia Stovall drives down the baseline against Notre Dame in last year's NCAA tournament. She played her last game Saturday.

Tia Stovall: Running the court

By Erika Davis

Staff Writer

Middle Tennessee women's basketball forward Tia Stovall played her final game in a Blue Raider uniform Saturday.

The game ended in a loss, but she will be remembered for all her accomplishments during the four years at MT.

Stovall played in four Sun Belt Conference tournament title games, tasting victory three times, and was a part of two NCAA tournament wins.

Ever since high school she has been rewarded for her hard work on the court. She was voted two-time All-District and All-Conference at Franklin County High School. With 1,463 points piled up over three years, she became a member of the 1,000-point club at the school. To top off her already impressive high school resume, she scored 41 points in a single game.

Stovall carried her work ethic on the court with her to college. During the 2002-2003 season, she was named to the Sun Belt All-Tournament team. She started 11 games, including the first start of her college career against South Carolina.

She was second on the team in scoring with 12.6 points per game, and second in rebounds, with six per contest.

However, all of that came to a screeching halt when the 6-foot-1 forward suffered a broken bone in her right foot. She missed almost half of her freshman season (10 games) but returned to the lineup in the team's game

against North Texas.

"I was kind of nervous and I was kind of limping because I was dependent on my left leg," Stovall said. "Once I got back into the game and got into the flow of things it felt like I didn't even break it." In the following game against Denver, she had 11 rebounds and scored nine points off the bench.

She was named to the Sun Belt All-Tournament team again her sophomore year and started 26 of 32 games that season (2003-2004).

Stovall really began to turn heads during her junior year. She started all 32 games and once again was named to the Sun Belt All-Tournament team.

"I think that at anytime if you are mentioned on a scale out of so many girls you can't do anything but feel honored and pleased," Stovall said. "I think it's a great accomplishment for me, but I also think that when you have people on your team that achieve stuff, that means the team is also achieving. It's a positive for me and also the team."

In the SBC Championship game against Louisiana-Lafayette she reached the 1,000-point plateau after scoring 10 points. Stovall gives credit to her teammates for assisting her on the court.

"A lot of that you can't owe that to yourself,"



Stovall

Stovall said. "A lot of that you owe to your teammates because they put you in position to score, they give you a pass that gives you the free lay-up."

During her junior year, for the first time in her career, she was named player of the week during March. She had no idea that she was player of the week.

"I didn't even know, the majority of my teammates and coaches knew before I did," Stovall said. "I thought that something [bad] had happened."

She once again made the SBC All-Tournament team this season, averaging 9.9 points per game.

Stovall earned her degree in Criminal Justice in only three years.

She is now in graduate school, and plans on taking her degree and accomplishing something else with it. While she was growing up she observed some things that made her want to influence children to do better things.

"I want to work with juveniles; I do want to work with younger kids and steer them in the right way," Stovall said. "When I was growing up I saw a lot of stuff that wanted me to one day help out little kids."

Her future may also include basketball, although Stovall isn't certain if she will have a chance to play in the WNBA.

Stovall said she would continue playing if she gets the opportunity.

"I have had offers to go play overseas, if that dream doesn't get fulfilled right now, maybe I can fulfill it down the road someday," Stovall said.

MT baseball drops two games over weekend

Thursday, March 16

MT 12

UT-Martin 11

Friday, March 17

MT 3

Birmingham Southern 8

Saturday, March 18

MT 6

Birmingham Southern 9

Next Game at Tennessee Tech,
March 22

By Wade Neely

Staff Writer

For the Middle Tennessee Blue Raider baseball team, the 2006 campaign has already been a bit of a roller coaster ride.

After starting the season with three consecutive wins, the Blue Raiders have slumped losing eight of 10 before besting the visiting University of Tennessee-Martin Skyhawks Thursday at Reese Smith Field.

Playing in their first home game since March 3rd, the Blue Raiders eked out a 12-11 victory in extra innings. The Blue Raiders made the fans sweat it out, falling in a 5-0 hole early, and trailing 10-5 in the seventh inning.

They rallied in the seventh inning, though, scoring four runs to cut the deficit to a single run. In the eighth inning, the Blue Raiders tied the game, forcing extra innings.

In the 10th inning, the Blue Raiders put the game away, thanks to a two-out RBI single from senior Todd Martin. With the victory, the Blue Raiders would improve to 2-2 at home this season.

MT could not piece together consecutive victories, though falling to Birmingham Southern on Friday in an 8-3 loss to the host Panthers. Six of the eight Panther runs were unearned runs, as the Blue Raiders committed four errors.

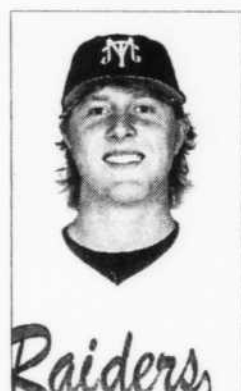
Starting pitcher Tyler Copeland, a Lawrence County native, surrendered all eight runs in just three and a third innings.

On Saturday, the Blue Raiders tangled with the Panthers again, and again the Panthers were victorious, winning 9-6. Martin was once again an offensive catalyst, providing four big hits and three RBIs, including a two-run homer in the ninth inning. With the home run, Martin now has seven blasts on the season, two of them coming in the past few days.

The Blue Raiders fell to 6-10 on the season with the loss and starter Brett Reiley suffered his first loss of the year.

The final game of the series was rained out yesterday. It will not be made up. It is the fifth game that has been cancelled due to the weather, this season.

The Blue Raiders will be in action again Wednesday, traveling to play Tennessee Tech, before returning for a five-game home stand starting Friday against the University of Arkansas Little Rock.



Martin

Men net mixed results at Blue-Gray Classic

By Casey Brown

Staff Writer

Middle Tennessee men's tennis played according to its rank last weekend, posting a 2-1 record at the Blue-Gray National Classic in Montgomery, Ala.

As part of a loaded field that included several ranked teams, MT began Thursday by defeating 73rd-ranked Texas A&M-Corpus Christi 4-2.

The teams played singles first due to rain, and doubles were not necessary as the Blue Raiders won four of six to advance into the winner's bracket.

TAMUCC's 43rd-ranked Raul

Morant Rivas battled through a lengthy second set tiebreaker to defeat 47th-ranked Andreas Siljeström, 6-4, 6-7 (13), 6-2 at No. 1.

TAMUCC also earned a point when Mikhail Pavlov beat MT's Kai Schledorn 6-4, 7-5 at No. 3.

Marco Born put MT on the board with a 6-1, 7-5 upset over 125th-ranked Andrey Kumantsov at No. 2.

Absent in the last few matches, these wins at the bottom of the lineup propelled MT to victory.

Freshman Morgan Richard rolled 6-4, 6-1 past Ian Cingel at

See Men's Tennis, 7

CALL YOUR MUSIC.

DOWNLOAD SONGS. IN FULL.

TO YOUR PC OR V CAST MUSIC PHONE FROM THOUSANDS OF ARTISTS.



Stereo headset sold separately.



Samsung a950

GET A V CAST PHONE
FOR JUST
\$79.99

After mail-in rebate

\$129.99 retail price - \$50.00 mail-in rebate = \$79.99
With new 2-year Activation.
Offer expires 3/11/06

BIG-TIME ENTERTAINMENT
IN A SMALL PACKAGE

- Built-in stereo speakers
- Dedicated music buttons
- Speakerphone

FREE Music Downloads
For Select Songs.

*Subject to Customer Agreement, select Calling Plans and V CAST conditions. V CAST Music phone required. Promotion available for pre-selected songs only. Always download legally.

PLUS

SIGN UP NOW FOR **V CAST VPAK**
AND GET YOUR FIRST MONTH FREE

Limited time offer. \$15 monthly access added to your Verizon Wireless Calling Plan thereafter. Per song charges apply. Available in 181 major metropolitan areas covering 148 million people and expanding coast to coast. Coverage not available everywhere.

verizonwireless

MW2M15

CALL 1.800.2 JOIN  CLICK www.verizonwireless.com/music VISIT any of our stores



Network
Enabled
By

Lucent Technologies

VERIZON WIRELESS COMMUNICATIONS STORES

Open Sundays
1965 Old Fort Pkwy.
615-896-7335

THE VERIZON
WIRELESS
STORE AT 

BUSINESS CUSTOMERS
PLEASE CALL
1-800-899-4249

AUTHORIZED RETAILERS

Equipment prices and rebate policy may vary by location. Authorized Retailers may impose additional equipment-related charges, including cancellation fees.

American Cellular
Next to Sprintway Drive
615-896-3465
American Cellular
Beside New World Mart
615-899-1434

SMYRNA
AAA Communications
Dixie Shopping Center
615-270-4899



Our Surcharges (incl. 2.29% Federal Universal Service (varies quarterly), 5¢ Regulatory & 40¢ Administrative/line/mo., & others by area) are not taxes (details: 1-888-684-1888); gov't taxes and our surcharges could add 8 to 27% to your bill. Activation fee/line: \$35. IMPORTANT CONSUMER INFORMATION: Subject to Customer Agreement, Postpay Digital Calling Plan, V CAST brochure, rebate form and credit approval. \$175 early termination fee, other charges & restrictions. Rebate takes 8 to 10 weeks. V CAST Music phone required. Shipping charges may apply. V CAST Coverage Area and subscription to V CAST service required for direct downloads to phone. Offer, coverage & service not available everywhere. PC downloads require Windows XP and Windows Media Player 10 and compatible USB cable (sold separately) for syncing to phone. Free song promotion available only for specified songs. Verizon Wireless reminds you to always download legally. Cancel V CAST service by calling 1-800-2 JOIN IN within 1st month to avoid \$15 monthly fee. Credit may not be on 1st bill. You can cancel V CAST service anytime. © 2006 Verizon Wireless.