

Partly Cloudy

An editorially independent newspaper



This week's poll question at www.mtsusidelines.com

> How will another tuition increase affect you?

Glossary: There's no need for a definition

In Flash, inside

Middle Tennessee State University IDELINE

Volume 78 No. 84

The air up there

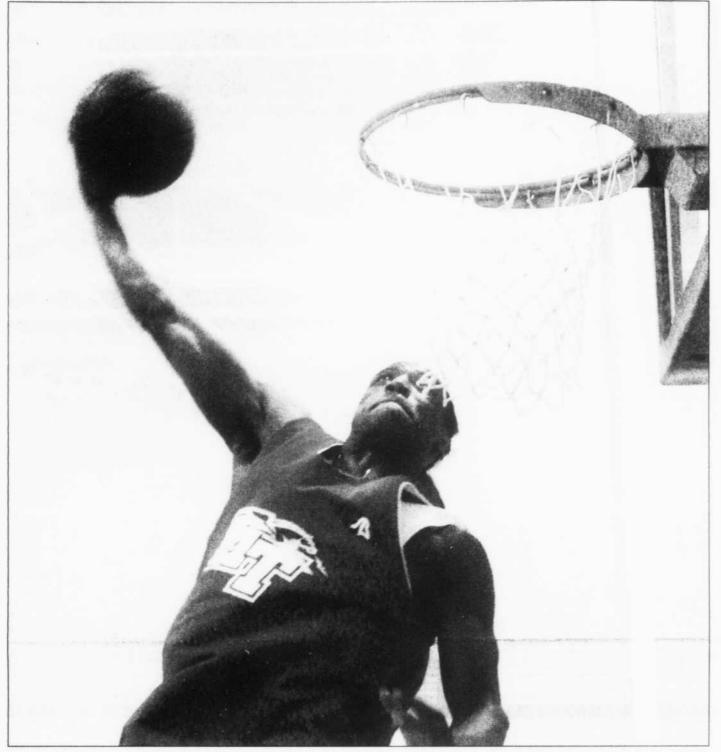


Photo by Danny Grigsby | Staff Photographer

Senior liberal arts student John Humphrey practices for the 15th Annual College Slam Dunk Contest, which will air tonight on ESPN2 at 9:30 p.m. For full story, see Sports, page 5.

Worker exposes realities of labor exploitation

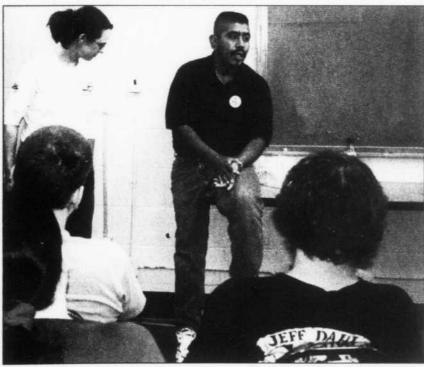


Photo by Aaron Eckerman | Staff Photographer

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Mary

Lucas Benitez, a migrant farm worker, discusses worker exploitation in the corporate farming industry.

By Callie Elizabeth Butler

Assistant News Editor

As part of their ongoing action against Taco Bell, Solidarity hosted a presentation on slavery and inhumanity in corporate farming yesterday, featuring a migrant farm worker from Immokalee, Fla.

The speaker, Lucas Benitez, is a member of the Coalition of Immokalee Workers, a group formed in 1997 to improve the condition of corporate farm workers in Immokalee and eradicate the existence of modern day slavery. Julia Perkins joined Benitez as an interpreter and fellow supporter of the campaign.

In this area of Florida, day laborers work long hours on farms owned by major corporations, risking exposure to toxic pesticides, and must pick 2 tons of tomatoes to earn \$50. According to Benitez, workers typically earn only 40 to 50 cents for each bucket of tomatoes weighing approximately 32 pounds, and an average worker earns a day's wage of \$15 to \$20.

"A farm worker earns \$7,000 to \$7,500 on average per year," Benitez said.

Large corporations own today's farming operations and employ immigrant workers as cheap, cost effective operations. These workers receive no benefits or job

See Workers, 2

Lecture to focus on links between feminism, science

By Audie Sheridan Staff Writer

Noted philosopher of science Helen Longino will present a titled lecture tomorrow, "Feminism, Science and the Politics of knowledge."

Longino, currently a professor at the University of Minnesota, has taught philosophy for 30 years at six different universities. She is the author of four books, the most recent published in 2001, titled The Fate of Knowledge. Longino also has numerous scholarly articles published.



Longino

Magada-Ward invited Longino to lecture here. 'Professor Longino is, in

MTSU

losophy profes-

my mind, one of the

most provocative and engaging science scholars in contemporary philosophy," Magada-Ward

During most of Longino's philosophical career she focused on feminist philosophy and feminist philosophy of sci-

"My quarrel is with conventional ideas of objectivity," Longino said.

Longino does not believe any person can be truly objective, including scientists, and she would have scientists in particular reflect on the values they bring with them when

approaching their research. In the lecture tomorrow, Longino will contrast the way people normally look at science and the way feminist scholars approach the same subject.

"I hope students will get a sense of the variety of ways in

which we can think about scientific knowledge and a sense of the power of feminist work on the nature of scientific knowledge-the challenge it presents to conventional views," Longino

According to professor Magada-Ward, not only philosophers and feminists can benefit from Longino's lecture.

"While Professor Longino is very familiar with the nitty gritty of scientific research – she has worked extensively with the biologist Ruth Doell - she is

See Longino, 2

Senate seats to be filled by appointment

By Chris Jones Staff Writer

Student Government president-elect Association Michele Butler will make appointments in an effort to resolve the numerous vacancies in the Senate this fall.

After meeting Tuesday, it was decided by the executive SGA officers and Dean of Student Life Gene Fitch that Butler will appoint students to the remaining nine seats, and elections for the Freshman Senate and the Homecoming Court will be done at the same time in the

Last year there were less than four seats open, a number that has more than doubled. The number of seats in the Senate varies from year to year according to the student enrollment within each college of the uni-

"A lot of times we put more emphasis on the executive offices and the Senate is forgotten," Butler said.

Open seats available include three for undeclared majors, three for the College of Education and one each in the Colleges of Basic and Applied Sciences and Business.

The usual procedure is for the incoming president to make appointments, but due to the large number, many felt it would be questionable.

Brandon Robbins, current SGA president, said a choice had to be made that would decide whether interested students would be able to apply for the positions, or if Butler would appoint students to fill the vacancies.

wonder why there were so many seats still open when many people have expressed interest. Amanda Newman, speaker

of the Senate, said she knows of

However, some students

people who wanted to run. "I think there were various reasons," Newman said. "Maybe some people just didn't get their packets in on time."

'Some students change their focus to other campus organizations, and we tend to lose a few people that way," Butler said.

'It is a lot of work, and people don't realize it," she said.

"The Senate is an important part of SGA because it's the branch that writes bills and

See SGA, 2



Professor Mary Nichols uses a reflector to light subjects while acting as a production assistant in February.

Professor explores through media

By Ian Campbell Staff Writer

Last winter, while most MTSU students and staff fought

frostbite, professor of electronic media communication Mary Nichols opted for a more temperate climate.

Throughout the end of January and early February, Nichols participated in the 14th JASON project, a scientific endeavor studying the Channel Islands of central California, a national park and protected wildlife sanctuary near Santa Barbara.

The JASON project is the brainchild of Robert Ballard, who discovered the wreck of the Titanic in late 1989.

Ballard used the much-publicized event to launch a new dimension in education, one that involved student audiences in the details of scientific explo-

JASON projects use the latest in communication and media technology, with live broadcasts, paper curricula and chat events, to give students across the country a hands on feel for what it is like to be part of scientific expedition.

The latest project, JASON XIV, is the fifth Nichols has been involved with.

Ballard's project turned the Channel Islands into a giant laboratory where hundreds of scientists and support crew converged to investigate the various natural dynamics.

Among other things, the scientists focused on the local geography of the region, the interrelation of the various ecosystems and the cultural history of an ancient American Indian tribe, the Chumash.

Nichols spent nearly three and a half weeks on Anacapa Island, one of the smallest in the chain. While there, she was involved in the actual program production of the project, which broadcasted 55 shows in 11 days. The shows are produced by Seattle-based Media

See JASON, 2

Concert to benefit campus radio

By Callie Elizabeth Butler Assistant News Editor

Good Vibrations, a student public relations group created in January, is currently promoting WMTS, the campus' student-run radio station, with a benefit show.

The benefit concert will be held at Wallstreet, located on the Square, at 9:30 p.m.

The benefit's aim is to increase awareness and raise funds for WMTS and its endeavors. Featured acts will include DJ Dustin America, Soon, Haduken and Splis.

"WMTS is such a great resource here, which is why we want to promote their work," freshman Lindsey Lane, a member of Good Vibrations, said about the project. "There's a lot of diversity in the music and their content.'

Good Vibrations, composed of five communications majors, came together as a class project to promote a local or campus organization. In choosing a project, the group thought WMTS seemed an excellent choice due to its beneficial yet often overlooked service to the community.

"The radio is really important in the college atmosphere," said junior Juli Shipley, the leader of Good Vibrations' WMTS project. "We did some research and found out that some people didn't know about it. We wanted to change that."

Since 1992, WMTS has served as a musical outlet for students with a variety of shows and musical genres ranging from electronica to indie rock. Any student, regardless of major, can host a show on the station after approval of a show proposal and training.

"The service they provide is

important, and since any student of any major can participate, we can play what we want to play," Shipley said. "It's one of the only outlets that really represents student tastes in

All proceeds from the show will go to WMTS and its programming.

For more information about Good Vibrations, contact Juli Shipley at 217-3768, and to learn more about WMTS and its programming, call 898-2636 or visit the Web site at www.mtsu.edu/~wmts. •

SGA: Record number of bills passed

Continued from I

passes legislation for student government, as well as present the bill to the Faculty Senate," she continued.

This year alone, more than 24 bills have been passed through the Senate, and there are five more in waiting to go through before the end of the semester.

"It's a record amount - the most we've ever passed in a year," Newman said.

"They're the starting point for a lot of things on campus, which is why elections are so important," Butler said.

For Freshman Senate and Homecoming Court, applications will be available on Aug. 19 and must be submitted by Sept. 2. Elections will take place Sept. 16, and results will be announced on Sept. 19. In case of a run-off, re-election will be held Sept. 30-Oct. 2.

For more information, contact the SGA at 898-2464. ◆

JASON: Next expedition slated for rainforest this winter

Continued from I

"Dan Sharp, a professional out of L.A., and I traded locations each day," Nichols said. "One day I was dockside, where I shot a segment for each program, and the next day I was topside."

The programs are broadcasted via satellite to various interactive network sites.

At these sites, middleschoolers experience the event on a full three-screen live interactive program, the culmination of their entire science curricu-

An edited version of the broadcasts was shown on the National Geographic Channel each day of the project.

Nichols said the experience she gained was an invaluable resource as a teacher at MTSU.

"It's all the same stuff I'm teaching my students," Nichols

"A lot of this is done live, so it's live broadcast production. It's all satellite technology and microwave technology."

Experiences aside, Nichols said the most valuable thing she brought back to her students

Workers:

Efforts toward

"It is truly ridiculous ... that we are subsidizing the earnings of these huge companies,"

Another prevalent problem

is practices of modern-day slave labor in this area. Within the past five years, six cases addressed this issue, each deeming crew managers and owners guilty of enslaving laborers.

One case in 2002 resulted in imprisonment of 15 years each

"One never thinks what is really behind the tomato,"

The CIW is aiming its current efforts towards Taco Bell

and its owner, Yum! Brands, Inc., and its practice of buying tomatoes from Immokalee. The organization presented Taco

Bell with a proposal for more humane standards, including a code of conduct for the compa-

nies they purchase produce

from and a one cent raise per

pound of tomatoes for all work-

biggest company in the industry to supply not only fast food but fair food," Benitez said. "Raising the price per pound by

one cent would raise these workers earnings to poverty

However, Taco Bell was unwilling to meet these

requests. In response, CIW

launched a number of campaigns to combat Taco Bell and its buying standards, including programs on high school and

"Taco Bell is in 7,500 high

schools and middle schools,"

Perkins said. "They are starting

to renew its contract with Taco

Bell due in part to the activist

ket being 18- to 24-year-olds,

this is the area activists feel the greatest impact can be made.

side the bun," Benitez said.

we'll go for the others." •

MTSU recently decided not

With Taco Bell's target mar-

"It's time to really think out-

"It's a chain of a chain. We're

starting with Taco Bell. Then,

at younger and younger ages."

college campuses.

efforts of Solidarity.

level."

"We're offering Taco Bell the opportunity ... to become the

for three farm owners.

Benitez said.

Taco Bell

Continued from I

Benitez says.

was the network contacts she

"The production people I meet add so much of their experience," Nichols said.

"If I ever don't know something, chances are I can call

someone who does." Nichols also takes a student whenever she participates in a

JASON project.

Students are interviewed and hand-selected by Media Arts. This year, she took senior mass communications major Chad

Nichols plans to join the next expedition, JASON XV, which will journey to the Isthmus of Panama next winter to explore the dense rainforests.

Like all of the previous IASON projects, it will be a multi-faceted approach, delving into the cultural, ecological and geological aspects of the region.

For more information about the JASON projects, visit www.JASON.org.

For information and pictures of Mary Nichols' experience, check out her Web site at www.mtsu.edu/~mnichols. •

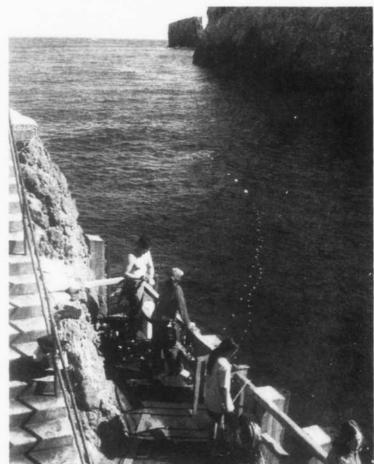


Photo provided by Kurt St. Amant

Mary Nichols and dive master Dave Stoltz prepare to

haul in cables for the underwater production crew. This isn't the time question his education This is. Higher academic standards are good for everyone. What a child learns today could have a major effect tomorrow. Not just on him or her, but on the rest of the world. Your world. Since 1992, we've worked to raise academic standards. Because quite simply, smarter kids make smarter adults. For more information, call 1-800-38-BE-SMART or visit www.edex.org.

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ANNOUNCES

ITS 2003 BIENNIAL ORGANIZATIONAL

CONVENTION

When: Saturday, April 12, promptly at 10 a.m.

Where: The Court House on the Square in Murfreesboro, second floor.

<u>Purpose</u>: To elect county executive committee members and officers for two-year terms lasting through the 2004 election cycle.

Eligibility: Any legal resident of Rutherford County who is an eligible voter and willing to sign a Pledge of Support for the Rutherford County Democratic Party.

IF YOU ARE A DEMOCRAT, PLAN TO BE AT THIS MEETING!

Longino: Book used in classes

Continued from 1

also able, as a philosopher, to consider the wider ethical issues of contemporary scientific practice," Magada-Ward said.

For Longino, the importance of science is the link of science to feminism.

"Because the sciences are so central to contemporary post-industrial because the sciences have been appealed to as showing us what is natural, feminists critical of conventional ideas about what is natural and [feminists] critical of the limited range of perspectives that influence policy-making must think about the sciences," Longino said.

While science is supposed to be objective and gender neutral,

Longino's research points to how much sexist values in society affect individual scientists and their work.

Both Magada-Ward and philosophy chair Ron Bombardi require Longino's book Science as Social Knowledge in courses they teach.

"Perhaps the central challenge facing feminists is the need to show that sexism is not just distasteful but false," Magada-Ward said.

Since we need to employ the resources of scientific inquiry in order to do this, it is imperative that we understand how science works if it is to be, as the founders of modern science hoped, a force for human liberation."

Longino will present her lecture at 3:30 p.m. in the James Union Building, Room 304. ◆



WANT TO DANCE?

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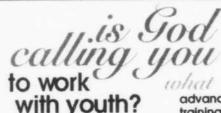
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WORLD BRIEFS

Compiled By Callie Elizabeth Butler - Assistant News Editor



U.S. forces cross Tigris, close in on Baghdad

Closing in on Baghdad, U.S. forces yesterday seized a bridge over the Tigris River and swept past battered Republican Guard units.

One of the key Guard divisions, defending the city of Kut, "has been destroyed," a U.S. general said.

Further south, U.S. commanders said Iraqi soldiers were shooting from inside a revered mosque in Najaf.

American soldiers withheld return fire

Soldiers on the front lines and relatives 6,000 miles away in West Virginia rejoiced over the bold, middle-of-the-night rescue of Pfc. Jessica Lynch from captivity at an Iraqi hospital that was being used as a command post.

The commandos who freed her also retrieved 11 bodies, most of them believed to be American soldiers.

The Army's 3rd Infantry Division and the First Marine Expeditionary Force mounted a two-pronged attack on the outer defenses of Baghdad, and both reported breakthroughs as units entered the so-called "red zone" within 50 miles of the capital.

U.S. officials say Iraqi resistance will be most tenacious in this zone and have warned of the possible use of chemical weapons.

In an attack launched at midnight, 3rd Infantry units surged past the strategic city of Karbala, targeting an estimated 2,000 paramilitary fighters.

To the east, thousands of Marines moved against Kut after capturing an important bridge over the Tigris River. Brig. Gen. Vincent Brooks said the Baghdad Division defending, Kut, was destroyed.

For days prior to the offensive, both the Baghdad Division and the Republican Guard's Medina Division defending Karbala had been pounded by airstrikes and artillery barrages.

U.S. officials said the bombardment reduced the strength of both divisions by more than 50 percent.

Secretary of State seeks agreement with Turkey

ANKARA, Turkey (AP) – On a fence-mending mission with a longtime ally, Secretary of State Colin Powell on yesterday sought an agreement with Turkish leaders to keep them from sending troops into northern Iraq if Kurdish refugees threaten to overwhelm the border.

"We believe that the work we are doing there now should make it unnecessary for them to consider any incursion in the region," Powell said.

Turkey is worried that Iraqi Kurds might declare independence and embolden separatists in Turkey, who have fought for autonomy in the southeast for 15 years.

Journalist freed after spending time in Iraq jail

MELVILLE, N.Y. (AP) – Cheers broke out in the Newsday offices when word came that a reporter and a photographer for the newspaper were among four journalists and a peace activist freed after being detained for a week in an Iraqi prison.

Newsday correspondent Matt McAllester, 33, and photographer Moises Saman, 29, phoned the newspaper Tuesday to say they had been released and were crossing the Jordanian border.

All were in good health.
Two other journalists, Molly
Bingham, a freelance photographer from Louisville, Ky., and a
Danish freelance photographer,
Johan Rydeng Spanner, were
released along with the
Newsday staffers.

The group had been held inside the Abu Ghraib prison since March 25, according to Charlotte Hall, Newsday's managing editor. An American peace activist, Philip Latasha, also was with the group, Hall said.

Iraqi security guards went to McAllester's Baghdad hotel room early on the morning of March 25 and confiscated computers, notebooks, mobile phones, tape recorders and other equipment after several hours of searching the room.

The five were taken to the prison where they were interrogated repeatedly.

They were not physically harmed, and were given basic food, Hall said.

Mystery illness hasn't infected many Americans

A scare over a mystery illness on an airliner in California turned out to be a false alarm, but the cautious reaction by officials suggested that serious concerns about the disease have made their way to America's shores.

An American Airlines flight from Tokyo that landed in San Jose, Calif., was briefly halted on the tarmac after the captain reported five people on board appeared to have symptoms of severe acute respiratory syndrome, or SARS.

None of the five turned out to have the disease, which has been blamed for about 1,800 cases and at least 78 deaths worldwide.

The disease has been spreading rapidly in Asia, prompting the World Health Organization, the U.N.'s health agency, to advise travelers Wednesday to avoid visiting Hong Kong and the southern Chinese province of Guangdong.

The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention had already recommended postponing nonessential trips.

Divided Supreme Court confronts race in college

WASHINGTON (AP) – The Supreme Court gave no sure sign it was ready to end all affirmative action as it took up the polarizing question of racial preferences in college admissions for the first time in 25 years.

Justices gave a glimpse Tuesday of the conflict on the court as they considered how to rewrite the rules for affirmative action on university campuses. They questioned lawyers aggressively, focusing on likely consequences of discrimination and educational opportunity.

The court is considering two cases in which three white applicants rejected by the University of Michigan and its law school challenged the school's admissions policies as unconstitutional racial discrimination.

The students contended that black, Hispanic and American Indian candidates with the same qualifications were given preferential treatment.

The Michigan undergraduate school uses a point system to screen the thousands of applicants it receives each year. A minority member can get a 20 point bonus out of a possible 150 points, while various measures of academic performance, extracurricular activity and other attributes are generally worth less.

The law school uses a vaguer system intended to yield a "critical mass" of minorities in each class, generally around 10 percent or more.

Smoking ban decreases number of heart attacks

HELENA, Mont. (AP) – Heart attacks in Helena fell by more than half last summer after voters passed a smoking ban, Drs. Robert Shepard and Richard Sargent say.

It's considered the first study to examine what happens to public health when people stop smoking and breathing second-hand smoke in public places. On Tuesday, Sargent presented the pair's study at the annual meeting of the American College of Cardiology in Chicago.

Helena's smoking ban was adopted by 62 percent of voters in June and remained in effect until December, when a legal challenge halted enforcement. During that period, the study says, hospital admissions for heart attacks dropped from seven a month to about three.

The statistics also showed a possible spike back to normal levels after the city stopped enforcing the ban.

Doctors agreed Tuesday that the small number of heart attacks in Helena, population 26,000, may not indicate largescale effects of smoking bans.

St. John's, Georgetown advance to NIT final

NEW YORK (AP) – Big East rivals Georgetown and St. John's will play in the National Invitation Tournament championship game tomorrow night after victories in the semifinals Tuesday.

St. John's advanced with a thrilling 64-63 comeback win over coach Bob Knight and Texas Tech, while Georgetown easily handled Minnesota 88-74.

Minnesota (19-13) and Texas Tech (21-13) will play in the consolation game earlier Thursday.

The Red Storm (20-13) almost failed to make the final. Marcus Hatten stole the ball from Will Chavis and made a layup with 16.2 seconds remaining to give the Red Storm the victory.

Hatten led the Red Storm with 24 points, and freshman Elijah Ingram added 16.

Man who hijacked plane from Cuba surrenders

KEY WEST, Fla. (AP) – In the second hijacking of a Cuban plane in as many weeks, a hijacker claiming to have two grenades surrendered an hour after forcing the aircraft to land in Florida with 32 people aboard.

The hijacker was carrying a

little boy when he came off the Cuban Airlines plane at the Key West airport and was wearing a red windbreaker with the word "America" stitched in white on the back. He was taken into FBI custody.

The surrender ended a more than 12-hour ordeal spent largely at the Havana airport, where the hijacker demanded that the plane be refueled so it could reach Key West.

He had insisted on continuing, despite a U.S. official's warning that he would be prosecuted and denied asylum.

The man was identified as Adermis Wilson Gonzalez, 33, said U.S. Attorney Marcos Jimenez, who added that the suspect would be charged with hijacking.

Gonzalez was traveling with his wife and 3-year-old son, Jimenez said.

American Airlines to lay off 2,500 pilots, union says

FORT WORTH, Texas (AP)

- American Airlines will lay off
2,500 pilots over the next year as
it cuts costs in hopes of staving
off bankruptcy, union officials
said Tuesday.

About 21 percent of American's 12,000 pilots will lose their jobs, with cuts beginning at the bottom of the seniority ladder.

Pilots can be recalled within two years if the airline, the world's largest, adds jobs. The cuts were announced by

officials with the Allied Pilots Association, which has agreed to \$660 million in annual concessions to help save the company from bankruptcy.

Pilots' salaries also will be slashed 23 percent beginning May 1 and 17 percent annually over the rest of the six-year contract, said John Darrah, the union president.

The plan also includes profit sharing and stock options.

Pilots have 14 days to ratify the new contract. ◆



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NOTICE TO ALL STUDENTS ENROLLED IN MTSU CLASSES SPRING 2003

Another enrollment increase is expected at MTSU for the Fall 2003 term. You, as a currently enrolled student have the privilege of selecting classes for the Fall 2003 term during priority registration which will occur April 7-17, 2003.

After April 17 all seats in classes that were not selected during the April 7-17 period will be made available to new and re-enrolling students. Therefore, it is imperative that you take advantage of the opportunity to reserve all your classes during priority registration. If you wait to select classes at a later date it will be very difficult or impossible to register for classes that you need or desire, or to schedule a full-time load of courses.

From the Editorial Board

Attack poverty at its real source

A Sidelines page one story today, titled "Worker exposes realities of labor exploitation," highlights the plight of tomato pickers in Immokalee, Fla., as told by a migrant worker.

A focus of the worker's lecture was the fact that farms in the area have been creating institutions of modern-day slavery. Lucas Benitez, who has worked on the farms that supply tomatoes to Taco Bell, talked of the plight of the workers, who would need their wages doubled to even reach the national poverty

If you can't put yourself there, imagine carrying around a 30-pound bucket of tomatoes picked in the hot Florida sun, only to receive 50 cents for each bucket and earning less than \$20 for an entire day of

The issue of whether slave labor is being used in the Immokalee area is no longer debatable - every court that has heard arguments on the subject in the past five years has ruled in favor of the workers. In one case, three farm owners were given 15 years of prison time each.

Despite the termination of the Taco Bell contract, we still feel for the tomato pickers in Immokalee. One can argue that the market determines wage and all that other stuff from economics class, but the bottom line is that using labor at this low of a pay level is not only illegal - it's wrong.

As far as the Bell boycott, however, is it more the fault of the buyer who is accepting the lower prices or the farm owner(s) who set the prices and determine which money goes where and to whom it goes? Taco Bell claims it has no power over the buying price; we wish this aspect had been investigated further. We felt like some essential questions were left unanswered. perhaps in the fervor to boot the Bell and create a national, widely visible target for the activists' aggres-

The courts are on the right track with some of the convictions they have handed down, but more needs to be done. By all appearances, the farm owners are the primary evil-doers and Taco Bell (and its owner, Yum! Brands, Inc.) is a criminal accessory.

Taking out a national chain that can afford to do without some business is not the way to bring down a slave labor institution. Attacking the problem at the source is.

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Sidelines is the editorially independent, non-profit studentproduced newspaper of Middle Tennessee State University. Sidelines publishes Monday, Wednesday and Thursday during the fall and spring semesters and Wednesday during June and July. The opinions expressed herein are those of the individual writers and not necessarily of Sidelines or MTSU.

Letters Policy

Sidelines welcomes letters to the editor from all readers. Please e-mail letters



to slopinio@mtsu.edu, and include your name and a phone number for verification. Sidelines will not publish anonymous letters. We reserve the right to edit for grammar, length and content.

Thursday, April 3, 2003

Duty, honor ensures freedom

Cosmo's Corner



It's easy to criticize what you don't understand.

While our nation is at war with terrorism, many take it upon themselves to condemn our leaders and their decisions regarding our course of action in this

Peace protests have run nonstop. Even before we started our push toward Baghdad, people were condemning the very idea of

We've all seen the protests on television and even a small one on our al actors and activists have their constitutional rights

Who is it that guarantees these activists the right to protest and denounce the government? Our men and women in the armed

The brave few who volunteer their lives for the security of our freedoms and existence. The ones who truly understand and appreciate our country for what it is and are willing to fight and die for it.

Meanwhile, we have all these activists who have no idea what it is to serve one's country telling the rest of us how to run it. During our little protest here on campus, I met two or three veterans protesting for peace.

That's a small number compared to the rest of the activists.

On top of that, I met more veterans that were for the war. Notably, not one of the veterans for peace gave a speech concerning the war.

Peace protesters are to protest and air their allowed to have their say

about war, but what do they really know about it?

I would rather listen to someone who has been in the trenches. Isn't the rest just hearsay and opinion?

Which brings me to my next point - how many of you have served your country in the armed forces?

It used to be a standard part of peoples' lives in this country. Even the wealthy, in the past, joined the service to serve their country. It was something you did to show your appreciation for your freedoms and give back to your country.

Sadly, times have changed; today's service men and women come from families who have served and the wealthy join the guard, if anything at all.

Most Americans have lost something; they've lost their sense of duty and replaced it with selfishness. Somebody else will serve and fight, so why should I

That type of thought is dangerous and cowardly.

It's dangerous because you must have somebody willing to fight in order that others may live. It's cowardly because it exposes your weak and fairweathered patriotism.

The Italian statesman Camillo Benso Cavour once said, "We shall astonish the world with our ingratitude." That's the way I see most Americans ungrateful.

So self-absorbed in their own world, they forget about the people around them. They serve themselves and don't give a damn about serving something greater.

I would like to remind all you self-absorbed ingrates that the only reason you can protest a war or choose not to serve your country is because somebody else paid the ultimate price for you.

Our soldiers, sailors and Air Force personnel have paid that price with their blood, and they continue to do it today.

The world cannot know

peace without war, and it takes people willing to fight for something greater than themselves to win

Marching down the street wearing tye-dye and waving a banner will not bring peace, it brings shame - shame from the fact that you care so little for your country that you basically secede from it and dishonor to the people that are fighting for your freedoms.

I've served my country and have the highest respect for the ones who serve it today. They ensure my ability to write this column and for you to go to school, protest the war, watch your television and all the other freedoms most of you take for granted.

God bless them and may they return home safely.

Jeremy Coseo is a freshman journalism major and can be reached via e-mail at jdc3g@mtsu.edu.

up, if you can't run a mile,

or if you think your book

bag is too heavy, you are

On the other hand, if

your doctor considers you

overweight but you can

run circles around that

doctor at the track, you are

be precisely the size it

needs to be to accommo-

date your level of activity if

given a few months to

adjust. And every body is

ible selection of physical

education classes. What,

other than laziness, is

keeping you from signing

up for one of these courses

toward your major, but so

you add them to a full-

unbelievably good gym

student's can use for free.

the first couple of weeks,

and then it really does start

to feel good. And a little

pain now will prevent a lot

years of agonizing back

What's worse? Forty

of pain later in life.

It might not count

The courses are free if

MTSU also has an

Exercise only hurts for

every semester?

time load.

MTSU offers an incred-

different.

Your body will always

probably doing fine.

simply weak.

Keep war coverage honest, realistic

Wit and Wonder



The Los Angeles Times fired a photographer Wednesday for altering a photo that appeared on the front page as part of the newspaper's war

ing a group of Iraqi civilians to safety. L.A. Times photographer Brian Walski took two shots, each only

somewhat different in content, and used a computer combine the two in order to create a more dramatic scene. Taking ele-

ments from each picture, he altered the picture's major subjects.

Editors discovered the alteration when they noticed people appearing more than once within the photo.

immediately They fired Walski.

While the change did create a more visually moving scene, Walski's actions only serve to increase public skepticism about the truth and objectiveness of our nation's news outlets. Walski's wrongdoing was a strike against all American journalists and photographers in an industry fighting to prove its credibility.

Journalists and photographers in the news constantly work against a public that often deems them untrustworthy and their work less than factual. Obviously, Walski shows this does occur within the industry. While all industries house brewing corruption, journalism provides a truthtelling service to the

This also touches on another issue: war cover-

It remains incredibly important that news outlets provide thorough coverage that remains as objective as possible when tackling the issue of war. Altering photos or stories only skews the truth, an incredible ally during times of war. Personal sentiments must be set The photo focused on aside in the pursuit of British soldier direct- the issues and realities of international conflict. A nation must learn from the events of the past, including those during

war, newspapers Walski's serve a vital wrongdoing was role in capa strike against turing events all American that journalists and soon photographers in etched in a an industry nation's hisfighting to prove its credibility.

Walski worked

and

against this purpose, making a mockery of the news and the journalistic profession.

Whether his motivations were based in his feeling about war or just a desire to create a noteworthy photo is irrelevant. The fact remains that Walski altered the truth to serve his own purposes, working against the ethics of journalism.

The L.A. Times was right and justified in their dismissal of Brian Walski because his actions were not the work of a journalist. His removal was a demonstration within this industry and to the nation that journalists seek to inform the public by accurately depicting the events in our world. Sometimes people can lose sight of the objective.

Callie Elizabeth Butler is a junior journalism major and can be reached e-mail ceb2k@mtsu.edu.

We're your average band of hoodlums.

slopinio@mtsu.edu

Get healthy, moving If you can't do a pushsecond, then you betray

your weakness. And no

Finding Trouble



Nothing excuses weak

Recently, Real Sports on HBO showcased Norton Davey, an 84-year-old man who runs the Ironman triathlon every year.

In case you didn't know, the Ironman is the most grueling triathlon in the To compete

swimming 2.5 miles, biking 112 miles and then running 26 miles. All competitors must

complete this circuit in less We can't expect this

kind of effort out of everyone, because most of us get out of breath climbing stairs. This is unacceptable.

Norton Davey's mere attempt to run the triathlon puts most of us to shame. Even dogs have more

sense than most people. Coop them up for a while, and they can't help but run wild when let free. Human beings have the

same restlessness, that same need to burn excess energy, but we suppress it. We just sit around until

that excess energy is goneor more precisely, stored for later. Why

Is the draw of television and video games that

If you answered "yes" to

that question, even for a lity alone.

one is to blame for your inaction but you. Perhaps the distinctly American capacity for

shifting blame onto others is the culprit in this big fat mess Fast food companies must be to blame, right?

Debbie. Better still, it's the fault of everyone's favorite

Or maybe it's Little

scapegoat, the parents. Passing the buck like this is a problem because it helps cultivate a fatalistic

habit of mind. It makes you think you

can't help it. After all, there's nothing you can do about it if it's someone else's fault, is there?

Don't believe it. No one controls you, so do something. Act.

Get moving.

to the According Centers for Disease Control, 64 percent of adults are overweight. Obesity is also absurdly high at 23 percent of

You know what these statistics mean? Not as much as you

might think. The numbers aren't

good, that's for sure, but plenty of skinny people out there have only single strands of muscle holding their bones together.

Unfortunately, those spindly muscles are hidden from view under nature's natural insulator.

Fitness and weight have little to do with each other,

so throw away that scale. Measure fitness by abil-

pain, heart problems and immobility, or some situps and sweating a couple of times a week? Today is the day to start working away that weakness. No excuses. •

Audie Sheridan is a senior philosophy major and can be reached via email at als3g@mtsu.edu.

Letter to the Editor -Talking war easier than fighting it

To the Editor:

Ah the exuberance of youth! I'm curious about all the pro-war responses in the "Letters to the Editor" section. I assume these folks are all ready to enlist - but I doubt it. I was in their shoes 30 years ago. My dad was a veteran of World War II and told me I had to serve my country if called. So, after I was drafted and told I needed to be ready to kill godless communists, I was all set to carry out our legacy. I heard the protests of thousands of Americans concerning the war, but I figured they were just misguided. After all, our leaders wouldn't lie to us.

Imagine my surprise when, after getting out of the army, I read the Pentagon Papers. Yes, the military and President Johnson had lied to us about the Gulf of Tonkein Resolution. President George W. Bush and his cronies are lying now about the reasons for war. They haven't proved that Iraq is a threat.

For those who think anti-war proponents don't support troops - think again. There were plenty of us who were against the Vietnam War while in the service. Many lives, Vietnamese and American, were saved when protests ended the war early. Americans out of the military can continue to protest the war and support American soldiers. The two are not mutually exclusive.

Finally, I encourage those who think the cause is right to do what your president and his band have not - enlist and go fight the war. Of course, it's easier to have someone else do your fighting and just do the talking.

Joel Hausler

SPORTS

Lipscomb comes from behind to win over baseball team

By Randall Thomason Staff Writer

Lipscomb University scored a stunning come-from-behind victory over Middle Tennessee's baseball team Tuesday, overcoming a three-run deficit and scoring seven runs in two

innings on just two hits. Ultimately, they defeated the

Blue Raiders, 11-8. MT held substantial leads on two separate occasions, leading 6-2 through three innings and 7-4 after five innings. Blue Raider starting pitcher B.J. Church exited the contest after five innings and gave way to Jeff Kasser, who struggled in the sixth inning.

The Bisons tallied four runs in the sixth inning on just one hit, aided by one MT error, four walks, one balk and one man hit at bat. Lipscomb's onslaught continued in the seventh when the Bisons plated three more

runs on just two hits. MT again walks." gave assistance with a second hit batsman and balk.

Entering the eighth inning trailing 11-7, the Blue Raiders rallied but were only able to score one

run on an RBI single by Chuck Akers, driving home Shane Kemp, who reached base with a bunt single. Akers was stranded,



however, and MT did not pose a threat in the ninth.

MT head coach Steve Peterson was upset with the

"We swung the bats good, but not good enough," he said. "B.J. struggled through five innings and hurt himself with

Peterson did not place all the blame for the loss on Church.

"The whole staff was hurt by the walks and hit batsmen, and when you mix in a couple of errors, that put us in trouble the whole time. The freebie war of walks and hit batsmen made the difference," Peterson said. "[Lipscomb] also got the big hit when they needed it, and we just didn't play good baseball Our bullpen was just very DOOF.

MT had to overcome an early deficit as the Bisons plated two runs in the first inning, but the Blue Raiders answered with a five run outburst in the top of the second.

Josh Archer led off the inning with a double to center field and then advanced to third on a wild pitch. Brett Carroll followed with a walk to put

irmail to the

See Bisons, 8

MT returns home Friday to face Florida International

By Osby Martin

Staff Writer

Middle Tennessee will try to get back on the winning track this weekend as they face conference foe Florida International at Reese Smith Field.

MT and FIU come from different directions as they meet this weekend. MT (11-15, 2-4 SBC) has lost six of their last eight games, whereas FIU (25-6, 4-2 SBC) has won seven of their last nine.

'We have not been completely healthy this season, so that has limited us in what we are able to do," MT associate head coach Jim McGuire said. "We are a little behind our expectations at 2-4 [in the SBC1: We could easily be 4-2."

Offensively, FIU is solid this season. They are led by freshman Luis Rivera, who is batting a very impressive .395 on the season with a 16 game hitting streak and a team high 35 RBIs.

Junior Ricardo Nanita and senior Skip Adams provided the power for FIU with 11 home runs and a combined 55 R B I s between the

two. With

Jaggers

six players batting .328 or better, FIU hitting is consistent.

"They [FIU] were a preseason pick to be a top team in the league," McGuire said. "Their pitching will be good with the kid [DeCarlo] who was 11-0 last year as a freshman and the

right-handed other [Banks]."

FIU's dynamic duo of junior Josh Bank and sophomore Derek DeCarlo lead the Panthers. The duo has a 9-1 combined record so far, and the team is 15-2 in games that these two start in.

Sophomore Nate Jaggers returned to the MT line-up Tuesday in the game against Lipscomb. He missed the last 14 games with an ankle injury. He was limited to a designated hitter role and went 0-for-5, but having him back is good news for the Blue Raiders.

Offensively, sophomore Brett Carroll, who is hitting .330 and has team highs in home runs and RBIs with seven and 25, respectively, leads MT. Jagger is batting .404, and

See Blue Raiders, 8

MT basketball player gains fame with big air

By David Hunter

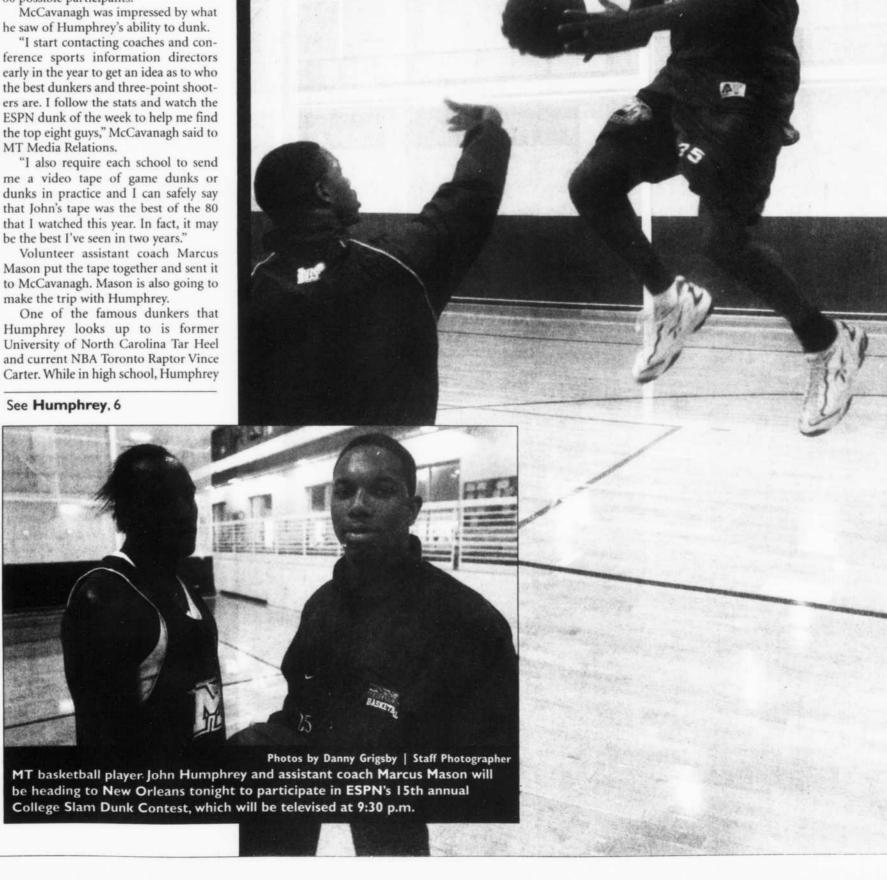
Senior Staff Reporter

During the last MT basketball season, people knew when John Humphrey had the ball in the open floor.

Humphrey made his presence known at every game to every Blue Raider fan present with his impressive style. During the Sun Championship game, in front of a nationwide audience on ESPN, Humphrey showed a small sampling of his abilities when he caught an alleyoop pass for an exciting two-hand jam. Tonight, Humphrey will have another chance to show what he can do in front of a nationwide audience at ESPN's 15th Annual College Slam Dunk and Three-Point Championships in New

The event will take place at the NBA's New Orleans Hornets' practice faculty as part of the NCAA Final Four festivi-

Patrick McCavanagh of Intersport chose Humphrey after McCavanagh looked at tapes from over 80 possible participants.



Burk's biased remarks only for personal gain, glory



recent article ESPN.com states that Martha Burk believes it is "appalling" that women who fight for the United States in Iraq face discrimination at home at private golf clubs like Augusta

Broadcasting the Masters and showcasing a club that discriminates against women is an insult to the nearly quarter million women in the U.S. armed forces," Burk said in a press conference.

For a short period, Burk's protests were tolerable and understandable. Women are in the military fighting for equal opportunity, and so are men. But how dare she invoke the troops and the war effort in Iraq to push her on agenda and create this little media feeding frenzy only to draw attention to herself?

The only reason Burk is protesting the Masters is to further her own reputation. Before she blindly started to criticize the Augusta National, she had no clout on the board of the National Council of Women's Organizations. It was only after she received minimal media attention did she begin her campaign.

Sex discrimination is purely a public issue. After all, don't we all "discriminate" based on sex in private?

Our choice of a life partner, for one, is a choice we make in private. Joining the men's or ladies' golf associations at our clubs and belonging to a fraternity or sorority are just two of many examples where people commonly practice "discrimination" in private life.

Can someone explain why this woman has made a personal crusade to get a female member at Augusta National while there is extreme oppression of women in the Middle East?

While Burk now uses the war against Iraq to try and strengthen her own campaign and to gain celebrity status, let me say this: There are more than 1,200 women's-only fitness centers and a private course in Canada for women only.

I'm calling for all men to start protesting outside of these places for gender discrimina-

No? That's what I thought.

For you Burk, it's time to go away and get off the television screen and out of the pages of newspapers.

I for one am sick of hearing your dead end protests and your meaningless opinions.◆

MT wraps up offseason

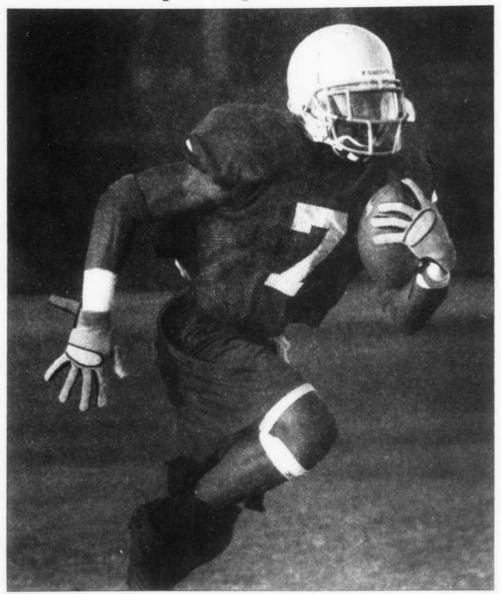
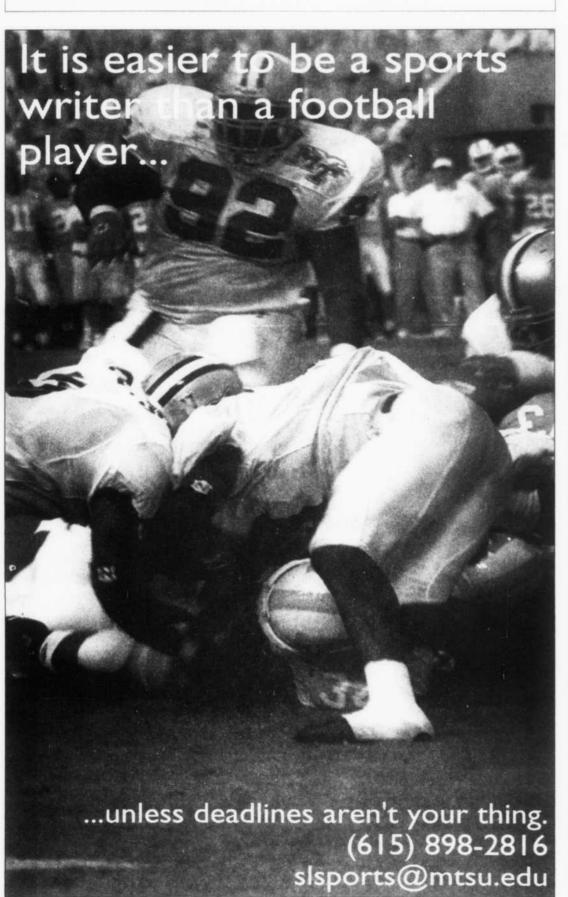


Photo by Danny Grigsby | Staff Photographer

Up-and-coming quarterback Andre Green sprints during the 2003 spring practice. The Blue Raiders will wrap up spring practice on April 12, when the football team will play its final spring scrimmage.



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Men's golf ties for 10th in Jacksonville

By Trey Porter Staff Reporter

The Blue Raider golf team tied for 10th at the 2003 Amoco Ultimate/Young Intercollegiate Tournament in Jacksonville, Ala.

Carter Henderson and Josh Nelms tied for 61st with threeround scores of 238. Henderson, a sophomore from Nashville, Tenn., brought his A game and a little luck too, making the No. 1 highlight for the Blue Raiders with his first hole

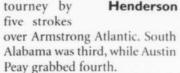
The former Montgomery Bell Academy standout worked with a 7-iron to launch the 165yard sinker off the par 3 second hole, recording the first hole-inone in the history of the Amoco Intercollegiate.

MT carded a 312 for the final round to tally a 54-hole total of 930 on Tuesday, the final day of the tourney. The annual event,

which boasted eighteen teams, was played at the par-72, 6,846yard Silver Lakes Golf Course on the Robert Trent Jones Gold

Trail in Oil Glencoe,

Ala. Jacksonville State played host and played well, carding a 293 in the final round to win the tourney by five strokes



Patrick Williams finished

strong for the Blue Raiders. The

senior tied for 30th overall with a 229 (78-75-76).

MT's Blake Bivens tied for 40th with a 232, and Charlie Gibson took home a 235 to tie

Next up for the Blue Raiders is Arkansas State.

The Indians have recently played mediocre golf as a team,

finishing 12th in the Chenal Trojan Cup on March 25.

T h e Tribe does have a solid team leader in Wixson Huffstetler, who fin-



Nelms

ished ninth individually at the Chenal Trojan Cup last week. Arkansas State plays next in the SMSU Invitational hosted by Southwest Missouri State, on April 6-8.

Middle Tennessee will travel to Jonesboro, Ark., to battle on the greens with the Indians on April 14. ◆

Humphrey: Event televised tonight at 9

Continued from 5

went to UNC on numerous occasions to watch Carter up close and personal. However, Humphrey doesn't copy anyone's style.

"I come up with a style of my own, but I take a little bit of his [Carter] dunks and a little bit of somebody else's dunks and put my own little flair to it," Humphrey said.

This is Humphrey's final event as a member of the Blue Raider basketball team.

"It's very important, one for me, depending on what I do next year, and two for MT. I mean we're coming up, and now it's another opportunity for everybody to see that MT does exist and does have talent," Humphrey said.

Humphrey is already making plans for his future in basket-

"I got a few camps to go to,

and hopefully I will be playing overseas next year," Humphrey

Humphrey is known for his leaping ability, which he improved since becoming a Blue Raider from drills he does in practice.

'Our strength coach, Cedric Walthaw, does a great job of working on the vertical leap. John probably came into MT with a 38 or 39-inch vertical; now it's at 41. They do a lot of leg circuits and box jumps equipment that isolate the individual calf muscle - and the entire lower body to help with the vertical leap," said MT volunteer assistant coach Marcus Mason.

Besides Humphrey, seven other top high-flyers in the nation will be a part of the competition. They include Kyle Dodd from Arizona State, Byron Parker from Tulane, Derrick Zimmerman from

Mississippi State, Devon Thompson from St. Peters in New Jersey, Ronald Dupree of Louisiana State University, Dahnte Jones from Duke and Willie Taylor from Virginia Commonwealth University.

What makes the dunk contests enjoyable and special to watch are tricks that the players come up with to increase their

An example is a dunk over a rack of balls at the foul line. However, Mason feels that Humphrey can use just his skills to get a high score.

'No, John doesn't need any tricks, just his natural athletic ability: a 41-inch vertical coupled with power and energy to get the job done on Thursday night," Mason said.

ESPN2 will televise the highflying action tonight at 9. The rebroadcast is at 2 p.m. Saturday on ESPN. •

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Sp@rts Briefs

From Associated Press Reports

Tar Heel basketball coach leaves after three-year run

CHAPEL HILL, N.C. (AP) -Matt Doherty bowed out as basketball coach at North Carolina, ending a bumpy three-year run marked by his failure to lead a storied program back to national prominence or even the NCAA tournament.

The Tar Heels failed to make the tournament in two of his three seasons. He leaves with three years left on a six-year contract that paid him \$855,000 a season.

Doherty's resignation came after athletic director Dick Baddour held a series of meetings with players and parents, some of whom complained about the coach's intense practices and drastic mood swings. Three players transferred last season and others talked about it this year.

In 2001, the Tar Heels went 26-7 and Doherty was The Associated Press' coach of the year but North Carolina slipped to 8-20 last season - the worst record in the program's history. This year, his young team finished 19-16.

Piazza's suspension changed from five games to four

NEW YORK (AP) - Mike Piazza's suspension for charging the mound in spring training was reduced to four games, and the New York Mets' All-Star catcher will start serving the penalty Wednesday.

The decision to shorten the ban by one game was made by Bob DuPuy, baseball's chief operating officer.

Bob Watson, baseball's vice president in charge of discipline, originally issued a fivegame suspension and \$3,000 fine after Piazza charged Los

Angeles reliever Guillermo Mota during an exhibition game March 12. Piazza, who had been hit by a fastball, later went into the Dodgers' club-

Anaheim Angels earn rings after 42-year delay

house looking for the pitcher.

ANAHEIM, Calif. (AP) -After 42 years, the Anaheim Angels finally put on World Series championship rings.

Baseball commissioner Bud Selig presented the rings, which feature a ruby-inlaid "A" with a halo around it, surrounded by diamonds. The sides of the large gold rings feature "Angels" and "1st Championship," with the player's name and 2002 on the other side. The rings have an appraised value of about \$15,000 each.

Jackie Autry, widow of longtime team owner Gene Autry, was among those receiving rings in the brief ceremony before the Angels' game against the Texas

Thrasher defensiveman suspended for misconduct

ATLANTA (AP) - Thrashers defenseman Chris Tamer was suspended indefinitely by the NHL for cross-checking Vladimir Orszagh of the Nashville Predators.

Tamer had a hearing in New York on Monday and missed that night's game against the Rangers. A ruling will be made before Wednesday's game at Buffalo.

Tamer drew a game misconduct Saturday for intent to injure in the second period of the Thrashers' 3-2 victory at Nashville. He hit Orszagh in apparent retaliation for a hit on Dany Heatley by Nashville's show at midnight EDT. Rem Murray.

Denver Broncos re-sign veteran quarterback

DENVER (AP) - Denver Broncos quarterback Steve Beuerlein will return for a 17th season.

Beuerlein said just three weeks ago he was leaning toward retirement after his third season with the Broncos but changed his mind after talking to coach Mike Shanahan.

Top-seeded Razzano goes down in first round

CASABLANCA, Morocco (AP) - Top-seeded Virginie Razzano of France was eliminated from the Grand Prix de SAR, losing 6-3, 6-0 in the first round to Rossana Neffa-de los Rios of Paraguay.

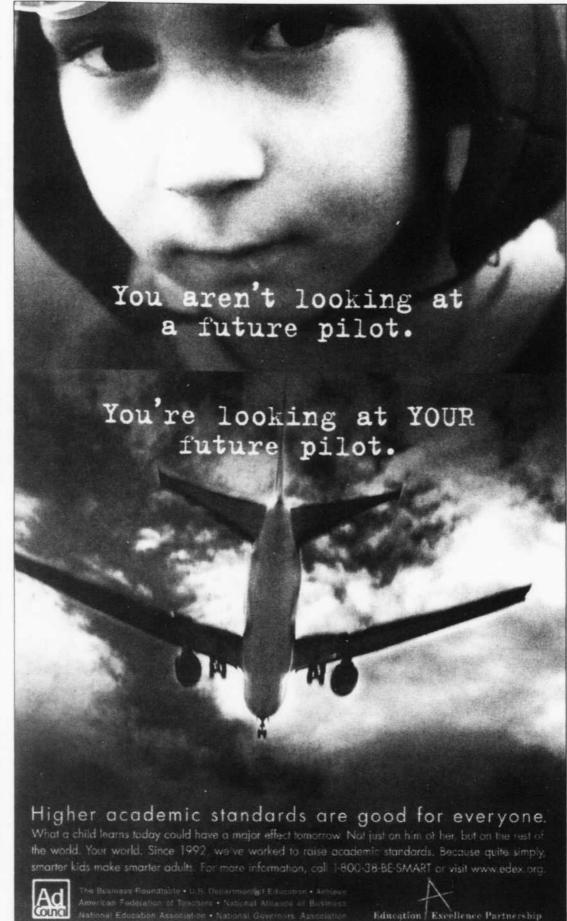
Neffa-de Los Rios will next meet Gala Leon Garcia, who defeated Martina Muller 6-1, 6-

Also, fifth-seeded Patricia Wartusch beat Mara Santangelo 6-4, 6-3; Lubomira Kurhajcova eighth-seeded downed Conchita Martinez Granados 6-2, 6-4; and Tatiana Poutchek eliminated Maria Emilia Salerni 6-1, 3-6, 7-5.

MLS agrees to four-year contract with Fox Sports

NEW YORK (AP) - Major Soccer League will increase its presence on cable and satellite television, agreeing to a fouryear contract with Fox Sports World and Fox Sports Espanol.

The deal will provide FOX Sports World with a minimum of 25 regular-season games on Saturday nights. There also will be a minimum of eight postseason games on the network, plus a weekly one-hour wrapup



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Sun Belt Conference News and Notes

Arkansas-Little Rock Trojans

UALR dropped two of three games at New Mexico State this weekend with both losses coming in the bottom of the ninth period. A Trojan grand slam broke a 3-3 tie in the top of the seventh to help UALR to an 8-3 win in Friday's opener. Wild series in Las Cruces between the Trojans and Aggies seem to be the norm. The Trojans scored 60 runs in a three-game sweep of NMSU the last time UALR traveled to Presley Askew Field in 2001, including rallying from a 21-12 deficit in the seventh inning for a 26-22 win in the series finale. The Trojans took the first two games of the series 20-7 and 14-8.

Brad Cherry picked up his team-leading fifth win of the season in the 8-3 victory over NMSU Friday. Cherry went 6.3 innings, giving up six hits, three earned runs, five walks and striking out 10 Aggie batters. Cherry increased his season strikeout total to a team-high 65, giving him 141 career strikeouts, moving him into fourth place on the UALR career strikeout list.

Travis Trammell picked up his sixth save of the season with 2.3 hitless innings while striking out four batters. The six saves moves him into fifth place on the UALR single-season save list and surpasses Brad Cherry's team leading five saves from last

Chris Julo went 7-16 (.437 BA) with a home run, 6 RBl, 3 runs scored and a double in four games last week. His home run Friday night gave him the team lead with five on the season.

New Mexico State Aggies

The Aggies won a pair of last at-bat decisions against Arkansas-Little Rock this weekend, including an impressive 9-

2003 Sun Belt Baseball Records

	Sun Belt				Overall				
	$\underline{\mathbf{W}}$	L	Pct.	Stk.	W	L	Pct.	Stk.	L10
Arkansas State	5	1	.833	L1	13	13	.500	L1	7-3
New Mexico State	4	2	.667	W2	25	7	.781	W2	8-2
Florida International	4	2	.667	W1	25	9	.735	W1	7-3
Western Kentucky	3	3	.500	L1	14	10	.583	L1	6-4
Louisiana-Lafayette	3	3	.500	W1	10	21	.323	W1	5-5
South Alabama	1	2	.333	W1	18	9	.667	W1	8-2
Arkansas-Little Rock	2	4	.333	L2	18	11	.621	L2	5-5
Middle Tennessee	2	4	.333	L1	11	14	.440	L1	5-5
New Orleans	0	3	.000	L3	15	12	.556	W1	4-6

8 win Sunday in which the Aggies rallied from 7-1 after two innings and 8-3 after six innings.

NMSU won its first two league series to open a season for the first time in school history. The Aggie bullpen was spectacular again, earning both victories over the weekend with a combined earned run average of 2.03.

Gavin Monjaras has been carrying a hot stick, hitting .583 over the weekend and batting .417 through six league games with two home runs, three doubles and seven RBI. His run scoring single, with the bases loaded and two outs, gave the Aggies a 5-4 win over the Trojans Saturday night.

The Aggies nearly won a pair of Sun Belt Conference series without the benefit of a home run. NMSU did not hit a home run in the series victory at Middle Tennessee and had not hit one against Arkansas-Little Rock until the seventh inning of

game three. Billy Becher's home run in the seventh inning broke a streak of 244 at bats without a home run.

The Aggies then proceeded to hit three over the final three innings to rally from an 8-3 deficit for a 9-8 victory.

Aggie catcher Beau Blacken picked a great time to break out of a recent slump. His two-run home run in the eighth tied Sunday's game at 8-8. It was his first hit of the series and broke an 0-for-15 slide.

Brad Ditter has a 10-game hitting streak, his second doubledigit hitting streak of the year. It is the Aggies' fourth doubledigit streak of the year. Ditter has the longest at 12 games while Alex Borgo (11) and Hal Bisnett (10) each had a double-digit streak. Ditter is batting .452 with 18 runs scored and 13 RBIs during the current streak.

Photo by Danny Grigsby | Staff Photographer Chuck Akers and the rest of the Blue Raiders play Florida International Friday at 7 p.m.

Bisons: Despite ankle injury, Jaggers plays

Continued from 5

runners at the corners.

Jeff Beachum then singled to drive in Archer and move Carroll to second. Shane Kemp followed by lacing a double down the left field line, scoring both runners to give MT the

The Blue Raiders added another run in the third inning ond baseman Nate Jaggers

tallied two runs in the fourth inning to slice the lead to 6-4.

MT answered with a run in the top half of the fifth frame to reach 7-4 on an RBI double by Carroll that scored Archer before the Bisons took control in the sixth.

Despite the disappointing loss, MT received a boost as sec-

to go up 6-2 before Lipscomb returned to the starting lineup after missing the last 14 games with an ankle injury.

Unfortunately, Jaggers was hitless in five plate appearances.

The Blue Raider baseball team is back in action this weekend against SBC foe Florida International. The three-game series begins tomorrow and will run through Sunday at Reese Smith Field. •

Blue Raiders: Team is 2-4 against SBC foes

Continued from 5

senior Chad Cooper has been productive as well, with a .347 average MT has four players batting .330 or better.

On the mound, MT hasn't been as consistent. Sophomore hurler Steve Kline has been the

high point with a 3-1 record and 4.70 ERA. Junior John Williams hasn't been able to get on track thus far in the season.

This season, MT has had some tough breaks, losing five games by one run. They are a base hit or two away from easily being 16-9 instead of 11-15.

The three-game series is set for April 4-6 in Murfreesboro at Reese Smith Field.

The action starts tomorrow at 7 p.m. Come out and support the Blue Raiders as they return home and try to get their season headed in the right direction.

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