



SIDELINES



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MIDDLE TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY

Murfreesboro, TN

Chris Haseleu named Recording Industry Chair

Shawn Whitsell
Staff Reporter

Chris Haseleu will lead the Recording Industry Management department for the 1999-2000 academic year, according to Deryl Leaming, dean of the College of Mass Communication.

Haseleu's job as chairman will consist of balancing a budget, overseeing a faculty of more than 20, making curriculum decisions, dealing with students and representing the department with the industry, as well as various other tasks. These tasks may seem a bit overwhelming to some but for Haseleu, it's the norm.

Haseleu was acting chairman for the 1998-99 academic year, which he called "a good learning experience," and has been with the department since 1978. In that time, he has aided in the growth and development of the department from 60 to more than 1400 majors, making MTSU's music business program the largest in the nation. It is also recognized as one of the top in the world.

"I wanted this job because I have a

more than 20-year investment in the program, and I want to make sure this investment continues to return for the faculty, the students and the alumni," Haseleu said. "Primarily the role is to provide a steady stream of well-educated, well-motivated, well-trained employees, but I think we should serve as a resource for the industry for public service, research and creative activity."

"I bring a lot of experience to the job, and the department is helping me realize some of my potential," he added.

Haseleu said he doesn't plan on making any major changes. He said he plans to do what he has to do to maintain the status the department has grown to. However, there are plans to develop a graduate program, which, according to Haseleu, will be ready in another year or so. Students will then be able to earn a master's degree in Fine Arts in the Recording Industry.

"My priorities are to maintain academic excellence, increase the visibility of the program in the

industry, get a graduate program going and maintain state-of-the-art facilities," he said.

Haseleu is a native of Burlingame, Calif., and holds a bachelor's degree from the University of the Pacific-Callison College and a master's degree in Broadcast Communication Arts from San Francisco State University. He holds membership in the National Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences, Audio Engineering Society, Society of Professional Audio Recording Services and the Music and Entertainment Industry Educators Association. He has served as the director of MTSU's Center for the Recording Arts and Sciences. He is also respected as an recording engineer. He worked as an engineer for Dean Hall's latest Nashville Music Awards' nominated album.

"After working with Chris Haseleu this year in his role as acting chair, recommending him for the regular position was an easy decision," said Leaming. "He possesses a lot of leadership ability and makes sound,

reasoned judgments. He works hard to stay abreast of the recording industry field. Another one of his strengths is the he is even-handed in dealing with faculty and students."

"Chris is a hard worker who, in my opinion, is the perfect person to chair the world's largest recording industry department. The department and its students will be the beneficiaries of his talented leadership. I am confident he will take it to a higher level," Leaming said. ■



Photo Provided

Mass Comm Reaccredited

Melanie McWhorter
Staff Reporter

The Accrediting Council on Education in Journalism and Mass Communication (ACEJMC) had voted to reaccredit the school of journalism, the department of radio/television and photography, and the graduate program.

According to Dr. Elliott Pood, assistant dean of the College of Mass Communication, "our Mass Comm program is one of about 100 hundred programs accredited nationally by ACEJMC." Pood says that this "puts us in an elite group."

This reaccreditation comes after the council sent an accreditation team to review these programs, and a year's worth of self-scrutinization by the College of Mass Communication. This scrutinization was intense, as the ACEJMC has high standards to meet, Pood said.

The ACEJMC is, according to its webpage, "dedicated to fostering and encouraging excellence and high standards in professional education in journalism and mass communications." The council also tries to recognize the diversity of each school's program and "encourages educational innovation by units as they strive to meet accreditation requirements and standards."

This marks the first time that MTSU has had full accreditation.

"Students can be assured that they are receiving some of the highest-quality education in the country," Pood said. ■

New changes to School Cafeterias

Melanie McWhorter
Staff Reporter

Eating on campus this summer may pose a few problems, but when students return this fall, all eating facilities will have something new to offer.

KUC's Grill will be renovated later this summer, taking about three weeks. The renovation is scheduled for mid-to late July but actual commencement depends on execution of the contracts, said Assistant Director of Dining Paul Stuart.

Once the Grill is renovated this summer, all cafeterias will have been renovated since 1992. Aside from the time it takes to renovate it, the KUC will be open Monday-Thursday from 7 a.m.-6 p.m., Friday from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Saturday and Sunday from 11:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Woodmore, which opened briefly at the end of spring semester, will be ready for fall with its coffee house/cybercafe atmosphere. A January opening had been anticipated but renovations took from August through April this year, due to an unexpected amount of work. Final touches are being added this summer, Stuart said.

"These buildings are so old, when you renovate, you don't know what you're going to run into, and it's hard to estimate how long the renovations will take," said Stuart. "Students seemed to like

Woodmore, judging by the fact that our sales increased every day," Stuart said.

Staff Photo by Josh Ezzell
The new name for Corlew Cafeteria is already on display.

Stuart said services at Woodmore were not advertised much because it wasn't complete at the time. But it will be in the fall. Woodmore will

have six televisions and computers for students to use.

The freshman meal plan has also been changed from the Sunday-night-until-Friday-lunch schedule. With the new plan, a student can get any 15 meals during the week, including the weekend, \$580 a semester. There will also be an optional freshman meal plan that will give students 10 meals in the dining halls weekly and carry a declining balance. This plan can be used anywhere on campus.

The Grill, JUB and Woodmore cafeterias will open for the fall Aug. 23 at 7 AM. McCallie dining hall (formerly Corlew) will reopen at 4:30 p.m. Aug. 20, the same day that the dorms open. ■

Scarlett Commons apartment complex opens this fall

Melanie McWhorter
Staff Reporter

Students residing on campus this fall will have the opportunity to enjoy a new living experience with the opening of the 104-unit Scarlett Commons apartment complex.

The new complex will house 416 students in eight three-story units and one two-story unit.

"We're really excited about opening these new apartments," said Dr. Debra Sells, director of director of Housing and Residential Life.

This complex will be the first new housing on campus since the Ezell-Abernathy apartment complex opened in 1972, Sells added.

These new apartments will each have four private bedrooms, a kitchen,

living room and two baths. Each bedroom will have its own lock and key system for security. Each bedroom has a data line, so that the students may hook up to the internet without using the phone line. Each bedroom will also have its own private phone line that the student may activate at an additional cost.

The main living area has a bay window and a full-sized kitchen. A main phone line in the living room is automatically activated and included in the apartment rent. The kitchens include a stove, a refrigerator, and a microwave. These apartments will also be furnished with beds, desks and desk chairs, dressers, living room couch and chair, end table, and dining room table and chairs.

The Scarlett Commons apartments

will consist of nine separate buildings around a central clubhouse. The clubhouse will have a 24-hour service desk, staff offices, meeting rooms, laundry facilities, and a lounge that includes a fireplace and a television.

Utilities provided to each apartment (included in apartment rent) will include electricity, heating and cooling, basic cable, and one phone line.

These apartments will have reserved parking for residents, and the Raider Express will stop at the apartments to pick up students for classes.

Scarlett Commons residents will pay \$2100 per semester to reside there, and students who wish to live there in the summer will pay \$299 for the summer term. Some students who

choose to extend their housing agreement to a twelve-month plan will pay about \$375 a month.

According to Debra Sells, these rates are "comparable" with the rates of local apartments, and "they offer the flexibility of being able to choose a nine-month lease or a twelve-month lease."

This project has cost the school about \$12 million. These apartments should be completed by the end of July, but students will not move in until the fall semester.

To apply for Scarlett Commons Housing, contact Housing and Residential Life in the Keathley University Center, Room 300, or call 898-2971. Sells said the complex is almost filled to capacity, so those interested should not wait to inquire. ■

Ivy League versus State

Bonnie Miller Rubin
Knight-Ridder Tribune

At first, Yaniv Dolgin, a senior at New Trier High School in Winnetka, kept his post-graduation plans to himself. When you attend what is perceived to be the crown jewel in the North Shore's string of top-notch high schools, community college isn't part of the vocabulary.

"At a place like this, where it seems like everyone is talking about the Ivy League and Stanford and Northwestern, it's easy to feel like a failure," he said.

But when he discovered that his school of choice, Oakton Community College, ranked as the eighth most popular destination for his fellow

classmates—just behind Northwestern and tied with Purdue—he started to relax.

"I still think it's good to go to a prestigious school, but it's not bad to

go somewhere else," Dolgin said. "The message doesn't always come across that there are lots of options out there... and that everyone has his own route in life."

That path was always assumed to cut through an elite academic

institution—especially in those upscale suburbs, where homeowners are willing to bankrupt themselves to get into a particular school district and real estate agents spout the number of Ivy-bound graduates along with property taxes and resale value.

Yet with admissions becoming increasingly unpredictable as colleges seek a more diverse enrollment, even the most vaunted high schools no longer have a lock on the brand-name colleges. "It's really a crapshoot," said Jim Conroy, chairman of New Trier's post-high school counseling program. "Nothing is a sure thing anymore."

To that, add soaring costs weighed against public universities and community colleges that are viewed as a good value, and the days when it is assumed that the cream of the crop will automatically head East to school are over, said Sue Biemert, coordinator of college counseling at Stevenson High School in Lincolnshire.

In fact, at Stevenson, where 97 percent of 805 seniors will continue their studies after graduation, the College of Lake County is the fifth most popular destination.

"It's a trend we will see continue," Biemert said. "Our stats tell us that most of these kids do very well, but they aren't the kids we focus on. There's a perception out there that if you don't go to Harvard or Yale, you won't be successful—and it's just flat-out wrong."

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WEATHER FORECAST



WEDNESDAY
PARTLY
SUNNYHOT
AND MUGGY

HIGH 93, LOW 71



THURSDAY
PARTLY
SUNNY

HIGH 89, LOW 69



FRIDAY
PARTLY
SUNNY
T-STORMS
POSSIBLE

Kansas City church sponsors gay prom

Ruth E. Igoe
Knight-Ridder Newspapers

KANSAS CITY, Mo. - There was a balloon-decorated dance hall, glittering tablecloths and even a theme: "Studio 54 Forever." Just like any other prom.

Except some women swept tuxes. One man with upswept auburn tresses wore a ladies pantsuit. Guys asked guys, and women invited women.

Saturday night's prom at midtown's Metropolitan Community Church was the first gay prom in the Kansas City area, organizers said. From 50 to 100 youths were expected to attend. About 40 had arrived by 8:30 p.m.

The event was organized by Passages, a social and support group for gays, lesbians and other youths between the ages of 14 and 21.

"We wanted an event where the atmosphere is very affirming, not that thin gruel of tolerance," said Bruce Hall, a Passages board member. A gay prom, he said, allows youths to experience "the same opportunities and the same traditions" as their peers

without fear of insults or physical attacks.

"I think it's very cool being here," said Donald Eliason, 20, who arrived in tails and tie with his mother on his arm. "It's going to be neat to see the youth coming here and experiencing what they couldn't experience in high school."

His mother, Teri Burgess, who flew in from Chicago and donned sequins for the evening, said: "I'm so proud of them doing it. It's long overdue."

Gay youths need occasions to feel positive about themselves, said Kansas City psychologist and Passages board member David Donovan. They face crises from taunts in school to evictions from their homes, he said. One study found that gay youths were more than five times more likely than peers to be targets of school violence or harassment. Another survey found that gay and bisexual male teens were seven times more likely to attempt suicide.

Many Passages youths said they were afraid to bring a same-sex date to their prom. Others were barred entry. Saturday night was their time to celebrate.

Gay proms are traditions in several cities, including Des Moines, Iowa; Springfield, Mo.; and Los Angeles.

Passages members say more youths are confronting their sexuality in an era with gay politicians and out-of-the-closet sitcom characters. Passages started in 1990 with about seven teens and has since grown to 50 who attend Sunday meetings.

Gay youths still face challenges in school, notably during prom season. Many local school districts do not have policies restricting prom or dress.

Some public schools, such as those in St. Joseph, do have such rules. That angers civil rights advocates.

First Amendment rights of free expression allow all public school students to attend their proms with a date they chose and a manner of dress in keeping with their sexual orientation, said Dick Kurtenbach, the executive director of the American Civil Liberties Union of Kansas and Western Missouri.

Excuses that gay couples will disrupt a prom, he noted, "could have applied not so

long ago for an interracial couple who attended."

But in Gallatin, Mo., one student's planned prom dress became a problem.

Before his senior year, B.J. DeWeese told family and friends that he was gay. In the Daviess County town, DeWeese became a familiar sight wearing high-heeled shoes, "skorts" and makeup.

As the prom approached, DeWeese was summoned to school offices.

There, school officials asked him if he was planning to wear a dress to prom. He was. If he arrived like that, they told him, he would be turned away.

"It was scary," said DeWeese, 19. "All by myself, defending myself. Not knowing any school policies."

Tom Mickes, Gallatin High School's attorney, said the school was within its rights. He said the Supreme Court had allowed public school officials to restrict students' dress and activities.

"Sometimes, students get confused about what their constitutional rights are. Their constitutional rights are to go to school. Not to be third trumpet in

the band. Not to be starting quarterback. Not to go to the prom," Mickes said. "Those are privileges."

DeWeese skipped his prom but arrived in a black pant suit and upswept hair Saturday.

"I feel so pretty," he said while greeting friends at the door.

Laws vary for private schools, but gay students there also feel excluded. Last year at Bishop Miege, a Johnson County Catholic school, senior Dan Melton told people he was gay. Little changed until prom season; Melton wanted to take his boyfriend.

Principal Stan Herbic consulted the archdiocese and prepared a news release:

"Homosexual young people have our love and support; however, permitting same-sex dating at our school events is inconsistent with church beliefs." Melton did not go to his senior prom.

"It was like I was going to ruin the prom. It makes you feel: Gee, am I wanted here?" said Melton, an incoming sophomore at Kansas State University.

"The door seemed to close because I was gay." ■

Mental Health Forum Provides Platform

Mike Dorning
Knight-Ridder Newspaper

WASHINGTON — The first White House Conference on Mental Health on Monday, which showcased first lady-in-training Tipper Gore, might almost have been a daytime talk show, a cross between "Oprah" and CNN's "Talkback Live."

The Gores and the Clintons sat in chairs on stage, sipping water from coffee cups and listening sympathetically as guests recounted their personal struggles with depression and other forms of mental illness. The surgeon general joined on-screen from Atlanta. A camera boom swirled above for the overhead video.

And at the center of it all was Tipper Gore, cast as the empathetic host: smiling, gesturing, balancing a clipboard on her knee like a seasoned professional and enthusiastically affirming the stories of the guests before the overhead video.

"Twenty calories," Mrs. Gore gasped, as a recovering anorexic teen-age girl told her how low she previously had limited her daily food intake. After veteran television journalist Mike Wallace described his bout with clinical depression, Mrs. Gore reached over to his arm and said: "It's particularly important because you're a man ... and came forward."

With the president, vice president and no fewer than five Cabinet secretaries present to underscore the importance of the moment, the mental health conference provided a significant forum for Mrs. Gore in a weeks-old campaign to build a higher-profile public image.

She did so Monday by providing an implicit contrast with the policy debut of First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton, also seated on stage. Instead of the grandly designed national health insurance system Mrs. Clinton once sought, Mrs. Gore is associating herself with a series of small-bore policy initiatives such as the "anti-stigma" campaign on mental health issues.

At the same time, Monday's event demonstrated the symbiotic relationship that the overwhealing power of public perceptions can foster between the agenda of an interest group and the strategy of a presidential campaign as each seeks to further its cause.

Several mental health professionals who attended said the attention Mrs. Gore can be expected to focus on mental health should have a more momentous impact on the field than the specific Clinton administration policy initiatives under discussion.

In a series of recent media interviews arranged as the Gore presidential campaign has sought to build public familiarity with her, Mrs. Gore has been speaking of her own experiences with depression and the resulting treatment. She did so again at the conference.

"I want people that are in the sound of my voice who perhaps are suffering with this or any other mental illness to know that there is the right diagnosis and the right treatment and the right health-care professional out there for you," she said.

The Clinton administration used the conference to announce a

MENTAL HEALTH
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Kosovo bombing escalates and talks continue to falter

David Lagesse
Knight-Ridder Newspapers

WASHINGTON - The world's key foreign ministers failed on Monday to overcome new obstacles to peace in Yugoslavia as NATO sharply escalated its bombing of military targets.

Meeting in Germany, the G-8 industrialized nations encountered Russian resistance to a proposed U.N. resolution to authorize a 50,000-member NATO peacekeeping force.

The peacekeeping force, which will enter Kosovo after the war, itself remained in doubt after the collapse Sunday of talks with Yugoslavia on withdrawing its troops.

Russian concerns about NATO's plans also helped undermine weekend negotiations between NATO and Serbian military leaders, according to news reports in Moscow. And the failure of those talks dashed hopes of an immediate withdrawal of Serbian troops, an expectation raised by the endorsement of the a peace plan last week by Yugoslav President

Slobodan Milosevic and his parliament.

NATO leaders say their plan would return peace to the Yugoslav province, where fierce fighting continued between the country's Serbian forces and the Kosovo Liberation Army. Serbian attacks have forced more than 850,000 ethnic Albanians to flee to neighboring countries.

Milosevic on Monday again told Finnish President Martti Ahtisaari, who helped broker the peace deal, that he would honor the agreement.

But it was Milosevic alone who was responsible for the breakup of the weekend military talks in Macedonia, NATO officials said.

"Although Milosevic has been defeated, he is going to use every trick in the book to escape the consequences," British Defense Secretary George Robertson said in London.

NATO spokesman Jamie Shea rejected reports, including those in Moscow, that a Russian official helped sink the talks on Sunday.

"There was a Russian participant as an observer, but no

more than as an observer in those talks," Shea said.

NATO responded Monday to the impasse with renewed vigor in its military strikes, which had ebbed over the weekend as a withdrawal agreement appeared imminent.

"We're going to keep up significant military pressure on Milosevic so that he has a chance to rethink again the strategy of not following through on what he has agreed," Shea said.

NATO officials said the air war was fast approaching its peak levels again.

The alliance launched 93 strike sorties on Sunday and planned to double or triple that on Monday, Pentagon spokesman Kenneth Bacon said.

"You'll see an intensification of the campaign today, tomorrow and in the future," he vowed.

Bacon would not say if the alliance planned to expand its bombing from Kosovo into Serbia, which was largely spared over the military meetings continued over the weekend.

NATO military leaders said targeting Serbian infrastructure in civilian areas might resume if the

Serbs did not quickly begin their withdrawal from Kosovo.

The Serbian parliament on Thursday approved a two-page proposal presented by Ahtisaari and Russian envoy Viktor Chernomyrdin. But Serbian generals objected to the details in a six-page withdrawal plan presented by NATO during the weekend talks.

Serbian officials were reported to have objected to limits on their forces in Kosovo as well as having to remove them within seven days. The Serbs also insisted that any peacekeeping force operate with the approval of the U.N. Security Council.

Russia also objects to NATO taking the lead in the peacekeeping force as well as the continued NATO bombing. Those were among the issues that led to Monday's suspension of the meeting of G-8 foreign ministers, attended by Secretary of State Madeleine Albright. Russia is the eighth member of the group that includes the world's seven leading industrialized nations.

U.S. officials also discounted any early halt in bombing. The

airstrikes will continue until there is clear proof that the Serbian withdrawal from Kosovo has started, White House spokesman Joe Lockhart said.

"That's what our bottom line is," he said.

Lockhart said President Clinton spoke Monday with Russian President Boris Yeltsin and received assurances that any differences would be quickly resolved. As members of the U.N. Security Council, both Russia and China hold a veto over the proposed resolution.

"We don't believe that China would block a U.N. resolution that implemented a peace agreement mandating the Serbs leave and the refugees return home," Lockhart said.

A final agreement, however, appears inevitable, another NATO leader said Monday.

"I don't think it is going to break down," said Hungarian President Arpad Goncz. "The process has gone too far ahead." ■

Feed the Children

David Frey
Associated Press Writer

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP) - The relief agency Feed The Children will install a donated video surveillance system in an effort to prevent future employee theft at its Nashville warehouse. The charity may also install a similar system at its Oklahoma City plant.

Feed The Children temporarily closed the 274,000-square-foot Nashville warehouse and fired all 14 Nashville employees a week ago after Tennessee Bureau of Investigation agents found boxloads of donations in the homes of several upper-level employees. The warehouse is closed while Feed the Children takes an inventory of how much is missing.

The nearly \$20,000 system will include a dozen palm-sized cameras, a monitor and a time-lapse recorder. One camera will monitor the inside of the front exit.

The rest will watch the warehouse perimeter.

The system could be monitored from Feed The Children's Oklahoma City headquarters, said spokeswoman Emilee Truelove, but she said there were no plans to do that yet.

"Up to this point it was like considering putting a camera in a church," she said Tuesday.

"We've just had a level of trust that's no longer there."

The security system is being donated by Nashville alarm company Creative Alarm Systems whose employees heard about the thefts. Company president Tom Burnside said employees planned to donate about half the time needed to install the system by the end of June. Feed The Children will pay none of the costs.

"We felt like we needed to do something on a community effort to try to help them any way we could," Burnside said.

The seizures followed a four-

month investigation by Nashville television station WTVF, which secretly videotaped the administrative staff carting boxes of goods into their cars and homes.

Truelove said Feed The Children also planned to increase security at its Oklahoma warehouse, although she said the charity knew of no thefts there.

"Security cameras are just a reality today," Truelove said. "It's just a sign of the times that we're having to deal with them now ourselves."

She said agency founder and president Larry Jones was meeting with security consultants on other security measures, but would not say what they might be, citing security concerns.

Truelove said she did not know when the Nashville warehouse might reopen. She said the agency was working with FBI investigators and was not yet revealing how much had been stolen. ■

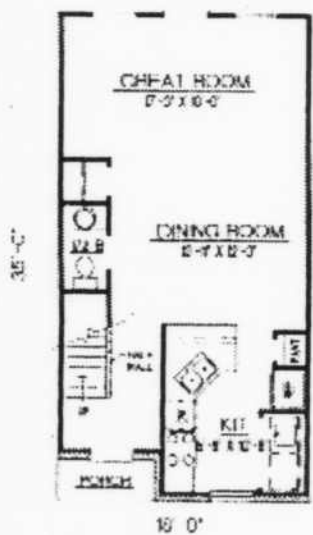
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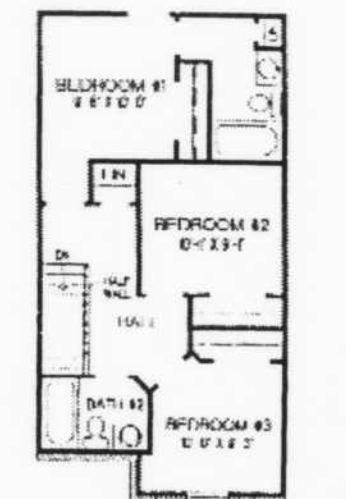
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MENTAL HEALTH
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series of policy initiatives, most notably a directive requiring all private health plans for federal workers to provide coverage of mental illness and substance abuse at "parity" with coverage for other ailments.

President Clinton described parity as equal co-payments for mental health services, as well as equal access to providers, equal

outpatient services and equal coverage of psychiatric medications. White House spokesman Barry Toiv said "every one of" the 285 federal health plans will need "to make some change."

The administration also announced a \$7.3 million study by the National Institutes of Health to guide policy on mental health and a privately assisted national training program to help teachers identify and treat troubled children. An "anti-stigma" campaign to change attitudes toward mental illness was

announced in advance.

"In the larger scheme of things, the kinds of dollars they are talking about here are not as big as they could be or should be in an ideal world. But what they are doing in a very tangible way is shining a spotlight on mental health issues," said Jeffrey Lichtman, a psychologist and director of the National Jewish Council for the Disabled.

In fact, the conference demonstrated how much people afflicted with mental illnesses have benefited from progress in public

understanding, as well as advances in treatment.

"Sitting on stage with Mrs. Clinton is a young man with schizophrenia, totally aware and cognizant of his surroundings," said Kevin Dwyer, president-elect of the National Association of School Psychologists.

"When I started at St. Elizabeth's Hospital 37 years ago, that would have been impossible. These people would not be let out on the streets," Dwyer said. ■

Hastert warns GOP colleagues to unite

Alan Fram
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) - House Speaker Dennis Hastert shed his reactive leadership style Tuesday and told fractious Republicans to stop blocking votes on crucial bills or risk losing control of the chamber in next year's elections.

In the sixth month of a speakership that has seen the House GOP legislative agenda slow to a crawl, Hastert delivered a stern, 17-minute lecture to his colleagues behind closed doors. And for one of the first times, the former college wrestling coach whose trademark has been an ability to listen was the one demanding to be heard - and followed.

"My friends, you cannot be happy all the time," said Hastert, R-Ill., according to excerpts distributed by aides. "Some days you have to give your leadership the benefit of the doubt and just follow. That is the difference between a majority mentality and a minority mentality."

Facing his most immediate problem, Hastert ordered the House Appropriations Committee to make only relatively small cuts in the first group of spending bills for the coming fiscal year. A \$270 billion measure financing the Pentagon was expected to be exempted because of the GOP's strong pro-defense stance.

Conservatives had bogged down debate on the spending bills before Congress' Memorial Day holiday break because they felt the measures were too expensive.

The first cuts were likely to come from a \$61 billion measure financing farm, food and drug programs, which the House was debating. Conservatives who had been delaying the bill halted their tactics as they embraced Hastert's planned cuts.

None of the 13 bills for fiscal 2000, which begins Oct. 1, have yet passed the House. The reductions were aimed at finally getting those measures moving, and freeing funds that can be added to later spending bills to enhance their chances of passage.

Hastert's larger concern was the November 2000 elections and worries that GOP infighting over spending, taxes, and other issues are undermining their chances of retaining House control. Those internal differences are magnified by the GOP's thin majority, in which defections by just six Republicans can defeat a GOP initiative.

"I need you to stand together," said Hastert. "To move forward together. To not just cry out for leadership, but be willing to follow it."

Hastert, a 13-year House veteran, delivered his remarks in the same Capitol basement meeting room in which he was hastily selected to be speaker last December. That came after the speaker designate, former Rep. Bob Livingston, R-La., resigned from Congress after admitting to extramarital affairs.

Praise for Hastert's remarks came from both conservative and moderate Republicans, some of whom contrasted them with the more fiery style of his predecessor, former Speaker Newt Gingrich, R-Ga.

"He just appealed to everybody to be part of the team," said conservative Rep. Joe Scarborough, R-Fla. "We weren't called stupid once. ... Nobody was taken to task for questioning the genius of the Republican leadership."

Even so, few thought Hastert's words would solve the GOP's legislative problems, especially on spending bills.

By honoring spending caps and delivering a promised \$19 billion increase for defense, domestic spending bills would be more than \$30 billion short of what Clinton wants to spend.

Even with the extra \$7 billion Republicans hope to find from trimming some bills and selling part of the broadcast spectrum, at least three bills covering health, veterans, commerce and other programs are likely to fall well short of what Clinton will demand. That is likely to lead to negotiations with Clinton this fall. ■

Virtual Libraries could be our future

Katherine Roth
Associated Press Writer

N E W
YORK (AP)

The domed conference room was filled with the world's foremost librarians, their voices hushed with the urgency of the difficulties they face.

It's a global problem - touching on saving the record of civilization itself - and no clear answers are in sight.

Often more comfortable quoting 17th century authors than surfing the Internet, representatives from more than 35 libraries gathered to discuss how their institutions can keep up with an increasingly digital world.

"There's a lot of pressure," said Wim van Drimmelen, head of the Koninklijke Bibliotheek in the Netherlands, that country's national library. "The students of today hardly know there are books. If they have to write an essay, they start surfing the Net."

Only a fraction of libraries have full-fledged plans for archiving digital material. And while businesses increase the amount of digital information, libraries - and frazzled librarians - are left trying to figure out how to handle it all.

"It's not unlike the field of chemistry just after the discovery of the molecule," said Richard Ekman, secretary of the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation and keynote speaker at last week's Virtual Libraries summit at the New York Public Library.

"The characteristics of digital data are still not very well understood, and they're still changing. It may simply be too early to find

answers," Ekman said.

Ariane Iljon, a specialist in information technologies with the European Commission in Luxembourg, put it another way: "The basic definitions we're dealing with," she said, "have become vague."

In a global environment, collections are scattered in numerous museums, archives and libraries. The technological age is proving too costly and fast moving for libraries to easily decide which hardware and software to buy.

"It's certain that the future of libraries lies in part in the digitized library," said Jean-Pierre Angremy, president of the Bibliotheque Nationale de France. "But you cannot afford to digitize everything. We don't have the time or money."

While the Dewey Decimal System and the proper temperature for storing fragile documents are well known, it's still unclear what software will be compatible with computers in future decades - or centuries. And it's unclear, too, how to best store electronic data to avoid losing it.

"If you take a piece of paper, it lasts 500 years. If you take a CD-ROM, it lasts 10 years. It's frightening," Angremy said. "There's a new type of CD-ROM, which might possibly last 100 years, but it's very, very expensive."

New York Public Library President Paul LeClerc warned that, unless someone keeps pace, parts of contemporary civilization might be lost to future generations.

"If a historian in the year 2090 wants to retrieve information about this culture, this moment in history, the books just won't have it all," he said. "We're used to preserving books, but whose responsibility is it to preserve all this digital material?"

Many libraries have their own projects under way. In France, the national library has digitized about 80,000 books at a cost of about \$20 million, Angremy said. One purpose of the librarians' conference, he added, was to avoid overlaps in saving the past's treasures.

"We are currently digitizing all the books from the 16th to the 19th century on travel in France and Africa," he said. "The Library of Congress is digitizing books on travel in America, and the Germans are digitizing a lot of travel books from around Europe." As a result, he said, "there is a kind of universal virtual library on travel which is being constructed."

Whatever the landscape of the libraries of the future, their holdings may well be more digital than in book form.

"I'm convinced that the library down the road won't exist in the sense that it does today," Angremy said. "Digitized books won't exist there. They will be in your home, on the Internet."

Yet the traditional library, with its reverent quiet and book-lined shelves, will likely remain.

"You may not need to go there often, and you will do most of your research at home," he said. "But there is always a point where you need to have the original." ■

Safety board complains about using vans instead of school buses for our children's safety

WASHINGTON (AP) - School districts might save money using vans instead of school buses to transport students, but it's "an economical advantage purchased at the safety of children," the head of a federal safety panel said Tuesday.

Wrapping up a special investigation into four crashes involving "nonconforming buses," Jim Hall, chairman of the National Transportation Safety Board, said the standard yellow bus provides better crash protection than vans and should be the only type of vehicle used to take students to school and school-related activities.

The crashes that were the subject of the investigation occurred in 1998 and earlier this year in Sweetwater, Fla., Lenoir City, Tenn., East Dublin, Ga., and Bennettsville, S.C. They killed nine people, including eight students.

Investigators said the

vehicle damage would have been less and the injuries not as severe had the accidents involved school buses, not a van or a "specialty bus" - a slightly larger vehicle akin to an airport rental car shuttle.

School buses, unlike standard passenger vans, have special rollover protections and encase their occupants in a cocoon of padded seats and seatbacks. They also have welds designed to keep them from splitting open on impact.

In addition, school buses are painted an eye-catching yellow and equipped with emergency exits, special warning lights and movable arms that block students from walking directly in front of them. Many of the protections date from a 1977 change in federal law, which was prompted by earlier recommendations from the safety board.

A "nonconforming bus" is any vehicle that can carry 10 or more people and is used to take

students to school or school-related activities, yet does not meet federal school bus standards.

Federal law prohibits car dealers from selling vehicles that do not meet federal school bus regulations to schools that plan to use them to transport children.

However, many states have exemptions in their school bus laws for after-school, day care or church programs. Even the federal government has lagged in developing rules for transporting children involved in such things as Head Start, the early-childhood education program.

The worst accident examined by the safety board occurred on Feb. 16 in Bennettsville, S.C. Six children were killed - including three who were thrown outside the vehicle - when the 15-passenger van they were riding in was struck by a tow truck.

On March 26, 1998, a 25-passenger specialty bus taking students home after an academic

competition was rammed by a tractor-trailer in Lenoir City, Tenn., when the van's driver attempted a U-turn on a highway. A teacher and a student were killed. ■

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WEDNESDAY, JUNE 9, 1999

OPINIONS

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

—Thomas Jefferson
Murfreesboro, TN

4 ■ SIDELINES

Editorial

Students keep your focus

Tired of summer school already? Wish you had gone home for the summer? Missing mother's cooking? Feeling overwhelmed?

If you answered yes to any of these questions, then you are reading the right editorial.

Summer school can be a real drag. We're sure some of you have come to that realization by now. Most of us have to go to the same 'ol two- and three-hour classes from Monday through Thursday (some even go on Friday) looking at the same professors, the same students, and the same textbooks. This can get very boring, especially if the class is of no interest to you. Not to mention the fact that professors give so much homework due to the shortness of the session.

Some of you are probably already in procrastination mode. If so, you better jump out of it soon or else you'll be sorry at the end of the session. Summer school moves so rapidly that there is hardly any room for error so we have to warn you while there is still time. Some of you will even try to somehow blame your professor for your short comings. Don't deny it, because we've all been in this predicament.

Others of you probably just want to give up, huh? Well, we are here to tell you that you can't.

First of all, keep your eye on your ultimate goal, to graduate. If that's not motivation enough, we don't know what is. Secondly, remember those little things like academic and financial aid suspension. Scary thought, huh? Those are paths that none of us want to travel. Lastly, just remember that it'll all be over soon. We only have about three more weeks before the second session is over and many of you will be home to meet your old high school buddies for the summer.

For those of you who are enrolled in another session of classes, at least you get to see a new set of professors, fellow students and textbooks. Before you know it, it'll be time for fall and you'll be able to get back two those 50 minute classes that most of you miss so much.

For those of you who are not even close to procrastination, keep on doing with your doing and stay focused. Save this editorial though because you'll never know just when you might have to read it again. ■

Suicide not a moral right

Kevin Neal Fisher
Guest Column

I was sitting in a meeting the other day when we received the tragic news: one of our fellow MTSU students committed suicide. At first response, I was completely dumbfounded: my own mother killed herself last summer and quite honestly, I haven't come to grips with "it" just yet. Were there warning signs? I'm sure there were (there always is). We just didn't catch them. Rational people don't just up and kill themselves, right?

Do we as human beings (the only living beings on this planet with this capacity) have the moral right to terminate our own lives?

Theologians, scholars and now legislators have been debating this for some time, with mixed conclusions. First, we have doctors like Jack Kevorkian who think euthanasia should be legal so that people with debilitating conditions and a fatal prognosis, but still mentally coherent and competent, could make their choice before their suffering becomes too intense, their pain too severe, whether or not to continue. Imagine: who would want to continue living knowing each day will bring a new level of suffering? Each morning waking up with one less freedom—losses of bowel control, muscle control, losses of the five basic senses (sight, hearing, touch, smell, taste). What if the long-term predicts seizures, convulsions, etc. Who among us could make a decision to continue life's journey, knowing how much suffering would be involved? Think about it.

Having considered this, now let's look at suicide from another angle. What if the pain is psychological, not physical? Persons who have suffered through divorce (myself included), homelessness, living in poverty, would surely tell you their anguish is no less severe than someone with a terminal illness. Ask someone withdrawing from drug abuse, or alcoholism about the intensity of their pain. We encourage people to "suck it up", "get over with it" yet at budget time, our legislators attack social programs like rabid dogs on fresh meat. Why?

Because, my friends, we are uncomfortable dealing with the whole specter of human

suffering. So long as it's not us or our loved ones who are suffering, we have no problem coping with any of this. We let this go on.

Suicide should never be an option in our society. There are always solutions, many times not easy or even seemingly viable ones, but how would you know if you not alive to try them? There are counselors here on campus and in Rutherford County who would love to be of assistance any time, day or night. We even have entire departments dedicated to alleviating and studying better ways to ease human suffering. But, all the support networks in the world won't do a bit of good unless you the reader make the first step.

Simply walking by, picking up the phone or in some way, "reaching out" can save a life, whether it's yours or someone else's. It's definitely worth the effort!!

If when all else fails, there is still one more option left. There is a counselor who will listen to your concerns, problems any time, day or night. You don't have to visit him. You won't have to even call him. You never have to even say a word to him, cause he already knows your hurt and anguish. And, my friends, he will stick by your side, no matter how bleak things may get.

This counselor is named Jesus Christ. You could say he is the most famous person in history to lay down his own life. How can I say this? Because Jesus had the power, if he chose to, to stop his crucifixion. As the crowds stood by, jeering for him to step down from the cross, he could've done so (and I would've loved to see the expressions on their faces). Why didn't he? That wasn't his plan for us. Jesus went to his death to pay an exorbitant price so we wouldn't have to. God blessed man with the most precious gift in the world—the gift of life.

Man threw it away.

Jesus returned this gift to us once again. Does it make sense for us to throw it away again?

Regardless of your religious beliefs, understand this: There is help available. No problem in this world is worth ignoring. Anything can be dealt with. However, the first step is entirely yours. ■

We are uncomfortable dealing with the whole specter of human suffering. So long as it's not us or our loved ones who are suffering, we have no problem coping with any of this. We let this go on.



Violence, depression nothing new in kids

Kendra Davitt
Ohio State University

A huge article on depression fills the pages of Time magazine mere weeks after the Columbine tragedy. It warns parents of the danger of troubled teens and the havoc they will wreak if left untreated. Symptoms such as promiscuity, obsession with appearances, drug and alcohol use are highlighted as warning signs. God, if that's true, everyone from my high school should be medicated — hell, everyone here should be medicated.

It's pretty pathetic that society in general and especially the media are pretending like this is some bizarre and new theme in human existence. I mean, has anyone ever seen "West Side Story"? The story of kids killing kids is far older than I am. Sure, the motives are different, but is violence and hatred anything new? I'm sure if the Jets had access to semiautomatic weapons and the Internet to fuel their hate, they'd have figured out a much better way to rid their world of the Shaks.

Romeo and Juliet: Now there's a new story for you. Violence between families, hatred for those different — this stuff is nothing new, it's just that we as young Americans in the 1990s, have the world at our fingertips.

The technology that brings us to the world is also creating a greater apathy about it.

Now that parents have video games and TV to raise their kids, it gives them more time to themselves and the children grow up without parental guidance or values. I mean, how realistic is "Beverly Hills 90210" or "Dawson's Creek"? If that's what my life is supposed to be like, I should have thrown in the towel long ago.

But of course, it's not parents' fault, society's fault or even the media. Once again, it is the fault of children. I mean, why should that be anything new? Kids are screwed up and it's all our fault. Why? Because we suffer from depression.

It's not the high school principals who reward athletics over academics. It's not the parents who leave their children to be baby-sat by television. It's not the media, who never, ever show positive stories in the news. It's kids. It's depression.

Yup, according to Time, we're the saddest bunch of kids ever. Some five percent of us suffer from clinical depression. Hurry up — hand out the happy pills. Give them to every Tom, Dick and Harry who's ever been sad. That's wrong, flat-out wrong.

Depression is a serious thing. When somebody seriously suffers from depression, they can't deal with daily life. They can't get out of bed, they can't eat and they don't care. I'm not saying that depression had nothing to do with the recent school tragedies; it does. These kids are sad. These kids need help, but dosing them up with medication and sending them on their way isn't helping. It's nice to displace the blame and to shift it from yourself. It eases the guilt over your own inappropriate — or perhaps a better word is ignorant — behavior.

It's easy to question why these kids shot up the school if they come from a nice neighborhood and their parents have money. But you know, money is not equal to love. You could buy a kid every physical amenity he or she could ever need — toys, clothes, vacations, education, cars, jewelry, computers, high tech equipment — but it doesn't matter. If you don't love your kid, if you don't prove that you love your kid, all the money in the world won't buy their happiness.

These kids, sent out into the harsh world, aren't going to feel any better there. Kids are mean. Everyone remembers grade school, when having glasses, or freckles, or hair, or the voice, or the something, the anything, made them vulnerable for daily attacks. People rarely think for themselves and schools are a breeding ground for this kind of travesty. Human beings want love, they want to feel protected and cared for. Nobody wants to go against the grain of the mainstream in school, but somebody has to. Somebody has to be the butt of the jokes, the outcast, the laughing-stock.

Remember this when you go to class, walk down the street, or go to work. Though temporarily amusing, your cruelty will get you nowhere. Everyone deserves respect and love, even when — no, especially when — they are different from you. As the song goes, "All you need is love, love. Love is all you need." ■

It's pretty pathetic that society in general and especially the media are pretending like this is some bizarre and new theme in human existence. I mean, has anyone ever seen "West Side Story"?



Answering to a high-speed life? Take a breath and a break

Lama Sury a Das
Knight-Ridder Newspapers

Westerners have known for centuries what the goal of life is. As the French philosopher Diderot stated in his 1773 conversations with Catherine the Second: "There is only one duty: That is to be happy."

But as one of the last summers of the millennium commences, Americans across the country are asking: "How can I fulfill that 'duty'? How can I rid myself of the stress and anger that my high-speed chase of a life is bringing to me? How can I make others happy if I cannot be happy myself?"

In his 1731 autobiography, one of America's most inventive citizens, Benjamin Franklin, speculated that happiness is produced "not so much by great pieces of good fortune that seldom happen, as by little advantages that occur every day." The smile of a friend, the beauty of a flower seen in passing, a small good deed done easily and without hesitation — all of these everyday "advantages" add up to the kind of happiness Franklin envisions.

Arthur Miller proposed this tongue-in-cheek analysis in his 1968 play "The Price": "The main thing today is shopping. Today you're unhappy? Can't figure it out? Go shopping."

That seems to be modern-day America's dilemma. Instead of living, we are shopping. At the same time, we feel we are bypassing the joy that is meant to be the purpose and gift of life.

Americans have always admired people who work hard, make money, and buy neat stuff.

For early Americans — think about the hardworking Pilgrims — the work ethic was almost directly connected to religious principles.

America has never really placed a real value on qualities like balance and relaxation. Commercial pitches today show an America that is always "connected." Whether on an airplane, on the road, or on the beach, we are always at work.

And there's nothing wrong with living the high-paced, high-energy life that Americans lead. It's like surfing: Either you drown, or you have a great ride. And if you can manage not to get carried away, then you can ride that wave.

But just as an unexamined life is a life poorly lived, no life is complete without some effort to connect with the deeper meaning of our existence. We all have spiritual DNA. And whether Jewish, Christian, Buddhist or atheist, we all can enhance our spiritual side.

Enlightenment is not some grim chore we have to do. It's simpler than that. It's being wakeful and mindful. And work is not just a way to earn a paycheck. Work is what we do to make a better world and make ourselves better people.

So, as you enjoy this weekend at America's beaches and ballparks, or in your own backyard in an old-fashioned barbecue, take a moment to ask yourself whether your vacuum cleaner really needs all its attachments. Enjoy the time spent with your loved ones. Be in the moment. Celebrate the joy of the life you are living. ■



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FEATURES



photo provided

The Falling is king

Melanie McWhorter
Staff Reporter

Murfreesboro's the falling earned the title "King of the 'ville" after beating eight other bands in the contest held May 22nd at Indienet in Nashville.

The falling is composed of Tyler McDaniel (vocals, guitar), Kevin Rogers (bass, vocals), and Simon Lynn (drums). Collectively, they have more band experience than you can shake a stick at: McDaniel used to front Fraulien and Weasel, Rogers has been involved in Flesh Tug and My Son Susan, and Lynn has played for both Snowman's Wish and Chapstik.

If the falling's sound had to be classified, "emo-core" would probably best describe the band's perfect marriage of beautiful melodies and explosive energy. "Emo," a term used to describe the modern evolution of "indie" or independent rock, is short for emotion, and McDaniel sings his poetic lyrics from the soul, taking listeners to the emotional mountaintops and canyons.

"We try to create movements within our music to correspond with the emotion being expressed," states Rogers. "We're passionate about what we do, and we want it to show."

Among the falling's many influences are The Gloria Record, Sunny Day Real Estate, 400 Years, Portishead, and Radiohead.

Not only has the falling won the esteemed title "King of the 'ville," they have also won 16 hours of multi-track recording at Progressive Records in Nashville, a showcase at Mars Music in Nashville, live audio and video recording of that performance, four hours of rehearsal time, and a full-feature article in Blast magazine.

This is impressive, especially when one considers that the falling has only been together since January. McDaniel and Rogers met in August and wanted to start a band, but they had to search for five long months before they found Lynn.

Since the band's inception, they have played shows at Sebastian's, Indienet, the Rev (in Evansville, IN), and the falling house. Most of these shows have been electric, some acoustic, but they have all been intense.

The acoustic shows have been particularly mesmerizing for their ethereal melodies and Rogers' work on the upright bass. The falling's electric sets have been, simply stated, great rock shows with intelligent lyrics. Who could ask for more? McDaniel's guitar playing is inspiring, as is his "stage show" (it's worth coming to see). Lynn's talent also stands out at the electric shows as he plays like a man on speed. Rogers, as well, shines with his intricate bass lines.

When asked what they are trying to "do" with their music, McDaniel replies, "We're trying to sublimate this, transcend that, and come to terms with the inherent dichotomies of a spiritual reformation." He also claims, with a wry smile creeping across his face, that their music is "for the children."

Local fan Ike Plemons says: "The falling is emotionally driven, they're sophisticated without being krunkish."

If you would like to check them out, they are playing several shows this month. Check out the dates and locations on their website at <http://listen.to/thefalling>. ■

Their fire has gone out of the universe

Bill McIntire
Staff Reporter

After seeing Star Wars : Episode 1 : The Phantom Menace (hereafter known as Phantom Menace for the sake of space), Grand Moff Tarkin's reference to the noble Jedi Knights from the original Star Wars has a basis.

I'm fairly certain the original Jedi all died from anticipation.

When Star Wars first came out in theaters, I was eight years old. I saw it fourteen times. By the end of every screening, I wanted to be George Lucas. I can't speak for every first generation fan, but I'm willing to wager that the impact of Star Wars was equally great on the majority of them. We are the audience who has waited all our lives for the prequel trilogy to experience the creation of the greatest cinematic villain of all time - Darth Vader.

No film could live up to that kind of build-up.

Phantom Menace doesn't even try.

The first film of the new trilogy wasn't made for the eight-year-olds who saw Star Wars over twenty years ago and want to recapture the wonder we once felt. Phantom Menace is for the eight-year-olds who saw the Special Editions last year and are hungry for more of the same.

The Special Editions did their job adequately enough. They exposed a new generation of moviegoers to the classic trilogy, but with many new computer-generated bells and whistles. The bells and whistles became the showcase for Phantom Menace out of the necessity when the story lacks the substance of the original.

The effects are expected to carry the film, and almost succeed. Unfortunately, Phantom Menace can't supply the sense of wonder that Star Wars did because Phantom Menace doesn't show us anything we haven't seen before. Star Wars essentially created the field of visual effects, and Lucas' company, Industrial Light and Magic, has been on the cutting edge ever since. We've already seen these types of effects in other movies, so Lucas only manages to dazzle us with more instead of amazing us with better.

As dazzling as the effects are, too much of a good thing is still too much. There are times during the climactic battle sequence at film's end that are so overdone that it could have been mistaken for an animated Disney film. Well before the end of the first major action sequence of the film, a Podrace on Skywalker's home planet of Tatooine, even though the effects were carried off flawlessly, I was restless for the race to be over with so we could get back to the story.

Oh yes, the story...

Any good story has a basic formula. Take a basic plot and propel it forward with interesting characters and novel situations. Phantom Menace's story is simple enough. On a mission to save the planet of young Queen Amidala (Natalie Portman) from the sinister Trade Federation (the predecessor of the Empire), two Jedi Knights (Liam Neeson and Ewan McGregor - who plays a young Obi Wan Kenobi) encounter a young boy (Jake Lloyd) who is destined to become the infamous Darth Vader. The boy is, of course, instrumental in the defeat of the evil power. Knowing Anakin's future as we do, this could be the backbone for an entertaining movie.

Unfortunately, no character in Phantom Menace is developed well enough to be interesting, including the abundance of computer generated ones. An attempt was made to make the virtual characters seem so alien that they become difficult to identify with. At worst, they come off as poorly disguised racial stereotypes. The few characters we relate to from the classic trilogy (Kenobi, R2-D2, Yoda, and C3PO) are critically underused and seemingly only on screen to provide resonance with the first trilogy. When young Anakin acts too mature for a ten-year-old, the audience is aware that he's doing just that - acting.

If my hypothesis about Phantom Menace being for second generation fans is correct, knowing the fate of Senator Palpatine (Ian McDiarmid) might just be a pardonable flaw, but a flaw nonetheless. As a responsible reviewer, I won't give it away, just in case I'm wrong. Even though the performances of Neeson and Portman are brought off well under the circumstances, they still seem to be acting around all the other elements of this very busy film.

Weak heroes may be counteracted with a strong villain. If the current villain wasn't expected to live up to Darth Vader, Darth Maul (Ray Park) might have passed muster. Maul is carried off better than any other character in the film and has the most marketable persona of the entire cast, but has none of the personality of his predecessor/successor (depending on your perspective of the films), Vader. Vader's character was set in the first film when he broke the rebel's neck during an interrogation. Maul has no such defining moment, and is reduced to being a mere henchman for the greater evil of the Trade Federation and the evil Sith Lords whom have mastered the dark side of the Force.

Over twenty years ago, George Lucas gave my generation a gift. We took it eagerly and became very attached to it. We made it our own. This year he took it back so he could add something new to it. That's his right, and I appreciate the effort he's put into the story thus far. Then I remember the thrill of being eight and wanting to be George Lucas. Phantom Menace is not the movie I would've made when I was eight - but I still would've bought the toys and made up my own story. ■

Defari scores with 'Focused Daily'

Lamont R. Gholston, Jr.
Staff Reporter

When last we heard from the Likwit Crew, Xzibit ripped the mic on "40 Dayz, 40 Nights." Now comes Defari with his debut album Focused Daily. If focusing daily is what it takes to produce a CD that bangs in your Walkman or car stereo, then more MCs should take note. When was the last time you heard an album with 17 unskippable tracks and no skits? Can't remember, can you? I didn't think so. On Focused Daily, Defari puts it down for hip-hop, Los Angeles and with the Likwit Crew and Phil Da Agony on the first single "Likwit Connection, while Xzibit spits drunk game on the cut "Thunder & Lightning." Defari is definitely hard-core. Not hard-core like gangsta; I'm talking about hard-core hip-hop. If you don't understand, you definitely need to get this CD.

Defari is out to devour MCs and get the crowd hype at the same time. Songs like "Keep it on the Rise," "Lowlands Anthem, Pt. 1," and "405 Friday's" will have you nodding your head while you're cruising in your ride. Do you like Slick Rick's storytelling skills? Check out "These Dreams," "Checkstand 3," and "Juggle Me (For the DJs)." Like any true MC, Defari boasts about his mic skills and tells wack MCs and DJs to go back to the lab. On track six - "Bionic" the chorus boasts, "It's the coming of the bionic, Defari here to lock ish down," which he does on every track. With hard-core beats and lyrics abound, it's hard not to like this CD.

Though Defari is from L.A., this album is definitely universal. If any aspiring MCs are out there, you should study Focused Daily as a blueprint for a dope album: hard beats, top-notch lyrical skills. The hook from "Yes Indeed" sums up Defari's attitude: "Yes indeed, hip-hop



photo provided

has changed through the century / Yet and still I remain a true Likwit MC / And now you wonder why most definitely / I keep it hard-core." With tight production from E-Swift, Evidence, The Alchemist, Barbershop Drevin, and Defari, this is sure to be a critically acclaimed but slept-on album that will have everyone holding their breath for his next

album.

You can hear all CDs reviewed in this column on SNM or any other hip-hop shows on 88.3 FM WMTS. Check out the WMTS home page on the Internet at www.mtsu.edu/~wmts. Check the schedule to find the times of the shows you want. For more information, call the WMTS request line at 898-5051. ■



WEDNESDAY, JUNE 9, 1999

SPORTS

6 ■ SIDELINES

Murfreesboro, TN

A new era in MTSU football

Kevin Neal Fisher
Staff Reporter

Coach McCollum and staff face the daunting task of moving MTSU up from Division I-AA to IA. The Blue Raiders will not only face tougher opponents but also expectations from alumni and the local community. McCollum is aware of this, and is committed to bringing a strong, "exciting" team to MTSU's new Floyd stadium in 1999, and for years to come.

Unlike years past, where MTSU ran 60-70% of the time, MTSU will be more balanced. To accomplish this, Wes Counts will handle the QB chores. Counts, a 6-1 lefthander who threw for over 1541 yards as a freshman, has developed quickly and should continue to excel as he adjusts to the new coach and system. Reserve QB Judd Moore will miss this season due to injury, leaving senior Gabe Alaniz, Matt Miller and incoming freshman Fred Smith (Counts) had a great spring" according to McCollum.

MTSU's new offensive coordinator will be Larry Fedora, who joins us from Air Force. (Keep in mind Air Force won 12 games last year.) Also joining Coach McCollum this year will be Steve Bird, the new receivers coach from Tulane (who also won 12 games last year. WOW!!). A fifth round pick of the Cardinals in 1983, Bird played five years for several teams before he began his 11 years as a coach. Other new assistants are miles Aldridge (defensive coordinator), Kacy Rodgers (defensive line-some of you might remember him from his playing days with the Pittsburgh Steelers), Dan Karl (linebackers) and Mike Woodford (secondary). Returning coaches this season will be

Frost a redshirt freshman from Jonesboro, GA should fit well with Counts. Calico is 6-4, Newsome is 6-1, and Frost is 6-3, giving Counts big receivers to throw to.

Everyone knows battles are won/lost in the trenches



Kelvierrick Green Rushes for tough yardage during a spring game.

year will be no different. Besides Kelvierrick Green (whom I'm sure many of you have heard of), there will be several other faces in MTSU's backfield. Tony Wesley should get more playing time. Many have not forgotten his 191 yard performance vs. UT-Martin. This year will find MTSU featuring a true fullback, led by Jason Spray, a freshman from Murfreesboro/Oakland.

Who will replace Sulecio Sanford?

Yes, ladies and gentlemen, Sanford has gone, to the Chicago Bears in the fifth round. Replacing his combination of speed/skill will be Kendall Newsome, Tyrone Calico, and Handsford Johnson. At tight end, Lucas

and the same holds true for MTSU's offensive line. Success will depend on linemen like 6-6 Barry Hall and Tony Edge, the left guard from Fort Walton Beach, Fla. Protecting Counts will be vital. Expect to see MTSU once again dominating the time of possession.

Defense is in most capable hands, with Coach McCollum having previously served as defensive coordinator from Baylor, the fifth ranked defense in IA last season. (For those of you who may have forgotten, Mike Singletary came from Baylor just to tell you a little something about Baylor's defense.) During our interview, McCollum mentioned two linemen he expects to contribute in a major way this

season, senior Jeff Thomas and junior Martez Phelps. Each contributed three sacks last year, with Thomas starting at both end and tackle last season.

At linebacker, expect junior Keith Pauldo and sophomore Eugene Shaw to anchor and wreak havoc on opposing offenses.

MTSU's secondary should feature standout returnees Delvin Pikes and junior Keith Dollar. Loaded with speed and size, both men had a couple of interceptions last season in limited roles. Both will surely flourish under new defensive coordinator Miles Aldrich. Transfer Geno Henderson should start at left corner, having played last season for Memphis. Junior Marlo Kelso should return at safety, the only holdover regular starter from last year's secondary.

Keegan Ray returns as the eighth all-time scorer in MTSU history, connecting on 66% of his field goals, including 50% from 50+ yards. Senior David Lill averaged 41.5 yds during a spring game.

Are we gonna be successful? Yes. Are we gonna be competitive? Absolutely. Will we win more than we lose our first year? That depends. Yes, the players will be out there giving 110% every game; you can count on that. Part of it is up to us, the student body here of MTSU. If we want to have a winning program here at the IA level, part of it will depend on how well we come out and support our football team. We asked for it, and we got it. Let's pack the stands with Raider loyal fans and make some noise. ■

Rivers Defense-oriented coaching will guide Magic

Fred Goodall
Associated Press Writer

ORLANDO, Fla. (AP) - Doc Rivers has no intention of changing his philosophy of basketball.

He was a defensive-minded player for 13 NBA seasons and doesn't think he'll have a difficult time selling that as coach of the Orlando Magic.

"You look at the history of this league. You win by stopping people at the end of the game," Rivers said Monday after becoming the fifth coach in franchise history. "In order to do that, you have to have a fabric of defense throughout your team and a belief in a system."

Though his only previous coaching experience was with his 9-year-old daughter's team in San Antonio, the Magic aren't nervous about Rivers

replacing Hall of Famer Chuck Daly.

Daly, 68, retired last month after Orlando was upset in the first round of the playoffs.

Rivers' playing career ended in 1996. He waited until now to get into coaching because he thought it would help him observe coaches and general managers while working as a television analyst for Turner Sports.

"I figured this would be the year that I wanted to coach. Whether I would get a job or not, I didn't know," said the 37-year-old Rivers, who will be the league's second-youngest coach behind New York's Jeff Van Gundy.

"I'm not walking into this saying that I know how to do it, that I'll be perfect at it," the ex-point guard said. "I'm not going to tell you that. What I'll tell

you is I'll work at it."

Rivers, who signed a guaranteed four-year contract worth about \$8 million, inherits a team that could be headed for an overhaul.

Besides losing Daly, the Magic face the prospect of starting next season without four-time All-Star Penny Hardaway, who has said he'll exercise an option in his contract to become a free agent this summer.

Team president Bob Vander Weide said it's too early to predict how the roster will change.

"I think there are a lot of different ways we could go. We could look at going young. We could look at staying somewhat status quo and adding another player or two to make us even better ... It's a big decision for Penny and this organization as to whether he wants to be here

and will be here. I think that's where it all starts," Vander Weide said.

Rivers said while any coach would want a player the caliber of Hardaway on his team, the uncertainty of the sixth-year pro's situation didn't make him hesitant to take the job.

"I consider Penny a part of this organization. The key for us is we want to make sure he wants to be here," Rivers said. "He's had his ups and downs. The one thing that no one questions is his talent."

Although Rivers has no previous coaching experience, he played for some of the league's most successful, including Pat Riley, Larry Brown and Mike Fratello.

His philosophy and style figure to reflect things he's learned from each of those

Bramlett and Jordan place in NCAA Finals

Bleu Holden
Staff Reporter

MTSU was represented well at the NCAA track and field championships last weekend at Boise State University.

Ron Bramlett battled to a fourth place finish in the 110-meter hurdles to become the second Blue Raider trackster to earn all-American status this year. Christian Nsiah had previously accomplished the feat in the 60-meters during the Indoor season.

During each of Bramlett's first two rounds, he finished second to South Carolina's Terrence Trammell, with times of 13.83 in the preliminaries and 13.72 in the semifinals. His personal best was previously 13.82. The 13.72 time was only .03 off of the MTSU school record.

In the finals, Bramlett (13.82) finished behind Trammell (13.45), Tennessee's Dawane Wallace, and Central Michigan's Greg Richardson.

"Bramlett was great for us all year," Coach Dean Hayes said. "I am glad for Bramlett making the All-American team."

Also making a strong showing at the championships was Rob Jordan. Jordan finished sixteenth in the nation.

"Jordan made great improvements all year," Hayes said. "He has been our leading jumper."

The freshman led the OVC in both the long and triple jumps this season, winning both events at the OVC Indoor and Outdoor championships. He also earned Male Track and Field Athlete of the Year during the Outdoor season. ■

Have fun at the rec

Bleu Holden
Staff Reporter

Are you trying to fit into that perfect two piece swimsuit or whip yourself into Greek God form by the end of the summer? Or are you just looking for fun and adventure? If so, then MTSU Campus Recreation may be your answer.

The Campus Recreation Center provides many means of taking out your frustrations due to a packed summer class schedule. All current students are admitted to the Rec Center free of charge with a student identification card. You can enjoy everything from weightlifting to swimming. You can even go rock climbing inside!

MTSU Outdoor Pursuits is also offering many great opportunities for students this summer. There is a cost for most Outdoor Pursuits events, ranging from \$3-\$95. Guests are also allowed on Outdoor Pursuits trips, but they are charged a slightly higher fee.

Upcoming events include a rock climb at Fall Creek Falls June 12-13, a kayak roll clinic at the Recreation Center June 15-16 and a kayak/funyak trip at Bear Creek in Alabama on June 27. You can also canoe under a full moon on Stones River on June 30. The fun will continue with six more events in July. Equipment and transportation are provided for most activities.

If you plan to stick around campus all summer, the Recreation Center also has you covered. A Tang Soo Do martial arts class runs from June 8-July 1, and a Yoga class will run June 7-June 31.

If exercising just isn't your thing, you may want to attend the Ice Cream Social on June 27 or the Cookout/Swim Party on July 10.

Whatever your fancy, the MTSU Campus Recreation Center and Outdoor Pursuits will most certainly be able to tickle it for you. Information or sign ups for these and other events are available at the Recreation Center or by calling 898-2104. ■

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Wed	10:30 am - 7:00 pm	Closed
Thur	10:30 am - 7:00 pm	Closed
Fri	10:30 am - 7:00 pm	Closed
Sat	10:30 am - 7:00 pm	Closed
Sun	Closed	Closed
Pentium computers with Internet access Pentium & Macintosh computers, Internet on Macs only, available in Instructional Media Resources Computer Center (open area downstairs) Exceptions: June 8 thru 10 - Lab 101A Closed 8:00 am-4:00 pm June 14 thru 17 - Lab 101A Closed 12:30 am-3:30 pm		

Smoltz: 7-1 and hitting .400

Associated Press

It wasn't enough for John Smoltz to be one of the top pitchers in the National League. Now he's one of the top hitters.

Smoltz hit a three-run homer and won for the 19th time in 21 decisions since last summer's All-Star break, leading the Atlanta Braves to a 9-5 victory over the Tampa Bay Devil Rays on Monday night.

"I was just fortunate to get a pitch, swung hard and was lucky enough to have it go over the fence," said Smoltz, who was trailing 3-0 when he homered in the second inning.

Smoltz (7-1) allowed four runs and nine hits in six innings. He is hitting .400 at the plate (10-for-25).

"It was ugly, but you have to win these type games," said Smoltz, who got his 2,000th career strikeout in the first inning.

In other NL games, it was Philadelphia 6, the New York Yankees 5; Texas 3, Los Angeles 2; Montreal 8, Boston 2; Detroit 9, Pittsburgh 4; the New York Mets 8, Toronto 2; Houston 8, the Chicago White Sox 2; Minnesota 8, Cincinnati 6; St. Louis 7, Kansas City 5; Seattle 4, Colorado 2; and San Francisco 5, Anaheim 2.

At Atlanta, Wade Boggs made two errors that helped Atlanta score six unearned runs.

Jose Canseco hit his

major league-leading 22nd homer for Tampa Bay, which has lost four straight. Dave Eiland (0-2) allowed seven runs and five hits in three innings. John Rocker got the final out for his 13th save.

^Phillies 6, Yankees 5=

Paul Byrd (8-3) held New York to two runs and six hits in eight innings at Veterans Stadium, where the Yankees are 0-4. Rico Brogna hit a two-run homer in the first off Andy Pettitte (3-4) and Scott Rolen added a solo shot in the sixth.

After the Yankees scored three runs in the ninth, Bernie Williams hit a game-ending grounder with two on.

^Rangers 3, Dodgers 2=

Aaron Sele (6-4) allowed two runs and five hits in seven innings, and Rafael Palmeiro's eighth-inning single off Ismael Valdes (5-4) broke a 1-all tie. Ivan Rodriguez followed with another RBI single as visiting Texas won for the 11th time in 13 games.

John Wetteland pitched a perfect ninth for his major league-leading 20th save. Los Angeles has lost five of seven and dropped to 28-28.

^Expos 8, Red Sox 2=

Carl Pavano (4-5), acquired from Boston in the November 1997 Pedro Martinez deal, allowed two runs and six hits in eight innings and sent visiting Boston to its third straight loss.

Orlando Cabrera doubled, tripled and hit a two-run homer in the eighth off reliever John

Wasdin. Orlando Merced also hit a two-run homer for the Expos, who drew just 7,003.

Bret Saberhagen (2-2) gave up four runs and nine hits in six innings.

^Tigers 9, Pirates 4=

Karim Garcia, Brad Ausmus and Damion Easley homered at Tiger Stadium, and Detroit reliever Will Brunson (1-0) got three outs for his first major league victory. Jason Schmidt (5-4) was the loser.

^Mets 8, Blue Jays 2=

Benny Agbayani hit two solo home runs at Shea Stadium, and Mike Piazza homered for the second straight day.

Orel Hershiser (5-5) earned his 195th career victory, giving New York its second straight win following an eight-game losing streak. Roy Halladay (4-3) allowed six runs and 11 hits in five innings.

^Astros 8, White Sox 2=

Jose Lima (10-2) became the NL's first 10-game winner, scattering eight hits at Comiskey Park in his third complete game.

Houston had 17 hits, one short of its season high. John Snyder (6-5) lost his fourth consecutive start after winning six straight.

^Twins 8, Reds 6=

Steve Avery (3-5) was tagged for seven runs and six hits in one-plus inning at the Metrodome - his shortest start in three seasons - as Minnesota stopped Cincinnati's eight-game winning streak.

Rookie Mike Lincoln (2-8), given a 7-1 lead, stopped a four-game losing streak. Mike Trombley struck out the side in the ninth for his fourth save.

^Cardinals 7, Royals 5=

Shawon Dunston, filling in because Mark McGwire sat out with a sore back, hit a two-run homer at Kauffman Stadium to help send Kansas City to its ninth straight loss.

The Royals are on the longest losing streak in the major leagues this season and the longest for the Royals since a nine-game skid from April 15-25, 1992.

Heathcliff Slocumb (2-0) won and Ricky Bottalico got two outs for his sixth save. Kevin Appier (6-4) allowed six runs and nine hits in 6 1-3 innings.

^Mariners 4, Rockies 2=

Rookie John Halama (4-2) allowed two runs and nine hits in 7 1-3 innings and got his first major league hit, a double that triggered a two-run fifth at Coors Field. Rockies starter Bobby Jones (1-5) lost his fourth straight decision.

^Giants 5, Angels 2=

Chuck Finley (4-6) didn't allow an earned run, but his throwing error led to four runs, including three on F.P. Santangelo's homer.

Russ Ortiz (7-4) allowed two runs and four hits in 6 2-3 innings at San Francisco, helping the Giants improve to 21-12 in interleague play. Robb Nen got three outs for his NL-high 17th save in 20 chances.

When is a lease not a lease?

PITTSBURGH (AP) - It looks like a lease, has the terms of a lease and even is described as a lease 17 times in documents provided by the Pittsburgh Penguins.

But the financially troubled team has asked a judge to reclassify its deal with sports facility manager SMG Inc. of Philadelphia as a \$24 million loan.

One bankruptcy attorney quipped Monday that "it's a case of something looking like a duck and acting like a duck - and someone's got to use that analogy soon."

Reclassifying the lease potentially would reduce the amount SMG - the Penguins' longtime landlord at the Civic Arena - will be repaid when the team returns to normal business operations.

Last Friday, U.S. Bankruptcy Judge Bernard Markovitz invalidated the lease, which was negotiated in

1991, renegotiated in 1994 and runs through 2007. It has been described in court as the worst lease in the NHL.

The rent has varied over the years with various payment factors such as SMG getting 10 to 14 percent of ticket revenue. SMG was paid \$2.274 million by the Penguins in 1996-97.

But before the deal was signed in 1991, Penguins owner Edward DeBartolo was paying \$600,000 in annual rent to the Public Auditorium Authority.

Markovitz's decision would allow for penalties to be paid to SMG if he decides the lease was really a lease and not a loan. If the judge decides the lease was substantially a loan, SMG could be lumped in with the businesses that have the least rights in the case - the unsecured creditors, including the companies that supply the Penguins with pucks and towels.

The Penguins asked

Markovitz to rule that the multipart deal is not a lease. The judge gave no indication when he would make a decision.

"At all times, these documents have been described as leases, signed as leases, recorded as leases and held out to various third parties that they are in fact leases," SMG attorney Daniel Shapira said. "There is nothing to show that they are anything but leases."

But the Penguins arranged for Antonio G. Tavares, the former SMG executive who is now president of the company that runs the Mighty Ducks and Anaheim Angels, to testify that the deal was unusual for a lease.

The \$24 million up front was atypical for the industry, Tavares said.

SMG and NHL Hall of Fame member Mario Lemieux each have offered competing plans for running the team and are negotiating to try to resolve

their differences. The Fox Sports Net Pittsburgh broadcast company is backing SMG's plan.

The NHL offered a backup plan that would shut the team down. League officials said they want Lemieux, who as the Penguins center led the team to two Stanley Cups in the early 1990s, to run the team.

Also Monday, Pittsburgh business leaders unveiled a marketing campaign aimed at helping the Penguins sell season tickets.



Student-athletes should be held accountable for their actions

Josh Ezzell
Staff Reporter

In college, students are trained for their chosen profession and for life. However, it seems as though students do not learn how to make sound decisions just ask Notre Dame and Florida.

Notre Dame is now under investigation because as many as a dozen football players accepted gifts from former booster Kimberly Dunbar.

Among the players were Jarvis Ellison, with whom Dunbar has a child. Dunbar took him, Allen Rossum and his girlfriend on a \$10,000 trip to Las Vegas in 1997 to see the Mike Tyson-Evander Holyfield fight.

According to court documents, in 1995, Dunbar took then-boyfriend Derrick Mayes to Las Vegas, paying \$1,836 for his ticket and \$756 for his stay at the Luxor.

Notre Dame is claiming that Dunbar provided gifts to players not as a booster, but "in context of personal relationships."

If the NCAA rules the violations to be secondary, then Notre Dame could avoid major punishment.

Otherwise, Notre Dame could be placed on probation for up to five years.

Most people put the blame entirely on Dunbar, but the players need to accept responsibility for their actions.

Yes, Dunbar broke NCAA rules, but so did the players. They knew the rules, yet they chose to break them. Therefore, the players should be punished in addition to Dunbar and the University of Notre Dame.

Like Notre Dame, the University of Florida's reputation has been tarnished due to the actions of players.

Former Florida players Johnny Rutledge, Reggie McGrew and Jevon Kearse allegedly had illegal contacts

with sports agent Tank Black.

Rutledge admitted receiving \$500-per-month payments from Black over the span of a year. He claims that McGrew and Kearse also admitted accepting money under sworn depositions.

In addition, Kearse allegedly accepted a \$133,500 Mercedes-Benz from Black on Dec. 31, 1998, two days before the Gators Orange Bowl game against Syracuse. If this is true, Kearse was not eligible for the Orange Bowl.

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