



# CAMPUS BRIEFS

Compiled By Turner Hutchens - Assistant News Editor

## Volunteers needed for helpline

Prevent Child Abuse Tennessee needs new volunteers. Help is needed to answer Parent Helpline/Domestic Violence Hotline, to work with families of newborns and

assist with childcare during parenting classes. Training for volunteers begins Sat. October 7. Anyone interested should contact Jennifer Watson at 868-4468, extension 12. ♦

## Presidents ball scholarship awarded

MTSU's President's Ball Scholarship has been awarded. The \$2,000 scholarship which is funded through a \$40,000 endowment, has been awarded to Caron Lovvorn of Shelbyville and Nichole Jo Maraschiello of La Vergne.

This year's President's Ball will be held at the Nashville Renaissance Hotel on Sept. 30. The annual black-tie event has raised more than \$75,000 for the President's Ball Scholarship Fund. ♦

## MTSU professor to work at Olympic Games

Bill Whitehall, an associate professor in the HPERS department, will be going to the Olympic Games in Sydney to act as a massage therapist for athletes there.

Whitehall is a certified athletic trainer, as well as a licensed massage therapist. He worked in 1996 at the Atlanta Olympic

Games as the program manager for athlete care. Whitehall had initially trained to serve as the Sydney Olympics, but was not eligible because he is not a licensed physiotherapist in Australia. But White was encouraged to apply as a massage therapist in the Olympic Village for the 2000 Sydney competition. ♦

## Center's name changes

The Training and Professional Development Center at MTSU has changed its name to the Work Performance Center, according to officials in the university's Department of Continuing Studies and Public Service.

The center's mission is to

provide training, consulting and professional development programs to help business, industry and government remain competitive in a global economy. The center tries to aid area businesses in determining and meeting workforce performance needs. ♦

## Cadets complete camp

Fifteen cadets from MTSU recently graduated from the 2000 Army Reserve Officers' Training Corps (ROTC) Camp in Fort Lewis, Wash.

The 31-day camp, developed by the U.S. Army Cadet Command, is designed to

develop leadership, teamwork and military skills and knowledge.

Approximately 75 percent of all officers in the U.S. Army graduate from the ROTC program. ♦

## Airport neighborhood debriefing held today

An "Airport Neighborhood Debriefing" will be held today. Statements will be issued concerning the airplane crash that occurred on July 4 near Dover Court in Murfreesboro.

Representatives from several agencies will participate in the debriefing, including the Federal Aviation Administration,

Murfreesboro Airport Police, the Murfreesboro Fire Department and the Rutherford County Emergency Medical Services.

The debriefing will be held at the City of Murfreesboro Sports Com, located at 2310 Memorial Boulevard. ♦

## "Ba rum pa pum, pum..."



Photo by Jessica Norton | Photo Editor  
Members of Island Wave steel drum band entertain students with sounds of calypso, reggae, pop and soca at the President's Picnic Aug. 21.



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## Attention Student Organizations!!!

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(Mandatory for all presidents; advisors may also attend)

August 31, 2000	3:00	
September 5, 2000	4:00	** all sessions in KUC 322
September 6th	5:00	

\*You only need to attend ONE session

- **ORGANIZATION INFORMATION REPORT AND STATEMENT OF ASSURANCE FORM**  
Due to KUC 306 no later than Friday, September 8, 2000

IN ORDER TO BE UPDATED, ALL ORGANIZATIONS MUST COMPLY WITH BOTH OF THESE REQUIREMENTS. NO EXCEPTIONS.



## ATTENTION STUDENTS!!!

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Wednesday, September 13th  
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*Come see how you can get involved on campus at MTSU!*

## SGA: New plans underway to promote "school spirit, pride and participation"

Continued from 1

encouraged to enroll in University 101, a course designed to teach students the basic fundamentals of college and aids in adjustment to college life.

"SGA is working to require all freshman to enroll in University 101 and add a new segment to the class that focuses directly on MTSU history," Marshall said. "For the most part, I don't think students are knowledgeable of the history of the University or the people who paved the way for our school."

SGA has been working closely with Robert Glenn, vice president of Student Affairs, to increase student pride for MTSU. Glenn and the SGA have jointly budgeted for Raider blue t-shirts which were given away to each freshman who went through Customs this summer.

"Dr. Glenn is really motivated and supportive of all endeavors to make student life better," Marshall said. "He shares the same goals and objectives as we do in SGA. He knows it all starts with the freshmen."

SGA has also been supporting Glenn's "Raider Rallies," pre-game pep rallies to be held

in the Murphy Center parking lot with live bands and tailgating.

The student section has been moved to the fifty-yard line in the hopes that students will be encouraged to attend more games.

"Dr. Glenn is doing his best to promote student pride and instill MTSU tradition in students," Marshall said. "The athletic department has also been listening to the request that we have presented them."

SGA has coordinated a major landscaping project to further beautify MTSU campus and an upcoming "Make A Difference Day" will invite students to aid in the project by donating their time to actually help landscape University grounds.

SGA also intends to present legislation to limit the freedom solicitors have on campus.

"It seems like I can't walk outside now without someone chasing me down and waving a credit card application or a magazine pamphlet in my face," Marshall said. "As a student, I don't want to give out my personal information any more than the next guy. We require better etiquette from solicitors."

SGA is providing easier

access to MTSU students by utilizing the various media housed on campus including the MTSU homepage and Channel 10.

"Channel 10 is allowing SGA to host an SGA segment on each news show and one full SGA time slot once a month," Pounders said. "This will help students to stay informed and will further promote all SGA activities."

Pounders has recently been in contact with The University of Tennessee at Knoxville President Eric Beaty and is working to organize a winter conference in Nashville with the Tennessee Board of Regents concerning the security of more money for higher education.

"This is our chance to plant the seeds that produce top yield and make us all proud alumni," Pounders said. "But we have to remember that there is no quick fix for apathy."

Any legislation to be presented at upcoming Senate and House meetings must be submitted five working days before the intended meeting by 4 p.m. on the specified dates.

To contact SGA representatives, visit KUC 208, call 898-2464 or get more information at [sga.mtsu.edu](http://sga.mtsu.edu).

## Interim: Search for permanent president continues until spring semester

Continued from 1

MTSU, and in 1997, he was awarded the university's Distinguished Alumnus Award for Professional Achievement.

"Gene Smith is an outstanding leader who has served TBR well for almost 40 years," Manning said. "He was born in Middle Tennessee, is a Distinguished Alumnus of MTSU and knows the region well."

"The leadership team at MTSU is strong and capable, and Gene will work well with

this team to keep the university moving during this interim period," Manning said.

Smith said he has no intentions to seek the permanent position, which is one of the major attributes Manning said he was looking for in an interim president.

Smith is expected to remain interim president for approximately one year. What Smith is planning to do after MTSU is unknown, said Tom Tozer, director of media relations for the university. It is also unknown who - if anyone - will

take Smith's position in Memphis during his absence.

Smith's appointment came after the announcement that none of the university's four vice presidents were interested in the position.

It has been rumored that Barbara Haskew, provost and vice president for Academic Affairs for the university, may be interested in the permanent presidential position. Still, Tozer said there has been no official announcement on Haskew's intent. ♦

**WEEKEND** On stands  
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### Student Road Rally

Go on the road with the Raiders! \$40 per person includes one night at the Holiday Inn, chartered busride and tickets to see the Blue Raiders play the Florida Gators on Sept. 8. For more information call the SGA office at 898-2464. Money must be paid by Sept. 1 in KUC 208.

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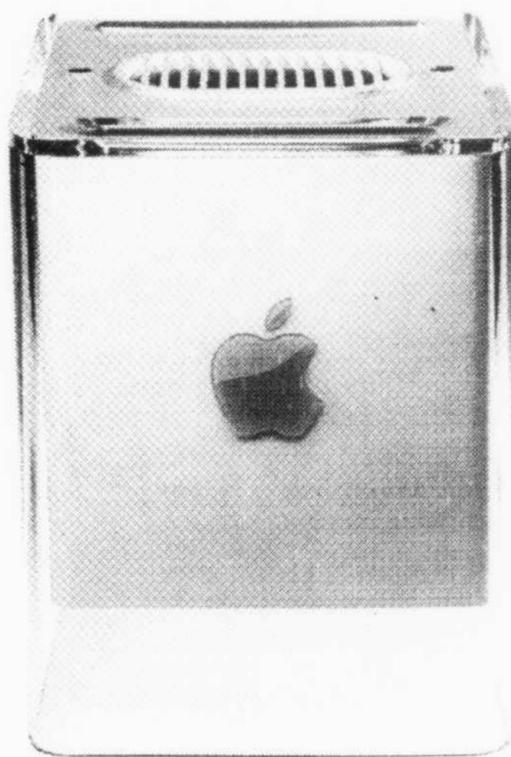
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# OPINIONS

From the staff

## Attendance policy insults students' intelligence

You would think we wouldn't need to be baby-sat in college.

Yet with MTSU's attendance policy, we are constantly monitored by our "grown-up" professors and punished for our "bad" behavior.

Some professors, in fact most of them, respect students enough to dutifully mention MTSU's attendance policy on their syllabus, as required, and nothing more. They understand that students are adults, capable of making their own decisions and judgments.

Not everyone has to go to every class to make the grade. In fact, some students are intelligent or lucky enough not to have to go to any classes. And the ones that aren't they smart and skip anyway — that get theirs in the end when they turn in blank exams.

Yet under some professors, a student could skip one class a week, still make an A, and yet have their grade dropped to a B because they missed more than an allotted number

of classes.

We pay to attend this university. Some professors use that as an excuse to have such stringent attendance policies — if we're paying to be here, we should be here. All the time.

But most of us are not paying to attend class. We are paying for our ultimate goal — to get a degree. We want to do whatever we need to do, and nothing more, to make whatever grade we deem necessary to get to where we are going in life.

Professors are admitting their arrogance with these attendance policies. They are basically stating that unless we hang on to their every word, we could not possibly achieve a decent grade in their classes. If we can, and do, get an A without their assistance, we hurt their fragile egos and must be punished.

After all, we couldn't possibly deserve grades we earned unless we followed the rules of the household, no matter how absurd they may be.

## Through My Eyes

# Students, we want to hear from you



Shawn Whitsell  
Opinions Editor

As the Fall 2000 *Sidelines* opinions editor, I strongly feel that it is my responsibility to create an opinions section that you, the MTSU community, feel a part of.

My vision for an opinions section is for it to be a forum for people of MTSU community to share ideas about the realities of this campus. Whether the increase of the tuition increase, the parking fee that even non-drivers have to pay or the usual parking hassles that we experience at the beginning of each year, I want students to feel like they have a

voice, an outlet to communicate their points-of-view to the greater MTSU community.

So, if there is something going on around here that you don't agree with (and believe me freshman and transfer students, MTSU will piss you off at some point during your time here), get your ass to a computer and write about it.

In doing so, I will almost guarantee that you will discover there are others who feel exactly the same way you do.

MTSU is a great university -- I can attest to that. I just entered my fourth year here, and I've seen a lot of positive changes. There are great things going on around here that we some-

times forget about when we're bitchin' about the negative things.

So, when the university does something to make you happy, let us know. We want to hear the good things too.

I strongly suggest that you submit some of your campus-related opinions to us, and if any of you would like to become a columnist, come and see us in JUB, Room 308.

I look forward to hearing from you all, and I encourage you to become faithful readers of the opinions section because although we cannot guarantee change, we can guarantee that you'll be heard.

The opinions section is your section. ■

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- EDITOR IN CHIEF: James Evans
- MANAGING EDITOR: Angela White
- DESIGN EDITOR: Raymond W. Hutzler
- NEWS EDITOR: Jenny Cordle
- ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR: Turner Hutchens
- OPINIONS EDITOR: Shawn Whitsell
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"Sidelines" is the non-profit, editorially independent student newspaper of Middle Tennessee State University and is published Monday, Wednesday and Thursday during the fall and spring semesters and every Wednesday during June and July. The opinions expressed herein are those of the individual writers and not necessarily of "Sidelines" or the university.

### Correction

The American Heart Association's Heart Walk, covered in the August 18 issue, will be held on the MTSU campus, not on Main Street. *Sidelines* apologizes for the error.

## INTERESTED IN SPEAKING YOUR MIND?

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David Sargent  
Staff Columnist

## Frankly My Dear

# To park or not to park

It occurred to me while standing in line at the Parking Services building the other day that my 8:05 class could be considered a blessing in disguise.

No, I am not one of those peppy morning people who thinks getting up in the morning is a spiritual experience. Then why, do you ask, would I think up such an insane thought? I mean, this is college right? It's the time to try your darnest to make morning start at noon.

Well, since you were smart enough to ask, I was smart enough to think up an answer last night during one of my nightly three-hour meditation sessions in which I take several strips of duct tape and...Doh (note to self: leave out image-tainting personal details next time!)

Fine, so I may seem a little unscrewed upstairs, but I'm not. And though it doesn't seem like an intelligent thought, there is a method to my madness. Observe.

In our tuition this year, the always-sharp (hint of sarcasm) administrators decided that it would be a sim-

ply divine idea to include parking fees as a "service" to the students.

Now, I'm not exactly sure why, but the likely reason is that it would shell out the forty or so dollars in cash necessary to obtain a pass. Instead they would have it charged to our accounts, and it would most likely be paid off a few years down the road with the rest of our interest-accruing loans. Very logical.

Furthermore, they decided, it encourages everyone with an automobile from Nottingham Apartments to Lower Antioch, excuse me, L.A., to clog the campus with much-needed traffic and carbon monoxide (Mmmm, I can smell it now). I guess they figured it would also help out all those commuting bicyclists to be able to grab one of those prized spots in the library lot...Hold up! That's not right. Man, they pulled one on us again, huh folks?

But seriously people. The real reason was to increase contributions to the Elimination Of Convenient Commuter Fund. The fund was enacted this year, but it has been in the works for some time. You can

check it out in all your gullibility at [www.theadministratorswiththeir-whiteparkingpassesarelaughingat-us-now.com](http://www.theadministratorswiththeir-whiteparkingpassesarelaughingat-us-now.com).

The problem with all this increased on-campus traffic is that a lot of the time it will end up being a better option to park at Wal-mart and walk.

It's true, because last week I measured the distance across campus from the Rec Center to Murphy Center with my handy-dandy 12-inch ruler, and it ends up being something like 16.38 miles.

For the trip you would obviously have to take into account food and water rations and maybe find shelter somewhere for the night. It's just not practical.

So, as you see, I am not all that airy in the attic. This minor bureaucratic slip-up has turned my 8:05 into a ticket to convenience. Yeah, I may have to get up all early n' stuff. I may have to drive to class with my eyes shut and run into walls down the halls towards Studio B.

But hey, at least I'll know everything's okay because I got a spot in the library lot. ■

## Campaign Commentary

# Conventions nothing more than infomercials

Kevin S. Latta  
Staff Columnist

They were events that made even Ron Popeel's trademark infomercial pale in comparison.

Certainly the Pocket Fisherman is not as great a value as the carefully crafted home video detailing the life and times of Al Gore.

Brought to you by the same people who produced *Being John Malkovich*, the film shown at the delegates in the hall wiped away tears that accompanied the knowledge of the backbreaking chores that dominated Al Gore's childhood afternoons.

Would you expect to pay more for the fantastic Rotisserie Grill or a chance to see the WWF's "The Rock" addressing the delegates of the Republican Convention in his trademark third person dialect? "The Rock" says, "The Rock" talks like Bob Dole and doesn't wear knee-high black socks."

Just when the puffy eyes of the campaign operatives and strategists are down to slits from weeks of late-night strategy sessions, when the dog-and-pony show has visited every local show for a photo-op, when the agony of the primaries is a distant memory, the looming election an all-

consuming marathon and the sporadic adrenaline rush of running for the most powerful office in the world becomes a constant companion; it's time to accept the formal nomination of the party. Am I the only one who thinks that the sequence may be a little off here?

The Conventions, dubbed "infomercials" by the journalists struggling to entertain themselves and their viewers during these feel-good events, just aren't what they used to be. Gone are the days of a chaotic and suspenseful week where the volatile atmosphere aided the preparation of a party's platform. Instead, once bitter rivals smile and throw their arms around each other in the hopes that the comments that they made and meant, those many months ago in New Hampshire are forgiven by the winner and forgotten by the public.

John McCain glowed as he sang the praises of the man whose ability to be the chief executive he claimed was nonexistent only a few media bytes ago. Bill Bradley was unrecognizable as the same man who chastised Al Gore from an inner city basketball court in New York.

Was that Jesse Jackson Koombayah or was I just delusional by that point? Is this the new millennia of political conven-

tions? Will the no controversy guidelines strictly adhered to by each party prohibit anyone from pointing out to George W. Bush that "common sense" legislation when it comes to [add topic here] actually informs those possessing it that he has yet to take a stance? Will Al Gore get the memo that being "a man of substance" entails more than reading from a TelePrompTer the words: "I'm a man of substance?" The careful crafting of the exercise in ambiguity displayed by both candidates surely involved more effort than would have been necessary to form and present a cohesive platform espousing their views and plans on the issues.

CBS became so bored by the time it was the Democrats turn that they created their own video biography of the Gore family and showed it instead of the one prepared and shown live at the convention by the sponsoring party.

Tom Brokaw, in what may have been a preview for the premiere of Dennis Miller's appearance on Monday Night Football, refused to let the fact that a candidate was speaking stop him from presenting rambling soliloquies in an attempt to try and dissuade viewers from switching by droves to local access channels for reruns of Scarecrow and Mrs. King.

After careful and critical viewing, the only thing that the candidates conveyed were promises of the first bill that each would sign if elected. With a face as stolid as that of a Buddha Monk, Al Gore promised that campaign finance reform would be first on his agenda...after the election of course.

George W. Bush promised partial birth abortions would be first on his list of things to go, no mention of the fact that overturning a Roe v Wade is not done with a pen from the Oval Office. Of course, without a sound bite for the 700 Club it just wouldn't be a Republican convention, now would it?

With the long primary season wrapping up the nominations months before the conventions are even thought of, the problem of pomp and circumstance replacing the process of platform building is not likely to subside. In 2004 we might well be subjected to conventions that air as an amalgam of reality-show, Tony Robbins seminar and feel-good self gratification for the candidates.

This hardly sounds like anything to look forward to, but then again, there are a few episodes of Scarecrow and Mrs. King that I haven't seen yet. ■



## Atypical Woman

# Women must unite to protect rights

Angela White  
Managing Editor

Women today don't know how good they have it.

Yes, there's still a long way to go to reach equality. But far too many women do not seem to realize how much it took to get to where we are today. This is predominantly shown in how willing they are to throw it all away, to set us back decades in the name of "decency" and "morals."

There is an alarming trend emerging. Women are actually being swayed by George W. Bush, the conservative Presidential candidate for a

party hardly known for its support of women's rights.

Bush is especially appealing to women of the South, whose upbringing and religion have brainwashed them into believing the absence of women's rights is attributed to respect for the "softer" sex. They are willing to trade equal rights for the "perks of ladyhood" — the opening of doors, the pulling out of chairs, the free meals. They see feminism as a threat to these perks.

They do not wish to be equal — they already see themselves as better.

These women are putting our future at risk. The outcome

of the Presidential election will have a major impact on our society.

Several Supreme Court Justices are expected to either retire or die in the next four years, and their replacements, chosen by our future President, will have influence over some of the most significant Supreme Court decisions.

Roe vs. Wade is close to being overturned — it is predicted that as little as one new conservative justice is needed to make it happen.

Decisions affecting equal employment opportunity, healthcare and Title IX sports opportunities for women are at

risk as well.

Abortion is by far the most prevalent women's rights topic being discussed this election year. Many women do not believe in ending a pregnancy, which is perfectly within their rights. But telling other women what they can and cannot do with their bodies is another story entirely.

The existence of abortion does not mean that every woman, whether she believes in it or not, must have one. It simply means the option is available. No woman, no matter how rigid she may be in her beliefs, can determine what she would do in the event of an

unplanned pregnancy until she is actually in that situation.

These women, while thinking they are doing what is good and decent for society, are instead stubbornly giving their power away. They may think they are saving their country, but they are in fact setting it up for destruction.

There are enough unwanted, neglected children in this country — how many more would be created if abortion rights are repealed?

We could be headed for a time when the dreams of equal pay for equal work and affordable daycare and healthcare are distant history. A conservative

Supreme Court would chip away at women's rights until we're living in a world where the feminist movement of the sixties might as well not even happened.

Conservative women need to think beyond themselves and their force-fed beliefs. They need to focus on what is best for their society as a whole without letting their personal morals and judgments get in the way.

When these women cast their votes in November, they must consider more than their own opinions — they must consider the future of women in this country. ■

## Studying abroad provides more truths than clichés

Claire Zulkey

Campus Correspondent - Georgetown University

I could go ahead and say that life as I know it will never be the same, that I have become completely well-rounded and mature, and that now I'm ready to face anything in this world with a confident and appreciative attitude.

But that would not be true, and, possibly worse, it would be a cliché. And I don't believe that somebody should study abroad to pursue a cliché.

I spent my entire junior year in Italy, studying in Fiesole, a small town located just outside Florence.

I'll spare you the summer-vacation-book-report version of my studies abroad, but must provide some background info: Instead of a salad or container of Raman for lunch, I ate a four-course Tuscan meal every day. Instead of schlepp-

ping across a quad to get to class, I stepped out of a century-old villa and into famously tended gardens. My classroom had a view of the Duomo, and road-trips took me to Austria, Czechoslovakia, Egypt, Germany, Russia and Switzerland.

All right, so there were some downsides, too. Because of visa labor restrictions, I was completely financially dependent on my parents. I had to take a 15-minute bus ride to get access to the Internet. The time zone between my boyfriend and me wasn't one hour, but six. And yes, there were times when it seemed as if my brain didn't have enough storage space for all of the directions, languages, rules, regulations — and, ah, yes, academics — I was introduced to over the last year.

Despite the hassles, would I recommend studying abroad? By all means yes. For how long? That's a personal decision, but I can say I know a

lot of people who studied for one semester who wished that they had stayed longer. I don't know anyone who wishes they'd cut their time short.

I have a feeling some of the lessons I learned abroad will come to me years from now and that I'll be saying goofy things like, "Gee, I bet I picked that up during my junior year." But there are some benefits I can clearly identify already. For starters, I've become infinitely more independent. I'm more comfortable with being on my own and with making important decisions for myself.

I'm also less of a whiner and much better about establishing — and honoring — priorities. I don't complain as much about small things I can't change, and I've decided to make more of an effort to do the things I want, not the things I feel obligated to do.

Believe it or not, I'm also a much better student and worker. OK, so this is partly because there was no American TV in Italy, partly

because I wanted my parents to know that I wasn't squandering their money and partly because I realized it was time to grow up and start doing my homework.

I've become a big proponent of taking time to study abroad, but at the same time squirm when I hear those general marketing phrases: "the chance of a lifetime," "priceless experience," and so on. Taking time to study in a foreign country is not something that can be glossed over and described in a few trite adjectives; it demands the experience to do so.

Not every instant of living in Italy was picture-perfect. Sometimes, it was downright annoying, lonely and frustrating. But I recommend study-abroad programs to all college students because I think we deserve the opportunity to reach for that well-roundedness, maturity and ready-to-face-anything-in-the-world ideal. ■

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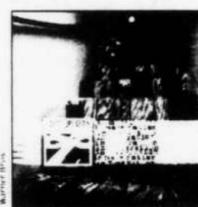
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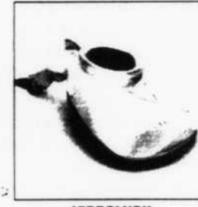
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# INTERESTS

6 ♦ SIDELINES

Monday, August 28, 2000

Murfreesboro, TN

## Five ... Six ... Seven ... Eight ...

Beloved dance instructor counts off for her last semester

By Jenny Cordle  
News Editor

Mention the idea of leaving MTSU's dance club behind, and Angela Armstrong threatens to cry. Mention the idea to students that their favorite instructor may leave, and they threaten to petition.

As a graduate of MTSU, a graduate teaching assistant and an adjunct faculty member, Armstrong is one of MTSU's own and has been offered the job as an adjunct again for the fall semester.

But unless officials from the Speech and Theatre department offer her a full-time position, Armstrong's dancing shoes might be shuffling across the floor of another university.

"I'm not begging for a job," said Armstrong, who's "giving it one more semester" before leaving for good.

"I just want to support the way the students feel because the student role."

And if her students could, they would pick up their shoes and move with her. Instead they petitioned last spring to Russell Church, head of the Speech and Theatre department, to get her the job they feel she deserves.

"She's done more for the dance department and dance club for MTSU than anybody ever has," explained sophomore Raquel Maddox, a dance club member. "By offering her an adjunct position, they are basically letting her go."

Armstrong is credited to have inspired dancers so much that the dance club's low membership count of 12 became a record high of 60 members.

Last spring she also took on nine classes: modern dance I and III, beginner's jazz, intermediate jazz, dance production, individual choreography, social dance, continuing dance education and swing dance.

She is carrying the weight of another full load this semester while dividing her time between school and a position at a local studio.

Armstrong also arranged for the students to participate in various dance workshops and the annual Black College Dance Exchange, which is geared toward the participation of the historically African American colleges. However, the MTSU Performing Arts Company represented the only predominately Caucasian university attending.

The dance club members now have T-shirts and warm-up suits courtesy of funds raised during the bake sales organized by Armstrong.

"We wanted her to know she's made such a difference," said senior Valerie Hackworth, spring president of the dance club who started the petition. "We wanted to say, 'We support you and we need you and we're gonna do everything in our measly student power to get you a full-time position.'"

Although the petition signed by 40 dance club participants seems as if it would have been enough to make a difference, it was seen as "measly" once the students found out that Armstrong was not offered a full-time position.

"Any other position we could offer her would have to be a position that doesn't exist," said Church.

The position of applied dance generalist, which Armstrong applied for, was offered to and accepted by Anne Shea from Chattanooga.

"We have a very rigorous and thorough procedure for dealing with job applications," said Church.

He explained that the dean's office oversees the process and a faculty committee of individuals makes a recommendation of whom they've chosen.

"We often try to get students involved in the process by getting their responses," said Church.

For example, Church said that last year the department officials hired a new debate coach and the students participated in the interviews and provided comments.

"We heard about support for Angela through hand information," he said. "Everything I've heard about her is that she is talented, and she has students who love and respect her a lot. And that's an important part of the process, but there are other parts of the process and other characteristics involved."

Church suggested that the students should have met the other candidates for the job and viewed the job description before deciding whom they wanted, in order to be fair to all candidates.

But the students are satisfied with all the effort Armstrong has put forth and want to see dance club grow even more with her help.



Photo illustration by Raymond Hutzler | Design Editor



Photo by Jessica Norton | Photo Editor

Angela Armstrong leads her modern dance class in the basic positions of dance. This class is one of the nine that Armstrong teaches as an adjunct faculty member.

See Dance, 8

## Alumnus articulates in first novel

E.L. Carroll releases *The Sins of the Father*

By Courtney Huckabay  
Interests Editor

What do those graduates with liberal arts degrees do, anyway?

They write and publish novels, like one MTSU English major has done.

Murfreesboro resident and 1998 MTSU graduate Eddie L. Carroll had the pleasure of stacking his first novel on the shelves of local bookstores last week. Carroll worked on the book for about a year and a half, surviving many critiques and re-writes. He even went against his wife's wishes to produce the story. Now he is pleased with the final outcome of *The Sins of the Father*.

*Sins* is written in the tradition of Southern literature and is set in the small town of Moreland, GA, where Carroll was raised. The novel tells the story of how a young man's life was affected by the crimes his father committed.

"The leading character, Sammy, lives each day haunted by the memories of his brutally abused childhood," Carroll explained. "His father killed seven people and each of his children knew about the murders" thus leaving Sammy "haunted by the sins of his murderous father."

The book is mystery/suspense-oriented and Carroll has heard from several people that once they got about a third of the way through it, they couldn't put it down. In Carroll's own words, *Sins* is about life.

"The novel shows both the funny and the sad in life, the good and the ugly. It is meant to show that no matter how carefully we plan, life can turn on us and for almost all of us, at one time or another it does. But it's what we do about it that defines us and sharpens us, and in the end helps make us who we are."

Carroll has been influenced by many Southern writers and even some of his professors at MTSU.

"In high school I was one of those guys who didn't care about school, I just wanted to get through it," said Carroll. "So when I got to my freshman English class in college, I didn't even know how to write an essay. But when I was forced to write, it was like a revelation to me that I could do it. Then I found that I actually enjoyed it and that it was a hidden talent I never knew I possessed."

Carroll also credits his creative writing teacher, Dr. Haring, for making him try harder.

"The classes [at MTSU] do put you in a position to bring out which is the great part of education—the talents that are in

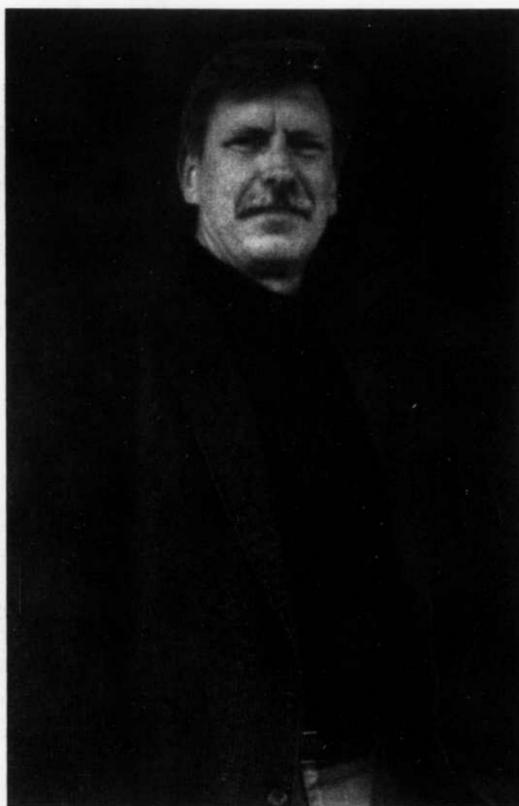


Photo Provided

First-time author Eddie Carroll released *The Sins of the Father* last week.

you and once you realize you have them you can shape those talents."

*The Sins of the Father* can be found at Hasting's, Books-A-Million and at Amazon.com. Also keep an eye out for a sequel in the future. ♦

## Reaching new heights



Photo by Jessica Norton | Photo Editor

The inflatable climbing wall was one of the featured attractions during the "Hanging out on the Knoll" festivities Aug. 25.

# ON CAMPUS

Compiled By Courtney Huckabay - Interests Editor

To submit an On Campus announcement, come by the James Union Building, Room 308. Due to limited space, some announcements with later dates may be held.

**Aug. 29**

The Division of Continuing Studies and Public Service are offering several technical training and certification classes this fall. The first course, "UNIX Fundamentals," will be held on Tuesdays from Aug. 29 through Sept. 5. It is worth .6 CEUs and costs \$79.

Contact Neal McClain in the Department of Computer Science for more information.

**Aug. 30**

The MTSU Debate Team is hosting an open house on Aug. 30 from 2-5 p.m. in the Boutwell Dramatic Arts Building, Room 220. Anyone interested in debate is invited to attend. Food and drinks will be provided. Call Mike Kruegar at 898-5607 or Drew Butler and Ben Osborne at 898-2273 for more information or e-mail mkrueger@frank.mtsu.edu.

**Aug. 31**

The Intercollegiate Debate Association of MTSU will hold its first organizational meeting on Aug. 31 at 5 p.m. in the Boutwell Dramatic Arts Building, Room 220. Anyone interested in debate is invited. Call Mike Kruegar at 898-5607 or Drew Butler and Ben Osborne at 898-2273 for more information.

**Sept. 3**

The Works of Phil Vanderweg will be displayed in the Art Barn Gallery through Sept. 27 during regular gallery hours.

**Sept. 5**

Applications for Student Activity Funds are available in KUC 130. The application deadline is Friday, Sept. 5 at 4 p.m. To be eligible for funds, you MUST attend one of the Student Organization Orientation sessions and be a registered student organization. Orientation sessions will be held Aug. 31 at 3 p.m., Sept. 5 at 4 p.m. and Sept. 6 at 5 p.m. All sessions are held in KUC 322. For more information call 898-2750.

All student organization presidents must attend one of the student organization orientation sessions in order to be updated for the 2000-2001 school year. The meeting will last over an hour. Please call 904-8418 for more information.

**Sept. 6**

Are you looking for an exciting way to make friends and help out in the community? Come to the informational meeting of the Circle K Club of MTSU on Wed., Sept. 6, at 8:45 p.m. in KUC 314. For more information visit [www.geocities.com/mtsucirclek](http://www.geocities.com/mtsucirclek).

**Sept. 11**

The Founder's Day celebration will be held at the Alumni Center from 9-11 a.m. and in the KUC Courtyard from 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m.

**Sept. 12**

The Spitfire Tour will be held in Tucker Theatre at 7 p.m.

**Sept. 13**

All students are encouraged to participate in the 2000 student organization fair on Wed., Sept. 13 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the KUC courtyard. Several MTSU student organizations will set up displays and pass out information on how to get involved on campus. Free food and drinks will be served. Call 904-8418 for more details.

**Sept. 14**

The first MTSU volunteer fair will be held from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Thursday, Sept. 14. Students and student organizations wishing to become involved in community service both on and off campus may come by to talk with representatives from area community agencies. Free drinks will be served. Call 904-8418 for more information.

**Ongoing**

The Presbyterian Student Fellowship welcomes everyone on Wed. nights at 7 p.m. to a fellowship of study, singing, friends and fun. For more information call Rich at 893-1787 or Mary at 867-7370.

The Victory Church and Raider Victory Ministries invite everyone to attend their service on Sundays in the KUC Theater at 10 a.m.

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## Dance: Instructor takes farewell bow

Continued from 6

"Without Angela people will lose interest," predicted dance minor Maria Lucchesi. "I'm really comfortable with Angela and want to take [dance] from someone I know."

Armstrong said that one section of dance production closed this semester due to lack of enrollment. Approximately eight students signed up for the other section, whereas last semester 30 students enrolled.

Armstrong, who graduated with a Master's Degree of Science in Health and Physical Education in December of

1999, would like nothing more than to stay at MTSU, where she was a graduate teaching assistant for two years and an adjunct for another.

While working on her undergraduate degree in Business Administration and Finance, Armstrong became bogged down with stressful classes and needed some release, she said.

So she waltzed her way into dance club and has been there ever since.

"It just blossomed," she explained. "I just found a passion that is uncontrollable and I love it with all of my heart."

Armstrong said she is staying one more semester because she "felt obligated to hang in there" with the dance students.

"I could not bear to leave them," she said. "I had so many people ask me, beg me and even cry for me to stay because they just could not imagine it without me."

Although Armstrong isn't sure whether she will continue teaching classes and dance club after this semester, she says she is planning to be "an adamant part of making them and this program a success." ♦



Visit Sidelines on the web at:  
[www.sidelines.mtsu.edu](http://www.sidelines.mtsu.edu)

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If you are, you're invited to the first Midlander Staff meeting of the semester, 4-5p.m. Sept 6, and 3-4p.m. Sept 7 in James Union Building 308B. If you have questions, call 898-2815.

## Tomorrow's Memories Today

## STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

The deadline to apply for student activity fee funds is **Friday, September 15.**

Applications for funds are now available in KUC 130

To be eligible for funds, you **MUST** attend one of the Student Organization Orientation sessions

Orientation will take place on the following:

Thursday, August 31	3:00 P.M.	KUC 322
Tuesday, September 05	4:00 P.M.	KUC 322
Wednesday, September 06	5:00 P.M.	KUC 322

For further information call 898-2750.

## Hall leads on and off the field

By Michael Edwards

Growing up in a town with less than 1,000 people, there is not much for children to do.

This was the dilemma for MTSU senior offensive lineman Barry Hall.

The town was Fairmount, Ga., and the population was 657. Playing sports was the only option for Hall and his friends.

The only decision to make was which sport to play.

"That's all we did," Hall said. "We didn't have Nintendo and computers. We had basketball, football and baseball."

As the son of Joe and Pat Hall, Barry shined at football - mainly because of his size.

Today, he is 6-foot-6 and

weighs over 300 pounds, and although he has always been the biggest, Hall played quarterback as a child.

There is no need, however, for 300-pound quarterbacks.

For the Blue Raiders, Hall works as an offensive tackle protecting the position where he once excelled. This is a position he would not trade, and has a certain fondness for that only players could have.

"I like being big and nasty. You don't get much publicity, but it's the best position on the field," Hall said. "We ain't like those little [defensive backs] and wide outs, we get hit every play."

On the Blue Raider team, he is forced to assume more than

just the role of lineman. As the guy that has been on the team going on five years, Hall has embraced the role of leader.

Although he is not the most vocal, he leads by example on and off the field.

"These young guys look up to me a little bit," Hall said. "When Coach [McCollum] says 'room check at 11,' I've got to make sure I am in at 11."

Another reason he is a leader is that he is arguably the best lineman on the Blue Raider team. Success has been his style individually, but he credits that to his parents and another person, whom he says played a major role in his development as a young man.

"My grandfather died when I

was 10," Hall said, "but he was like my parents in that he would take me to practices and throw the ball with me."

After a 3-8 season a year ago reasons to quit can pile up, but for this future coach, the love of the game keeps him focused.

"I want to play as long as I can," Hall said. "When I walk off the field, I want to know that I gave it all I had."

That time may come soon for Hall as a Blue Raider. When he leaves the university, he wants to be remembered as someone who never gave up.

"I want people to think of me as someone that never quit."

See Hall, 10

## Blue Raider Bulletin

### Football

Sept 2 @ Illinois 2:30 p.m.

### Soccer

Sept 1 @ Arkansas-Little Rock 5:00 p.m.

Sept 3 @ Memphis 4:30 p.m.

### Volleyball

Sept 1-2 Pepperdine Tournament

### Golf

Sept 2-3 Gunby Jordan Intercollegiate

\*Students get in free to home games with ID.



Cox defends a Southeastern Louisiana attacker during Sunday afternoon's match. The Lady Raiders were shutout 3-0.

Photo by James Evans | Editor in Chief

## Volleyball defeats alumni team in season primer

By MT Media Relations

The 2000 Middle Tennessee volleyball team took to the court today for the annual alumni game. The Lady Raiders defeated the spirited alumni squad in every game of the unofficial match (15-6, 15-11, 15-11, 15-11, 15-7).

While the alumni team is certainly not the toughest competition the Lady Raiders will face this season, the good-natured match afforded the Middle Tennessee players a first chance to play together as a team in a game situation. The practice run is particularly helpful for a team with four incoming freshman who are likely to see time on the court.

This years alumni game also provided the team a much-needed opportunity to play without senior outside-hitter and leader Abby Hartup. Hartup is currently out with a broken hand but hopes to be back by the start of conference play.

This was an opportunity for us to adjust to not having Abby on the floor anymore, said head coach Lisa Kisse. She was our best passer. Our passing was good today, but its great when we have Abby. It was strange at first, not to have her out there.

The Lady Raiders start the season on the road September 1 at the Pepperdine Tournament in Malibu, CA. They will take on Wright State on September 1 at 9:30 p.m. (CST) before challenging two top-ranked teams on September 2. Middle Tennessee goes up against 8th ranked (AVCA) host Pepperdine at 12:00 noon (CST) and then wraps up tournament play with No. 22 (AVCA) Northern Iowa at 9:30 p.m. (CST).

I believe we will match up pretty well against Wright State, said Kisse of the upcoming tournament. Obviously the more experienced teams are Pepperdine and Northern Iowa. Pepperdine is No. 9 (Volleyball Magazine) and Northern Iowa went 30-1 last year. They are going to be more experienced than us and more seasoned against high-quality competition, but thats what we want.

Fans can catch the first Lady Raider home match versus Tennessee State on September 6 at 7:00 p.m. ♦

## SLU wears down Lady Raiders

By Josh Ezzell  
Staff Reporter

Going through changes can be rough.

The MTSU women's soccer team found that out in its season opener against Southeastern Louisiana University.

Beginning the first season in the Sun Belt Conference with a new coach - Scott Ginn - the Lady Raiders fell 3-0.

"We got fatigued," Ginn said. "We played well during the first 20 minutes, but we got worn down."

SLU outshot the Lady Raiders 21-7. MTSU had one shot during the second half.

"We had to come out of our style

a little bit," Ginn said. "We weren't able to hold the ball on the attack. We gave them the ball a little too much."

SLU, unlike Lady Raiders, converted on the attack.

With 47:49 expired, SLU cracked the scoreboard. Kendra Oney took a Cory Cochrane pass and chipped in an empty netter from a few feet away. Goalkeeper Jennifer Robb left the pass trying to intercept Cochrane's pass.

"It was a good through ball," Oney said about the goal. "I had a lucky touch in transition."

SLU was just beginning.

After three more shots on goal, SLU scored again at the 78:31 mark. Becca Weingartner converted this time from 30 yards out. The ball went

into goalkeeper Jennifer Robb's hands.

"The goal was my fault," Robb said about the second goal. "I tried to catch the ball when I should have tipped it over the goal."

SLU finished off the Lady Raiders a few minutes later.

Erin Spizale, like Weingartner, connected from 30 yards out. The ball looked to be going over the goal. But at the last moment it dropped down into the net.

"I'll take the blame for it," Robb said. "But someone should've attacked the ball."

MTSU had its best scoring opportunity in the first half.

Allison Schulz just missed from the left at the 28-minute mark. After

the ball bounced off goalie Nicole Helmig's hands, Schulz was left with an open net.

She didn't connect.

"The ball slipped off my foot," Schulz said. "The ball was slippery. The weather was definitely a factor."

The Lady Raiders never recovered. SLU gained the momentum at that point and controlled the ball for the majority of the game.

The Lady Raiders only attempted three shots the rest of the game.

"We lost the ball in midfield," Schulz said. "We didn't get the 50-50 balls that could go either way."

The Lady Raiders next game is Sept. 1 at Arkansas-Little Rock. ♦

## Fowler possible candidate for N.C. State AD



Fowler

### Staff Reports

MTSU's athletic director has been named as one of eight possible candidates for the same position at North Carolina State University.

If selected, Fowler would be replacing Les Robinson as athletic director.

Robinson is leaving N.C. State to become AD at The Citadel.

Although Fowler was not looking to make a move, he is open to the opportunity.

"I have been contacted by them and talked to the search

firm and somebody that nominated me for the job," Fowler said to *The Tennessean*. "They asked if I was interested and I told them that I would definitely be interested in talking to them. That's kind of where it stands."

Fowler has been with MTSU for six years and also serves as the chairman of the NCAA's television sub-committee for basketball.

N.C. State officials interviewed Fowler on Sunday and are expected to make a decision in early September. ♦

## Futbol takes backseat to football

### Kicker of a different kind to start first season

By R. Colin Fly  
Staff Reporter

Jenny Cox loved Friday night football as much as the other 800 or so girls at her high school.

In fact, she went to every game her senior season at Kenwood High in Clarksville, Tenn. She cheered for her Knights as loud as any supporter.

However, she also kicked in whenever she could.

Cox became the first ever female in the state of Tennessee to win All-State recognition as a placekicker for her football team at Kenwood High.

Her senior season, she converted 4 of 7 field goal attempts, including a 39-yarder, as well as

completing 37 of 39 extra point attempts.

Cox was a key player in Kenwood's state championship run, which ended in the semifinals. She converted an overtime field goal that eliminated Tullahoma in the first round of the playoffs.

However, it's the other kind of football that will earn Cox recognition at MTSU.

Cox, a 5-foot-10 midfielder, is part of a talented freshman



Cox

class of soccer players, including Lindsey Bopp, Emily Carter and Emily Shrum. Cox led her high school team in goals three consecutive years, netting 45 her senior season, as well as being an All-District and All-Area player all four years.

The transition from football to soccer was an easy one for Cox.

"My kicking technique in football was not that different than soccer," Cox said. "The major difference was that I don't have 11 guys on defense charging after me."

Even as a freshman, Cox wants to emerge as a leader on a team that has just four seniors.

"Freshman is just a title," Cox said. "I want to go into the season confident, but not overly

cocky, step up and maybe take a starter's role."

The departure of head coach Colette Gilligan and leading scorer Hailee Walsh, both of whom headed to Minnesota, leave several questions unanswered for the team. However, with new head coach Scott Ginn, the Raiders also have a new attitude.

That suits Cox just fine. "We all have high expectations with Coach Ginn," Cox said. "If we play hard, we can go far in the [Sun Belt]."

The Lady Raiders opened their season Sunday against Southeast Louisiana. They take their act on the road against Arkansas-Little Rock on Friday. ♦

# Johnson adds stability to QB position

By Michael Williams

Jason Johnson wore a red-shirt during two-a-days a couple of weeks ago. The one that says to everyone - "don't-touch-me". But it really didn't matter. Johnson could've worn a jersey with a bulls-eye painted on it that said "give me your best shot," and defensive lineman would've still had a hard time laying a glove on the shifty junior quarterback.

But it's not just the mobility you notice. On one play, after side-stepping a couple of behemoths looking to hit him so hard his nearest relative would've felt it, Johnson calmly slid to his right, spied Hansford Johnson roaming the back of the end zone, and fired a perfect strike that stuck between the numbers on his chest.

It all reminded you of another big, mobile, strong-armed quarterback playing just up the road in Nashville.

"Steve McNair, Donovan McNabb - I love those guys," says Johnson. "I hope to be playing on their level some day."

At 6'2", 210, and with room to grow, he is the prototype of what NFL teams seem to be in the market for these days. But for now, Johnson is listed just behind starting quarterback Wes Counts on this year's Blue Raider offensive unit, although, he says, it's not a position he's particularly comfortable with.



Photo Provided

"I came here to compete for a starting job," he says. "I don't want to back anybody up."

Of course, he's got his work cut out for him seeing how Counts earned the starters job out-right a year ago as he set five new single-game records and six single-season passing marks and is on pace to become

perhaps the most prolific passer in Blue Raider history.

But one look at Johnson's past accomplishments and you can see why he is so wound up to get in the game. A transfer from Northwest Mississippi Community College, Johnson's JUCO team was more like a run and gun, pick-up basketball

team with him running the show. While with his JUCO squad, he rang up over 2,100 yards passing and threw an astonishing 31 touchdowns. When his season was over, Johnson had led his team in producing 516 total yards of offense per game, good for sixth in the nation, and an 11-1 record. His

team went on to win the state junior college championship and Johnson was later named the MVP of the Mississippi JUCO All-Star Game.

But numbers aside, Johnson maintains that he's ready to start slugging it out now, at this new level.

"I love to play," he says. "And I just see myself going out there and playing as hard as I can every game and just trying to win. I get along with everybody really well. At practice, I try to sit back and watch Wes. He really understands this offense and it's really good for me to watch him and try to pick on some of the little things he does."

But, again, the term "starting quarterback" still echoes throughout Johnson's mind. And with that being the case, does it make life a bit more difficult in the starting line-up for Head Coach Andy McCollum?

"Not at all," he says. "I would hope Jason's got the attitude of not wanting to back anybody up, or else we recruited the wrong guy. Last year we went through the whole year, pretty much having to rely on just Wes, and that got to be a little nerve-racking at times. But this year, it's a lot more comfortable knowing that we've got Jason back there ready to come in. He's very athletic and has a great personality for a quarterback." ♦

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This Week's Game:  
**MTSU @ Illinois**

## Hall: MTSU's 6-foot-6 senior lineman never quits

Continued from 9

Hall said, "no matter whether it was on the field or in the classroom."

This kind of attitude has certainly gotten the attention and respect of head football coach Andy McCollum who said Hall is just what this program needs.

"Barry Hall? Shoot. Give me a bunch of Barry Hall's and we will continue to get better," McCollum said. "He never misses a day of workouts, and he is going to do everything

needs to do to become successful.

"When it's time for him to

"I want to play as long as I can. When I walk off the field, I want to know that I gave it all I had."

walk off the field and represent the program, you can't find a better person."

Within the Blue Raider program, no one has more emotion

about football than Hall. After a heart breaking home loss last season, he ran off the field with

his face in his jersey.

"When I walked in here, Barry was the guy that had a hunger to be successful," McCollum said. "After one year,

it hurts him to lose. If it doesn't hurt to lose then why play the game? If it hurts, it hurts."

When his career is over and that time will come, Hall wants to devote his life to teaching and coaching kids in the game, which he loves so much.

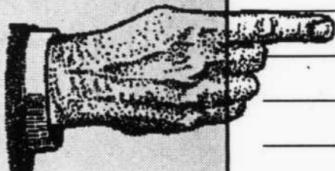
"I want to be a great teacher," Hall said, "and give the love that I have for the game and for life in general to other kids."

"The good Lord let me play as long as I have so I think I'll be happy with it when it is over." ♦

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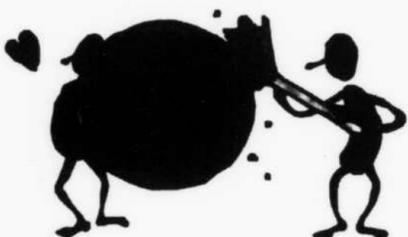
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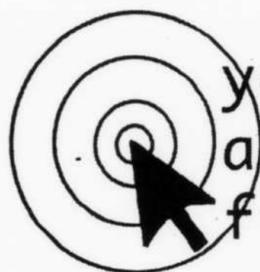


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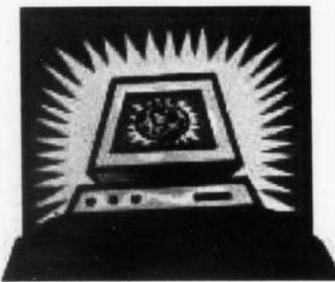
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