



Dukes files lawsuit against MTSU, Powell

Candace Parker
Contributor

A former MTSU student has filed a sexual harassment lawsuit against the university and a professor.

Donna Denise Dukes claims that MTSU failed to properly reprimand Dennis Powell, professor of criminal justice, for sexually harassing her in the fall of 1998. She is suing for compensatory and punitive damages of \$2.5 million and attorney fees.

MTSU and Powell are accused of violating Title IX, a 1972 federal law regarding gender equity in education, and the Tennessee Human Rights Act. Dukes makes charges of negligent supervision, assault and battery, and outrageous conduct.

Attorneys for Dukes, Powell and MTSU declined comment on the case, which is before Magistrate Judge Joe Brown of the U.S. District Court in Nashville.

An internal investigation previously done by the university found that Powell had committed sexual harassment against Dukes. As punishment, the university asked Powell not to teach 1999 summer session classes, and urged him to apologize in writing to the victim.

Powell appealed the decision of the Equal Opportunity and Affirmative Action Office, but later withdrew the appeal.

According to documents in the federal court case, Powell maintains his innocence and denies every allegation. However, Powell admitted in writing that he had "slapped the student on the right hip area and said something like, 'Move woman,'" according to the report of the university's

EO/AAO, which heard the original sexual harassment complaint.

MTSU filed a motion to be dismissed from the lawsuit on the grounds of sovereign immunity and lack of subject matter jurisdiction. Attorneys for MTSU argued that the 11th Amendment of the Constitution "recognizes state sovereign immunity by barring federal court lawsuits by private citizens against the states."

Dukes' attorney filed to the university's motion last Monday, and attorneys for both defendants — MTSU and Powell — have until March 10 to respond to those arguments. No further court dates have been set.

In a separate motion filed earlier by Dukes' attorney, MTSU is said to have known of previous sexual harassment allegations against Powell and failed to take the measures to prevent the harassment.

Students' and faculty members' statements on Powell's actions in the past were included in the EO/AAO report.

"I did not pay my tuition money for college to hear about this professor's drug-related experiences or to be harassed sexually by someone who is supposed to be teaching me about the Criminal Justice System," wrote one student.

In the report, Dukes states that Powell fondled her breast while riding in her car.

After Dukes told him to stop, Powell made a suggestive remark. Powell also allegedly grabbed Dukes' buttocks several times while she was a student worker in the criminal justice department office.

Powell currently is a professor of criminal justice administration. Dukes now resides in Austin, Texas. ■

Farewell, old friend

Raiders end Eagles' season, OVC rivalry

R. Colin Fly
Staff Reporter

Two staples of the Ohio Valley Conference met one last time Tuesday night as MTSU defeated Tennessee Technological University 87-70 at the Elben Center in Cookeville, Tenn.

The 140th and last meeting encapsulated the last 75 years, as a streaking Raiders team pulled out a clutch performance on the road against the Eagles.

Junior center Lee Nosse led the Raider charge with 32 points and nine rebounds while the defense stifled the Eagles, who shot an icy 33 percent from the field.

"[Tennessee Tech] is the last place we wanted to come," MTSU head coach Randy Wiel said. "They are always ready for this game. It's sad for the fans that [the series] has to end."

"It's a heated rivalry and good for the game. Hopefully they'll set up an out-of-conference series, but it won't be the same as this," sophomore forward Iro Tenngren said.

MTSU and Tech have both been in the Ohio Valley conference since the early 1950s. However, the MTSU-Tennessee Tech rivalry dates back to 1926 when MTSU was called Middle Tennessee Normal School, coached by Guy Stephenson.

The "Normalites" doubled Tech, winning 40-20. In fact, MTSU won the first three meetings against the Golden Eagles.

The two institutions have very similar programs which have excelled at very different times. Both the Eagles and Raiders have won four regular season conference championships. However, MTSU has won five OVC tournaments to Tech's one.

In 140 meetings, Tech won the series 81-59. Tech also edged the Raiders in the 90s, going 12-10 over the decade. These two teams have shared a multitude of meaningful games in the Ohio Valley Conference.

In 1958, coming off a championship season the previous year, Tech once again was the cream of the crop in the OVC, led by Jimmy Hagan. Hagan averaged 29 points and 18 rebounds. However, the talent-laden Eagles were defeated 87-75 by a Raiders' team that won only 9 games all season.

The 1974-75 season was super in MTSU history. The Raiders went 23-5, winning the conference and tournament championships, then



Photo by R. Colin Fly | Staff Photographer

Jonathan Whitworth pushes the ball up court Tuesday at Tech.

appearing for the first time ever in the NCAA tournament. George Sorrell won OVC playoff games, averaging 17.0 points and 13.3 rebounds a game.

Tech placed the Raiders in one of their toughest battles. In the midst of a 13 game-winning streak, the Raiders traveled to Cookeville and escaped with a 67-65 win.

The next year, Tech had its revenge, beating Coach Jimmy Earle's Raiders 96-89 and effectively dethroning MTSU as conference champions.

In 1981-82 MTSU defeated Kentucky in the NCAA tournament by six before losing to Louisville 81-56. That year, the Raiders (22-8) split the season

series with the Eagles, winning 88-63 at home and losing 75-61 in Cookeville.

Coach Bruce Stewart's squads of 1985-1991 dominated the Golden Eagles, at one point winning nine in a row.

In 1985, Tech defeated the Raiders in both regular season matches. However, in the OVC tournament the Raiders won a defensive battle 54-52 on the way to the eventual tournament championship and a date in the NCAA tournament.

In 1989, the last trip for the Raiders to the NCAA tournament, MTSU swept the season series, once again pulling off an inspirational win in Cookeville, 79-77, while win-

ning back in Murfreesboro later in the year, 89-68.

In a rivalry of 140 games, history one day will look back and see the 139th meeting as the greatest ever between these two rivals.

In quadruple overtime, the Raiders defeated the Golden Eagles 108-104, the third highest scoring game between two teams in MTSU history.

MTSU jumped out to an early lead with a blazing shooting percentage. However, the Raiders turned the ball over 30 times, negating their scoring punch.

Many heroes emerged after 60 minutes of play. MTSU's

See Tech, 10

Interfraternal Council brings home honors

Jenny Cordle
News Editor

The highest honor a university can receive with respect to fraternities sits atop a shelf in the Greek Life director's office.

The Interfraternity Council took home the Fraternal Excellence Award Feb. 20 for the third time after a four-day visit to Atlanta at the annual Southeastern Interfraternity Conference Leadership Academy.

"Our council has done an excellent job at making sure that what we do is the right thing to do," said Victor Felts, director of Greek Life. "It's easy to do the popular thing, but doing the right thing has been really beneficial for us."

Interfraternity Councils from 11 states attended the conference, which is held throughout four regions.

The MTSU Interfraternity Council includes each fraternity president and one delegate from each of the 11 campus fraternities.

Councils must qualify for two of the following categories to be considered for the award: leadership development, public relations, judicial process, publications, chapter services, recruitment, philanthropy and community service, management, legal concerns and social programs.

MTSU's Council qualified in all categories. Felts said he thinks the Interfraternity

Council's strongest categories are recruitment and management.

"It's a trend in the U.S. for less and less people to join fraternities," Felts said. "However, at MTSU, our numbers have gone up every year for the past five years."

Interfraternity Council President Aaron Reid, who has been a member of Sigma Phi Epsilon since 1998, said the award represents "how far we've come toward a more united fraternity system."

"The award shows that we are a leader among many schools," said Reid.

Reid agreed that recruitment is one of the fraternities' strong suits.

"We're not only bringing in more people, but people with better grades," he said.

Reid said the fraternities' eagerness to tackle "more ambitious projects" shows that the community service and philanthropy aspects are stronger.

But the Interfraternity Council has more to be proud of.

Delegates at the SEIFC elected sophomore David Dodd, who pledged to Pi Kappa Alpha in fall of 1998, to serve as regional vice president of the conference.

As vice president, Dodd is expected to plan the 2001 Leadership Academy, which includes corresponding with members throughout the Southeast, helping provide edu-

See Frats, 3

Online voting eases election hassles

Mary Anna Brown
SGA Reporter

For the first time, Student Government Elections will be held online via WebMT.

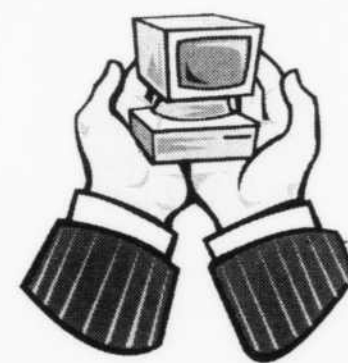
"There are so many advantages to online voting," Student Commissioner Julie Shew said.

"It will be faster, easier, and it saves money."

Due to the online voting, funding will no longer be necessary to pay poll workers or polling booths.

There will also be no more standing in line, hunting for student IDs or scheduling conflicts.

"We project that this year, elections will have a better turnout," Shew said. "This in turn makes for a better representation of the student body as a



whole."

Students can vote from any computer with Internet access regardless of whether they are on campus, in the library or in a computer lab, at home or in a dorm room.

To vote via WebMT, students should sign-in as usual with their Social Security Number and password.

Students should choose the menu option labeled "SGA Voting" and click on the bubble beside the candidate's name they choose.

At the bottom of each listing of candidates, there is a blank for any write-in candidate the voter may wish to nominate.

"This is the first time we have tried the online voting at MTSU and as of right now, we do not foresee any problems," Shew said. "It will be a learning experience and I'm sure that next year we will want to change things. Nothing can ever be perfected the first time."

WebMT security and possible ballot tampering has been a concern, however, the online voting provides excellent security and will ease the tabulating of votes.

Student Government

Elections 2000 will be held from 7 a.m. to 11 p.m. March 6-10, the normal hours of WebMT operation.

There will also be a computer available in the Keathley University Center second floor lobby from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. throughout election week.

"In order to encourage students to vote, Aramark Food Services has donated special cups to be given out when students vote specifically at this cart," Shew said. "Students will receive 25 cent refills on soft drinks during election week."

Results of the election will be posted tentatively Monday, March 13.

Students can check out online candidate profiles at SGA.mtsu.edu/vote/president.htm. ■



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On Campus

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

March 3-5

Campus Recreation is hosting a backpacking and rappelling trip to Sipsey Wilderness, Ala. A pre-trip meeting will be held at the Campus Recreation Center March 1 at 5 p.m. Contact Mitch, Sean or Karolyn at 898-2104 for more information.

March 9

Campus Recreation and Nutrition Services is sponsoring a Fitness Awareness Fair from 1-4 p.m. in the Campus Recreation Lounge. Find out your body composition, weight, blood pressure, flexibility and cardiovascular fitness. Nutritional and fitness educational materials will be available to all participants. For more information, call Jerry or Allison at 898-2104.

March 10

The General Studies Committee will be holding an open forum in order to give feedback before a final version of the General Studies Mission Statement is drafted. The meeting will be from 1:30-2:30 p.m. in BAS, Room S126. For more information, call Bill Bradley, director of general studies, at 898-8416.

March 13-17

Safe Spring Break Week 2000 will be hosting several events. To participate in Alcohol 101, The Condom Carnival and self-defense demonstrations, stop by the KUC Grill. For more information, call Gina Poff or Kerry Lane at 898-2454.

March 14

Campus Recreation is sponsoring a bench press contest. Participants must register by March 10. The cost is \$5 for individuals and \$10 for teams (five to a team). Contact Allison or Jerry at 898-2104 for more information.

March 15 & 16

Two faculty open forums are scheduled to be held in BAS, State Farm Lecture Hall, Room S102/204 at 1:30 p.m. The faculty is encouraged to attend these meetings to discuss faculty issues or other university matters of interest.

March 16

Alpha Omicron Pi and Student Development, in conjunction with Safe Spring Break Week 2000, will be hosting "Mock Around the Block," a night with "mocktails" and educational information about

the effects of alcohol. The event will take place on Greek Row at 8:00 p.m. All students, faculty and staff are invited. Contact Kerry Lane at 898-2454 for more information.

March 25-31

The Campus Recreation Center will host a ski summit to Colorado for spring break. There will be a pre-trip meeting on March 14. Two price packages are available. A \$200 deposit will reserve a spot. For more information, call Mitch, Sean or W.T. at 898-2104.

March 25-April 2

Outdoor Pursuits is hosting a raft, canoe and funyack trip of the Rio Grande. The cost is \$199 for students with a limit of 15 participants. For more information, call W.T. at 898-2104.

Ongoing

Cyber Cafe at Woodmore presents "Open Mic Night" every Monday from 7:30 - 10:30 p.m.

Raider Victory Ministry and Champions for Christ are holding weekly Bible meetings on Mondays at 7 p.m. in Scarlet Commons, Room 317. Contact

Delvin Pikes at 896-2348 for more information. They are also holding worship services on Sundays at 10 a.m. in AMG Alumni Gym. The service is open to students, faculty and the community. For more information, contact Delvin Pikes at 896-2348.

The Lambda Association welcomes gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgendered and straight students to general interest meetings every Tuesday at 7 p.m. in BAS, Room S301. Contact Tony Gowell at 867-3658 for more information.

The MTSU Crime Stoppers Board is currently looking for people interested in joining its Board of Directors, especially graduate and undergraduate students. If you are a full-time student or employee at MTSU and wish to apply for one of these openings, pick up an application at either the campus police department or KUC 303.

Students for Environmental Action invite all students to weekly meetings every Wed. at 6 p.m. in Peck Hall, Room 201. For more information, e-mail Lori Bruner at greenmind@home.com.



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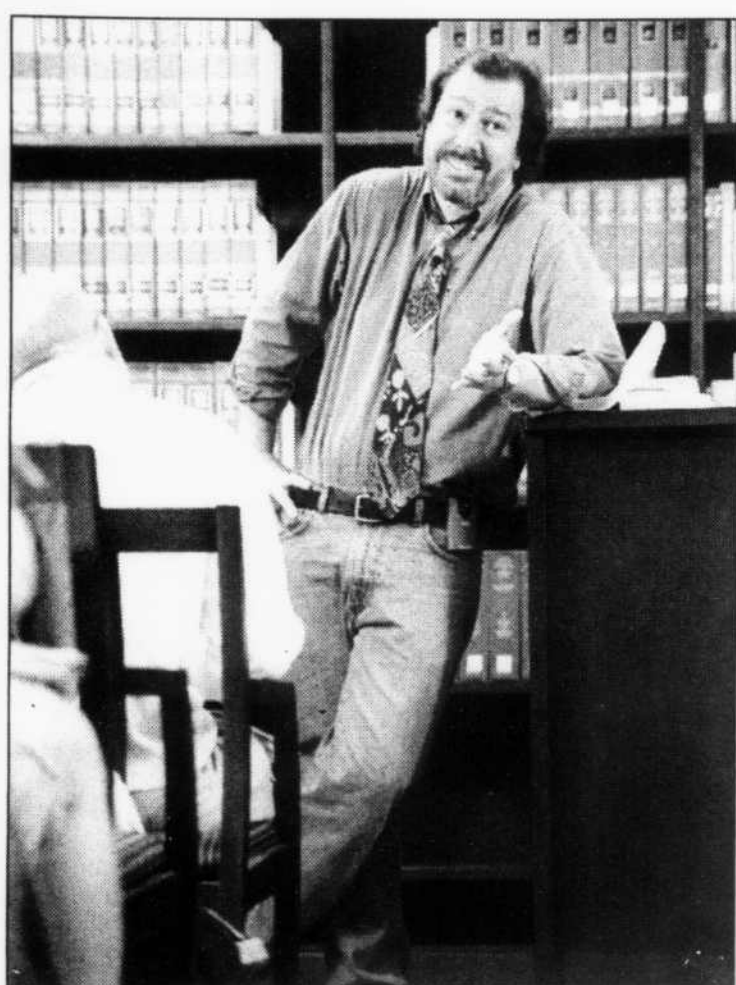


Photo by Grant Fletcher | Staff Photographer
Michael Principe, philosophy professor, discussed "Class Power and Class Struggle" Monday at the University Library as part of the Honors Lecture Series.



Photo by Dave Cerchiaro | Staff Photographer
Author Yolanda Joe discussed the art of the writing business Tuesday as part of the African American Studies Lectures at the BAS.

Frats: IFC, Dodd honored for leadership

Continued from 1

cational speakers for local campuses and organizing the awards ceremony.

"This gives me a chance to represent the school as well as the Interfraternity Council," said Dodd.

Dodd's platform includes establishing a speaker's network between Interfraternity Councils throughout Tennessee, Kentucky, and Virginia to provide better communication between councils.

Dodd said the speakers

would visit campus to discuss fraternal rituals such as hazing.

He also said he thinks more people are joining fraternities "because people are finally starting to realize what fraternities and sororities are truly about, which includes having fun with brothers and getting involved in community service projects."

Reid said he is "very confident about David's abilities because he voluntarily takes on projects."

The SEIFC Leadership Academy is held annually in Atlanta, Georgia. ■

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SGA Election 2000 candidates discuss issues

Mary Anna Brown
SGA Reporter

Student government elections are coming up next week. Whom will you vote for? It is important to know what each of the candidates represent in order to adequately choose the person who will represent the student body. The purpose of the candidate profiles below are to give you, the student, insight into what each candidate believes. Voting will be through WebMT March 6-10.

1. What kind of experience do you have that qualifies you for the position you are running for?
2. What do you feel are the top five most important issues in need of addressing on campus?
3. Is student apathy and lack of motivation a problem on our campus? How do you tackle the issue of apathy/lack of motivation?
4. Should student government be run by a bicameral or a unicameral system? If elected, do you plan to support or dissolve the house? Why?
6. What do you say to people who think that SGA cannot pass legislation and make change happen on campus? How do you think you could conquer the student body's negative attitude towards SGA?

Presidential Candidates

John Marshall

1. Throughout my life, my family and faith have given me the guiding principle to make a positive difference in the lives of others. It is with this guiding principle that I have served as a former State FFA President, National FFA Alumni Board of Directors member and currently a motivational conference presenter for high school students across the country. While representing 450,000 student members, I



have had the opportunity to travel to 40 states and five countries to meet with students, corporate executives and government leaders. On campus, I am a member of the Alpha Gamma Rho fraternity and a former president of the School of Agribusiness and Agriscience student council and member of the House of Representatives. I am currently a Senator for the college of Basic and Applied Science. Also, I serve on the Senate Judiciary, General Studies and University Union committees.

2. a) A packing service that communicate positively to all students and not in search of a dollar, b) better communication between students, SGA, faculty, organizations and administration and a student government that is not content with waiting on students to come to the office to voice their concerns, but instead goes to you by hitting the hallways, classrooms, and cafeterias to make it convenient for you to voice your concerns, c) an SGA that should be as diversified as our student body, d) more services and programs offered to students at no cost, e) more flexible hours for facilities that students need access to.

3. It bothers me sometimes when people criticize our student body as being lazy, apathetic, or lacking motivation. First of all, most students I know have bills to pay, a full load of classes, and sometimes have two jobs and a family to support. I believe most students would like to be more involved on campus and a part of organizations, but most cannot. Along with that you have to provide services and events on campus that students will want to take part in. One of the main reasons for increasing the student activity fee was to have more money for programs and activities on campus for students. We have the funds and now we should use them to implement new programs and services to students at a low or no cost.

4. Personally, I have seen

both systems in action and I support a move to a unicameral system. However, as SGA president my job is to provide facts for both sides of the issue and let the students decide what's best for them. If students vote to change then I will support it. No matter what happens there are changes that need to happen to increase awareness and involvement in the current bicameral or proposed unicameral systems so that either systems can effectively voice the concerns of all students and organizations.

6. My feelings are that if you don't inform students and give them an opportunity to become a part of the process then you will have a lot of questions about whether or not SGA is effective. The thing SGA needs to do is to become more effective in informing and communicating with students about what we are doing for them and all important issues that they should be concerned with. The most effective SGA is an SGA that works to bridge the communication gap between students, faculty and administration. The SGA team consists of each of these three groups and like a team, we have to work together, not against each other.

Nathaniel Mills

1. The only meaningful qualifications for this office are honesty, integrity, fairness, the ability to work with others, and an agenda worth pursuing. I have all of these qualifications, and one more...a willingness to make sufficient noise to get things done.

2. During this campaign I have focused on the following issues: a) dorm visitation—For those of us who live on campus, our dorm room is our home. We should have the right to invite guests into our homes when we choose. The recurrent restrictive dorm visitation policies need to be abolished; b) student



owned bookstore—Everyone would like to buy textbooks at lower prices. Everyone would like to get a rebate for bookstore purchases at the end of every semester. These things are a reality at schools across the country where students have formed a student owned cooperative bookstores. Every student at MTSU would benefit in a tangible way from a student owned bookstore at MTSU; c) Internet access—I am pleased to see that the University has announced plans to make Internet connections available in every dorm room. However, I am aware of no plans to provide dial-up connections for students who live off campus. We pay the same \$100 technology fee that students at UT Knoxville and UT Martin pay every semester. Why is MTSU so far behind those schools in providing Internet access? It's time that MTSU students get the same value that students at other Tennessee schools get for their money; d) expanded library hours—Many students need access to the library at night (after the 11:00 p.m. closing time) and on weekends. The library should be accessible to students when students need it; e) new grading policy—The new grading policy should have a grandfather clause that allows current students to choose which system they want applied to their grades—the old system or the new. Many good students will unfairly see their hard earned grade point average go down when the new system is applied. This will make it difficult for them to compete against students from other schools for graduate assistantships and scholarships.

3. There is considerable student apathy towards student government on this campus for very understandable reasons. Most students on this campus could not name a single thing that student government has ever done that positively impacted their life on campus. When a student feels disconnected from student government...when a

student forms the impression that SGA is nothing more than a social club for the campus elite...apathy is the result you might expect. How do you reverse the situation? You start by electing someone like me as SGA President. As SGA President I will not just sit in my office or dorm room and wait for unrepresented and under-represented student groups to come to me. I will go to them. I will go to their meeting, listen to their concerns, and use my office to help them achieve legitimate campus reforms.

4. I believe the students already decided that with the last referendum.

6. Let's tell the truth. Every spring we hold SGA elections and every spring a field of candidates make essentially, the same politically correct promises. MTSU students are not stupid. They are smart enough to see that nothing ever changes. Consequently, students have come to view SGA either as a silly, ineffective organization, just another social club for the campus elite, or both. What reason do they have to view it otherwise? Students will begin to respect SGA and recognize it as a valuable asset only when SGA actually accomplishes something that positively impacts the lives of students. It is my intention to make that happen. Thirty years ago when my parents were in college, campuses all over this country were aflame with student activism. Students knew they had a powerful voice and they used it. They understood serious issues against powerful resistance and they succeeded in bringing major change to both their campuses and our entire country. If our parent's generation could do that, surely we can accomplish such far less ambitious goals as creating a student-owned bookstore or putting an end to antiquated dorm visitation policies on this campus. Students still have a powerful voice. This campus just needs a leader who can show them how to use it. Please visit my webpage at

www.nathanielmills.com.

Chris Montague

1. Currently I am the president of the Iota Mu chapter of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc. I am also a mentor for the Multicultural Affairs University Program and I have worked with New Student Orientation every year that I have been at MTSU. This experience has given me the opportunity to interact with a number of students and get feedback on changes they want to see at the University. In addition, it has also exposed me to a number of faculty members and administration.

2. a) availability of resources (labs, KUC, library, etc.), b) student apathy versus student involvement, c) university to student relations, d) parking, and e) attendance of university events (athletics, student programming).

3. Student apathy is the result of administrators that are quick to sell our University to the highest bidder. For example, the parking lot on Greenland Drive (Murphy March) is sold to TSSAA every March for tournaments. If the University put the students first, more students would have positive attitudes.

4. I believe the SGA should be a bicameral system. Most students don't know who their senators are and therefore are not represented. If the house is dissolved, student organizations which have a closer relationship with the majority of students will lose their voice.

6. I encourage my peers to be realistic in their requests and to also be persistent. The negative attitude towards SGA comes from the lack of interaction between SGA officials and the student body. ■

Look for additional profiles in the next issue of "Sidelines."

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OPINIONS

Murfreesboro, TN

Thursday, March 2, 2000

SIDELINES ■ 5

From the Staff Keep hands off the press

If the Nashville Mayor's office considered taking control of "The Tennessean," editors at that publication would probably throw back their heads and howl.

Closed meetings between deans and university administrators concerning the possible restructuring of "Sidelines" has left the paper's editorial staff in a similar state with First Amendment willies.

These unofficial discussions have considered, among other options, making "Sidelines" a "lab publication," which could place editorial control in the hands of the administration. The same hands that the press is

designed to watch.

"Sidelines" staffers agree that this paper needs more student support, constructive criticism from professors and college resources.

We don't need the administration, which is essentially the university's government, to control the ability of the newspaper to be an advocate for the students.

Due to the secret nature of these meetings, "Sidelines" reporters and editors fear the worst. Primarily, losing the right to protect the best interest of the MTSU community from the power of the state.

On the other hand, the press has a serious responsibility to the students, professors and administration of this university.

That responsibility includes honest and balanced depictions of campus events and issues, and remembering that the power of the press is a matter not to be taken lightly. If the press fails to live up to its side of the bargain, the people have a right and a duty to protest.

But do so carefully and with proper cause, for when the First Amendment is away, the government comes out to play.

Elizabeth McFadyen-Ketchum

Letters to the Editor

Respect required to coexist

In regards to the recent articles about conflict between Christian and Pagan student groups, I feel that it is my responsibility to respond as President of the Student Pagan Organization here on campus.

One issue that has been of great importance to me during my term here has been the relationship between Christian student groups and us.

Even before I became leader of the SPO, I recognized not only the hostility that exists toward Pagans from a certain few, but also a sense of bitterness on the part of many, but not all Pagans.

I understand the reasoning behind this conflict and that it is important for some to identify and attack that which is "other." I also know that we as humans have the capacity to overcome hate and misunderstanding through compassion and knowledge.

Last semester, I saw an example of the human ability to overcome this hostility. I am proud to have been a part of the Christian/Pagan Christmas/Yule dinner that the SPO held at the end of last semester. That dinner had been a dream of ours for over a year, and to see it come true nearly brought tears to my eyes.

I am proud to be a part of a people who can sit together and be friends in spite of theological differences.

Unfortunately, not everyone

is always kind and friendly. I have myself been verbally attacked for my beliefs, and I have seen other Pagans subjected to similar abuse.

To be fair, I have also seen such abuses come from Pagan mouths, and I have heard ridiculous stereotypes from both sides.

On Thursday, Feb. 24, I spent two hours chalking sidewalks to promote the SPO. As always, I tried to be careful to choose words that would attract attention, but not offend. The next day, I found that my hard work had been scribbled upon and I found childish, snippy, anti-Pagan statements written by what I had done.

It is my impression that while this does indeed fall under the category of free speech, it must also be understood that free speech comes with a responsibility to respect others.

I am disappointed in whoever decided that that was the right thing to do, but I am not surprised. I expect the members of the SPO to respect the rights and beliefs of others, and I would expect no less from anyone else.

I urge each of you to show the same respect for others as you would expect others to show you. It does not matter who you are -- we are all humans and we all must learn to live on this Earth in peace.

Jessica Scarbrough
Senior, College of
Basic and Applied Sciences

Judgement not human duty

I am writing in response to the article concerning Christian students being pitted against Pagan students at Stephen F. Austin State University.

I have found that most people always yell [for] freedom of speech when it comes to issues they are concerned with, but they try to silence anything they are against.

As a matter of fact, I witnessed a student writing an announcement on the sidewalk near Peck Hall. I, being the ever nosy college student, checked to see what she was writing.

It was an announcement of the Student Pagan Organization's weekly meeting. I thought to myself, "Hmm, I didn't know we had an organization for Pagan students."

Then, I thought about how I knew that some close-minded individual would probably decide to make some sort of remark about the organization. And, of course, first thing [the next morning] they had.

Someone had written several "Christian" remarks about the organization next to the announcements on the sidewalk. I became quite angry.

I am a Christian, and I choose not to attack other people's religions or views just because they are different.

Throughout my life I have tried to keep an open mind about other religions and have often tried to learn about them before I make any decisions about them.

I am disgusted at these students who call themselves "Christians" but choose to judge others and not abide by the laws that Christ has set for us. It is not for humans to judge the people on this Earth -- it is God's. I will pray for those students who have chosen not to follow the path of the Lord, but I will pray even more for those who say they do but don't.

Amanda Patty
Freshman, Undeclared

Harm none, do as you will

After reading both your editorial titled "All Speech Should Be Tolerated" and the article it was responding to, "Religious Banner Pits Christians Against Wiccan Students..." in the "Sidelines," Feb. 24 issue of "Sidelines," I felt that I would be neglecting my duties as Vice President of MTSU's Student Pagan Organization to not address this. I agree that the Chi Alpha Christian Fellowship should be allowed to speak its mind. Furthermore, I do not agree that their banner should be viewed as an attack on the Pagan Student Association.

Yes, it may have stated that "this campus belongs to God," but it fails to specify which

deity they are referring to. Paganism is not anti-religious, nor is it anti-God.

Pagans love God, and Goddess, often several of each. Saying that something belongs to God only reaffirms a connection to deity, -- it does not attack. Yes, perhaps it was meant to express Christian dominance over that campus. However, nothing hostile was stated, so why take offense?

"An it harm none, do as you will" is a basic tenet of Wiccan belief. Chi Alpha has every right to state their beliefs, just like any other organizations.

John W. Bryan
Senior, College of Business

Modern Dysfunction

by Rob Evans, Staff Columnist

Child's play School shooting by first-grade student begs for explanation

I was taking a nap Tuesday afternoon, enjoying my procrastinating, dreaming about my training, planning the next "Adventures of Rob" in my head.

Ahh, it was going to be such a nice trip. I had it all planned out to head to the southern coast of France next time a cold snap rolled through and train in blissfully warm weather.

Next thing I know, I am transported back to the first grade. I was trying to do something when all of a sudden all hell broke loose.

One of my classmates had a gun and had shot at another of my classmates, some girl he had gotten into a fight with the day before.

Then I woke up in sweat. "Where the heck did that come from?" I wondered. I looked up at the TV not to far from my bed -- it was tuned to CNN.

They were having up-to-the-minute coverage about an actual shooting at an elementary school in Mt. Morris, Mich.

I wasn't having a premonition or anything -- what was playing on the TV carried over into my sleep.

But this was more than just a bad dream -- it was a nightmare. Only it came true, not just for me but for every other American watching television at the same time I was.

We all thought it was over, but how were we so very wrong?

We can't understand why older students will go to a school and blow peers away, but we can find things to rationalize their actions.

"They were bullied by other students, they listened to Satanic music, they watched movies that glorified a high-school shooting."

But how can we even begin to make sense of a six-year-old taking a gun to school and doing the same?

The school shooting saga all started so long ago that we forget that it began right here, in our own state of Tennessee.

With each new incident, we continually show our disbelief and shock at how another school shooting could take place.

In the latest case the young boy fired one shot from a pistol in his pocket at the girl and killed her.

In case you didn't read it the first time: A six-year-old boy took a gun to school and shot a classmate!

If it doesn't take this latest incident to force action to do something, so help us.

We have stood by, still shaking our heads at the Columbine shooting, but we have done nothing.

The time is now to put into action a plan, some way to intervene in this unfortunate continuing occurrence.

It is not the time to begin pointing the finger, to push the responsibility off on someone else. We as a nation are all responsible.

The young boy in Mt. Morris is too young to understand the consequences of his actions.

But where did he get the idea to shoot another human being in the first place? Is it Hollywood, video games or his parents?

The gun he used was reported stolen several months ago. Should we hold the boy's parents responsible?

I am not for taking away citizens' rights to bear arms or own guns. It is a right that we need to have to protect ourselves from our own government. That is what our forefathers were thinking when they wrote our Constitution.

But if some sort of gun-control could prevent another school shooting, I am all for it.

Yet again, we all need to hold ourselves accountable. Only we can stop the next shooting. ■

Religious tolerance the bottom line

Bill Turner
Contributor

I recently found evidence on MTSU campus that religious bigotry is alive and well right here in Murfreesboro. While I can't say I was surprised, I do wish to state publicly why members of all religious organizations have a responsibility to respect the rights of others, no matter how strongly they may disagree with the views that other groups express.

On Friday, Feb. 25, as I approached Peck Hall I saw that an unnamed Christian organization had chalked messages advertising an upcoming meeting on the sidewalk. No great surprise there. Many student organizations use sidewalk chalk to advertise meetings. It's an effective technique, and all student organizations have the same right to use it.

As I left Peck, walking toward the Student Pagan Organization had also chalked messages advertising an upcoming meeting. Indeed, they had painstakingly chalked arrows, and periodic reminder messages, the entire way from Peck to KUC. Regrettably, and reprehensibly, however, some Christian had, with equal care, drawn a cross in pink chalk on every message of the Student Pagan Organization.

This is the sort of arrogant disregard for the rights of others that gives any group, but especially Christians, a bad name.

Conservative activists are fond of stating that the United States is a "Christian nation." It is true that the founders of our nation were mostly, if not exclu-

sively, Christian in some sense, although it's not clear that their understanding of Christianity was the same as the modern interpretation.

Thomas Jefferson, for example, systematically cut out all parts of the Bible that he considered inconsistent with the central message of Christianity.

By the time of the Revolution, American political leaders were well aware of the sorry history of religious bigotry and warfare that had characterized the previous 260 years of European history. As a result, the founders chose to write strong protections for freedom of religious belief and practice into the U.S. Constitution.

Students, faculty, and staff at the many private, religiously affiliated universities in Middle Tennessee have every right to discriminate against Pagans all they wish. But MTSU is a public institution, chartered by the state government of Tennessee. The amount of state revenue that we receive creates an obligation for the University to abide by the principles of the Constitution.

Therefore, students at MTSU must respect each others' rights to free expression. I call on administrators and faculty at MTSU to explain to students why the University as a whole, and every member of it, has a duty to respect the rights of all members in the University community.

The Christian in question changed neither my heart nor my mind. I am still committed to the principle that I should defend the rights of all persons equally, and resist all efforts at tyranny, whether imposed by Christians or anyone else. ■

Sidelines welcomes letters to the editor. Simply drop them by JUB 310 or email them to slopinio@mtsu.edu.



Letters may be edited for length or grammar.

SIDELINES

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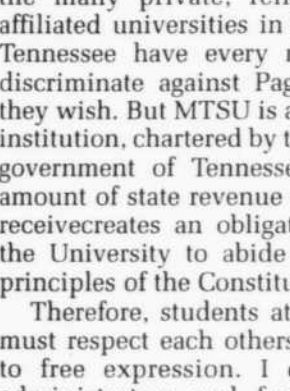
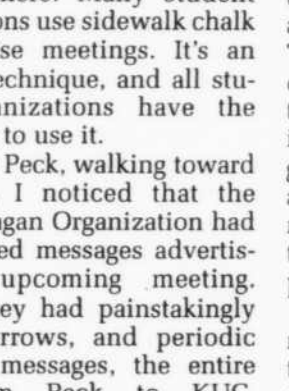
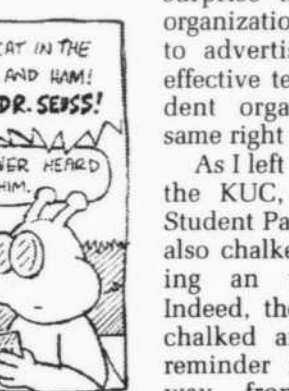
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by Lucas Antoniak



FEATURES

6 ■ SIDELINES

Thursday, March 2, 2000

Murfreesboro, TN

Safe spring break partying

University sponsors drunk driving exhibit, condom carnival as part of 'Safe Break' week

Shawn Whitsell
Staff Reporter

Spring time is near (although it feels as though spring is already here), and students are anticipating freeing their minds of facts and getting down to some real-partying.

Spring break is right around the corner, and most students will be putting down the books, picking up their swimsuits and heading to Florida, Cancun, Jamaica or the Bahamas, while others will be heading to New York, California or just back to Hometown, USA.

Wherever students are, spring break vacations can get out of hand when students party too hard.

MTSU realizes the dangers that sometimes go along with spring break, so to ensure that all MTSU students return in one piece, MTSU will host its annual Safe Break Week, otherwise known as Spring Break Awareness Week.

According to Gina Poff, Safe Spring Break committee member and director of Student Development, the purpose of this event is to bring awareness to the students in a creative way.

"Safe Spring Break week is

designed to promote safe and responsible behavior during the week of spring break. All programs and activities will encourage students to have a good time and still make sound decisions while on vacation," said Maggie Prugh, committee member and coordinator of Student Development.

"We have come up with some creative ways to catch [students'] attention," Prugh added.

Some of these creative activities include a banner contest, a drinking and driving display, a free yoga class, open mic night and a basketball shoot-out.

On March 6 there will be a banner design contest. All organizations and groups are encouraged to participate.

The banner must advertise the dates of Safe Spring Break Week and include one or more of the following themes: alcohol awareness/drinking and driving, self defense, stress management, skin cancer and care, date rape drugs or safe sex.

Speaking of safe sex, there will also be a condom carnival. During the carnival, condoms will be distributed, and there will be condom games as well.

The event was originally

held in Cummings Hall, and the response was so great that it was expanded so the entire university could take part.

"It's a creative way to educate students on safe sex," said Cathy Crooks, committee member, associate director of Residence Life and director of the peer education program.

"It also provides an atmosphere where students can feel comfortable talking about these things," Prugh added.

The planning committee looks forward to another successful Safe Spring Break week and strongly encourages everyone to participate so that they can become more aware and have fun in the process.

"We strongly encourage students to take in all activities," said Crooks.

The Safe Spring Break committee includes people from various areas of the university, and includes Brande Overton, graduate assistant at Campus Recreation; Jackie Ingram, facility supervisor for Campus Recreation; Meghan LeBoeuf, graduate assistant for Peer Educators; Kerry Lane, student representative and president of Alpha Omicron Pi and Stuart Eddings, coordinator of orientation.

For more information, call 898-2454. ■

Safe Spring Break schedule

Monday, March 6 - Banners are due at the front desk of the Rec Center by 4:30 p.m. All banners must be twin bed sheet size, include the organization's name and address one or more of the appropriate topics. Winners of the \$100 prize will be announced on Thursday, March 16.

Monday, March 13 - There will be a drinking and driving display on the Knoll, information tables inside the KUC from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m., a free yoga class (time and place TBA) and an open mic night at the Cyber Cafe.

Tuesday, March 14 - The drinking and driving display and information tables will continue. At 6 p.m., Whitney Simpson, associate director of admissions and a skin cancer survivor, will conduct a presentation on skin cancer at the Scarlett Commons clubhouse.

Wednesday, March 15 - The display and information tables will continue. A self-defense demonstration will be held from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., and the Condom Carnival will be held from 12 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Thursday, March 16 - The display and information tables will continue. The banner contest and the \$5,000 basketball shoot-out will be held at the Rec Center at 6:30 p.m. "Mock Around the Block," which will be held on Greek Row, will begin at 8 p.m. Educational materials will be on display, and mocktails will be served. The fraternity/sorority with the best mocktail party will receive a prize for \$100.

Friday, March 17 - The display and information tables will continue.

Women and Civil Rights



Jackie Eller, director of Women's Studies, observes the art work at the exhibit opening of "Changing Faces: Civil Rights at MTSU, 1965-2000" yesterday.

Photos by Dave Cerchiaro | Staff Photographer

'Drinking Room' found at Citadel

CHARLESTON, S.C. (TMS) — Eight Citadel cadets face disciplinary action for using a secret party room under an old barracks where cadets drank despite school rules against alcohol, authorities said.

The eight cadets will appear before a disciplinary board this week. Punishment could include up to 360 "tours" and confinement to campus until the tours are completed.

A tour is a 50-minute march spent in the barracks while carrying a rifle.

School officials said Thursday the room was found earlier this month.

Christmas lights were strung in the underground utility room and a beanbag chair and an old mattress were used for seating. Officials found four empty liquor bottles and a racial slur on a piece of cardboard on the wall.

Cadets found a 2-foot trap door beneath a desk that led to the 200-square-foot

room, which had a dirt floor and walls.

No one knows exactly how long cadets had been using it, but a college spokesman said it may have been used for years.

The Padgett-Thomas barracks, the oldest on campus, were built in 1922. The trap door and underground rooms were once used for access to pipes and mechanical equipment.

The rooms had been sealed off years ago and maintenance crews on Thursday permanently sealed the trap door, Anderson said.

The room was discovered during a night inspection to make sure cadets were all in their rooms.

The cadet making the inspection knocked on the barracks room door but did not immediately receive an answer. A few minutes later, five or six cadets came running out. The other cadets came forward later. ■

Popular music-swapping program clogs college computer networks

Patrick Kerkstra
Knight-Ridder Tribune

Say the word napster to college administrators lately, and the image that springs to their collective minds is not a slacking sophomore dozing off in statistics class.

Nowadays, Napster is better known as the computer program wreaking havoc on college networks locally and across the country. Released just last August, Napster gives students and other users an easy way to swap digital music recordings — called MP3s — across the Internet. Available at the Napster Web site, the program already has enabled thousands to quickly build vast computerized music libraries at no cost to the user. It is free and — at least for college students — relatively easy to use.

Too easy, if you ask some college administrators.

From Kent State to Bryn Mawr, network managers at dozens of schools say heavy Napster use in recent weeks is draining college computer networks of the capacity, or bandwidth, needed to conduct research and day-to-day business. In some cases, Napster-addicted students are accounting for more than 40 percent of a school's network traffic.

The situation is so bad at some colleges that network managers have scrambled to block access to Napster's service, irritating students and inspiring "anti-Napster" petitions that seek to have censorship access restored.

"We were totally surprised by how quickly it's grown," said Stephanie Norton, a senior marketing manager at Napster Inc. "We had no idea that it was going to clog up the bandwidth like it did."

At Bryn Mawr College, network managers returned after Thanksgiving break to find that nearly 100 percent of the college's outbound Internet traffic was originating in a single campus computer. Napster was to blame.

Sixty miles away at Pennsylvania's Kutztown University, intense network activity slowed user speeds to an agonizing crawl for almost two weeks. At times, network users were unable to send e-mail or visit a Web site at all. Napster again.

"We try to stress technology in our education programs, and here students and professors were having trouble completing their course requirements," said Richard Zera, the university's vice president for information technology.

Making the Napster siege even less acceptable, Zera said, was knowing

that many of the music files being traded are copyrighted. There is little dispute among administrators or students that of the million or so songs available on Napster at any given time, most are pirated, illegitimate copies that are illegal to distribute.

So Kutztown shut down Napster service on campus. The result, Zera said, was an instant improvement in network performance.

The school was not the first, and will not be the last, to cut off access. Northwestern, the University of Texas, Tufts, and dozens of other colleges have already pulled the plug on the program through a variety of technical filters and Internet-address blocking.

Napster users are not happy with the trend. Some 2,700 students have signed an electronic petition declaring the Napster bans an assault on their First Amendment rights. A number of Web sites and the neophyte organization Students Against University Censorship are trying to rally opposition to the university bans. One Napster information site, run by Kutztown University student Rick Fletcher, reveals a way for the technologically savvy to get around university bans.

"Universities across the nation are talking and sharing ideas on how to 'deal' with Napster," reads Fletcher's site. "Now, we will be uniting across the nation to prepare ourselves to deal with the universities."

But Fletcher and other students, such as SAUC founder and Indiana University student Chad Paulson, say they understand the bandwidth concerns. What they really want is dialogue with the school administration and a chance to cut Napster use on campus down to network-tolerable levels.

Although Napster is new to college campuses, MP3s are not. Since MP3 technology was first popularized in 1998, students have popped CDs into their computers and converted songs into the smaller MP3 format. Before that innovation, pop-length songs were too large to be easily transferred over the Internet.

Some technically inclined students had amassed thousands of MP3s well before Napster was available. For many, though, the considerable amount of time-it sometimes took to find a desired song was not worth it.

Napster made the process a lot easier. The program, which was developed by a 19-year-old college student, not only gives users an easy way to track down songs they'd like to download; it also transforms a user's personal computer and MP3 library into

a part of the Napster network. Unless Napster users specifically choose not to, they make their personal machines into public MP3 servers every time they load the program.

It is that element of Napster that particularly troubles not just network managers, but the music-recording industry as well.

Alleging that Napster had created a "giant online pirate bazaar," the Recording Industry Association of America filed suit against Napster last December for allegedly contributing to copyright infringement.

Norton, the Napster spokeswoman, declined to comment on the suit but noted that thousands of legitimate, uncopyrighted songs are available on the service.

RIAA, a trade and lobbying group that represents music labels, believes services such as Napster depress sales among some of the industry's most important customers — college students.

But avid MP3 collectors and Internet experts say that is not always the case.

"It could well be that people who are using MP3s are being exposed to new music and then in turn going out and buying CDs they wouldn't otherwise," said Steve Jones, a University of Illinois communication professor and president of the Association of Internet Researchers.

Jones and other experts believe that the problems schools face with Napster may well prove to be just the beginning of an inevitable bandwidth crunch. Some students already are transferring full-length digitized movies, which are thousands of times as large as individual MP3 files, over college networks.

"My concern with Napster is not either the short term question of illegality or network traffic, but the future of the network when transferring of these files becomes legal and commonplace," said James J. O'Donnell, vice provost for information services and computing at the University of Pennsylvania.

Like some other large universities, Penn has a particularly wide Internet connection and so far has not had to take steps to curtail Napster use. But O'Donnell believes it is only a matter of time before demand for bandwidth exceeds even Penn's large supply.

"Imagine the day when the hot blockbuster movie of last summer is released for download at 10 in the morning, and every 19-year-old in America decides they need it," O'Donnell said. "That's the future we have to be thinking about and preparing for." ■

MTSU students travel to Cuba, points in between

Ruth Peltier
Staff Reporter

On March 24, 14 MTSU students will begin a trip that few members of their generation have even contemplated.

Accompanied by four faculty members, the group will go first to Orlando, then Nassau, and finally will visit the island nation of Cuba.

Although Cuba is one of our nearest neighbors, travel there for citizens of the United States has been nearly impossible for almost 40 years, since the United States began a boycott of the country in protest of their communist government.

The trip, led by Glenn Hanley, director of the MTSU recreation center, is part of an ongoing series of visits to places with Hispanic cultures.

Previously, groups have traveled to Venezuela and Costa Rica.

Hanley contends that U.S. citizens need to be exposed to the culture of Hispanics because of the ever-increasing Hispanic population in this country.

"It is important for students at MTSU to experience different cultures," Hanley said.

Hanley moved to middle Tennessee from Florida, where he had the opportunity to interact with the Cuban refugee population. This piqued his interest in Cuba and its culture.

According to Hanley, it was quite a challenge to get permission for the group to make the trip.

He admitted that most of the problems came from our government and not the Cuban government.

Getting a permit from the Treasury department to make an educational trip there took six weeks.

The group will spend one night in Nassau in a hotel, described in the itinerary as "quaint" and "not a plush hotel."

That sounds like an inauspicious beginning, although the phrase, "see the nightlife," does hold a bit of promise.

In Havana they will be welcomed with a reception, dine in some of Havana's best restaurants

and visit a scale model of the city, billed as the world's largest-scale model.

They will meet architect Sr. Mario Coyula Havana's city planner.

They will also tour the Partagas Cigar factory and attend a reception to meet the president of the cigar company.

While in Havana, they will visit places that were important in the life and the writings of Ernest Hemingway.

The group will also travel to some of the most beautiful places in Cuba with time for hiking and sightseeing.

The travelers will return to Murfreesboro via Nassau and Orlando on April 2 ■



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Applications are available now in the Office of the Vice President for Student Affairs, KUC Room 212.

Application deadline: Wednesday, March 22

If you have any questions about the application process or the scholarship award, please contact Ouida Plaisance, Office of VPSP at 898-5812.



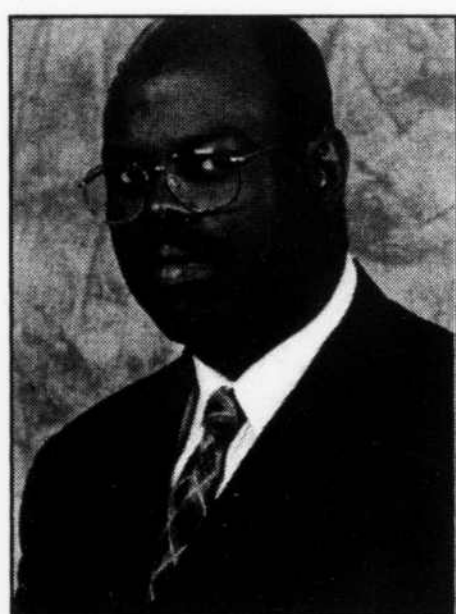
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Columbia University suspends grad students after finding radioactive pillow in apartment

NEW YORK (TMS) — Columbia University has suspended two graduate students until investigators determine how the couple's university-owned apartment became contaminated with radioactive phosphorus-32.

University officials have declined to identify the students, but The New York Times said they are Lei Liu and Yao Cheng, both doctoral students.

The radioactive material was found in the apartment after an inquiry by the university's office of Environmental Health and Radiation Safety.

Investigators said they removed a contaminated pillow from the apartment, but that repeated inspections of the dwelling turned up no additional traces of radiation.

Phosphorous-32 is commonly used to diagnose and treat

some diseases, and scientists often use it to mark cells or genetic material during experiments.

Without a license from the City of New York's health department, possession of the radioactive material is illegal.

University investigators said they found traces of the phosphorous on the students' hands and in their hair, but that the amount of exposure is miniscule.

As a precaution, university health officials are monitoring both students.

The students are expected to meet with a panel of students and faculty members next month to determine whether any other disciplinary action should be taken.

Until then, university officials have said their investigation will continue. ■

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SPORTS

Murfreesboro, TN

Thursday, March 2, 2000

SIDELINES ■ 9

Tech rivalry ends with MTSU victory

Michael Edwards
Sports Co-Editor

One down, two to go. MTSU beat the Eagles of Tennessee Technological University Tuesday, 87-70. The game marked the 140th contest the two rivals have played, with Tennessee Tech leading 81-60. MTSU won when it really counted, in the first round of the OVC tournament.

Tuesday, as has been the case for the last six games, center Lee Nosse was the player the Raiders counted on. Nosse averaged only seven points through the first 13 OVC games, but has averaged over 16 points per game during the last six. A stretch in which the Raiders have won five games.

"This is the Lee Nosse we need to play," head coach Randy Wiel said. "I think he's the difference."

"When Lee plays big basketball, we are going to be tough to beat," guard Fernando Ortiz said.

Nosse finished the game with 32 points and nine rebounds. His front court mate, forward Iro Tennengren added 10 points in 12 minutes, but fouls pre-empted his play. Forward Cedrick Wallace added 15 points and five assists, while guard Jonathan Whitworth scored 11 and grabbed five rebounds. Ortiz was held below his average, scoring eight points.

Tech's Josh Heard scored 31 points in the last regular season meeting, but when the money game came, he scored only 17 points on 16 shots, including five points with less than three minutes left in the game when it was all but over. Corey Hemphill added 11 points and no other Tech player finished in double figures.

Nosse dominated the inside all game long, but especially in



Photo by R. Colin Fly | Staff Photographer

Fernando Ortiz attempts a free throw during Tuesday's game

the first half, scoring 17 points and grabbing seven rebounds in 16 minutes. He made seven of 10 shots and two of three free throws, while leading the Raiders to a 13-point halftime lead.

The Raiders knew the big halftime lead would not stand the whole game if they didn't continue to play.

"I told them we've been here before," Wiel said. "We won the first 20 minutes, let's see if we can win all 40."

The players apparently took heed to Wiel's halftime Knute Rockne-esk comments, and completely dominated the second half. Although they only won the second half by four

points, the game was not as close as the score indicated. Anytime the Raiders needed a basket the ball was given to Nosse inside.

MTSU pushed the halftime lead out to 19 within six minutes of the second half on a couple of Ortiz free throws. A few seconds later, Tennengren powered his way in the lane, and added two, giving the Raiders a 21 point lead.

After Tech's Rusty Strange missed a couple of free throws, Tennengren again found a way to score, pushing the Raider lead to 23, which would be their biggest of the game.

At that point the Raiders put

the game into cruise control. Tennessee Tech never got closer than 12 for the rest of the game. Whitworth made extended that lead with a 25-foot three-pointer with the shot clock at one. He preceded that with two free throws. The lead ended at 17 with the Raiders on top.

"Even when your up 12, they shoot so well, you feel like your down two," Wiel said.

The game ends a 75-year history between the two teams. They will not play anymore OVC games against each other, since the Raiders are moving to the Sun Belt Conference.

"I'm glad we are not playing them anymore," Wallace said. "I'm glad we are getting out of here with a win."

With the win, the Raiders will move on to play Southeast Missouri State University in the semifinal round of the OVC tournament. That game will mark the third time that the two teams have met this season, Southeast Missouri winning the first two. They won in Murfreesboro by 13 and in Cape Girardeau, Mo., by 20.

"We have to go through them to make it [to the NCAA tournament]," Wallace said.

Center Johnny Cobb said it would "take all of us" to beat Southeast Missouri in the tournament. The Raiders have lost six straight to the Indians and are looking to break it in their next games. History, though, may be on the Raiders side. No team has ever swept the Raiders in three games in back-to-back seasons.

"Every team out of 305 is the same position. Lose one and your out," Wiel said.

"We just need to play together and we're a very good basketball team."

The next game for the Raiders is 7 p.m. Saturday at the Gaylord Entertainment Center in Nashville. ■

Men's track topples the competition

Adam Sparks
Staff Reporter

The MTSU track teams ended impressive seasons Monday, one of them with a conference title.

The best talent the Ohio Valley Conference has to offer was displayed in the OVC Indoor Track and Field Championships at Murphy Center earlier this week. Both the MTSU men's and women's teams came into the two-day competition with high hopes of a victory.

The men's title came down to the last race of the meet. The MTSU men were behind by 1.5 points to Eastern Illinois University and needed a win in the 4x400-meter relay to claim the title. The first three Blue Raider runners Rob Jordan, Mario Paul and D.J. Spann, opened a small lead against EIU. Then Godfrey Herring ran an amazing anchor leg in 45.7 seconds to edge out the competition in the race and the meet.

"[The 4x400-meter relay] is my favorite race," Herring said. "Everybody was pumped up and we expected to win."

In the first day of competition, the MTSU men faced team weaknesses in various field events and long distance runs. They fell behind by more than 20 points, but found a savior in a freshman from Kenya. Geoffrey Lagat took a surprising second in the 5000-meter run and kept the Blue Raiders in the hunt. At the end of the first day, MTSU trailed EIU by 22 points.

"The unsung hero of this whole thing is Geoffrey Lagat," head coach Dean Hayes said. "The 5000 was very pivotal and Geoffery getting second showed Eastern Illinois that we were going to equalize them in the distance races."

"I think I did pretty good," Lagat said. "I knew that we needed me to get the points, and that's what happened."

Jordan picked up a large portion of points for MTSU. He won the long jump and triple jump and earned provisional qualifications for the NCAA Championships in both events. The triple jump was also the only event of the meet that was swept by a single team; Steve Reid and Kareem Bland finished second and third, respectively.

MTSU then unleashed their talented group of sprinters and hurdlers. Herring won the 400-meter dash with a time of 46.66. In both the 55- and 200-meter, Albert Aggemang took first and Tanko Braimah earned sec-

ond. Jasper Demps and Haneef Sharif also claimed the two top spots for MTSU in the 55-meter hurdles. The MTSU men's relay team completed the comeback over EIU with their time of 3:13.74.

"I'm a freshman and all I've heard about all year is Eastern Illinois," Spann said. "We tried to run faster than we normally do, and we did it."

The men's final scores were as follows: MTSU 146, Eastern Illinois 145.5, Southeast Missouri University 68.5, Eastern Kentucky University 68, Murray State University 63, Tennessee State University 35, Morehead State University 20, University of Tennessee-Martin 20.

The Lady Raiders also had an impressive showing in the conference championship, but fell short in the end.

Sunday Kim Freeman took second in the long jump and the MTSU women, like the men, faced a deficit. Then in the second day, the women, also like the men, stepped it up a notch.

Willisa Heintz, the freshman phenom from Texas, won the 55 and the 200, as did Andreja Ribac in the triple jump. Kapreia Kirk and Sabrina Smith ran the second and third fastest times in the 800, and the MTSU women's team trailed in the meet by one point.

The Lady Raiders then finished third in the 4x400 relay and in the final standings.

"We did really well, we just had a few mishaps," Jameka Collins said. "It's a young team and we're growing. Overall, we have a lot of potential."

The women's final scores were as follows: SEMO 103, Eastern Kentucky 92, MTSU 86, Eastern Illinois 69.5, Austin Peay 66, Tennessee State 53, Morehead State 30, UT-Martin 22.5, Murray State 12, Tennessee Tech 7.

Following the meet, individual awards were presented to event winners, along with some special seasonal honors. Jordan received the award for OVC Indoor Track Man of the Year. Jordan had previously been voted OVC Outdoor Track Man of the Year following his freshman season.

MTSU head coach Dean Hayes was also named OVC Coach of the Year. Coach Hayes has won the award nearly every year of his MTSU coaching career. He has also once been named NCAA Coach of the Year.

Both the MTSU men's and women's track teams will begin their outdoor seasons on March 17 at the Florida State Invitational in Tallahassee, Fla. ■

SEMO slaughtered by Lady Raiders in first round of OVC Tournament

Josh Ezzell
Sports Co-Editor

Last year the Lady Raiders took a winning streak into the OVC Tournament and lost at home in the first round.

This year the Lady Raiders entered the first round of the OVC Tournament with a nine-game winning streak. Would there be another upset?

Nope. The Lady Raiders thumped Southeast Missouri State University 76-57 Tuesday at Murphy Center.

"We didn't want to go home early," MTSU head coach Stephany Smith said. "I could see it in their eyes and the warm-ups—we were focused."

SEMO was ice cold from the field. They shot 16 percent from the field in the first half and 34 percent for the game.

While hitting 20 percent from three-point range, they scored only 12 point in the first half.

"We wanted to jump on them early," guard Erica Lufkin said. "Everybody did a real good job. We didn't let them get into the game."

SEMO stepped it up in the second half. They shot 45 percent from the field. Guard/forward Paula Corder-King scored 15 of her 20 points in the second half, and guard LaShelle Porter contributed 12.

The Lady Raiders shot 57 percent from the field and 55 percent from three-point range. They hit 14-of-23 free throws, while SEMO attempted only 14.

Guard Kelly Chastain and forward Jamie Thomatis each scored 15 points. Thomatis also

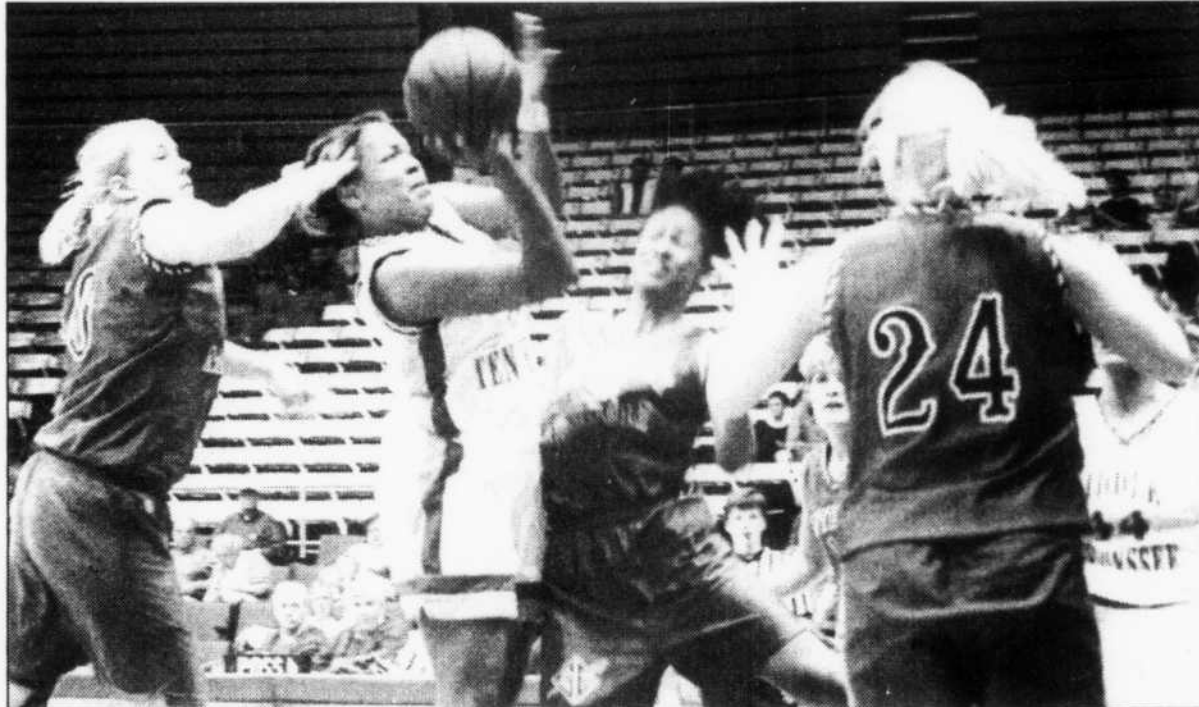


Photo by Robin Wallace | Staff Photographer

Jamie Thomatis muscles up a shot during Tuesday's win over SEMO.

snagged 10 rebounds and dished out four assists. Forward Joanne Aluka scored 14, and Lufkin contributed 12.

"It seems like I was fortunate enough to be open," Chastain said. "I got some really good passes from the post players. They all did a great of finding the right person, and I was fortunate enough to knock them down tonight."

Defense was key for the Lady Raiders. They forced 18 turnovers in the first half and converted them into 24 points.

"We frustrated them tonight on the defensive end," Chastain said. "It seems like we had a hand in their face every time they took a shot."

"We really wanted this game

and I think it showed in the first half."

SEMO held the lead until the 17:34 mark, and then the Lady Raiders exploded. Trailing 2-1, they scored the next 15 points. By the 8:21 mark the Lady Raiders had a 20-point lead. The Lady Raiders entered halftime with a 39-12 lead.

Led by Corder-King and Porter, SEMO cut the lead to 12 with nine minutes remaining.

"We definitely didn't have the intensity in the second half," Smith said. "When you have a 27-point lead at the half, human nature is bound to kick in. I am a little disappointed that we let the lead that we had dwindle."

After a Lufkin basket, the Lady Raiders called time out

and closed out the game.

Austin Peay State University awaits the Lady Raiders 1 p.m. Saturday at the Gaylord Entertainment. Peay upset the University of Tennessee-Martin Tuesday night in Martin, Tenn.

The Lady Raiders split with Peay, losing 74-68 in Murfreesboro and winning 84-63 in Clarksville.

"They're a lot better than they played in Clarksville," Smith said. "In Clarksville they just laid down and let us have our way with them. That's not the competitive nature of their coach, and that's not the competitive nature of the kids on that team. They won't lay down and die again." ■

Tickets on Sale Now for OVC

Tickets to see MTSU men's and women's basketball teams compete in the semifinals of the OVC tournament are now on sale. Tickets can be purchased by calling the MTSU Ticket Office at 615-898-2103 or TicketMaster at 615-255-9600 (or purchase online at www.ticketmaster.com).

Tickets are priced at \$22 per session (there are three total sessions) or fans can purchase an all-session book for only \$40 (all six games).

MTSU students can purchase per session tickets for \$5 by calling the MTSU Ticket Office.

The tournament gets underway at the Gaylord Entertainment Center in Nashville Saturday with Tennessee Tech's women facing Murray State at 11 a.m. followed by the Lady Raiders against Austin Peay at 1 p.m. In the second session, The Murray State men's team takes on Eastern Illinois at 5 p.m. followed by MTSU and Southeast Missouri in the nightcap. The Blue Raiders and Indians are scheduled to tip at 7 p.m. ■

Tech: Rivalry ends in OVC Tournament

Continued from 1

junior guard Jonathan Whitworth played 58 minutes. Junior guard Fernando Ortiz led the Raiders with 22 points and nine assists.

Tech was led by the ferocious play of senior center Josh Heard, who poured in 31 points, 23 in the second half alone.

Though the Raiders led most of the game, the gritty Golden Eagles would not go quietly. By the second overtime, MTSU was gasping for air in the game, down two without the ball. However, Fernando Ortiz swiped one of three steals that night and scored, tying the game.

Then, Ortiz turned around on the next Eagle possession and once again stole the ball, this

time intercepting a lackadaisical pass, en route to another easy deuce for the Raiders.

The Raiders had one final comeback in store in the fourth overtime. Down three with 3:24 to play, the Raiders tied and took the lead on consecutive three pointers by junior guard Ron McKnight and Whitworth, respectively, icing the Eagle charge.

These two teams have given each other fits over the years. MTSU was held to 12 points in a game by the Eagles in 1931, losing 21-12. Luckily, the Raiders almost tripled their offensive output the following meeting, beating Tech 35-29.

The 1986-87 Raiders crushed the Eagles twice in the worst two shellackings in the series' history.

The Raiders slipped by dur-

ing the first game in Cookeville, winning 114-79, thanks in no small part to Duane Washington's 15 assists and

MTSU roasted the Eagles 116-65. The 51-point win was the fifth largest of all time for the Raiders.

The individual efforts from the players have made the series

"After coming off the quadruple overtime game last night, I thought it couldn't have been any better, but to win on their home floor in our final OVC tournament is terrific."

Lee Nosse.
Junior Center, Blue Raiders

eight steals.

In the second meeting of the year, the rest of the Raiders dished out the ball with 32 assists. Tech could only manage to put 65 points on the board as

special.

In 1958, Bob Williamson scored 36 of the Raiders' 69 points, only to see a Jimmy Hagan-led Tech squad squeak out a 73-69 overtime win.

The January game in 1963

saw Bennett Jent take 30 shots and pull down 31 rebounds, only to see the Raiders lose by 20.

In March of 1988, Les Gregory knocked down 16 shots as the Raiders outlasted the Eagles 92-89 in double overtime.

MTSU's all-time scoring leader Robert Taylor faced off against Tech's all-time assist and steal leader, Van Ulster during the 1992 game in Cookeville.

Taylor, who sank 222 three pointers in his career, went eight of 15 from behind the three point arch. However, Ulster's Eagles got the better of MTSU, winning in an emotional game in overtime.

The dominating play of Tech's Lorenzo Coleman, whose tenacious shot blocking (439 in his career, first in the OVC by 218) helped the Eagles shut down the Raiders from 1993-97, including a 1996 OVC tournament game where Coleman

blocked an OVC record eight shots. Through those nine games, the Raiders won only twice.

During the final home game against the Eagles this season, Jonathan Whitworth played more minutes in a single game than any player in Raider history, logging 58 out of 60 in a marathon that saw the Raiders victorious in quadruple overtime.

Finally, the tenacious play of Nosse Tuesday night knocked down 14 shots in 18 attempts.

"You couldn't have written a better ending," Nosse said. "After coming off the quadruple overtime game last night, I thought it couldn't have been any better, but to win on their home floor in our final OVC tournament is terrific."

It was more than that - it was perfect. ■



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"Women in the Curriculum" 2000

In celebration of National Women's History Month, we are pleased to announce the following special events. These events, which recognize women's contributions, are in addition to the many activities listed on the NWHM 2000 calendar and found in the readings and lectures assigned in classes around campus. Each event is open to the public. For more information, contact the listed professor or call Women's Studies at 898-5910.

Professor/Course Title and #: Judith Iriarte - Gross
Title of Presentation or Lecture: "Let's Get Physical,"
"Women - the Physical Sciences"
Presenter: Dr. Judith Iriarte - Gross

Date: March 1 - March 31, 2000
Time: N/A
Location: Davis Science Building, outside Room 104. There is a bulletin board display at that location.

Professor/Course Title and #: Claudia Barnett
Title of Presentation or Lecture: English 223: Women
Playwrights
Presenter: Dr. Claudia Barnett

Date: Tuesdays and Thursdays during March
Time: 11:00 a.m.
Location: BDA, Room S338

Professor/Course Title and #: Phil Phillips/Experience of
Literature (English 211)
Title of Presentation or Lecture: Kate Chopin's "The Story
of an Hour"

Presenter: Dr. P.E. Phillips
Date: Wednesday, March 1
Time: 10:15 p.m.
Location: KOM, Room 105

Professor/Course Title and #: Nancy Rupprecht/Western
Civilization (History 172)
Title of Presentation or Lecture: "When Civil War is Waged
by Women"

Presenter: Dr. Nancy Rupprecht
Date: Tuesday, March 7
Time: 8:00 a.m., 9:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.
Location: Peck Hall

Professor/Course Title and #: Ayne Cantrell/Women in
Literature (English 223)
Title of Presentation or Lecture: "Just All of Me": Helena
Znaniecka Lopata's Contribution to Sociology

Presenter: Terri Terrell
Date: Wednesday, March 8
Time: 12:25 p.m.
Location: Peck Hall, Room 332

Professor/Course Title and #: Pat Nation/Victimology
(Sociology 431)
Title of Presentation or Lecture: "Femicide"
Presenter: Libby Thurman

Date: Friday, March 17
Time: 9:10 a.m.
Location: Peck Hall, Room 105

Professor/Course Title and #: Pat Nation/Race and Ethnic
Relations (Sociology 424)
Title of Presentation or Lecture: Economic Stratification by
Gender: "Why Women Pay More As a Minor Strity"

Presenter: Dr. Pat Nation
Date: Friday, March 17
Time: 10:15 a.m.
Location: Todd Library, Room 0001

Professor/Course Title and #: Gloria Hamilton/Psychology
of Criminal Behavior (Psychology 412/512)
Title of Presentation or Lecture: "Profiling Predators: One
Woman's Perspective"

Presenter: Dr. Pat Nation
Date: Tuesday, March 21
Time: 2:00 p.m.
Location: Peck Hall, Room 208

Professor/Course Title and #: Linda Badley/Victorian
Literature (English 627/727)
Title of Presentation or Lecture: Victorian "Woman
Question," Freud and Dora

Presenter: Seminar format with presentations, discussion
Date: Wednesday, March 22
Time: 3:00 p.m.
Location: Peck Hall, Room 301

Professor/Course Title and #: Nancy Rupprecht/Germany
Since 1870 (History 440/540)
Title of Presentation or Lecture: Women in the Third Reich
Presenter: Dr. Nancy Rupprecht

Date: Thursday, March 23
Time: 12:30 p.m.
Location: Peck Hall, Room 220

Professor/Course Title and #: Jid Lee/African-American
Studies Lecture Series
Title of Presentation or Lecture: Re-listening to the 19th-
century African-American Female Voice

Presenter: Dr. Jid Lee
Date: Tuesday, April 4
Time: 3:30 p.m.
Location: Peck Hall, Room 220

Professor/Course Title and #: Linda Badley/Victorian
Literature (English 627/727)
Title of Presentation or Lecture: George Gissing's "The Odd
Women"

Presenter: Seminar format with presentations, discussion
Date: Wednesday, April 5
Time: 3:00-5:40 p.m.
Location: Peck Hall, Room 301

Professor/Course Title and #: Bill Turner
Title of Presentation or Lecture: "From 'I Fall To Pieces' to
'I Will Survive': Changing Self-Representation of Women in
American Popular Music"

Presenter: Dr. Bill Turner
Date: Thursday, April 6
Time: 3:00 p.m.
Location: Dining Room C

Title of Presentation or Lecture: "Women in the Military"
Presentation
Date: Wednesday, April 12

Time: 12:25-1:15 p.m.
Location: BAS, Room S208

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- Have worked on staff at least two semesters. Comparable media experience applies.
- Provide three letters of recommendation, a current transcript and no more than five examples of their work, professionally submitted.

Editors receive a full tuition scholarship and a salary tenure. Applications may be picked up from the Student Publications Office, JUB 306, 8am-4:30pm, Mon-Fri. Sidelines editor applications may be considered for a 9 or 12-month appointment.



Photo by Dave Cerchiaro | Staff Photographer

Saturday, Oliver Foreman helped the Blue Raiders defeat Belmont and Austin Peay.

Chicken Parmigiana Fettucini Alfredo Chicken Marsala

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Murfreesboro Magazine, 1999

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Easton Seals

Melanoma is the deadliest form of skin cancer. In fact, one person an hour in the U.S. dies from the disease. Fortunately melanoma can be completely cured if it's caught early enough. So examine your skin regularly. If you find a blemish larger than a pencil eraser, multi-colored, asymmetrical or irregular at the edges, you may have melanoma and should see your dermatologist. For more information on melanoma, call 1-888-462-DEEM, or visit www.aad.org.



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And

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How do you qualify for the Earned Income Tax Credit?

If you work hard but don't earn a high income, you may qualify for a tax credit. For IRS Pub. 596, Earned Income Credit, call 1-800-829-3676. IRS Web site: www.irs.gov

Classifieds

Notice

Sidelines recommends that you use discretion before sending money for any advertised goods and services. We recommend that you get in writing a full description prior to sending money.

Wanted: A baby to adopt. Couple eager to provide a loving and financially stable home for a baby. Will pay all expenses. 1-800-900-3625 (security code -01).

Some time during the Fall term 2 new large drafting tables (valued appx \$800 each) and 4 new drafting stools (total value appx \$400) disappeared from the old Todd Library, room 101 (Acquisitions room). The tables are about 3 x 5 x 3. They have pale green tops and gray metal bases. The tables weigh about 200 lbs each. The stools are dark gray with backs and pressboard inserts in the seats. They are marked with bright red identification stickers that read "Property of MTSU Theatre (615) 898-2640". If anyone has seen these tables and/or stools, please contact the Department of Speech and Theatre at 2460.

General Info

SCORE BIG, SCORE OFTEN with MYBYTES.COM. Register today and get a free CD of cool music and much more.

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Telemarketer Wanted: Smyrna, hours 6-9 pm, Tuesday and Thursday, \$10/hr, must have outgoing personality. Send resume to: P.O. Box 2286, Smyrna TN 37167

Campus Recreation needs computer website manager beginning Summer 2000- any interested applicants call Ed or Ray at 898-2104. Pay DOE

MTSU Placement and Student Employment Center has part-time campus jobs in food service, catering, concessions, student patrol, and dispatch. Students interested in additional information should contact the Placement and Student Employment Center, KUC 328

Part-time Ad Designer
Must be available to work afternoons, evenings, and some weekends. Knowledgeable, experienced, dependable upperclassman, or graduate student preferred. Must have 2.5 gpa or higher. Apply in person. James Union Building room 306 Mon-Fri 8:30am-4:30pm. No phone calls please.

HELP WANTED: Cheerleading, Dance, Tumbling, and Baton teachers needed for Murfreesboro & surrounding areas. Pay according to experience. Call Cindy @ 896-4683 or 347-3595.

Brentwood family needs full-time baby-sitter for summer. 2 Children- 8, 12. Must have transportation. Call Kim at 373-8873

FREE GOLF at Pine Creek Golf Course for all full and part-time employees. We have openings for golf cart and snack bar attendants. Apply in person at 1835 Loque Rd, Mt. Juliet

CAMP COUNSELORS
Top overnight camps in Pocono Mtns. Over 40 activities seeking specialist counselors! 1-800-533-CAMP or www.pine-forestcamp.com

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TI83 Graphing Calculator \$85
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Bio 111- Zoo Lab Manual- \$25
Call 849-1240

OWN YOUR ON HOME FOR WHAT YOU PAY IN RENT.
New homes in new subdivisions. Builder will help with closing costs. Call Anita, Cornerstone Realty, 893-3000 or 243-7791.

For Rent

Need sub-leaser at University Courtyards for five months. Rent is \$395 - furnishes with utilities included. Move-in bonus \$500. Call Jennifer (615) 344-5174 daytime or (615) 848-2838 evenings and weekends.

Roommate

Need a roommate? Students with non-commercial interest may place ads at no charge in the Sidelines Classifieds. Come by our Student Publications office in the JUB room 306.

Looking for roommates with references you can trust? Your friends and your friend's friends might know someone and sixdegrees can help you meet them. www.sixdegrees.com

Roommate wanted to acquire apartment for summer/fall semester. Please call Mark 904-1523; leave message.

Weightloss

29 People Wanted to get paid \$\$\$ to lose up to 30lbs in the next 30 days! Free Samples \$/back guarantee (615) 367-5411.

Tutor

Tutor: Business law, Math, 3 R's, type papers \$20 per hour plus expenses 498-4422 James

Services

Pharmaceutical and Biotechnology Industry Guides Second Edition, Institute for Biotechnology Information. Guides to access Drug Companies, Bio-Tech Firms and more. Come visit the Placement Center to look at this publication.

Cash Fast, loans or buying valuables, musical items, gold jewelry, collectibles. Call Now! Gold-N-Pawn 1803 N.W. Broad Street Murfreesboro 896-7167

FREE INFORMATION is available through the MTSU Placement Office, KUC Room 328. Come by and receive your complimentary copies of catalogs, pamphlets, and guides to learn how to write a resume and cover letter from various samples, gather information about a particular company, and help with interview preparation. Video tapes are also available for you to view in the Career Library.

The Placement Center is using a computerized registration system and resume preparation program called RESUME EXPERT. The benefits include:

- * professional, typeset quality resume which can be easily updated
 - * user-friendly
 - * IBM compatible. The computer labs on campus can be used.
- After purchasing your software in Phillips Bookstore, it must be brought to the Placement Center to load your information in the database for resume referrals to employer. Once registered via RESUME EXPERT, the Placement Center is able to track which companies individual resumes are referred and inform the individual upon request.

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Students and faculty can advertise free in the Sidelines Classifieds

Must have a valid student ID. No commercial advertisements. All ads are subject to approval.

Ads must be placed in person at the James Union Building Student Publications office Room 306

For more than 100 years, Volunteers of America has been helping offenders with services they need to create new and better lives. We provide such programs as substance abuse treatment, juvenile delinquency prevention, education and life skills training, and specialized female offender programs. Find out what you can do to help those who are ready to change their lives. Call 1 (800) 899-0089 or visit us at www.voanet.org.

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Sports Line
898-2816

Parking Notice

We Need Your Help to Welcome TSSAA Fans to MTSU

Girls: March 7-11 • Boys: March 14-18

The TSSAA Basketball Tournament will once again be held at MTSU, with the girls competition running from March 7-11 and the boys from March 14-18.

- **On March 8-11 and March 15-18, the Greenland Drive parking lots will be reserved paid parking for TSSAA ticket holders** – and all other TSSAA fans will be directed to the lots on the east side of campus and to the North Boulevard Church of Christ of Rutherford Boulevard. (TSSAA receives all Greenland parking revenue during the tournament.)
- **Student commuters** who usually park in the Greenland lots will be directed to C Street, where, at the S-curve, those with MTSU parking permits will be allowed to turn right onto B Street and park in any legal green-permit space. Please watch for directional signs and public safety personnel who will help direct you. (All TSSAA visitors will be instructed to turn left at the S-curve.)
- **The Tennessee Livestock Center lot will be closed for the Tennessee Beef Agribition March 9 and 10.** On those days, black parking permit holders may park in any legal green parking permit space. All other days, student commuters may find parking in the Tennessee Livestock Center lot.
- **Also on March 9 and 10, the gravel parking lot on Greenland Drive will be monitored for the Tennessee Beef Agribition visitors.** Some student parking may be permitted based on space availability. An attendant will be on duty to direct you. All other days, students may find parking in the Greenland Drive gravel lot, just east of the C Street entrance.
- To avoid C Street traffic, student commuters may want to enter campus on 2nd Street from Rutherford Boulevard to access parking on the east side of campus, near the Greenhouse, Health Services, and in the lot near the Recreation Center.
- **The entrance to Faulkinberry Drive on Tennessee Boulevard will be closed on Wednesday through Saturday, March 8-11 and March 15-18.** Any persons who park on Faulkinberry will need to exit the campus via Loop Drive by Peck Hall.
- **The Raider Xpress shuttle service will run its normal routes through campus except for the Greenland Drive lots.**
- **Parking and Traffic Rules and Regulations will be enforced as usual.** Every effort is being made with signage, public safety personnel, parking attendants, and shuttle service to prevent undue confusion and inconvenience and still ensure the safety of everyone on campus.

We apologize for this temporary parking displacement and ask for your patience and understanding. Hosting the TSSAA Tournament is an opportunity for thousands of prospective students and their families to see MTSU up close.

For questions and concerns, please call Parking Services at 615-898-2850; Public Safety at 615-898-2424; or the Raider Xpress service at 615-898-2415. Thank you.

