

An editorially
independent
newspaper

Middle Tennessee State University SIDELINES

2003 National Finalist
Best non-daily
university newspaper
Society of Professional Journalists

Volume 80 No. 16

Murfreesboro, Tenn.

Legislation gives \$82 million for suicide prevention

By Alex Miller
Staff Writer

Congress approved The Garrett Lee Smith Memorial Act on Sept. 9, earmarking \$82 million over the next three years to fund suicide prevention programs for youths. Some of the money is specifically designated for colleges and universities.

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration will be in charge of the money. The agency will dole it out in three disbursements.

The largest chunk — \$55 million — of the original \$82 million will go to states and American Indian tribes to create youth suicide early intervention and prevention programs.

A \$12 million chunk will fund a national center to oversee suicide prevention programs and study the causes of suicide.

The remaining \$15 million will be helped in matching funds to help colleges and universities develop programs to identify at-risk students and offer counseling to them. For

every dollar an institution raises for these programs, it will be eligible for matching funds.

Basically, SAMHSA will give "a big pot of money" to each state, said Keith Taly, staff member for Representative Bart Gordon, D-Tenn. Institutions will apply to their state governments for a portion of the block grant, he said. Gordon sponsored the bill in the House of Representatives.

"We don't know how big the individual grants to schools will be," said Danna Lichtenberg, legislative assistant for Gordon,

explaining that many of the nuts-and-bolts details of how the bill will be implemented haven't been determined.

The bill passed easily through Congress. The U.S. Senate approved it unanimously on July 8. The U.S. House modified it slightly, requiring parental consent before elementary and secondary students can participate in school-sponsored programs. The house approved it on Sept. 9 with a wide margin of votes: 352-64. It went back to the senate, where it was approved by a voice vote.

Every Tennessee senator and representative voted to adopt the bill.

"This is a much happier day for me than it was one year ago," Sen. Gordon Smith, R-Ore., said after the senate approved the bill, according to the Congressional Record.

The original title of the bill was the Campus Care and Counseling Act.

The senate renamed it in honor of Smith's son, who killed himself one day prior to his 22nd birthday.

The Heritage Foundation, a

conservative think-tank, also questioned the effectiveness of these programs.

"The emotional tug of this legislation notwithstanding, the benefits of suicide prevention programs remain unclear," wrote Alison Fraser and Keith Miller of the foundation.

According to the Center for Disease Control, in 2001 the suicide rate for 15-24-year-olds was 9.9 percent, significantly lower than the rate for people 85 and older: 17.5 percent. ♦

Tennessee tunes



Photo Illustration by Steve Cross | Chief Photographer

Now the MTSU Center for Popular Music features historical Tennessee musical memorabilia.

Center for Popular Music receives regional collection

By Laura Lindsay
Staff Writer

The MTSU Center for Popular Music received a collection of sheet music, records, songbooks and other archives relating to Tennessee history by donation from John Mitchell, a former history teacher, in April.

The collection is significant because of the span of time it covers and its contents. It is available as a resource to students and as an educational tool for

teachers throughout Tennessee schools.

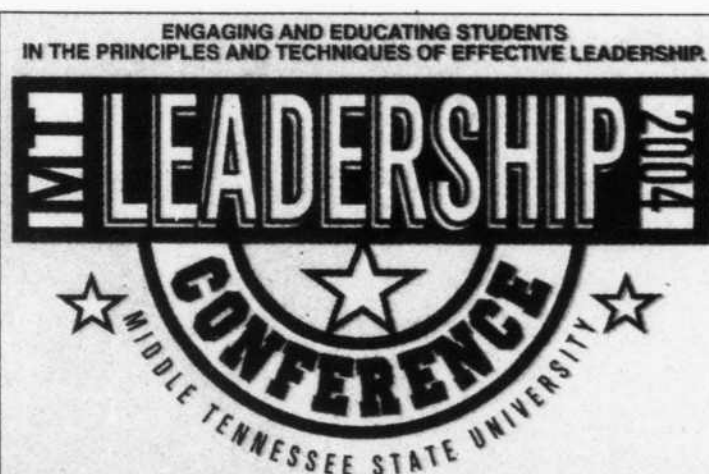
"This collection is nice because it gives us the early, early pieces from the mid-19th century," said Lucinda Cockrell, an archivist for the Center. "It is an excellent compliment to our collection and is great in and of itself because of its thematic value."

There is a noteworthy sub-group of songs relating to the Scopes trial, Cockrell said. The 1925 Dayton, Tenn., trial is famous and historically significant because it tested the teaching of

evolution in Tennessee schools. John Scopes, a high school biology teacher, was charged with illegally teaching the history of evolution. Cockrell said she is not aware of another collection with a section on the high-profile Scopes trial.

Songs and recordings were made after the trial focusing on the evolution theory and the controversy surrounding it. Among those Mitchell donated are the sheet music titles "Darwin's

See Music, 2



Conference offers team-building, fun

By Hillary Robson
Staff Writer

The second annual MT Leadership conference will be held Oct. 1, 2004 in the Tennessee Room of the James Union Building.

The all-day event focuses on encouraging involvement in student organizations, networking, team building and developing strong leadership skills while having fun.

The highlight of the conference will be the keynote speech, "Getting Your Team Into Gear," from CampusSpeak activist Lori Hart Ebert.

Ebert served as a Greek advisor and dean of students at colleges across the country and promotes student involvement. She has been actively involved with student affairs and campus life for more than 10 years and understands the unique needs of college students.

"I'm not hired as a speaker to come in, present information and leave the campus," Ebert said. "My goal is to present information in a fun manner and get everyone in the audience involved."

Involvement in on-campus and off-campus student organi-

zations is not the only focus. There will be a variety of team-building workshops and concurrent sessions that are sure to interest students of all backgrounds.

Sessions include money management, utilizing the principles of Dave Ramsey's "Financial Peace;" "Robert's Rules of Order," highlighting tips on helping organizations run more smoothly, presented by MTSU student Ashley Elizabeth Graham; promotion of events and activities; ethical leadership; establishing priorities and a session on trust and teamwork hosted by Scott Pruitt from campus recreation.

The Greek New Member Academy will also be at this year's conference, introducing new members and informing interested students about Greek organizations and student activities.

Ashley Lynique King, a junior early childhood education major and Alpha Kappa Alpha sorority member, plans to attend.

"I think the Leadership Conference is beneficial," she said. "It can help people learn

See Conference, 2

Professor contributes introduction to book about Nashville

By Hillary Robson
Staff Writer

David Eason, director of the Siegenthaler Chair of Excellence and professor of journalism and media studies, has contributed the introduction to photographer Bill Rouda's book *Nashville's Lower Broad: The Street that Music Made*.

Eason's introduction serves as the narrative behind black and white photographs that document the scene of lower Broadway between the 1980s and the 1990s.

The introduction provides a comprehensive history of Broadway, from the Grand Old Opry's years at the Ryman Auditorium through the decades that followed the Opry's move to Opryland in 1974.

Outside of the Opry's influential

shadow, the 400 block of Broadway became a strip of smoky honky-tonks and pornography shops and a haven for prostitutes and the homeless. Nevertheless, fledgling singers and songwriters continued to make their first stops on Broadway to seek fame.

A self-proclaimed "child of the rural South," Eason moved to Nashville in the '80s and became a frequenter of lower Broad. He was approached by Rouda around 1996 to pen the introduction.

"When I had the opportunity to see his photographs, I was much taken by their rawness and romance," Eason wrote. "Bill had captured the street starkly but with the affection of an insider." Eason spent time exploring the history of lower Broadway. "I learned the most about Broadway by just hanging out and talking casually,"



Eason

Lounge and Robert's Western Wear along with the songwriters and musicians that found their starts there are entertaining and insightful.

Most of the places that Eason describes no longer exist outside the memories of the many that frequented them.

Eason documents the carnival feel of the '80s, leading up to the construc-

tion of the convention center and the

slow emergence of a corporate presence. By the mid-90s, observers saw a new, hip crowd crawling the streets.

BR549, the rockabilly band that found their start at Robert's Western Wear, signed a record deal with Arista in a fairy tale-esque success story.

Lucinda Williams, Steve Earle, Gillian Welch and the Del McCoury Band are only a few of the acts that came to Broadway and helped fuel the success of others.

But success stories are not the only highlight to Eason's introduction. It is the stories of the people that never quite made it that make the story of Broadway all the more real.

He spent a great deal of time with John and Lois Shepherd, a married couple who spent seven years at the Music City Lounge as songwriters and

performers.

Shepherd found fame to be terribly brief in 1979 as the voice of Miller Beer's slogan "If You've Got the Time, We've Got the Beer." Shepherd tells Eason, "I came to Nashville to be a singer, not a squallet, and I ended up squalling. Out-shouting the drunks, that's what I do. But I came here to be a singer."

The book, published by Smithsonian Press, is available at all major booksellers.

In addition to Eason's introduction, Lucinda Williams and Bill Rouda contributed to the foreword.

Eason's other publications include *Critical Perspectives on Media and Society*, where he served as second editor. He has also published several essays and articles on the subject of mass media and popular culture. ♦



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

Why didn't you go
to MTSU's opening game?

Pondillo discusses TV programming

By Erika Decker
Staff Writer

In the second installment of the Pop Culture Honors Lecture series, the speaker discussed whether or not television programming should "spark controversy."

Bob Pondillo, electronic media communication professor, delivered a lecture titled "The Power of Ideology and Racism in Postwar Television" Monday in the Paul W. Martin Sr. Honors Building.

Pondillo's lecture was based on the so-called "Golden Age" of television, the period during the early to late 1950s when television was still relatively new, and the programming was not yet restricted because there were not yet any rules.

In the lecture, he discussed writer and actor Rod Serling's struggle to bring to television the story of the murder of 14-year-old Chicago native Emmett Till and the elements of society at the time that would not allow his story to air.

"[Till] goes to visit his

cousins in the delta of Mississippi," he said. "His cousins, on a dare, ask him to go into this little shop used by the sharecroppers ... and see if he can get a date with a white lady."

Pondillo explained how the man who owns the store and his cousin find out about the incident, track down Till, then kill him and throw him into a local river.

The storeowner and his cousin were acquitted of the murder charge and set free.

The murder of Emmett Till occurred before any of the events of the civil rights movement had occurred.

Till's death was possibly the catalyst that began the civil rights movement, according to Pondillo.

Serling believed that television programming should be "an agent of change to spark controversy." This was what Serling set out to achieve with his screenplay about Till, *Noon on Doomsday*.

Serling composed a screenplay about a 19-year-old black man who was murdered by two

white men in a fictional town in Georgia, Pondillo said. He pitched it to the ad agency that liked the story, but they wanted nothing to do with the racism issue.

Serling rewrote the show to be about the murder of an elderly Jewish man.

This script was approved, but then Serling talked to a reporter who asked if the story was based on the Till story. Serling indirectly acknowledged this, and the basis for his script was made public, said Pondillo.

The sponsors for the show threatened to back out of the project if the writers did not modify the script. The executives also informed Serling that the script can bear no resemblance to the Till murder. Again, the script was changed.

The plot had to be moved from its original setting in the South, and any cultural references to the South had to be removed as well. Also, it was no longer about a Jewish man, but a man from the "old country."

Pondillo discussed the reasons why the story was unac-

ceptable to the sponsors and those who were in control of the networks.

The reason the show was not allowed to run was because its main idea that there was corruption in the law system did not agree with the accepted ideology of the time that American justice was fair and balanced.

"The American legal system says justice is color-blind, no man is above the law, fair and impartial justice, every citizen's rights, you do the crime you do the time," Pondillo said.

Pondillo said that the executives and corporations knew that they were selling good will and an image, and if a particular show goes against that, the American people don't like it.

Pondillo concluded that *Noon on Doomsday* was an effort to demythologize the myths of justice that America had.

But it was the corporations that controlled the ideas and decided that society was not ready for the social myths to be shattered. ♦

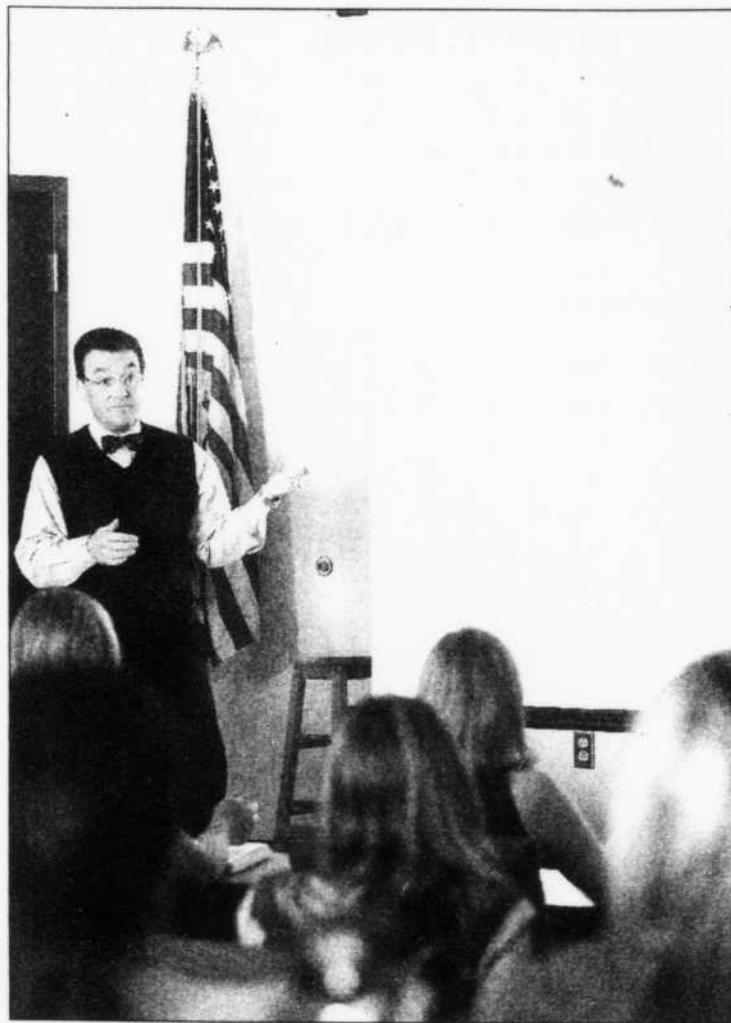


Photo by Micah Miller | Staff Photographer

Bob Pondillo discusses controversial television programming throughout history for honors college students.

Meet MTSU's SGA senators

By Alex Miller
Staff Writer

College of Education and
Behavioral Sciences

Kim Concialdi is a sophomore serving her first term on the SGA.

She belongs to the Kappa Delta sorority and the Phi Eta Sigma honor society.

Her agenda for the fall is to make the university safer, "get more people involved on campus through activities and establish more MTSU traditions."

College of Liberal Arts

Adedoyin Adeyeye is a senior serving her first term on the SGA.

She belongs to the Pi Sigma Alpha honor society and the

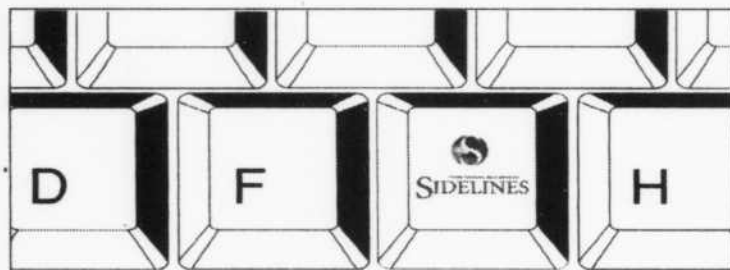
campus branch of the NAACP.

Adeyeye wants to make students more aware of the SGA. "I've come to notice that most students do not really know so much or anything about the SGA," she said, "and this is a shame because the SGA is supposed to be the voice of the people."

Katie Crytzer is a junior and a first term senator.

She belongs to the Kappa Delta sorority and is vice president of the campus chapter of the Phi Eta Sigma honor society. She has served on MTSU's Student Judicial Board and Traffic Court, two bodies affiliated with the SGA.

This fall she "would like to see the SGA encourage and foster more pride and spirit in the students who attend MTSU." ♦



Your key to campus news and events.
www.mtsusidelines.com

SIX DAYS. NO NIGHTS.
(you can sleep when you die)

COLLEGE

MEET

Steamboat

66199

uskillthis.com

1-800-3KITHIS (1-800-754-4447)

**Got a
news tip?**

Call
898-2336



Savings plan.

Who says cutting costs has to mean depriving yourself? Sometimes it can be downright luxurious.

Take our new Commuter Coach service. With wider aisles. Roomy new high-back reclining seats. Convenient overhead storage racks. Even your own individual reading light.

Best of all? The price. You get all this for the same low fare as our regular Relax & Ride service. And with today's high gasoline prices, you'll be saving more than ever – up to 70% over the cost of driving alone, with none of the traffic and parking hassles.

All of which means you can save big, but still feel like you're living large. Sounds like a plan to us.



Nashville • Antioch • La Vergne • Smyrna • Murfreesboro • MTSU • Rutherford County

Conference: Breakfast, lunch to be provided

Continued from 1

leadership skills they can use later on in life. It might be something I can use in my classroom or carry over into Alpha Kappa Alpha as a member or potential officeholder."

Deana Raffo, director of leadership development, encouraged students from all backgrounds to register.

"Everybody can benefit from leadership development," Raffo said. "We can all grow

personally, and this conference will allow students to enhance and enrich their leadership skills."

Raffo also pointed out an open forum question-and-answer session between students and several important MTSU administrators, including vice president of student affairs Bob Glenn, Student Government Association president Jon Stewart and participants from Alumni Relations and Athletics.

Music: Musical history preserved at MTSU center

Continued from 1

Monkey Trot," "Evolution" and "Don't Monkey with Evolution," which holds a 1925 copyright. Among earlier pieces which were written before the trial are "Evolution (or the Darwinian theory)" copyright 1885, "Evolution March" from 1902 and "Too Thin (or Darwin's little joke)" from 1874.

MTSU history professor and co-director of the Public History program Rebecca Conrad said that these resources can be valuable to teachers, who can integrate the materials into their lesson plans.

"By looking at these you can get your students to focus on a particular issue and think

about it in light of the values and attitudes that were in place at that particular time," Conrad said. "We work with teachers to help them develop material to use in the classroom. We consider history as an integrated discipline that includes social studies, but also sociology, anthropology as well as civics and government."

"You can use this as you could any document to read the past – to get into the past rather than seeing what happened then as divorced from this day," Conrad said. "You can see where some of those underlying issues and tensions came from that are still with us today."

Conrad said the history department works with the Center for Popular Music

because its collection is a slice of history that cuts through time and is a valuable record of American culture.

She said it is interesting because it doesn't tell you exactly what happened, but it tells you how certain people perceived things.

Mitchell said he compiled this collection by concentrating on a systematic overview of history beginning when Tennessee became a state, proceeding from the Civil War period to the state's centennial in 1896. He then moved through the vaudeville period and toward the turn of the 20th century.

The collection of sheet music covers many genres. Among them are waltz, blues, ragtime, country, folk, ballads,

or they can stop in as their schedules allow.

More information can be found online at www.mtsu.edu/~mtleader/new.s.htm, including registration applications and a complete schedule of events.

Students can also visit the office of leadership development in Keathley University Center, Room 306. Registration is limited to 300 students, so be sure to reserve a space early. ♦

instrumental and rock and roll. Among the record collection are recordings of "Tennessee Waltz," "Belle Street Blues," "Chattanooga Choo Choo" and "On Top of Old Smoky."

The collection spans to include recordings by Eddy Arnold, Chuck Berry, Johnny Cash, Bob Dylan, Red Foley and Dolly Parton.

Mitchell said he believes that as well as the music, the artwork that goes with the pieces is interesting and of value.

He believes the Center for Popular Music is a good home for the collection.

"The collection is no longer mine," he said. "I am hoping that someone will take my passion to the next level." ♦

**Need to let the campus know
about an event your group is sponsoring?**

Sidelines' Campus Events calendar can help.

**Clip the form below, fill it out and return it to
the James Union Building, Room 310.**

Campus Events

The following guidelines apply to all:

1. Forms must be submitted by deadline to be considered for publication. Campus Events run each Monday in the Living section, so forms should be submitted by Saturday night.
2. Every attempt will be made to run your announcement as often as possible, but priority will be given to events with the most immediacy.
3. We reserve the right to limit announcements to campus events only.
4. Sidelines does not guarantee placement of any submission.

Name of person placing this notice _____ Date _____

Organization _____ Event _____

Date of event _____ Time _____ Location _____

Contact name _____ Phone no. _____

Notes _____

Return this form to Sidelines, MTSU Box 8, or bring to James Union Building, Room 310

Government lawyers say tobacco firms colluded to hide smoking dangers

By Nancy Zuckerbrod
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON — Tobacco companies, desperate to maintain their hold on tens of millions of American smokers, worked together for decades to deceive the public about the dangers of cigarettes and to encourage the young to start puffing, government lawyers said Tuesday at the start of a racketeering trial.

Justice Department lawyers pointed to numerous statements by industry executives that created doubt among smokers about whether the habit was harmful and whether they really needed to kick it.

"Defendants' strategy of denial worked, and they knew it," Justice lawyer Sharon Eubanks told U.S. District Judge Gladys Kessler.

The government wants new restrictions placed on the industry and is seeking \$280 billion it claims the companies earned through the alleged fraud, a record amount for a civil racketeering case. Tobacco lawyers say such an amount would bankrupt the companies, and the government isn't entitled to any money.

The defendants are Philip Morris Inc. and its parent, Altria Group Inc.; R.J. Reynolds Tobacco Co.; Brown & Williamson Tobacco Co.; British American Tobacco Ltd.; Lorillard Tobacco Co.; Liggett Group Inc.; Council for Tobacco Research-U.S.A.; and the Tobacco Institute.

The companies will present opening statements Wednesday. Philip Morris attorney William Ohlemeyer said the industry had heard all the evidence the government put forward Tuesday in previous cases.

He said the government's case is too focused on past behavior to succeed. Ohlemeyer, who denied fraud had occurred, said it would be impossible for the government to prove future wrongdoing is likely to occur, which the law requires.

"Cigarettes aren't sold the way they were sold in the past," Ohlemeyer said.

He noted agreements worth \$246 billion that the industry reached with all the states in the late 1990s imposed sweeping restrictions on how cigarettes are marketed. For example, companies can't rely on billboard, transit or cartoon ads; the government alleges have been used to attract teens.

The Clinton administration filed the lawsuit in 1999, and the Bush administration pursued it after receiving early criticism for openly discussing the case's perceived weaknesses and

attempting unsuccessfully to settle it.

The government has spent \$135 million on the case so far.

Scientific studies dating to the 1950s said smoking could lead to cancer and other health problems. In 1964, the U.S. surgeon general issued a report linking smoking to lung and larynx cancer and chronic bronchitis.

Still, the government's lawyers pointed to numerous statements in which tobacco executives denied such links. They showed Joseph Cullman, former chairman of the Philip Morris board, saying in a 1971 television interview, "We do not believe that cigarettes are hazardous. We don't accept that."

Justice lawyers said the industry created now-shuttered organizations to rebut findings about smoking and the dangers of secondhand smoke and to conduct public relations campaigns to create uncertainty about whether smoking was harmful.

"The problem to them was that the public might stop smoking because of health concerns," Justice lawyer Frank Marine said.

Justice lawyers pointed to internal memos to try to show cigarette-makers knew they were being deceitful.

In one from the early 1960s, an R.J. Reynolds scientist, Alan Rodgman, said, "The statistical data from the smoking health studies are almost universally accepted."

Eubanks reminded U.S. District Judge Gladys Kessler of a highly publicized congressional hearing in 1994 when the major executives of the tobacco companies testified that they believed smoking was not addictive.

"Internal documents show that they were aware of nicotine's effects on the brain," Eubanks said.

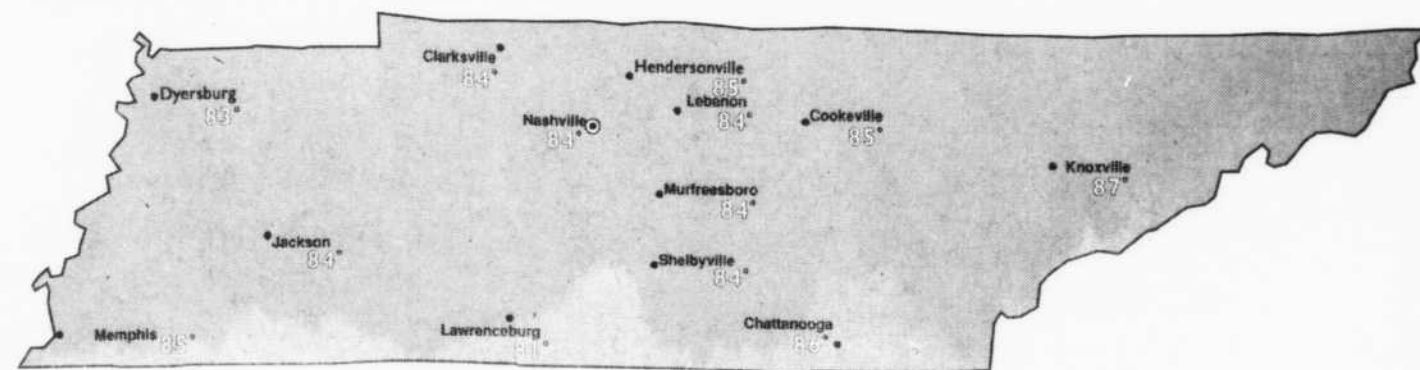
She pointed to one Brown & Williamson document that stated the "reduction or deletion of nicotine could be the death to us."

With regard to targeting teens, Marine pointed to an internal Lorillard document from the 1970s that discussed one of the company's brands and stated, "The base of our business is the high school student."

Marine said the companies need to hook teens to stay in business, since that's when many smokers take up the habit. He said the tobacco companies continue to market to teens but in different ways, largely through magazine ads or in-store advertising. ♦

Tennessee Weather – Monday's Highs

From the Associated Press



Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday
86° ▲ 59°	85° ▲ 60°	81° ▲ 55°	78° ▲ 51°	76° ▲ 54°

Cracker Barrel indicted in Texas PAC investigation

House Majority leader not indicted

By April Castro
Associated Press Writer

AUSTIN, Texas — Three people and eight corporations — including Sears and Cracker Barrel — were indicted Tuesday on charges of making illegal campaign contributions through a political action com-

mittee formed by U.S. House Majority Leader Tom DeLay.

DeLay, a Texas Republican, was not charged.

The grand jury has been investigating whether \$2.5 million in corporate funds were used illegally to help Republican candidates win elections in 2002 that gave the GOP a

majority in the Texas House for the first time since Reconstruction. The GOP later used its majority to redraw Texas' congressional districts to favor Republican candidates.

Those charged included three members of DeLay's PAC, Texans for a Republican Majority: John Colyandro, James Ellis and Warren RoBold. Ellis was charged with money laundering. Colyandro

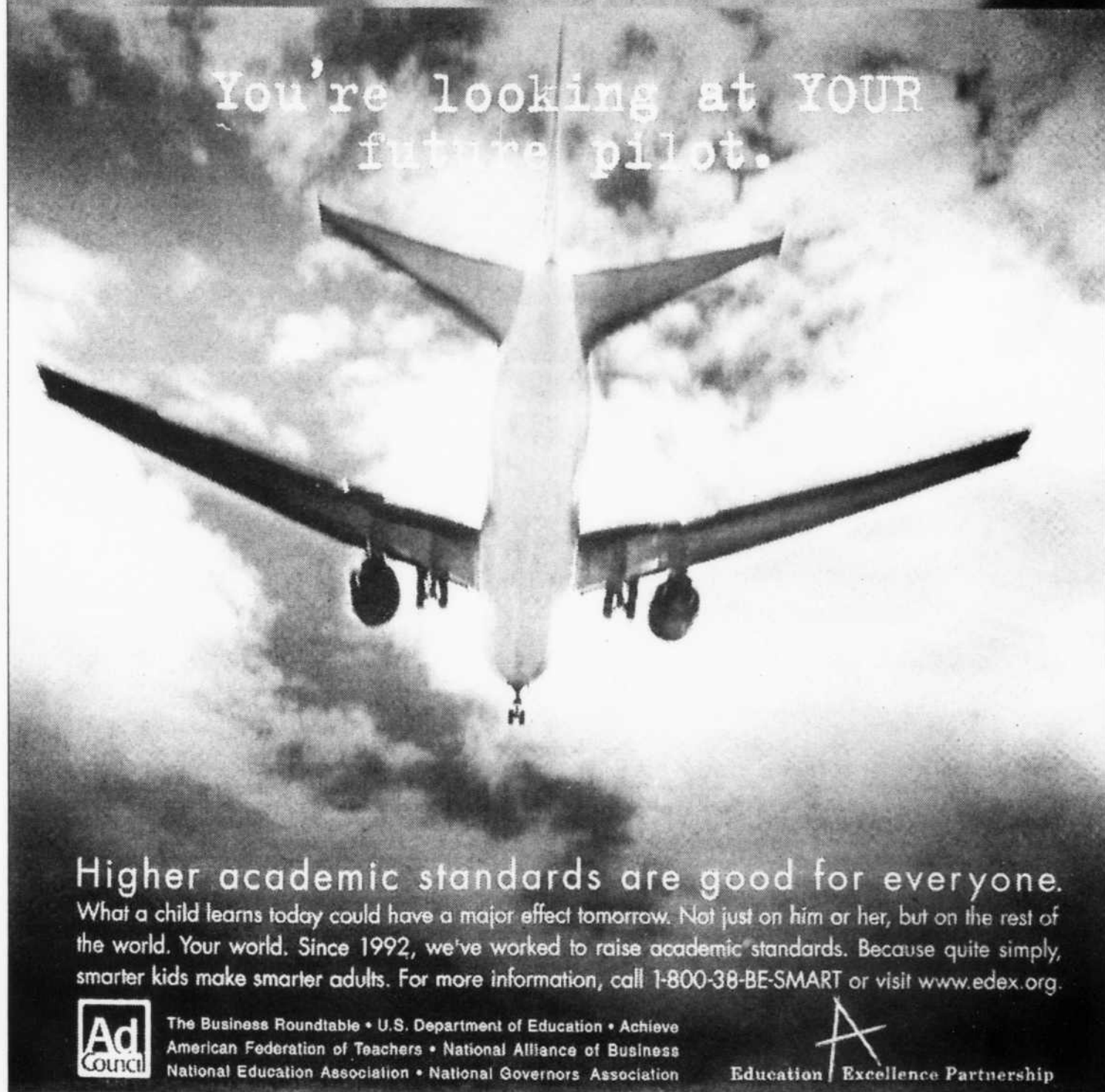
and RoBold were charged with unlawful acceptance of corporate political contributions. The eight companies were charged with making illegal political contributions.

DeLay was not questioned or subpoenaed as part of the grand jury investigation.

Calls to the Lebanon, Tenn.-based Cracker Barrel, the other defendants or their lawyers were not immediately returned. ♦



You aren't looking at
a future pilot.



You're looking at YOUR
future pilot.

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



The Business Roundtable • U.S. Department of Education • Achieve
American Federation of Teachers • National Alliance of Business
National Education Association • National Governors Association

Education Excellence Partnership

flash
on stands thursday

CAREER FAIR FOR ALL STUDENTS

Thursday, September 30, 2004
Murphy Center Track, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Many employers and
graduate/professional schools

Representatives of business, governmental agencies, non-profits, and graduate schools will be on campus to provide information about careers, part-time and full-time employment, and internship. Come and get information on your career choices and learn about new career possibilities.

View the roster of employers and graduate schools on the web site at www.mtsu.edu/~career. Network and present your resumes to these representatives.



Sponsored by the MTSU Career and Employment Center

From the Editorial Board

Step up, stop sadness: Actively prevent suicide

Given that suicide is a leading cause of death among young people and that it is virtually the only cause of death that is 100 percent preventable, it's refreshing to see the U.S. Congress step up to the plate and appropriate a serious amount of money toward the study and prevention of youth suicide.

The reasons that cause students and young people in general contemplate suicide vary widely: pre-existing mental problems that could be triggered by stress, constant and ongoing social isolation, academic, extracurricular and work-related rigors, substance abuse, and so on.

Although one study points out that the rate of suicides are no higher amongst college students than they are among young people who do not attend college, the campus atmosphere provides an opportunity to pinpoint and attempt to treat students that may be at risk.

Part of the problem is the very nature of many at-risk college students: They aren't the types to have open mental breakdowns, or worse, to attempt to seek help on their own for depression or stress.

Experts have noted that a good portion of college students who commit suicide are quiet, socially withdrawn and generally do not make their presence – and in turn, the problems they may be having – known very loudly.

This is why a pro-active approach is essential so that young people who could use counseling are made very aware of counseling services available to them and that there are people put in place to help with a more immediate crisis.

Put another way, if the flu were the second-leading cause of death on a college campus, every single student would be given flu shots and plenty of precautions about how to avoid it.

Given that only accidents cause more deaths than suicide, it's commendable that Congress thought enough about the subject to try to do something about it. It's money well spent. ♦

Trust in a bottle: lower the drinking age

The legal drinking age should be lowered from 21 to 14. Let the revolution begin.

Think about it for a moment. How much more comfortable would you feel at the Shell station if you were actually showing your driver's license instead of your sister's boyfriend's cousin's license?

No longer would you have to pretend you were from places like Wyoming or Connecticut. You would have the new found freedom to smile and wave at the officer in the gas station on his third snack break who is scowling at you.

Time management is another thing that would be gained from this law. Instead of spending time making fake identification cards, or trying to find one, you could focus your efforts on things nobody else does, like, say, homework.

It is absurd to have a law that has no intelligent basis and that is damn near impossible to enforce. Everybody who wants to drink already does. It doesn't matter if you are 14 or 20. If you can't get it yourself, then you know someone who will get it for you.

The United States would not be the first to enact a law like this. Almost all of Europe has a lower drinking age than we do. They don't have chaos in the streets, either. The youth of those coun-

The Bottom Line



Trey Porter
Staff Columnist

tries have not faltered. In fact, they consistently out-perform the American students on tests.

If the students from the European countries are hung over while they are taking the tests, then the results sure haven't been affected.

Now for those of you out there who think alcohol is the devil, I am sure that you are against this. However, if you look at it from the perspective that now there will be more people to target and protest against, then you should find this appealing.

I realize 14 is young. There are, however, a number of reasons for empowering the youth of our nation with some beverage freedom.

Teenagers get the freedom to drive at 16. I think it is important to teach people how to drink before teaching them how to drive. One is obviously much more important than the other, for if you can drive, but you can't drink

“[To lower the legal drinking age] ...would eventually produce a more mature, responsible youth in our country.”

then you're in trouble.

At 14 a person is old enough to see a PG-13 movie, so why can't they have a brew? Seriously though, at 14 one can make a conscious decision whether to have an alcoholic beverage or not.

The 14-year-old will begin his or her drinking habits in their home. This will provide them with a responsible, monitored setting to begin to learn the do's and don't's of alcohol.

The home is a much better place to learn those lessons than the fifth floor of Cummings Hall.

This law would eventually produce a more mature, responsible youth in our country. Instead of getting alcohol only when you truly get freedom from home, one would grow to understand the benefits and dangers of the drug.

For those true drinkers out there, you could actually separate yourselves from the posers. Once it becomes legal to drink, a huge number of people would actually stop, because if it's legal, then it

can't be that cool.

This is not a change that can happen overnight. Underage drinkers of America, unite! This can be our generation's great cause, our great achievement. Call your senator and petition your friends and neighbors.

With things like terrorism and conquering other nations on our country's agenda right now, it will be difficult to get this issue into the national spotlight. If we work together we can succeed!

The arrest rates for driving under the influence will fall. The underage consumption tickets will fall. You will never have to meet your sister's boyfriend's cousin. You will never have to pretend you have blue eyes when you have brown eyes.

The bottom line is that by dropping the legal drinking age to 14, America will be a better place. ♦

Trey Porter is a junior journalism major and can be reached at yellowcardswipe@yahoo.com.

Congress holds key to next four years

Almost everything we see or hear about the general election in November revolves around who will be occupying the Oval Office for the next four years.

Despite the overwhelming attention deservedly heaped on the race for the presidency, it is just as important to give heed to the congressional seats on the ballot in 2004.

A president can enact little – if any – of his agenda if he is unable to gain the support of Congress. Many government observers, myself perhaps chief among them, complain often about the bloated federal government budget.

While votes cast for president do affect the federal budget to an extent, votes cast for representatives and senators largely determine the financial path the country will take.

Congress controls Uncle Sam's purse strings. I am torn on the current makeup of the house and senate. While the tax cuts recently passed were a breath of fresh air, Congress has also capitulated to the president's very un-conservative domestic spending programs.

As a true conservative, I sometimes wonder where I can turn when Republicans start wasting money on wolves disguised in sheep's clothing such as prescription drug entitlements. All that said, however, I have true optimism about the course of the country. Republicans currently own a 23-seat advantage over Democrats in the U.S. House and a slim advantage in the U.S. Senate, and there appears to be hope that the next four years could return more power and responsibility to the people as the president promotes his theme of an "ownership society."

The large social spending in President George W. Bush's first term stems directly from the whole "new tone" he attempted to bring to Washington. He felt if he pushed Congress to spend money like Democrats, as is evidenced by record increases in education spending and a new Medicare entitlement, that members of the opposite party would suddenly look at Republicans favorably.

Obviously, that plan has backfired;

Common Sense



Randall Thomason
Staff Columnist

Democrats still spew the same tired attacks they've always used, accusing Republicans of stealing from children, senior citizens, blacks or any other group they think can't survive without government aid.

I'm hoping the president, along with Republicans in Congress, realize the futility of trying to please Democrats and return to true conservatism in the next four years.

Social Security must be changed from the fraud it currently is and allow citizens to have more control over their own retirements. Government must release its clutch of the United States' health care system and return it to the private sector. That is just the tip of the iceberg.

Perhaps the government could even learn a few tricks from Tennessee Gov. Phil Bredesen, who unlike his Republican predecessor, actually seems to respect the taxpayers (for now). A few cuts here and there can be a good thing, and they are long overdue on a lot of the mess that is the federal budget.

Think long and hard about who you support for Congressional seats; don't allow your vote to be swayed by politicians promising government aid that is nothing more than the adolescent stages of socialism. Both parties are guilty of robbing taxpayers to fund wasteful social programs to gain votes.

However, in 2004, I am optimistic that the GOP is returning to its fiscal philosophical roots. If I'm wrong, my future support for Republican congressional candidates will be shaky at best. ♦

Randall Thomason is a junior mass communications major and can be reached at rthomason@raiderrepublicans.com.

Letters to the Editor

No need for privatization

As a former reporter and columnist for *Sidelines*, I've got to give Matt Anderson kudos for his great article there!

I need to do a little "truth squadding" if you'll allow it here on perhaps the main point of Justin Owen's argument – Social Security. It's an issue I wrote on for *Sidelines* and am very familiar with.

The Republican argument is that it needs to be privatized or taxes need to be increased to keep it going. Not true! Well, perhaps under this administration that's the case since the deficits have been so high that President George W. Bush is raiding the surplus funds now to pay for things in his massive budgets and people's wages have declined to the point that there is less going into that account right now.

The fact is a John Kerry presidency would likely "raise all boats" as it were, including wages, and put funds back into Social Security through taxes (staying at the same percentage of an individual's wages except for the top 2 percent) and because the economy is likely to see the kind of growth it did during the tech boom.

Energy was something Owen didn't mention because it is among Bush's many weaknesses: Bush is beholden to petrochemical companies who are big contributors. Kerry, having been the No. 1 environmental candidate for years, sees the necessity for our environment, our national security and yes, for our economy of being the country to develop and elevate other forms of energy and propulsion in the new race toward global leadership.

As Bill Gates, Steve Jobs and Dell did for the economy during Bill Clinton's administration, so shall alternate energy brains do for the economy of the Kerry presidency. Economic expansion, coupled with a rosier Social Security outlook, will return ... with a wiser steward at the helm, that is!

Maura Satchell
MTSU Alumna

Sense of order in Iraq limited

Let historians debate whether our invasion of Iraq was justified. The question we, as citizens and voters, should be asking is, are we justified in remaining there?

Iraqis apparently do not think so. Opinion polls (taken in those areas where polling is possible) show that a majority believe they would be better off if we just packed up and left. This is not to say that they favor the other side. But they now see us as the principal cause of the violence that afflicts their country. We have lost the battle for the hearts and minds of the Iraqi people.

We are also losing the war on the ground. The authorities claim that there are no "no-go" areas, yet there are large and growing areas where we, nevertheless, do not go. These include major cities as well as rural areas; in Baghdad itself, we patrol the avenues but do not go into the neighborhoods beyond them. We are being driven back to our bases, unable to control the territory surrounding them.

We are putting our men and women in Iraq through horrors unimagined, requiring them to ignore the demands of human decency. Torture, approved in Washington, is endemic. Revenge killings, from the attack on Fallujah in April, also ordered from Washington, to the recent attack in Haifa Street, have become the norm.

The dead are usually unarmed, often children. It should not surprise us, then, to read in United Press International reports that "[a] military study published in *The New England Journal of Medicine* in July showed that 16 percent of soldiers returning from Iraq might suffer major depression, generalized anxiety or post-traumatic stress disorder."

Perhaps our best hope is that the "elections" scheduled for January come off, and produce a government with enough legitimacy to offer us a fig leaf.

But in the last week I have read in two different places that there are plans to resume the offensive against Fallujah after Nov. 2. And when John Edwards promised that a John Kerry administration will not bring back the draft, President George W. Bush and Dick Cheney remained ominously silent.

Clifford Story
Senior, Department of Mathematical Sciences

SIDELINES

Middle Tennessee
State University
1301 East Main Street
P.O. Box 8
Murfreesboro, TN 37132

Editorial: 898-2337
Advertising: 898-2533
Fax: 904-8193
www.mtsusidelines.com

Editor in Chief	Jason Cox*
Managing Editor	Kristin Hall*
Production Manager	Brandon Morrison
Campus News Editor	Erica Rodefer*
Associate News Editor	Melissa Bowman
State and Local News Editor	Nick Fowler*
Opinions Editor	Matthew Adair*
Features Editor	Michaela Jackson
Sports Editor	Colby Sledge
Photo Editor/Features Design	Emily Nance
Chief Photographer	Steve Cross
Assistant Sports Editor	Jon Leffew
Copy Editors	Michaela Jackson, Marie Patrick, Juanita Thouin, Melissa Coker
Business Manager	Jeri Lamb
Sidelines Publisher	Wendell Rawls
Ad Design Manager	Meghanne Thompson

*denotes member of editorial board

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

Letters Policy

Sidelines welcomes letters to the editor from all readers. Please e-mail letters to slopinio@mtsu.edu, and include your name and a phone number for verification.

Sidelines will not publish anonymous letters.

We reserve the right to edit for grammar, length and content.

So full of hate?
Bring it on.

slopinio@mtsu.edu



Ebony Kelsey from June Anderson Women's Center puts on her yellow rose.

Photo Illustration by Micah Miller | Staff Photographer

Pocket full of...

Yellow Roses

MTSU women take up the cause of the historic Suffragettes by donning roses

By Calley Stroud
Staff Writer

The next time you hear a young single woman complain about the state of politics, ask her if she votes. Chances are she did not.

The fact of the matter is that single women – particularly young Tennessean women – are not voting.

Tennessee currently ranks 50th in the nation in the percentage of women who vote, but it doesn't have to stay that way.

Susan Trentham, director of the June Anderson Women's Center hopes to change this trend by organizing and launching The Yellow Rose Campaign.

Trentham says she began the campaign because "the JAWC wanted to do something creative and visual on campus to help encourage women to vote (in a non-partisan way, of course)."

"The yellow rose campaign was designed using a historical symbol from the suffrage movement, specifically in Tennessee, to raise public awareness today about the need for Tennessee women to vote."

Tennessee was the deciding vote in the fight for women's suffrage. Suffragists and anti-suffragists from across the nation gathered in Nashville in August 1920 as the state legislature was preparing to vote on the issue.

"At the time, roses were in season, and those who believed in women's right to vote wore yellow roses on their lapels as a symbol of their support."

Those against the amendment's ratification

donned red roses, causing this summer battle for women's voting rights in Nashville to be known as "the War of the Roses."

Courtney Wood, co-chair for MTSU's Women for Women organization, stood in the very short line at the Keathley University Center last Wednesday and proudly cast her vote at MTSU's Mock Voting booth.

Wood says she feels MTSU's Mock Voting event contributes to the positive programming for students, and that we should all be working towards the education and unification of women.

But, most important, Wood says, she voted in the mock election to signify her appreciation for those women before her that fought in the 1920s so that she and other women can now exercise their right to vote.

"Other women take their right for granted. It doesn't matter to them because they weren't there," she says.

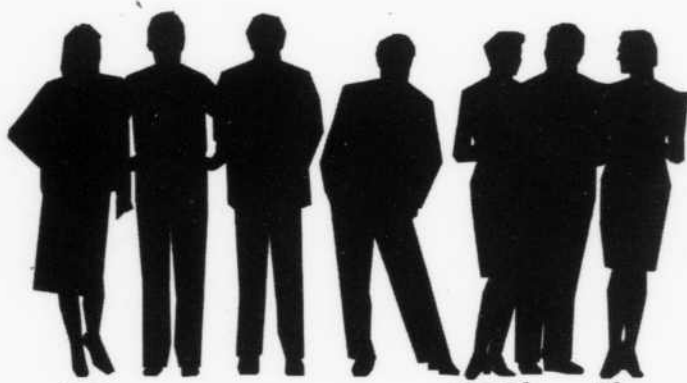
It's important to note that WFW and JAWC are separate. However, they both strive to honor and empower women.

For those women – and men, for that matter – who care enough to cast their vote, time is running out to register for the upcoming election.

Tennesseans – young Tennessee women especially – are encouraged to become proactive instead of reactive, and vote.

Not sure where to go to get started? Try the Rutherford County Election Commission Office, which is located at 1 South Public Square, Room 103. Their phone number is 893-7743.

Tennessee's deadline to register to vote for the 2004 General Election is Oct. 3, 2004. ♦



Campus Club Spotlight:

The Masters Swim Club

By Meg Akers
Staff Writer

On 6:30 a.m., Monday and Wednesday mornings, while the sun is barely up and while most of us are still cozily snoring, quite a ruckus is happening up at the Recreation Center pool.

The Masters Swim Club is at it again. Having been at MTSU for only five years, the club has grown by leaps and bounds.

"When I came here a year ago," says MT Aquatics director Pam Footit, "the club only had 10 members." The MTMS (Middle Tennessee Masters Swim) now claims 48.

While many of the club's members are students, most of them are in their 30s, says club president Carrie Romer.

"I've been trying to build [membership] up," Romer says, "and I've managed to recruit a few student life guards, so that helps."

You don't have to be the next Michael Phelps to be a part of the MTMS, either.

"No one has to compete," Footit says. "Some swim for health; to tone condition and slim down."

And it does seem as though swimming is the way to go in the "slimming down" department. Need proof? Footit provides it: Exercise amidst water burns 200 more calories than running.

Swimming burns fat calories, not energy calories like land-based exercise. Water mas-

sages the muscles, so soreness doesn't strike later. And to top it off, swimming is less stressful on the heart, Footit says.

But these are things you don't have to tell twice to the members of the MTMS.

"We meet Monday and Wednesday mornings 6:30-7:30," Footit says, "and Thursday nights from 5-6."

Don't be alarmed by the early morning times. They are good for you.

"After an early morning in the pool," Footit says, "I feel great all day. Otherwise, I just feel ok and not as alert."

For those more competitive, this nation-wide swim club does compete against other schools. Swimmers scores are tallied at their own schools, sent off, evaluated and rewarded, all without the travel expense or fear of stage fright. Real sanctioned meets are held in the spring.

"Everyone is very social at the meets," Footit says. "They all try to help each other, not psyche each other out."

Like any other club, dues are required from the members. But the MTMS dues are minimal: a one-year fee of \$50. And that \$50 gets you not only your membership, but also a Speedo suit, goggles, official Masters Swim Club swim cap and (starting in January) an eight-month subscription to *Swim* magazine.

"We do fund-raising in the form of selling beer at AmSouth

concerts," Romer says. "We get to keep the tips and at the Dave Matthews concert two of us made over \$100. That was great."

Coming from a small town that didn't have a pool, Romer finds that the MTMS has had a great effect on her.

"I joined it through a friend and it's been just a dream come true for me," she says.

And it seems that the MTMS has had quite an effect on all its members.

"It's really a great life-long sport," Footit says. "There have been studies done and swimmers actually look and function ten years younger than those who don't swim."

If you like to swim, if you want to get in shape, if you possibly want to compete against other swimmers from all over the country and have fun doing it, then the Masters Swim Club may just be the club for you.

"Our main purpose is to offer a nice fitness activity that people can enjoy," Footit says, "where they can swim out all the stress that builds up throughout the day."

The MTMS will see you bright and early Wednesday morning.

For more information, visit the MTMS Web site at <http://www.mtsu.edu/~camprec/Aquatics/master.html> ♦

Local writers compete in songwriting contest

Hopefuls given a local opportunity to test their skills

By Joey Hood
Flash Editor

As any recording industry major/amateur songwriter can tell you, johnny-come-lately songwriting contests are a dime a dozen.

From the Yoko Ono-sanctioned John Lennon Songwriting Contest (www.jlsc.com) to USA Songwriting Competition (www.songwriting.net), the craft of songwriting is ruthlessly competitive in these *American Idol* times.

Now enter the International Songwriting Competition.

This Boston-bred organization has plucked itself from its industry-free Beantown surroundings, only to land amidst

the fertile songwriting community of Nashville.

"[Nashville is] renowned for songwriting and ISC and Nashville are synonymous in their commitment to and support of songwriters," ISC founder Candace Avery said.

"The prestige of being in Nashville, coupled with the immense talent pool of songwriters and industry professionals, will serve to enhance ISC and its standing internationally," Avery said.

Now in its junior year, the re-located ISC has quickly stirred the ire of more established organizations through its powerhouse panel of judges.

While JLSC only boasts Yoko Ono, ISC amply courts judges in disparate genres of music.

This year's illustrious panel includes Sean "P. Diddy" Combs, Clint Black, Bo Diddley, Taj Mahal, Macy Gray, Branford Marsalis and Darryl McDaniels of Run DMC.

The ISC also frames the heterogeneous panel with equally varied musical categories for possible contestants. Said categories include pop, rock, country, adult rock, blues, singer-songwriter, electronica, children's music and a special lyrics-only category for burgeoning bards.

The winners from each category will receive a hefty \$100,000 prize, along with an appearance on a compilation compact disc that will be highly considered among music industry professionals.

For more information about the contest, visit www.songwritingcompetition.com. The competition deadline is Oct. 31. ♦



© 2004

www.vancomics.com

MICHAEL FLOWERS

Church dismissed from team, Moore leaves

By Katy Hamlett
Staff Writer

The Middle Tennessee baseball team lost two of its pitchers last week, junior B.J. Church and freshman Ryan Moore.

MT head coach Steve Peterson dismissed Church early last week for repeated violation of team rules.

"He knew exactly what was going to happen," Peterson said. "I can't put a player ahead of the sport or ahead of the program."

Church was suspended for the first month of last season's preparation for a similar violation.

"I tried to correct his behavior and failed," Peterson said. "It's hard for me to even think of someone I've dismissed in the past, but he gave me no other alternative."

By the end of the 2004 season, Church had proven himself a team asset and leader. Church's first start of his college career was also MT's first Sun Belt Conference win of the season against Louisiana-Lafayette last

year, a key victory for the Raiders.

"I think when you lose a guy who has proven himself, it really throws a wrench in the system," Peterson remarked. "It really hurts not having him."

Church, from Hixson, Tenn., ended his MT career after 23 appearances with a 5-1 mark and 3.81 ERA.

Incoming freshman Ryan Moore from Chattanooga, Tenn. resigned from the team last week, citing a lack of the desire to play the sport.

"He called and told me he meant no offense to the program or to the school," Peterson said. "He just had lost his desire to compete or play any athletics."

Moore, a football player turned baseball player, was signed this summer with extremely high expectations. Moore reached the semifinals of the TSSAA tournament in 2004 and ended his senior season with 92 strikeouts and batting a .350.

"I've known Ryan since he was a baby and have followed his career," Peterson said. "This is one of the reasons why everything

took me completely by surprise."

While Church's dismissal and Moore's resignation happened in the same week, the events appear to be coincidence only.

"Moore was an incoming freshman who lost desire for the game. Church was an experienced player whose behavior was out of control," Peterson explained. "They [the events] are in no way related to each other."

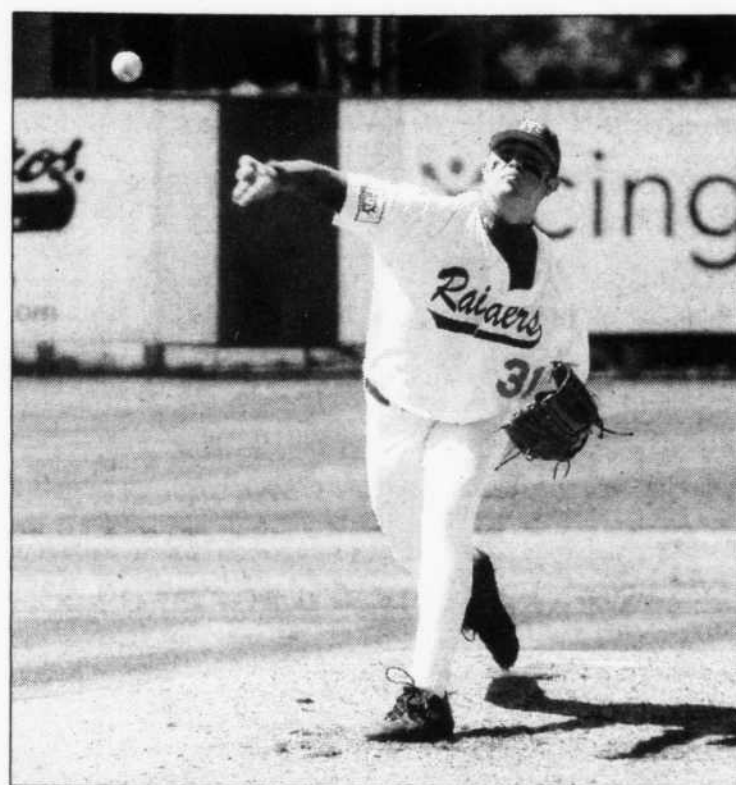
Church and Moore have both withdrawn their MT admission and have returned to their hometowns.

Now the Blue Raiders are left scrambling to find junior college players eager for a chance to play for a bigger school to help the team out.

"We're looking for players, but we're really depending on closing our ranks," Peterson said. "Our players are just going to have to step and really improve before the season starts." ♦

Photo by Steve Cross | Chief Photographer

Former MT pitcher B.J. Church was dismissed from the team last week.



Soaring above the competition

By Jori Rice
Staff Writer

Middle Tennessee standout volleyball player KeKe Deckard already holds the school record for career kills, and as a fifth-year senior, she's back for her last season to continue the hits.

"I am glad that I was able to get my fifth year back," said Deckard, who broke the school record for kills in a career with 1,494.

She also entered the season for digs in a career in fifth place with 1,001. Last year she had 553 kills, placing her second all-time for most kills in a season.

Deckard also led the last year's team in attacks with 1,423 and digs with 265. She was named to the Sun Belt All-Conference second team last season and to the Preseason Sun Belt All-Conference team this season.

This year Deckard already has 153 kills.

For a player who has accomplished so much already, one might think she might not need to worry about practicing. But new head coach Matt Peck taught Deckard a thing or two she'd never realized.

"The new coaches have thought me new stuff that I was doing wrong," Deckard said. "But I did not know because no one told me. They told me my arm is down or my elbow needs to be back, and that really helped me for this season."

But despite what she's learned, Deckard admits that she still does not like to practice.

"I love the game when on I am on the court," she said. "I just want to play, which is totally different from when I am in practice."

Although Deckard hates to practice, it has made her a better hitter each season. In 2002, Deckard led the team in kills with 447 and she averaged 3.0

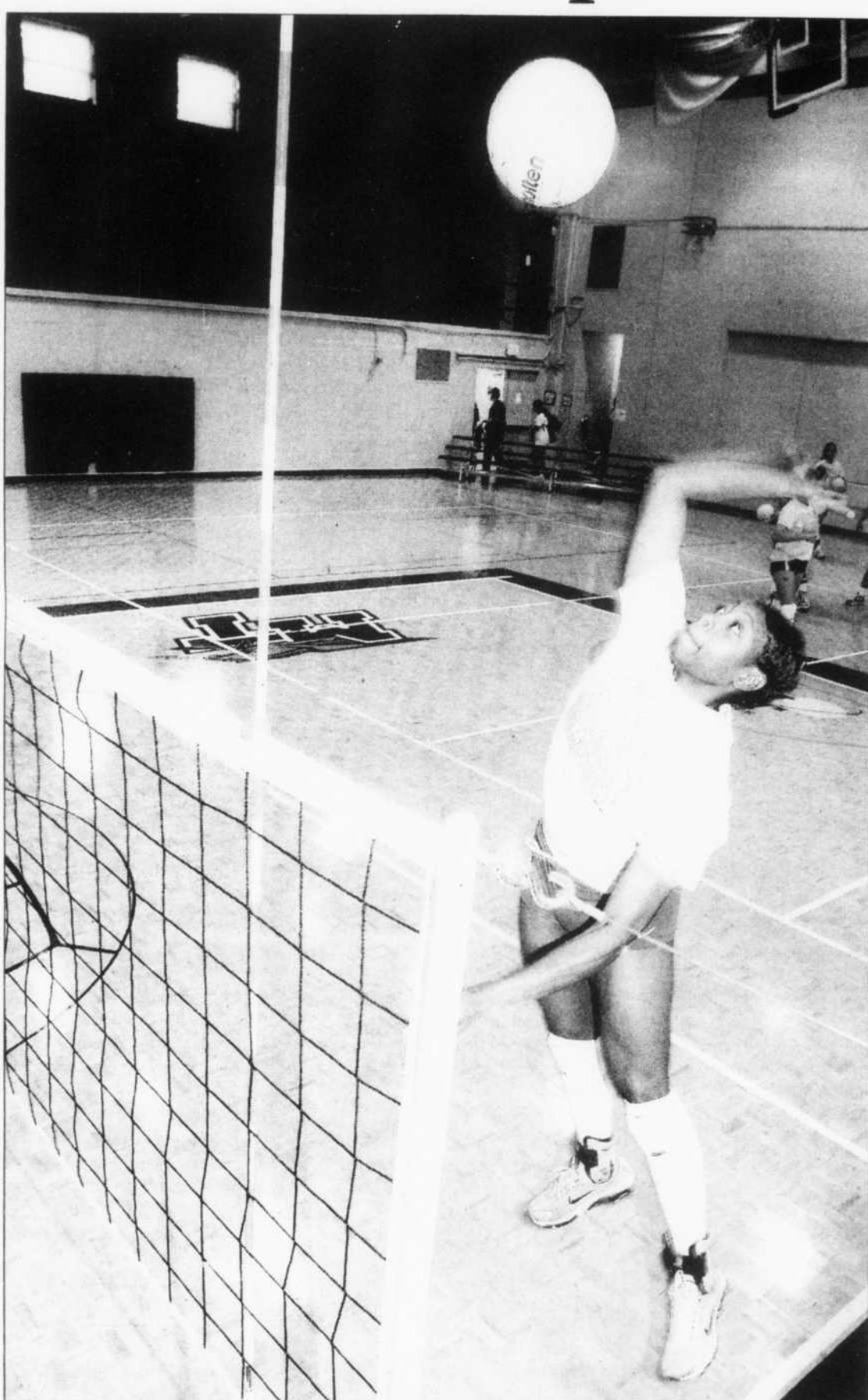


Photo by Micah Miller | Staff Photographer

MT's KeKe Deckard has her name written all over the Blue Raider record books.

See Deckard, 7

Blue Raiders open Sun Belt play against Ragin' Cajuns

By Jonathan Hutton
Staff Writer

If you ask any of the members of the Blue Raider football team, they will tell you the real season begins this Saturday.

Middle Tennessee opens up Sun Belt Conference play this weekend against the Louisiana-Lafayette Ragin' Cajuns (1-2, 0-0 SBC).

The two teams played the longest game in MT history last year, with MT losing 57-51 in four overtimes. Although the Blue Raiders are coming off a 27-20 home loss to Florida Atlantic, MT head coach Andy McCollum believes the Blue Raiders have a legitimate chance to bounce back after the loss to FAU.

"I think this is a wide open conference," McCollum said. "If you look around at the league, anything can happen. To have a chance in the league you have to go on the road and beat good teams. We have four tough road games in the league and this is the first one."

The Blue Raider offense has the No. 1 unit in the SBC, averaging 417 yards in total offense per game and 352 yards per game in passing offense. Nationally, the Blue Raiders are third in passing offense and quarterback

Clint Marks leads the nation in completion percentage.

McCollum said the key to an MT victory Saturday will be learning from the mistakes made in the first two games.

"We have to take what we have learned in these non-conference games and get better from them," he said. "We had penalties that put us in third-and-long situations and those are hard to execute no matter who you are playing. Those are things we can't do."

ULL quarterback Jerry Babb could cause the MT defense some trouble this weekend. Babb, who leads his team in passing and rushing, is 57-102 for 631 yards with three touchdowns and five interceptions. Babb also had an 80-yard run last week.

"He will be the third good quarterback we have seen in as many weeks," McCollum said Monday. "Babb has some good receivers to throw it to and they have moved the ball well against some tough people. We know what kind of quarterback he is."

"We just have to game plan, contain and deal with him like everyone else," Blue Raider defensive lineman Jerry Vanderpool said. "He's tough and he proved that at our place last year."

Last year Babb threw for 435 yards and

four touchdowns against the Blue Raiders after coming into the game ranked near the bottom of the conference in quarterback rating.

The Blue Raiders are ranked next-to-last in the nation in pass defense, giving up 367 passing yards per game.

ULL has its own defensive problems, however. The Ragin' Cajuns are ranked 113th out of 117 Division I-A teams in stopping the run, giving up an average of 291 yards per game.

MT running backs Eugene Gross and Lee Baker were both injured in Saturday's game, which allowed redshirt freshman Terry Jackson to see playing time. Jackson rushing for 49 yards and catching four passes in his first collegiate game.

"We have to get healthy and get ready to go into a tough environment at Louisiana-Lafayette, a team we have had really good games against," McCollum said. "They get loud and they have fun down there. There will be a great crowd. We have been there before and it's always a tough game for us, here or there."

Kickoff is Saturday at 6 p.m. in Lafayette, La. The game can be heard on the Blue Raider Radio Network. ♦

See Ryder, 8

Sports commentary



Cody Gibson
Staff Writer

As soon as the American Ryder Cup Team was defeated handily by Europe, 18 1/2 to 9 1/2, blame was beginning to rear its ugly head.

Blame Hal Sutton, team captain of the U.S. Ryder Cup squad, for not taking the top players from the Ryder Cup Points Standings. Sutton chose Jay Haas, who was 12th in the point standings, instead of Steve Flesch, who was 10th.

Sutton's bold decision to pair Tiger Woods and Phil Mickelson, the best two U.S. golfers, for the opening match backfired. Then everything seemed to fall apart for the Americans. The players started blaming everyone but themselves.

Mickelson complained that his new state-of-the-art Callaway Golf Clubs threw him off. Apparently, having better technology on the golf course is a bad thing.

Then, there is Woods, the undoubted star of the U.S. team and the golf world itself. Woods has been playing very well lately, even though he lost his No. 1 world ranking. Yet it is hard to blame Woods after the opening day because he won the rest of his matches.

The point is this: Where is Woods' leadership? He is the best golfer playing in the Ryder Cup and he should help his team, not just himself.

This Ryder Cup team reminds many of the U.S. Olympic basketball team: A seemingly unbeatable team going against a group of scrappy, well-schooled underdogs who not

only win but destroy the U.S. juggernaut.

The selfishness of the players can't be denied. However, this is where the similarities end with the basketball team. It's not like the United States has dominated the Ryder Cup like the basketball team had dominated international competition for years. The European team has won four of the last five Cup matches and seven of the last ten.

So this begs the question: Was it really that big of an upset?

Except for the fact that this was the largest defeat in Ryder Cup history, there was no real upset at all. The last time the United States won a match was the much-publicized victory in 1999, in which Justin Leonard (who was not even on this year's team) made a winning putt and pandemonium erupted on the green. Other than that, the United States has fallen short nearly every time.

Another point that needs to be examined is the team concept. Sure, the United States has three of the top five golfers in the world (Phil Mickelson, Davis Love III and Tiger Woods). The Europeans' highest golfer in the world rankings is No. 8 Padraig Harrington.

Yet when looking at the European team top to bottom, they were superior to the United States. Not only was the lineup better, but the leadership and chemistry appeared to be more powerful in the Europeans.

The last time the United States won, the team a strong balance of chemistry and talent, a formula that the Europeans continually use for their success.

So is this an excuse for the United States Cup team and



Photo by Steve Cross | Chief Photographer

MT's Pierre Ingram soars toward the end zone Saturday.

BSC upsets MT 2-1

By Jon Leffew
Assistant Sports Editor

The Middle Tennessee Blue Raider soccer team traveled to Birmingham, Ala., over the weekend for a matchup with the Birmingham Southern Panthers.

Aston Rhoden's team came into Sunday's game with a four-game winning streak, and looked to make it five against a team with just one win on the year.

However, BSC took advantage of two late goals in a game dominated by MT, and eventually came away with the 2-1 victory.

The Blue Raiders got on the board first when Debs Brereton scored on an assist from freshman Kaley Forrest in the game's 61st minute.

Brereton and the Blue Raiders outshot BSC 23-7 for the game, but could not stop the Panther offense in the game's final 15 minutes.

Brereton's score was her eighth goal of the season, which leads the Sun Belt Conference. It also moves the senior from Middlesbrough, England, into a tie for 10th on the single-season goals list.

The Panthers tied the game in the 79th minute when junior Ashley Welsh scored on a breakaway down the center of the field.

Freshman Anne McIntyre provided the assist on Welsh's goal, then scored the game-winner on a fake to goalkeeper Jenny Manis' right in the game's 84th minute.

"This was a fantastic win today, and I am extremely proud of our effort," Panthers head coach Keidane McAlpine told BSC Media Relations. "We didn't give up when we were behind, and we were able to beat a very, very good team today. Hopefully we'll be able to carry this momentum into the conference schedule and start putting some more Ws into the win column."

Sophomore goalkeeper Tarra Kohler recorded five saves for the Panthers, while Manis ended the game with one save.

Brereton led the Blue Raider attack with six shots, while Megan Black led the Panthers with four.

MT will return to action this Friday, as they will play host to Georgia Southern at the Blue Raider soccer field. ♦

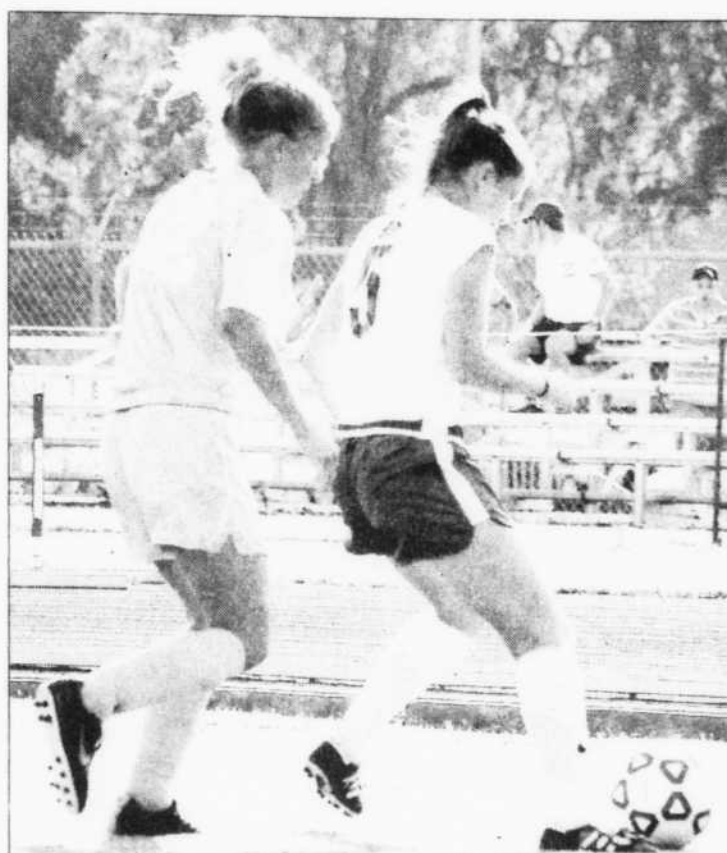


Photo by Kevin Lane | Staff Photographer

MT's Rachel Holmes battles Tennessee Tech on Sept. 12.

Deckard: Improves each season

Continued from 6

digs per game. She was also named to the 2002 SBC All-Tournament team after totaling 25 kills and averaged 3.1 kills per game in two matches for the SBC tournament.

Deckard was the SBC Freshman of the Year in the 2001 season, when she twice had 30 or more kills in a match. The second match came at Arkansas State, when she broke the school record for kills in a match with 35.

Since she owns most of the records at MT, now where does Deckard get most of her motivation?

"The fans," Deckard said. "I love the excitement during the matches."

Deckard also played basketball and track in high school, but her true love was volleyball.

"I just like to hit," Deckard said. "I play volleyball and [run] track now, but I only did basketball in high school to stay in shape. My mom played softball, but I was scared of the ball, so I did something else."

Deckard is majoring in child development and one day hopes to open up a daycare and work with children. Despite her talent, Deckard has no future plans for volleyball after she graduates.

"I don't even want to coach it for now, but later on my feelings may change," she said. ♦



Sports Briefs

News from around Middle Tennessee



Lady Raiders ranked by magazine

The Middle Tennessee women's basketball team is ranked 25th in the *Athlon* Magazine Preseason Poll, MT Media Relations announced Tuesday.

The ranking, which comes after the Lady Raiders defeated the North Carolina Lady Tar Heels in last year's NCAA tournament, is the first time the team has been ranked in the preseason.

"This ranking is a huge credit to last year's team and those seniors," head coach Stephany Smith told MT Media Relations. "They are the ones that set the stage for this ranking."

"The players and coaches are very excited about this ranking and bringing the first one in the program's history is very special," Smith said. "To see this

type of recognition on a national stage makes in all worthwhile."

MT will open the season on Nov. 12, hosting South Florida in the first round of the Preseason WNIT.

Men's tennis features ranked players

Three different members of the MT men's tennis team found their names in the Intercollegiate Tennis Association Preseason Poll released last week.

The doubles team of Brandon Allan and Kai Schledorn is ranked 19th, while Andreas Siljestrom is currently ranked 63rd.

Siljestrom, who posted 17 singles victories as a freshman, is one of four Sun Belt Conference players who were included in the rankings.

Allan and Schledorn were ranked most of last season, climbing as high as 28th after posting a 25-12 record.

The team will return to action this weekend, traveling to Athens, Ga., to compete in the Southern Intercollegiate Championships.

Baseball Scout Day Thursday

The MT baseball team will hold its annual Scout Day on Thursday at Reese Smith Field.

Players will go through a number of throwing, hitting and agility drills for professional scouts before taking part in an intrasquad scrimmage.

The Blue Raiders have 10 seniors and 14 other draft-eligible players on the team, and should attract a large

number of scouts.

Testing will begin at 2 p.m. with the scrimmage to immediately follow.

Blue Raiders populate minors

Several former Blue Raider baseball players completed their respective minor league seasons recently.

Chris Mobley and Brett Carroll both played for the Jamestown Jammers of the New York-Penn League, while Chad Cooper joined them in the league, playing for the Hudson Valley Renegades.

John Williams stayed in the state of Tennessee, playing for the Elizabethton Twins. ♦

CLASSIFIEDS

Employment

Now hiring part-time front desk associate!! Looking for a part-time weekend job!! Super 8 Motel in LaVergne I-24 exit 64. 25 min. from MTSU. Hours Sat. 3pm-11pm & Sunday 7 am-5 pm. Prefer experience. Willing to train. Must be punctual and aggressive. Please apply in person!! Great Benefits!!

Part-time Employment. You determine your own hours, your own pace and your own compensation. Great way to work around your current schedule, earn extra money and try a new financial services career. For more info., call Valerie or Reggie at 904-1781.

Rutherford Band & Trust is seeking part-time tellers to work extended hours and weekends. Previous cashier or teller experience preferred. Fax resume to 615-848-0087 or email to MorganF@greencountybank.com

Need Money? Student advisors are needed for 120 unit off-campus MTSU apartment community. On-site training, cash referrals and generous hourly salaries are included. Call toll free, 1-866-594-5470 to make an appointment with Kimberly Sanders.

Cheerleading, Baton twirling, Dance and Tumbling Teachers in your area. Must have own transportation and be good with kids. Call 615-347-3595 or 615-896-4683.

Studying business? How will you gain real world experience? Don't wait until graduation to jump into a cold market. Are you willing to seek out leaders to learn from their experiences and mistakes? Get real before the real gets you. Andy @ 615-896-0311.

Mystery shoppers Needed! Earn while you shop! Call Now Toll Free 1-800-467-4422 Ext. 13400

Opportunities

ATTENTION! We are currently recruiting volunteers to participate in a research study involving Depo-Provera. Who? Females age 18yrs. or older currently using Depo-Provera. Why? To determine the impact of daily activity on bone mineral density. What's in it for me? You will receive a free bone mineral density scan. Interested? Contact Stephanie Otto at 615-497-0016. Call Now, Space is

limited.

LOVE SPORTS? Earn \$100 to \$1,000 a day in Sports Industry. No Exp. Nec.

1-800-314-1619 ext 60791

Guitarist starting a Metal band. Some influences include Skid Row, Iron Maiden, Metallica, Queensryche, GNR and The Darkness. Need someone for vocals, bass, guitar and drums.

Interested? Call 631-8920.

Looking for organization to promote local discount card as fund-raiser. Raise between \$3000-\$6000. www.getyourcampuscard.com for details

Are you an Undergraduate student interested in pursuing a PhD? If so, we would like to talk to you. To find out more information visit www.mtsu.edu/~mcnair.

Undergraduate research is beneficial for prospective PhD candidates. If you are interested in pursuing a PhD visit www.mtsu.edu/~mcnair for qualifying criteria.

Services

Lose Weight! I lost 20 lbs in 30 days. All Natural! 100% guaranteed. Ask for the discount! 888-531-2040.

STEEL BUILDINGS

ALL MUST GO! Factory Seconds, Freight Damaged & Repos 16x24, 25x30, 35x52. - MAKE OFFER - Financing - No reasonable offer refused - serious inquiries only! 1-800-405-7501.

Save money around town. CampusCard has a discount card for local students. Visit www.getyourcampuscard.com for more details. Great discounts at your favorite places.

Spring Break 2005! Travel with STS. America's #1 Student Tour Operator to Jamaica, Cancun, Acapulco, Bahamas and Florida. Now hiring on-campus reps! Call for group discounts! Information/Reservations 1-800-648-4849 or www.ststravel.com.

In Jail?

Call Lucky's Bonding. 890-7549. Free info - 24/7

Travel

Spring Break Bahamas Celebrity Party Cruise! 5 days \$299! Includes Meals, Parties! Cancun, Acapulco, Nassau, Jamaica From \$459! Panama City & Daytona \$159! www.springbreaktravel.com

1-800-678-6386.

Sales

Miscellaneous

JVC and Pioneer flip down CD players-\$90. Pioneer 6-Disc CD changers \$125. Call 615-403-3154.

Scrubs for sale! Tops and bottoms available in x-small and small. Bottoms available in solid colors. Tops available in solids and patterns. Sets are \$8, tops \$5, and bottoms \$4. Also for sale, white lab coat in almost new condition. Coat is \$10. Please contact Nicole at 615-415-3720. leave msg.

SCUBA Gear. Used twice. Boots (fit size 10 women or 9 male), fins, snorkel, mask, weight belt, weights and nice bag. \$175 - call 615-478-8596.

"WE PAY CASH" for DVD's and Games! DVD Plus, Open until 11 pm, Sunday thru Saturday. Located behind Coconut Bay Cafe by Stones River Mall. (615) 898-0090.

Automotive

Toyota 4Runner '93 V6 white, AM/FM, CD, PW, PDL, custom wheels, roof rack 191k. Auto. \$2900. Call 260-9088.

'95 Chry. Cirrus, avg. cond. 3500 obo. 429-5180.

2000 Ford Focus 52K 5 speed. 4 Dr white w/ tinted windows. AC/heat AM/FM. \$4500 obo. Info. Call 615-482-7607.

1991 Mazda 626 LX 142K, 5 speed, AC/Heat, CD/AM/FM radio, and alarm. Good condition. \$1200 OBO. 867-1818.

'83 Volvo station wagon 240 DL. CD player, AC, cruise control, auto., good condition. \$2500/obo. Call 944-1894.

Roommates

Non-smoker roommate needed. 3 BD 2 BA apt. 1 block from campus. Private room, shared bath. \$200/mo & 1/3 utilities. Contact Toni @ 615-476-5916.

Female Roommate needed. 2 BD 2 BA apt. at Chelsea place, close to campus. Everything completely furnished. All you need is bedroom furniture. Rent is \$334 + utilities. If interested contact Stephanie 865-654-4678 or 615-895-3462. Email at Sab3r@mtsu.edu.

Roommate needed. 3 Bd/2BA new house. Eastwood Subdivision. \$400/month, split electric. Use of V/D & digital cable with HBO, showtime & Cinemax. Call Mary 400-8957.

Roommate Needed: Private upstairs w/ kitchen, bath, bed & living room. All utilities included. 3 miles from Sam's I-24. Security system, digital cable & movie channels. Call Mary, 400-8957, \$600/mo.

Roommate wanted for 2 bedroom apartment. \$320/month. Call Drew 615-525-6969.

3 roommates looking for male roommate. \$350/ month pays for room, water, electricity, cable, internet, and some food at a Smyrna townhome If interested, call Brandon at 310-6822.

Roommate wanted to share 3 br house, walking distance to MTSU. Utilities, cable, AOL and laundry. \$375/month, all included. 890-2240 anytime. 893-1951, 9-5:30, Mon-Sat.

Male, non-smoker roommate wanted to share 3 bd/2ba with female. 20 minutes from campus. Must sign 6 months or 1 year lease. \$350 plus 1/2 utilities. \$100 deposit required. Call Lisa 615-415-9302-leave msg.

Non-smoker, male roommate wanted to share 3 bd/ 2ba house with female 20 min from campus. \$350 plus 1/2 utilities. Must sign 6 months/1 year lease. \$100 deposit required. Call Lisa 615-415-9302.

Female roommate needed at University Courtyard Apt. Rent is \$375 a month (Regularly \$395) First month's rent paid. Four bedrooms, 4 baths, fully furnished, room overlooks pool, all utilities included, free Internet access. If interested, please call (615) 310-1927.

Female roommate wanted to share a 2 bedroom/2 bath apartment. \$275 a month utilities included. \$275 deposit. Call 893-7755.

For Rent

Clean and Spacious 2 BD apt., located within close walking distance of campus. Available immediately, \$600/mo. call 907-1080 or 542-3518.

Room for rent in new town house off of church street. Walk-in closet, full bath, W/D. \$375 + 1/2 utilities. Mature, dependable person needed ASAP. Call 931-267-6951 anytime.

Rooms for rent in a large homestead

set on a 400-acre farm. Utilities included in flat monthly rent. Sept. rent is free with deposit! The house has a large front yard, 10ft. tall ceiling, fire places, large kitchen, and located with convenient access to all of Murfreesboro. One Large room downstairs with double closet \$350/month. Medium room upstairs for \$290/month. This is a great house at a great price for any student that is laid-back and professional. More more info. or apt., call Jake at 943-6141. These rooms with not be available for long so come see them now!!

3 and 4 bedroom condos with 2 baths. Within walking distance of MTSU. Water furnished with washer and dryer possibly furnished. \$795/month with one year lease. Call 615-642-1555.

3 BR, 2 Bath, 2-year-old house, 1 mile from campus, great neighborhood, utility room, screened porch, 2 car garage, C H/A. Stove, refrig with ice maker, dish-washer, washer and dryer furnished. No pets. \$1,150 per month, \$600 deposit. 895-0075 or 417-4009. Available now.

House for Rent

Walk to MTSU from this beautiful house on Greenland Drive. This house is ready for your New and Exciting 2004-2005 Academic Year at MTSU. Move in after 8/1/04. Fantastic location, quiet environment - Spacious rooms for 4 students as a group, \$300 x 3 + 350 x 1 a month (or \$312.50 x 4) + 1/4 utilities. \$350/person security deposit, 1 year lease. Circle drive, patio, 2-car carport, hardwood floors, new carpets, new roof, refrigerator, built-in oven, washer & dryer, dishwasher, central H/A, fireplace with gas logs. Call 615-898-2005.

Got friends? Looking for an apartment? 4 BR/2 BA, remodeled apartment; very close to campus; \$295 per month / per bedroom. 615-758-9298

Policies

Sidelines will be responsible only for the first incorrect insertion of any classified advertisement. No refunds will be made for partial cancellations. Sidelines reserves the right to refuse any advertisement it deems objectionable for any reason. Classifieds will only be accepted on a prepaid basis. Ads may be placed in the Sidelines office in James Union Building, Room 310, or faxed to (615) 904-8193. For more information call (615) 904-8154. Ads are not accepted over the phone. Ads are free for students and faculty.

Ryder: Europe better team

Continued from 6

their embarrassing defeat? No, it's just a fact that the European team was stronger and better suited for Ryder Cup competition. This point was echoed at Oakland Hills Country Club last weekend.

If the Ryder Cup was won on paper, the United States would have won. But this competition is a different type of golf, played as a team, not as individuals.

So don't place all of the blame on the U.S. team for this loss because the Europeans were actually pretty good.

It seemed very few realized this fact, especially those in the media. That's why the loss was played up as a bigger disappointment than it really was,

because in reality it was just another case of the media building up the team as "unbeatable."

The worst thing that a team can be is "unbeatable," because then they not only are playing against other teams, but they are also playing against themselves.

If the United States had won it would have been expected, and in this case the United States lost and it was a catastrophe.

For the United States, it was a lose-lose situation, and the final tally reflected that. ♦

Cody Gibson is a sophomore mass communication major. He can be reached at cwg2g@mtsu.edu.

Photo courtesy English.com



Looking to change direction in life?

Write Sports for Sidelines.
Call 898-2816 or visit JUB room 310 for more information.

www.mtsusidelines.com

CROSS-CAMPUS. CROSS-COUNTRY. INSTANTLY.



Every Nextel® phone comes with built-in walkie-talkie and Two-Way Messaging access that lets you connect in under a second. And plenty of other features to help you get more done.

Phones start at **\$24.99**

Rate plans start at **\$39.99** per month. Other monthly charges apply. See below.**

Ask about our special student offers.



Call and ask about student and faculty specials!
615-405-9777

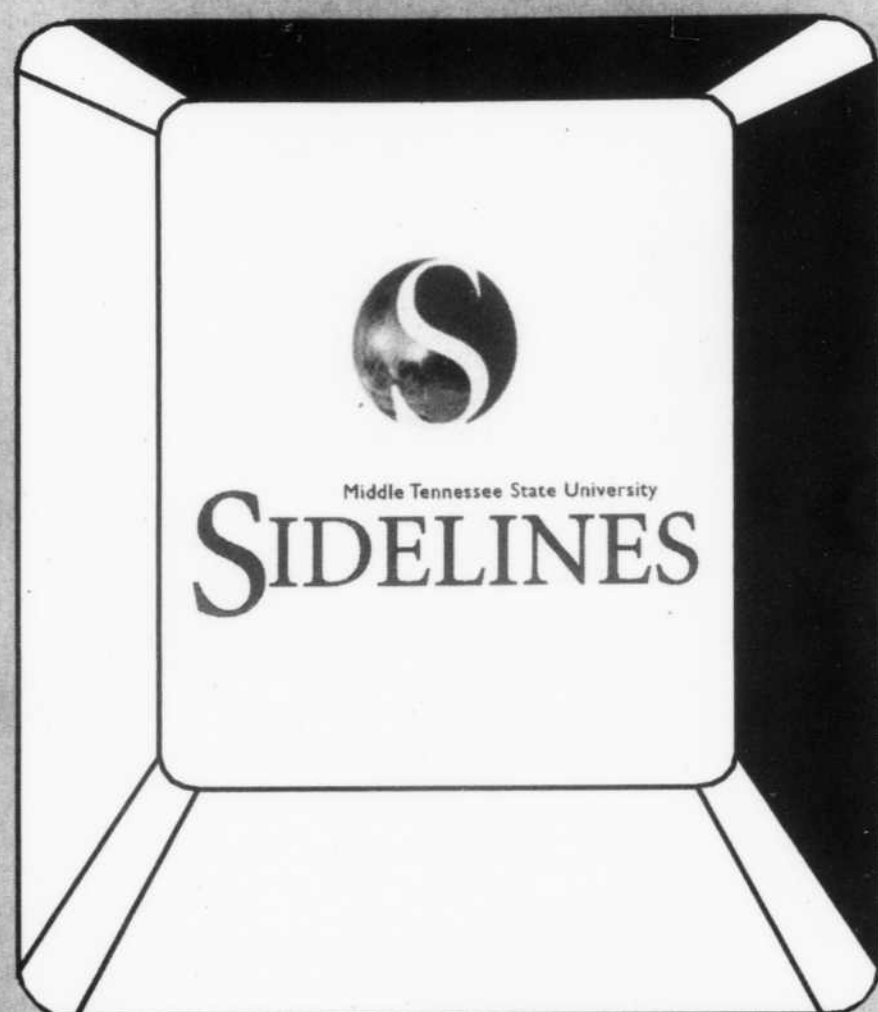
MIDDLE
TENNESSEE
STATE UNIVERSITY

NEXTEL
AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE

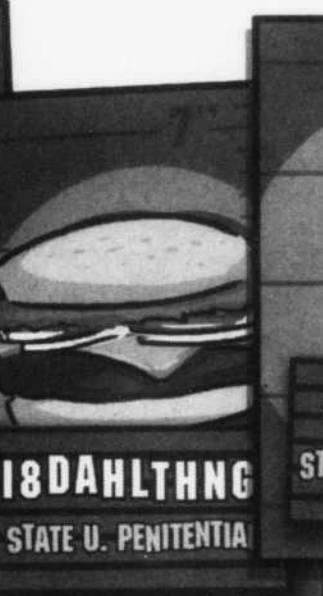
**Nextel also imposes a Federal Programs Cost Recovery (FPCR) fee of \$1.55 or \$2.83. The FPCR is not a tax or government required charge. The fee is charged for one or more of the following: E911, number pooling and wireless number portability.

Offers expire December 31, 2004. Phone and Rate Plan Offers: Available in select markets. While supplies last. Requires one- or two-year service agreement, new activation and credit approval. \$200 early termination fee applies, after 15-day trial period (conditions apply). Setup fee of up to \$35 per phone, up to \$70 max per account (some markets max of \$80/account per order) applies. \$24.99 Phone Offer is for 1205, based on two-year agreement and after \$15 invoice credit, which will appear on the customer's first or second month's invoice. Telesales will receive credit at Point of Sale. \$39.99 plan is for the Nextel National Value Plan. Cellular: Free Nationwide Cellular Long Distance includes domestic calls only. Overage is \$0.40/min. Cellular calls round to the next full minute. Unused minutes do not accumulate to the next billing cycle. Nights are 9:00pm to 7:00am. Weekends begin Fri. at 9:00pm and end Mon. at 7:00am. Direct Connect, Group Connect and Nationwide Direct Connect charges are calculated by multiplying the minutes of use by the number of participants on the call and are charged to the call initiator. Direct Connect overage is \$0.15/min. Group Connect calls are \$0.15/min. Nationwide Direct Connect calls use the Direct Connect minutes in your plan and incur an additional access charge of \$0.10/min. Group Connect can only work with members of the same network while in their home market. Text Messages: Up to \$0.15 per sent or received text message depending on message type. Additional charges may apply and may vary by market, including state and federal taxes, a Universal Service Assessment of either 1.25% or 1.25%, in some states a Gross Receipt Recovery Fee of 1.4% to 5%, a TRS charge of approx. .07%, and a state-required E911 fee. Other Terms: In-store purchases require two forms of valid identification. Nextel reserves the right to modify or terminate these offers at any time. Offers may not be available in all markets. Other conditions may apply. Read service agreement for details. Nextel's Nationwide Network serves 29% of the top 300 markets. ©2004 Nextel Communications, Inc. NEXTEL, the NEXTEL logo, DIRECT CONNECT, NATIONWIDE DIRECT CONNECT, GROUP CONNECT and the Driver Safety logo are service marks, trademarks and/or registered trademarks of Nextel Communications, Inc. MOTOROLA and the Stylized M Logo are registered in the U.S. Patent & Trademark Office. All other product or service names are property of their respective owners. All rights reserved.

Your key to campus news and events.



www.mtsusidelines.com

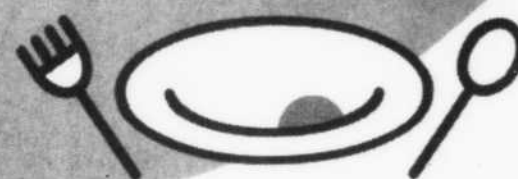


You want it. You got it... for a limited time

Now through September 27th, get FREE FOOD at any of these locations when you order from Campusfood.com....

**FREE
FOOD
NOW**

ROLY POLY SANTA FE CHICKEN
WING ZONE 10 BUFFALO WINGS
STEAKS TO GO STEAKS TO GO CHEESEBURGER
CHINA SPRING SWEET & SOUR CHICKEN
CHINA WOK GENERAL TSO'S CHICKEN



ONLY ONLINE,
ONLY AT campusfood.com