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An editorially
independent
newspaper

SIDELINES

Middle Tennessee State University

MURFREESBORO,
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Raider Rewards shut down

Sponsor company
closes, leaves reward
program stranded

Amy Calloway
Staff Writer

The athletic department will discontinue the Raider Rewards program because the company they partnered with to provide the program is going out of business.

"We were notified on Jan. 29 that as of Feb. 1, Aim Technology, Raider Rewards' parent company, would be out of business," said Michael Jordan, special events coordina-

tor for the athletic department.

The assets of the company are being taken over by two separate groups, one taking the software for the program and the other taking the hardware.

The Raider Rewards program was started Sept. 16 at the first home football game as a way of rewarding both students and fans for coming to MTSU athletic events.

"It's a way of collecting marketing survey and keeping in touch with fans while at the same time rewarding those fans who come to games," Jordan said.

To join the program, students signed up for a card and then swiped it at kiosks located

at the athletic events. After answering questions, participants received a coupon for a certain prize.

"Prizes ranged from free popcorn at 10 points to being in a drawing for a DVD player after getting 90 points," Jordan said.

Ten points could be earned for each home football, volleyball or men's and women's basketball games attended. There were a total of 39 events to earn points at before the program was cut short.

"The athletic program decided to cut the program off after the 32nd athletic event," Jordan said.

"The problem is that Aim

Technology controls all the data and information concerning attendance at games, so we are unsure how we are going to handle the remaining prizes still left to give away."

Based on the information they can get back from Aim Technology, the athletic department will then decide how best to deal with the situation.

"We intend to fulfill and honor all rewards and coupons through the end of the year," Jordan said.

The person or persons with perfect attendance at all the games was to receive a plaque and two season tickets to all home football games, men's

See Rewards, 3



Photo by Jonathan Trundle | Staff

Kiosks on campus were shut down because the company that sponsored the program went out of business.

Denying access to education



Photo by Matthew H. Starling | Chief Photographer

Students wait in the halls in the BAS before classes begin. Students are locked out due to a rule stating all classes will be locked when not being used.

Campus policy leaves
students locked out

Ryan Smith
Staff Writer

Last semester a new policy of keeping classroom doors locked went into effect across campus.

The purpose of the new policy is to minimize the damage to and theft of equipment in classrooms.

While Ronald Tonks, a history professor in Peck Hall, appreciates that the equipment in the classrooms is safe, he disapproves of the measures they have to use to keep it that way.

"I think it's wonderful that it's going to be here," Tonks said, "but I wish there was a better way."

Locked classrooms have caused problems for some students and teachers, mostly in the Business and Aerospace Building, where most doors are locked by keycards.

"You can hardly get down the hallway in the BAS," said senior Cathie Powers, who has several classes in the building. "It's the worst."

There is even a potential for personal injuries. "I tripped someone once," added Powers.

Many classroom doors in the BAS are propped open by trashcans.

Students have also found that it limits their opportunity for study.

"It's discouraging to show up for a class and not to be able to get in and prepare," junior Jason Hunt said.

Jason Herndon, a junior, has been locked out of his history class in Peck Hall.

"It seems silly," Herndon said. "We're paying to be here, so we should be able to get into class whenever we feel like it."

Other students and professors have had no problems. Patricia Webb, a biology major, said her classes are almost always unlocked.

"The doors are always locked?" Lauren Hight asked. "That sucks."

Jeanne Massaquoi, who teaches University 101 in several different buildings on campus, said, "I have my keys, so it's never a problem for me." ♦

Honors Lecture:
Local columnist
to discuss lifestyle
of print media



Charlene Callier
Staff Writer

Dwight Lewis, an award-winning columnist for *The Tennessean*, will discuss "Print Media" at the Honors Lecture Series in Peck Hall 109A Feb. 19 from 3 to 3:50 p.m.

Lewis, who is also a weekend regional manager for the Gannett-owned publication, will focus on the importance of being a journalist.

"You can make a difference pertaining to things in the community, city and the nation," Lewis said.

Lewis will discuss the importance of getting a story by getting out of the office and building sources by making contacts.

As a column writer for *The Tennessean*, Lewis will discuss important tips on being a columnist. These tips include making sure you know your subject, not being afraid to take a position and being willing to accept criticism or praise.

He will talk about how working for the newspaper is not a nine-to-five job because you never know what or where your assignment may be.

"When you work for a news-

paper, you should be married to it," Lewis said.

Lewis will discuss in his lecture some interviewing tips. He said always be a good listener, be patient and have confidence that you can do a good interview.

Lewis graduated from Tennessee State University with a degree in business administration. He was awarded the Unity Award for economic reporting at Lincoln's University. In 1981, Lewis was awarded a National Endowment for the Humanities Fellowship for Journalists.

In 1995, Lewis was selected as the recipient of the Jerry Thompson Communicator Award by the Nashville chapter of the National Conference of Christian and Jews. This award was created in appreciation for the influence that media had with positive images of racial, ethnic and religious groups.

He is a part-time lecturer at Fisk University's fine arts and humanities department and is interim advisor to *The Meter* at TSU.

For more information on the event, call the Honors College at 898-2152. ♦

Agriscience program No. 1 in Southeast region

Amanda Maynard
Staff Writer

MTSU's agriscience educational program was recently named number one in the Southeast. The Southeast includes such schools as Texas A&M, University of Florida, University of Georgia, University of Tennessee, and University of Kentucky. This is MTSU's first win.

Presented in December by

the National Association of Agricultural Education in San Diego, the award was accepted by Cliff Ricketts, professor of agribusiness and agriscience.

Being named number one in the Southeast is among the highest honors that a college can receive.

"It's a nice honor," Ricketts said. "You always have to feel humble and wonder if you really are number one."

Harley Foutch, chair of

agribusiness and agriculture, added "The agricultural education program has been unique since its inception in 1975."

In making a selection, the National Association of Agricultural Education considered many different aspects throughout MTSU's program.

Material considered included recommendation letters, media coverage generated by MTSU's agricultural education projects, as well as writings by

Ricketts, who is a noted author.

The top seat for MTSU was clinched by a combination of two things: Ricketts' Agriscience - for - Science Credit program and the work of MTSU students with alternative fueled vehicles.

The Agriscience - for - Science Credit program was the first of such efforts in the nation. The program was an answer to low enrollment into agricultural programs during the late '80s and early '90s.

During that time, many qualified students were denied enrollment due to extra credit that the students needed for acceptance.

Ricketts and a team of science teachers from around Tennessee, as well as members of the State Department of Education, deliberated for three days and developed a new curriculum for agricultural majors.

The curriculum was accepted by the state, approved by the

Tennessee Board of Regents, and enrollment in agricultural programs has since grown higher than ever.

"This made learning a lot more relevant," Ricketts said. "This is where vocational and academic learning cross."

Ricketts was not the only one to put time into making MTSU number one. Students have experimented with engines that run on ethanol from corn,

See Award, 3

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CRIME LOG

Compiled By Matthew Kelly - Police Reporter

The following is a partial list of incidents responded to by the MTSU Police Department between Feb. 7, 2001, and Feb. 12, 2001. This log was compiled from the actual police reports.

Student busted for marijuana in dorm

Feb. 8, 2:29 p.m. — Corlew Hall — An officer was dispatched to speak with the area coordinator about possible drugs in one of the dorm rooms. The AC stated that while one of her staff members was checking the temperature in the room, he noticed what appeared to be marijuana on the windowsill. He called the AC to the room, where she observed the same thing.

The AC then obtained an administrative search warrant for the room. During the search, she found approximately 1.5 ounces of what appeared to be marijuana inside a Pringles can.

The resident, Derek Claybrooks, 19, of 85 Bells Alley in Gates, Tenn., was arrested and charged with felony possession of marijuana. He was transported to the Rutherford County Sheriff's Office where bond was set at \$4,000. ♦

Busted student threatens roommate

Feb. 11, 3:06 p.m. — An officer responded to an RA's report that Derek Claybrooks had been harassing his roommate. Claybrooks believed the roommate snatched

on him and got him arrested, according to the police report.

Claybrooks and his roommate were reportedly standing in their room around 2:20 p.m. when they began staring at each other and saying, "What are you looking at?"

According to the report, Claybrooks then said, "You will f**king pay for what you've done." He then allegedly picked up an iron, drew back his arm like he was going to hit his roommate and said, "I ought to kill your f**king ass" and "crack your f**king head open with this f**king iron."

A friend then grabbed Claybrooks' hand that was holding the iron, and the roommate left the room. As he was walking down the hall, Claybrooks reportedly said to him, "You'd better not return to this f**king room for about two hours."

The RA also told the officer that Claybrooks would be removed from the room that night, and that he would possibly be removed from campus.

The officer took a report and advised the roommate how to take out a warrant against Claybrooks. The roommate obtained a warrant for assault against Claybrooks from the Judicial Commissioner the next day. ♦

Confusion arouses officers' suspicions

Feb. 9, 8:26 p.m. — Bell Street parking lot — Two officers were dispatched to assist a motorist. When they arrived, a male walked toward the police car waving his arms. He appeared unsteady on his feet. He

said he was Anthony Donel Samples, although he was later identified as Dewayne A. Samples, and stated, "The car I was in must have drove off or I'm in the wrong parking lot." The officers noted that his speech was slurred and he appeared disoriented.

One of the officers asked Samples if he'd been drinking or doing drugs. He replied, "I do drink, but I don't smoke any marijuana."

The officer then asked his age and his date of birth. Samples said he was 21 years old and his date of birth was April 24, 1983. The officer then queried, "Are you 17 years old or 21 years old?" Samples then said he was 20, but about to turn 21. The officer once more asked for his date of birth. This time he replied April 24, 1984, and that he was confused and couldn't remember. The officer once again asked for his date of birth, but Samples kept giving the officer different years for his date of birth.

The officer asked if Samples was a student. He said he wasn't, but that he was living in Lyon Hall with his sister. The officer informed Samples that he had to be a student to live on campus and that he would be issued a trespass warning.

The officers then tried to locate Sample's "roommates" but were unsuccessful. Samples began to talk and mumble, then started cussing and yelling. At this time, the officers placed Samples under arrest.

Samples, 19, of 383 Rector Road in Jasper, Tenn., was charged with public intoxication, given a criminal trespass warning and transported to the Rutherford County Sheriff's Office where bond was set at \$250. ♦

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For more information contact
Karen Ellis,
Resident Consultant,
at karenmellis@earthlink.net.

Are resident assistants doing their job?

Shannon Tate
Staff Writer

With applications now being accepted for resident assistant positions for next fall, many students are talking about their RAs and evaluating their performances.

Opinions about RAs vary around campus.

Some residents are pleased with their RAs.

"I love my RA," said one sophomore staying in Monohan Hall. "We always go talk to her about everything, and she always helps us with our problems."

"My RA's the best," said a freshman staying in Cummings Hall. "She plans activities for us, and she buys cookies for us at

our floor meetings. We all get along with her. She's real cool."

Some students, however, have mixed feelings about their RAs.

"I'm not sure how I feel about my RA," says one Cummings Hall resident. "No one on my floor knows her."

"My RA's never here," says a Schardt sophomore. "He's always somewhere else, never where he says he's going to be. We hardly ever see him."

Kris Rushing, resident director for Area III, said RAs have many responsibilities.

RAs are required to work four hours a week at their dorm's front desk. One RA is on duty each night from 4:30 p.m. to 8 a.m. Weekends are covered based on the number of people

on staff in each area.

"They don't have to be in their rooms at all times," Rushing said. "They just have to be able to respond in case a problem comes up."

"Before starting as a resident assistant, candidates have to go through two weeks of training, usually before classes start at the beginning of the semester," Rushing said. "They learn the basics of their job, how to plan involvement activities such as the Super Bowl party in January, and how to handle certain situations involving the residents."

During the first semester, RAs are required to take Psychology 410, a leadership class for college students.

While resident assistants,

overall, seem to be doing their jobs, some students feel that improvements could be made.

"RAs should be more dedicated, and they should try to develop a better relationship with their students," said one freshman in Cummings Hall. "Some second semester students don't even know their RAs, and they didn't get any of the important information that first semester students received."

"With some problems that happened on my floor last semester, I know that my RA could have done more in handling the situation."

I think that I should feel more comfortable to talk to my RA about my problems, but I don't."

RAs are never required to

handle a situation by themselves, Rushing said, and they are obligated by contract to maintain resident confidentiality.

"If issues come up, and the RA feels a resident might harm him/herself or others, they can pass the information on to the area coordinator or the resident director," Rushing said.

If any student feels that an RA is not doing his/her job, Rushing suggests that the student discuss the problem with the individual RA.

"The RA might not know that there is a problem, so calling it to their attention might solve it," she explained.

If any problems persist, students can contact Housing and Residential Life at 898-2971. ♦

Rewards: Program canceled

Continued from 1

basketball games and baseball games.

"There are six to nine people in the running for perfect attendance, but the problem is not with figuring out who has perfect attendance but, for instance, who should be put in the raffle for the DVD player," Jordan said.

"We don't know who could qualify or who did qualify."

Jordan said that a decision about prizes will be made before the last woman's basketball game held Feb. 24.

Students were eligible for all prizes, which included a gift certificate bonanza, a DVD player, a 22-inch color television, a personal computer, and tickets to the Music City Bowl and the MTSU vs. UT game.

Jordan said they were getting a steady number of people signing up for Raider Rewards and were hoping that the program would grow.

"We did feel the program was a pretty good success, but did not feel the program was as successful with students considering they get into the games free," Jordan said.

Through 32 games, Raider Rewards had 3,230 students and fans sign up for the program, according to Jordan.

"Now that this program is missing, we will come up with something to replace it, something to reward students and fans for attending games."

Aim Technology is based out of Texas and was also used by the Nashville Predators and the Texas Rangers. ♦

Award:

Continued from 1

methane from cow manure, soybean oil, and hydrogen from water.

As the result of such efforts, MTSU holds the world land speed record for a hydrogen fueled vehicle and the speed record for a vehicle that runs on soybean oil.

The program is one of a few in the nation to have a corporate sponsor. MTSU has developed an educational partnership with Tractor Supply Company, which has funded research since 1991.

MTSU also exhibits with TSC at the annual National Future Farmers of America convention, which will be held the first weekend in March. ♦



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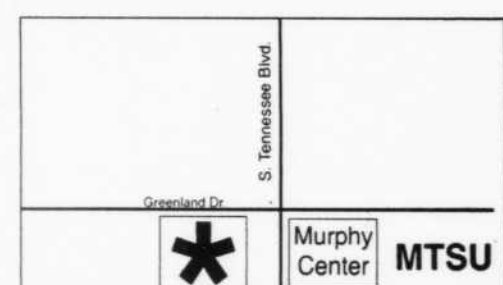


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From the staff

Serve up some enthusiasm, get involved now

Okay, here comes yet another column in which the *Sidelines* staff is encouraging you to get up and do something as active students on this campus (at least we like to think our readers are active).

Using our powers of persuasion and our boundless resources of information, we want to provide you with some ways to get involved in the life of this university. Do you realize that there are over 200 organizations ready and willing to take on new members every day? And did you know that you can actually have a say in what events, musicians, speakers and comedians (and all those plastic, air-filled, climbing, wrestling things on The Knoll, too) are brought to campus just by joining those organizations?

It is soooo easy to get started. Just take a little stroll over to the KUC, maybe after you've finished off your pizza from the Grill, climb those stairs all the way to the third floor, and though it might be confusing at first and you might get lost and turned around, just keep going until you come to the Student Organizations and Community Service Office and just a few feet from there is the Student Programming Office too!

Both of these offices have staffs that are more than willing to help you, answer questions and give you more information about what opportunities there are to get involved, so take advantage of them. Even if none of those groups "float your boat," you can simply create your own!

Don't forget about going to different departments, too. Art, dance, theatre, agriculture, music, design and so many other departments have lots of clubs and events to be a part of.

So get out there and do something that might even make others stick around here more often.

Become the media

I've started thinking lately about the nightly news. It's a very odd and powerful phenomena in our society, being the one program that people of every race, gender, class and religion all turn to for the latest "news" that is happening locally, nationally and globally. That makes it a potent vehicle of influence over the public in general - perhaps being the one thing that some people will trust completely. You know, the whole "don't trust it just because it's on TV thing". (Wait a minute, everything on television isn't real?)

So what if the news programs were different? What if, instead of fluff that is intended to amuse and hook the viewer to a certain station, we got some real news? I'm talking about reporters busting ass and finding out about what's really going on in this country, not giving us fluffy feature stories about ol' Jeb in Bucksnort, Tenn., who grew a pumpkin the size of a trailer or something frivolous like that.

I would love to see a news program that didn't have to worry about ratings, didn't have to sweat the government censors, and didn't list a sports story as one of the "top stories tonight at 10".

I know that sports have become more important than real life to some people today, but I think it's stepping over the line just a bit when a promo is run for the nightly news with the top story being "Titans fever has hit Music City full force."

The Titans are great, don't get me wrong, but this is not important news. Everyone can see the Titans logos on every other truck in Middle Tennessee. We don't need to be reminded again on the news.

I guess my point is that we aren't allowed to hear about anything that

Brian Spencer
Staff Columnist



Mind Manifestations

is going on with our government, with our elected officials and with the big corporations that are slowly taking control over the whole world. The "deciders," the people who make the decisions on what we see, how we see it and how we should react to it, will never let the American people see everything that goes on. No, they don't want us to find out about government officials taking large kickbacks - oh, I'm sorry, "campaign donations" - from large companies (hello Microsoft and Philip Morris); it would cast a shadow of doubt on the system. The deciders don't really want racial unity in this country, just look at how the black race is depicted on most news programs compared to the white race.

No, we don't get a real news program. We get feature stories to increase viewership, cheesy overpaid weathermen and government censored information. I think there are only two, maybe three, news wire services now that supply all the latest happenings to every media outlet in the country. That is scary. This means that only a few people are making decisions on what can and can't get to the general public. That's one of the main reasons why you can't necessarily believe the "slant," or tone, of a news story. It's almost like it's part editorial - making it no more valid than this column that you are reading

right now.

How about the top story at 10 being "Big tobacco companies trying to improve their image and trick you by running public service announcements?"

Or, if they want to run a feature story, how about one that is about "the President's blind eye towards violence in poor neighborhoods" or "how you, the public, can spur immediate change in your local government?" These stories would all be real news - real topics that pertain to you and me.

Now, I know that this is probably an unreasonable suggestion, but maybe it really isn't. What if we, as a collective nation, decided we are tired of the government working with the media to keep us complacent and uninformed?

We can do that in the only possible way - BECOME THE MEDIA. The only way things can ever change is by people going into news services, magazine and newspaper staffs, broadcasting, cinema, music and all other forms of multimedia and taking stands on the bullshit that many media sources wallow in every day.

We need people - black, white, brown, yellow, green, whatever - to take stands on racial discrimination in the news.

Our country needs people to tackle real issues: corporate takeovers, censorship, and poverty and violence in our own streets. These are important news stories, not taboo subjects. At least they shouldn't be.

Once again, BECOME THE MEDIA. Make a difference if you aren't blind to the many injustices that, we as a nation, are served up every day. Like Darth Vader said to Luke when he told him he was his father, "It is the only way." ♦

Dubya already messing up

Well, it's been about three weeks since President Bush took office. How is he doing?

I'm not impressed.

I committed to giving Dubya a fair chance when he took office. After all, everyone deserves a shot.

He blew it on his first day.

What I'm speaking of is Bush's order to reenact a policy that no federal aid will be given to family planning organizations that counsel on abortions or refer those who desire abortions to a clinic that performs them.

Many have spoken in favor of this plan. What many of those people don't recognize is that America has long banned international aid to directly fund abortions. I fully support that ban. Abortion, while it should be allowed, should not be encouraged.

What I do have a problem with is Bush sending a compassionate message by cutting aid to any organization that says the word "abortion" without the term "baby-killer" in the same sentence.

These organizations act much like Crisis Pregnancy centers in this country do: they give information on preg-

For Argument's Sake



Jason Cox
Staff Columnist

nancy and STDs, counsel women in need, and provide many with birth control. If federal aid is lost, it is possible that the poorest women, who need these organizations the most, will be on their own.

That's just cold, Mr. Bush.

On to education: President Bush wishes to improve public education. I say that's a very noble cause. However, I have two fundamental problems with his plan.

First, it punishes "under-performing" schools by taking away their federal aid. While there must be some sort of accountability for these schools, taking away their aid is only going to hurt the children. It gives up on their future.

Second, Bush wants to give vouch-

ers so parents can send their kids to private schools if they wish. This money will often come from the school district that the family lives in. First of all, these vouchers will not be enough to put a kid through most private schools. Second, if you really want your kid to go to a private school, go bust your ass for it, like my mom did.

We arrive at the tax cut plan. Does America deserve lower taxes? Absolutely! Can the nation afford it without creating even larger debt? Eh, a / not too likely.

Our "surplus" does not yet exist. It is projected over the next ten years. That's a long time. Second, much of the money included in the surplus overflow comes from Social Security overflows. Remember the Social Security "lockbox" that became a key word during the election? Well, call the FDIC kids, because our precious lockbox is being ransacked.

I admire what W's trying to do here. However, planning to build a massive tax cut plan around a phantom surplus is shaky at best.

Well, three weeks down, only 205 to go. He'd better shape up or be prepared to be shipped out in '04. ♦

SIDELINES

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

e - m a i l u

CAMPUS LIFE

64 SIDELINES

Thursday, February 15, 2001

Murfreesboro, TN

Stop and smell the 'Rose'

By Stacey Tomkiewicz
Staff Writer

The Red Rose Coffee House plans to enhance your daily cup of joe with music, art and interaction. Bingham Barnes and Mike Mullins intend to make your latte dreams lucid with culture when they begin their rein as new management this February. Previous owner of The Rose, William Turner, is in the process of transferring store accounts over to Mike and Bingham's corporation, Champ Industries.

Barnes, 27, graduated from MTSU with a music business degree in 1998. Barnes says he wasted a lot of time drifting from job to job, frustrated with the limitations these employments placed on him. He is elated with finally being able to incorporate the "full spectrum" of his capabilities into his environment.

When asked for his personal feelings about this liberating endeavor, Barnes smiles with a promise that works in conjunction with his words, "I'm really excited about becoming my own employer, it's what I've always wanted."

Mullins, 29, found himself personally depleted while working factory jobs until finding a place behind the counter of The Rose in '98. Mullins says he has always looked up to his grandfather, who is an independent store owner on the square, and admires his warm relationship with the community he caters to.

Mullins jumped at the opportunity to run his own business and exclaims, "I am completely excited. We have so many ideas. Everything is what you make it, and I plan to put a lot of myself into this."

Champ Industries intends to make the coffee house an intricate center for culture and interaction in our community. They have many plans, as well as extensive, changes planned. Smoking will be allowed after 5 p.m. and deliveries will be available to the downtown area. There will be changes in the menu, including breakfast sandwiches, salads, a kid's menu, a variety of drinks, and PBR and Miller beer will be added to the beer menu. The store will also open one hour earlier, 6:30 a.m., as a result of the requests of many MTSU professors. They are keeping the computers but want to make the atmosphere more conducive to the arts and music events they plan for in the future.

Barnes and Mullins have recently added a rack of local and independent music for sale.

See Rose, 7

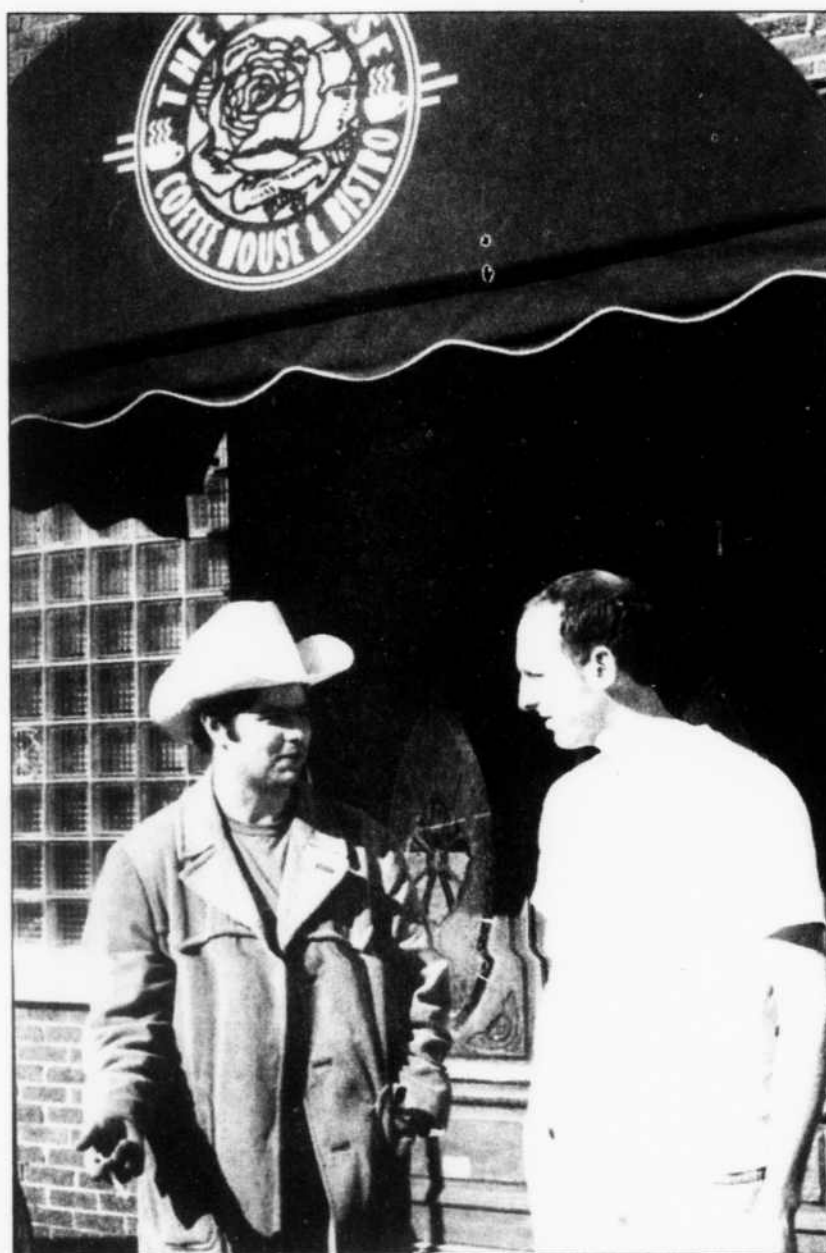


Photo by Stacey Tomkiewicz | Staff

Barnes and Mullins stand in front of the Red Rose Cafe.

'Young MC' adds alternative spin

By Brian Spencer
Staff Writer

Commercial radio is known for turning their cheek to most bands that are not on a major label. As a result, the public is often deprived of hearing those bands that might not yet be established, even though they're probably better than most of the artists being played repeatedly. That is part of the motivation that

drove junior Ben Young to become a DJ at 88.3 WMTS.

"I have always really been into and loved music, and I wanted the chance to help let people hear the good music that commercial radio won't play," says Young.

Young hails from Tampa, FL, and majors in the recording industry program with an emphasis in production and technology.

His radio show, "Young Ben and Friends," is in its third semester on WMTS and airs every Wednesday afternoon from 2 to 4 p.m.

Listeners can expect to hear an eclectic mix of punk, ska and alternative music, with a bit of humor mixed in by Young and his occasional guests, including another WMTS DJ, Brad Baisley.

"We try to be funny, but it doesn't always

work out that way," jokes Young.

Some of the bands Young enjoys and fits into his show are: Less than Jake, Weezer, Failure, Self, The Impossibles and Propagandhi.

Young said that there haven't been many bands that recently came out that have really caught his attention in the alternative music scene. He thinks some of the best albums coming out are from already established bands in the music industry, such as Less than Jake.

He said he is looking forward to hearing The Toadies and Weezer's new releases.

Young Ben emphasizes the importance of college radio in today's music world. After all, someone has to pick up the slack that commercial radio causes.

"College radio is a great venue for bands to get started [in]," says Young. "Mainstream radio only focuses on big label artists. So we get the chance to give bands their first break."

For a fresh perspective on today's alternative, punk and ska music scenes, do your ears a favor and check out "Young Ben and Friends" on Wednesday afternoons on 88.3 WMTS. ♦

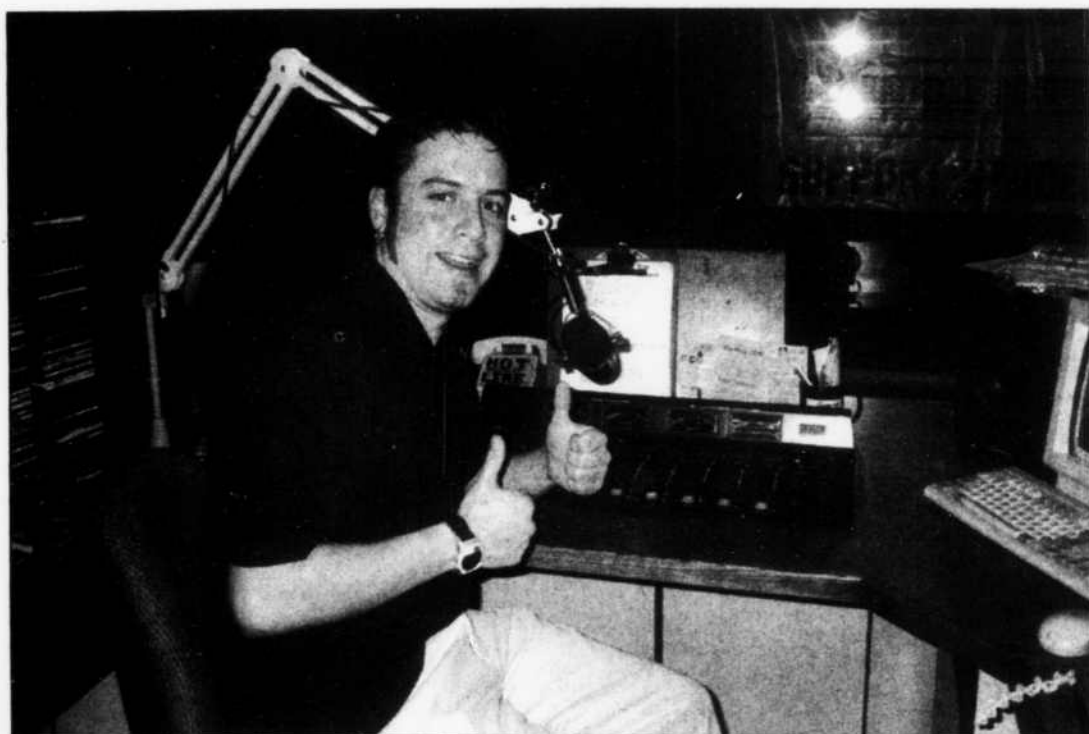


Photo by Brian Spencer | Staff

Ben Young getting ready for his WMTS show, Young Ben and Friends.



Photo by Travis Choat | Staff

KC Stout and Leslie Miller discuss important issues concerning *Sixty-four Crayons*.

'Sixty-four Crayons' showcases diverse art

By Brian Spencer
Staff Writer

Those of you who have a love for all kinds of art will be happy to know that a new exhibit will be opening on Feb. 17, right here in Murfreesboro, at the Red Rose Coffee House and Bistro.

"Sixty-four Crayons" is a multimedia group art show that features contemporary pieces in the fields of photography, painting and digital.

MTSU senior Leslie Miller is the curator of the art show that will showcase seven up and coming artists who live in Middle Tennessee.

Miller is from Murfreesboro and majors in History with a minor in Art.

History. She was inspired to put together an art show after spending the summer interning at two prestigious art galleries in New York City, the Prestineros Gallery and the Jack Shainman Gallery.

"Working at the galleries really made me realize that art was a much broader concept than just pretty pictures," says Miller. "I saw what the fundamentals of putting on an event were, and I really wanted to be able to do something similar to the shows in New York here."

Lots of work has gone into the planning of this exhibit, although Miller stresses that she has loved every minute of it.

In order to make her idea a reality, she said she first had to determine a focus for the artwork that would be included in the show. Once she did, she began searching for art and artists she liked and could relate to. She collaborated with the artists to choose what piece of theirs would be displayed in the exhibit. She wanted to emphasize that, despite all the work she has put into the planning of the event, she didn't do it alone.

"The artists and my friends have helped me out so much," says Miller. "Their help has been one of the major things that have enabled this show to happen."

"Sixty-four Crayons" will have more than just art on opening night. The radio station, 88.3 WMTS's DJs, JAZ and Hypothetical, will be spinning live music on their wheels of steel throughout the evening to add to the artistry of the event.

Miller attended the "Neo-Graffiti Project 2000" in New York and said it really influenced her decision to include music at the show.

"There were so many great artists there, like Doze Green and Futura 2000, and great music with DJ Shadow," says Miller. "I saw that when music and art are brought together, people from different sub-cultures come together too. That's really what I wanted to do with this show."

Miller is planning on having another art show at the Slow Bar in Nashville sometime this spring. She hopes these exhibits will have a ripple effect on other people interested in art in the area.

"I hope that through events like this, people can gain more energy to bring their artwork and ideas together more often," said Miller.

"Sixty-four Crayons" will have the opening night party on Saturday, Feb. 17, beginning at 7 p.m. The exhibit will up for about three weeks and is open to the public.

Artists featured in this diverse art show are: Travis Choat, Jude Ferrara, Marta Slaughter, Doug Lehmann, KC Stout, Amie LeeKing and Brian Tipton.

The Red Rose Coffee House and Bistro is located at 528 West College Street and is open seven days a week. For more information and hours of operation, call 893-1405. ♦

ON CAMPUS

Compiled By Leslie Fike - Copy Editor

Thursday, Feb. 15

The MTSU Fencing Club teaches a beginning class on basketball court #6 in the Rec Center from 6 to 7 p.m. through May. For more information contact Stuart Bernstein at 898-5998.

Campus Crusade for Christ invites everyone to attend CRU, the weekly fellowship and worship meeting at 7:30 p.m. in the LRC Room 221. For more information, contact Mike Lipscomb at 848-6741 or Eric Rodgers at 896-2039.

Campus Recreation sponsors a springboard diving class through Feb. 23 at the Rec Center pool from 7 to 7:50 p.m. For more information, call 898-2104.

The MTSU Martial Arts Club meets weekly on Tuesday and Thursday from 8:30 to 10:30 p.m. at the Rec Center. For more information, contact Billy Colepaugh at 898-2104.

Through Feb. 23, the KUC Cube Gallery presents KC Stout performing a painting using the space of the cube as her framing device.

Live in Franklin, Brentwood or Cool Springs? Save money on gas, time and energy by joining the student carpool. Send an e-mail with your schedule and contact information to franklincarpool@aol.com or call 591-0290.

Monday, Feb. 19

The June Anderson Women's Center sponsors a lecture by Dr. Cheryl Ellis, "Our Bodies Ourselves," from 12 to 1 p.m. in the Sun Trust

Room in the BAS. For information or to sign up, call 898-2193.

Thursday, Feb. 22

A Free Legal Clinic is at the June Anderson Women's Center from 7 to 9 p.m. For information, contact Chastity Hyde at 898-2193.

BLACK HISTORY MONTH EVENTS

Friday, Feb. 16

A Distinguished Black Alumni Awards is held in the Alumni Center at 7 p.m.

Tuesday, Feb. 20

A session on the "Importance of Finishing High School and Going to College" is in the KUC at 8 a.m.

Dr. Adonijah Bakari speaks on "Reflections On a Sojourn to Nigeria" in Peck Hall Room 222 at 12:30 p.m.

Congressman Harold Ford speaks in the BAS State Farm Room at 7 p.m.

Wednesday, Feb. 21

Justice Nathaniel R. Howse, Jr. recognizes the "Writing Contest Winners" at the School Student Luncheon in the JUB Tennessee Room at 11:30 a.m.

Thursday, Feb. 22

A debate on the "Disunity Among Black Students" is in the AASA Building from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m.

Rose: Alumni take over local shop

Continued from 6

"I was playing with my band, Glossary, in Nashville, and I noticed Tower was remodeling and throwing away sales racks," says Barnes. "Ironically, many of my friends were having a hard time finding the new Modest Mouse release, Moon Antarctica, in major music stores."

"These two events threw our idea into action. I called Mike, and he brought his truck up that night."

The rack currently holds music from many local artists such as Self, Count Bass D, Fluid Ounces and Glossary, as well as independent music from The Kidding Book and No Karma Records. They plan

on extending the music for sale to three racks and introducing music from independent labels such as Kill Rock Stars, Look Out, Nickel Brothers and Parasol.

Barnes and Mullins plan to keep The Red Rose "a coffee house first," but have a variety of music and art events on the calendar.

There will be a group art show on Feb. 17, entitled "64 Crayons." Pro Skater, Mike Vallely, will perform 'spoken word' on Feb. 27.

Other planned events include the music of Elf Power and Crooked Finger. Regular events include an 88.3 WMTS live simulcast every other Sunday of local DJs, entitled "The Down Local" and Joey

Kineiser's songwriter night, "Halos and Heartaches."

They are also planning a big music festival for The Red Rose porch in spring. Mullins and Barnes intend to establish a semi-annual "music - buy, sell, swap and trade" meeting.

A more intense Red Rose Coffee House is on the horizon - serving as an outlet for the artistic and musical talent present in the Murfreesboro community.

Regardless of their cultural aspirations, Barnes and Mullins say their chief goal is to "cater to every type of customer" and "just give everyone a place to hang out and meet people."

The Red Rose is located at 528 W. College St. ♦

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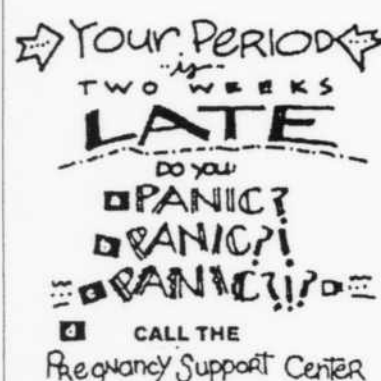
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WEEKDAY FEATURES

MORNING BEAT (6-9AM)

ASSOCIATED PRESS NEWS

"FRESH AIR" WITH

TERRY GROSS (4-5PM)

OVERNIGHTS WITH BOB PARLOCHA

Blue Raiders look to end streak

By Nick Hefley
Staff Writer

Middle Tennessee comes into Murphy Center staring straight down a ten game losing streak and it doesn't get any easier with Louisiana Tech on the schedule. The Bulldogs come into Thursday night's game with a 6 game winning streak that includes a win over conference leader Western Kentucky 73-72.

Louisiana Tech now sits tied for second place with Arkansas State in the East division of the Sun Belt at 16-8 (9-3). They are only one game behind division leading Western Kentucky with 4 games remaining. However, Louisiana Tech would appear to have the upper hand facing Middle Tennessee, Florida International, and New

Mexico St. in 3 of their final 4 games, but they would need a lot of help from Western KY.

Middle Tennessee can only look forward to next season as their early hopes of thriving this year in the Sun Belt have come crashing down. The Blue Raiders are led by the trio of Liro Tennengren, averaging 9.8 ppg, Freddie Martinez, 9.6 ppg, and freshman Tommy Gunn, who has been the clear leader of the team since the losing streak started, with 9 ppg. Also, Bryant Mitchell has been doing a great job off the bench averaging 8.8 points and 5.4 rebounds per game, a stat in which he leads the Blue Raiders from off the bench.

The Bulldogs have their own trio MT will have to deal with if they are to have any hope of winning this game. An All-Sun Belt

Conference First Team member and team captain Gerrod Henderson is averaging 18.6 ppg. Also, teammates Antonio Meeking, 14.4 points and 7.9 rebounds per game, and Marco Cole, 12.6 ppg, make for a team that will have many offensive weapons.

Middle Tennessee never had a shot when the two matched up on January 25, when Gerrod Henderson and Antonio Meeking went for 20 and 21 points as La. Tech stomped on MT, 75-55. In that game, the Bulldogs shot 56 percent from the field while holding the Blue Raiders to only 41 percent. Middle Tennessee will have to have to take advantage of every opportunity available to them if they are to have any hope of pulling off an upset and really putting a damper on any hopes of La. Tech making it to the NCAA Tourney. ♦

Ruston: Lady Raiders rush down the stretch

Continued from 10

its forwards for scoring. Thomatis averages 20.7 points per game while Joanne Aluka averages 12.

Don't look for the Lady Raider game plan to change much.

Remember Middle hung with Louisiana Tech for a while in the first game.

"Our game plan against Louisiana Tech was very good. In fact, it worked better than I thought," Smith said. "Where we lacked was in rebounding which is just because of their

athleticism and size."

This game will be huge for the Lady Raiders who are tied for fourth place in the Sun Belt East. ♦

Women's tennis team gets Georgia on its mind

By R. Colin Fly
Sports Editor

The tennis team will take a trip south on I-75 as the Lady Raiders will play a pair of matches in Atlanta this weekend.

The Lady Raiders face Georgia State on Saturday followed by Georgia Tech on Sunday.

Georgia State has a trio of threats, beginning with junior Mojca Pavlinic, who posted a 12-6 record in singles last year and a 12-5 mark in doubles.

Junior Jovna Krsikapa also has stepped up into a leadership role this year after posting a 6-3 singles and a 7-1 doubles record last year.

Finally, GSU will look to senior Mable Abraham (8-11 singles, 9-10 doubles) for a key win.

MT must counter a tough early season schedule, with the Lady Raiders seemingly over the hump with a huge win against No. 26 Clemson last weekend.

"If you look at the [first] five or six matches of the season, you're looking at five teams in the top 20," coach Randy Hoiden said of his team's 1-6

start.

"We've been close, but we haven't had everyone clicking at the same time," Hoiden said. "We broke through against Clemson and had another good win at Furman."

Freshman Manon Kruse and sophomore Stacy Varnell will be called on in both matches to lead, as well as freshman Carien Venter.

Sunday the Lady Raiders face the Yellowjackets. GT has been ranked in the top 30 this year and the teams have a common opponent in Vanderbilt this season. MT lost to Vanderbilt on Jan. 18, 7-0. GT fared a little better, falling 5-2.

Tech will look to senior Bobbi Guthrie to lead them in both singles and doubles. Guthrie finished last season with marks of 20-13 in singles and 18-13 in doubles for a .594 winning percentage.

The Ramblin' Wreck also have a consistent junior in Laura Ozolins, who went 21-10 in singles last season.

However, Hoiden thinks the team's big wins in South Carolina last weekend will propel the team.

"Now that we've achieved a top 25 win we're looking for good things to happen." ♦

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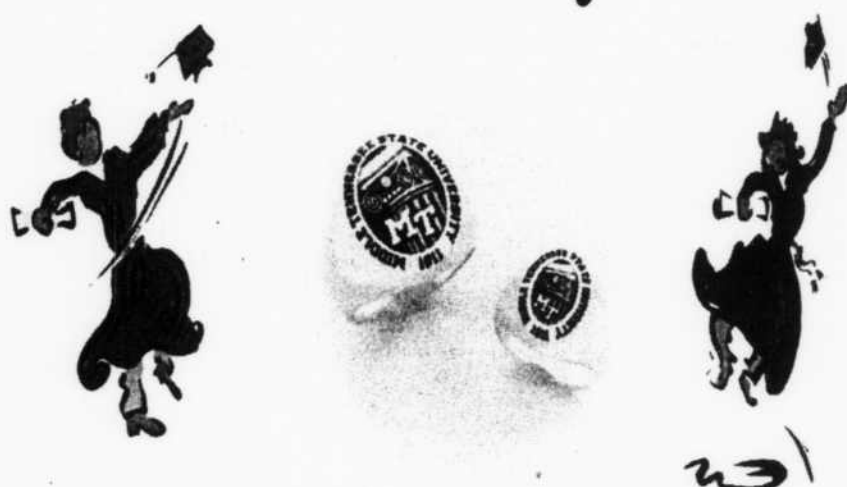
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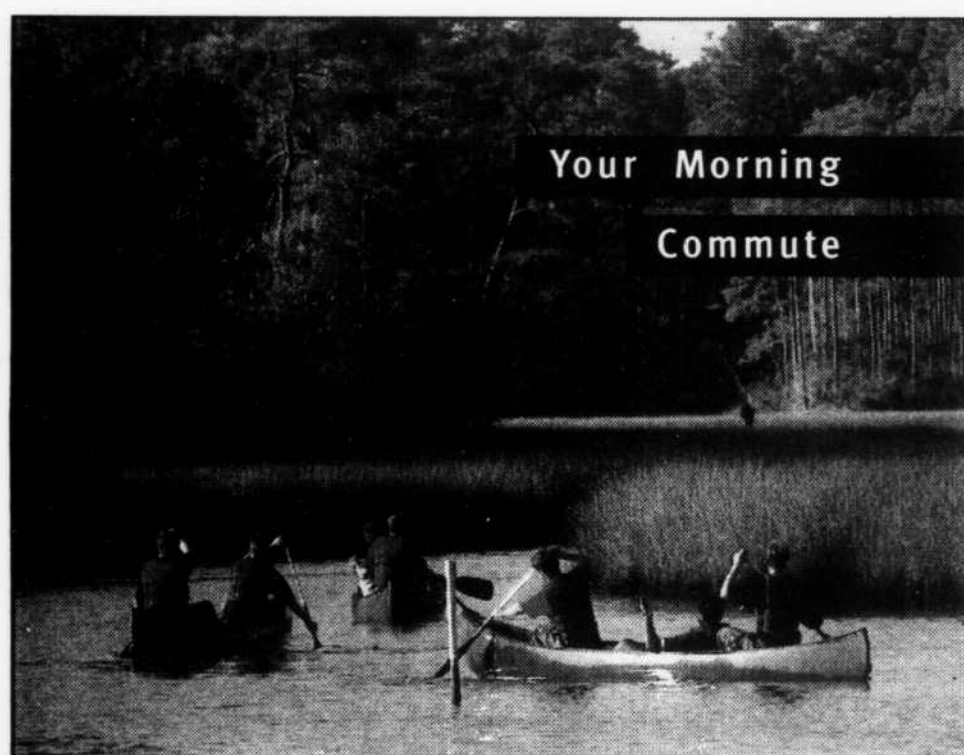
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The Two Minute Drill

J.P. Plant

Assistant Sports Editor

Future of Big Blue begins with Blue Dawn

The Blue Raider football team began its brutal regiment of training drills Tuesday morning preparing for spring practice. These drills, known as Blue Dawn, is a period of nine days designed to help players with agility, change of direction, footwork, explosion and mental toughness.

"Blue Dawn is the official beginning of the 2001 season for our football program," said head coach Andy McCollum. "All of our coaches and players meet at 6 a.m. and go through nine different work stations in order to be better prepared for spring practice and the upcoming season. It's a special time for our program because we believe we are getting ahead of our competition."

"Blue Dawn and spring practice is a tough stretch for our players, but they understand this is where they can separate themselves," added McCollum. "We went out last year and set a goal during spring drills to be a better running team and become more physical, which we accomplished. Now we have to continue to grow as a football team in all areas and all of that begins Tuesday."

Spring practice for the Blue Raiders begins March 7 and concludes with a spring game April 7.

The hard work put in during the spring will be put to the test against Vanderbilt Sept. 1 in the season opener.

Sun Belt Tournament bracket pairings

If the Sun Belt Tournament started today the Lady Raiders would be the fourth seed out of the east and would face off against the host team from South Alabama (USA), the fifth seed in the west, in the opening game of the tournament March 1 in Mobile, Ala.

Middle Tennessee currently holds an identical conference record with Arkansas St. (6-6) yet holds the tiebreaker. If Middle were to fall into fifth place in the east, then their first round opponent would be New Mexico St., the fourth seed in the west. The difference between USA and New Mexico St. isn't that much. However, it's the second round opponent that warrants preference. If the Lady Raiders finish fourth, their second round opponent would be Denver, the No. 1 seed out of the west, a team that Middle only lost by two points due to a last second shot by Nikki Weddle. Conversely, if they fall to fifth in the east, the Lady Raiders will have nationally ranked and undefeated in their 48 regular season conference games (heading into tonight's match up with MTSU) Louisiana Tech waiting for them.

The men presently occupy the sixth and last seed in the east and if the season ended today would face Louisiana, the third seed from the east, in the first round Friday, March 2. A win there would pit them against the number two seed from the east Louisiana Tech, whom the Blue Raiders lost by 20 earlier in the season. ♦

Lady Raiders strive for five

MT must defeat La. Tech in Ruston

By Colleen Cox
Staff Writer

Thursday features a rematch between Louisiana Tech and Middle Tennessee. Last time the teams met the Lady Techsters won 80-57. It was obvious the Lady Raiders were intimidated by Tech.

Louisiana Tech's history and prestige are well known. The Lady Techsters are continually in the NCAA tournament. Coming into this match up the Techsters are on a nine game win streak and ranked number eight in the country.

The Lady Raiders have confidence going into this meeting with Louisiana Tech. Middle has knocked off three of the top teams in the Sun Belt in their last three contests.

"It's definitely a plus. We have nothing to lose going into Ruston," junior Jamie Thomatis said.

Lady Raider head coach Stephany Smith sees things a little different. "I still think there's a difference between Louisiana



Photo by Jonathan Trundle | Staff

Kelly Chastain looks to drive baseline while sophomore Jessica McClure stands ready for the pass on the perimeter.

Tech. I think we have a great deal of confidence at this point. But it's confidence for us to go play a lot of teams but not necessarily Louisiana Tech in Ruston, Louisiana," Smith said.

"I do think we're feeling good about the way we're playing. Hopefully we won't be as intimidated as we were when we played them here in Murfreesboro."

The Lady Techsters feature an offense that has four players averaging double-digits in conference play. Ayana Walker leads the way averaging 16.3 points per game. Takeisha Lewis is next

on the team with 10.6 points per game followed by Kenya Bibbs with 10.3.

Middle Tennessee relies on

See Ruston, 8

Blue Raiders fall to No. 10 Rebels, 4-3

MT Media Relations

OXFORD, Miss.—Tenth ranked Ole Miss ended Middle Tennessee's five-match winning streak Sunday 4-3 at the Gillom Sports Center on the campus of The University of Mississippi.

The Blue Raiders (5-1), who had won every match this season against a ranked opponent, saw their first bid at defeating a Top 10 team in four years fall short as Ole Miss won the doubles point and split the three singles matches for the victory.

"The doubles point was huge today," remarked assistant Ole Miss coach Mark Beyers. "We are extremely happy to come away with a win against a good Middle Tennessee team."

Blue Raider head coach Dale Short echoed Beyer's thoughts. "It came down to the doubles," Short said. "We need to get our No. 1 doubles team back on track."

Middle Tennessee's No. 1 tandem of Oliver Foreman and Robert Gustafsson were handled easily by James Shortall and Kristopher Stahlberg 8-2.

Mark Pellerin and Trevor Short picked up Middle Tennessee's only win at doubles at No. 3, and the deciding match went into a tie-break as Daniel Klemetz and Michael Staniak lost the match 9-8 to Alex Hartman and Patrick Chucuri at No. 2.

In singles, Daniel Klemetz seemed close to putting away

Shortall at the No. 1 position after winning the first set 6-0 and leading the second, but the Rebels top player came back to win the second set 6-4 and won the decisive third set 6-3.

Robert Gustafsson defeated No. 26 Alex Hartman in three sets to stay undefeated in dual match play giving the Blue Raiders their first point of the day.

Mark Pellerin defeated Conor Casey at the No. 6 position closing the Rebels' lead to 3-2, but Patrick Curry defeated Trevor Short in straight sets to clinch the match for Ole Miss as they improved to 4-0 on the season.

Michael Staniak won a three-set match over Paul

Ciorascu after the match had been decided to make the final 4-3 in favor of the SEC power.

"This was certainly a match where the better team lost," said Short. "It's tough to beat a team that you are similar to in talent at their place, but this one is hard to swallow, because I felt we were better."

Middle Tennessee completes the indoor season with five wins in six matches and will take a week off before resuming preparation for the outdoor portion of the schedule.

The Blue Raiders will not hit the courts again until they return to Mississippi to face No. 15 Mississippi State in Starkville on March 1. ♦

RESULTS

#10 Ole Miss def. #40 Middle Tennessee, 4-3

Singles:

James Shortall (OM) def. Daniel Klemetz (MT) 6-0, 6-4, 6-3
Robert Gustafsson (MT) def. (F26) Alex Hartman (OM) 6-7, 6-4, 6-3
Kristopher Stahlberg (OM) def. Oliver Foreman (MT) 6-4, 7-5
Michael Staniak (MT) def. Paul Ciorascu (OM) 8-3, 6-7, 6-4
Patrick Chucuri (OM) def. Trevor Short (MT) 7-5, 6-3
Mark Pellerin (MT) def. Conor Casey (OM) 6-2, 6-1

Doubles:

Shortall-Stahlberg (OM) def. Gustafsson-Foreman (MT) 8-2
Hartman-Chucuri (OM) def. Klemetz-Staniak (MT) 9-3
Pellerin-Short (MT) def. Casey-Ciorascu (OM) 8-6

Grizzlies could survive in Nashville

Dollars and Sense

R. Colin Fly

Sports Editor

Commentary

Jack Diller, president of the Nashville Predators, commented to Jeff Legwold of the *The Tennessean* that a second major sports team moving into the Gaylord Entertainment Center would be "economic suicide."

Diller's comments leave me to question, which team?

Joe Biddle and David Climer, *The Tennessean* columnists, immediately jumped to Diller's side, agreeing that no NBA team could float.

Here's the story behind the stories.

An unidentified party contacted the Predators about moving a basketball franchise into the arena.

I'll save everyone the speculation, that team was almost certainly the Vancouver Grizzlies. The Griz have been down right pitiful and are well on their way to losing not only 60 games, but \$25 to \$50 million.

Owner Michael Heisley - who says he was contacted by someone in Nashville about moving the franchise - met with NBA Commissioner David Stern last weekend during the All-Star Break to hatch a plan to either keep the team in Vancouver or decide on steps to move the franchise to St. Louis, Louisville or possibly Nashville.

This all comes full circle back to Diller's comments about "economic suicide."

Five years ago, Nashvilleans asked themselves can the city support one major sports team? Now they may be asking if Nashville can support three.

Hockey is not a bread and butter sport in the South. It's football, basketball and auto racing.

The Predators have faced a

declining fan base this year of more than 1,000 fewer fans - a playoff run may increase attendance back to 1999 levels - but winning will be expected from the franchise, thanks to the pigskin flailing Tennessee Tuxedos.

Now, the NBA isn't without its problems, granted (see Allen Iverson), but a deeper look at the dollar and cents shows that Diller's comments aren't all what they seem.

In the 16 towns with a NBA and NHL team (counting Lakers/Clippers as Lakers only), the NHL out-draws the NBA in 9 of the 16 cases, including Boston (Bruins over Celtics), Philadelphia (Flyers over 76ers) and the city in question, Vancouver (Canucks over Grizzlies). Ironically, in Toronto, both the Raptors and the Maple Leafs draw sellouts game in and out.

Break the numbers down a little deeper and one can find that in most cases the NBA grosses more revenue at the door even with less attendance.

The NBA's average ticket price is \$48.73 compared to the NHL at \$45.70.

In Philadelphia, for example, when the Flyers average 19,522 fans, they gross \$892,155.40 per game. Compare that to the 76ers, which gross \$929,232.37, a difference of \$37,076.97.

Now, extend that through 41 NBA games against 42 NHL games and the 76ers still gross \$628,000 more over the course of the season with 38,095 fewer fans.

Looking at franchise values, they are hardly comparable. NBA franchises are more valuable in 10 out of 15 instances (there is no appraised value of the Minnesota Wild of the NHL yet).

The Lakers are worth \$200 million more than the Kings in Los Angeles.

The Knicks are worth \$132 million more than the Rangers in New York.

The Bulls are worth \$117 million more than the Blackhawks in Chicago and the Suns are worth \$166 million

more than the Coyotes in Phoenix.

Surprisingly, even the Pistons (at \$236 million) are worth more than Red Wings (\$218 million). Simply put, NBA franchises are valuable, much more valuable.

The Nashville Predators are valued at \$129 million and the failing Grizzlies are worth \$118 million - in a poor market in Canada. The Canucks are even worth less than the Grizzlies at \$100 million.

So, before everyone casts out a NBA team, Diller's comments are wrong. A professional basketball team could succeed and could thrive. Everyone who gets on the "NBA can't work here" bandwagon can prepare to fall off, because a team could easily survive in this fertile sports market.

Don't blink, but maybe, just maybe if the Grizzlies were to set up a lair in Nashville, then the Ice Age may come to the Predators again - and extinction. ♦

THURSDAY

■ **Women's Basketball**
Lady Raiders at La. Tech
Ruston, La., 7 p.m.

■ **Men's Basketball**
Blue Raiders vs. La. Tech
Murfreesboro, Tenn., 7 p.m.

SATURDAY

■ **Baseball**
Season Opener
Blue Raiders vs. UNC-Asheville (DH)
Murfreesboro, Tenn., 1 p.m.

■ **Women's Basketball**
Lady Raiders vs.
UL-Lafayette
Murfreesboro, Tenn., 7 p.m.

■ **Women's Tennis**
Lady Raiders at
Georgia St.
Atlanta, Ga., noon

■ **Men's Basketball**
Blue Raiders at
UL-Lafayette
Lafayette, La., 7:05 p.m.

SUNDAY

■ **Baseball**
Blue Raiders vs. UNC-Asheville
Murfreesboro, Tenn., 1 p.m.

■ **Women's Tennis**
Lady Raiders at
Georgia Tech
Atlanta, Ga., noon