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page 5

MIDDLE TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY

Thursday, April 12, 2007 Editorially independent

Coach fired, new leader for tryouts

Team places in Nationals

By Andy Harper

Campus News Editor

Last weekend, the MTSU cheerleading team won fourth place at the National Cheerleading Association competition in Daytona Beach, Fla.

The team competed in the collegiate small co-ed division with 16 other teams, said Renee interim Hathaway,

cheerleading coach. 'There were a lot of really good teams and we made a couple of mistakes in the finals,"

Hathaway said. The competition occurred in the wake of a resent decision of the university to terminate

the head cheerleading coach Jonathan Pursley. Hathaway, who was acting assistant coach, has assumed the position of

interim head coach. "I took over when he left about three weeks ago," Hathaway said.

Both Hathaway and Gene Fitch, associate dean of student affairs and dean of student life, declined commentary of reasons for the head coach's termination. Pursley also declined to comment.

In addition to the competition, Hathaway will be directing cheerleading tryouts Friday and Saturday to construct new teams

for next year. Before taking on the responsibilities as assistant and now temporary head coach, Hathaway had about 15 years experience as a cheerleading coach at East

Tennessee State University. "What Jonathan was doing, I was also doing as assistant coach, so it isn't that big of a change,"

Hathaway said. The position of head coach is considered an "at-will" employment and may be released for cause, as was the situation with

Pursley, Fitch said.

"Right now, we want to get through the competition and tryouts before posting the position," Fitch said. "After the season, we will be sitting down and reviewing applications."

The university will review the requirements and responsibilities of the head cheerleading coach. If the position needs

adjusting to accommodate certain duties, it will be done before the university officially posts the position.

"We are hoping to have the position posted by the end of the month," Fitch said. "After the semester, it will be the slow time for the athletic season as far as cheerleading, so we will have time to look then."

Although the position has not been officially posted, 10 to 12 people have already inquired.

Pursley

"We hope the position will be filled by the end of June," Fitch said.

Although Hathaway might apply, her employment as assistant coach is not guaranteed and is deemed as a conditional position by the university.

"The role of assistant is conditional depending on the amount of fundraising by the cheerleading squad," Fitch said. "The university does not dedicate money for an assistant. So as long as fundraising is done by the team, there will be money to pay for the salary."

For now, Hathaway said she does not mind taking over for Pursley. However, she is not sure whether she will apply for the permanent position.

"As of now, I don't know if I will apply for the head coach position because I have a five-year-old daughter who takes up a lot of my time," Hathaway said.◆



Photo by Chris Barstad | Photography Editor

(From left) Bobby Lovett, Derek Frisby and Bob Glenn panel for a town meeting on the name of Forrest Hall on Wednesday night. The meeting was held to gauge community opinions surrounding the ROTC building being named after Nathan Bedford Forrest.

Forrest Hall battle persists

City sponsors lecture, Hall vandalized over weekend

By Andy Harper and Josh Daughtery

Campus News Editor, Staff Writer

Student Affairs sponsored a town hall meeting Wednesday night to discuss community views on changing the name of Forrest Hall.

"We wanted to open up a forum to the community to see what they think about the name of the hall," said Colette Taylor, dean of Student Affairs.

The subject of the meeting was not altered despite Forrest Hall being vandalized last Wednesday night with spray paint.

According to Bob Glenn, vice president for Student Affairs and vice provost for enrollment management, the matter is under investigation.

"We respond immediately anytime a building is vandalized," Glenn said. "Public response is a part of 'these peoples' goal."

The graffiti appeared on both the front and back of Forrest Hall. The markings on the front were removed Thursday and the back was cleaned

'This was a real chore," Glenn said. "It was a waste of power and money."

Although there is an active police investigation and the perpetrators will be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law, Glenn said there is little hope to catch the guilty.

'My experience is that people who slink around at night are rarely caught," Glenn said. "But if we do catch them, the university will not just shrug this matter away."

Taylor agreed with Glenn and said the vandalization was even more reason to hold a peaceful and nondestructive way for students and members of the community to express their opinion.

"As for changing the name, we are waiting to see what happens with the community and student response," Taylor said. "Although we are concerned, it is not our top priority because the student response has gone

See Forrest, 4

V.P. for Student Affairs speaks on vandalism

By Robert Glenn

Vice President for Student Affairs

Recently we had an occurrence on campus that was both troublesome and disturbing. Someone took a spray can of black paint and, under the cover of darkness, scrawled the words "Black Power" across the front of Forrest Hall, along with the words "U are not 2b" across the back of the building. As incidents go, I suppose this was really a very small one. Facilities-Services responded very quickly and cleaned up the mess. I suspect that very few members of the campus same time, it is an incident that should trouble every member of this community.

A University is a community. It is a community of persons who have gathered together for a common purpose. Theoretically that common purpose is the ongoing search for truth and knowledge. Because we share this common goal there are a few things that are especially important to us. One is the "Marketplace of Ideas," and the other is the "freedom

of expression." Because we value these notions it is important to note that this recent act of vandalism

See Forrest, 4



Photo by Chris Barstad | Photography Editor Tuesday night's public forum discussed the future of Central Middle School. Discussion included the possibility of changing the school into a K-12 magnet school, which could displace many students.

Central Middle faces change, may become magnet school

By Josh Daughtery

Staff Writer

The proposal to turn Central Middle School into a magnet school for kindergarten through 12th grade was discussed by parents and teachers at Tuesday night's public forum.

A committee put together by Director of Schools Harry Gill, Jr. was available to answer questions and hear community concerns.

"Clearly, there is a lot of interest in a K-12 magnet school," Gill said. "It's something we've been thinking about for some time."

Gill said there are still many issues they have to work out regarding this

project in advance. If a K-12 magnet school were to become a reality, they would have to move approximately 1,000 student from Central Middle to new middle schools, which are in the works of being constructed.

There were mixed emotions regarding the magnet school proposal. Many parents expressed concern about the closure of Central Middle and the displacement of students. However, parwere also delighted that Murfreesboro could potentially get a K-12 magnet school to compliment McFadden School of Excellence, Murfreesboro's first magnet school.

"Murfreesboro doesn't really offer private schools," said Richie Jackson, parent. "I think this is the greatest thing Murfreesboro could ever have."

Jackson also said he believes the magnet school should have an emphasis on math and science because that is the most important issue the United States faces in a world market.

Michelle Blaylock-Howard, parent, said people cannot forget about communication subjects such as English.

English skills are lacking tremendously in our students, even at the college level," Blaylock-Howard said. "I'd really like to see more emphasis on communication and technology as well, in addition to the math and science."

See Central 3

Activist speaks on race, South Africa

By Josh Daughtery

Staff Writer

Educator and activist Naomi Tutu will visit campus to present her lecture, Building Gender Coalitions Across Racial

Tutu, a daughter of South African Archbishop Desmond Tutu, a Noble Peace Prize winner, will speak about life in South Africa, as well as the issues of gender and race. Tutu founded the Tutu Foundation, which gave scholarships to refugees so they could learn skills in exile. Tutu was the Program Coordinator for the Race Relations Institute at Fisk University in Nashville form 1999 to 2002. She has also taught

courses on development, gender and education in Africa.

"We wanted someone who really looks at issues globally," said Terri Johnson, director of the June Anderson Women's Center.

She said when they were choosing a speaker to invite to visit campus they wanted someone who was an expert in gender, race and global issues. Johnson said Tutu's name kept coming up, and they selected her to speak at MTSU because she is the most qualified.

Johnson said Tutu's presentation will help students build gender coalitions, as well as teach students how to work together in

order to create change. "I think [students] would really enjoy it,

because she is very down-to-earth and easy to talk to," Johnson said. Gabrielle Williams, an electronic media

communications major and student

employee at the JAWC, plans on attending the Naomi Tutu presentation.

"I want to know the inside of what you see in South Africa," Williams said, "When I think of Africa, I think of poverty and everyone out in bare skin. I don't think of politics and education like it is here."

Williams said she wants to be informed and hopes she can take away more from the lecture than

just what Tutu says. "I want to see and feel what she is saying," Williams said. "I want it to be like I'm there [in Africa]."

Johnson said she would like students to learn more about Tutu's work through the presentation and take the knowledge of what she has done and apply her lessons

to their own lives. Johnson said she hopes students attempt to make a difference regarding how to connect with each other and how to network.

Johnson said she thinks every time a student gets an opportunity to meet with someone like Tutu, who has so much life experience, they should take advantage of

"What's so important [about] having her here is that she's been out there and [for students] to listen to her experiences,"

Johnson said. The discussion is presented the June Anderson Women's Center in conjunction with the Distinguished Lecture Fund, Women's History Month Committee and the Black History Month Committee.

"Building Gender Coalitions Across Racial Lines" will take place on April 12 at 4:30 p.m. in the Keathley University Center Theatre. •

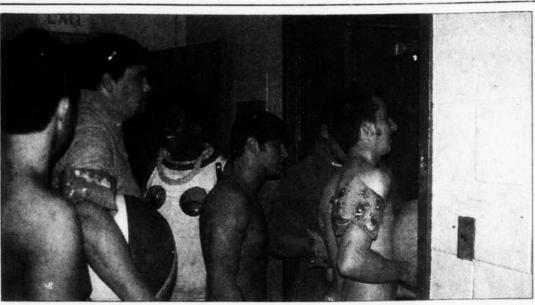


Photo by Andy Harper | Campus News Editor

Greek Life men from various fraternities line up Wednesday night for Chi Omega's Mr. MTSU pageant at Tucker Theatre.

Greek weeks focus on campus, local service

By Alana Allen

Contributing Writer

Greek life is giving back to the campus and community during their month-long celebration of Greek weeks, which started in March and ends April 29.

Each week during the two months is designated by a particular theme, for example Delta Week or Pi Week. The weeks are filled with social activities such as parties, mixers and speak-out.

The weeks are also devoted to community service. Gentry McCreary, director of Greek Life, said he believes Greeks are some of the pillars in the community.

"Many of the Greek organizations founding principles include service to the community," he said.

According to Greek life, students performed over 36,000 hours of community service and raised more than \$67,000 for various philanthropies last year, some of which was done during the Greek weeks.

"During our week, we try to raise money and awareness of child abuse," said Mackenzie Emerson, junior human sciences major and member of Kappa Delta Sorority. "We've found that of all the previous KD philanthropic fundraisers, Wing Fling is the most effective."

This will be Kappa Delta's fourth year holding Wing Fling. The goal is to raise \$15,000 for the organization Prevent Child Abuse America.

"For only our third year of Wing Fling, we have managed to meet our goals and even go beyond them in raising money," Emerson said.

Like Kappa Delta, Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity also participates in the weeks with community service projects including a March of Dimes fundraiser and volunteering at the Discovery Center in Murfreesboro.

"We like to have a mixture if community service to get the campus involved," said Nigel Walker, senior public relations major and member of Alpha Phi Alpha. "We do social events for unity on the campus, to bring back the spirit into the community.

Brandon Thompkins, sophomore marketing and management major, and Trent Poynter, senior political science major. agreed with Walker that service is one of the pivotal institutions of their fraternity.

"Community service is one of the cornerstones of Alpha Phi Alpha and one of the foundations that [the MTSU chapter] Kappa Xi is built on," Thompkins said.

Sigma Pi Fraternity also contributes to the well being of the community. For their week, Sigma Pi along with Pi Kappa Alpha is hosting the "Get Funked Up" party, featuring the band Wooten Brothers, which is raising money for the Make-A-Wish Foundation.

"One of the ideas of a fraternity is to make better men, you

Greek Organization philathropies and fundraisers:

Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. wrote inspira-tional cards to the residents and workers of Boulevard Alpha Kappa Terrace, a local nursing home

Chi Omega hosts the Mr. MTSU pageant to raise funds for the Make-A-Wish foun-

Zeta Tau Alpha put on the annual Lyp-Sync, which showcases different organizations as they perform a Lyp Sync program to raise money or the Zeta Tau Alpha

improve yourself by service others," said Ionathan Strantz, senior recording industry management major and member of Sigma Pi

Chris Hibbs, a senior business administration major and member of Sigma Pi, believes doing community service projects such as Adopt-A Highway and alcohol awareness for his fraternity makes him feel more involved in the community.

"If it hadn't been for Sigma Pi, I would not have been involved in community service," Hibbs said. ◆

Thermal imagers reach MTSU, help fight crime

By Ashley Brase

Staff Writer

Finding criminals and locating missing persons may become much easier, thanks to a Homeland Security Grant awarded to several Murfreesboro agencies, including the MTSU Public Safety department.

The Homeland Security grants were awarded to MTSU Public Safety, Rutherford County Sheriff's Department and the Rutherford County Emergency Medical Services for the purchase of a thermal imager.

"The thermal imagers are hand-held devices used to scan the surface of areas to differentiate heat," said Chris Clark, supervisor

of the Special Operations division of the Rutherford County Emergency Medical Services.

The grants were given to MTSU Public Safety in the amount of \$10,553, Rutherford County Sheriff's Department in the amount of \$15,712, and the Rutherford County EMS in the amount of \$8,337.

The Homeland Security grants were applied for in September 2006 and were offered nationwide.

"Each organization first had to apply for and show a need for the grant," said Kim Mullins, assistant communications director for Bart Gordon. " It is a very competitive grant, so they must have showed some direct need to have the imagers."

Around the country more than 2,000 agencies received similar

Homeland Security grants. "This grant program was intended to help smaller jurisdictions," Mullins said. "There are other grant programs that help metro areas, but we are not

quite there yet, so this grant was

able to help us." Thermal imagers act by detecting body heat when visibility may be low such as at night or due to fog, smoke or water.

"Imagine an elderly person or a child who is lost when it is dark out. The thermal imagers are like having a second set of eyes in these situations," Mullins said.

See Imagers, 4

MT radio station to hold benefit record show, sale

By Michelle Powell and Andrew Swanson

Contributing Writers

A collection of rare records and memorabilia will be on display Sunday at the first annual record show hosted by MTSU's student run radio station 88.3 WMTS-FM.

Whether students are obsessive vinyl record collectors or just curious about the music of vesteryear, there will be a wide selection of CDs, DVDs, vinyl records and music memorabilia to browse through. Door prizes will also be given away at the show, in addition to an appearance by Adrian Belew, a guitarist who toured with Talking Heads and King Crimson.

According to Davis Cox, program director for WMTS, the idea for the record show came about at the end of last year. Cox recounted the station's previous benefit concerts, but said "[we] felt like doing something different and had heard of other stations hosting their own record shows.

"It's just something different,"

said Stan McCloud, general manager of WMTS, "Our other benefits are moderately successful and fun, but if you don't step outside the box, you won't know what you can do.'

Since this is the first time the radio station has put on an event like this, organizers do not know what kind of turn out to expect. Though the event has had limited advertising, the feedback has been encouraging.

"The reaction from music fans has been positive," Cox said. "They seem to be excited about the convention."

According to Cox, sponsors of the show include Grand Palace Records and Grimies CD and Record store of Nashville. Paul Fischer, associate professor of recording industry management, will also be setting out his own collection of vinyl records.

Melissa Wald, assistant professor of recording industry management, said shows like the one WMTS is hosting are important because "they promote interest in older music.

Loren Mulraine, associate professor of recording industry management, said record shows "make customers of potential consumers, which benefits the recording industry."

Mulraine added seeing the jackets of old records, which are actually works of art, are greatly responsible for selling albums. Wald said she remembers how

collectors would buy three versions of the same record just to get the different album jackets that were sold.

Visitors to the show will also get the chance to win two tickets to the 2007 Bonaroo Music Festival, which will be given away at 1 p.m.

The record show will be held Sunday, April 15 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Holiday Inn near I-24. Admission to the show is \$3, and proceeds will go toward funding the radio station.

WMTS hopes to continue hosting this event annually.



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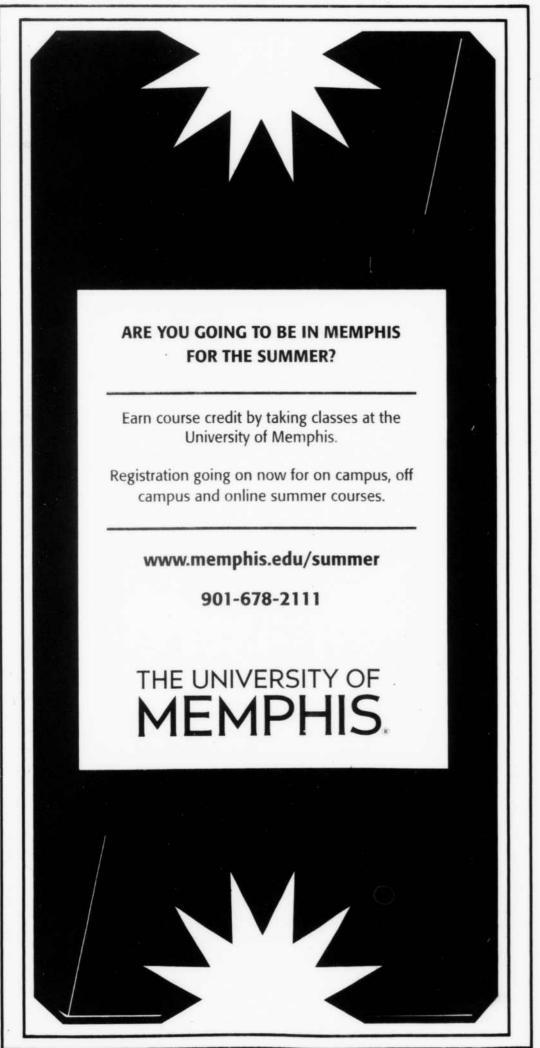
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Central: Parents voice concerns

Continued from 1

Kristy Upchurch, parent, asked if there has been any collaboration with the people who founded the Davidson County magnet schools.

Don Odum, assistant superintendent for curriculum and instruction, said they visited two of Davidson County's magnet schools, and they plan on visiting Chattanooga to look at the way they operate their magnet schools.

Other parent concerns were the bussing of students to other areas of town, admissions testing and faculty for the new school.

Julie Dodd, a physical education teacher at Central Middle, asked how the school system plans on determining which teachers will be able to teach at the new magnet school, especially regarding the current Central Middle teachers.

Gill said there are issues with K-5 certification, but there will be teachers needed. Central Middle teachers will have the opportunity to obtain some of the available magnet school positions.

"Right now, we are kind of gravitating toward a K-12 magnet with a math and science emphasis, but we don't know for sure," Gill said. "We're taking the input from the community, and we're literally evaluating everything said because we're not sure we've got the answers yet. We want to make sure, with whatever we do, we do the right thing."

Imagers: Cameras help prevent vehicle break-ins

Continued from 2

"Because they show heat, you are able to see someone in the dark or in the woods that you would not normally be able to."

MTSU Public Safety and the Rutherford County Sheriff's Department will be using the handheld thermal imagers to detect body heat in safety and criminal situations.

"It is another tool we can use to keep the campus safe. That's why we applied for the grant at MTSU, to give us another tool to secure the campus," said Lt. in Investigations at MTSU Jason Morton.

The thermal imagers will be

used to scan the football stadiums prior to events as well as to help search the campus at night

in crime situations.

"It will be used to help secure the football stadium," Morton said. "If the stadium is vacant, it can help us determine if there is someone in the stadium by detecting their body heat."

MTSU Public Safety also plans to use the thermal imagers to protect those living on or around the campus in the future. "We plan to use it if we have

vehicle break-ins or assault in poorly lit areas for security on campus," Morton said.

Rutherford County EMS will use the thermal imager to aid in

rescue operations.

"It can help with a wilderness rescue or in a motor vehicle accident," said Chris Clark, supervisor for Emergency Medical Service Special Operations Division. "If someone is thrown from their car, the thermal imager can detect their body in the woods at night when we might not be able to

find them normally."

The thermal imagers used in rescue situations can also locate body heat in a fire situation, Clark said. When flames are generating heat and smoke, where firefighters may not be able to locate a person, the thermal imager is able to tell exactly

where a body may be.

Thermal imagers for Rutherford County EMS will also be used to detect chemical reactions.

"If a truck overturns, and there is a chemical spill, any sort of chemical reaction will cause heat, and that can be detected by the thermal imager, so we know if and where there is danger," Clark said.

Training for thermal imager operation will begin in May, and the Murfreesboro agencies are scheduled to receive thermal imagers for use by the beginning of June.

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CRIME BRIEFS

April 04 - 8:56 p.m. Rutledge Hall Suicide Threat Subject made comments that he just wanted it to all stop. He indicated that he wanted to talk to someone. Subject was left in cus-tody of Housing and Counseling Services that is on call.

April 5 – 2:54 a.m. Middle Tennessee Blvd. Drug Abuse Joshua Guntel of Murfreesboro was issued a citation for simple possession of marijuana.

April 5 - 3:57 a.m. Womack Lane, Apt. A **Evading Arrest** A vehicle was stopped for a light law violation and the passenger fled the scene on foot.

April 5 - 6:55 a.m. ROTC Annex Graffiti was sprayed on the Forrest Hall Building.

April 6 - 12:12 a.m. Corlew Hall Warrant Police were called to Corlew Hall in reference to outstanding war-

rants against a female student. April 6-2:23 a.m. James E. Walker South Lot

Almontay Woods of Bolivar was arrested for outstanding warrants (two sealed indictments and a warrant for simple

April 6 - 8:49 a.m. Off Campus Subject came to the station to file a report in reference to a hit and

April 6-1:48 p.m. Keathley University Center Theft under \$500 Subject called and advised that a student just had a book stolen and requested an officer.

April 6-3:23 p.m. James E. Walker Library Theft under \$500 Subject called and advised that a student just had a book stolen and requested an officer.

April 7-1:38 a.m. MTSU Blvd. Alcohol Barry McEntire of Lebanon was issued a state citation for possession of alcohol under 21.

April 8 1:06 p.m. Keathley University Center Burglary Police were checking around Cyber Café at 1:24 p.m.

April 8 - 8:45 p.m. Greek Row Subject requested to speak to an officer regarding a rape situation

number of months ago.

April 9 - 8:20 a.m. Keathley University Center Subject called and requested an officer in reference to some benches painted and requested a report.

that occurred an unknown

April 9 - 9:32 a.m. Off Campus Vandalism

Contractor called to report vandalism to his construction equipment with spray paint April 9 - 2:41 p.m.

MTSU Campus Traffic Subject came to the station to fill out report in reference to someone hitting her vehicle.

April 9 - 8:24 p.m. Recreation Center Two dean's citations were issued for unknown reasons.

Forrest: Community speaks mind / Glenn discourages vandalization

"He

that

other

Continued from 1

down since last semester."

The majority of concerns about Forrest Hall have subsided, Taylor said. No new proposals have been made to the Student Government Association and there was very little student participation at the Forrest Hall lecture in March.

have tried to schedule a student debate between Students Against Forrest Hall and Students to Save Forrest Hall], but only Matt Hurtt's group [Students to Save Forrest Hall] respond-

ed," Taylor said.

The above graffiti was removed Thursday after vandals defaced the building Wednesday night.

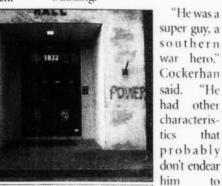
Despite the student debate, the overall point of Wednesday's meeting was to conduct a civil discussion with a structured format.

Gloria Bonner, dean of Educational and Behavioral Sciences, moderated the panel for the meeting included and Sidney McPhee, university president, gave the introduction. It also included historian guest speakers Bobby Lovett, a professor from Tennessee State University, and Derek Frisby, an MTSU professor.

"This is an opportunity for the

community to engage with us in a dialog about this issue," McPhee said. "We want people to feel as though they have had that opportunity to be heard."

Larry Cockerhan, MTSU parent, said he hopes the forum will enlighten people as to why forest was honored on the ROTC Building. "He was a



everyone, but you've got to put

> him in context of 1850-1870," Reverend Goldy Wade, president of the Murfreesboro chapter of the NAACP, said his purpose for being at the forum was to gain knowledge.

> "There has been a lot of statements made both for and against the Nathan Bedford Forest name being on the building and to who he was and what his philosophy was," Wade said. "I'm here tonight so hopefully we can get to what is true versus what is fiction." •

Continued from 1

does not qualify under even the broadest definition of these con-

Sure, the Marketplace of Ideas concept means that all ideas, even those we disagree with should be present. But, that presupposes that supporters of the idea give their public support. The courage of your convictions is important here. Your willingness to stake your public reputation on the ideas you support is a crucial element. To come in under the cover of darkness and scrawl anonymous comments does not qualify you as a partici-pant in the public debate. Rather, it marks you as a coward. The coward wants the shallow thrill of having their words plastered in public, but the coward is too lowly to actually show any real support in public. This kind of act of cowardice is simply beneath contempt.

But wait you say, doesn't freedom of expression mean that I can say whatever I want in any way that I want to? The simple answer is NO, it does not. For freedom of expression to thrive there has to be civility and rational discourse. There is no civility in anonymous comments. There is no rational discourse in graffiti. What happened to

Forrest Hall is not a legitimate expression.

The University has attempted to respond to the issues raised by providing a forum for those issues to be thoroughly dis-cussed. While not perfect, they have been a good first step. During the first forum, Dr. Robert Tracey McKenzie, history professor from the University of Washington, challenged us to think beyond the past and not use history as verbal ammunition to further a cause. Both sides had the opportunity to hear objective information presented in an objective manner. In our next forum we will have an opportunity for both sides to present their respective views.

We are committed to creating a diverse learning community that provides a respectful environment and where differences are celebrated. Every member of our campus community is valued and the University hopes to cre-ate an environment where civility and respect is fostered. We will not allow cowards slinking through the night to undermine this. We would call upon every member of the community to join us in denouncing this act of vandalism. In doing so we insure that the Marketplace of Ideas and freedom of expression continue to thrive.

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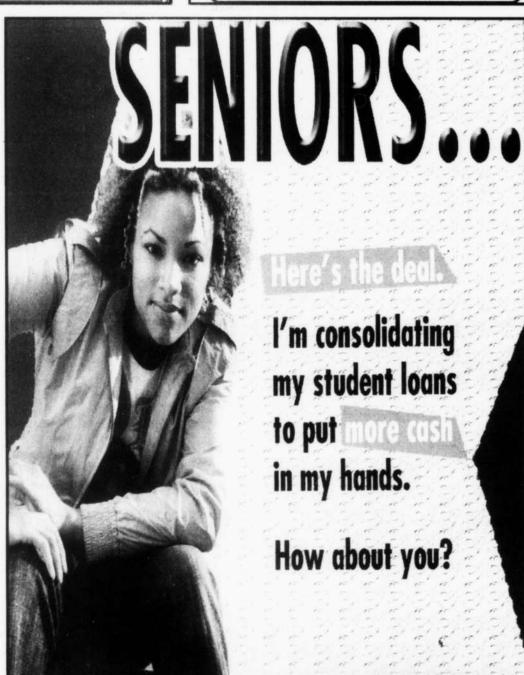
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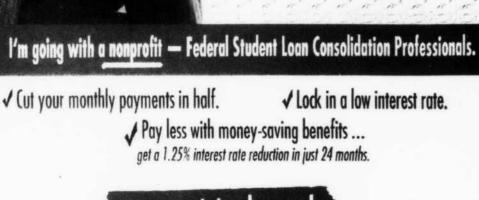


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FEATURES

Yard sale raises funds, awareness

Students spend to benefit child soldiers in Uganda

By Laura Roberts

Staff Writer

As most students slept off their overdoses of chocolate bunnies and marshmallow chicks during the wee morning hours of the Monday after Easter, four MTSU students were up at the crack of dawn, and not for class.

Jessie Ensminger, Sarah Branscum, Shelly Doyle and Erin Ferguson were on MTSU's campus at 6 a.m. sharp on April 9, unloading boxes of odds and ends for a yard sale which had one purpose-to benefit enslaved children soldiers of Uganda.

All four are enrolled in the social policy class this Spring. Beginning in January, the girls were given the assignment to pick a social issue and advocate it, whether it be write a letter to a senator or attend an event concerning the issue.

Ensminger immediately thought of the enslaved Uganda children soldiers.

"I remembered seeing the film produced by the Invisible Children Organization back in December of 2006," Ensminger says. "And being so angered about the situation in Uganda and wanting to help. Here was my chance."

Invisible Children is an organization that helps raise awareness of enslaved children in Uganda who are forced to fight in a rebel army.

The four students decided to do something as a group to help raise awareness and money for Invisible Children and unanimously settled on the idea of a yard sale on MTSU's campus.

After reserving a spot on the Keathly University Center knoll for April 9 and 10, the girls went full force with the idea. One of the girls' good friends, MTSU graphics design junior Blake Noel, designed and printed out dubbed "U-Sale."

U-Sale spread fast by wordof- mouth and Murfreesboro began pitching in to help with the event. Storage House of Murfreesboro donated a storage unit for the girls to store the collected items free of charge.

U-Haul rented the group a truck at half price. Dry-cleaners across town donated hangers for clothes. The Daily News Journal included the event in its community calendar.

Donations from all over the city began rolling in.

The four students had several designated drop-off dates beginning the second week of March. People were encouraged to come by the new MTSU parking lot across from Greek Row and drop off goods. Donations ranged from sombreros, Ninja Turtle outfits, a ceiling fan, a washer and dryer, bar stools, CDs and lots of clothes. The items were sorted and priced accordingly, with most things ranging from 25 cents to \$10.

When 6 a.m. rolled around that chilly morning, Ensminger, Branscum, Doyle and Ferguson were ready for U-Sale to begin.

The four, along with a few friends, unloaded everything onto the KUC knoll and officially kicked off the vard sale at 9 a.m.

Despite the cold weather, students trekked across the knoll, stopping on their way to class to rummage through the piles of things and hear about the reason behind U-Sale. Some had heard about the event through word-of- mouth or the flyers posted around campus.

Others, like junior art education major Jenna Rooker, were simply strolling by and stumbled across the affair.

"I was walking from my dorm and saw everything," Rooker flyers advertising the event says. "As I was looking through



Photo by Laura Roberts | Contributing Photographer

Students gathered at the Keathly University Knoll April 9 to rummage through a student-organized yard sale. Inspired by their social policy class, four students raised over \$1,700 dollars to donate to Invisible Children, an organization that helps raise awareness of enslaved children in Uganda who are forced to fight in a rebel army.

the things, Jessie told me about the proceeds going to aid the children in Uganda. I think it's awesome that college students are active in helping people raise money for such a great cause."

At 4 p.m., everything left over was loaded back into the U-Haul van and taken away to storage. The following morning, everything was brought back to campus for day two of the sale.

Amongst everything, seeing people's response to the cause was the best part of the whole thing, Doyle says.

"People would come by seeing a yard sale, get excited and buy stuff," Doyle says. "Then they'd find out the cause and buy more stuff. They'd hand us money and tell us to keep the change. Lots of people didn't even buy anything. They just donated money."

As U-Sale came to a close Tuesday, the four hard workers counted over \$1,700 collected for the Invisible Children Organization. The money will be shipped to the group and used specifically for the education and rehabilitation of former enslaved children soldiers. Items not sold at the event have been donated to the Salvation Army.

three fellow workers are excited about the money raised for the Ugandan children, she insists that was not the main point of U-Sale.

"It wasn't about how many donations we could get or how much money we could make," she says. "Don't get me wrong, all of that's great, but more than anything, U-Sale was about raising awareness on the situation in Uganda."

Ensminger says the success of U-Sale was very encouraging.

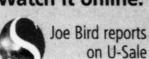
"We didn't know what the response was going to be," she Although Ensminger and her already talk about doing it again

next semester."

For more information on helping the Invisible Children Organization, go to www.invisiblechildren.com. ◆

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Adderall abuse rears ugly head

By Brandon Bouchillon

Staff Writer

Across the collegiate United States, the illegal sale and trade of medical amphetamines climbs at an alarming rate. Normally reserved for people diagnosed with attention deficit disorder or hyperactivity, drugs like Adderall and Ritalin are a routine for many students.

Others consume them as well, for everything from study-aids to weight loss in the booming campus amphetamine trade.

"I've been on Adderall for ten years and have never had any problems. Before my diagnosis, school was impossible; after, I could wake up and focus just by taking a pill," says MTSU alumni Tyler Whitmore, 23, who now resides in Oak Ridge.

ADD and ADHD medications increase and sustain energy levels while invoking mild feelings of euphoria in users who do not, in fact, have the disorder. Adderall is the most well known, and widely abused, of these drugs. Side effects include loss of appetite, the involuntary grinding of one's teeth, an inability to stop sweating and, if abused, heart disease, according to the drug's official Web site.

These amphetamines are dangerous, and for other reasons than their side effects.

Adderall's role as a party stimulant doesn't help. Students take about 30 milligrams before going out to keep themselves energized for long-evenings. During these nights out, alcohol and other drugs are potentially ingested, combining the prescription medications to form a fatal cocktail. Liver damage would be the least of these abusers' concerns, heart failure being the most prominent.

"It has got to be so bad for you, taking Adderall to stay up drinking, but I can honestly say that I know plenty of people who do it," says David, a 21 year old aviation major, on conditions of anonymity.

A study published in the journal Addiction in 2005 surveyed 11,000 college students about their prescription drug use. As many as one out of four students from schools with tough admissions standards reported use of Adderall and similar stimu-

Photo from Yotophoto.com

lants to boost their



Photo from Morguefile.com

ADD and ADHD medications increase and sustain energy levels while invoking mild feelings of euphoria in users who do not, in fact, have the disorder. Adderall is the most well known, and widely abused, of these drugs.

performance. Overall, an average of seven percent of all college students has used one of these drugs without a prescription. Many people feel this number is rapidly increasing.

The majority of students claim they only taken Adderall when necessary, like cramming for a major exam. But the majority of these students haven't been diagnosed with ADD or ADHD, so the pills must come from somewhere.

The most common answer? Friends with prescriptions.

Some collegiate women, as young as 17, purchase and take Adderall for the suppression of appetite it promises. On enough prescription amphetamines, a person can go days without even thinking of eating. For this sect, Adderall keeps the socially-conscious looking fit, ready for the unabashed approval of their peers, be it drug-induced or otherwise.

"I used to take them to get thin for summer, to maybe fit into a bikini. That was as a freshman, and I definitely wasn't the only one," says Shannon, 21, a junior design major. "Who's to say this isn't still going on with naïve incoming freshman, or any grade level for that matter?"

An unspoken cause for prescription amphetamine abuse does exist. It stands as the towering elephant in many family's living rooms.

Some parents may want a cure-all to the misbehavior evident in their children. They may think there must be some reason, any reason for their kids bouncing off the walls or constantly daydreams. In the last ten years, Adderall and Ritalin have helped to remedy this behavior, temporarily filling a void. It's why ADD/ADHD is the constant diagnosis in distracted youth, why Adderall alone has been prescribed more than 30 million times since its introduction in 1996.

College is a pressure cooker. The roles parents play in our lives diminishes exponentially each day, but maybe parental reach should still exceed its grasp. They can still act as gate-keepers in these matters, even if it means rethinking the diagnosis of "grown-up" offspring.

Leave it to college students to multi-task, even with their meds. •

Nearly horoscopes

Aries March 21 - April 19

Happy birthday to you, happy birthday to you, you look like a lard-butt, and you smell like one, too.

> Taurus April 20 - May 20

Don't give up yet! Where you lack in good looks, talent and ambition, you make up for in a lack of good looks, talent and ambition.

> Gemini May 21 - June 21

Give yourself a pat on the back for standing up for yourself last week.

Whereas before they thought you were a pompous, self-congratulatory ignoramus, now they'll see you patting yourself on the back and their suspicions will be confirmed.

> Cancer June 22 - July 22

We know that chick from Grindhouse looks hardcore with that machine gun on her leg. So chop yours off and glue on a giant straw. Goodbye frustration over sipping thick milkshakes, hello ability to straw people to death!

> Leo July 23 -Aug. 22

::Rawr sound:: You know you look good, you little lion, you. But one bit of advice-don't slack off on the waxing this year.

> Aug. 23 -Sept. 22

Like a Virgo, touching for the very first time. Like a Vi-i-i-irgo, when your heart beats, next to mine. Except you're not a virgin, so quit lying to yourself.

Libra Sept. 23 - Oct. 23 When you cry this month, make sure some of your emo-filled tears land on your lawn. Maybe then, the grass will cut itself, thus leaving you less

mow time and more mull time. Scorpio Oct. 24 - Nov. 21

Scorpions are extremely poisonous. So you, too, must be filled with venomous toxins. If nice people avoid you, it's because they don't want to feel the angry prick of your stinger.

> Sagittarius Nov. 22 - Dec. 21

Get off your lazy bum for once and do something productive, like giving a quarter to the lazy bum on the corner, thus contributing to his/her substance- abuse problem.

> Capricom Dec. 22 - Jan. 19

If you're thinking about opening that door, don't. If you're thinking about answering that phone, don't. If you're thinking about peeking out that window, don't. If you're thinking about not being a loser, don't.

> Aquarius Jan. 20 - Feb. 18

You know how you went home with that skeezy stranger from the bar the other night and how the next morning you went to the bathroom and things just smelt a little different? Ew.

> Pisces Feb. 19 - March 20

Like a fish out of water, you smell faintly of crap.

()PINIONS

From the Editorial Board:

Hate the vandals, support the forest

Now that Forrest Hall's rocky past includes a run-in with vandals, students from both sides of the issue are sure to be pointing fingers of blame, hoping the crime won't be attributed to their

And yet, whichever mind-frame inspired spray painting the words "black power" across the building's front will inevitably suffer from the event.

Though the words "black power" hardly conjure up an image of Forrest Hall supporters, it seems the students in support of Forrest Hall stand to benefit the most from the incident. Clearly, the crime makes anti-Forrest students look hateful, disrespectful and over-zealous about their protest.

Vandalizing the building and then placing blame on the opposite team might have seemed like a good tactic, rendering the anti-Forrest cause futile and packaging its supporters as criminals.

Students Against Forrest Hall would surely have recognized the ramifications of such an act. If their cause did create the need to assert black power across the building's front, it was a terrible, unwise move. From now on, this event will be brought up each time they are accused of protesting for the sake of protesting, each time they are labeled "white-haters" or "rabble-rousers."

If this act of vandalism was, indeed, inspired by students avid on keeping the name Forrest on MTSU's ROTC building, defacing property they are so eager to protect seems in vain and completely reckless, not to mention an unnecessary attempt to fight racism with racism.

Or, perhaps, the act was the result of a bunch of snickering kids who could care less about either side of the issue, kids who thought writing "black power" on a controversial building would produce hilarious results.

Instead of writing "black power," words guaranteed to create a frenzy, maybe the vandals should have used their can of spray paint to cross out an extra "R" in the building's name, because who doesn't love a good forest?

Defy Clear Channel: think for yourselves

It's a company so vast - they own up to seven radio stations in some markets; six in the Nashville area alone - that promoting a new band or radio show simply means circulating it through their own media outlets. Publicizing new assets through advertising departments that control their relative markets: true economic power. This setup holds media conglomerate Clear Channel inches away from an allout Monopoly, leaving the company satisfied to simply decide who makes it and who doesn't.

This all thanks to the 1996 Telecommunications Act, which loosened restrictions for media ownership. Soon after, Clear Channel to spent \$30 billion in radio acquisitions. They now control the majority of airwaves. Radio spots, on-air playlists, concert venues, even Rush Limbaugh: all fall under the tyrannical rule of Clear

If a band attempts to advertise an upcoming show on a station not owned by Clear Channel, all their music quickly disappears from CCs' networks. A band chooses not to play a Clear Channel-sponsored concert - no more of their songs playing on the majority of radio stations, which Clear Channel controls. Either cooperate, by giving your music "mass appeal," making it suck, or strike out on your own, find that niche market in a dim corner that Clear Channel hasn't

yet discovered. The dilemma here is redefining the music industry. Wonder why all these cookie-cutter bands like Nickelback and Evanescence survive? Because it's not up to them; the crap they churn out doesn't matter. Clear Channel has "invested' in these acts, so they stay in

heavy rotation. It's simple. Be the artist you choose, playing the notes attuned to you, the music that ping-pongs about within your head, and go it alone, without hope of stardom or celebrity since a company controls those. It's better than the alternative: sacrifice your music on an altar of greed to Clear Channel. Be the next Scott Stapp, that terrible band Creed reincarnate, with your artistic well-being chained to cor-

Clear Channel isn't shy about

Editor in Chief

Opinions Editor

Features Editor

Exposure Editor

Sports Editor

Online Editor



making its political beliefs clear. ions of our "everyman" president, George W. Bush and removed sentiments deemed Anti-Republican.

Remember the list of songs pulled from the radio after 9/11, for fear they should scare us? Clear Channel authored that list, and on it were such threatening numbers as John Lennon's "Imagine," and Louis Armstrong's "What a Wonderful World." John and Louis should've thought twice, writing songs of hope and splendor: they should've known that partisanship would transform their music into something evil, "terrorist" anthems.

Clear Channel denied that these songs were "banned." Instead, it was a list of titles that should be played only after considerable thought.

When the Iraq War "broke" out, Clear Channel took off its pressed, pin-striped suit to flaunt the red, white and blue underneath. The company held rallies to counteract anti-war demonstrations happening throughout the country.

On a tour regrettably sponsored by Clear Channel, Neil Young had this to say about the media conglomerate: "They have to be exposed for what they are, and they know what they are. They are antimusic, and they don't get the spirit of it. I'm sorry we're touring under these circumstances, because it's difficult to do it any other way. But it won't be forever. Its part of what I'm talking about. There is a backlash brewing."

Dig for music that matters to you. Not music that a billion-dollar corporation markets in clever ways, preying on consumer naivete. Your delusion equals their profit, so click the dial already.

Brandon Bouchillon is a junior mass communication major and can be reached at bcb2t@mtsu.edu.



Artificial diversity slights minorities

Every student at MTSU is recognized and processed by their social security number. Every time a student fills out a form or requests information from an office on campus, the student must undoubtedly relinquish their social security number at the behest of school administration, even though the process is illegal. Without fail, MTSU and nearly every other U.S. university manage to break federal lay by using that 9digit number to identify and organize the student body into a manageable arrangement.

The security in organizing a student body by a preexisting and established number means that all students entering MTSU are on a level playing field. ACT and SAT scores, as well as high school courses for college credit distinguish students from one another.

There are several factors, however, that should not distinguish a student from his or her peers within the system on any college campus. Differences such as gender, race and ethnicity should have no influence whatsoever on the admittance of a student to MTSU. In fact, determining factors when admitting any particular student should be strictly scholarly.

A high grade point average and involvement in clubs, sports or community organizations in high school should alert any admissions director to the ability of a student. Factors that have essentially no bearing on academic ability should be ignored and quantifiable information should be obtained and analyzed when admitting a student.

A similar process should be implemented when hiring or firing faculty and staff. Professors should be hired based on their knowledge of the content area and their skill, not based on their skin color or gender.

Take for example two candidates for an open position as professor. One candidate is obviously



more qualified than the other; therefore that candidate should be selected and hired - no matter if the candidate fits into minority groups or not. In cases where multiple candidates all exhibit the same amount of learning and expertise on a matter, then an alternative form of selection where gender or race play a role may be used.

As Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. so aptly noted, people should be judged not by the color of their skin, but by the content of their character, or in this case, by their ability.

MTSU recently concluded a lawsuit filed by Rita Sanders Geier in the 1960s, stemming from a claim that the secondary education institution in Tennessee discriminated against racial minorities.

When the suit was filed in 1968, the practices of admissions officers were less than honorable and qualified young black men and women were most likely passed over. Ignoring that discriminatory practices probably occurred would be naïve of me.

Enter the Office of Institutional Diversity, which aims to "ensure that diversity concerns are addressed." Assistant vice-provost for institutional diversity Dr. Sharon Shaw-McEwen commented, "We still have faculty, departments and organizations that have almost no diversity."

What on earth does this mean? "Diversity' is a code word for affirmative action, a very controversial practice where minorities and females are given preference over Caucasian males so as to "level the playing field" for all groups of people in an industry. The fact that departments exhibit little diversity means that certain percentages of ethnic groups and women are not represented within a field.

What many people do not realize is that affirmative action in itself suggests that the individual benefiting from the preferential treatment is not capable enough on their own to obtain the job or receive admission to a particular university. Their race or gender must be calculated as a handicap.

This practice should anger any woman or ethnic minority. The realization that one can not achieve his or her goal based on their own merits, but rather factors beyond their control, i.e. race or gender, must be calculated so as to give them a boost should be very humiliating.

Yes, MTSU should strive to attract culturally and ethnically diverse populations not only as students but as members of the faculty as well, but at what cost? Why should minorities be slighted in their own goal for equality by being a part of an inherently unequal system of discrimination? Why should a young black male or a young black female be admitted to MTSU based not one their own ability, but by a factor they do not even control? How is this fair to them?

Diversity should be accepted and embraced in all facets of life. Learning to work with people from different backgrounds truly prepares students for the world outside the college campus, but artificially creating a diverse population only hurts those students it was established to help.

Matthew Hurtt is a junior liberal arts major and can be reached at mch2x@mtsu.edu.

Letters to the Editor

Forrest Hall vandals deserve punishment

To the Editor:

I would like to express my utter disgust at the recent vandalism of Forrest Hall. This act is reprehensible, as well as illegal. I am not accusing Students Against Forrest Hall of this crime; however, it is precisely this sort of dog-and-pony show upon which these students thrive. These students nonsensically babble about tolerance for everyone everyone except those with opposing beliefs.

SAFH openly threatened Matthew Hurtt during his campaign for the Student Government Association Senate, because of Hurtt's involvement in the Forrest Hall controversy. Hurtt also helped create Students to Save Forrest Hall, SAFH's more successful counterpart, another point of contention. Hurtt, myself and other members of SSFH have also been publicly threatened and verbally abused by this degenerate group and its members. In fact, words are not all that SAFH has minced, as a Sons of Confederate Veterans member was assaulted during Murfreesboro's Christmas parade by an over-zealous Forrest Hall protester. If SAFH chooses verbally to further discredit itself, I will not object. However, this behavior is delinquent and long overdue for punishment. The administration owes the law-abiding students of MTSU no less than the prosecution of this crime to the fullest. Failure to do so will likely only embolden SAFH and further encourage such deplorable conduct.

Emily A. McDonald Junior, agribusiness and agriscience

Students, fight stupidity with knowledge

To the Editor:

While having developed disdain for the diagnosis of cancer, and wanting to lose myself in a labyrinth of preoccupation, I found myself dancing in the streets, or through the sheets, as it were, of Sidelines, into the wee hours of this morning, hoping to find a less-insipid taste in my mouth. What a palatable taste your periodical has provided me. This late-night perusing of Sidelines online has moved me, at least, closer to the monitor to read more articles from your paper - and I feel refreshed, as though I'd just eaten a peppermint patty. Many articles deserve thoughtful comments, yet, not knowing the length of letters you accept as well as being vehemently annoyed by my loquacious tendencies, I will try to stay brief.

I applaud your decision in covering stories relating to paramount student issues: Diversity, Historical Challenges, Equality, Drunk Driving, et al. Kudos to Sidelines. I hope we will each take with us an understanding, a newly developed sagaciousness, or grasp the notion the world actually does contain bigots, sexual inequality, people with diversity, disabilities and lots of divisiveness can develop in the ideologies of some folks' minds, especially if they or we remain uninformed. I hope, by graduation, our naivete will have diminished and our insight developed; that we will have cultivated an open mind and will use it pursuant to a critical eye whose function shall serve as a discerning and interpreting tool for discovering truth and a window to what it is we individually think is right, acceptable, wrong, unjust or to that which serious attention needs to be brought. This may not work for some sociopaths in the upper-echelons of society who

hold and maintain disproportionate amounts of power, money or decision-making abilities, due to the inevitable and imminent display of delusions which invariably ensue as a result. I hope we will be realistic and those who are still uninformed, things have and can continue to change.

Case in point: tell others about those issues in which you read which move you from a knowing point to an action point. These articles are prime examples of things which may cause you to: a) want to hold onto an emesis bag, just in case b) feel it is counter to your point of view of what is acceptable and you want to do something about it, i.e., share your side of the story c) make you feel threatened either as a person or a member of a cognizable class or even, make you decide to take action such as: d) vote in the next election even though you are a convicted non-violent felon on release in Florida. Racial rights, religious rights, the right to identify as a sex contrary to what your biology indicates, the right to have or decline any of the rights given by the U.S. Constitution.

Yes, other than Miranda Rights while under custodial arrest, Johnny Law is not required to tell you of a single right you have. Got that? Officers are not legally required to tell you jack about the Constitution and the officer has no duty to tell you about your rights, except your Miranda rights. Did you know you have the right to walk away from a questioning officer if he has no reasonable suspicion to detain you? Learn your rights, because all human, inalienable civil and legal rights are yours. It is Sidelines' duty to dispel darkness in the closet of Stupidity by simple virtue of information and the duty of those students who read about these serious issues begin to see some illumination and take heed that these student/societal issues are not as evanescent as ripples in water, that they are not ephemeral hurdles to jump over "just this week," but these very real issues will continue to exist. even contrary to the beliefs we are "supposed" to have according to lit igation results, what our Momma's say or prevailing public sentiment.

A word to the students: read on, delve into the depths of knowledge, not just in your area of academic quests, but read this newspaper, and others, and learn it is a big bad world out there. Be and stay informed and by all means, if you see something unfair and feel angered by it, jump into the lake of "I'm going to make a difference" and tread water. In a moment's time, someone else will be inspired by your enthusiasm and jump in to help you. We'll all make a difference with our degrees. However, do yourself, the students you leave behind and society as a whole a greater favor: take what you read on issues that involve real people, which require intervention, and be that per

son who will initiate or facilitate the needed change. A word to Sidelines: Super job your writers and editorial staff have done at making information available. Stay un-biased and un-opinonated while touching a nerve or two on both the far right and far left sides of the political pendulum. If anything was accomplished, I momentarily forgot the malady of my present diagnosis and will hopefully have implanted a seed for other students to have a growing desire to read more. Here's to the hope of inspiring them to join together or even singularly to create efforts towards changing public policy to accommodate the human, or changing public awareness to not only recognize, but to accept the conditions of being human.

Ginger Kay Eades Senior, college of educational and behavioral sciences

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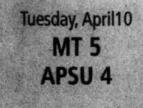
Letters Policy

Sidelines welcomes letters to the editor from all readers. Please email 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

Sidelines is the editorially independent, non-profit student-produced newspaper of Middle Tennessee State University. Sidelines publishes Monday 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 Sidelines or MTSU.

SPORTS

Nothing new for MT baseball



Next Game New Orleans, **April 13-15**

By Cody Gibson

Staff Writer

Middle Tennessee picked up an extra-inning victory against the Governors of Austin Peay on Tuesday.

In a game that featured 28 hits by both teams and nine runs scored on the evening.

The scoring got underway with both teams scoring a run in the first inning. Middle Tennessee scored three runs on five hits in the third inning.

Austin Peay kept chipping away at the Blue Raider lead with one run in the fourth, fifth and ninth innings to tie the game 4-4.

Matt Ray's double in the top of the tenth put the Blue Raiders on top, and it allowed Tyler Hyde to collect his first save of the season in the bottom of the inning.

The Blue Raiders bats were silent with no homeruns on the day and neither did Austin Peay get any homeruns.

Josh Anderson had a solid start for Middle Tennessee as he gave up only two earned runs and struck out once.

Nick Marrs and Tyler Copeland allowed only one run in four innings.

Matt Ray and Doug Birkofer both collected three hits for the game, including Ray's game winner. Wayne Kendrick is continuing to be a strong leader for the team as he collected a team high two runners battered

MT has beaten APSU twice this season, and both games have gone the distance either into extra innings or to the bottom of the ninth.

APSU took advantage of MTs mistakes and came close to beating the Blue Raiders in both of the season series.

This weekends Sun Belt Conference match up, with the Blue Raiders will be facing the New Orleans Privateers'.

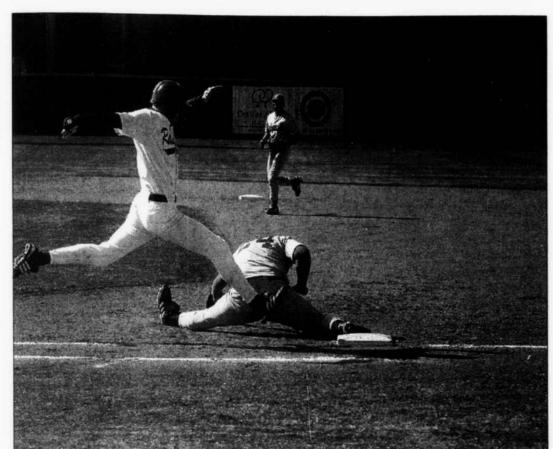
New Orleans is 21-12 on the season but has been disappointing in the conference with a 7-5 record.

, Middle Tennessee at this point in the season is 10-5 and is sitting in second place in the conference behind Louisiana-Lafavette.

New Orleans is led by Johnn Giavotella and T.J. Baxters, and both are hitting over .350 and combined for 17 homeruns and 74 RBIs on the year.

Overall, the team is hitting an average of .295 against opponents this season. New Orleans pitching staff has fared well this season as they have a 4.95 ERA.

The first game of this weekend's series will begin Friday with the first pitch at 6 pm.



A Blue Raider baserunner tries to beatout the throw to first. The first baseman of the Louisiana-Monroe stretches out in order to get the throw from the short stop. MTSU beat APSU 5-4 on Tuesday in Clarksville

Givens excited to start pro career

By Cody Gibson

Staff Writer

The first thing that went through Chrissy Givens' mind when she was selected in the third round of the WNBA draft by the Phoenix Mercury wasrelief. Givens, the second team All-American, was nervous about the draft process, but after the first and second rounds the waiting got to her.

"I was just relieved," she said. "I knew my name was going to be called. It was just a matter of time.'

For Givens the draft was exciting, but there was a small amount of disappointment in the third round selection. At the same time, Givens still thinks, no matter what happens, she has made it this far.

"It doesn't matter where you get drafted once training camp starts," Givens said. "It's still a dream come true for me, and I can't wait to get started and make the roster of the Phoenix

Training camp begins April 22 for Givens. She will be flying out to her training camp to meet her new team. One of those team members is former University of Connecticut star Diana Taurasi, whom Givens is excited about playing against in practice and possibly being a teammate of hers.

"Anytime you get a chance to play with players like Taurasi, it is excellent," she said. "It will give me a chance to compete against the best and, hopefully, make the team during training camp."

The transition from college basketball to professional is not an easy one, and luckily for Givens, she has the full support of her family. Givens explains, on draft day, her mom was more excited than her.

"My mom was almost too excited on draft day when she heard my name called," Givens said. "I have some family in Phoenix, so that is a great place for me to go."

The life of a WNBA player can be stressful, but Givens' work at Middle Tennessee has essentially prepared her for all of the intricacies of pro-basketball. She credits her work ethic and practice habits to her coaches all along the way.

"The draft weekend was really the most busy and stressful week of my life," she said. "But, as for training camp, practices and the season, being at Middle Tennessee really helps me in getting ready to play."

Even with all of the good



Senior Chrissy Givens was drafted as the fifth pick in the third round of the WNBA draft by the Phoenix Mercury.

news and possibility of playing in the WNBA, Givens is considering playing overseas as well. The contracts in Europe and Asia are much more profitable than those given out by the WNBA. Givens said she will test the market after the WNBA

training camp and season. "I'm definitely going overseas after the season," she said. "They like to get American players over there, because they like the different styles of play. It will raise my stock considerably if I get in the

Givens begins camp in Phoenix on April 22, and the preseason begins May 2.



I am Sportacus

J. Owen Shipley Staff Columnist

Will winning be end of suitcase campus?

I just want to get something out of the way if I can. I hate end of the year stories. I do, and yet, I always find myself reading them, watching them and listening to them just to see if I agree with the most memorable moments being honored.

Here I am, at the end of one of the wildest years of my life, looking back on all of the things I have done, seen and places I have been. I feel tempted to look back every chance I get to shed light on the stories I didn't have time to print at those times. I have decided to fight that urge because this weekend offers me

one last chance to look forward. Saturday's Blue-White game, beginning at 2 p.m. in Floyd Stadium, will be the last gasp of my beloved fall sports before late August. I'm having a hard time writing this article because I know how easy the next one will be to write.

I'm excited to be back in the press box one last time covering the sport that means more to me than any sport really should. Saturday's game will be the midway point between last year's success and next year's hope. In the last year MT athletics saw huge increases in national press coverage, conference domination and general attendance.

The quintessential suitcase school is slowly becoming a pom-pom school. While our students may be far from locking arms and singing the alma mater in Campus Pub, they have come such a long way since my first semester at MT in 2001 that it

See Sportacus, 9

Strike up band, the Dancing Man is here

By Clarence Plank

Sports Editor

It is the first game of the 2006 football season, and Middle Tennessee is down 6-0 going into the fourth quarter. The fans are cheering and doing their very best to help the Blue Raiders to win the season opener at home.

The band starts to play, and a lone figure is dancing in front of the stands. He's moving and grooving and getting down with his funky self. Everyone is cheering and screaming for the 58year-old Will Shipley of Hendersonville, Tenn.

As the band finished playing, everyone including Shipley was heading back to their seats. Someone was recording Shipley as he danced that night and then uploaded the video to the Web site youtube.com.

Since then, people have come to know him as the Dancing Man of Middle Tennessee.

"Dancing has always been something that was interesting to me. I guess I got into a little bit of cheering and stuff," Shipley said.

Shipley has been with MTSU since 1990 and recently finished his studies in 2006. He is involved in the Physathlon, which is regional fitness contest. What he is doing here at Middle Tennessee is trying to get people active in supporting the teams and getting in shape.

"I've been into fitness for 40 years," Shipley said. "[It was] a project I [had] started back in the 1980s combining weight resistant exercises and some movement running. There is something that I am working on called a Physathlon, and a Physathlon has to do with combining all the different kinds of aerobics movements and not just the core exer-

"Well, why not [have] the alumni get into it?" Shipley said. "I mean, a lot of us were students, and we can get [things] going, too. I've been a long time student and alumus, both, and I usually go to a couple of games."

Shipley wants to get the alumni and students involved in cheering at the games for the football team, men or women's basketball, baseball and softball

Shipley said. "I want to make sure we're in there for the count that we are the ones going to the limit with the fans to really care about being more innovative with the team players."

His concern is the players here at MTSU because they go out and give their all as well.

The other teams need the support too because they are students to. Shipley does not believe in yelling and screaming at the other teams and doing negative

Being more innovative with the team themselves, you know they're the ones throwing the ball. We're the ones moving around [cheering] making them feel better," Shipley said. "Sometimes they're losing, and they need a pick up, and sometimes, they take it too hard. If we can make them feel better, then [the fans] are apart of it."

Shipley has been involved with the Physathlon, which is bicycling, walk/run and swimming contest. Last year, he competed in the Music City Marathon in the 26-mile run and about every twenty minutes, he would step off to the side and dance.

"I'm trying to promote physical activity to, and trying to introduce people to the triathlon I've been doing for the past 25 years," Shipley said. "Most people come from a different athletic discipline. I'm into the entire fitness program related to athletes."

He has to be because he holds records in the Double Iron Triathlon and the Virginia Double and Triple Iron in 2005. He competed at the Birmingham Track Club Classic in 2001 in shot put and finished in second place, and he finished fourth in

the disc throw. Shipley also holds teaching licenses in social studies, kindergarten through twelfth grade,

health, elementary first through ninth, history and psychology. He has been a lifetime learner since he started in 1967 at the Tennessee-University of Knoxville. From that moment on, he just kept going. He finished his master's degree here at

"I did some of my graduate work in my early twenties, and I did some other work in my thirties," Shipley said. "I've really been a life-long learner, and there were times I didn't have time to go to the games, not that I always do now. I'm living 120 miles round trip to campus."

Shipley played soccer and football in high school. He was more into soccer when he was younger and if things were different for him and soccer was just as popular of a sport as it was back then. He might had taking a different turn in life and focused on his soccer career.

"I've always been into sports. I was on a team that had gone 12 straight years winning state championships in high school area soccer," Shipley said. "I could kick the ball for 80 yards. I got back into running boom back in the 60s, [then], I started working out and got into fitness."

Today Shipley is doing his best to get people involved in cheering on the Blue Raiders as they continue to find success. •

Sports Briefs

Track star Walker receives votes for Sun Belt awardd

Middle Tennessee senior Juan Walker was voted the Sun Belt Field Performer of the Week on Tuesday after his efforts at the Tiger Track Classic this past weekend in Auburn, Ala.

Walker finished third and was the second collegian in the long jump on Saturday at the Tiger Track Classic, posting an NCAA regional qualifying mark of 24-3.5 in the event. The mark is the second best in the Sun Belt so far this outdoor season.

The senior also placed fourth in the 110-meter hurdles in an NCAA regional time of 14.03 and finished seventh in the 200meters. His high hurdles time is the best in the Sun Belt this outdoor season.

The honor is the third of Walker's career outdoors. The Hunters Lane High School product was voted the SBC Field Performer of the Week on April 4 and April 25, 2006.

Middle Tennessee's track teams will again be split this week, with some at the Sea Ray Relays in Knoxville, Tenn., and the remainder of the men's and women's teams at the Boston-Moon Classic in Nashville, Tenn.

Walker posted NCAA regional qualifying marks in the long jump and high hurdles and junior Stephanie Tamgho improved her NCAA regional mark in the long jump, leading the Middle Tennessee track teams on a cold and very windy Saturday at the Tiger Track Classic in Auburn,

Walker finished third in the long jump with an NCAA mark of 24-3.5 and came back later in the day with another NCAA mark, placing fourth in the 110meter hurdles in 14.03. Walker also came in seventh in the 200meters in 22.00.

Tamgho tied for the highest finish by either team, finishing second in the long jump with an NCAA regional mark of 20-3, improving by one-and-a-half inches over the 20-1.5 she posted two weeks ago at the Alabama Relays.

Senior James Thomas also had a second-place finish, posting a mark of 157-10 in the discus while also placing seventh on Friday in the hammer throw with a mark of 174-9.

Also for the men, freshman Duronal Monal placed seventh in the 100-meters in 10.81 and the men's 4x400-meter relay of

See Sports Briefs, 9

Sport's Briefs: Football team prepares for Blue-White game, men's golf team fails.

Continued from 7

the men's 4x400-meter relay of junior Chris Travis, freshman Julius Kurui, junior Tony Carufe and freshman Philip Benavides finished eighth in

For the Blue Raider women, Tamgho finished fourth and junior Sierra Douglas tied for fifth in the triple jump with marks of 39-11.5 and 39-10.75, respectively. Freshman Brittany Cox placed seventh in the shot put with a mark of 45-9.

In the running events, freshman Tenesha Hill finished fourth in the 100-meters in 11.97, while sophomore Erika Palmer was seventh in the 100 in 12.13 and placed seventh in the 200-meters in 24.81.

Senior Sara Lunning broke her own school record in the 3000-meter steeplechase, besting the previous record by three one-hundredths of a second. Lunning finished sixth in 11:31.44.

In the 5000-meters, sophomores Tiffany Sawyer and Ashleigh Thaler placed fifth and seventh, respectively, with times of 18:40.45 and 19:04.03.

Football team prepares for Blue-White spring

Middle Tennessee concludes spring drills on April 14 with the annual Blue-White Spring Game in Floyd Stadium. Kickoff is set for 2 p.m. and admis-

The coaching staff and players will be divided into teams that will be announced following Wednesday's practice.

During the first half of play the clock will run like a regular game, and then in the second half it will run continuously. At halftime, Coach Rick Stockstill will present the Spring Awards while recognizing the returning lettermen.

Along with the game, there will be numerous activities available for the Blue Raider faithful. Tailgating will be encouraged at both Walnut Grove and the Greenland Drive parking lot the entire day, while an autograph session with Blue Raider players and coaches is scheduled prior to the game from 11:30 AM until 12:30 PM. Photo opportunities will also be available.

In conjunction with the spring game, the athletic department will also hold a garage sale and Pick-A-Seat in Floyd Stadium. Fans will be able to purchase old jerseys and a limited number of helmets at the garage sale which will run from 10 AM until 2 PM outside of Lightning's Locker Room near Gate 2A.

Pick-A-Seat will give fans the opportunity to see open seat locations in Floyd Stadium for the coming season with a chance to purchase them on the spot. Season ticket prices start at \$55.

In addition fans coming to the spring game will be given a voucher for free admission to the Blue Raiders baseball game against New Orleans later that afternoon.

The following is a list of the day's activities

10 a.m.-2 p.m. Garage Sale outside Lightning's Locker Room

10a.m.- 2 p.m.: Pick-A-Seat in Floyd Stadium

11 a.m.: Men's Tennis vs Memphis

11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.: Autograph Session (north concourse of Floyd Stadium)

2 p.m.: Blue-White Spring Game

4 p.m.: Baseball game against New Orleans 6 p.m.: Men's Tennis vs Belmont

6 p.m.: Soccer Alumni Game

Men's golf team fail in team championship

MT's quest for a team championship at the Middle Tennessee Aldila Intercollegiate came up short at Old Fort Golf Course Tuesday, but the Blue Raiders did have three of the tournament's top 10 performers and the squad turned in its ninth top 5

The Blue Raiders, who started the day in second place, had to settle for a third-place finish in the first collegiate golf tournament played in Murfreesboro since 1989. Southeastern Louisiana, ranked No. 35 nationally by Golfstat.com, won the event with a 2under 862 and it was the only team in the field to shoot better than par.

Texas State finished second with a 1-over 865, and Middle Tennessee was 10th with a 10-over 874 after producing a 10-over 298 in the final round. The Blue Raiders finished third or higher in a tournament for the fifth straight time this spring and enjoyed its sixth top 3 finish this year.

Blue Raider seniors Spencer Provow and Bart Barnes posted the best three-round tournament total of their Middle Tennessee career and tied for second overall with a 2-under 214, one shot behind Texas State's Michael Carnes, who was the tournament's low medalist with a 213. Freshman Kent Bulle had a strong final round with a 3-under 69 and finished tied for tenth with a 217.

Provow opened the day with a 1-shot lead after shooting five under through the first two rounds, but he slipped into the tie for second with Tuesday's 3-over 75. Still, it was another strong showing for the senior as the Blue Raiders brace for the Sun Belt Conference championships in Orlando, Fla., April 16-18.

The same can be said for Barnes, who was playing as an individual. The senior was steady throughout the tournament, posting scores of 71 and 72 in the opening two rounds Monday, and he followed that with a 71 Tuesday to tie for second.

Bulle was one of the tournament's best players in the final round with a 3-under 69, which tied for the low score of the day. His final-round showing propelled him into a tie for 10th.

Craig Smith 220, Chas Narramore 224, and Rick Cochran 235 rounded out the team scoring for Middle Tennessee.

In addition to Barnes, Nick Bailes 225 and Derrick Bright 231 also played as individuals.

Provow led the tournament in par-5 scoring at 7under and his 36 pars were fourth most. Barnes was fifth in par-5 scoring and finished with 12 birdies third most among the linksters. Bailes was second in par-3 scoring at 1-under.

Chrissy Givens, Angelique Burtts suspended for two weeks

Women's basketball players Chrissy Givens and Angelique Burtts would be suspended from all team and all basketball related activities two weeks due to a violation of Athletic Department rules for fighting with each other.

Givens a second team All-American in 2007 and a recent draft choice of the Phoenix Mercury, while Burtts a freshman this past season but took a red-

Women's golf team finish in second place in Eagle Classic

MT entered the final round of the Southern Miss Lady Eagle Classic in second place, trailing West Florida by five strokes, at the Canebrake Golf Course in Hattiesburg, Miss.

The Blue Raiders caught and passed West Florida, outshooting the competition by nine shots. UAB came from behind with a 303 and edged Middle Tennessee by one stroke for the tournament title.

UAB finished 899 for the tournament to slip past MT, which finished with a 900 for the threeround event. The Blue Raiders' second-place finish marks their fifth straight top 3 finish this spring, and it is their seventh top five finish in nine tournaments this year.

Taryn Durham entered the final round with the tournament lead but settled tied for third after shooting an 8-over 79 Tuesday and finishing with a 220. Leigh Wilkins had Middle Tennessee's best final round with a 3-over 74 and finished tied for ninth. The 225 ties Wilkins' best threeround total this year and she finished in the top 10 for the third time this spring.

Clara Leathers also tied for ninth with her best finish as a Blue Raider - a 225, while Mallory Bishop was 18th with a 230. Jamey Dillard rounded out the Middle Tennessee scoring with a 247.

Durham led the field in birdies with 10, while Wilkins' 38 pars out of 54 holes were the most. Durham and Wilkins tied for third in par-3 scoring at 1-under.

The Blue Raiders will play in the Sun Belt Conference championships in Orlando, Fla.,

Soccer team finds success in spring tournaments

MT concluded the tournament of its spring schedule with a positive showing at the University of Tennessee Spring Tournament in Knoxville, as the Blue Raiders tying Tennessee and defeating Carson

The Blue Raiders, who lost at Tennessee 2-1 in overtime during the 2006 regular season, played the Lady Vols to a stalemate in the spring scrimmage. Both spring tournament games were 60 minutes in duration with two 30-minute halves.

Despite the loss of defensive stalwarts Katy Rayburn and Sara Wohlhueter, who were four-year starters, Middle Tennessee's defense has been strong this spring as new players continue to adapt to their roles. Rising sophomore Erynn Murray was in goal for both shutouts at the Tennessee tournament.

"I was really pleased with the team's performance in both games," MT head coach Aston Rhoden said. "The Tennessee game was played at a fast pace and was a very evenly-played match. It was good to see our young players match up against a talented Tennessee team. Defensively, we have made progress this spring and continue to improve in areas."

The Blue Raiders defeated Carson Newman, 1-0, with offensive standouts Kala Morgan and Holly Grogan combining for the lone score. Morgan made a crisp cross to. Grogan from the left side of the box, and Grogan volleyed over the keeper's head for the game's only goal.

"Carson Newman was a tough game for us, especially after resting only 40 minutes after the Tennessee game," Rhoden said. "Carson Newman is a very good team and they created a lot of problems for us early. We were able to recover late in the first half and played well thereafter.

"All the players have made great improvements this spring and it showed in both games. It was a good showing for us. A major bonus was that we came away without any injuries."

The Blue Raiders completed the tournament portion of the spring schedule with a 3-1-2 record. Middle Tennessee will conclude its spring season with the annual Alumni Game, April 14.

Women's tennis squad beats Troy

Middle Tennessee 6-11 posted a second consecutive win for just the second time all season and the first time since claiming victories in the first two matches of the spring.

The Blue Raiders started strong, winning the first two completed doubles matches.

Pooja Kommireddi and Marlene Chemin claimed an 3-1 victory over Fabiana Gouvia and Caroline Jounia at No. 3 before Hala Sufi and Szabo posted an 8-0 triumph at No. 1 against Rawia Elsisi and Annabelle Bares for the first point of the match. Troy's Claudia Strauss and Stephanie Vieria defeated Stephanie Parkison and Ann-Kristin Siljestrom, 8-2,

Parkison gave the Blue Raiders a quick 2-0 lead in the match with a 6-2, 6-0, victory at No. 6 over Gouvia, but the Trojans answered with three straight wins to take the lead.

Strauss defeated Chemin, 6-0, 6-2, at No. 3, Vieria won 6-4, 6-4, over Elvira Yusupova at No. 5 and Elsisi posted a 7-6 (5), 6-2, triumph against Siljestrom at No. 2.

Sufi, ranked 104th in singles, defeated Bares, 7-6 (5), 6-4, at No. 1, setting up Szabo's come-frombehind clinching victory.

The Middle Tennessee junior lost the first set to Jounia, 4-6, but came back to win the final two sets, 7-6 (5) 6-3, for her third victory

Check back here next Wednesday for more sports briefs and Blue Raiders action. •

DRIAMMERKS

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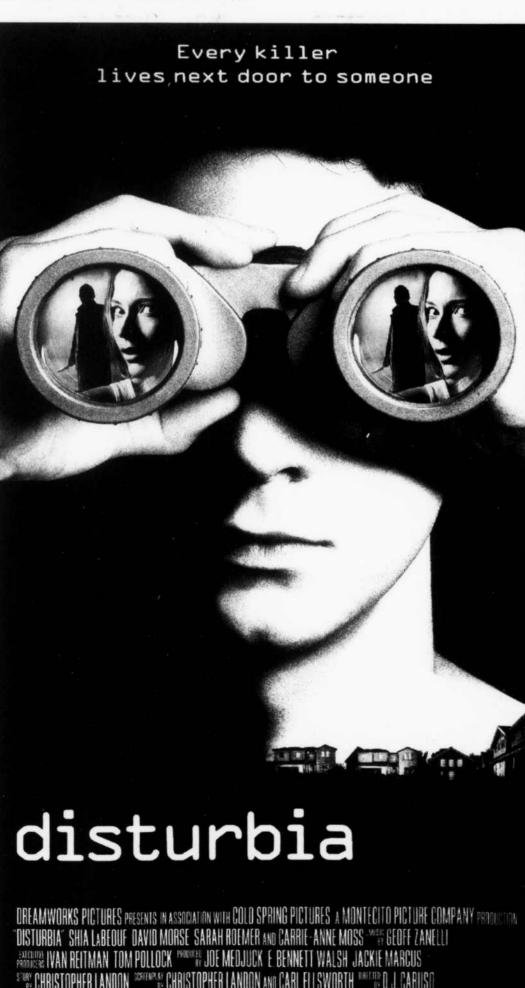
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COMING SOON TO THEATRES EVERYWHERE

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Luke Robbins

Sportacus: End of suitcase campus?

Continued from 7

blows my mind.I remember buying an MT Football sweatshirt during Sindey McPhee's first year as president- that was when the push to shorten the school name started- and being one of four people who wore an MT shirt on any given day.

Slowly, over time, that began to change. Students began supporting their school in dress more and more each year until it finally got to the point where I don't think I had a single class in the last two semesters without three or four MT shirts, sweat shirts or shorts being proudly displayed.

It's almost as if we are starting to be proud of our school. Proud enough even to go to a game or two.

Throughout my first non-Sportacus years at MT, I remember attendance being a constant issue for our athletic squads. Curious to see just how much that has been reversed, I

called the ticket office for some numbers on last season.

I already knew our women's basketball crowds were in the top 15 percent in the nation, but I was surprised to see how much community support our school is getting these days.

Of the nearly 4,000 in average attendance, only 275 were students.

Basketball isn't as easy for students to follow as football. It falls during class times and work schedules. Football is simple. Keep Saturday open, and you will be fine. I'm not surprised student numbers were so low - and remember, this is women's college basketball, so a lot of schools average less than 275 fans total - but I am amazed that non students came in such numbers.

A nearly 14-1 non-student to student ratio says great things about community support for our budding sports programs.

The numbers for football were immediately impressive, as well a season long averagewhen including the Louisville game of 22,050 per game with over 8,000 students on average. Take away Louisville and the attendance is still a hard-toimagine 19,350 per game with an average of 5,200 students. To imagine that during the Andy Mac era would have been unthinkable.

All that remains to solidify MT as a true community supported school is a sense of continuity. Saturday's game will give us a glimpse into how successful the Blue Raiders will be at building on their momentum and carrying MT out of the suitcase days.

Once again, Murfreesboro, I'll see you at the game. •

J. Owen Shipley is a junior English major and can be reached myspace.com/lamsportacus.

Come! Be a sports writer in the summer! Come to Mass Comm 269! We're waiting...

2007 East Coast Swim Club Championships. March 30, 31, & Apr 1, 2007

	Time	Place
100 Freestyle		
Bethany Powel	1:08.58	36
Desirae Selitsch	1:02.24	21
Sue Ann Holton	1:18.39	42
Chad Farmer	:49.78	9
50 ButterFly	**	
Pam Footit	1:02.64	35
Chad Farmer	:26.42	12
100 Breast		
Desirae Selitsch	1:15.21	5
50 Freestyle		
Desirae Selitsch	:28.00	19
Bethany Powell	:31.08	39
Pam Footit	:46.74	54
Chad Farmer	:22.71	6
Luke Robbins	:27.05	42
1,000 Freestyle		
Sue Ann Holton	16:09.07	7
50 Backstroke		
Desirae Silitsch	:32.79	13
Bethany Powell	:34.57	18
Pam Footit	-51 70	25

	200 Freestyle	A STATE OF A STATE OF	F 7 5 5 5 5	
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	100 I.M.			
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	Bethany Powell		1:19.05	31
	Sue Ann Holton		1:26.77	37
	Elenore Gilchrist	The second second second second	1:48.42	39
	Pam Footit		2:01.56	40
	25 Freestyle			
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	Elenore Gilchrist		16.33	34
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	Sue Ann Holton		32.98	
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	Pam Footit		44.81	
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	Desirae Selitsch		28.51	12
		MTSU Men	= 1pt.	
			= 6 pts.	
			= 7 pts.	
		Place = 12	2th	

MTSU Make a Difference Week Sat. April 14 - Sat. April 21

Chad Farmer

for more info - 898-2551 or mtsu.edu/~events

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Sat. April 14

Golden Raiders Service Project Monday

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Clothesine Project Mon-Thurs **KUC Knol**

An inconvenient Truth Mon-Thurs

Take Back the Night Rally Tuesday

KUC Kndl

KUCTheater

Kilowatt Ours Wednesday **KUCTheater**

Wrigtey Gurn Lounge Wed. & Thurs. **KUC Kndi**

KUC Kndl Kappa Della's Wing Fling Sat. April 21

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Thursday



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4:30 - John Cronin

5:30 - Overzealous

7:00 - Arj Barker (Inside)

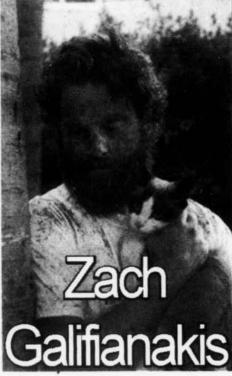
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Continued to next column

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Marketplace of MTSU

Continued from last column

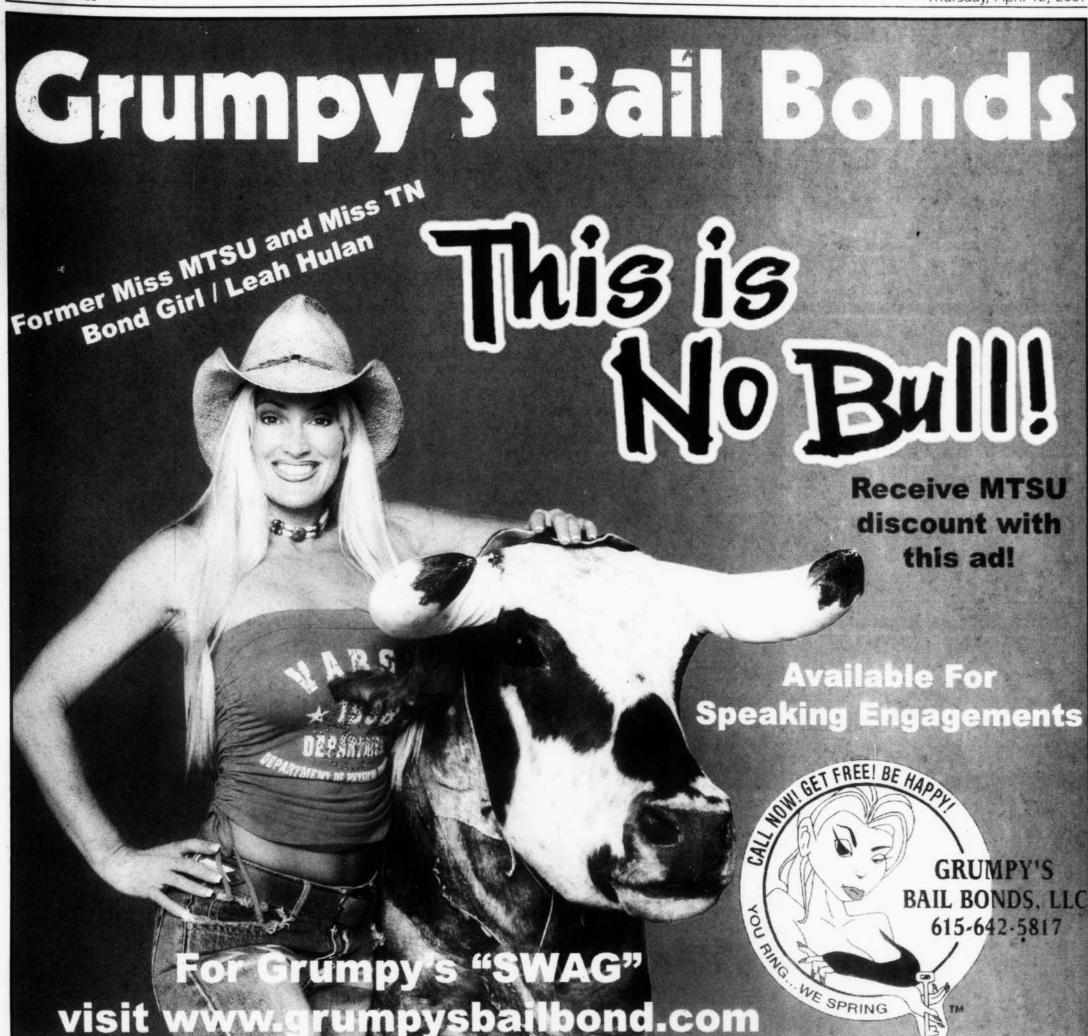
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