

THURSDAY
NOVEMBER 30, 2000

49 31



Partly Cloudy

MEN'S BASKETBALL



Kansas
walks over
Raiders

In Sports, page 12

DVD REVIEW

Best of
the year

In Campus Life, page 6



STUDENT SURVEY

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ONLINE

Who do you think the
MVP of the football
team was this year?

INSIDE: This country in dire need of standardized election regulations In Opinions, page 5

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SIDELINES

Middle Tennessee State University

MURFREESBORO,
TENNESSEE

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www.mtsusidelines.com

Students taxi for flight time



Photo by Wesley R. Bush | Staff

One of MTSU's twin-engine planes rests for the night, awaiting another day of flights by aerospace students seeking to earn their pilot licenses.

Licensed pilots hired more quickly

By Jason Cox
Staff Writer

Students in the MTSU aerospace program are finding it increasingly difficult to take to the air.

With an ever-growing student population in the program, scheduling

flights, coupled with an increase in companies hiring student instructors, demand for time in the air is becoming higher than the number of flights themselves.

"We tried to accommodate as many as we could, but we just don't have enough airplanes to do it all, but we're trying to catch up by the end of the semester or over the spring semester," said Don Crowder, Associate Professor of Aerospace.

Crowder added that the department has tried to cut back on the number of students in each flight lab, planning to accommodate students next semester.

About 500 students have to make use of only 18 aircraft to schedule flights that are required to obtain their private and commercial pilot licenses.

This increases demand on the individual aircraft, with a student to plane ratio of 28-to-1, although not every student requires immediate flight time.

The aerospace program also owns 3 simulators.

However, Stephen Gossett, chair of the Aerospace program, says that the reduced air time was at least partially compensated for by a reduction in time required to be hired as a commercial pilot.

"Demand is very high [for commercial pilots] and more students are becoming interested, and enrollment has increased," Gossett said.

However, he continued, regional airlines have been lowering their logged flight time from an industry average of 2000 hours to about 1200.

He added that some airlines were considering going even lower to be able to hire more new pilots coming out of aerospace programs.

Some pilots start out as flight instructors or tow banners during the summer. Others do crop dusting and

work for charter companies such as Corporate Express.

Over time, the pilots can move into smaller airlines such as American Eagle as a co-captain and continue to move through the ranks.

Gossett dismissed the idea that less required flight time could pose a potential safety threat, asserting that "the same amount of training and testing is required, just that the actual time spent in the air is less."

Students are allowed to take their flights anytime as long as they are able to find an instructor to fly with them. ♦

Conference set for desegregation lawsuit

NASHVILLE. (AP) — A court-appointed mediator will meet with attorneys Dec. 15 to discuss the long-running desegregation lawsuit filed against Tennessee and its higher education system.

U.S. District Judge Thomas Wiseman will oversee the conference. A trial date for the 32-year-old case, now called Geier vs. Sundquist, has not been set.

Rita Sander Geier was a professor at the historically black Tennessee State University in Nashville when she filed a federal lawsuit accusing Tennessee of perpetuating a dual higher education system for black students and white students. The lawsuit was filed in 1968.

The state and plaintiffs reached a court-approved agreement in 1984 that set targets for black and white enrollment and employment at Tennessee's higher education institutions.

The settlement "resulted in a set of benchmarks or goals by which the

public system of higher education was to be brought about a desegregated system of higher education in Tennessee," said Cathy Cole, deputy executive director of the Tennessee Higher Education Commission.

Those goals have been revised during the years, based on demographics.

"The purpose of the status conference is to see where they are in terms of a number of issues that they've discussed in the past," said Sharon Curtis-Flair, Attorney General spokeswoman.

Last year, plaintiffs in the lawsuit argued the state has not done enough to desegregate Tennessee's colleges and universities.

Carlos Gonzalez, a mediator under the direction of Wiseman, has worked with the parties in the lawsuit since February. He submitted a proposed agreement earlier this year for review by parties in the lawsuit.

No action has been taken on the proposal. ♦

Blue moves



Photo by Jenny
Cordle | Staff

Dancers
Shauna King,
Gabe
McCauley and
Jennifer
Robinson
rehearse in
mock
costumes for
the "Evening
of Dance"
performance,
which opens
tonight.

See page 6
for more.

Dyslexia center to break ground

Staff Reports

A groundbreaking for the Tennessee Center for the Study and Treatment of Dyslexia's new 1.5 million facility will be held at 2 p.m. on Dec 5.

The facility, being built at the corner of Baird Lane and Eldod Street, will hopefully be completed in August of 2001.

The grand opening should be during the following October.

Remarks will be offered by Eugene Smith, MTSU interim president, one of the parents of a children treated by the Center, as well as many others.

Dyslexia is a language-based learning disorder of biological origin. The disorder interferes with a person's ability to read, write, and spell.

Hundreds of children have been tested in the center.

The center informs and prepares teachers and students to serve students with dyslexia.

This impacts an estimated 160,000 children a year. ♦

Credit cards sacrifice chances of wealth

Take it
from
Turner



Turner
Hutchens
Associate
News Editor

They're out there. They have clipboards and "free" gifts. They are wicked.

When you sign up for a credit card, that gift you get isn't free; you are paying with your soul.

Okay, that's a little extreme. You are paying with your credit rating, and you are sacrificing any chance of ever having real money. Having a credit card in college is basically dooming yourself to debt.

As I'm sure many of you know, it was once considered a mortal sin to collect interest on money you lend. Well, I don't really think it's a sin. I just think it's a cruel and evil thing to do to trick young people who are

bombarded with pointless consumerism into sinking themselves into worthless debt.

We are in college. More than that, we are in a state college. We are not wealthy.

MTSU is a fine school. I look at our fine university as the best bang for my buck. I get what I need out of an education. But the point is, I have to consider value in my school. I have to consider value in my entertainment. I have to budget for food, and I'm willing to bet most of you do too. We don't have a lot of money to throw around. Now, why, if we have to scrimp and save for vitals like food and rent, would we need a

credit card?

We don't.

There are now debit cards that work exactly the same way as credit cards, except for one very important difference — you only spend the money you have.

"What!? Only the money I have?"

Yes. If you don't have it, don't spend it. You don't need it. You have clothes. You have music. And if you don't, a credit card will make things worse, not better.

A credit card is a simple way to live beyond your means. It's any easy way to get into debt. And it's not even a smart way to get into debt.

If you have to borrow money for things you really need, take out a student loan. That's what they're for.

Most of us will already be graduating with the burden of student loans. Now, I don't think that any sort of debt is a very good idea. But if you are going to go into debt, you might as well take the better deal. Look at the numbers: my student loan has an annual interest rate of just under six percent. Almost everyone can get one of these loans, and often they are subsidized, which means you don't pay any interest until after you graduate.

A credit card, on the other hand, has an interest rate of what — 18

percent if you're lucky? And you're in college. You're broke (as I've established). You simply will not make all of your payments. If you are able to make the payments, then why not just get a debit card, so you're sure you have the money?

Now, I find it unlikely that we will be able to get rid of credit card pushers on campus. So we must be the strong ones. We must resist all temptation to fill out forms that put our names on mailing lists and send us dangerous plastic. I know, you really need another T-shirt. And yes, I think the miniature candy bars look tasty.

But it's simply not worth it. ♦

Gore pleads patience as battle continues

By Ron Fournier
AP Political Writer

Al Gore raced between TV interviews Wednesday asking, "Will we count all the votes or not?" while his lawyers urgently sought a court ruling with the answer he wanted. Both Gore and rival George W. Bush pressed forward with separate blueprints for building a presidency.

"On Jan. 20, a President Bush will be ready to take the reins of the government," said top adviser Andy Card — awarding his boss a title that Gore still hopes will be his.

The vice president is trying to overturn official results of the decisive Florida election before the public's patience runs out on the 22-day ordeal. Needing a quick court victory, Gore authorized his divided legal team to ask the Florida Supreme Court to recount contested ballots or order a lower court to do it, two Democratic sources said late Wednesday.

One million ballots were being hauled 400-miles from southern to northern Florida, where the precedent-making case has been thrust upon a folksy circuit judge. "Pack 'em up and bring 'em up," Judge N. Sanders Sauls said.

Bush planned to meet Thursday with retired Gen. Colin Powell, his still-to-be-announced choice as secretary of state. The Texas governor also

was calling GOP congressional leaders and assigning his staff to call Democratic lawmakers as the vice president struggled to keep his party in line.

With the stakes so high, the Republican-dominated Florida Legislature inched closer to securing Bush a backup plan: Lawmakers were considering naming their own electors to settle the fiercely fought election. Florida Gov. Jeb Bush, the candidate's brother, said he would sign the necessary legislation "if it was the appropriate thing to do."

Still, with the recount case headed to the highest court in the land, Jeb Bush said, "The United States Supreme Court trumps the Legislature."

Gore, too, played president-elect at a business meeting with running mate Joseph Lieberman, transition director Roy Neel, Labor Secretary Alexis Herman and Kathleen McGinty, former head of the White House environment office.

McGinty would be a front-runner to head the Environmental Protection Agency under Gore. Herman would be in line for another Cabinet post, White House counselor or perhaps chief of staff, a job that aides expect would first be offered to campaign manager William Daley.

Florida Secretary of State Katherine Harris, a supporter of Republican Bush, has declared him the winner of

Florida by 537 votes out of 6 million cast — handing Gore the steep challenge of nullifying a state's presidential election while convincing the public the race is not over.

And thus, the nation has two presidents-in-waiting posturing to be the 43rd man to assume the mantle.

"It's an amazing story, isn't it?" asked Gore, a former journalist joining legions of others grasping for the words to describe it.

He was dealt a setback Tuesday when Sauls refused to order immediate manual recounts of disputed ballots in Palm Beach and Miami-Dade counties. The judge scheduled a hearing Saturday on the vice president's petition to include manual recounts in official election totals — a move that Gore believes would help him overtake Bush.

Democratic lawyers want the votes recounted while the central case is being resolved by Sauls, both to save time and to show voters progress toward overtaking Bush.

Gore's political advisers said privately he needed a court victory in the next 48 hours to prevent a fatal erosion of the public's support.

Thus, Gore was forced to appeal Sauls' decision, but his advisers debated since Tuesday night about how to do it.

Some on his political and legal team wanted to ask the court to take over the

entire case, throwing Gore's presidential aspirations at the feet of seven justices with Democratic ties.

Others thought that was too risky, and urged Gore to take the more cautious approach he eventually approved.

The debate itself reflected the growing level of concern in Gore's camp that time is running out.

In other action:

— Sauls approved Bush's request to transfer 1 million ballots from the two counties to his court. Gore attorney David Boies, his client in a hurry to count votes, lost a bid to have the ballots come in two shipments — one comprising the disputed ballots, which he felt could be shipped sooner than the Friday evening deadline the judge set for delivery.

— Palm Beach County released corrected totals showing that Gore picked up a net gain of 188 votes. Harris didn't accept the numbers because the county didn't complete its recount until two hours after the deadline.

— A Florida judge rejected a conservative law group's bid to keep examining Palm Beach County's presidential ballots, including 3,300 being sought by Gore's legal team.

GOP presidential candidate Dick Cheney opened Bush's transition headquarters in suburban Washington

and announced its first staff at a news conference.

In the quiet of his Texas ranch, Bush prepared for his meeting with Powell to talk "about how you might put together your national security team for a Bush administration," Cheney said, adding that no Cabinet selections would be announced this week. Bush also was reaching out to Republican lawmakers who narrowly control Congress.

Some conservative Democrats were worried about Gore's political strength.

"I've told his team he ought to be doing a better job on the PR side, let the press know what his options are legally and ask the country to be patient," said Rep. Allen Boyd, D-Fla.

Members of Bush's high command were contacting lawmakers, Democrats and Republicans alike, to discuss Bush's agenda and to tout what they say is his bipartisan approach to governing, senior Bush advisers involved in the talks said Wednesday.

The officials said Bush's team does not initiate conversations about the election standoff but most of the lawmakers, including many Democrats ask about Gore's contest.

Bush aides reply with their arguments for why Gore's protest must fail, one official said, denying that Republicans are actively trying to persuade Democrats to abandon Gore. ♦

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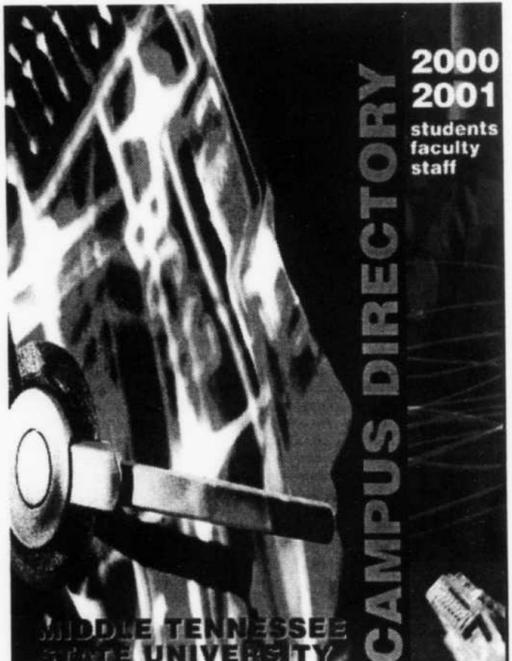
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WORLD BRIEFS

Compiled By Turner Hutchens - Associate News Editor

In battle for presidency, lawsuits emerge by fistfuls

(AP) - Lawsuits by the fistful, lawyers by the score, contested ballots by the thousands - and still no president-elect.

That's the simple arithmetic of the 2000 race for the White House as Al Gore struggles to overcome George W. Bush's certified victory in Florida three weeks after Election Day.

"The state of Florida has certified a vote count that is neither complete nor accurate," Gore said Tuesday as he appealed to the courts for a manual recount of 13,000 ballots and to the public for patience while he presses his unprecedented legal challenge.

That's not how the Bush high command saw it. Gore "proposed yet another count and yet another deadline" after losing each tally in Florida thus far, countered Karen Hughes, spokeswoman for the Texas governor.

"Common sense does not allow it and the rights of the citizens of Florida to have their votes count do not allow it." ♦

Movie style caravan to bring in ballots

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. (AP) - It might be a scene from a movie: A caravan of police cars escorting thousands of ballots, a voting booth and voting machine across Florida in the state's hotly contested presidential election.

The judge assigned to decide whether there must be a recount of ballots in the legal skirmishing over whether George W. Bush or Albert Gore won the Florida vote he will allow a recount. "I have no idea what we're going to do about ballot-counting or not counting," said Circuit Judge N. Sanders Sauls. "Perhaps we can bring the ballots here."

He accepted an offer by the police for Miami-Dade County to have county police drive approximately 10,000 disputed ballots about 400 miles to Tallahassee, the state capital.

A Palm Beach attorney said he would make similar arrangements for that county's 3,000 disputed ballots, and lawyers then suggested that a sample voting booth and voting machine be brought in as well.

The judge said he liked that idea. Up until then, Sauls said the plethora of legal motions and dueling arguments were "like getting nibbled to death by a duck." ♦

Popular bowel drug banned after links to women's deaths

WASHINGTON (AP) - A popular new prescription treatment for women suffering irritable bowel syndrome is being pulled off the market amid growing reports linking it to severe intestinal side effects, including some deaths.

Manufacturer Glaxo Wellcome Inc. withdrew Lotronex on Tuesday, just nine months after it began selling the drug with great fanfare.

It becomes the seventh banned drug the

increasingly embattled Food and Drug Administration has had to deal with in 2 1/2 years. ♦

Barak takes a gamble, holds new elections

JERUSALEM (AP) - In the midst of a bloody conflict with the Palestinians, Israel has been plunged into political turmoil by an overwhelming parliament vote to hold new elections, two years ahead of schedule.

Prime Minister Ehud Barak took a gamble Tuesday - on his political future and on Mideast peacemaking - when he unexpectedly agreed to go along with the hard-line opposition's push for an early vote.

In first contacts late Tuesday, representatives of Barak's One Israel alignment and the opposition Likud party raised May 1 and May 8 as possible election dates.

In a new twist, Likud leader Ariel Sharon said Wednesday he was still open to holding new coalition talks if Barak issued an invitation. ♦

Madonna performs concert on Internet

LONDON (AP) - Madonna's first concert in Britain in seven years drew some nine million fans, who tuned in over the Internet.

Only about 2,800 people were able to see the concert in person Tuesday night. The fans crammed inside London's Brixton Academy for Madonna's performance featuring her latest

album, "Music."

The 42-year-old singer said she was warming up for a summer world tour. During the show Madonna wore a T-shirt emblazoned with the name of her 3-month-old son, Rocco Ritchie, on the front. The back read "Lola," a nickname for her 3-year-old daughter, Lourdes.

According to Microsoft's MSN Web site, the Internet audience for Madonna's six-song, 29-minute performance was three times larger than an MSN Webcast of a Paul McCartney concert a year ago. ♦

Agassi saves some honor for older generation

LISBON, Portugal (AP) - Andre Agassi salvaged some respect for tennis' Old Guard.

The Masters Cup, the season-ending tournament that brings together the top eight players in the world, has been touted as the "Battle of the Ages," a showdown between four young stars and four members of the older tennis generation.

After Day 1, the score is 2-1 for the New Guard. It would have been a clean sweep, had Agassi, at 30 the oldest player in the field, not come from behind to beat Gustavo Kuerten 4-6, 6-4, 6-3 on Tuesday.

Coming off a three-week layoff because of a hip injury, Agassi saved four break points before serving out the match against the 24-year-old Brazilian.

Pete Sampras was not successful in his comeback. Sampras, idle for more than two months because of injury, lost 7-5, 6-0 to Lleyton Hewitt, at 19 the youngest player in the tournament. ♦

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Bondage fans bond at Berkeley

By Erin Gallagher
Daily Californian (U. California-Berkeley)

(U-WIRE) BERKELEY, Calif. - Local professors, writers, lawyers and doctors by day abandon suits and scrubs for leather and lace at night. The scene is heavy with professionals, because people tend to enter the scene in their 30s — when they have fully discovered their "regular sexual identity," says Richard, a Berkeley resident who has been active in the bondage scene for about six years and prefers not to use his last name.

"Other than their sexual activities, they are distressingly normal," he says at a monthly bondage club meeting at a local brewery.

Berkeley bondage groups are very strict about a minimum age of 18. If a minor expresses interest in the groups, they are directed to informational sources and peer groups.

The Society of Janus, San Francisco's premier bondage information base, has links on its Web site, www.soj.org, for minors interested in alternative sexual play.

The bondage community is one of the most wired communities in the world, Richard says. Many people meet potential partners and find local activities on the Internet through discussion groups and message boards. Through networking, S&M newcomers and veterans get connected with local "munches" — casual social events where conversation ranges from the erotic to the everyday.

Castle Bar in San Francisco is a converted warehouse that holds "dungeon parties" where enthusiasts can have some fun. Dungeon parties, fandangos and play parties allow participants to leave their sexual inhibitions at the door. Revelers come as couples, singles and

"triads," bringing toys, fetishes and expectations of a good time. Participants are tied up, whipped, chained and bound in gauze and leather.

Nothing is spared when it comes to carrying out the bondage party theme. Party-goers dress in elaborate costumes that bring a fandango of the scene. Richard recalls one bondage where the dungeon was staged to look like a "medieval Spanish Inquisition setting" — complete with cages, whipping posts, stocks and restraints.

While some may feel alcohol and drugs are necessary to leave such inhibitions behind, they will not find any chemical substances at the parties, Richard says.

The bondage community is a very sober community, he says. Participants need to be in control and aware of their actions in order to guarantee safety. Dungeon monitors walk around carrying gloves and condoms, handing them out to all participants.

For the most part, the parties are centered around play, not actual sex — most people save the sex for when they get home, says August, "mistress" of Phil, both of whom attended Berkeley's munch last month.

"If it's not consensual, it's abuse," Phil says. "If it's not safe, then it's being done wrong."

August, an upbeat and talkative local hairdresser, says she has been active in the bondage lifestyle for 10 years. Phil and August met at a play party and have been together for eight years.

"We live the lifestyle 24-7," August says matter-of-factly. "He is my slave and I am his mistress."

It took Madonna's book "Sex" and her pushing the idea of "erotica" to bring bondage to a more open light, August says.

"(The book) was so mainstream that

people might have taken a look at it and said, 'Maybe that's for me and I should see what's out there,'" August says.

While some may think of bondage as consisting solely of whips and leather, there is a virtual dictionary of terms that are a "must-know" for enthusiasts. The "dominant" partner wields power and the "submissive" surrenders. The "top" gives or withholds physical sensation and the "bottom" receives or denies it. "Switch partners" move between various roles at will to please their partners.

Berkeley munch meetings are alive and full of banter. To begin the evening, attendees mingle before the actual meeting starts — socializing and ordering dinner. From there, people introduce themselves and their preferences — submissives, dominants, bisexuals, heterosexuals and so on.

Robert is the founder and host of the Berkeley munch. The munch has been meeting for a little over three years as an opportunity for people to get together, eat and talk.

"I was turned onto bondage while an undergraduate at Cal," Robert says. "I think people who like bondage are smarter people. They need more mental stimulation in all areas of their lives — conversation, classes, movies and sex."

One of the benefits of bondage, says Robert, is the enhanced communication fostered by partners.

"This is about whatever you need to be satisfied," he says. "Sex is a good thing."

Charles "The Ruthless" has been involved in the bondage lifestyle for more than 25 years. Along with his activity in S&M relationships, Charles has dabbled with "vanilla" partners. The term vanilla refers to a "June and Ward Cleaver-esque" way of living, says Charles.

"I've been tying up girls since I was

six," says Charles. "It's something that has always been there. I do it because it's fun."

Flogging for business is one of Charles' venture ventures, along with S&M comedy skits, educational demonstrations and bachelorette parties. He trains people who have never tried S&M how to take a walk on the sexual wild side.

"It's a lot of work for me but a lot of fun for them," Charles says earnestly of the bachelorette parties.

When it comes to his personal preferences and pleasing his partners, Charles takes his passion very seriously. He asks his partners to fill out a questionnaire that covers everything from fantasies to how much they are willing to explore.

"Everything I do is done professionally and it all depends on what they want," Charles says. "Hopefully they enjoy themselves."

It was a two-week fling dominated by rough, wild sex that led Mo to seek out a more fulfilling bondage lifestyle. Reading S&M fiction, such as novels by Anne Rice, and chatting with fellow enthusiasts on the Internet opened the door, but was not enough.

Through munches, Mo met other people and attended more parties, but as a boisterous woman with a desire for submissive sexual roles, she says she found it hard to find partners.

"It took a while, but I met a top and managed to find a community here," Mo says happily. "It may sound weird or extreme but I'm just a normal kind of kid."

Mo is taking her life story, bondage and all, to the stage this March in her one woman show "69 Stories."

"I want to make it accessible for everyone," Mo says. "It's fun to be in charge of your sexuality. It's all about knowing what you want." ♦



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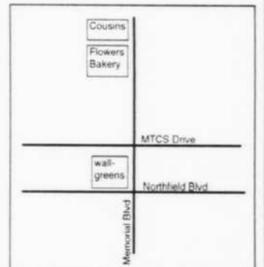
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OPINIONS

Murfreesboro, TN

Thursday, November 30, 2000

SIDELINES ♦ 5

From the staff This country in dire need of standardized election laws

This staff can't agree on anything. We can't agree on who should be president. We can't agree on how the president should be chosen.

But there is one thing that most of us do agree on - this country has gotten itself into a mess that never should have happened in the first place.

Until now, this has all been avoided primarily through luck. But our luck's run out, and now our flawed system is allowing one state to bring the rest of the country to its knees.

The solution to all of this is simple: standardized election laws and regulations across the board.

Some will argue that this concept violates the very sanctity of our Constitution: it takes power away from the states and creates a large, ugly, powerful federal government.

Newsflash: this is a national election for a national office. State sovereignty is a concept that should be left behind with the Civil War (the first one, that is, not the

one that's brewing now).

Under the current system, some states, like Florida, have voting standards that simply do not work with the rest of the country.

For instance, Florida counts absentee ballots that come in up to 10 days after election day, while Tennessee cuts off the count of absentee votes on Nov. 7.

The use of different kinds of ballots, from pencil ballots to punchcards to electronic button machines, range even from state to state. It's madness!

The method of voting in itself is chaotic and frustrating. Many voting booth locations are overcrowded, understaffed and imagined.

Imagine a simpler life, one with larger voting areas, straight lines, electronic voting and instant results.

News anchors will no longer have to speculate (guess) who the winner is. CNN will run out of things on which to report. And at least a dozen lawyers will be out of a job.

Gore needs to concede election

For Argument's Sake



Jason Cox
Staff
Columnist

The counting and recounting are over, and the voters of Florida have still chosen George W. Bush as their winner.

For the two of you who haven't

been following the election, this means that while the people have chosen Al Gore, the electors will more than likely choose George W. Bush to be the next president of the United States.

That decision, of course, is of questionable intelligence. The thought of Bush as our president, frankly, scares me. Unfortunately, the country thinks it's better to have a unfawing idiot in office who "seems like a nice guy" than a driven, intelligent man whose only downfall is a tendency to exaggerate.

That said, it is my opinion that Gore should concede the election at this point.

Gore has a right to complain for the rest of his life that he chose Bush, but the unfortunate truth is that under our electoral system, in close elections the people don't always get their way (interesting to note that Bush's mantra of trusting "the people, not the government" will be contradicted by his being chosen by a governmental system, not the will of the people, not to mention that he didn't trust people to do an accurate hand recount.)

This election just solidified the fact that the Electoral College should be eliminated. Several publications, including the *Nashville Scene*, have made arguments

that the college should be kept, but I have yet to see a credible one.

Gore knew the rules of this going in, and many pundits believed that Bush would take the popular vote and Gore would take the electoral vote. Those pundits were wrong.

It's almost December, and we still don't know for sure who the president is. Now that Gore got his hand count of disputed counties, he has reneged on his promise to drop any legal pursuits to further dispute the election.

This pursuit is probably going to still leave Bush the winner, and whatever political future Gore may have had is finished.

Gore has had an opportunity to step down and be the better man after the recounts, and he still chooses to fight the results of the election despite the recent polls showing that the majority of the population wants Gore to back off and accept the results.

Not only is Gore hurting himself, but he's chipping away at the Democratic Party's chances of regaining control of Congress in 2002 and putting a Democrat back in the White House in 2004.

Gore as a president now will be mostly useless, as public perception would be that he stole the election from Bush, and the Republicans in Congress would align themselves against Gore in part to reflect popular will.

Despite the fact that I voted third party, I would take Gore over Bush any day, and I have defended Gore throughout this process and endured attacks on my intelligence and character for it. Now I can no longer do so. Gore has taken this one step too far.

So fasten your seatbelts, my friends, because good ol' Dubya's in the house. Now THAT is truly terrifying. ♦

SIDELINES

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

Letters to the Editor

No one should be allowed to use drugs in stadium

Sidelines,

The University has repeatedly said there is a no tolerance policy for drugs on campus.

Well, Saturday [Nov. 18], I attended the football game, and there were three men, not students, smoking pot. These men were not in their car and not in the tailgate area - they were in the stadium.

After a minute or two, a lady goes and tells the sheriff, and she identified the men. The sheriff just sat there and watched the three men smoke the pot.

Finally, one man put it out. The three men then proceeded to walk past the sheriff, and nothing was said or done.

I guess what I am saying is that if it had been a student, he would have had to leave the stadium and be kicked out of school.

I don't smoke pot, but I have a lot of friends who do. I guess if you are into it, it is all right to do, but do it someplace where children would not be exposed to it.

It makes me mad that the sheriff did nothing about it when 30 people saw and smelled it.

It makes me mad to see someone disrespect me, the other fans, the children and the football team in our stadium.

I would like to see the stadium filled to the capacity as much as the next guy, but if people are going to smoke pot at the games, I would rather it stay empty.

Chad Knowles
Senior

Mail your comments to Box 42, drop them off at JUB 310 or e-mail them to stupubs@mtsu.edu. Letters may be edited for length, grammar or content.

Freshmen shouldn't have to pay for uneaten food

Sidelines,

Since freshmen started in August, I have listened to people gripe about all sorts of things. Parking, tuition increases and women's lib! Now I feel like it is my turn to complain. Maybe complain is not the right word - instead I should say make a few suggestions.

Along with the increase in tuition and the addition of parking fees into tuition, the system has decided that all "freshmen on campus" should be required to purchase the "freshman meal plan." Why on God's green earth no one knows! However, this plan has many flaws.

Mainly, it is completely unfair to freshmen families. As if we didn't have to shell out enough money as it is, now they are telling us we have to either eat their food or throw hundreds of dollars away. I don't have a problem with the food, but I don't use my meal plan ten times a week. That means the money for the meals I don't eat is wasted. Also, the plan only covers meals in the McCallie Dining Hall and the JUB and doesn't work through the weekend. Freshmen staying on campus through the weekend have to buy food from the KUC instead of being able to use the meal plan they were forced to purchase.

I simply suggest this: put the money for meals we don't use into our flex dollars, and at the end of the semester, give us back the money we haven't used. Just like it is wrong for people who don't have cars to pay a parking fee, it is wrong for people to have to pay for food they don't eat.

Terri Hutzler

Women don't have to sacrifice careers for kids

Sidelines,

Please, please, please let me clarify my comments that I typed for the Nov. 6 issue of your newspaper. Jessica Reed's comments on Nov. 16 seemed to imply that I, Mr. Anderson, want to have kids and sacrifice my future wife's career. There are flaws to Ms. Reed's attacks against me.

I am not married and obviously in no rush to have children. I don't know how other people see it, but I would not want Ms. Reed to have children that she can't support. I don't think I EVER said that I wanted females to have children that they cannot support. However, I am really sad to see that females think of birth, the miracle of life, as "torture." It cannot be that harsh because...THE HUMAN RACE IS STILL HERE! Very, very, few women die from the "nine months of torture."

Several of my elementary teachers were only out a couple of months after giving birth. Does this seem like they SACRIFICED their career? Does this mean that you, Ms. Reed, have to SACRIFICE your career? NO! Correct me if I am wrong: When a woman becomes pregnant, it does not translate into, "I can do no other function but stay home and never go to work again."

PLEASE! I'm sure there are thousands of women who become pregnant, still GO to work, give birth and go right back into work. Staying away from work takes how long? Ask my teachers. A few months - hardly a SACRIFICE.

Luke Anderson
Aerospace Major



"Is this all you have? You realize you're alienating more than half of your customer base by only ordering three-legged pants?"
"Buddy, this is a thrift shop—we get our stuff secondhand from Earth porn costume departments."

Our football team has earned our support

Frankly
My Dear



David Sargent
Staff
Columnist

Friends, Romans, testosterone-laden athletic fans, embrace your home team, for they hath bestowed a greateth honoreth uponeth useth.

Sorry, sometimes I get a little carried away.

You ask what the heck(eth) I'm talking about. Well, I'm talking about the Blue Raider football team.

That's right, the group of thick-necks that 75 percent of you have never seen before and probably did not know existed.

Well, I'm here to tell you that they do. Not only do they exist, but they have proven themselves to be quite a quality team.

I went to four of the five home games this year. Partly because I'm out of my mind and partly because I love football, along with all other athletics besides maybe synchronized swimming and curling. Hah, what a joke those two "sports" are. I must say, though, I was very impressed with the caliber at which our offense played.

It was our first big year, and although we got waxed, and I mean waxed, by Florida, Mississippi State, Illinois and Maryland, we still proved that we could

hang offensively by collecting early game points.

Our defense just sucks.
And I just don't understand how all these Middle Tennesseans with their orange Volunteer apparel can claim to be football fans if only 2,000 people show up to see their true home team. I mean, more than half of them didn't even go to Knoxville to "learn." They probably went to MTSU.

I know that Volunteer apparel makes for some stylish hunting gear - it complements a mullet very well. It's just a little too "faux-pas" for everyday use. Did someone say fashion no-no?

Joking aside, MTSU has a good developing team. And we're going to be damn good in the coming years.

The games this year were great. That last game against the Ragin' Cajuns of Lafayette was like, whoa (that's La-fee-ette, not La-figh-ette, for all you non-Cajuns). Even though it was 33 degrees and I could only feel seven of my toes at the end, you couldn't have asked for anything more. Two overtimes, hot chocolate and those freezing, leotard-wearing, baton twirlers (that was a good laugh); it was so money and you didn't even see it (Swingers rules).

Well, whether you like the game or not, you'd better at least show up. It's the perfect venue for a large-scale brawl amongst the spectators. That would be fun.

At worst you can go bum some "Coca-Cola" from the Greek drones, especially when we go up to Vanderbilt next year. ♦

CAMPUS LIFE

6 ◆ SIDELINES

Thursday, November 30, 2000

Murfreesboro, TN

From Bach roads to bluegrass

By Jenny Cordle
Staff Writer

Watching Ann Shea's dance production class is like letting your fingers turn the base of a kaleidoscope as your eyes view the various shapes dancing against the transparent background.

It's another rehearsal day in Dance Studio A for the seven dancers planning to take the stage Nov. 30, Dec. 1 and 2 in the annual "Evening of Dance," this year called "From Bach Roads to Bluegrass."

Weeks before the show, without full costumes and music to guide them, the students have managed to choreograph almost an entire dance, with little help from Shea.

"How can I let the students get to a place without interfering?" says Shea, who's enjoying her first semester at MTSU as Applied Dance Generalist. "Teachers are control freaks. Choreographers are control freaks. If you don't learn to control it, it might turn out better than you think."

But Shea says she isn't surprised at the students' crafty creation since "the dancers are very different people with very different backgrounds of dance."

Like the sequence of variations in a kaleidoscope, the students began dancing in a shape against each other to create a larger shape. They started with improvising and began structuring with parameters individually. Then they built into groups of two and became larger groups.

"No one's idea really came to the forefront," says Shea about the beginning of the students' choreographing. "They spun off everybody else and there is no real theme. It may form itself."

At this particular rehearsal Shea slides a Johann S. Bach CD in the player, presses play and

turns to the students.

"These are the ingredients," she says to the dancers, referring to the music. "This is what is in the refrigerator."

After hearing the symphony of noises they will be dancing to, the students look hungry to combine their ingredients into a meal big enough to satisfy an audience of MTSU students.

"I love this class," admits Shea. "They are willing to take a risk."

"I love this class. They are willing to take a risk."

Ann Shea

Shea's students share the same enthusiasm for the class.

Sophomore Jennifer Robinson describes the dance as "extremely creative" and "[coming] together very well."

"The dance is going to have really cool ideas combined into one element," says senior Mike O'Neal, who has danced with Blue Moves and plans to dance for the Nashville Ballet next semester.

Dancers include Holly Venable, Shauna King, Heather Caterson, Lynn Hearn, Gabe McCauley, Robinson and O'Neal.

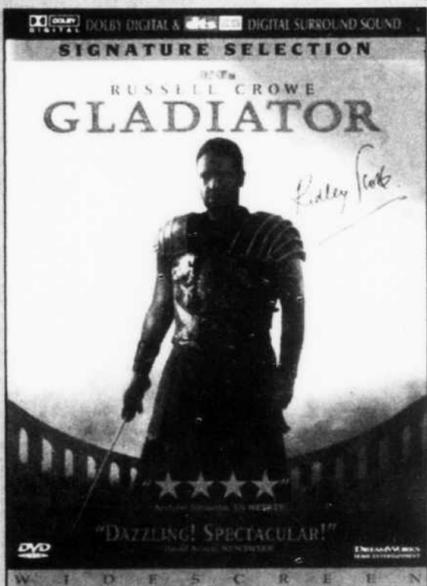
Costume designers include Virginia Donnell, associate Katie Sellers, assistant Maggie Morgan. Joy Hubbard is

See **Dance**, 8



Photo by Jenny Cordle | Staff

Lynn Hearn rehearses for the "Evening of Dance," opening tonight.



BEST ONE YET

By Philip Duncan
DVD Columnist

Dreamworks has finally released their first full-fledged, special edition, two-disc DVD with Ridley Scott's *Gladiator* to go ahead a job they have done.

I would like to go ahead and vote this as my favorite release of the year and call it quits.

There must have been a huge amount of work put into this DVD to have it released so shortly after its theatrical run.

Before even seeing the DVD, *Gladiator* was already one of my favorite films of the year and with the care it was given, the DVD takes the same place. Russell Crowe plays Maximus, the leader of the Roman army. He is the emperor's closest ally and is picked by the emperor to take his place when he dies.

Needless to say Commodus, the emperor's son (portrayed by Joaquin Phoenix), has something to say about this.

What follows the initial setup is a wonderful blend of old style epic and new day action.

Director Ridley Scott has found a happy medium and blends the drama and action perfectly.

He uses a muted color palate for most of the scenes that gives the film an earthy look, appropriately enough because Maximus was once a farmer and wants nothing more than to return to that life.

The DVD presents the film in an anamorphic format that preserves the 2.35:1 ratio of the film and allows every detail to be seen. As expected, the video is top notch and is on par with any other great transfer in recent memory.

The sound is obviously where most of the time was spent and rightly so.

Dolby Digital and DTS audio are available on the same disc and the Dolby mix sounded wonderful on my home system. The first true battle in the Roman coliseum is the best sounding and well-mixed piece of film I've heard at home.

The sub thunders and the rears are used to accent the feel with crowd cheer at the right moments. It is definitely a scene to show off when the friends come over for a visit.

This film also has one of the best scores in recent memory. Hans Zimmer has created what should easily win the Oscar for score come next year. It does what a good score should, it stays in the background accentuating the film, but never overpowers it. You should feel it, but never truly notice it.

Obviously Dreamworks realized what a good score they had with Zimmer's work and decided to emphasize it on the disc.

There are several deleted scenes on the disc that are quite good, but the best has to be the Treasure Chest. This is a nine-minute long section of deleted footage that has been edited together and scored with Zimmer's music. It's a nice highlight of the wonderful cinematography and score.

Also included on the DVD are three documentaries. The first is an HBO special that focuses on the making of the film. It's a nice behind-the-scenes look at filming that shows what is involved in creating a movie of this scale. It also shows what a character Russell Crowe seems to be.

The second is a 50-minute documentary on the history of the gladiatorial games that was originally shown on The Learning Channel. It makes use of the sets and costumes produced for the film to provide a more in-depth look at the history behind the film.

Lastly, there is a look at the scoring process. This series of short interviews with Zimmer really gets inside his head and acquaints the viewer with the scoring process. It also shows the amount of work that was put into the score in order to make it as good as possible.

Also included on the disc is a short journal written by one of the child actors and several production photos and storyboards. While not as nice as the main extras, they round out the disc very nicely.

This DVD is being advertised everywhere for less than \$20 and at that price it is a steal.

This is one of those DVDs that will make people want to buy a player if they don't already have one. ◆

Whether leather or pleather, it's hot for winter

By Phoenix Taylor
Fashion Writer

Move over bikers, leather is not just for the cyclist.

The must-have coat for the fall season is the versatile, sleek leather jacket. Leather is a durable product. It has good moisture absorption and it is water-resistant.

However, it picks up oils, smells and grease easily. Most leather jackets require special cleanings, i.e. dry cleaners, or ask if your vendor has a special cleaner for your coat.

When purchasing a leather jacket assistant professor in human sciences department, Nancy Kelley, who teaches textiles classes, said, "when buying a leather jacket for the fall season, make sure it contains some kind of a pile or napped lining, which is a textured material. This will add warmth to the body."

Students such as Staci Ball, mass communications major, and Eric Word, a psychology major, both agree that their leather jackets keep them warm while giving them a "stylish appearance."

As the holidays approach, many retail stores are carrying leather goods for the season. Gap has some great offerings. In the Hickory Hollow Mall, sales representative Falguni Patel said, "the most popular jacket sold this season is the fitted, four button, two pocket leather jacket." She continued, "that anyone can wear this jacket, out by pairing it with some jeans or wear it to dress up your appearance."

Their jacket comes in three colors: olive green, burgundy and black. Sizes for the jacket come in

XS-XXXL, and their prices range from \$99-\$200. If you still need more variety check on-line at www.gap.com, where you can find a broader selection of leather goods.

Wilson Leather, a leather retail store located in the Hickory Hollow Mall, has different assortments of leather jackets. Angela Quick, assistant manager, said their hottest item is the four button Landskin Blazer.

Landskin is a softer, finer quality of Italian Leather. Angela went on to say that "leather is not super warm. However, most of [our] jackets con-

The must-have coat for the fall season is the versatile, sleek leather jacket. Leather is a durable product. It has good moisture absorption and it is water-resistant.

tain zip-in-lining called Thinsulate. It makes the jacket feel as warm as a down coat. Having a zip lining creates versatility in the jacket because you can take it out to have a lighter coat while wearing it for at least three seasons."

They carry a variety of colors such as: cognac, red, caramel, gold, pumpkin, black, brown and a new color which looks like a tie-dyed green. Their women's sizes range from XS-XL, men's sizes S-XL and for Big and Tall LT-XXXLT. They

See **Leather**, 8



Photo by Jenny Cordle | Staff

Fiona Henderson, a freshman interior decoration major, sports a long leather jacket as she walks through campus.

ON CAMPUS

Compiled By Courtney Huckabay - Features Editor

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

Nov. 30

MTSU fashion students present "Eclecticism: Anything Goes," the annual fashion show at 7 p.m. in the JUB Tennessee Room. Proceeds go to Gilda's Club. Contact Keri Kiblinger at 898-1291 for more information.

A team captain's meeting for the Rec. Center's intramural whiffle ball is in the Conference Room at 6 p.m. This is also the last day to register for participation in intramural whiffle ball. Contact Chris at 898-2104 for more information.

The June Anderson Women's Center is sponsoring a free legal clinic from 7-9 p.m. The clinic is available to all MTSU students, faculty and staff. Appointments to speak with the attorney can be made by calling the JAWC at 898-2193. Space is limited.

The General Studies Committee is meeting at 3:30 p.m. in the library, Room 475. Contact Bill Badley, the Director of General Studies, at 904-8416 for more information.

Dec. 1

The Student Publications Committee is meeting at 2 p.m. in the KUC Room 128. Please make every effort to attend as a quorum is necessary. If you are unable to attend notify Ouida

Plaisance at 898-5812 or email at oplaisan@mtsu.edu.

Dec. 2

Continuing Studies and Public Service are holding an ACT exam preparation course from 9 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. in the KOM, Room 122. The cost is \$110 and Harley F. Anton is the instructor. Call Continuing Studies and Public Service at 898-2462 for more information.

Dec. 3

The MTSU School of Music presents Andy Narell featured with the MTSU Steel Band. The concert is in the Tucker Theatre. Admission is \$3 with student I.D. and \$5 for general admission. Contact Lalo Davila for more information. gdavila@mtsu.edu

Let's play whiffle ball- men, women and co-rec leagues. Campus Recreation is sponsoring intramural whiffle ball at 5 p.m. Call Chris at 898-2104 for more information.

Continuing Studies and Public Service are holding a MAT exam preparation course from 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. in the KOM, Room 122. The cost is \$99 and Harley F. Anton is the instructor. Call Continuing Studies and Public Service at 898-2462 for more information.

Dec. 6

Housing and Residential Life and URHA are sponsoring a Charity Ball benefiting Up 'Til Dawn from 7-mid-

night. It is a formal ball for all MTSU students and is being held in the JUB Tennessee Room. The cost is \$5 per person or \$8 per couple. Contact Natasha Bronson at 898-3649 for more information.

Dec. 9

Continuing Studies and Public Service are holding an ACT exam preparation course from 12:30-4:30 p.m. in the KOM, Room 122. The cost is \$99 and Harley F. Anton is the instructor. Call Continuing Studies and Public Service at 898-2462 for more information.

Dec. 11

The Tennessee Philharmonic performance of the Nutcracker Ballet is at the Murphy Center at 7:30 p.m. Special student prices are available. Tickets may be purchased at the door or call 898-1862.

Dec. 15

Final day to pay outstanding debts to the university to access your grades via Tram or WebMT and/or receive a printed grade report upon request.

Ongoing

Applications for Student Activity Funds are available in the KUC, Room 130. The application deadline is Dec. 1 at 4 p.m. To be eligible for funds you must have attended one of the orientation sessions presented during the fall and be a registered organization. For further information call 898-5822.

MTSU Crime Stoppers program is currently looking for people interested in making a difference on campus by joining the Board of Directors. If you are a full-time student or employee and are interested you can call Sgt. Wright at 898-2424 for more information or you can pick up an application at the campus police dept. or in KUC, Room 303.

Chi Rho Lutheran Fellowship holds "Experiencing God Bible Studies" on Sunday nights. Any college students interested in a three month weekly bible study in order to grow into a personal relationship with God are welcome to attend every Sunday night from 7:45-9 p.m. at 811 E. Clark Blvd. Contact Jason Dail, pastor, at 904-0570 for more information.

Want to get rowdy for MTSU? Join the Rowdy Raiders. All students are welcome. We get painted up for the pep rallies and the home games. If you would like to join, please contact John Norrell at 898-5672 or stop by KUC, Room 212.

Raider Victory Ministries holds weekly bible studies. Call Andy Roller at 217-3132 or 479-5449 to find out about one of the weekly bible studies that would best fit your schedule. Times and locations vary.

Alpha, a practical introduction to the Christian faith, meets every Sunday from 7-8:30 p.m. in St. Paul's Episcopal Church on 315 E. Main St. There is no cost to the participant. For more information contact the church at 893-3780

or the Ministry Center at 904-7948.

Want to travel to places like California, Kansas, Florida and Illinois? Want to speak your mind and learn about interesting issues? Want to miss class on Fridays and have an excuse? Join the MTSU Debate Team! The Debate Team meets every Tuesday at 5 p.m. in the BDA, Room 220. Contact Drew or Ben at 898-2273 for more information.

Ever wonder what your dreams mean? Curious about how they can help you be happier and live a more fulfilling life? Learn to use art, drama and discussion for personal guidance and growth in The Dream Group sponsored by the June Anderson Women's Center. The Dream Group meets every Monday at 10 a.m. in the BAS SunTrust Room. It is open to all women students. Contact Mary Glantz at 898-5725 for more information.

The June Anderson Women's Center is sponsoring an Eating Disorders Support Group for women students struggling with over-eating, body image, anorexia or bulimia every Tuesday at 3 p.m. in the CKNB, Room 124. Contact Mary Glantz for more information at 898-5725. All contacts are confidential.

The June Anderson Women's Center is holding a Survivors of Sexual Abuse Support Group for women students who are survivors of sexual abuse every Thursday at 3 p.m. in the CKNB, Room 124. Contact Mary Glantz at 898-5725 for more information. All contacts are confidential.

Conrad's The Place to be Seen!
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College class meets on Sunday mornings at 10:00 am and Wednesday nights at 7:00

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Respect

How should we protect the rights of artists in a digital world? Get the online music debate from a different point-of-view.

ARTISTS AGAINST PIRACY

www.ArtistsAgainstPiracy.com

Americans indulge in holiday overeating

By Lindsey Alpert
Michigan Daily (U. Michigan)

(U-WIRE) ANN ARBOR, Mich. - It's the time of year when belt buckles are loosened, waist lines increase and scales are tossed to the side: Holiday eating in America has begun.

As students stock up on home cooking, refrigerators full of food and holiday desserts when on break from classes, they help to contribute to the American culture of eating.

"Americans are substantially fatter than any other advanced industrial culture," University of Michigan psychology Prof. Richard Nisbett said. "And it's getting worse relative to ourselves and the rest of the world."

Individuals are considered obese if they weigh 30 percent more than the ideal weight, which is set by population norms. While Americans tend to eat large meals during the holiday season, they're also overeating on a day-to-day basis.

"People are eating more often during the day," said Sheila Gahagan, an associate professor in the pediatrics and communicable diseases department. "Americans are also eating more often alone

rather than in family or social groups and that may change how we eat," she said.

According to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, it takes about 1,600 extra calories to add a pound of fat. The calorie count is cumulative and can add up over weeks, months or years. "If you don't increase your physical activity, you'll gain weight," Gahagan said.

Adding extra calories during the holidays is easier than it seems, considering that many holiday goodies are loaded with calories and fat. Eggnog contains about 261 calories per cup, pumpkin pie has about 229 calories per slice and bread stuffing contains about 108 calories per ounce.

"One thing that happens during holidays for adults is that they get a lot of calories from alcohol," Gahagan said. Red wine contains about 74 calories for 3.5 fluid ounces, and beer contains about 146 calories per can of 12 fluid ounces.

"One big Thanksgiving meal where you feel like you gained three pounds doesn't really affect your weight," Nisbett said. "We tend to go through cycles in life of gaining and losing weight. The bad news is that we never really lose as much as we gain." ♦

Leather: Stay warm and chic

Continued from 6

are sold at retail values between \$99.99-\$499.99.

However, if you are not into wearing animal's skin, there are some alternatives. Animal rights activist Erin Moor, an apparel design major, bought a pleather coat from Pangea, an animal friendly-store in Nashville.

She said that "buying pleather is a great alternative to leather. You get the same look while saving an animal." She also feels warm and stylish when wearing her coat.

Even celebrities such as Alicia Silverstone, Prince and Pamela Lee Anderson strongly advocate wearing pleather jackets as an alternative to wearing animal skin. Pangea, Delia's, Esprit, Kenneth Cole and Dr. Martens are just some of the many clothing stores that carry non-leather products.

For more information on pleather jackets or other non-leathered goods check out www.Peta.com or www.cowsarecool.com to give you listings and locations of where to find synthetic products.

In the meantime, stay warm and chic. ♦

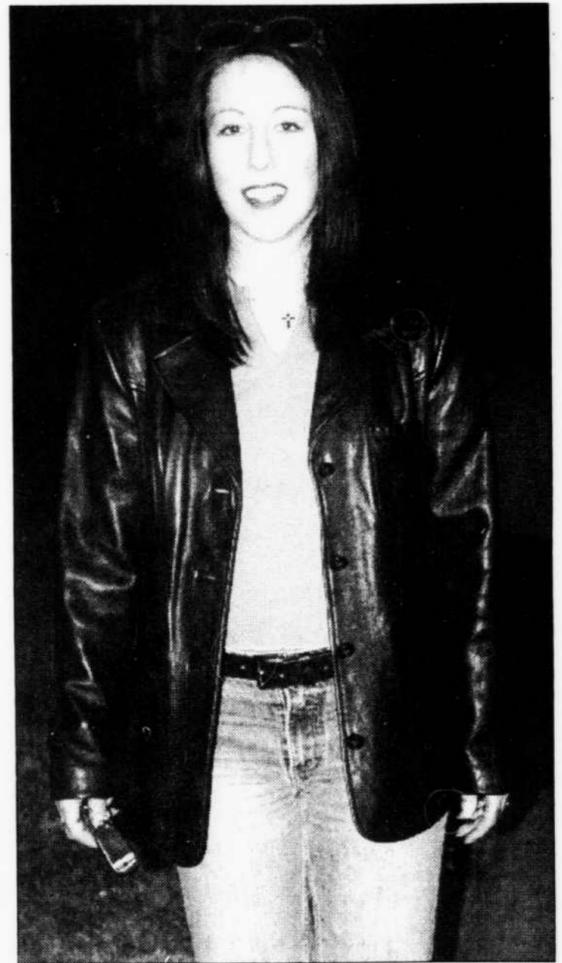


Photo by Jenny Cordle | Staff
Susan Ghorban, sophomore public relations major, chooses a shorter leather jacket.

Dance: Show begins tonight at 8 p.m.

Continued from 6

the make-up designer.

"It's a meaty piece of work," says Shea.

"From Bach Roads to Bluegrass" includes five pieces: "Redemption" by choreographer and adjunct faculty member Angela Armstrong; "Southern Comfort" with music by Bill Monroe; "Gathering of Celebrations" performed by MTSU student dancers; a guest performance by Terpischor,

directed by Katie Kasch, performed by dancers from the Chattanooga Girls Preparatory School; as well as the Bach piece performed by Shea's dance production class.

The show begins at 8 p.m. Nov. 30, Dec. 1 and 2 in Tucker Theater located in the Boutwell Dramatic Arts Building. The show is free for MTSU students with valid identification and \$2.50 for MTSU faculty and staff and all other students. General admission is \$5. ♦

Cast

Valerie Hackworth, Lizzie Nemeth, Amanda Thompson, Alexandra Smith, Jessica Alexander, Cheryl Finke, Paul Hull, Katie Massari, Dusty Evans, Melanie Rogers, Shana Light, Amy Ford, Shauna King, Angela Armstrong, Terry Summers, LaTonya Vaughn, Cybil Holman, Veida Whipple, Christy Rose, Cindy Clemans, Gin Thomas, Vicky Williams

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- Provide three letters of recommendation, a current transcript and no more than five examples of their work, professionally submitted.

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

SPORTS

Men's basketball signs three

MT Media Relations

The Blue Raider men's basketball team has gotten a big boost during the early signing period by inking three standouts to National Letters of Intent for the 2001-02 season. Chattanooga City High School prospect Charles Anderson, Louisburg Junior College standout John Humphrey, and Aquinas Junior College point guard Eric Parham have all committed to Middle Tennessee.

Anderson, a three-year starter at Chattanooga City heading into his senior season, averaged 17 points and 18 rebounds as junior. The 6-9 forward also blocked an average of five shots a contest. He was named to the All-District team the past two seasons and last

year led his team to the sectional semifinals.

During the past two years, Anderson has been twice named Second Team All-City, All, Region, and Honorable Mention All-State. He was also honored as a part of the District All-Tournament Team.

"Charles is a player that we think can contribute for us right away. He was very heavily recruited in this area, and for good reason," said head coach Randy Wiel. "He can play either center or power forward for us. He has great hands and is a scorer."

Humphrey, averaged 17.1 points, 3.8 rebounds, 2.1 steals, and 2.1 blocks from the shooting guard position.

The 6-2 Humphrey was named First Team All-Region, Player of the Year in Region 10,

and Third Team All-American for his efforts. However, his accomplishments come as no surprise.

He originally signed with Georgetown University after averaging 12.5 points at Oak Hill Academy and leading his team to a 32-0 record and a national championship, but later opted for the junior college route.

"John gives us some experience at the two-guard and small forward spots," said Wiel. "He is an explosive scorer and leaper. He has been a winner at every level, so we hope that will carry over here."

Parham, a 5-10 point guard is following in the footsteps of current MT guard Jonathan Whitworth. Parham replaced Whitworth as the starting point guard at Aquinas and will now

follow him to Middle Tennessee.

Last season, Parham averaged 12.5 points, 7.1 assists, and 3.2 steals per contest. The Nashville native attended Hillsboro High School before moving on to Aquinas.

"Eric is a very athletic point guard," Wiel said. "He is can penetrate and finish when he gets to the basket."

He will be immediate help for us and will complement D'Marius [Wilkes] nicely next season."

Should the Blue Raider staff wish to sign more players for the 2001-02 campaign, they must choose wisely. New regulations handed down from the NCAA prohibit teams from signing more than five players in a year and eight over a two-year span. ♦

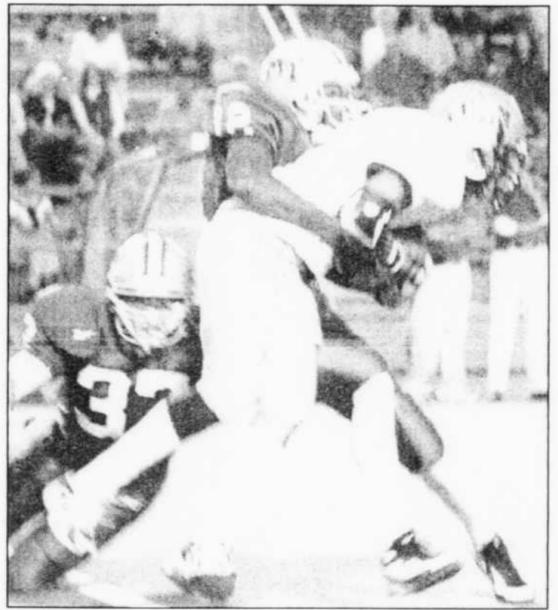


Photo by Jessica Norton | Photo Editor

(12) Kendall Newson makes a tackle on special teams.

Hall, Hicks, Newson earn honors

Staff Reports

College Football News has recognized three Blue Raiders for their outstanding performance this season.

Sophomore running back Dwone Hicks, junior wide receiver Kendall Newson and senior offensive tackle Barry Hall were named to the publication's first team all-independent squad.

Hicks, who was Independent player of the Week

three times during the season, was voted the Independent Offensive Player of the Year. Hicks was also named one of the top 50 offensive players in the nation.

Hicks finished the year with a school record 19 rushing touchdowns and a new school scoring mark of 126 points.

The Huntsville, Ala. native rushed for a sophomore record 1,277 yards to become only the

12th player in Middle Tennessee history to surpass the 1,000-yard mark.

Hicks' signature game came in the Blue Raiders' first win against a Division I-A opponent as a Division I-A team against Louisiana Tech.

He carried the ball 32 times, rushing for 311 yards and six touchdowns.

Newson, one of just two

receivers to earn first team honors finished the year with a school record 74 catches for 945 yards.

With still one year left to play, Newson is already the Blue Raiders' career leader in receptions, receiving yardage and 100-yard games.

Hall, considered the Blue Raiders' most physical lineman this season, joined three linemen from Notre Dame and one from UL-Monroe to make up the five-man offensive line. ♦





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Jayhawks: Ortiz leads Raiders in scoring

Continued from 12

points apiece in reserve roles, and Drew Gooden finished with 10 points for Kansas. Boschee and Axtell had three 3-pointers each, and Hinrich hit both of his 3-point attempts.

"You have to pick your poison," Middle Tennessee coach Randy Wiel said. "You guard them inside, and then they start making those threes."

All three of Boschee's 3-pointers and 11 of his points came in the first seven minutes of the second half, as Kansas built its 17-point halftime lead to 67-37.

"He really kicked us," Middle Tennessee senior center Lee Nosse said. "They get you down by 20, 30 points before you can call a 20-second time-out."

Fernando Ortiz hit three 3-

pointers and scored 12 points to lead Middle Tennessee (1-2), which shot 39 percent (22-for-57) from the field. Freddie Martinez and Bryant Mitchell each added 11 points for the Blue Raiders. Lee Nosse had 10.

Kansas shot 51 percent. But the Jayhawks' 35-for-69 shooting was not good enough for coach Roy Williams.

"We didn't shoot the ball very well," Williams said. "We missed some shots we normally make, but I think you have to give credit to their defense. I think sometimes we were looking at the guy coming at us, or looking at their guy inside."

Middle Tennessee missed nine of its first 10 shots — compared to Kansas' 6-for-10 early shooting — and trailed 19-6 after eight minutes. But Ortiz hit three 3-pointers as the Blue Raiders cut Kansas' lead to

28-24 with 6 1/2 minutes to go in the half.

Collison's dunk with 6:23 left and Axtell's 3-pointer 20 seconds later ignited an 11-0 run for Kansas, part of a larger 17-4 surge that gave the Jayhawks a 45-28 halftime lead.

Axtell, who sprained his left ankle in the preseason, was making just his second appearance. "I'm getting more able to recognize what I can do on it," said Axtell, who scored five points in 17 minutes on Saturday in a 99-56 win over Division II Washburn. "That first game back, I didn't know if I was going to hurt it. There's still some pain there, but there's no ligament damage."

Both teams were plagued by turnovers in the first half, Middle Tennessee committing 13 and the Jayhawks 12. Each team committed five turnovers in the second half. ♦

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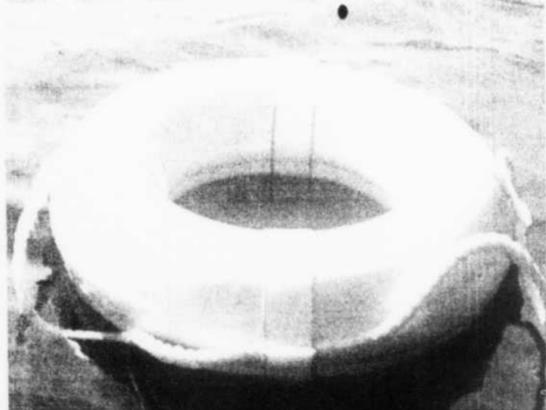
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The Two Minute Drill

R. Colin Fly Sports Editor



Lady Raiders fall to UAB

The Lady Raiders dropped their first game of the season to the Alabama-Birmingham Blazers 76-71 Tuesday at Bartow Arena in Birmingham.

Middle Tennessee held a one point lead with two and a half minutes left in the game, but could not hold on, running their record to 2-1 on the season.

Senior guard Kelly Chastain returned to action as a member of the starting line-up against the Lady Blazers after seeing her 18-game starting streak come to an end in the season opener. Chastain played 25 minutes contributing seven points.

Junior forward Jamie Thomatis scored a team high 21 points giving her double figures in scoring for the 17th straight game.

She has led the Lady Raiders in scoring all three games this season. With a 6-for-10 performance Tuesday night, Thomatis has shot 60 percent or better in all three games on the season.

All-American Denna Jackson had a game high 38 points on 14-of-21 shooting.

"A lot of coaches have that philosophy to let the good player get their points and try to stop everyone else," said Stephany Smith, Lady Raiders head coach.

"That wasn't our game plan. We were not letting (Deanna Jackson) get her points when she wanted and she still got them."

Jump Shots

The Lady Raiders shot less than 50 percent for the first time this season.

Junior forward Joanne Aluka joined forward Jamie Thomatis as the only other player to score double figures in all three games this season. She also led the team in rebounds with seven.

Senior guard Kelly Chastain blocked three shots at UAB, bringing her career total to 94, third all time in Middle Tennessee history.

Thomatis needs 124 and Chastain needs 221 points to reach the 1,000 point milestone.

The Lady Raiders had their lowest turnover game of the season committing just 13. It was fewest since turning it over eight times last February against Tennessee Tech.

The Lady Raiders will be home against former OVC rival Austin Peay at 3 p.m. on Sunday, Dec. 3.

For the second time in three games this season, Senior Fernando Ortiz netted the Blue Raiders in scoring. Ortiz netted 12 points including a 3-of-6 effort from behind the 3-point arc.

Senior Freddie Martinez led the Blue Raiders in rebounding with a five-board evening. The effort marks only the second time that Martinez has led the team in rebounding during his career.

The Blue Raiders played in front of their largest crowd of the year with a turnout of 15,700 fans at Allen Fieldhouse on Monday night.

Senior Kevin White has scored the Blue Raiders first points in each of the teams three games.

Every player that dressed for the Blue Raiders saw time in the game.

Four Blue Raiders scored double figure points tonight: Ortiz, Martinez, senior Lee Nosse, and senior Bryant Mitchell. The Blue Raiders swatted away four shots against Kansas, running the teams streak of consecutive games with at least one block to 78. ♦

To get your information in The Two Minute Drill, e-mail the sports desk at slsports@mtsu.edu or call 898-2816 and leave a message.

Kansas slams Blue Raiders, 92-66

Staff Reports and Associated Press

Middle Tennessee didn't want to go into Allen Fieldhouse in Lawrence, Kan. like the 500 who had gone before.

Just Saturday night, the University of Kansas had smacked around Division II Washburn for their 500th win at the arena. Middle Tennessee became No. 501, dropping the Blue Raiders to 1-2 overall in a 92-66 point romp.

The Jayhawks' star Jeff Boschee, 0-for-4 from 3-point range before the break, was 3-for-5

for 5 from long range in the second half and finished with 19 points as Kansas, No. 4 in the nation, ran their record to 6-0.

"The first half, I kind of rushed it a

little bit, and they were putting some good defensive pressure on me," said

Boschee, one of seven Kansas players in double figures — the most since Jan. 14, 1993, when seven players reached double figures

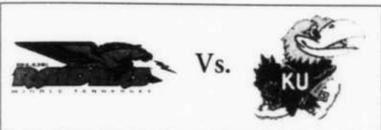
against Oral Roberts. "The second half, we were able to get some more movement offensively,

and that freed us up a little more."

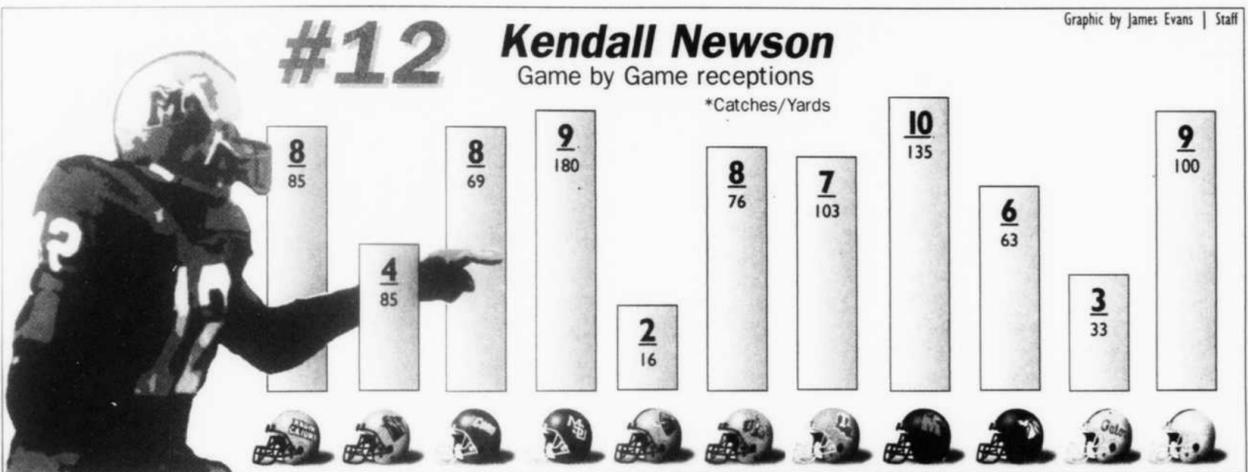
Eric Chenoweth recorded his third double-double of the season for Kansas, with 15 points and 12 rebounds, as the Jayhawks outbounded the Blue Raiders 49-27. Point guard Kirk Hinrich also had a double-double with 10 points and 10 rebounds.

Nick Collison had 14 points, Kenny Gregory and Luke Axtell scored 11

See Jayhawks, 10



Blue Raiders exceed expectations



By J.P. Plant
Staff Writer

Heading into the 2000 Middle Tennessee football season, expectations weren't exactly lofty.

In only its second season as a Division I-A program, the Blue Raiders were projected to continue building a foundation for a winning program in the future.

But second year head coach Andy McCollum wasn't looking down the road for a winning season, he wanted to do it right now. With a redundant cry of believe, McCollum willed his team to a winning record.

McCollum never doubted his ability to bring a winning program to Middle Tennessee saying, "I've always believed that we could win."

McCollum was brought to Murfreesboro to build a winning program. And to him, building is believing. The foundation for that building process, McCollum says, has already been laid by this year's senior class.

"I couldn't be more proud of what this team just did (winning season)...This is something the seniors can always carry with them," McCollum says.

Looking back on this momentous football campaign, the schedule was heavily front-loaded. Beginning with Illinois and Florida on the road is task worthy of intimidating the elites in college football.

The Blue Raiders from the beginning showed that at least for a while it could compete with the country's best. A halftime score of 7-6 in Champaign Illinois turned heads all across the country, especially in Middle Tennessee. Despite losing 35-6, the MTSU football team gained some respect that Saturday in early September.

The next test for McCollum's troops was a trip to the swamp in Gator country. The task of taking on the Florida Gators, at the time the No. 5 ranked team in the country, was as daunting as any in school history. Some critics labeled it the worst match-up of the season. Whether or not that is true is up to experts. The final score might

argue in favor of the opposition. But the 55 points scored by the Gators were off of turnovers and from special teams' play.

Although the team suffered two tough losses to open the season, there were a couple of personal bright spots. The emergence of runningback Dwone Hicks as a lethal threat on the ground was eminent from the beginning. Hicks proved he could play with the big boys rushing for 134 yards against the Fighting Illini. Receiver Kendall Newson also proved that he laced his shoes up the same way as Illinois and Florida catching 12 passes for 133 yards against the two rated opponents.

After being bitten by the Gators, the Blue Raiders returned to the friendly confines of Floyd Stadium to take on Murray State. And the much-anticipated offense ruced all over State with 533 total yards.

The grueling September schedule continued at Maryland the following week. This game really proved the Blue Raiders could compete. Although they lost, Middle competed for more than a half as they were within three points twice deep into the second half.

The attitude after this loss spoke volumes about the heart and the desire of McCollum and his team. They didn't go there just to come close; they went there to win. This attitude carried the team through the season with a sweep of the three Louisiana teams and wins over South Florida and

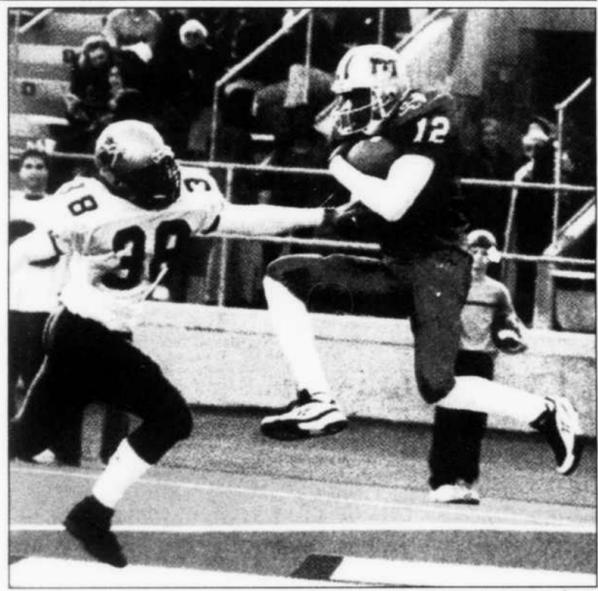


Photo by Robin Wallace | Staff

(12)Newson makes a touchdown catch, he had five this season.

on the road at UConn. Sandwitched in between the four home wins were two tough losses to ranked opponents on the road. MTSU came within a play or two of beating the best defense in the country at UAB, and went toe-to-toe with a SEC powerhouse at Miss. State down in Starkville.

The 2000 campaign was supposed to be about building a foundation for the future, at least that's what the critics were saying. But McCollum wanted to win now. And he believed he could do it with this team. But the key to this season was McCollum getting his players to believe as well.

This year was a building year. But instead of laying a foundation, an upper deck was added to solidify this team as a big college football team. ♦

2000 Sun Belt Conference Standings*

| Team | W/L | SB Opponents |
|------------------|------|--------------|
| Middle Tennessee | 6-5 | 2-0 |
| Idaho | 5-6 | 3-0 |
| North Texas | 3-8 | 2-2 |
| New Mexico State | 3-8 | 1-2 |
| UL-Lafayette | 1-10 | 1-2 |
| Arkansas State | 1-10 | 1-3 |
| UL-Monroe | 1-10 | 0-2 |

*Sun Belt Conference play begins in 2001

Graphic by Tim Stelmach | Sports Designer

2000 Independent Standings

| Team | W/L |
|------------------|------|
| Norte Dame | 9-2 |
| Central Florida | 7-4 |
| Middle Tennessee | 6-5 |
| Connecticut | 3-8 |
| Louisiana Tech | 3-9 |
| UL-Lafayette | 1-10 |
| UL-Monroe | 1-10 |
| Navy* | 0-10 |

*Navy plays Army Saturday in Philadelphia

Graphic by Tim Stelmach | Sports Designer



7 Day Sportscast

FRIDAY

■ TSSAA

Clinic Bowl Championships
1A - CPA vs. USJ
2A - Alcoa vs. Union City
Murfreesboro, Tenn.,
all day

SATURDAY

■ TSSAA

Clinic Bowl Championships
3A-Portland vs. Covington
4A-Maryville vs. Memphis East
5A-Red Bank vs. Riverdale
Murfreesboro, Tenn.,
all day

SUNDAY

■ Women's Basketball

Lady Raiders vs. Austin Peay
Murfreesboro, Tenn.,
3 p.m.

MONDAY

■ Men's Basketball

Blue Raiders @ Rice
Houston, Texas
7:35 p.m.

WEDNESDAY

■ Women's Basketball

Lady Raiders @ Ole Miss
Oxford, Miss.,
7 p.m.

■ Men's Basketball

Blue Raiders @ IUPUI
Indianapolis, Ind.,
7:35 p.m.

