



INSIDE: We will not stand idly for newspaper thieves anymore

In Opinions, page 5

An editorially independent newspaper

SIDELINES

Middle Tennessee State University

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All-American candidate earns national, conference honors

J.P. Plant
Assistant Sports Editor

Dewon Brazelton has been living up to his preseason All-American billing. And now people are starting to take notice.

Following a 10-inning, two hit shutout of conference foe Louisiana at Lafayette Friday, the junior from Tullahoma has been honored by two entities for his dominating performance.

For the second time this season, Brazelton has been named the National Collegiate Baseball

Writers Association's Pitcher of the Week. The Sun Belt Conference also took notice naming the All-American candidate as their Pitcher of the Week.

Brazelton continued his dominance over opposing batters by landing 79 of his 127 pitches in the strike zone. The 14 batters mowed down by the junior gives him a total of 71 for the season and 252 for his career, only two away from overtaking Dave Richardson for second place on the all-time strike-out list at Middle Tennessee.

The complete game was the 15th in his career, placing him in a fifth-place tie with Steve Sonneberger for the most complete games in a Blue Raider uniform.

And as if these two prestigious honors aren't enough, Brazelton shined at the most opportune time as his name is being put in a spotlight in two national publications.

Dana Heiss-Gordon of Baseball Weekly featured the humble pitcher and his struggles growing up in Tullahoma in Wednesday's issue.

But not to be outdone, Jeff Pearlman of Sports Illustrated is scheduled to visit Brazelton next week to write his own feature on the rising star. Pearlman, a former The Tennessean sports writer, was the journalist responsible for the John Rocker feature that gained national attention.

Brazelton's first glimpse at national prominence came when he set the new U.S.A. Baseball National Team earned run average record with a 0.65 mark during the summer of 2000. ♦



Photo by Kristy Dalrymple | Staff

All-American candidate Dewon Brazelton looks to set new records at Middle for strikeouts in a season and in a career as he is expected to be a Top 10 draft pick.

Arguably the best Debate Squad rakes in many new awards

By Amanda Maynard
Staff Writer

It's indisputable - MTSU's Debate Squad is among the best.

More than 10 new trophies line the lobby of the Department of Speech and Theater in the Boutwell Dramatic Arts Building. The squad put them there after successfully competing against more than 30 teams from 15 different colleges during the season.

This year MTSU's Debate Squad competed in the Annual Southeast and Southeast Central Debate Championships held at the University of Florida last month. After pulling in six awards there, the team competed in Maryland and at MTSU in the National Cross Examination Debate Association Intercollegiate Debate Championships.

Two MTSU seniors were given prestigious awards at the Southeast and Southeast Central Debate Championships.

Natalie Woodward, a political science major, took the best speaker award. Terrance Bond, an international relations major, was awarded third best speaker against the University of Alabama team.

Bond and Woodward have also been acknowledged for their academic abilities and campus involvement. Bond was named one of the top 20 All-American Students. This award is given only to those students who show an exemplary academic record and make an overall contribution to campus life.

Woodward was named Academic All-American, an award given to those with exceptional academic careers.

Both seniors have been awarded scholarships as well. Bond was given the top scholarship to the University of Tennessee Law School and Woodward was offered a five-year fellowship at Vanderbilt University.

The senior members of the Debate Squad are not the only winners in this year's competi-

See Debate, 3

A cultural exchange



Photo by Kristy Dalrymple | Staff

Isabelle Suttty, an exchange student from France and Harold Bryer, a PHD student are talking at the International Coffee Hour on Wednesday afternoon in the James Union Building.

Young scholars overcome life's obstacles, win MTSU scholarships

By Lindsey Turner
Assistant News Editor

Kimberly Elise Walker was kidnapped when she was 15. Miraculously, she was found unharmed in California.

Andy Garrison was diagnosed with Leigh's disease - a rare and crippling neurological disorder - when he was four.

Jason Damron was abused and consequently suffered nerve damage to his eyes when he was only 3 months old.

Everyday inconveniences pale in comparison to the obstacles overcome by these three students and seven other future MTSU freshmen honored as Neill-Sandler Scholars last night.

Each of 10 high school seniors received a \$5,000 scholarship to MTSU, a dictionary and a pen inscribed with his or her name at the third-annual Neill-Sandler Strive for Excellence Banquet held in the James Union Building.



Photo by Lindsey Turner | Staff

Each Neill-Sandler scholar received a \$5,000 scholarship to MTSU. They are pictured with MTSU Interim President Eugene Smith and representatives of The Danner Company and Neill-Sandler Automotive Group.

The scholarships seek to recognize high school seniors from Rutherford, Warren, Coffee, Franklin, Wilson, Bedford, DeKalb, Williamson, and Cannon counties who have demonstrated academic achievement despite having to

overcome difficulties and obstacles.

John Lee Hawkes from Watertown High School and Kristienne Voelkel from Shelbyville Central High were selected to receive two additional scholarships. Hawkes

received the Ray Danner Scholarship for \$10,000 while Voelkel received the Presidential Scholarship valued at \$7,500.

Hawkes and Voelkel were chosen by a panel of community leaders appointed by the Neill-Sandler Foundation and Neill-Sandler Automotive Group.

In addition to Voelkel, Hawkes, Walker of Franklin County High, Garrison of Franklin High, and Damron of Cannon County High, this year's recipients were Austin Ryan Crips of DeKalb County High, Jamie L. Lindsay of Tullahoma High, Terri Lee Lull of Coffee County Central High, Andrea Sanderson of Blackman High and Travis Swann of Warren County High.

To date, the Neill-Sandler Scholars at MTSU Program, founded in 1999, has awarded 27 scholarships. ♦

Papers vanish; charges pending

"She dumped the first load and then made direct eye contact with me and grinned," the witness said.

By James Evans
Editor in Chief

Student Publications Director Jenny Crouch is considering filing charges against junior Claudia Perry for her suspected involvement in the theft of several hundred issues of Sidelines.

Perry and Michael Calvin, a non-MTSU student, appeared in Rutherford County General Sessions Court yesterday at 8:30 a.m. to face theft charges for allegedly stealing a Sidelines newsstand in February from the north side of the Keathley University Center. The case was continued until April 24.

Not long after her court appearance, several witnesses saw a female on campus emptying Sidelines newsstands and throwing the issues away.

One witness - a senior who asked to remain anonymous for safety reasons - saw the female throwing away papers in the Business and Aerospace Building at approximately 11 a.m.

"She dumped the first load and then made direct eye contact with me and grinned," the witness said.

A few minutes later, the witness saw the female talking to another student. After the female left, the witness approached the other student and asked who the female was. The student said her name was Claudia.

After learning the female's first name, the witness said he assumed it was

Perry because there was a story in the newspaper about her scheduled court appearance for the newsstand theft.

The witness said he has been

See Theft, 3

New course compiles MTSU oral history

Veteran professors to be interviewed

Charlene Callier
Staff Writer

Anticipation flutters in the stomach of the student before approaching the office door of the professor he is scheduled to interview.

Peering in the window he realizes the man with wrinkles on his brow and thinning gray hair has taught at the university for over two decades.

This professor is a living testimony of the experiences and changes that have occurred to students and faculty throughout the years on campus. He knocks on the door, and the professor smiles and waves for him to enter.

This will be the experience of many students who enroll in a new one-hour course this fall through MTSU's English Department. The new ENG 3990 course will collect oral history from professors that have worked at the university for over fifteen years.

The course is designed to have students interview faculty members in their major or minor departments, transcribe the interviews and work toward an oral archive of the university's history.

"This course will infuse

some history with interesting facts about the way people are," said Ronald Kates, assistant professor of the English Department.

He said many veteran faculty members have seen MTSU undergo explosive growth since its 50th anniversary in 1961.

MTSU has grown from a small college with the enrollment of 247 in 1911 into a 19,000 student university with nationally recognized programs.

Kates feels the time has come for a comprehensive oral survey of these long-serving faculty members. The project will be completed in time for MTSU's centennial in 2011.

Students interested in the course will have to set up an interview with Kates so that they understand the structure and expectation of the course.

"We are looking for students who are committed, want to learn, and have an investigative touch about them," said Kates.

According to Kates, students enrolled in the course will benefit by talking and getting to know people in the field they want to go into, and the experience will look good on

graduate school applications.

"The class will focus on the college of Liberal Arts this fall and then other colleges as each semester goes by," Kates said.

The students will attend a workshop that will discuss the history of events that occurred during the 60s until the present on MTSU's campus.

This workshop will also provide students information about oral history research and the problems they may confront.

"We want students that are interested in this project and will take it seriously," Kates said.

The interviews collected from the course will also be used as the historical basis for a book covering MTSU from 1961 to the present.

Kates was the director of the Jefferson Springs Project, a student-based interdisciplinary research and creative writing project that included an oral history aspect.

For more information on the course, contact Ronald Kates at 898-2595 or e-mail rkates@mtsu.edu. ♦

WORLD BRIEFS

Compiled By Pam Hudgens - News Editor

Criminal investigations widen against Milosevic

BELGRADE, Yugoslavia (AP) - A defiant Slobodan Milosevic denounced his arrest as "politically staged" in an appeal that contained a startling admission - that the former president financed Serb rebellions that bloodied Bosnia and Croatia in the 1990s. Milosevic, jailed in Belgrade's Central Prison as authorities build a case of alleged corruption and abuse of power against him, demanded his release in a statement written from his cell Monday. Answering accusations that he illegally channeled millions of dollars to secret funds, Milosevic acknowledged for the first time that he funneled cash to ethnic Serb forces in neighboring Bosnia and Croatia, who unsuccessfully fought to prevent those republics from breaking away from the former Yugoslavia. ♦

Four killed, hundreds wounded in strike violence

DHAKA, Bangladesh (AP) - Violent clashes in Bangladesh have killed four people and injured 300 as a general strike intended to force Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's resignation shut down cities throughout Bangladesh for a third day Tuesday. Opposition activists and government supporters have both used guns and homemade bombs since the strike began Sunday, a working day in Bangladesh, closing businesses and schools and halting most traffic in the capital, Dhaka, and 60 other cities and towns. Police have detained close to 300 protesters. Strikers on Tuesday smashed scores of tricycle rickshaws for defying the protest by seeking customers. Commuters, mostly government employees, used the rickshaws to travel to work as buses and private cars stayed off the streets. Three strike-related deaths were reported on Monday in the southern districts of Chittagong, Brahmanbaria and Choumohoni. A trucker was killed in a bomb attack on Sunday. ♦

Philippine court rejects ousted president's claim

MANILA, Philippines (AP) - The Supreme Court voted unanimously Tuesday to reject a petition by ousted President Joseph Estrada to retake the presidency, a court official said, ending two months of legal battles over the country's top job. The court also voted to strip the former leader of presidential immunity from criminal cases, opening the way for mass corruption charges against him, said Maria Luisa Villarama, assistant clerk of court. The court originally ruled March 2 in another unanimous vote to allow the legitimacy of President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo and reject Estrada's claim to the office. It also voted 12-1 then to strip Estrada of immunity. Estrada appealed the decision but Tuesday's ruling dashed his final hope to retake the presidency through legal battles. ♦

Stowaways found hiding in cargo container

LONG BEACH, Calif. (AP) - Twenty-three Chinese stowaways were discovered huddled inside two cramped cargo containers after apparently enduring more than three weeks at sea. The immigrants were taken to a hospital Monday night for medical evaluation before being transferred to a federal detention center, said Capt. Mike Garcia of the Long Beach Fire Department. The canvas-topped steel containers had been unloaded from a cargo ship, The Maple River, which left China on March 14 and stopped in Vancouver, British Columbia. It arrived Monday in Long Beach. The immigrants were discovered in a dockside storage area after a stowaway fell and broke his ankle while climbing out of one container, Garcia said. ♦

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CRIME LOG

Compiled By Matthew Kelly - Police Reporter

The following is a partial list of incidents responded to by the MTSU Police Department between March 14, 2001, and March 16, 2001. This log was compiled from the actual police reports.

Crack pipe found in vehicle

March 22, 2:43 a.m. — North Tennessee Boulevard and Bell Street — An officer stopped a vehicle for running a red light and subsequently found that the driver's license was suspended. After the driver was placed under arrest, the officer searched the vehicle and found a crack pipe behind the seat. Jerome Butler, 38, of 1614 Cypress Drive in Murfreesboro, was charged with driving on a suspended license and possession of unlawful drug paraphernalia. ♦

Injured man at Murphy Center charged with public intoxication

March 23, 11:41 p.m. — Greenland Drive parking lot — While working an event at the Murphy Center, an officer was advised that there was an intoxicated male with a cut on his hand at the paramedics' station. The individual had left by the time the officer arrived, but the paramedics provided a description and pointed out which way the subject had gone.

The officer found the male, later identified as Patrick Lynn Boyd, at the base of the northeastern steps outside the Murphy Center. Boyd gave the officer two conflicting stories about how he had hurt his hand.

The officer noticed the odor of an intoxicating beverage about Boyd, that he was unsteady on his feet and that his speech was slurred.

Believing that Boyd was too intoxicated to be left alone in public, the officer placed him under arrest for public intoxication and underage consumption of alcohol. Boyd, 20, of 206 County Road 255 in Athens, Tenn., was transported to the Rutherford County Adult Detention Center where bond was set at \$1,750. ♦

Intoxicated boyfriend arrested after meddling in girlfriend's traffic stop

March 24, 3:00 a.m. — Rutherford Boulevard and East Main Street — Two officers were on a traffic stop when they were approached by a male subject on foot who had the odor of alcohol about him. One of the officers asked the individual, later identified as Christopher Shane Petty, what he needed. Petty replied that the officers had pulled over his girlfriend. The officer told Petty that the traffic stop was no concern of his and he should leave. Petty refused to comply.

Due to his refusal to leave and his apparent state of intoxication, Petty was placed under arrest for public intoxication and transported to the Rutherford County Sheriff's Office. Petty, 24, of 2804 Sulphur Springs Road in Murfreesboro, had his bond set at \$250. ♦

Female causes disturbance; transported to MTMC

March 24, 8:42 a.m. — Deere Hall — Three officers were dispatched to the report of "an irate female running around causing a disturbance." Upon arrival, the officers knocked on the door of the room where the female had supposedly been causing a disturbance. The resident opened the door wearing only a towel. An officer asked her if everything was all right. She said she was OK and then proceeded to walk a straight line to prove to the officers she that was OK. The officers then left.

As they were leaving, however, another resident of the building told them that the individual in question had been screaming since the night before and had tried to burn herself with hot water in the shower earlier that day.

While speaking with this resident, the female they had just spoken to turned up the music in her room and began "screaming

and carrying on ... going in and out of the bathroom, slamming the door, screaming and yelling obscenities."

The officers then went to this individual's room and knocked on her door. The resident answered wearing only a bra and panties. One of the officers asked her if she would mind going to the hospital with them. She stated she didn't mind, got dressed and gathered her medication. She was then transported to Middle Tennessee Medical Center for evaluation. The officers notified the individual's brother, and he came to the hospital.

The officer noted in her report that the individual was completely cooperative with them and with hospital staff during the incident. ♦

Speeding, weaving lands driver in jail for DUI

March 25, 1:24 a.m. — The Boro Bar & Grill on Greenland Drive — While on patrol, an officer observed the vehicle in front of him on North Tennessee Boulevard weaving and traveling at a high rate of speed. As the vehicle pulled into the parking lot of The Boro, the officer initiated a traffic stop.

When making contact with the driver, later identified as Kevin James Chance, the officer noticed the odor of an intoxicating beverage about him. The officer had Chance perform some field sobriety tests, which he did not perform to the officer's satisfaction.

Chance, 22, of 305 Finley Drive in Nashville, was charged with driving under the influence, first offense, and transported to the Rutherford County Sheriff's Office where bond was set at \$2,500. ♦

Ex-student found in KUC charged with trespassing

March 27, 6:51 p.m. — Keathley University Center — An officer was flagged down by a student who stated that there was a suspicious person in the Keathley University Center. The student said this individual had been following him around the building and staring at him. Officers then checked the KUC and found the subject, later identified as Charlton Fisher, in a third floor rest room.

When asked what he was doing in the building, Fisher said that he was a student and he was checking his mail. Fisher showed the officers a student identification card and a Tennessee driver's license. A computer check revealed that the student I.D. was not valid and that Fisher had not been a student at MTSU since fall 2000. Fisher also only had a restricted temporary driver's license.

The officers went outside with Fisher to his car, which Fisher stated he had driven by himself from Atlanta. Fisher, 29, of 1308 Neal Street in Lebanon, Tenn., was placed under arrest for criminal trespassing and driving on a revoked license and was transported to the Rutherford County Sheriff's Office. ♦

Harassment part of ongoing dispute

March 28, 11:13 a.m. — Womack Lane Apartments — An officer responded to a call from a supervisor at the apartments who said he was being harassed by a male resident. He told the officer that he had been having an ongoing dispute with this individual and that today, while they were both near the apartments' warehouse area, the resident had called him a "b**ch motherf**ker chicken s**t."

The officer spoke with the resident who admitted to yelling the obscenities. The officer told him not to have any further contact with the victim. No charges were filed in the incident. ♦

Driver faces second DUI charge

March 30, 2:50 a.m. — Mapco Express at 1012 North Tennessee Blvd. — While on patrol, an officer observed a vehicle swerving and driving erratically. After initiating a traffic stop at the Mapco Express, the officer noticed that the driver smelled of an intoxicating beverage and had bloodshot eyes. The officer also learned that

the driver's license was suspended from a previous driving under the influence charge.

The officer had the driver, later identified as Jesse O. Burbank, perform some field sobriety tests. Burbank did not pass the tests to the officer's satisfaction and was placed under arrest for DUI. The officer then searched Burbank's vehicle and found an open bottle of whiskey.

Burbank, 27, of 1211 Hazelwood Street in Murfreesboro, was charged with DUI, second offense, and driving on a suspended license. He was transported to the Rutherford County Jail where bond was set at \$3,500. ♦

Intoxicated male with gun arrested outside Cannon County prom

March 31, 10:39 p.m. — James Union Building — Two Rutherford County Sheriff's deputies were working the Cannon County prom at the James Union Building when a female told them about a male walking around behind the building. When the deputies went outside to look for the subject, he saw them and got into his pickup truck in an attempt to leave.

When the deputies stopped the truck, the driver, later identified as Donnie D. Gilley, said that he was there to pick up his niece from the prom. While talking with Gilley, the deputies noticed the odor of an intoxicating beverage coming from his truck. The deputies then notified MTSU Police.

When the MTSU officer arrived he approached Gilley — who was sitting in his truck — and asked for his driver's license. The officer noticed the odor of an intoxicating beverage coming from Gilley and asked him if he had anything to drink. Gilley said that he had drunk about a twelve-pack of beer.

The officer asked Gilley to step out of his vehicle to perform some field sobriety tests, which Gilley did not perform to the officer's satisfaction. The officer also noticed that Gilley had bloodshot eyes, slurred speech, and poor balance and coordination. Gilley was placed under arrest for driving under the influence.

After Gilley had been arrested, the officer searched his truck and found an open container of alcohol on the right floorboard, an unloaded .22-caliber revolver in a compartment in the driver's door, a box of .22-caliber ammunition in the glove compartment and another box of ammunition on the passenger seat.

Gilley, 38, of 817 Double Spring Road in Murfreesboro, was charged with DUI, fourth offense, violation of the open container law, and unlawful possession of a weapon on school property. He was transported to the Rutherford County Adult Detention Center where bond was set at \$8,000. ♦

Student's excessive honking while driving alerts officer to DUI

April 1, 4:19 a.m. — Greek Row — An officer stopped a vehicle driving around Greek Row whose driver was repeatedly honking the horn. The driver, identified as Christopher M. Deaton, was found to be intoxicated and was placed under arrest for driving under the influence, first offense, and underage consumption of alcohol. Deaton, 18, of 1423 Shagbark Trail in Murfreesboro, was transported to the Rutherford County Jail where bond was set at \$4,000. ♦

Two Clement Hall rooms burglarized over spring break

April 1, 4:07 p.m. — Clement Hall — A student reported that his room had been broken into over spring break, sometime between the afternoon of March 27 and April 1. Items stolen include a television, a living room speaker, a stereo, a computer, a computer scanner and two small speakers.

April 1, 5:52 p.m. — Clement Hall — Two students reported that someone broke into their room while they were gone for spring break, sometime between the morning of March 26 and April 1. Electronic equipment, totaling \$4,400, was stolen. ♦

Debate: Individual, team honors won

Continued from 1

tions. In the novice competition for first time debaters, John Schveri and Allan Lutes won individual honors.

Schveri, a senior journalism major, took home the top speaker award. Lutes took fifth place.

Lutes thanked Woodward, saying, "She is the linchpin in the whole thing. She was my teacher really."

The second top speaker award went to Schveri, who won two weeks earlier at the

state tournament in Cookeville. Together Schveri and Lutes grabbed second-place team at the state tournament while Tiffany Frierson and Gabe Coyle won third-place team.

This year's coach, graduate assistant Ben Osborne, was named Outstanding Critic in the Southeast Central Region and Outstanding Graduate Assistant by the National Debate Tournament's District Six Directors Committee. The team is also led by graduate assistant and novice Andrew Butler.

After hosting the nationals, acting Debate Squad director Russell Church said, "The team is just recovering from this year and tying up loose ends."

MTSU's debate history goes back to the early 1900s with the creation of the Henry W. Grady Debating Society. The society was responsible for the beginning of MTSU's Debate Squad.

The team is looking forward to a new coach next year. MTSU alumnus and former national championship winner Greg Simerly will take over the position. ♦

Theft: Suspect could face felony charge

Continued from 1

asked to write a statement about what he saw and forward it to Judicial Affairs before Friday.

Another witness - an ROTC student - saw a female stealing papers outside of the KUC. She reported the incident to Student Publications, but did not know the identity of the female.

Drew Bergman, director of Judicial Affairs, said he did receive a tip that a student had been seen removing Sidelines from news racks. Bergman added that he could not con-

firm the identity of the suspect because of federal privacy regulations concerning education records.

Perry is already facing a misdemeanor charge for theft under \$500 for the newsstand that was stolen in February. If she is positively identified as the female who was stealing newspapers on campus, she could face a felony charge for theft, said Travis Smith, a spokesperson for MTSU Crime Stoppers.

A theft becomes a felony when the stolen items are valued at more than \$500.

The advertising revenue for the newspaper issue in question is approximately \$3,300. This doesn't include the approximate \$800 printing cost, or any of the costs for producing and delivering the newspaper.

The newsstand that was originally stolen has been returned to its location.

Two messages detailing the situation have been left on Perry's answering machine in the last two days. She had not returned either of the messages by press time. ♦

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OPINIONS

4 ◆ SIDELINES

Thursday, April 5, 2001

Murfreesboro, TN

From the staff We won't stand idly for thieves

Sidelines wants to take a stand...against someone who literally took a stand.

In February, one of our \$150 newspaper stands was allegedly stolen by a student and her friend. Claudia Perry and Michael Calvin were later arrested after turning themselves in and were to appear in court yesterday. We ran a brief article about the arrest and charges against the perpetrators in Wednesday's issue.

After yesterday's papers were delivered to campus, a female was seen dumping issues of Sidelines into the trash at several newspaper racks. A witness found out through a friend that her first name was Claudia and he therefore figured she was Claudia Perry. It seems that she was upset about her name and actions being published.

This was completely uncalled for.

Not only was she doing an injustice to the students on campus by making the papers unavailable, but she was also breaking the law.

Yes, it is a crime - and a serious one too. The approximate total from advertising revenue alone for that issue and its 8,000 copies was \$3,300. So depending on how many she dumped, she could be facing felony charges.

This isn't the first time Sidelines has experienced this sort of problem. In past semesters, bundles of the paper were stolen from newsstands on more than one occasion.

Students need to realize that this is illegal and punishable. It also affects the rights of every student to read the only newspaper published on campus.

Of course, it would be understandable if a group of students stole papers and, say, burned them in protest, where everyone and their brother could see what they were doing and see their point. That would be a qualifying First Amendment response. But this was not so in this case.

We're tired of the pranks, the thefts and the crimes. You should be too.

Stealing newspapers is a crime and Sidelines will prosecute those responsible.

SIDELINES

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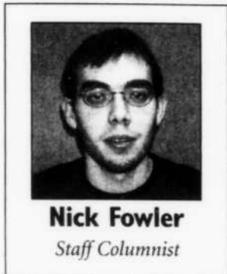
BATHROOM STALL GRAFFITI

Marketing steals minds of youth

Perhaps by now you've seen the new Pepsi commercial with Bob Dole. The advertisement is very well done. It's sexy and funny. What I don't like is Bob Dole being in this commercial. It seems a man as distinguished as Dole shouldn't sink to the level of hocking Pepsi or Viagra.

Sure, with all the money in politics, politicians are corporate whores anyway, but I wouldn't expect a respectable man like Dole to be so blatant about it. It seems he would be more interested in giving back to the community than selling it caffeine. Of course he did try to give to the community during a very long political career, which leads me to believe Dole may actually be making a social statement by making these commercials.

I fear he may still be bitter about not being president. He's pissed at the American public. It's as



Nick Fowler
Staff Columnist

if he's saying, "America, since you don't appreciate anybody who tries to help you, I will sell out and give you what you want, even if it's bad for you — caffeine and a hard-on via Pepsi and Viagra."

I was shocked, too. It's a bold statement. I think Dole is right. We don't appreciate public service anymore. We even frown upon activism unless it's conservatively, quietly and not so actively. Perhaps it's because the problems we face are less obvious. Environmentalism is harder to sell than civil rights.

Everything is marketing now; politics too.

George W. Bush was the candidate who appealed to the mass audience. Gore is a geek. Bush is a frat boy. Bush had more money to spend on marketing, and marketing easily influences the public. Bush wins. What the marketers, the capitalists, want is one giant homogenous market.

Also, the economy has been doing well until recently. It hasn't affected most people yet. So why change things? The status quo is here and it has a firm grip.

Meanwhile, the youth of America — that's us — isn't doing much. We should be pissed at our parents' generation for some crime against democracy and humanity, but alas, we are not. We don't seem terribly disturbed about anything, except having to be 21-years-old to buy alcohol.

I'd say our biggest problems are those commercials with Bob Dole and Britney Spears. I'm not sure any generation has been so inundated with advertisements as ours. We've been pacified and numbed by marketing.

"Everything is okay. Drink more Pepsi," says the advertising executive to the little children, who would then roll over and go to sleep if they weren't hyped up on caffeine.

Individualism is out. Alternative is out. Conformity is in.

"Everybody in vests," said the Gap commercial.

That, my friend, is not an advertisement. It's a marching order to an army of conformists.

Everything is marketing now; politics too. George W. Bush was the candidate who appealed to the mass audience. Gore is a geek. Bush is a frat boy. Bush had more money to spend on marketing, and marketing easily influences the public. Bush wins. What the marketers, the capitalists, want is one giant homogenous market.

It makes marketing easier.

Marketing will make the market. This is what we should be active against. This is the next big thing.

Marketing and pop culture are preventing further change and reform.

When Bob Dole is selling Pepsi and Viagra, something has gone awry.◆

MIND MANIFESTATIONS

Don't buy into commercial images

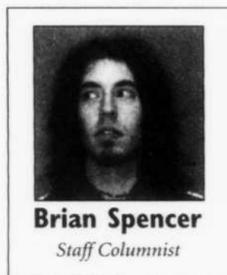
We all know what the price of watching free local channels is — having to sit through loud, manipulative commercials.

Watching a commercial is one of the most painful experiences that happens to me during the course of a day.

I can't tell you how annoying it is when a "crazy extreme totally tubular" ad comes on for something like "Extreme Cola" or "Radical Razz-Cran Juice" during the breaks of *The Simpsons*. Hey, ad agencies! I promise everyone under the age of 28 isn't into anything and everything "extreme."

Imagine a guy in a button-up suit with gold gleaming from every crevice of his body, in some high-rise in New York talking with his business associates.

"Gentlemen, we need to



Brian Spencer
Staff Columnist

build product loyalty up with this new 'extreme' generation by showing them that our cola is the most hip-hoppin', ravin', amped!" A hearty sound of approval rises from the senior board members.

"You're right Jim. We can come up with some wild-looking kids with tattoos and these body piercings that are so popular, they'll associate us with that kid! Brilliant!"

Jim then gets a six-fig-

ure raise and the privilege of having his lips next in line to the boss's ass.

Yes, my love for those fat cats in advertising is boundless. Aside from that, however, there is an increasingly disturbing trend that is showing up in advertisements that needs to be looked at. Now, before you press on, I must put up a little waiver. Females of all ages are grossly exploited in all mass media. Women are often shown in some of the most tasteless ways imaginable. It's appalling, it's beginning of time, and sad to say it probably will never end.

But that is a different issue, albeit one that I feel strongly about too.

But mass media's exploitation doesn't stop at the female. Men are being shamelessly degraded on

commercials these days. Not in as much a sexual sense like women are, but in a different way. I call it "the dumbing down of the male."

I have a request for the guys. Don't let yourselves be typecast like the men on television are. You're selling yourself short. I'm also talking to the men who think they are witty by making cracks about two tacos or who ignores his wife because he's so engrossed in his triple-patty, double bacon extra cheeseburger. I still hold a feint hope that males around this country aren't really this dumb.

I'm talking about this new image of the male species. The one they are trying to get us to identify with. There's the "TV Male" — he'll do anything to be able to watch his precious satellite TV. Then

there's the "Beefy Male" — a jolly, bulging-at-the-waist man that is "glad he wore his pants with the elastic waist" so he can eat TEN hamburgers. How about the "Alcoholic Male," who will forsake anything, including his kids, his hot girlfriend or even sports (gasp!), to get his hands on a beer. My favorite is the "Headache Male." He can't handle simple tasks that his wife, who acts like his mother, asks him to do, like choose between a ham or cheese sandwich.

We, really aren't that stupid, are we?

All I can say is that when you see these types of commercials, don't laugh them off. They're not funny. They're degrading. Think about it.◆

Mind Manifestations can be found every Thursday in Sidelines.

ATYPICAL WOMAN

Women's mags not always evil

The road to equality is paved with stereotypes. Feminists are generally seen as man-hating (yet masculine) lesbians. Feminists in turn see certain roadblocks to their goal, including Republicans, pantyhose and women-targeted magazines.

Women-targeted magazines are easy prey. They almost always display some skinny woman on the cover, and the inside is filled with articles about how to please your man, the perfect colors for spring and the latest starvation diet.

Yet some of these magazines hold information vital to our fight for equality. Most women-targeted magazines are politically liberal, although some do a better job showing it than others.

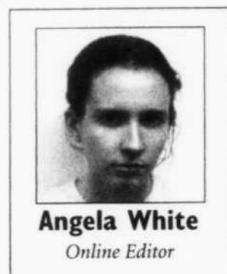
As one who likes to keep up on what the media is feeding young women, I subscribe to several of these magazines, including *Marie Claire*, *Jane*, *Glamour* and (every

feminist's favorite) *Cosmopolitan*.

Every one of these magazines is targeted to the same audience (women ages 18-35) and claims to support women's rights, including the right to choose. But just how devoted is each magazine to the fight?

The cover of April's *Glamour* advertises articles about "What He's Thinking About You... Naked," "How to Make Yourself 200% More Dateable" and "Women Who Made Their Fantasies a Reality in Bed."

But it also features 21 rape preventers, "How To Go From 'I Hate' To 'I Love My Body'" and an explanation of several



Angela White
Online Editor

"sex-health scares." Featured inside is an editorial about Bush's ban on international family planning aid and how one model became famous after cancer made her lose 14 pounds.

The cover of April's *Cosmo* features several sex articles, which can be considered demeaning or liberating, depending on what type of feminist you are. Other articles include "Sexy Breasts: A Daring Trick Only a Cosmo Chick Would Try," "How to Make Him Fall Hard" and "Why Acting Just Like a Cat Will Get People to Come to You."

News features are an under-appreciated yet redeeming value of this magazine, as are the rare political commentaries. Unfortunately, as evi-

denced by this issue, those are few and far between. Last month's issue featured articles about finding the right birth control and campus rape cover-ups. April's issue carries a story about the Bush girls. Go figure.

Marie Claire could be considered the most politically aware of women's mags. It was a major promoter of February's V-Day event, a benefit to raise awareness of violence against women. April's issue features articles about how to boost your Texas prisons putting women in cages?"

Marie Claire often runs articles and commentary related to their liberal beliefs, which include freedom of choice and gun control. It also often devotes space to international women's rights and has printed articles on female mutilation and gender apartheid. May's issue features an article on Afghan women risking their lives to educate girls.

Jane tends to be less serious but is decisively liberal nonetheless. Articles in April's issue include how a male staff

member tried to break into the modeling business, their sex life online and how two women deal with being the only member of their race in their sororities.

One notable article from *Jane* that even *Marie Claire* can't claim are the "How to make yourself better" articles. *Jane* may not always touch on the serious and political, but it also doesn't tell you how to lose 20 pounds in a week or what sex position will guarantee a proposal from your boyfriend.

It does have beauty and fashion articles, but everything has its imperfections. However, *Jane* usually shows only a face shot of the celebrity on the cover, making it possibly the only women-targeted magazine not to make you want to gouge your eyes out at the supermarket.

So before you burn every glossy magazine you find in effigy, skim the table of contents first. You might find something worth reading.◆

Letters to the Editor

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.

Baptist Care Center overcharges patients

To the Editor:

I just wanted to let students who might think of going to the Baptist Care Center know, that it could be very expensive. I took a one-year old baby there and was charged \$151 for a routine examination. She [the baby] had an earache, no runny nose or congestion, just a plain old-fashioned earache. They looked down her throat and in her ears, then listened to her heart. The same examination costs \$50 at our walk-in clinic in our hometown.

When we arrived to sit in a waiting room full of sick people, they charged us \$81 just to be put on the list to wait. They said they do that because a lot of patients leave before they see a doctor. They do not refund the money if you leave. Believe me, you wait and you wait and you wait.

On the way out, they charged us \$70 more. I was late picking up a kindergarten student and didn't have time to argue.

When I called back to complain about how I thought they were overcharging. They said it was because of the level of care they gave us. That prescription for ear drops sure was expensive.

Sincerely,

Esther Matthews
Graduate Student

MTSU needs to make campus more safe for blind students

To the Editor:

I am writing to share a disturbing scene I witnessed on campus a while back. I was driving down Tennessee Boulevard when I approached Faulkinberry Drive. My light was green and the crossing signal at the intersection was illuminated with a "don't walk" sign. However, a blind student, unable to read the signal, unknowingly crossed the road.

Thankfully, I was able to slow down to prevent the accident. The student was fortunate enough to have the assistance of a seeing-eye dog, but the extra assistance still did not prevent her from walking into heavy traffic.

With a large blind population, I am baffled that MTSU does not have a mechanism in place to prevent such an incident. I know in some cities, cross signals emit a beeping sound to indicate when it is safe to cross for blind pedestrians. I am sure the cost of this mechanism would be minimal.

I urge any member of the student government who reads this letter to raise attention to this situation.

Sincerely,

Patrick Newton
Senior Mass Communications

Students are not complaining about fees, but rather fighting fees that are unfair

To the Editor:

I'm writing in response to Sean Lankford's letter in the Wednesday, March 21st edition of Sidelines. I couldn't disagree more with Mr. Lankford when he says that we as students complain too much about the fees MTSU levies against us and that we "should know what [we're] talking about" when we do so.

I know I'm not in the minority when I say that we complain about certain fees not because we feel that they are too expensive; we complain because we feel that they are not fair. An example of what I'm talking about is the incorporation of the parking fee into every student's tuition, including those that do not use the parking lots, buses, or any of the other utilities taken care of by that fee. There are students who are paying for use of the Recreation Center when they NEVER set a foot down inside it. And let's not forget the proposed "Athletics Fee" that may come into existence next year. I'm sure many students who are apathetic about our collegiate sports programs will feel like they've been "robbed" on that one!

The student body is not going to quit complaining or questioning the powers-that-be when they levy fees that are not fair to all students. We shouldn't have to; making your collective voice heard is usually the only way for progress to be made. Perhaps if Mr. Lankford realized that our complaining has a purpose, he wouldn't be so "sick of it" after all.

Sincerely,

Morgan Travers

CRANIAL SMORGASBORD

Get tough with China

I'm not sure how this U.S. surveillance plane incident will have panned out by the time you read this, but I for one am glad to see that our government doesn't appear to be willing to pander to China any longer.

China is a government that consistently violates human rights, takes an aggressive stance toward its neighbors and engages in shameless finger-pointing (as the current situation with the crew of the U.S. surveillance plane demonstrates).

For years, the U.S. policy toward China seemed to be one of appeasement. We gave



Wes Cobb
Staff Columnist

China the "most favored nation" trading status and dropped the demand that this privilege be linked to human rights reform. We even went so far as to give China Permanent Normal Trade Relations. Remember this is for the country that gave the world Tiananmen

Square and conducted war games off the coast of Taiwan in the order of that nation during their 1996 election.

Appeasement never works. It just makes the bully braver. The world tried to appease Hitler and look what happened.

China is increasing its military spending by double-digit percentage points every year and has a philosophy that is diametrically opposed to that of the United States. If our government doesn't get tough soon, we may have a new USSR to deal with.

The first step in our new administration's

dealing with China, I believe, should be to make the Chinese government unconditionally return both the plane and its crew and retract its demand for a U.S. apology. We need to send this nation a message that we will not tolerate a nation that defies human rights and international law. If China fails to comply, we should strip away the economic privileges given by the United States, that have benefited this nation so much. ♦

Cranial Smorgasbord can normally be found every Wednesday in Sidelines.



Welcome

New Honorary Members

Dr. Elizabeth Rhea
Dr. Rosemary Owens
Kent Syler
Bart Gordon
Dr. Gloria Bonner

MTSU Chapter Honorary Members

Nancy Allen
Dr. Tom Burke
Adora Dupree
Dr. Ralph Hillman
Dr. Robert C. Lalance Jr.
Dr. John P. Montgomery
Dr. Chrisila Petzey
Dr. Duane Stucky
Dr. James White II
Jenny Crouch
Bill Campbell
Andy McCollum
Dr. Kenneth Harmon
Dr. Victor Montemeyer
Dr. James Walker

Golden Key Members

Jason Keith Alexander
Kelly Elizabeth Alexander
Sarah Elizabeth Alexander
Kristy Jo Allen
David Thomas Alley
Tim Vincent Amato
Andrew Ray Anderson
Shannon Leah Aplin
Katie Ann Arnold
Whitney Denham Arnot
Kasi Danese Aspinwall
Kerri England Atkins
Tanna Dee Bailey
Leah Michelle Bair
Hilary Nicole Barkley
Jacquelin Alicia Barnes
Ginny Elisabeth Barton
Christopher Michael Bass
Daniel Wayne Batey
Amy Lynn Bell
Angelica Lorraine Bennett
Christopher Brad Bennett
RaChelle Blair Bennett
Tiffany Nicole Bivens
Kimberly Sherr Bland
Travis Edward Blunt
Heather Tai Bonham
Nanette B. Boone
Joanna Bourne
Gail Denise Boyd
John Daniel Boyd
Bobby Curt Brackin
Sandra K. Breault
Rebecca Wade Brewer
Erynne Nicole Brotherton
Dustin Chad Brown
Robin Lee Brown
Minden Elizabeth Bullock
Rebecca Elaine Burrow
Jessica Elise Busey
Monica Lynnette Butler
Joseph Reed Caldwell
Sarah Christine Calvin
Brittney Renee Campbell
Jennifer R. Card
Theresa Marie Carpinito
Jesse Dwayne Carrick
Rebecca D. Carrico
Bonnie Lucille Carroll
Rebecca Lynne Carroll
Amie Louise Chandler
Whitney Allison Childs
Priscilla Lynn Chumley
Erin Wray Clark
Scott William Coe
Tangela Lavonne Coffee
Wanda Santiago Colbert
Sharon Evert Combs
Laurie Beth Cook
R. Scott Cook
Courtney Beth Cox
Artemus Rashawn Crayton
Javin Ray Cripps
Jennifer Ann Cripps
Nicole Lynn Crocker
Amy Stechman Curtis
John Eric Curtis
Kevala Bhakti Czwal
Anne Marie Dalia
Karen Elizabeth Daugherty
Kari Michelle Davis
Leslee Ann Davis
Shawn Alan Davis
Jaquelyn Ann Davoli
Stefanie Dean
Melissa Gayle Devendorf
Samuel David Dickinson
Jennifer Lynn Ditmer
Amy Christine Douglass
Matthew Barnes Draper
John Matthew Dryden
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Julie Lynn Eason
Alicia Renee Ector
Jason Michael Eddy
Jacqueline Donnell Edgar
Lane Corum Edwards
Wesley Allen Edwards
Melissa T. Elmore
Hailu Desta Endale
Abigail Ella Epps
Karie Elizabeth Fields
Rebecca Fields-Santin
Kristy Joy Fisher
Aaron Brandon Flanary
Gloria Renee Frazier
Eric Charles Freundt
John Alvan Gale
Jennifer Lee Garcia
Nicole Marie Garden
Shelly Davis Gentry
Biju Bethel George
Mark Kenneth Gerken
April M. Gibbons
Rebecca Susan Gibbs
Vickie Dale Gibson
Cherry Rebecca Gilbert
Lisa Anne Gingras

Leeann Marie Goldston
Jonathan Blake Gosnell
Bryan Daniel Graves
Jacob Gregory Gray
Melissa Anne Greene
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J. Michael Grooms
Misti Dawn Grooms
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Angela Dawn Hart
Carol Alice Hartlage
Cindy Turner Hasty
Emily Kaye Head
Arthur Stephen Heiman
Crystal Jamil Henderson
John Thomas Herbert III
Jeremy David Hewitt
Kenya Tenay Hickey
Leah Elizabeth Higgins
Crystal Joyce Hill Farnsworth
Teresa R. Hilton
Sandra L. Hines
Erin Susanne Hood
Heather Lynn Hood
Deborah Lynn Hope
Janis M. Hopkins
Tara Marie Hubbard
Donald Olen Huff Jr.
Beth Rodney Hullbert
Seth Michael Hulbert
Carrie Louise Hupp
Tiffany Michelle Ingram
Kristie Marie Isbell
Thomas Wayne James
Jessica Faye James-Hughes
Jeremy Dewayne Jones
Katie Denise Jones
Summer Michele Jones
Dennis Paul Jungman
Vanessa MaLeah Justice
Christy Dawn Keahey
Shane Vincent Keenan
Chad Anthony Kehir
Kimberly Anne Kelley
Cindi Lynn Key
Rachel Louise Kinnard
Jeffrey Ray Kuban
Elizabeth Ashley Lane
Thomas Doyle Lansdale
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Rachel Ashley Moseley
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Tara Prue Pruett
Melissa Lee Radley
John Stephen Raeth
Kimberly Dawn Ragsdale
Sara Anne Rainwater
Martha Ann Ramsey
Joshua Cain Ray
Lillian Grizzard Ray
Jennifer Taylor Rayburn
Staci Rai Raymond
Cameron Ann Reed
Krista Lee Rice
Patrick L. Rice
Kimberly Dawn Ridley
Kelly Melissa Riggs
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Rebecca Lynn Romancky
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Norman Oliver Teale
Lisa Kay Thomason
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Jared Leo Thompson
Kaci Rhea Thompson
Rebecca Ann Thrasher
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Ann Marie Trout
Kathryn Leigh Tudor
Jamie Lynn Turman
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Honnie Melinda Vanatta-Davis
Jami G. Vandygriff
Virginia Louise Vile
Conchita Joandra Vines
Russell Nathaniel Wade
Jennifer Noel Waldrop
Rachel Ann Wantland
Terin Jayne Washam
Tekilinia Shalia Washington
Jaclyn Linette Webb
Jared Andrew Webster
Candace F. Weddington
Dirk Alberto Weibezahn
James Bert Welch
Shanna R. Werrbach
Katie-Faith LaDell Wetherbee
Jeffrey Dwayne Whidby
Haley Maran White
Stephanie Victoria White
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Samuel Matthew Willis
Mindy L. Winchell
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Sarah Elizabeth Wolff
Matthew Kent Worley
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E-mail us at
slopinio@mtsu.edu

Speak your
mind!

The cross-dressing RA



Photo Provided

"I just saw one of my mom's dresses and thought I'd give it a try, and I liked it."

- T.J. Gontczaruk
Student

By Joey Fortner
Contributor

"In the world of transgender, there's drag queens, cross-dressers and transvestites," T.J. Gontczaruk says. "Drag queens are over the top. They're so female that you know they're guys. Transvestites try to blend in. I'm very much a cross-dresser-I just like to wear skirts, usually, and maybe a pair of shoes."

T.J., an MTSU student, says that cross-dressing is "about being comfortable." He's been doing it for eight years but only in public, or "out of the closet," as T.J. says, for the last three.

"It's not something you pick up and go with," he says. "It's part of who you are."

"I tried it when I was in the eighth grade," T.J. explains. "I just saw one of my mom's dresses and thought I'd give it a try, and I liked it."

Today, T.J.'s closet is full of vinyl skirts, tank tops and dresses. Thirteen

bottles of fingernail polish are neatly lined up on his dresser, and two pairs of knee-high boots accompany his even more eccentric thigh-high boots.

His room smells of freshly burned incense, and strands of Christmas lights crisscross from wall to wall, creating a tranquil setting for a very out-of-the-ordinary individual.

T.J. likes to cross-dress because he says it's a way for him to make a statement about not conforming to society.

"He's a unique individual," Elliott Awatt, an aerospace major, says.

T.J. says that sometimes other students approach him to ask questions about why he cross-dresses.

"It's weird because they always come up, and they're very apologetic or timid, and say, 'I don't mean to be rude or anything,'" T.J. explains, "but how come you wear dresses?" and I explain it to them.

"I always go out of my way to be very nice to people who are willing to ask," T.J. continues. "I don't mind people who want to know, because they're the ones who care about who I am. It's the people who don't want to know who just form their own opinions and say, 'Oh, well, it must be because he's like this or he's like that,' and they may be right, but they don't want to come find that out. That's what bothers me."

T.J., who moved to Murfreesboro from Albany, N.Y., last summer, says that he doesn't cross-dress in public because the South is not as accepting of cross-dressers as people in the North.

"Even when I came out of the closet up North," he says, "I wanted to see how things were going to be at first. I painted my nails out of nowhere and I just liked that. I did some other stuff like Halloween, and things like that. I came down here and did the same thing [I] talked with some people who were gay, and those who weren't that were my friends, and we knew that no matter whether I was accepted or not there were still people who were going to be behind me, either way."

T.J. claims he is not gay, but as a cross-dresser, he says he supports and defends all minorities.

"When you've been living there long enough," he says, "you fight for who you are."

The scruffy-faced 22-year-old believes people should be absolutely

true to themselves if they want to be happy, no matter what other people say.

He also says that his job as a resident assistant can sometimes be a little more challenging because he's a cross-dresser. Although his co-workers are very supportive, he says that some of his residents in Judd Hall have harassed him about his clothing.

"It wasn't what they said. It was mostly how they said it," T.J. explains. "They'd say, 'What's that,' and I'd look at them and say, 'It's a skirt,' and they'd realize I mean business, that I wasn't joking around."

His residents don't say much anymore about the cross-dressing, but he still believes that people do say things behind his back. And, he's always going to be talked about or criticized because of his unique style.

"I knew that he was a cross-dresser before he came out," James Kersey, a fellow resident assistant, explains. "As in funny stories, he's dressed pretty, uh, I'm just going to say 'not clean,' because some of that kind of stuff is nasty to me."

"I'll give you my honest opinion," says Erin Holt, a resident of Beasley Hall, "it is nothing that I haven't already told T.J. Honestly, if he were lacking in the clothes department, I think it would be all right to wear women's clothing; however, he's not. I think he does it just for the attention and I think it's stupid."

"I'm not here to kid myself," T.J. says. "The way others perceive my ability to do my job will always be in question, simply because of the cross-dress-

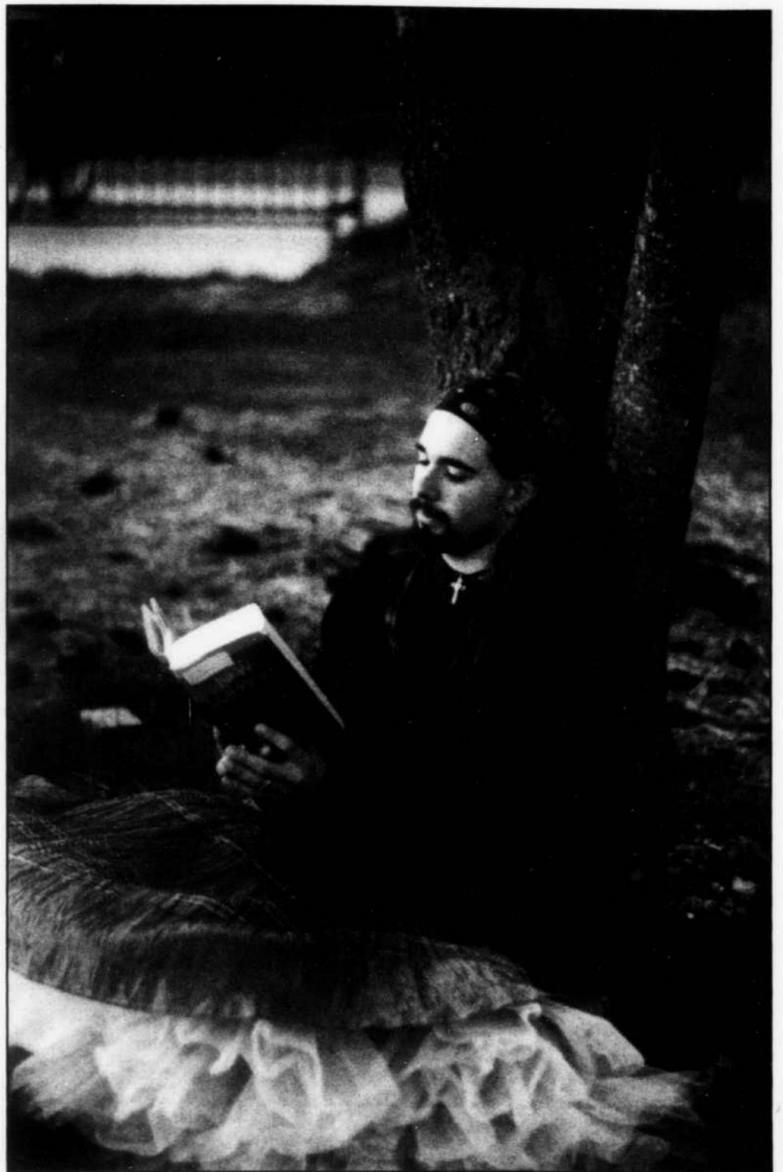


Photo Provided

ing and simply because the way people want to take it as being out of the norm."

According to T.J., cross-dressing has caused people to blame him for things he didn't even do.

"It sets me up as being somebody who is different, and because of that, I'm usually the scapegoat. It is something that I understand that is going to

See **Cross-dressing**, page 8

Intercontinental flight

Antique Japanese camera falls into hands of aerial photographer



Photo by Jenny Cordle | Staff

Jonathan Trundle and (lower left) John Collins prepare a balloon / camera combination to have a little fun and take a few photos.

By Jenny Cordle
Staff Writer

The eye of the 60-year-old Minolta camera, dangling from a 6-foot weather balloon, stares at photographer Jonathan Trundle from 30 feet in the air.

But weather is the last thing on Jonathan's mind as he reels in the nylon string secured to both balloon and camera as if they were kites.

Pulled by the weight of the sky-colored balloon, the Minolta dangles in the cloudless sky like an enormous tacky earring, twisting and turning with the March wind. Decoration against a flawless blue.

The camera blinks and a moment is captured from a height most photographers would never consider.

A former painting and drawing major, Trundle is now stealing moments with a camera his grandfather stole from a Japanese refugee during World War II.

"The camera's been sitting in my grandfather's house in Ringgold, Ga., 'till I got hold of it last semester," Jonathan says.

"I likes to take pictures," he says, looking at me over the thick rim of his glasses to make

sure I heard the added "s" on the end of "like."

The extra emphasis doesn't go unnoticed. Nor do his brown overalls or his feather hat escape my stare as his feet trample the ground below, trying not to trip over each other. His shaded face never leaves the balloon as it's being swallowed by the blue.

It's almost as if Trundle's eyes are pulled up to the sky by some magnetic force.

Rather, it's the pull of his passion for aerial photography that brings him to The Knoll mid-afternoon.

"I've always liked the different perspective and I wanted to do something a little different," Trundle says, referring to his Color II photography project for class.

A little difference goes a long way in photography, but Trundle isn't the first person to send a camera into the air with the aid of a balloon.

French photographer Nadar beat him to it when he made the first aerial photographs from a hot air balloon in 1858.

"Call him Jonathan 'Nadar' Trundle," friend Dave Cerchiaro insists.

But Trundle prefers the work of William Eggleston, an aerial

photographer at the turn of the 20th century.

"With the balloon, it's a whole different way of seeing something only airplanes would know," explains Trundle, who took a photography class at the University of Tennessee in Chattanooga before coming to MTSU for its photography program.

He attempted the aerial project several times before the third time was the charm.

"It's just wonderful that he was able to gather all the elements together to attempt it," says Jim Norton, associate professor of photography.

"In History of Photography class we learned about Nadar, who also did kite photography," Norton explains. "When Jonathan learned about that, he just lit up."

"He got a kite and he was just running out there," recalls Norton, laughing as he motions toward the grassy knoll area in front of the photography building.

"There wasn't any wind at all, but he was still running."

With the balloon, Trundle needs no wind. He reels the nylon string in with the help of John Collins, friend and fellow

photographer.

"I'm just waiting for that balloon to pop, man!" John jokes.

Trundle then replaces the Minolta with a video camera he borrowed from the Student Films Committee. He hopes to submit it to the MTSU Student Film Festival if all goes well.

Again, he casts the balloon into the sky like a fisherman casts his lure into the deep blue for that trophy fish.

For Trundle, the fun lies in letting go in hopes of gaining a new perspective.

That's exactly what he had in mind when he borrowed the camera that journeyed from continent to continent. Borrowing history to make history.

"It lets me express myself," he says about the art of capturing time or an image. "It lets me create."

A sidewalker notices the contraption floating about in the sky.

"Is that a weather balloon?" she yells across the Knoll. "Or it's a condom, I don't know!"

Trundle laughs as he does his best to tell her what's up.

"It's just one big balloon and a lot of string." ♦

ON CAMPUS

Compiled By Leslie Fike - Copy Editor

Thursday, March 5

The College of Education and Behavioral Science Academic Awards is in the JUB Tennessee Room and Hazlewood Dining Room at 3 p.m.

The Integrated Learning Workshop is in KUC Room 324 at 9 a.m.

Friday, March 6

The Mid-South Instructional Technology Conference is on the third floor of the KUC through April 10.

Delta Sigma Theta is hosting a block party on the lawn between the KOM and Peck Hall from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. For more information, contact Courtney Cooke at 907-0790.

The Pleasure Walking Horse Association of Tennessee Spring Sale is at 6 p.m. through April 7.

Saturday, March 7

The Graduate Record Exam is on the third floor of the KUC at 7 a.m.

The International Banquet is in the JUB Tennessee Room, Hazlewood Dining Room, lobby and rooms 204 and 304.

Sunday, March 8

The Panhellenic Easter Egg Hunt is at 3 p.m. on the President's lawn.

Monday, March 9

MTSU Theatre presents *Company* at 8 p.m. in the Tucker Theatre. Originally produced and directed on Broadway by Harold Prince. For reservations and ticket information, call 898-2267 or 898-2640. MTSU students receive free admission to all performances.

Tuesday, March 10

The University Committee on General Studies is hosting an Open Forum: Skills and Competencies in the Cason-Kennedy Nursing Building Room 121 at 2:35 p.m. For more information, contact William Badley at 904-8416.

MTSU Films presents *Creature From the Black Lagoon* (3D) at 7 p.m. and *It Came From Outer Space* (3D) at 9:30 p.m. in the KUC Theater.

Wednesday, March 11

The Open Forum: Skills and Competencies is in BAS S128 at 3:35 p.m. For more information, contact William Badley at 904-8416.




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Student Films Festival
April 16-19 - Mon-Thur - 7 pm

MTSU Fine Arts and MT Anthropology Society present
5:00 p.m.
KUC Theater

THE SCIFI FILES



Tuesday, April 10
Children of Frankenstein
Thursday, April 12
Spaceships and Aliens
Tuesday, April 17
March of the Machines
Thursday, April 19
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Cross-dressing: T.J. Gontczarura not just an average resident assistant at Judd Hall

Continued from 6

happen. But don't expect to just lie down and take it either."

T.J. says he has many supportive classmates and friends who know him well enough to say that he doesn't participate in activities that could compromise his image as a resident assistant. He's fairly confident they also support his

out-of-the-ordinary ensembles—even the tight black dresses. "Cross-dressing has its place and its

times," T.J. says.

"A friend of mine wanted me to be her maid of honor at her wedding, which is fine [because] the best man is actually going to be a girl. But I told her, 'If I'm going to be your maid of honor, that's fine, but I am wearing a tux. Your wedding is your day. It's a day to have attention on you, [and] I'm not taking that away by wearing a dress.'"

T.J. won't wear women's clothing to church either because he thinks it will take attention away from "what we're

there for," he says.

But when he's dressed in a black vinyl skirt, fishnet hose and a pair of knee-highs, he does grab the attention of almost everyone around him.

T.J. says that he has never spent more than \$20 on a skirt, but he has spent \$80 on a dress—and every now and then he'll let his girlfriend borrow a skirt or maybe one of his 13 purses.

A few of his outfit ideas have come from the more than 200 or more magazine photos that almost completely

cover the walls of his room. It's not every day that a person can eat dinner, watch television and go to sleep with some of the world's most famous female actresses and supermodels.

"I can't afford [the outfits]," T.J. says, "but sometimes I get inspired by what they are wearing."

His favorite model is Niki Taylor. Half of his wall is dedicated to her.

It's not a groundbreaking event to see a few pictures of supermodels or the latest hot Hollywood women hanging

in a male's dorm with the walls close to being entirely covered, especially in a cross-dresser's room.

"I want to surround myself in beauty," T.J. says.

There is even a picture of a model wearing almost nothing on the desktop of his computer screen.

He admits that he doesn't know who the woman is, but after taking a closer look, he confides, "I'd like to have that outfit." ♦

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Soccer signs largest recruiting class ever

Staff Reports

The Lady Raider soccer team has added 13 new players. Head coach Scott Ginn introduced his 2001 signees yesterday. The class is one of the largest in school history.

Ginn, recruiting for the first time at Middle Tennessee, looking for speed in his recruits. He seeks to improve the depth of his team. "This is certainly a large class," Ginn said. "Right now we have a good core of returning players, but we're adding speed and depth. We will get a big boost from this class."

The new roster will practice close to 30 players when practice begins in August. The Lady Raiders return 14 players from this season. Ginn noted that the incoming players are not replacing those already here but will enhance the team.

"They're not coming here to replace anyone, just to help make us better," Ginn said. "We just didn't have the speed to compete in the Sun Belt last season. We will be a better team because we can now have full team scrimmages in practices and do some other things that will make us better, too."

The Lady Raiders finished this past season with a 8-11 overall record and 3-4 in the Sun Belt. The number of wins was the second-most in school history. ♦

2001 Lady Raider Soccer Signees

Name	Pos.	Ht.	Hometown	High School	Note
Britney Camden	MF	5-2	Hixon, Tenn.	Notre Dame HS	All-Region, Best of Preps
Nicki Fell	D	5-4	Berlin, Md.	Stephen Decatur HS	1st Team All-Bayside
Ashley Hicks	MF	5-4	Evans, Ga.	Greenbrier HS	Team's Top Assist Performer
Erin Kaye	F	5-8	Warwick, R.I.	Toll Gate HS	All-State, Team Scoring Leader
Danielle LaDuke	MF	5-7	Liverpool, N.Y.	Liverpool HS	Led league in assists, All-CNY
Lisa Langrish	MF	5-6	Dorset, England	Homefield	Played in National League
Sarah Linder	MF	5-4	Niceville, Fla.	Niceville, HS	All-County, Region ODP Selection
Laura Miquez	MF	5-3	Dallas, Tx.	J.J. Pearce HS	HS Team MVP, All-City
Leigh Peacock	D	5-7	Maryville, Tenn.	Maryville HS	All-District
Paige Pearson	D	5-8	Niceville, Fla.	Niceville HS	All-Area, Four-year starter
Megan Perry	MF	5-7	Kennett Square, Pa.	Unionville HS	All-District, EPSYA All-Star
Megan Schwanke	MF	5-4	Greensboro, N.C.	Western Guilford HS	3-time MVP, 3-year All-Conf.
Emily Winfree	D	5-8	McMinnville, Tenn.	Warren Co. HS	All-District

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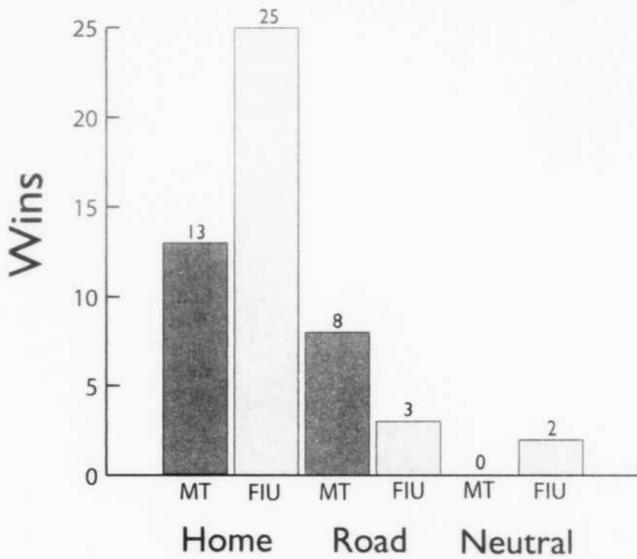
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Baseball:

Continued from 12

against South Alabama Sunday, dropping his ERA to 1.81. The senior leads the pitching staff in opponents' batting average, allowing just .160, or approximately four hits a game.

Leading the batting attack for the Raiders will be senior Josh Renick and sophomore Justin Sims. Renick has maintained a .400 plus batting average all season, which now stands at .417. Sims leads the team with eight home runs on the season while batting above .350.

The Golden Panthers have four hitters that have a .379 average or higher. Sophomore Brad Eldred leads the team with a .406 average and junior Miguel Quintana has belted 12 home runs and holds a .331 batting average. As a team, FIU holds a .305 batting mark.

The Blue Raiders will also have a special autograph session prior to Saturday's game (after spring football practice) with Devon Brazelton and football standout Dwone Hicks as well as other MT athletic stars. ♦

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The Two Minute Drill



Assistant Sports Editor

J.P. Plant

Men's track star honored by conference

Junior Godfrey Herring, a two-time indoor All-American in the 400 meters, was named Sun Belt Conference Men's Outdoor Track Performer of the Week following his efforts at last weekends Alabama Relays.

Herring won the 400-meter dash with a time of 46.16, which was good enough to qualify him provisionally for the NCAA Championships in late May. Herring also ran a leg on Middle Tennessee's 4X100 and 4X200-meter relay teams that both came away with first place finishes at the Alabama Relays.

Individuals Shine at Bulldog Invitational

The Middle Tennessee track and field teams traveled to Starkville Miss. Saturday where they faced stiff competition in the Bulldog Invitational. Despite finishing fourth in the four-team field, several individuals had stellar performances.

In women's competition, Naomi Ansh and Stephany Reid took first place in the 400-meters and triple jump, respectively. Jerkita McClorin and Kelly Smith had second place performances in their respective events. McClorin jumped 19'04.75 in the long jump and Smith tossed the javelin a distance of 119'09.00.

For the men, Chris Koger continued his impressive freshman campaign high jumping 6'6" for the Blue Raiders only first place performance.

Jasper Demps had a strong 110-meter hurdle sprint finishing just behind two-time defending NCAA Champion Aubrey Herring of Indiana State for second.

Geoffrey Lagat placed third in the 1,500-meters and Lindsay Sims continued to show he could be a threat to score in the conference championships with a second place mark in the javelin.

Rain drowns golf team's hope

The final round of the Amoco-Ultimate-Young Oil Intercollegiate was rained out on Tuesday and Middle Tennessee finished seventh in the two-round event with a 599 total.

Columbus State, which fired a first day total of 583, claimed the 2001 title, while Florida Southern and Austin Peay tied for second.

The Blue Raiders will be off until heading to the Sun Belt Conference Championships in Roanoke, TX, April 23-25.

Season near end for Lady Netters

Middle Tennessee (7-10) women's tennis begins their stretch drive Friday against conference foe Louisiana Tech. First serve is at 2 p.m. at the Buck Bouldin Tennis Center. ◆

Lady Raiders prep for Louisiana Tech

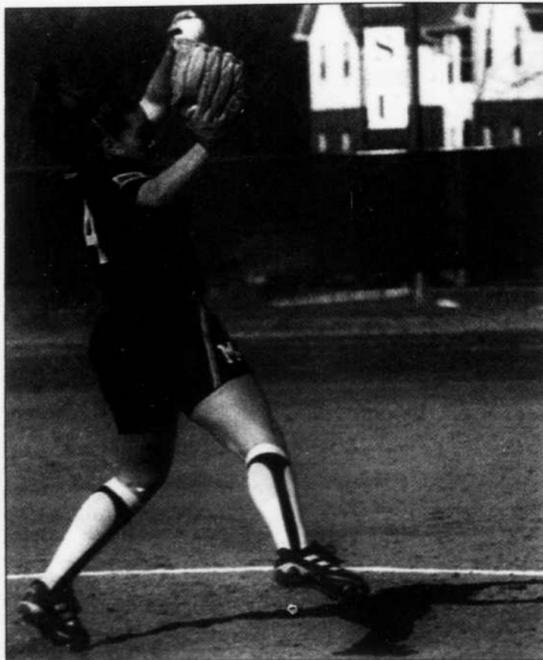


Photo by Kristy Dalrymple | Staff

Jennifer Martinez is part of a staff with a 1.45 ERA.

By Colleen Cox
Staff Writer

The Lady Raider softball team will try for their first Sun Belt conference victory in a four-game series against Louisiana Tech this weekend.

Middle Tennessee's offense broke out in a big way over spring break.

Against Alabama A&M, Middle put up 16 runs on 16 hits. Jennifer Martinez led the offensive charge with six RBIs on a 3-3 afternoon. Kip Phillips went 2-3 in her leadoff spot with four runs scored and three stolen bases.

The second game of the doubleheader with A&M saw Amanda Kendall throw a no-hitter, and the Lady Raiders take a 4-0 victory.

This past weekend Middle Tennessee played its first Sun Belt conference games. Unfortunately for the Lady Raiders, 24th ranked Louisiana-Lafayette was the opponent.

Middle managed to play four close games with the Ragin Cajuns. However, the Lady Raiders dropped all four of those games. Three of the four losses were by a combined four runs, and two losses came in the final at bat.

Louisiana Tech (14-11) will be playing its first Sun Belt game this weekend. The Lady Techsters are coming off a double-header win over Centenary. The defense for LA Tech has an average fielding percentage of .961.

Melissa Johnson leads the offense with a .333 batting average, .417 slugging percentage, and a

.467 on base percentage. As a team, the Techsters are batting .238 with a .315 on base percentage.

Marla Pinkston and Lindsay Meadows provide the majority of the pitching for Louisiana Tech. Pinkston posts a 2.00 earned run average (ERA) with a .231 average against. Meadows holds batters to a .203 batting average. She has struck out 68 batters and walked only 14.

Pitching has not been much in question for the Lady Raiders this season. Stayc Praytor, Martinez, and Kendall have provided stellar pitching all season. Praytor did nothing bit this past weekend, but has proved to be solid for Middle Tennessee. The pitching staff comes in to the weekend with a 1.45 ERA, .183 batting average against, 243 Ks, and 51 base on balls.

The defense has been steady for Coach Karen Green this season. The lowest fielding percentage of any player is .867.

Offensively, Middle has begun to produce a balanced attack. Lisa Sherman and Phillips give the Lady Raiders speed while Martinez and Azevedo provide power. Phillips has a .325 on base percentage along with 14 stolen bases. Sherman has a .292 batting average and eight stolen bases.

Martinez has a .482 slugging percentage and has driven in 16 runs. Azevedo leads the team with 19 RBIs to go along with her .424 slugging percentage.

The four-game series begins Friday at 3 p.m. ◆

MT faces toughest challenge this season

By R. Colin Fly
Sports Editor

Florida International University, ranked 21st in the nation in two of the three major polls, will travel to Reese Smith Field this weekend to play the Blue Raiders.

Middle Tennessee (5-4 in the Sun Belt) comes off a strong performance in Lafayette, winning two of three games against the Ragin' Cajuns before playing Vanderbilt Wednesday. Middle Tennessee has already reached the 20-win plateau and cracked into the Top 25 in one major poll just before spring break.

Florida International (30-8, 6-3 in the Sun Belt) swept No. 8 South Alabama (26-6, 6-3) in a three-game series at University Park in Miami after defeating the Jaguars 7-1 in the finale Sunday.

FIU features a strong starting pitching staff and got eight strong innings from Paul Zervas to help pick up the win.

Though FIU has 30 wins, they are 25-3 at home and only 3-4 away from University Park,

including losing two of three at Lafayette two weeks ago.

The Golden Panthers' trip to Murfreesboro will be only their second trip out of the state of Florida this season. FIU also has a grueling schedule. They took advantage of South Florida weather by beginning their season Jan. 26 and will play at least 53 games this season. The Blue Raiders play 51.

Junior Dewon Brazelton (6-1, 1.11 earned run average) is scheduled to take the hill for the Blue Raiders in Friday's series opener at 7 p.m. Brazelton pitched 10 innings and recorded 14 strikeouts en route to his sixth win of the season and Pitcher of the Week honors by both the National Collegiate Baseball Writers' Association and the Sun Belt Conference.

Facing Brazelton on Friday will likely be Jerry Courtney. Courtney boasts a 4-1 record and a 13-5 record over the last two seasons. This season, the senior has dropped his earned run average by more than a half point, down to 2.86.

Saturday's game is sched-

uled to start at 2 p.m. and will likely feature two seniors. Kris Lammers of Middle Tennessee should square off against Willie Collanzo of FIU.

Lammers has a 3-2 record with a 3.19 ERA. In his last start in Louisiana, Lammers pitched six and one-third innings, giving up four runs and nine hits.

Collanzo comes off a win against South Alabama and holds a 7-0 record for the season. He gave up six runs in his last outing, but still managed to win. His ERA is 2.86 in 66 innings of work. The 66 innings pitched lead the Golden Panthers.

The finale of the series Sunday will pit a freshman against a senior.

Middle Tennessee will send freshman sensation John Williams (4-0) to the hill to face off against Paul Zervas (5-0) of FIU.

Williams has a 3.76 ERA in seven starts and has held opponents to a .230 batting average.

Zervas pitched eight innings and allowed just one run

See **Baseball, 10**



Photo by R. Colin Fly | Staff

Coach Steve Peterson stares out of the dugout before a game at Reese Smith Field. Peterson became the most winning skipper ever at MT earlier this season.

Spring fling showcases MT athletics Saturday

MT Media Relations

A family fun-filled day of Middle Tennessee athletics is scheduled for this Saturday on campus. Fans can catch the annual football Spring Game in Floyd Stadium, then head over to watch the Blue Raider baseball team take on No. 21 Florida International in a key Sun Belt Conference contest. The football game is free and open to the public, while tickets for the baseball game are available at the ballpark for \$4.

"This has an opportunity to be a special day and something we hope to build on in the future," said MT marketing director Chip Walters.

Fans are encouraged to find their tailgate spot before the football game, so they can make a full day of supporting Blue Raider athletics.

Ideal parking for tailgating for both events will be available on the east side of the football stadium in the parking lots along Faulkinberry Drive and C street.

The football game will take place in Floyd Stadium as the Blue Raiders put an end to spring drills.

Head coach Andy McCollum will put his players through a controlled scrimmage that will last about one hour and a half.

"We are excited about the progress our team has made

this spring," McCollum said. "We have had some young guys step up and some veterans really show a lot of improvement. I am very pleased with how our spring practice has gone. Hopefully, all our fans will come out Saturday for what should be a great day for supporting football and baseball."

The baseball game will begin at 2 p.m. at Reese Smith Field as senior Kris Lammers (3-2) takes the hill against FIU's William Collazo (7-0). The Golden Panthers (30-8) come to Murfreesboro in first place in the SBC with the Blue Raiders standing one game back in second.

A highlight between games

will be an autograph and photo session at Reese Smith Field featuring baseball and football players. All-American candidate Dewon Brazelton and freshman phenom John Williams will sign autographs for fans from 12:30 p.m. to 1 p.m. with football standouts Wes Counts, Dwone Hicks, Kendall Newson and Tanaka Scott available for autographs from 1 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Blue Raider Athletic Association (BRAA) concessions will be grilling hamburgers and sausages at the baseball field immediately following the game and Lightning's Locker Room will be open at each venue. ◆

Schedule of Events

- 10:30 a.m.: Football Spring Game (Floyd Stadium)
- 11:00a.m.: Women's Softball Doubleheader vs Louisiana Tech (Lady Raider Field)
- 12:30 p.m.: Autograph Session with Dewon Brazelton and John Williams (Reese Smith Field)
- 1:00 p.m.: Autograph Session with Wes Counts, Dwone Hicks, Kendall Newson, Tanaka Scott (Reese Smith Field)
- 2:00 p.m.: Baseball game vs Florida International (Reese Smith Field)

7 Day Sportscast

FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Baseball Blue Raiders vs. Florida Int'l Murfreesboro, Tenn., 7 p.m. ■ Softball Lady Raiders vs. Louisiana Tech (DH) Murfreesboro, Tenn., 3 p.m. ■ Women's Tennis Lady Raiders vs. La. Tech Murfreesboro, Tenn., 2 p.m. ■ Outdoor Track Texas Relays Austin, Tx., TBA 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Baseball Blue Raiders vs. Florida Int'l Murfreesboro, Tenn., 2 p.m. ■ Softball Lady Raiders vs. Louisiana Tech (DH) Murfreesboro, Tenn., 11 a.m. ■ Outdoor Track Texas Relays Austin, Tx., TBA 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Women's Tennis Lady Raiders vs. Mississippi St. Murfreesboro, Tenn., 10 a.m. ■ Baseball Blue Raiders vs. Florida Int'l Murfreesboro, Tenn., 1 p.m. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Baseball Blue Raiders vs. Belmont Murfreesboro, Tenn., 7 p.m. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Baseball Blue Raiders at Cumberland Lebanon, Tenn., 3 p.m. ■ Softball Lady Raiders vs. UAB (DH) Murfreesboro, Tenn., 3 p.m. ■ Men's Tennis Blue Raiders vs. Vanderbilt Murfreesboro, Tenn., 2:30 p.m.