



Mostly Sunny



This week's poll question at www.mtsusidelines.com
Sidelines will resume publication June 4. Check our Web site for all your campus news and events.

Graduation Preparation

Also: 'Fortune's' top 100 companies to work for
See Graduation Special, page 4



Middle Tennessee State University

SIDELINES

An editorially independent newspaper

Volume 78 No. 93

Campus Briefs

Health Services staying open through summer

MTSU Health Services will maintain summer hours Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Students enrolled in any summer terms are eligible to access services.

Those not enrolled in class during the summer but enrolled in the fall can access services with a one-time \$25 fee.

Additional fees may apply for lab tests, medication, etc.

For more information, contact Health Services at 898-2988.

Holocaust remembrance set for tomorrow

As part of Holocaust Remembrance Day tomorrow, MTSU will host a lecture titled "Interfaith Dialogue and Holocaust Studies."

The lecture begins at 7 p.m. in the Business and Aerospace Building's State Farm Room. For more information, contact Lon Nuell at 898-2505.

Fall campus phone directory underway

Plans have begun for fall publication of the campus phone directory, which includes student phone numbers and local addresses. Students who don't wish to be listed in the directory may notify the Records Office, Room 106, in the Cope Administration Building. Notification must be in writing and be received no later than Sept. 8.

Commencement to be held May 10 on campus

Commencement will be held in the Murphy Center on May 10, at 10 a.m. to honor graduates. For more information, contact MTSU News and Public Affairs at 898-2919, or check the Sidelines Graduation Special, page four.

University Orchestra concert tomorrow

The University Orchestra, composed of string, woodwind, brass and percussion players, will hold a concert tomorrow at 8 p.m. in the Wright Music Building Music Hall. For more information, contact Tim Musselman at 898-2493.

Goodwill to host student donation drive

Goodwill Industries of Middle Tennessee, Inc., will host a donation drive so students can head home without clutter.

Eight collection bins will be located in eight residential lobbies including Monohan, Lyon, Smith, Cummings, Corlew, Wood, Womack Lane Apartments and Scarlett Commons Apartments.

Usable clothing, books, electronics and shoes will be accepted from students, faculty and staff beginning Wednesday and running through Friday. For more information, contact Goodwill at 742-4151. ♦

Blue Raider goes pro



File photo

Former Blue Raider standout Tyrone Calico (No. 27), a wide receiver, was drafted by the Tennessee Titans in the second round of the 2003 NFL Draft Saturday.

Calico gets taken by Titans

Former MTSU player becomes highest Blue Raider in NFL draft
By David Hunter
Senior Staff Reporter

Former MTSU wide receiver Tyrone Calico will stay in Tennessee to begin his NFL career.

This past Saturday, the 6-foot, 4-inch, 223-pound Calico became the highest ever Blue Raider taken in the NFL draft by being selected in the second round by the Tennessee Titans with the 60th pick.

The previous high was in 1993, when the Cleveland Browns picked linebacker Mike Caldwell with the 83rd selection in the third round.

"I thought I was going to go on the first day, which has happened," Calico told www.titansonline.com. "It was just a matter of where. I wasn't sure if it was going to be first, second or third (round)."

Titans General Manager Floyd Reese wanted to trade up in the second round to get Calico. However, Reese did not have to as Calico fell to them.

Titans head coach Jeff Fisher was caught off guard with how far Calico fell down the board. "[We were] very surprised. We made the comment at the end of the first round about several players, and we didn't think that they

See Calico, 2

Obesity now growing problem

By Stacey Baggett
Contributor

Introducing the new additions to the four food groups: Taco Bell, McDonald's and Sonic.

The question of why fries and hamburgers have replaced fruits and vegetables is something many Americans have on their minds these days. For the average American, fast food is a way of life.

For a growing number of people, fast food is an addiction, bringing some heavy consequences with it. Many now travel down a dangerous road toward heart disease, heart

attacks and early death.

Dining has been a staple of the American household for generations. In the past, families traditionally gathered around the dinner table to enjoy mom's cooking and catch up on the day's events. In today's fast paced world, few people have the time to sit down to dinner, especially college students.

According to a recent study in obesity research, many Americans are choosing to eat out more often, especially in fast food restaurants.

"We're eating in so many calories on a passive level," Samara Nielson, an author in his nutrition doctor-

ate of North Carolina's School of Public Health, said on www.healthfinder.gov. "It's like the calories aren't there because you don't know what they are."

As a result, many Americans are becoming obese at a faster rate. Now, nearly two-thirds of Americans are obese.

The study concluded that the foods most often consumed are pizza, french fries, soda, salty snacks and candy.

According to Nielson, if people eat out more, they probably don't pay much attention to what they are eating. There is

See Obesity, 2

Student creativity on display



Photo by Callie E. Butler | Staff Photographer

MTSU alumnus Grant Fletcher signs the guest book at the opening of the Student Photography Show last night in the McWherter Learning Resources Center.

University honoring retiring staff

Employees talk on plans for future

By Alex Roach
Contributor

MTSU will host a reception tomorrow honoring 35 of its retiring employees for their service to the university.

Some of the employees were with MTSU for more than 30 years and saw many changes take place within and around the campus.

Retiree Harriette Gaida was involved with two library expansions, one being the construction of the James E. Walker Library.

"It took about three years before we could wipe the silly grins off our faces," Gaida said in regards to the new library. "It's been a real pleasure to work in the new building."

Keith Carlson, a graduate studies professor in the psychology department since 1995, also saw many changes and is proud to have been part of the MTSU faculty.

"I've seen the university grow immensely, and many, many things are positive in the leadership and quality," Carlson said.

The ranges of positions the retiring staff held, or are still

holding, include, janitors, professors in numerous departments ranging from art to biology and various administrative posts.

Gaida, who was with the MTSU library system for 31 years, enjoyed her experience at MTSU, but said she feels there is always room for improvement.

"I don't think [MTSU students] get a good idea of what research is from their classes here," Gaida said.

"I don't know why that is, because all the professors here to get a doctorate, so they have some idea of what research is."

Some of the faculty will leave to pursue other interests.

Gaida will pursue a post-retirement career working with a friend in a developing bookstore's Web site.

English professor Margaret Ordoebadian, on the other hand, will continue her teaching career

with a post-retirement position for the next four years, though she doesn't know if she will teach all four years.

She has, however, been glad to have seen her influence in students throughout her career as they moved through the education system.

"The real pleasure has been seeing the fruits of earlier teachings come out in later semesters," Ordoebadian said.

The reception will be held in the James Union Building's Tennessee Room from 2 p.m. to 3 p.m. ♦

Grammy-nominated writer to discuss music industry jobs

Author uses real life inspiration for hit singles

Staff Reports

Grammy nominated songwriter and author Kelly Lovelace will share his knowledge of music publishing and the music industry in general with MTSU students in his lecture tomorrow.

Lovelace's last single, "I Just Wanna Be Mad," was a recent No. 1 hit for country artist Terry Clark.

"It feels just as good now as it did when I had my first No. 1," Lovelace said in a press release.

The songwriter also wrote a 132-page book titled *If You've Got a Dream, I've Got a Plan*.

The book lets aspiring artists know how to get a foot in the door of the music business.

Born in Paducah, Ky., and reared in Hixson, Tenn., Lovelace now lives in Franklin with his wife Karen and son McCain.

His son became the inspiration for Lovelace's breakthrough song and first No. 1, "He Didn't Have to Be."

The song was co-written and performed by country music artist Brad Paisley.

Artist Thomas Lovelace a nomination for "Song of the Year" from the Academy of Country Music, the Country Music Association and TNN Music Awards.

The single earned "Song of the Year" from *Music Row Magazine* and the TNN Music Awards.

In addition to the his first and most recent hit songs, Lovelace also wrote two hits for Paisley, "Wrapped Around" and "Two People Fall in Love."

He also wrote Joe Nichols' first No. 1, "The Impossible."

The lecture will take place in the John Bragg Mass Communication Building, Room 104, from 6 p.m. to 7:15 p.m.

For more information, contact Lisa Rollins at 898-2919 or lrollins@mtsu.edu. ♦



Lovelace

Women at higher risk for heart-related death

By Jennifer Bardoner
Staff Writer

What do 1 million American men and women have in common? They will all die from cardiovascular disease this year.

"Cardiovascular disease is a blanket term that encompasses all types of heart and vascular diseases, including myocardial infarctions, or heart attacks, coronary disease, the precursor to heart attacks, congestive heart failure, blood pressure abnormalities, circulatory problems and strokes," said MTSU nursing professor Susan Prevost.

Although it is the No. 1 killer of both sexes, women are still at a higher risk for death related to the disease than men, a trend that's held true for several years.

"For every year since 1984, the number of female deaths has significantly exceeded the number of male deaths," Prevost said. "In 2000, cardiovascular disease caused the deaths of 505,661 females compared to 440,175 males."

Compare that with the number of women who die each year from breast cancer, which is commonly seen as one of the biggest threats for women.

"In that same year, 267,009 women died from cancer (all forms), and 41,872 died from breast cancer," Prevost said.

Prevost explained the misconception and why more women than men die each year of heart disease.

"There is a general perception that heart disease is a 'man's disease,'" Prevost said. "Therefore, many women and their physicians tend to ignore the symptoms, or warning signs in women until it is too late."

According to Prevost, the

symptoms, or risk factors, of heart disease include: smoking, unhealthy diet, lack of exercise, high blood pressure, high cholesterol, diabetes and obesity. Also, people age 55 or older and those with a family history of heart disease are at particularly high risk.

The best thing to do if you fall into one of these categories is simply be aware of your potential for the disease and work to modify your lifestyle.

"Know the cardiac risk factors and control the factors that are controllable," Prevost advises.

"Stop smoking, modify diet and exercise to control blood pressure and cholesterol levels, have your blood sugar checked and work to keep it within a healthy range, get as much physical activity as possible and keep your weight within a healthy range for your height. Talk with your physician or nurse practitioner about the factors that increase your personal potential for heart disease."

The American Heart Association's Web site offers tips and sample questions in this regard. The question and answer sheets provided are designed to help you minimize your risks and maximize your knowledge and ability to successfully interact with your doctor on the subject.

Just in case it's too late, knowing how to respond in the event of a heart attack is critical. Life or death can come down to a matter of seconds, according to the AHA.

Both sources encourage the public to know the symptoms and what to do.

"Classic symptoms of a heart attack include crushing, squeez-

ing chest pain, pain in the arms, neck, jaw or back, shortness of breath, lightheadedness and breaking out in a cold sweat," Prevost said.

"However, women of any age and elderly men frequently have heart attacks without the classic 'crushing chest pain.' Instead, they would have a combination of these other symptoms. They also frequently have an overwhelming feeling of anxiety and impending doom, as if, 'I know something terrible is wrong with me, but I'm not sure what it is.'"

The AHA recommends getting immediate medical attention for anyone who appears to be suffering from a heart attack. Don't wait longer than five minutes before calling 911. Don't drive them to the hospital yourself, unless the paramedics can't be reached. Time is of the essence, and the EMT can begin administering treatment as soon as they arrive on the scene and can also get the person to the hospital faster - up to an hour sooner than if driven by car. In addition, patients who arrive by ambulance are often treated faster than others.

The best way to save a life is to be aware of all the risk factors. Along those lines, the AHA has many links on their Web site, and Prevost notes that they're beginning a new program targeted toward women.

"This year the American Heart Association is specifically focusing a public educational campaign to encourage women to be more aware of the risk factors and symptoms of cardiovascular disease," Prevost said.

Visit www.americanheart.org for more information on how to reduce your risk of heart disease. ♦

Obesity: Good diet, exercise at early age proven to extend lifespan, experts say

Continued from 1

also a good chance that fruits and vegetables are not being consumed at these establishments often, so people don't get the amount of nutrients they need.

The nutritional value of fast food items is a concern for many Americans. In an effort to cater to these concerns, many establishments added healthier options to the menu. One such restaurant is Wendy's, which features salads as well as hamburgers.

At MTSU, many of the food options are not the healthiest.

However, all the eateries offer limited healthy options to patrons such as sandwiches and salads.

One can drive down the road and see at least four or five different food options per block. Convenience is the most appealing part of the fast food business.

In December 2001, Surgeon General David Satcher declared obesity is America's soon to be number one killer.

Recently, a man sued McDonald's, Burger King, Wendy's and Kentucky Fried Chicken claiming the deceptive practices in the products' nutri-

tional information led to his obesity. He also cited a consumer addiction to the establishments.

The lawsuit was thrown out, and as a result, this case became a precedent for future lawsuits. Many lawsuits surfaced claiming consumer addictions due to items such as cigarettes. Those plaintiffs received favorable nod by the courts of the United States.

"Overeating is a bad habit and is one of the pitfalls of human nature," said Walter Olson of the Manhattan Institute said on www.protein-wisdom.com. ♦

Calico: Player to change uniform number

Continued from 1

were going to be there. We actually started to talk about several other players," Fisher told www.titansonline.com.

Calico comes to the Titans after having a big senior season, which earned him a spot on the All-Sun Belt first team. Calico led the Blue Raiders with 45 catches for 606 yards and four touchdowns. During his four years at MTSU, Calico caught 194 passes, gaining 2,636 yards with 12 touchdowns.

"I've got a lot of potential, but I just have to get used to running routes - the NFL style routes, just basically playing NFL ball. I have a lot of learning to do, but that will come in the course of dealing with my coach," Calico said on the Titans' Web site.

Kendell Newsome was the only player from MTSU taken in last year's draft. The Jacksonville Jaguars picked Newsome in the seventh round.

A big plus for Calico going to play for the Titans is the chance for his family and friends to see him play.

"It's real nice. Now I know on Sundays I'll have a lot of ticket requests. It feels real good, because I know my mom will come to every game," Calico said on the Web site.

Calico will have to change his traditional uniform number, 27, because current running back Eddie George has the number now.

In one of the biggest surprises in local college football, neither MTSU running backs Dwone Hicks nor ReShard Lee were selected in the draft. Both players will now become undrafted free agents. ♦



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From the Editorial Board

Fowler on the money with scholarship query

Sen. David Fowler recently has made quite a little mess for himself on capitol hill in Nashville.

Fowler, a Republican from Signal Mountain, Tenn., made what some have deemed racist remarks during a Senate session last Monday.

Questioning the financial accountability of students who would be receiving lottery scholarships, Fowler queried, "Just a real quick question. Where does the \$1,000 go? I mean, are we just going to write them a check for \$1,000 and they can snort it up their nose, buy kegs for the fraternity?"

Fowler's comments were immediately met with boos from his fellow senators. But the real backlash came when a group of about a dozen black lawmakers confronted Fowler about what he said, accusing him of being "the spokesman for the racist regime of the Tennessee Senate." One representative has even publicly called Fowler a dumbass.

While we won't pretend that every senator in the state Senate (or any politician anywhere) is a refreshing pool of egalitarian thought, we will try to call 'em like we see 'em. Fowler's statements, while inappropriate and crude, were hardly racially motivated.

If anything, they were offensive to poor people, cocaine addicts and Greeks. While black people are potentially members of all three aforementioned groups, so are white people and anyone whose skin color falls somewhere in between.

Perhaps the biggest casualty of the uproar – which prompted some lawmakers to call for Fowler's resignation – is what Fowler actually said. Most news reports omitted the question preceding his controversial statement.

Fowler's comment came after some senators considered an amendment to the lottery bill that would award an additional \$1,000 to students for books and supplies new students might need.

Fowler, defending his statement, said that he was simply calling into question the financial maturity of the average 18-year-old – not the average minority student.

Such an outcry over misconstrued statements can only serve to reinforce stereotypes that black people are financially irresponsible drug addicts, which is, of course, outrageous. We don't believe it and neither should our elected representatives. ◆

Senator's remarks hypocritical



American Bacon
Patrick Chinnery
Staff Columnist

Look out, families of America. Sodomites, incestuous partners and Hester Prynne idolizers are leading a charge to corrupt and destroy the backbone of society – our children and future.

That is of course, if you believe Sen. Rick Santorum (R-Pa.), who stated these and other deeply-held fears in an interview with *The Associated Press* on April 7.

The focus of the interview was a dialogue concerning how conservatism would protect and restore the rights of families that liberalism has so slyly taken away.

It must have been very sly, indeed, because last time I checked, lifestyle freedoms had only been limited by conservative governments.

Santorum argued that what has been established by the liberals' campaign were not rights at all, but the acceptance of a horrible philosophy.

"That sort of where we are in today's world, unfortunately. The idea is that the state doesn't have rights to limit individuals' wants and passions. I disagree with that. I think we absolutely have rights because there are consequences to letting people live out whatever wants or passions they desire. And we're seeing it in our society," Santorum said in the interview.

According to the senator, the consequences include the destruction of the nuclear family and the forfeiture of a decent, moral society. Interesting how he places no blame on irresponsible, heterosexual parents. Those certainly don't exist.

No, two-parent households took the noble step of introducing the concept of "quality time," as opposed to "quantity time." If little Billy has one solid hour of good, moral fun a week, he won't

spend the other 14 hours a week after school before his parents come home smoking crack and vandalizing tool sheds. One concentrated hour is certainly more effective than 15 casual ones.

It must be noted that Santorum's problem isn't with homosexuals, per se. It's with the expression of their love.

"I have no problem with homosexuality. I have a problem with homosexual acts. As I would with acts of other, what I would consider to be, acts outside of traditional heterosexual relationships," Santorum said.

He elaborated, "Whether it's polygamy, whether it's adultery, whether it's sodomy, all of those things are antithetical to a healthy, stable, traditional family."

Most rational people would agree adultery disrupts a family's life. Polygamy may be questionable, but Jews were practicing it for centuries before Christianity came to town. Sodomy, however, has little to do with how

families are maintained. It happens in a bedroom. To children, it's irrelevant how parents express their love, so long as it's done with affection. Children don't want to ever see any kind of "special hug." Furthermore, heterosexual couples can practice sodomy as easily as homosexuals can.

Santorum's illogical views on sexual congress are merely a symptom of a condition most politicians from both parties suffer from – hypocrisy.

Earlier in the interview, Santorum stated that one way conservatives would save the American family from liberals would be to give them more money in their pocketbooks by lowering taxes.

His rationale was, since he earned his money, it was his property and he had the right to decide which programs and causes it will support.

This is a noble idea – doing what one pleases with one's own property as long as it causes no harm to another person. The hypocrisy lays in the fact

that Santorum doesn't recognize his, or anyone else's, body as personal property. Nothing is more personal than a body.

Santorum believes its citizens' passions and wants. He must learn to recognize the fact that citizens, not governments, have rights.

That is what distinguishes our form of government from every other government in history. Our nation was founded to protect the individual, and all his property, from governmental interference.

Limiting the right to privacy is the moral equivalent of the taxation Santorum so strongly opposes.

If he wants to take up the mantle of moral crusader, he must first develop a consistent philosophy. Until he does, rational Americans must never take him seriously. ◆

Patrick Chinnery is a senior political science major and can be reached via e-mail at pw2c@mtsu.edu.

Prison initials cause for hope, not celebration



I'm Just a Girl
Wendy Caldwell
Staff Columnist

A beacon of hope lit America last week when, according to a report by *The Associated Press*, Americans in Iraq found what may be the initials of a Navy pilot missing from the first Gulf War.

Michael Scott Speicher, the only American missing from the 1991 Gulf War, was pronounced "killed in action" after his plane was shot down in Iraq. However, last year, his status was changed to "missing in action, captured" due to new intelligence.

Last week, on the walls of an Iraqi prison, U.S. investigators found "MSS" on a wall. Michael Scott Speicher. MSS.

Of course, there are probably many people with those initials, and there are probably even a few who have been held in Iraqi prisons. Then there's the thought that someone else did it to make people think he's alive. There are all kinds of possible scenarios.

An attorney for the Speicher family finds the news hopeful and mentioned information pointing to Speicher being "alive and in captivity."

In captivity? You mean at the zoo? That's what comes to mind when one utters the phrase "in captivity." Maybe he's hanging out with the polar bears and the other animals not typically found in Iraq.

No, I don't actually think he's at the zoo, but that sounds better than a prison. The Baghdad Zoo received food from

Kuwait last week, and the Iraqi soldiers have helped feed the animals. It's a cute war story.

I do hope Speicher is alive, but jumping to that conclusion because of initials found on a wall really doesn't fit.

If the initials were proven to be his, all that would affirm is that Speicher was once at that prison. Maybe if they had found "MSS 2002," I'd be a bit more hopeful.

I'm sure our military will look into this, but in the meantime, we need to keep level heads. While it's exciting that these may be Speicher initials, it still tells us nothing of his status or whereabouts.

Instead of rejoicing and celebrating about some letters, let's actually try to find the guy now. Assuming he's alive, he was declared dead for a good 10 or 11 years. If he was captured, Iraq has a good head start. Ten years is a long time to figure out where to stash someone where he won't be found, whether he's living or not.

I hate to sound like a cynic, but if he's survived 11 years after being captured in Iraq, then he deserves every medal we have. We should even create a new medal for him, like a welcome home present. "Sorry we said you were dead for 10 years," or perhaps something a little catchier.

We're claiming victory, but there's so much we still need to accomplish. If we think Speicher is alive today, then let's bring him home. I'm sure there would be some mighty happy people to see him. ◆

Wendy Caldwell is a sophomore math major and can be reached via e-mail at VISA717@aol.com.

Letter to the Editor

Media lacking in defense of homosexuals

To the Editor:

On Dec. 5, 2002, Sen. Trent Lott made several remarks about how segregation would have saved the country "all these problems over all these years." The public uproar was immediate and severe; following 15 days of criticism and calls for blood from all corners, Lott resigned his post as Senate Majority Leader.

On March 3, 2003, Rep. Jim Moran told a group of his constituents that a Jewish conspiracy was driving the current war with Iraq. Cue media outrage.

On April 7, 2003, Sen. Rick Santorum said in an interview with *The Associated Press* that homosexual sex is on par with incest, pedophilia and bestiality and as such should be illegal. He then went on to say that gays are undermining "the fabric of our society" and the destruction of the "healthy, stable, traditional family." The silence has been deafening.

The response to Santorum's comments is a saddening indicator that the land where all men are created equal still has a way to go before it can wear that title honestly. Discrimination against gays is the new racism, the last socially acceptable refuge of the bigot. All over this land, gays and those sticking up for their rights can safely expect an assault of some kind, verbal at the minimum, physical at the probable.

To those who cite moral purity and religious convictions as grounds for attacking homosexuality, I say this: Less than 100 years ago, segregation and sterilization, of both the blacks and the Jews, were considered measures for maintaining such purity and convictions. Today, it would be unthinkable for someone to take the stand that sex between a black couple be made illegal.

I applaud the work the civil rights movement did over the past decades. However, "civil" does not stop at the bounds of race. Civil rights means all – gay or straight, black or white – are equal, both under the law and in the public eye. Until this is accomplished, some will still be more equal than others.

Collin Winter

WHAT A SCHMUCK!!

Sidelines' occasional watch for mutton-heads.



With all the lottery brouhaha that's going on, this week's schmuck is amazingly appropriate.

An anonymous Quebec man, who is on welfare, mind you, is suing the provincial Loto-Quebec because he spent \$840 Canadian (roughly \$575 American) in March on an assortment of tickets – none of which won.

He is suing for damages of \$879,58C, which includes the cost of the tickets, \$5.75C for a registered letter he sent to Loto-Quebec and \$35.85C in traveling expenses from when he went to the lottery's office to make a complaint in person.

Wow, what an idiot. While we hate to give anti-lottery forces any ammunition, this case certainly could add fuel to the fire. It's a good thing the man was from Quebec – everyone in the world expects less from him or her, so we don't have to take the story that seriously.

This does go a long way to prove, however, just how lazy and irresponsible some people are. Everyone who plays the lottery knows there is some level of risk it's called gambling. If everyone won, it would be called, "The super-

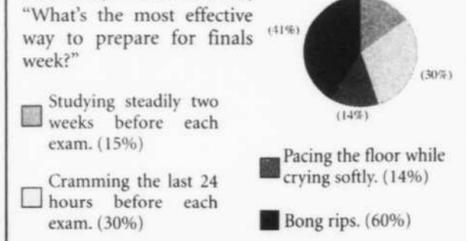
special money tree." People losing is how the state (or, in this case, province) makes money. That's how the governmental entity pays for scholarships or old people or whatever. That's how things have to work, or no state would implement a lottery.

Yes, this man had pretty horrible luck. \$840 is a ridiculous amount to spend just to lose. He should have played the scratch-off Bingo game. Man, that thing is a cash cow. We bought some of those on a trip and came away enough money to buy an exquisite meal consisting of a hot dog and soda.

Are we going to see a story like this in *The Tennessean* or *The Chattanooga Times-Free Press* in the coming years? Perhaps – but we doubt it. We have our flaws as citizens of Tennessee, but we're all better than the Quebecois. ◆

Original story from *Canadian Press*, April 18.

Sidelines online poll results



Sidelines will resume publication on June 4. See you then.

SIDELINES

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

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

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Letters Policy

Sidelines welcomes letters to the editor from all readers. Please e-mail letters to slopinio@mtsu.edu, and include your name and a phone number for verification. Sidelines will not publish anonymous letters. We reserve the right to edit for grammar, length and content.



GRADUATION SPECIAL

4 ◆ SIDELINES

Monday, April 28, 2003

Murfreesboro, Tenn.

Graduation preparation

By **Stephanie Hill**
Staff Reporter

As the end of the semester approaches, the Records Office has issued a memo addressing graduation instructions for undergraduate and graduate students who will graduate in May.

From April 30 until May 10, graduates can pick up their regalia at Phillips Bookstore. Times are: April 30 through May 2 and May 7 through May 9 from 7:45 a.m. until 4:30 p.m., May 5 and May 6 from 7:45 a.m. until 6 p.m. and May 10 from 7:30 a.m. through 9:30 a.m.

Graduates are to be lined up at the Murphy Center at promptly 9:30 a.m., with the ceremony starting at 10 a.m. Anyone not in line at 9:30 a.m. will not be allowed to participate in the ceremony. Anyone not attending the ceremony should have submitted in writing a request to the Records Office before April 21.

Students should complete all requirements for an undergraduate degree by 10



a.m. May 10. Incompletes must be removed by 4:30 p.m. on May 2. Students removed from degree candidacy will be able to march in the procession; however, his or her name will not be called at the ceremony. All students graduating with a graduate degree must take a comprehensive exam and should contact their major adviser regarding the date for the exam.

All graduate students need to register with the Career and Employment Center before they graduate for job search assistance as well as job and resume referrals. Students getting initial teaching certificates in school counseling for grades 7-12 and school psychologists need to contact the Teacher Licensure Office, located in the Learning Resources Center, Room 170.

Diplomas will not be issued to any student with outstanding debts, such as parking tickets. Any outstanding debts should be cleared in the Business Office, in Room 105 of the Cope Administration Building, by 4 p.m. May 9.

For students graduating with honors, such as cum laude, magna cum laude or summa cum laude, the honor is determined by the cumulative grade point average on degree-credit courses at the beginning of the student's final semester; the honor notation on the diploma and transcript is determined by the cumulative average on

See **Graduation, 5**



Photo by **Jamie Lorance** | Staff Photographer

Deborah Hall, secretary in the School of Nursing office, works on faculty travel expenses. Due to nursing shortages, most graduates of the school have several job opportunities and are offered various benefits.

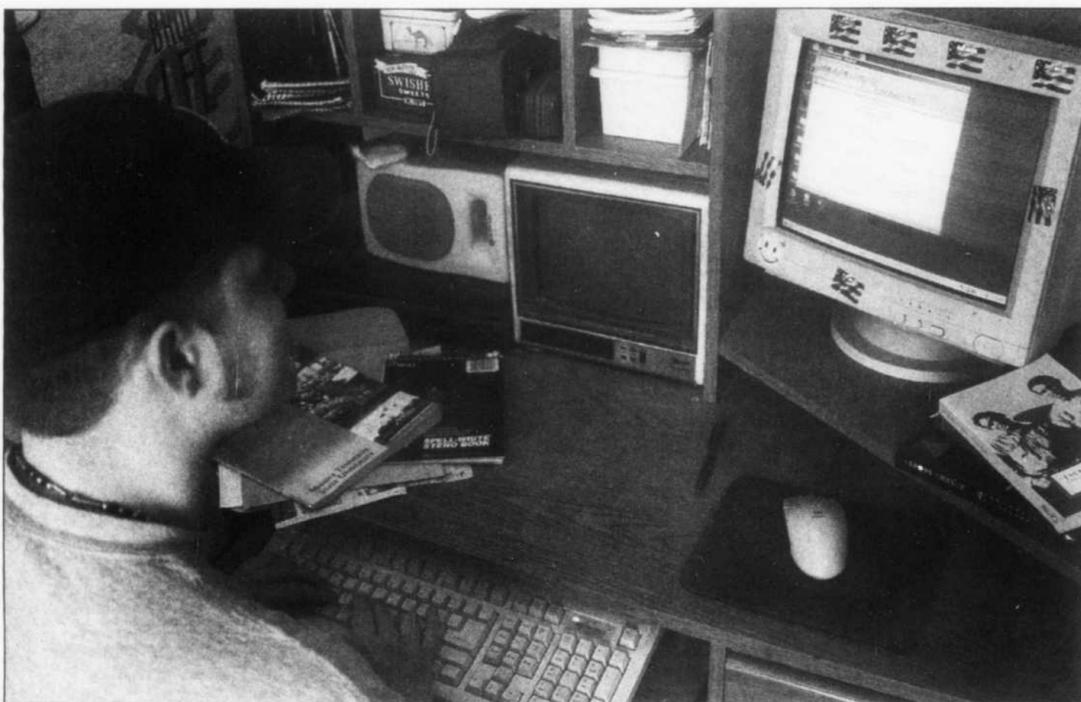


Photo illustration by **Jamie Lorance** | Staff Photographer

A student works on a resume. The Career and Employment Center offers tips to create an effective resume.

Career Center offers resume tips

By **Jennifer Bardoner**
Staff Writer

With graduation just around the corner for some and way down the road for others, it's always a good time to start thinking about the crucial step of getting a job — your resume.

Karen Austin of the Career and Employment Center said it's never too early to start thinking about your future.

"I tell people to start their resume early on, so they can know ahead of time which areas need work, and so they can focus on developing those areas," Austin said.

According to Austin, the

most basic of those areas are an objective statement — what position you are applying for and why — education, honors (if applicable), related experience, activities (social, academic and professional) and skills. Austin describes this last section as "soft skills," such as salesmanship, public speaking and knowledge of specific software programs.

Now the hard part — putting it all together in a way that makes you sound better than the person sitting next to you. And whether you're a senior or a freshman, writing a good resume can still be difficult.

According to Austin, the most common problem stu-

dents have is knowing what to put on their resume.

"It's really just translating their skills and putting them on paper," she said. "Students go into work every day, but they don't think about their skills. They have a lot more skills than they realize. They think, 'Well, I'm just assistant manager at Hastings,' but that's time management and leadership right there."

She also urges students to spell check their resume, saying many people have spelling errors on their resumes. She also said high school information doesn't have much of a place on a resume.

Austin and several others

are regularly available to help students build their resumes. Students can meet with Austin, Martha Turner, Amy Whiticker or Mimi Thomas Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. Call the Career and Employment Center at 898-2500 to schedule an appointment.

If you already have a resume, bring it, and they'll help you improve it.

If you don't have one, they have plenty of books to get you started.

You can also visit their Web site at www.mtsu.edu/~career. If you still don't know where to start, they'll walk you through it. ◆

Employers court nursing majors during shortage

By **Kristin Hall**
Staff Reporter

Junior Christina Land isn't worried about finding a job after graduating from MTSU's School of Nursing.

Despite the nation's continued economic slump, the nursing job market is wide open and actively recruiting new graduates.

"We'll definitely get jobs, especially in the Middle Tennessee area," Land said.

If Land seems confident, it's because the School of Nursing has the numbers to back up those statements.

According to polls of last year's spring nursing graduates, there were a total of 37 job offers ranging in salary from \$35,400 to \$47,800.

"There is a critical shortage of nurses," said Pamela Holder, director of the School of Nursing.

"We've gone through shortages in cycles in the past, but this one is more chronic and very different," Holder said.

Holder estimates the graduates this year have two to three job offers each.

Many nursing employers are offering graduates special benefits if they agree to work, often in the form of sign-on bonuses, full-time baby-sitting services and even lawn mowing and housekeeping.

"We are seeing renewed interest in nursing as a career, but there are simply not enough people in the pipeline to meet the demand," Holder said.

A lack of teaching staff at nursing schools is one reason the supply of nurses hasn't been kept steady.

"It (the teaching shortage) restricts the number of students we can admit, so we are not able to address the need as quickly as we'd like to," Holder said.

Furthermore, statistics show the average age of the working nurse is 42, which implies that in coming years a large portion of current nurses will retire.

Nursing schools lost students due to changes in the health care industry and drawbacks associated with the job.

Managed care, such as Medicare and Medicaid, altered the health care industry with shorter hospital stays and more outpatient care.

"That has, in some ways, presented new opportunities, but it has also presented significant stresses to the health care delivery environment," Holder said.

Furthermore, many students are not attracted to the pressure of the job and the work schedule.

"It involves pain and suffering as well as welcoming new life and a lot of joyful things into the world," Holder said.

Some students don't mind the stress. Land, who wants to go into emergency care or pediatrics, is one such student.

"I love the fast-paced work. As a nurse, you have to know how to deal with stress," Land said.

Nursing also offers schedule flexibility not normally available in other careers and opportunities to increase salary for graduates.

Holder identified two promising specialties, traveling nurse and intensive care nurse, which

See **Nursing, 5**

'Fortune' magazine lists top 100 companies to work for

By **Wendy Caldwell**
Staff Writer

For graduates seeking employment and students seeking internships, the Fortune 100 is a great place to start looking.

The Fortune 100, published by Fortune magazine in January, ranks the "100 Best Companies to Work For." Listed below are the top 10 from that list.

Edward Jones
Rank this year: 1
Rank last year: 1
Type of business: stockbroker
Headquarters: St. Louis, Mo.
Web site: www.edwardjones.com

For students: Edward Jones offers internships and co-ops. Students can submit resumes on the Web site.

What's great about this company: Edward Jones invests time in training its employees. Each employee receives an average of 146 training hours per year.

Add to that no layoffs last year and 25 percent of employees having no wonder Edward Jones is ranked No. 1.

Container Store
Rank this year: 2
Rank last year: 2
Type of business: retail
Headquarters: Dallas, Texas
Web site: www.containerstore.com

For students: Students can apply online at the company's Web site. Benefits include a 40 percent discount.
What's great about this company: This year employees will receive new benefits, such as free yoga classes and chair massages at some of the company's locations.

Alston & Bird
Rank this year: 3
Rank last year: 9
Type of business: law firm
Headquarters: Atlanta, Ga.
Web site: www.alston.com

For students: Alston & Bird has a summer program which provides summer associate jobs.

In addition to being assigned an associate contact, a mentor and a secretary, summer associates enjoy a three-day beach retreat.

What's great about this company: Alston & Bird is the first law firm to

make the top five in the Fortune 100. This company, too, had zero layoffs, and associate attorneys have a base salary of \$100,000.

Xilinx
Rank this year: 4
Rank last year: 6
Type of business: programmable logic, engineering, computer science (employees include software engineers and test operators)
Headquarters: San Jose, Calif.
Web site: www.xilinx.com

For students: Xilinx offers internships and accepts resumes year-round. Resumes can be submitted via e-mail. Information is listed on the Web site.

What's great about this company: Xilinx has a no-layoff policy.

While employees took a 6 percent pay cut last year, the CEO took a 20 percent cut.

Adobe Systems
Rank this year: 5
Rank last year: 27
Type of business: software, technology
Headquarters: San Jose, Calif.
Web site: www.adobe.com

For students: Adobe offers internships for students. They can submit a resume online on the Adobe Web site.

What's great about this company: Adobe offers a three-week paid sabbatical for every five consecutive years of employment.

Employees can also choose from a variety of benefits.

American Cast Iron Pipe
Rank this year: 6
Rank last year: 64
Type of business: Pipe manufacturing
Headquarters: Birmingham, Ala.
Web site: www.acipco.com

For students: ACIPCO offers tuition reimbursement for college.

What's great about this company: It has the lowest percent voluntary turnover of any company on the list, at 2 percent.

The company also has on-site clinics.

TDIndustries
Rank this year: 7
Rank last year: 4
Type of business: Construction firm
Headquarters: Dallas, Texas
Web site: www.tdindustries.com

For students: Resumes can be submitted online via e-mail. Addresses for different cities are available on the Web site.

What's great about this company: Health insurance costs are based on pay; those who earn less pay less for coverage. Sign-on bonuses are also available, and the retirement plan is the industry's best.

J.M. Smucker
Rank this year: 8
Rank last year: 24
Type of business: food products
Headquarters: Orrville, Ohio
Web site: www.smuckers.com

For students: Students can submit resumes online via the company's Web site.

What's great about this company: Employees can volunteer with unlimited paid time off.

The company focuses on people, both its employees and the communities.

The company also has health care for retired workers and offers on-site classes on quitting smoking.

See **Companies, 5**

College life full of memories, learning experiences

Opinion by Mealand Ragland
Staff Columnist

Wow. I finally did it. With lots of financial support from my mother, I am going to be my family's first college graduate. In the back of my mind, it's, "Oh, well," but deep down, I feel a huge sense of accomplishment.

I'm going to miss this place. God no, not Murfreesboro! I'm talking about the college and all that came along with it.

I've learned some useful things that will help me survive when I get to the real world, whenever that is. I honestly thought I'd be spending my life as a "placement student." College is the only place where you can learn firsthand how to make do with what you

have. College students are the only people who can grocery shop with \$5 and feed themselves for a week. I've done it, and I'm most of you have, too. You didn't have much of a choice when Corlew (that's what we called McCallie when I first got here) was closed all weekend.

It's funny. I knew MTSU was the place I wanted to be before I even got here. It didn't take much thought after I found out our mass communication program was considered one of the best in the nation. Thanks to the staff, I'm not afraid to grow up and be a professional journalist. Thanks to all of you who let me have As in your classes.

I've seen a lot of things. Todd Library I arrived in August 1998. Todd Library was closed, and we got Walker Library.

We called it the "new" library for the longest time. I remember when Scarlett Commons was just a bunch of wood. I was part of the first class who lived in Cummings Hall for the First Year Experience. When times were rough during finals, I would always go down into the lobby for a movie marathon or a round of "Super Mario Brothers" on Nintendo. Those nights afforded for me exactly what college was all about—playing pranks on each other and getting to know people who were going through the same things I was. As I understand, Cummings hasn't been the same since we left.

For my fellow 2003 classmates, I have a few tips for you. In May, whether you're graduating in May, August or December.

First off, get a professional wardrobe. We've lived in jeans and sweats long enough. The clearance racks at Old Navy are a great place to start.

Secondly, do something meaningful before you leave Murfreesboro. Participate in a rally, volunteer—whatever. It'll give you a new appreciation for life and make you realize how fortunate you are.

Third, and finally, invest in some résumé paper. Make sure it's a neutral color, not those of your fraternity or sorority. Recruiters will notice the ecru and eggshell.

Now that all that's said and done, I can finally say good-bye to the long lines and overpriced food in the Keathley University Center. No more

walking through flooded parking lots just to find out class has been canceled, and no more missed classes because of snow only to find out later that the professor called roll.

All I have to look forward to now is addressing invitations, taking the required tests to make sure I've learned something and forwarding transcripts to the right schools. Sounds like high school all over again. Mom, this one's for you.

My sentence is up. I'm going back into the general population now. MTSU, I will always love you like a fat kid loves cake. ♦

Mealand Ragland is a senior journalism major and can be reached via e-mail at outkast789@hotmail.com.

Graduation: Guests should arrive early

Continued from 4

all degree credit courses at the end of the student's final semester.

Any graduating student who plans to re-enroll at MTSU for additional courses must file a re-enrollment form located in

the Admissions Office.

Students are instructed to silence their beepers and cell phones during the ceremony, which will take place on May 10 in the Murphy Center.

Guests attending the ceremony need to come early in order to find a seat as no tickets

will be distributed, and seating is limited.

Contact the Records Office in the Cope Administration Building, Room 102, with questions. They can be reached via telephone at 898-2600. ♦

Nursing: Up to 90 percent of MT nursing graduates find jobs in Middle Tennessee

Continued from 4

students can train for after graduation.

"For a young person who doesn't have a family, a traveling nurse is a wonderful opportuni-

ty to travel and see different parts of the country and to be compensated well for doing that," Holder said.

MTSU nursing graduates have a lot to look forward to in their careers, and as many as 90

percent find jobs in the Middle Tennessee area, Holder said.

"The nice thing about nursing is that there are options," Holder said. ♦

Companies: Several businesses attractive

Continued from 4

Synovus Financial Corp.

Rank this year: 9

Rank last year: 5

Type of business: financial services

(banking, mortgages, etc.)

Headquarters: Columbus, Ga.

Web site: www.synovus.com

For students: Students can submit resumes on the Web site. Jobs are listed by category, title and company.

What's great about this company: On-site child care, gym and a stock purchasing plan are just a few of the benefits Synovus' employees receive.

Wegmans Food Markets

Rank this year: 10

Rank last year: 68

Type of business: supermarket chain

Headquarters: Rochester, N.Y.

Web site: www.wegmans.com

For students: Wegmans has a scholarship program to help employees further their educations.

Applying for a job can be done on the Web site.

What's great about this company: Employees get paid time off to volunteer. Included is also paid time to take care of sick pets.

To find out more about any of these companies or for a complete list of the Fortune 100, visit Fortune's Web site at www.fortune.com/fortune/bestcompanies. ♦

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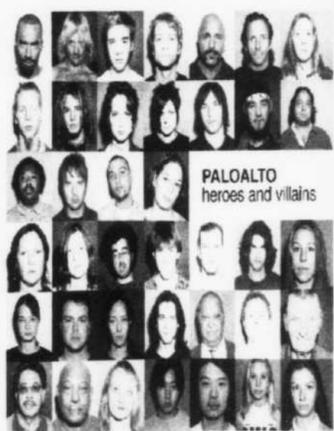
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Student's father in need of transplant

17,000 patients across the nation awaiting new liver

By Kristin Hall
Staff Reporter

Junior political science major Chamaine Harp was never in a hurry to get married or have children.

At least, not until she recently found out her father would need a liver transplant to live more than two years.

"It puts everything in perspective," the soft-spoken 31-year-old Chamaine says. "Now I feel like I have to get married because I have to have my dad walk me down the aisle. Everything feels urgent."

Her father Arnold lives with the hepatitis B virus, a disease that inflames the liver and can lead to liver damage over time.

The virus is spread through blood and other body fluids and can lay dormant in a person's body for years before diagnosis.

Although his doctors cannot be certain of the cause, Chamaine says he probably contracted the virus when he got a tattoo overseas during the Korean War.

"He always had some pains in his side, and he would never go to the doctor, just like a guy," Chamaine says.

His doctor started him on Interferon, a medication he developed cirrhosis, or degeneration, of the liver.

"His body tried to fight the medication, and it just destroyed his liver in the process," Chamaine says.

Now, Arnold is on the transplant list to receive a new liver, either from a cadaver or through a live donor transplant.

He will be joining the 17,000 other patients nationwide on the liver transplant waiting list, according to data provided by the United Network for Organ Sharing.

"Liver transplant surgery is one of the biggest operations you can have," says Julie Dykes, transplant coordinator in Vanderbilt's Liver Transplant program.

"The surgery takes anywhere from six to 10 hours," Dykes says. "Furthermore, a transplantation will cost around \$190,000 on average."

The Harp's insurance will cover only 80 percent of the cost of the transplant, leaving the family to foot the other \$38,000.

A live donor transplant is one option that the Harps are considering, but there is greater chance of complications than in a cadaver transplant.

"During live donor transplant up to 75 percent of the donor's liver can be taken, but there is a lot of risk involved to the donor," Dykes explains.

After the transplant, both the live donor's healthy liver and the recipient's portion of the liver will grow to full size.

Chamaine has four brothers and three sisters, all of whom are willing to undergo the live donor

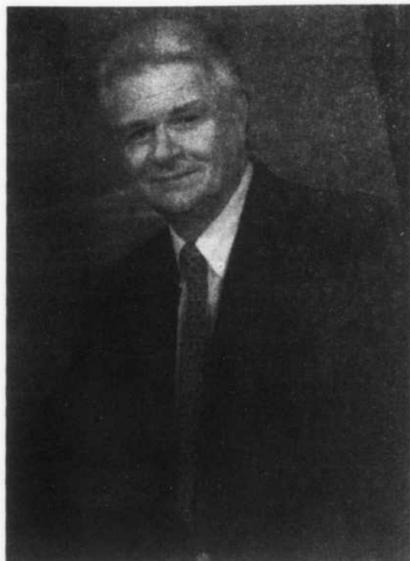


Photo provided

Arnold Harp, a 66-year-old retired welder, lives with hepatitis B and is one of thousands who is awaiting a transplant.

transplant, but Arnold's doctors want to wait as long as possible to get a cadaver liver.

"I think it would be worth the risk," Chamaine says. "I wouldn't want him to suffer or to be in bed another year."

Chamaine's family came together to support Arnold, each one of the siblings taking a day to regularly visit and care for him and everyone gathering for Sunday dinner.

The outpouring for Arnold, a 66-year-old retired welder.

"They've been tremendous," Arnold says. "It's humbling to see my children take care of me."

During this time, Chamaine's thoughts turn to the memories she shares with her father, of a 1950s-themed father and daughter dance.

Chamaine is reminded of her father slicking back his hair and she wearing a poodle skirt, both of them dancing to '50s music.

"I think those are my fondest memories of my dad," Chamaine says. "He was very involved in my life."

Together with these memories, both Chamaine and Arnold are struck by the preciousness of life.

"It's really devastating to find out someone just has a year to live, and you think of all the things you want to do," Chamaine says.

"I wished I would have spent more time just as a family, going away and doing things," Arnold says. "There was always something else that seemed more important at the time."

Despite his regrets, Arnold keeps a patient and optimistic attitude.

"It may take a little time, but I think it will work out," Arnold says.

If you would like to make a donation to the Harp's transplant fund, the account number is 37947281 at AmSouth Bank. ◆

Tornado-prone Tennessee spots dangerous location

Lawrenceburg site of 38 twisters in half a century

By Melissa Coker
Staff Writer

Until recently this year, the most tornado-prone point in the sprawling state of Tennessee remained unknown.

However, the folks of Vortek in Huntsville, Ala., used the Site Assessment of Tornado Threat 3.0 software to determine its exact location.

Without regard to population, it is a location in Lawrenceburg County, 7.5 miles west of Lawrenceburg and three miles south of the intersection of Mount Lebanon Road and Granddaddy Road.

From 1950 to 2001, 38 tornado track segments have touched down or passed within 20 miles of this point.

According to Vortek manager Frank Tatum, a track segment is one portion of a tornado track, as recorded by the National Weather Service.

These 38 tornado track segments have included seven F0 tornadoes, 11 F1s, 10 F2s, six F3s, two F4s and two F5s.

"There is much more area to search than just the big cities," advises Tatum, who has been working with Vortek for four years.

This illustrates in part how the location in Lawrence County was not overlooked, even though Nashville was determined to be the most tornado-prone city with a population in excess of 100,000.

The SATT software, developed by Vortek, has been used for 12 years.

Tatum says the best advice he can give to residents of surrounding areas is to simply stay aware and prepared.

Residents may also wish to contact their local Red Cross, as they provide kits for such disasters.

For more information on Vortek, visit their Web site at www.vortek.home.mindspring.com or e-mail them at vortek@mindspring.com. ◆

The Fujita (F) scale of tornado intensity is as follows:

- F0 Gale tornado: (40-72 mph) Some damage to chimneys; breaks branches off trees; pushes over shallow-rooted trees; damages sign boards.

- F1 Moderate tornado: (73-112 mph) The lower limit is the beginning of hurricane wind speed; peels surfaces off roofs; mobile homes pushed off foundations or overturned; moving autos pushed off the roads; attached garages may be destroyed.

- F2 Significant tornado: (113-157 mph) Considerable damage. Roofs torn off frame houses; mobile homes demolished; boxcars pushed over; large trees snapped or uprooted; light object missiles generated.

- F3 Severe tornado: (158-206 mph) Roof and some walls torn off well-constructed houses; trains overturned; most trees uprooted.

- F4 Devastating tornado: (207-260 mph) Well-constructed houses leveled; structures with weak foundations blown off some distance; cars thrown and large missiles generated.

- F5 Incredible tornado: (261-318 mph) Strong frame houses lifted off foundations and carried considerable distances to disintegrate; automobile-sized missiles are hurled through the air in excess of 100 meters; trees debarked; steel-reinforced concrete structures badly damaged.

- F6 Inconceivable tornado: (319-379 mph) These winds are very unlikely. The small area of damage they might produce would probably not be recognizable along with the mess produced by F4 and F5 wind that would surround the F6 winds. Missiles, such as cars and refrigerators would do serious secondary damage that could not be directly identified as F6 damage. If this level is ever achieved, evidence for it might only be found in some manner of ground swirl pattern, for it may never be identifiable through engineering studies. ◆

Cornbread festival brings small town together for food, fun

By Mealand Ragland
Staff Writer

What was cooking in South Pittsburg, Tenn., this weekend? Cornbread, and lots of it.

South Pittsburg, a small city about 30 miles east of Chattanooga, is home to the annual Cornbread Festival. The festival, designed to "celebrate the tradition of Southern cooking," is now in its seventh year, according to sponsor Martha White's Web site. This year's event drew food vendors from as far as Michigan and Wisconsin and brought participants all the way from Iowa.

Saturday, the festival kicked off at 8 a.m. with a 5K road race. At 9 a.m., the gates opened, and contests such as the Tennessee 4-H Cornbread Cookoff were under way. Four cornbread eating and buttermilk chugging contests were also held that day. Meanwhile, the crowd chomped down as vendors sold food to whet any appetite.

Gourmet roasted corn, smoked turkey legs and various forms of barbecue were sold by many vendors that made up the

food court, which lined both sides of Cedar Avenue. Churches, schools and civic groups sold homemade breads, cakes and pies to raise money. Non-alcoholic daiquiris, smoothies and freshly squeezed lemonade were on hand to wash everything down.

Those who weren't in the mood to eat could be entertained easily. On two stages sponsored by local banks, Bend of Grass and the Cathoula Brass Band provided music for everyone within earshot. At noon, the 10th National Cornbread Cookoff, with 10 finalists from Michigan, South Carolina, Texas and Tennessee, kicked off.

At 3:30 p.m., the judges announced who would take home the first-place prizes of \$4,000 and a Five Star range. Gaynell Lawson, of Maryville, Tenn., prepared a white chicken chili with cheddar hushpuppy crust to wow the judges and win first place. Nikki Norman of Milton, Tenn., placed second and Norita Solt of Bettendorf, Iowa came in third place.

Nedra Davis made the trip from Chattanooga with her son

to experience the festival for the first time. She says she was still in high school the first time she heard of the festival and found it hard to believe it actually existed.

"It was a lot nicer than I thought it would be," Davis says. "There is food everywhere."

Yesterday, a pancake breakfast and a worship service were scheduled to launch the second full day of activities. Trolley tours of the city's historic neighborhood and carriage rides were also offered.

Last night's highlight was the celebrity cornbread cook-off, which included Miss Tennessee, Beth Hood, Sen. Ward Crutchfield, and former University of Tennessee football standout Eric Westmoreland.

A member of the Jaguars, Westmoreland is from Jasper, Tenn., about 10 miles from South Pittsburg.

An event for the entire family, the festival has a carnival and many circus performers who roam the streets juggling or

See **Cornbread, 7**

Campus Events

Ongoing

The women of Alpha Theta Omega hold a prayer meeting every Thursday at 7 a.m. in the Keathley University Center. For more information, contact Ailisha Vaughn at 668-2616.

Now through May 2, Circle K is hosting a children's book drive to benefit the Christel House. There will be competitions between organizations, offices and individuals to see who can donate the most books. Prizes include pizza, money and vacations. All offices and organizations must register by April 22 to be eligible for prizes. Students and faculty can drop books off in the KUC, Room 326. For more information, contact Rebecca Pickering at 898-2533 or e-mail her at rep2c@mtsu.edu to obtain a form.

April 29

Golden Key Honor Society is sponsoring a Stress Out Day and needs volunteers to hand out information in front of the KUC. Contact Jenny Crouch at 898-2815 for more information on the event or to volunteer.

May 1

Campus Crusade for Christ will hold an end of the year picnic at 5 p.m. All students and faculty are invited. Contact 898-4259 for location information.

May 2-3

The MTSU Dance Company will host a dance recital entitled "Nothing But Dance" in Tucker Theatre at 7 p.m. each night. The show will feature a wide variety of dances

and is \$3 for all students, faculty and children six and under. Admission for the general public is \$5. Contact Angela Armstrong at 898-5857 for more information.

May 3

Alpha Delta Pi is sponsoring a cheerleading camp for kindergarten through eighth grade students in the Murphy Center from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. All proceeds will go to Alpha Delta Pi's philanthropy, The Ronald McDonald House. Contact Kristy Horn at 589-5591 for more information.

May 6

The Murfreesboro Youth Orchestra's spring concert will take place in the Wright Music Hall at 7 p.m. Contact their office at 896-3510 for more information.

May 9

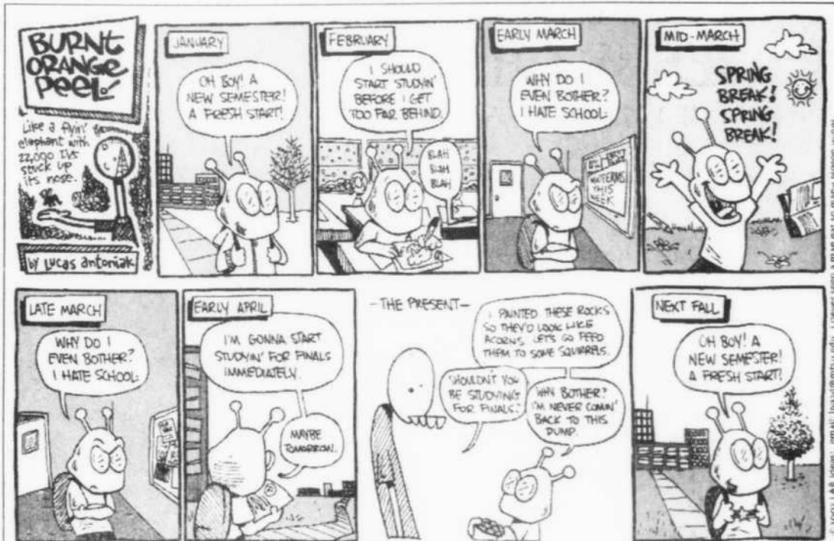
The School of Nursing will hold a pinning ceremony in the Wright Music Building at 7 p.m. for nursing students who will be graduating this spring. For more information, call 898-2437.

May 10

Spring Commencement exercises will be held at 10 a.m. in Murphy Center.

May 15-17

The National Spotted Saddle Horse show will be held at the Tennessee Livestock Center Thursday through Saturday. Contact Donna West at 890-2864 for more information. ◆



Cornbread: Variety of vendors at festival

Continued from 6

making balloon animals. A children's area is also set up, where they are participating in activities such as finger painting or arts and crafts. Artists can also be found drawing portraits or selling their own works of art. The Sequatchie Valley Electric Cooperative used bucket trucks

to let visitors get a bird's eye view of the streets below.

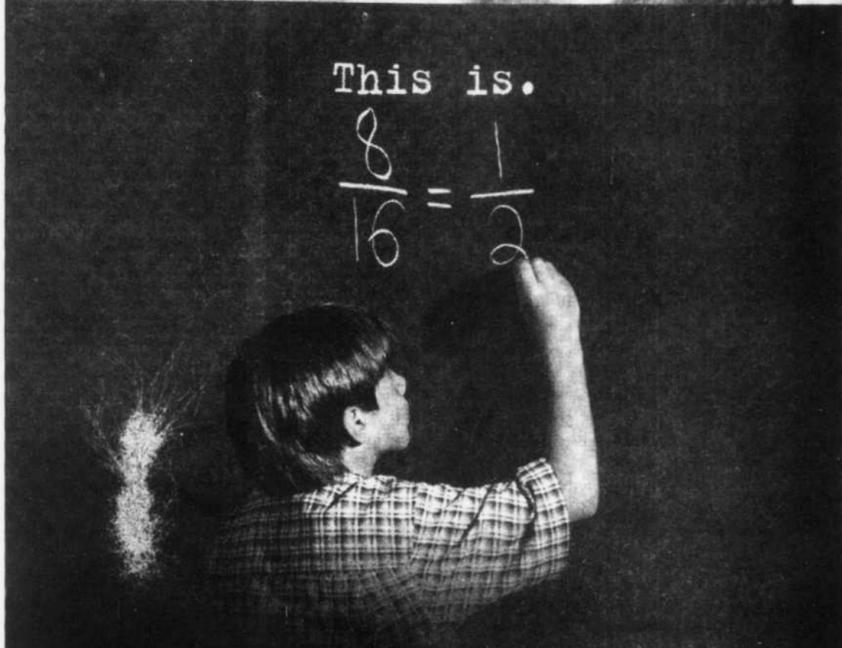
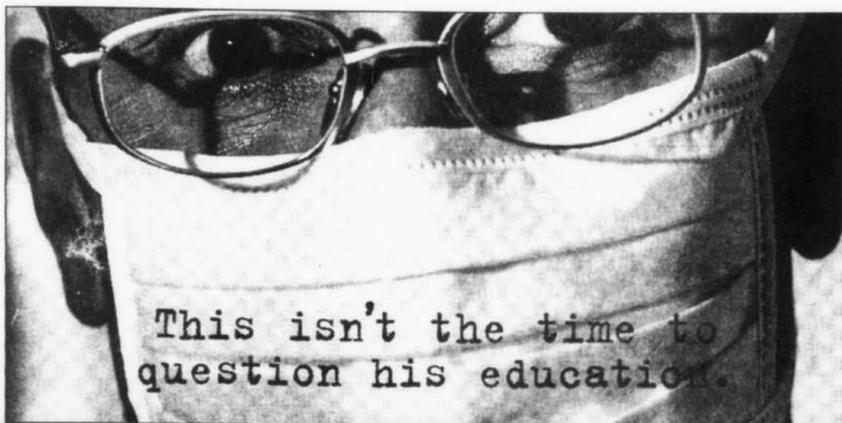
There were about 50 vendors and crafters exhibiting this year. Journey and Barb Rolling was the town and Barb Rolling, Wis., to sell kettle corn. They've been involved with the festival since it began, and although they do about 25 festivals a year, the Cornbread Festival is their

favorite, Barb says.

"This is our favorite, because of the people and the setup," she says.

"What other town has greeters at the fair to welcome you?"

Those who want to plan a trip to next year's festival should keep their calendars open the last weekend in April. ♦



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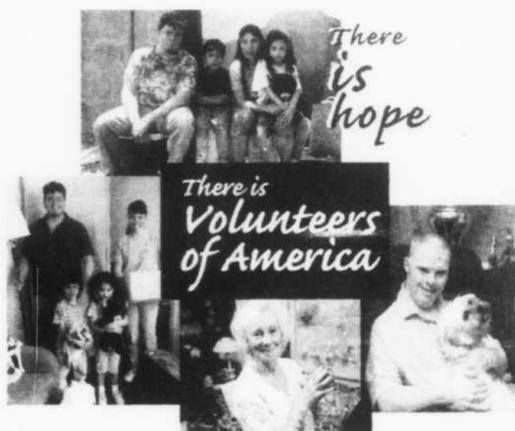


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MT drops two at Western Kentucky

By Osby Martin
Staff Reporter

Western Kentucky starter J.C. Faircloth went six shutout innings to lead the Hilltoppers to a 5-1 victory over Middle Tennessee Friday night at Nick Denes Field.

The Hilltoppers (23-15, 7-6 Sun Belt) got on the board with a run in the first for an early 1-0 WKU lead. The Hilltoppers got two more runs in the third. Travis Brown's two-out single to left made it a 3-0 WKU advantage. David Lower gave the home team a 4-0 lead with a leadoff home run in the fourth.

The Blue Raiders (21-23, 6-11 SBC) finally got on the board in the seventh. A pair of singles from Garrett England and Jeff Beachum preceded Nate Jagers' single up the middle to score a run, cutting the deficit to three at 4-1. The Hilltoppers added a run in their half of the seventh to make up the final score of 5-1.

MT pitcher Steve Kline (5-3) took the loss, allowing four runs, three earned, on eight hits in 3 2/3 innings, his shortest outing of the season. WKU's Faircloth (6-2) got the victory, giving up no runs and three hits in six innings.

Western Kentucky erased a four-run deficit with nine runs in the fourth and fifth innings en route to a 15-7 victory over Middle Tennessee Saturday

afternoon. The home-bound Hilltoppers claim the Sun Belt series, their second straight series win over the Blue Raiders, and looked for the sweep on Sunday.

The Blue Raiders got on the board with three in the first inning. Chad Cooper hit a three-run shot that gave MT a 3-0 lead. Western Kentucky got a run back in the bottom of the inning, as Rafael Vallejo led off with a bunt single and stole second. Trevor Keesling then hit a hard liner to center with two outs. The ball was dropped by the junior center fielder and rolled all the way to the wall. Vallejo scored easily.

Middle Tennessee added to the lead in the third, as Cooper belted his second homer of the game to leadoff the inning that added another run to give the Blue Raiders a 5-1 advantage.

The Hilltoppers clawed their way back into the contest with a two-run homer over the wall in left center, cutting the Blue Raider lead to 5-3.

WKU took the lead in the fourth with a single and stolen base. A wild pitch and a couple of base hits WKU a 7-5 lead.

The Hilltoppers took control of the game in the fifth with five runs on two hits and three Blue Raider errors.

A two-run homer in the inning and a sacrifice fly gave Western Kentucky a 12-5 cushion.

Archer blasted a two-run shot to left field in the seventh, cutting the Blue Raiders deficit to five at 12-7.

It was Archer's ninth home run in April. But Rafael Vallejo added insult to injury in the seventh for Western Kentucky, belting his first career home run over the left field wall for the final margin of 15-7.

The two teams concluded their three-game series Sunday at 1 p.m. The Blue Raiders belted the Hilltoppers 6-2.

MT will host New Orleans May 2-4 at Reese Smith Field beginning Friday at 7 p.m. ♦



England



Jagers

Baseball rallies late in game in 8-6 win over Austin Peay

By Josh Beasley
Assistant Sports Editor

The Blue Raiders were 0-17 while trailing after seven innings, but with the help of the bullpen and one swing of the bat from Jerry Knox, that all changed last Wednesday night when MT chipped away at Austin Peay to rally from behind and pick up the win 8-6.

The Goves wasted no time getting on the board in the top of the first. Ron Bethke got things going with a leadoff single to right followed by a bloop single to left by Travis Beech. With runners in striking distance, A.J. Ellis drove an RBI single to left to plate the Goves first run of the contest.

With no outs in the inning, and runners on second and third, Governors' cleanup man Chris Hyde grounded out to second for a 4-3 RBI fielder's choice, giving the Goves a pair of runs and a brief 2-0 lead before the bottom half of the inning.

The Blue Raiders chipped away in their half of the first to get within one, but the visiting Goves got the run back in the top of the third. Beech recorded his second hit of the day with a one-out single to right, and Ellis followed his lead with a line drive to the same location. With runners on first and second and the double play in effect, Blue Raider starter Shay Horseman got a two ball, but first baseman Josh Archer made a throwing error to second, loading the bases with Governor runners.

Designated hitter Tommy Smith lifted a Horseman fastball deep enough to allow Beech to tag up and score uncontested from third. With two down and runners on first and second, Brett Luther killed the Governor rally, grounding out to third for the 5-3 inning ending out.

The Goves built on their two run lead in the top of the fourth. With two outs and a chance to get out of the inning, a minor blunder in the infield followed by a string of AP hits gave the Governors a 6-1 lead after three and a half.

Once again the Blue Raiders got a single run in the bottom of the fourth with one crack of the bat. Third baseman Brett Carroll parked a 2-0 fastball to left, giving the slugger 11 on the season, tying a team high and two home runs in as many days.

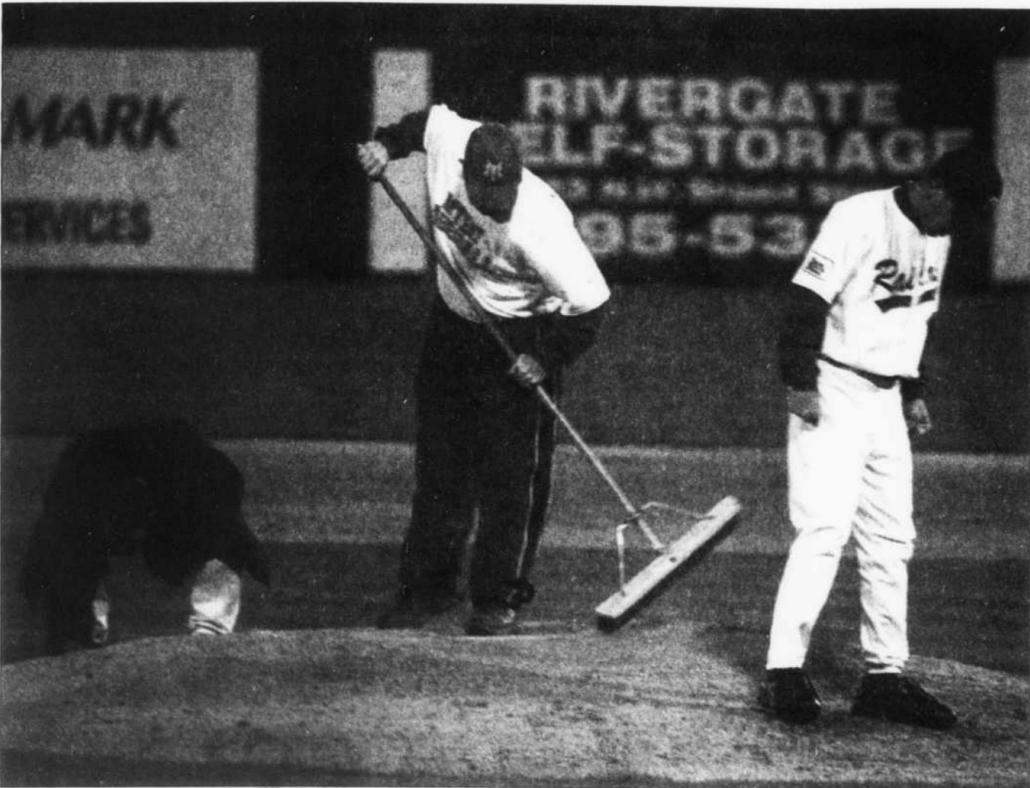
Horseman made his exit after four, surrendering six runs on nine hits, one walk and three Ks. Jerry Knox, Chris Moble, Danny Borne and Chase Swing were called upon to tame the AP hitters and in a joint effort, the relievers allowed no runs, one hit and struck out three in five innings of work.

"When somebody gets up ahead of you early, all you can hope for is that your bullpen is going to do what mine did tonight," said head coach Steve Peterson. "That gives the hitters opportunities to chip away and see what we can do with their pitchers."

MT got within one in the bottom half of the sixth. Carroll led off with a ground ball single through the left side before advancing to second on a wild pitch. Cooper batted at the plate and dropped a Texas

See Austin Peay, 10

Keeping up appearances



The Blue Raider field crew takes care of the odds and ends of maintaining Reese Smith Field. The field crew attends every game in order to help support the team.

Photo by Kevin Jones | Staff Photographer

By Trey Porter
Staff Reporter

Very few baseball fans know about the best-kept secret on Reese Smith Field. As the secret weapon of Blue Raider Baseball, they are a respected and dangerous trio — the three wise men of Reese Smith Field.

Justin Martin, Matthew Hall and Travis Lawson are normal MTSU students with extraordinary responsibilities and an undying love of baseball. They are all managers for the baseball team.

It was late last summer when Martin, a Clarksville, Tenn., native, decided to venture over to the fields and get involved.

"I told coach Peterson that I would do anything — field crew, water boy, laundry man [and] whatever he needed," Martin said.

Martin is the oldest of the three and is on track to graduate in December. He majored in broadcast journalism for three years before joining over to physical education.

In addition to Blue Raider baseball, Martin is in his third year of coaching a youth traveling team out of Clarksville.

"I just love the game, love being around it," Martin said.

The job of manager is a demanding one. The managers have to do anything and everything the team needs.

"We are 'professional squeegeers,'" Martin said. "One time [Coach Peterson] said go get the squeegees, next thing I know the three of us are ankle deep in water, soaking up the outfield."

Hall and Lawson came into this position together. They are high school friends from Oakdale, Tenn. They're the veterans of the trio, both in their second year.

Hall is a criminal justice major who hopes one day to work border patrol.

"It's an easy job, and you make good money," Hall said about his future career.

Lawson is the Mr. Fix-It. Currently, his major is undeclared; however, he is considering engineering. Lawson's favorite aspect about the job is traveling to away games and being around baseball. The only thing he really dislikes



MT graduate assistant coach Tim Crunk helps out the field crew by raking around the bases after games.

Photo by Kevin Jones | Staff Photographer

about the job is the occasional complaints.

"I hate when the players complain," Lawson said.

Hall has plans to be a manager until he graduates. He said he really learned a lot from Peterson. One of his favorite things is being around the team.

"I like being around the game, the guys, it's like a family out here," Lawson said.

The three are also professionals when it comes to keeping up a baseball field. Their job starts early. All three must be at the field four hours before each game.

First, they water the infield dirt. That is followed by nail the grading the dirt, then dragging the dirt with a flat brush

to give it a clean, fresh look.

Following their initial routines, they then water the dirt again, fix the field, paint the bases and fix the mounds (home and the pitcher's) by sweeping and tamping clay together.

Next come the dugouts. They rotate to clean out both dugouts, set up batting practices and pitch the blue mesh down for infield practice.

After finishing up odds and ends, they sit back and enjoy the game. Well, at least two of them do. They rotate ball duty at three innings apiece.

They know everything there is to know about Blue Raider baseball from the inside out; thus, they the truly are the three wise men of Reese Field. ♦

Softball picks up Sun Belt series win on the road at NMSU

Staff Reports

The Lady Raiders blanked New Mexico State at the NMSU softball complex in the first two games (9-0, 2-0 Sun Belt) of a four-game series Saturday.



Preator

Stacy Preator extended her winning streak over the course of the two games to a record 45 innings without allowing a run.

The first game saw Preator break her career record for most wins in a season by winning both games of the double header.

Outfielder Katie Tompkins hit her first home run as a Lady Raider when she plated two runs with a lone ball over the left field wall in the second inning.

Her home run gives the Lady Raiders 19 for the season, which ties Middle Tennessee's record

for most home runs hit in a single season.

Middle Tennessee started the first game strong and the momentum never stopped as the Lady Raiders blew out NMSU 9 to 0.

Pitcher Valerie Swanson



Swanson

came into the game in the fourth inning to throw two

innings of relief, allowing only one hit and striking two out.

All that changed in the ninth inning, with Cortney Mitchell on second base and two outs, catcher Leah Grothouse picked up her second hit of the series to send Mitchell in and break the tie.

Grothouse herself scored a run due to a NMSU miscue.

The next game will be a four-game series against Florida International beginning on May 3 at 12 p.m. and 2 p.m., with the next two games on May 4 at 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. ♦

NWA:TNA Wrestling Insider

By David Lawrence
Staff Columnist

To start off the National Wrestling Alliance's Total Nonstop Action, D-Lo Brown and A.J. Styles challenged Glenn Gilberti and Mike Sanders to a match. Brown did most of the grunt work, as Styles injured his knee during the melee. A great warm up match, which the crowd went completely nuts over, sadly ended in a disqualification, with Triple X teammates and tag team champs Jerry Lynn and the Amazing Red rushing in to help Brown and Styles.

The next match was supposed to be Elix Skipper and Christopher Daniels versus America's Most Wanted, James Storm and Chris Harris. But fate, or someone with a baseball bat, intervened, forcing Storm to go solo for most of the match. Harris came out late in the match to help his partner, but it was no use. Skipper and Daniels beat the sense out of the duo for the win.

In an "Ultimate Sin" match,

the Disciples of the New Church took on the former Extreme Championship Wrestling crew. The ultimate sin in question seems to involve a ladder and barbed wire, with some weapons scattered about. Why a ladder would have anything to do with ultimate sin, I have no idea. The match was brutal, with almost every man in the ring bleeding like a stuck pig, especially New Jack, who had a dollar bill stapled to his head. The ECW guys took home the victory.

The feud continued between Kid Kash and Trinity, with Trinity hitting some sick looking moves on her erstwhile partner. When both participants were dazed, the Harris brothers rushed out from the back, hit the H-bomb on Kash and draped the unconscious Trinity over Kash for the win.

Next, Justin Credible decided on the spur of the moment that he had to fight Slash. The match itself was no contest, but the crowd didn't care as The Sandman rushed out from the back with a flaming kendo stick

and nearly decapitated Slash.

Tag champs Jerry Lynn and the Amazing Red would have had the best match of the night, determining who got the shot at the X-title next week, if it weren't for that meddling "Truth" Ron Killings. Killings snuck a cheap shot in on Lynn, helping Red get the win.

Near the end of the show, Raven succeeded in taking Jeff Jarrett down, and he managed to get the NWA World Heavyweight champ in a straightjacket.

The lights went out, and when they came back on, I was stunned. Surrounding the prone champ was none other than the Sandman, New Jack, Perry Saturn and Justin Credible each of whom took turns beating the unholy stuffing out of Jarrett, leaving the champ a bloodied mess.

And with that, we close. If you are interested in seeing the magic live, then head on up on Wednesday's to the Tennessee State Fairgrounds in Nashville. General admission is \$10 and ringside is \$15. ♦

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2 bedroom, 1 1/2 bath townhouse apartment within walking distance of campus. Avail. May 1. Call 893-4768 or 907-1080. Leave a number if there is no answer. References Required.

2 bedroom/one bath apartment for rent beg. June. Close to campus. \$300 deposit/\$510 a month. Call Stephanie or Maranda at 893-2674.

4 bedroom / 2 bath condo. 1/2 mile from MTSU. \$850 per month, plus deposit. Call 849-5896. Modern Efficiency in Historic Home. Walking distance from campus. \$500 includes utilities and cable. Call 456-3958. Apt. for rent @ Univ. Courtyard. Rent \$385. Dep. \$300 but I will pay half. Move in immediately. Lease ends July 31, 2003. Call 907-2261 or call-forbret@comcast.net. Room for rent. Male preferred. 1 bedroom with 2 bathroom apartment in a 2 bedroom apartment. Move in anytime after exams. \$425 includes, furniture, appliances, shuttle service to school. Ground floor at Sterling Apartments. Call Nick at 423-503-6187 with any questions.
Hurry! Hurry! One bedroom for rent in a two bedroom apt. Rent only \$385. and pay only \$385. Includes everything- water, phone, cable, and bedroom items. Lease ends July 31st. Call 308-9700.

155 House for rent

3BD/3BA townhouse condo. W/D, stove and refrigerator furnished. Like new, just 2 blocks north of campus. \$975 a month plus deposit. 1 year lease, no pets. 615-289-6450.
1014 N. Maple St. \$700 a month. 2 bedroom with attic. 1 bath. 896-8540.
Large 2-story house 3 miles from campus. 5 spacious rooms for students. Female students preferred. \$250 a month + utilities. Discounts available. \$50 off 1st month rent for the first lease. \$300 security deposit. Fully furnished, washer & dryer, dish washer, microwave, central H/A and Culligan drinking water. Call 898-2005.
Roommate needed for two bedroom apartment. Rent is \$270/mo. and is with-in walking distance to MTSU. Responsibility and respect a must. Call Adam @ 849-3418.
Roommate needed for 3 bedroom apt. at SUH. Available at the end of fall semester. \$420/month includes washer/dryer, all bills (including cable.) I will pay you \$100 on move-in. Call 898-3588 or email jwh2q@mtsu.edu.
Roommate wanted: \$100 deposit, \$385 includes all utilities, washer & dryer, fully furnished. Call 615-907-3962 or 931-278-0043.
Two male roommates needed to move into 4bd/4ba apt. immediately. Pool, Jacuzzi, fitness center, b-ball and tennis courts, computer lab. W/D in apt. All utilities, phone and cable included. Will give you \$150 to move in. Call 347-3956 or 907-9563. Ask for David or Michael.

165 Roommates

Roommate needed for 3 bedroom house on West St. \$225 per month + 1/4 of utilities. W/D. 494-3670 mshane6@yahoo.com
Roommate wanted for 3BD/2BA in attractive apt. complex (W/D, pool, tennis, b-ball, fitness room). Close to MTSU. \$350 month + 1/3 utilities. Call 896-0107.
Roommate needed in 3 br house with 2 musicians a few minutes from campus. Rent is \$212.50 plus 1/3 utilities. ASAP Call 867-6970
Looking for 2 female roommates for a nice 3 bed/2 bath house near campus. \$360 a month per person, all util., cable and internet included. Call Ashley at 474-0002.
Roommate needed for small apartment from April-end of August. \$255/month plus phone. Male or female. Non-smokers. Cats Allowed. 896-3226.
Female non-smoking, responsible roommate wanted to move into 2 bedroom, 1 bath apt. at Tennessee Park in May 2003. Contact immediately Holly at 217-9501.
Roommate wanted at Chelsea Place. \$295.00 + 1/2 util. call 896-3612.
Roommate Needed. Duplex. Old Lascasses Hwy. Walking distance from campus. \$250/month. W/D. Single Room. Furnished. Low Utilities. Call 615-305-4008.
Roommate wanted. Four bedroom, two bath house walking distance from campus. \$275 a month plus 1/4 of utilities. Call 828-5227 or 397-2439 to schedule a visit.
Roommate needed for two bedroom apartment. Rent is \$270/mo. and is with-in walking distance to MTSU. Responsibility and respect a must. Call Adam @ 849-3418.
Roommate needed for 3 bedroom apt. at SUH. Available at the end of fall semester. \$420/month includes washer/dryer, all bills (including cable.) I will pay you \$100 on move-in. Call 898-3588 or email jwh2q@mtsu.edu.
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170 Subleasing

Summer roommate needed at Raider's Crossing. Less than a mile from campus. \$395 a month-negotiable! Includes fully furnished apartment's rent, utilities, cable, your own bathroom. Call Ashley at 867-8731.
Sublesser needed immediately for Fall semester. Lease is \$335/month. If I rent first month, will pay \$120. Call Katie @ 519-5283.
Sublesser needed: Empty 2 bedroom apt. University Courtyard Apts. Pay only \$435/month/bedroom. All utilities included: phone cable, water, electricity, W/D. Both rooms have large walk-in closets and private baths. Rooms available in May. Call 418-7077, asap.
Sublease for University Courtyard. 14 month lease starting in May. \$355/mo. (utilities inc.) \$130 dep. Call Cassie Adams at 481-9589.
Female non-smoking, responsible roommate wanted to move into 2 bedroom, 1 bath apt. at Tennessee Park in May 2003. Contact immediately Holly at 217-9501.
Roommate wanted at Chelsea Place. \$295.00 + 1/2 util. call 896-3612.
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after finals. Call Jacob at 931-286-0207. I need a sublesser! \$485 per month includes everything, phone cable - full-size W/D, smoking is fine. Large 2b/2b apt. Male or Female is fine. Free 2 months rent. Free refrigerator and freezer w/lease agreement. \$370/month all utilities included. Sterling Gables (male) call 604-7400 or 289-0720 or go by Sterling and ask for 933C. Sublease apartment. Nottingham Apt. Across from campus 2 bedroom/2 bath. email chrispytaul@yahoo.com.

190 Services

Need time to study with no time to clean. Call The Minute Maid! 867-3602.

205 Other

Need Cash? Sell your old Nintendo systems. Will buy NES, SNES and N64. Must be complete w/all controllers. Games and Books a plus \$\$\$
Email dilhoel@comcast.net. Leave phone # and description. Got Stuff For Rutherford Co. Salv. Army's 6th Annual Yard Sale. To benefit Center for Hope Homeless Shelter. Call April 895-9822 or Jennifer 482-0691. Bring small items to PH 3rd fl. Social Work Dept.
Sidelines last day of publication for this spring semester is this Monday. Publication will occur in June and resume every Wednesday through July. Be sure to catch our Back to School Issue Aug. 18. Have a great summer!

Fraternalties * Sororities Clubs * Student Groups Earn \$1,000-\$2,000 this semester with a proven Campus Fundraiser 3 hour fundraising event. Our programs make fundraising easy with no risks. Fundraising dates are filling quickly, so get with the program! It works. Contact Campus Fundraiser at 888-923-3238, or visit www.campusfundraiser.com

Rebuild luck on your finals! Have a great summer!

Austin Peay: Blue Raiders to face next New Orleans at home

Continued from 8

Leaguer in front of the diving Marcus Pearson in center, moving Carroll within 90 feet of scoring distance. With no outs in the inning, Phillips reached on an error by the AP right fielder that allowed Carroll to score the first run of the inning. With runners on the corners, Knox hit into a 4-6-3 double play, scoring Cooper from third and cutting the lead to one.

"Cooper did a great job to start off the inning, and Phillips got him to second with the sacrifice bunt," Knox said.

"I was just looking to get a base hit to score Cooper, and I was fortunate enough to put a good swing on it and hit the ball out of the park."

Austin Peay called on reliever Adam Muston in the bottom of the eighth. Muston surrendered a single to Cooper and a sacrifice bunt by Phillips advanced him to second, setting up the eighth inning heroics by Knox.

Knox fell behind in the count but continued to battle. Muston floated a pitch over the plate, and 350 feet later the lefty had given the Blue Raiders their first lead of the game with the two

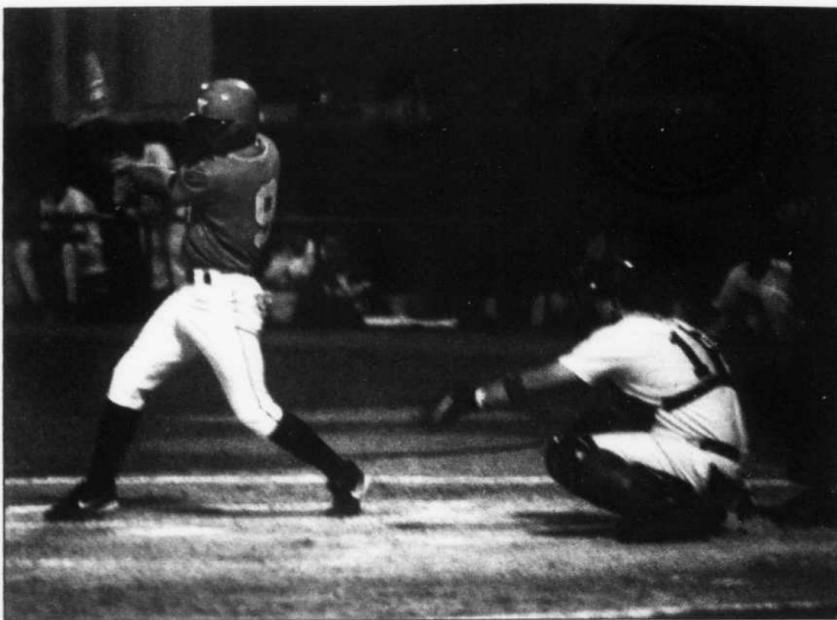


Photo by Jamie Lorange | Staff Photographer
Governors shortstop Travis Beech takes a swing at a Blue Raider pitch. Beech went 4 for 5 during Wednesday's game against the Blue Raiders.

run homer to right. MT tacked on an insurance run later in the inning, and Swing closed up shop in the ninth to give the Blue Raiders their first win of

the season while trailing after seven innings.

MT will be back at Reese Smith Field this weekend, hosting a three-game set with SBC

cellar-dwellers University of New Orleans.

Action begins under the lights Friday night at 7 p.m. ♦



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