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An editorially independent newspaper

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House divides to improve campus life

By Mary Anna Brown
SGA Beat Reporter

The Student Government Association House of Representatives met yesterday at 5:30 p.m. to discuss concerns brought forth by the organizations in attendance.

Speaker of the House Matt Walker opened the meeting and instructed House members to divide into small groups and brainstorm areas of MTSU needing improvement.

"As a House body representing the opinions of the students on campus, we need to develop solid strategies and plans," Walker said. "We have finally gotten the attention of the administration and we want to utilize that to its fullest potential."

A leader from each group presented their ideas to the rest of the House. Ideas brought to the table were separated into seven major categories.

The first category, financial aid, will address the cordiality and customer service skills of staff in the financial aid office, request an itemized tuition bill and work for more scholarship merit given to upperclassmen versus the amount of scholarship given to freshmen.

The second category, campus security, will work on making security more visible on campus and petition for more lights and call boxes to be added on Recreation Center and outer areas.

The third category, organizational

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concerns, will focus directly on student organizations and their needs including requesting better and free meeting facilities, open hours for the student organi-

zation workshop office, monthly organizational activities and growing organizational unity.

The fourth, a category designed to stress the importance of increased organizational advertising in *Sidelines*, *Sidelines Online* and Channel 10, as well as better advertising on campus through signs and a campus calendar.

The fifth category is parking services and transportation and will inquire specifically how the parking fee is being used, question why blind and disabled students pay a parking fee, petition for designated freshman parking, set shuttle bus schedules and routes and purchase more bike racks around campus.

The sixth category, school spirit, will work for easier access for student tail-

gating and address the concerns of students who stay on campus during the weekends.

The seventh category deals with miscellaneous student concerns and will tackle areas such as the future of condemned Ezell and Abernathy Halls, the expansion of the KUC, extended hours of campus facilities, a website critiquing teachers and hosting student feedback, class enrollment sizes, more web-enhanced courses and the plus/minus grading system.

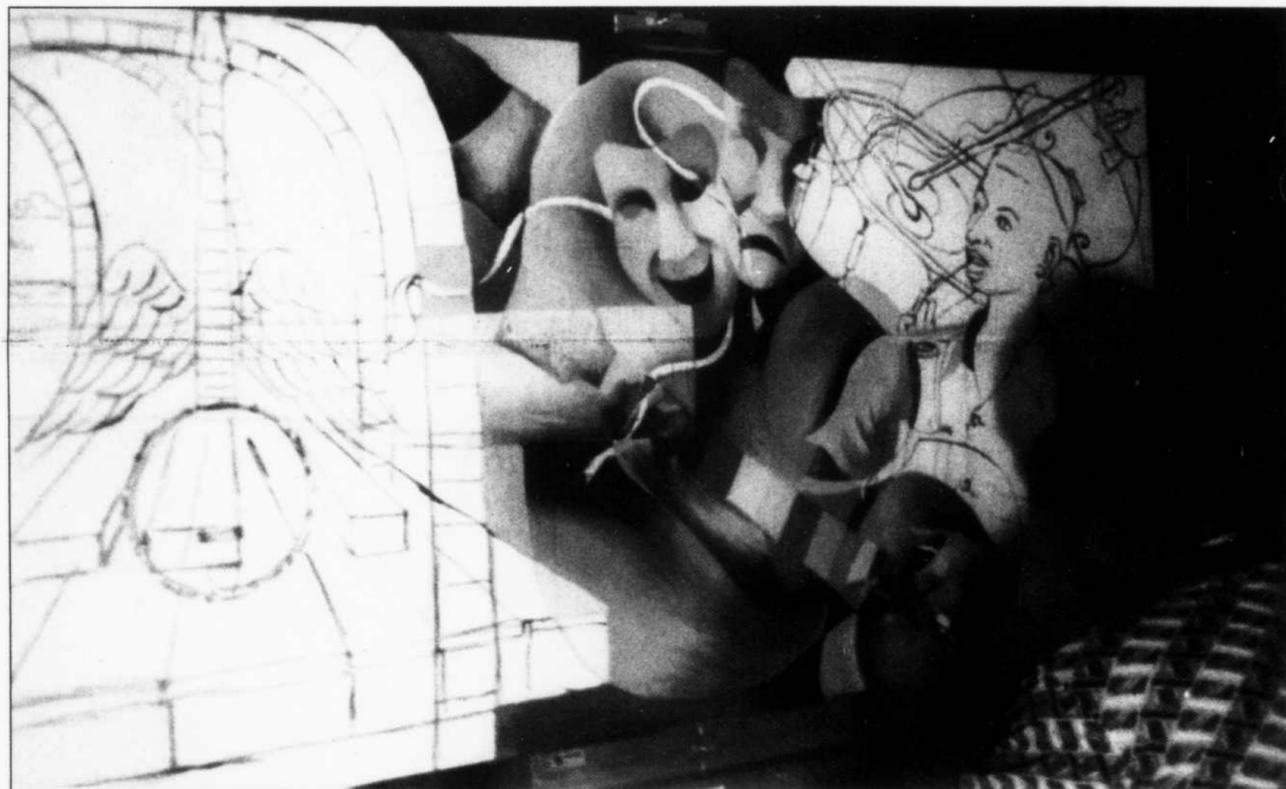
The Project groups will report their progress to Speaker Pro Tempore Dale Parker.

Approximately 30 House members

See SGA, 2

Weekend FLASH!

Downtown Transforms Into Art-Town



Photos by Alicia Moore | Staff Photographer

(Above) Artist Michael J. McBride turns the etching on his canvas into a kaleidoscope-image of layered colors. (Left) "Portrait of David," a 20-foot sculpture, was created by Doug Schatz, an MTSU art professor.

By Rachel Robinson
Staff Writer

The aroma of sweet kettle corn filled the air of the first annual Fest de Ville Nashville, even before getting into the gate. Nashville's streets were morphed into a "celebration of all things artistic" Friday, Sept. 22 through the following Sunday.

Artists from all genres attended and displayed their talents at Fest de Ville Nashville. The weekend's festivities brought a whole new beat to the city of Nashville's streets.

Along with the kettle corn, which is sweet popcorn, many commercial and noncommercial performers and visual

artists were in abundance this weekend. Rain and dreary weather did not stop spectators from coming out and supporting their favorite artists and others, not so well known.

The Fest de Ville Nashville was presented by CMT, made possible by American Express and is part of the celebration of TPAC's 20th anniversary. With a weekend scheduled with more than 60 hours of programming on three different outdoor stages, three theaters and many other lobbies, the scene was overwhelming with culture upon entering the gates.

The path from the gate lead directly past one of the many "Artist At Work" booths.

Each booth was depicted by work from

the artist inhibiting it at the moment. In one, artist Vic Hood was chiseling and carving a block of wood into a man. The detail that was put into the facial features made the bust look all the more real and full of awe. Wandering on down the street, the ground began shaking with the familiar tune of guitars and bagpipes.

On the Bank of America stage was an eclectic ensemble. Kathy Mattea, Ceili Rain and Cherish the Ladies were performing songs that had a country meet Scottish sort of twist to them, but that guaranteed a foot-stomping crowd. The last song that I heard was by all three bands. After performing separately, they

See ART in FLASH!, 4

Don't pick crap

Take it from Turner



Turner Hutchens
Assistant News Editor

They say our generation is lazy and apathetic. I say we are jaded and cynical. We just don't believe in anything we have been offered.

We are disgusted with the choices we are given in life in general, but particularly in politics. In the national elections, we don't want to pick tweedle-dumb or tweedle-idiot. So we don't pick anyone.

I don't think it is good that we don't pick and don't act. I am in no way encouraging anyone not to vote. Vote, vote, VOTE! But don't vote for someone you don't like, or that you consider "the lesser of two evils." Why would you want to vote for anyone you considered "evil"? Thinking like that, will only get you one of the two evils, and next time an election rolls around, you will have two other evils to pick from.

So we should pick something else! That's right, abstaining from voting is not a vote against the system. Voting for someone who isn't part of the system is a vote against the system.

Or if you don't have a problem with the "system," how about this? It's a vote against incompetence. Not voting only says, "I don't care." Maybe I'm a little too optimistic. Maybe you don't care. Okay, stop reading here. I know you're not bored enough to read the paper if you don't care.

For those few of you who may still be reading, it's not throwing away your vote to vote your conscience. Throwing your vote away is to vote for someone who you consider "evil" even if they are the lesser of two evils.

It took me about two minutes to find a website -- politics1.com -- that listed all the major, and not so major, third parties. You can pick your party: Natural Law, Green, Libertarian, Reform, Worker's World, Prohibition, Constitution, American, Grass Roots,

See Crap, 2

Honors lecture: science is a 'contact sport'

By Sarah Johnson
Lecture Series Beat Reporter

Preston J. MacDougall, professor of chemistry, demonstrated that "science is a contact sport," as he addressed the issue of "The Structure of Scientific Revolutions" at Monday's Honors lecture.

MacDougall's lecture featured Thomas S. Kuhn's book, *The Structure of Scientific Revolutions*. Published in 1962, the book ignited debate with its concept of paradigm shifts.

He showed examples of famous diagnoses in which scientists thought they had created a revolution, yet, in reality, had not. An example was the

idea of 'Polywater', in which water can be solid at room temperature. The theory, studied by numerous scholars, received great attention during the 1960s when the United States Navy invested in its research.

Of all theories that have come about, it is important to remember that all theories must be falsifiable, MacDougall said. That, he says, is difficult for people to realize when they think they have created a revolution.

It is just as difficult, he said, for them to have a paradigm shift and adopt other's ideas as their own. "It is very scary to them...it is like their whole world is going to disappear."

Even MacDougall found himself in this situation when he wrote his thesis, presenting a new paradigm in his field. He received negative criticism for his ideas from those with differing viewpoints.

MacDougall concluded that, with everyone holding different world views, there will always be paradigm shifts to be made. Due to the fear of change, there will always be conflict and science will always be "a contact sport."

The Honors Lecture Series takes place every Monday at 3 p.m. in Peck Hall, Room 109A. Next week's lecture, "The Info-Eco Revolution," will be presented by William F. Ford. The lectures are free and open to the public. ♦



Photo by Becky Pickering | Staff Photographer

Senior Austin Fitzpatrick talks with MacDougall after his lecture on Monday.

WORLD BRIEFS

Compiled By Turner Hutchens - Assistant News Editor

Negotiations break down on compensation for sick workers

WASHINGTON (AP) - Congressional negotiations on a compensation plan for thousands of people made sick by their work at nuclear weapons plants broke down Monday, less than a week after ill workers came to Capitol Hill and begged lawmakers to find a compromise.

House and Senate conferees negotiating differences on the Defense Authorization Act reached an impasse on the compensation issue and dropped it from their discussions.

"It's really pathetic what has happened here. People are going to lose their lives. They're going to breathe their last breaths knowing this government has not kept faith with them," said Rep. Ted Strickland, D-Ohio, whose district includes the Portsmouth Gaseous Diffusion Plant.

Supporters hope to attach a compensation plan to another bill, but they acknowledge that prospects are dim his late in the congressional session. ♦

Tuscaloosa couple files suit against Firestone, Ford

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. (AP) - A Tuscaloosa couple has sued Bridgestone/Firestone and Ford, claiming the two companies are responsible for a wreck in Venezuela that killed one of their children and injured two others.

Carlos Brzobohaty and his wife, Glenda Brzobohaty De Defaria, ask for unspecified compensatory and punitive damages for the April 18 accident that occurred when a tire tread separated on a 1997 Ford Explorer, which crashed into a car driven by Mrs. Brzobohaty.

The suit was filed Sept. 19 in federal court in Birmingham. ♦

Crap: Lesser of two evils shouldn't be an option

Continued from 1

Socialist or Social Workers Parties. They all have their own presidential and vice-presidential candidates.

And if, after looking over these options, you still feel like your choosing between evils, there are about 75 independents running for president this year, also listed at politics1.com.

No, I don't expect any of these people to win. They will all lose, most of

them big time. But you won't have voted for someone you think is wrong. You won't have voted the institutionalized evil, or at least the institutionalized incompetence. If you don't like your choices, pick someone else!

This applies for local and legislative offices just as much, if not more. We need to change things.

Now if this November you feel like either Bush or Gore represents your view and your sentiments, even in a

sort of "not quite" way, vote for one of them. Cast that ballot for your man. But if you, like so many people, think that neither of them is the right man for the job, or more importantly the right kind of man for the job, you should pick someone else.

There are other candidates. There are other people in the world. And if you, like me, are more than just a little disgusted with the modern political process, pick someone better! ♦

SGA: Groups delegated to various student tasks

Continued from 1

were in attendance at the meeting, but Walker stated that the House role is still being constructed.

"The By-laws state that the House makeup should be determined on the first meeting, however, we had significantly more people show up this week

than last week," Walker said.

"If you want to be involved, we are going to need, but we don't want organization who aren't going to be involved because they are a drag on the system."

House members are allowed to miss no more than three meetings per semester.

Walker concluded the meeting at 6:40 p.m. with an announcement that "Who's Who Among American College and University Students" applications can be picked up in the SGA office and have to be returned by Oct. 23.

For more information on House projects, contact Matt Walker in the SGA office at 898-2464. ♦

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From the staff University needs more controversial events

Last week, there was a display on campus dealing with abortion and apparent genocide.

Not everyone agreed with the message or the way the message was illustrated, but at least it got the MTSU community thinking. That's good.

But what about this week? Things are back to normal, and students are going mindlessly to their classes or jobs or wherever they normally go during the course of a week.

Where's the controversy?

Part of the college experience should be to ignite opinions and free thinking. Without that, students aren't getting an education.

What they're getting is mere training.

Training is fine for a technical school, but MTSU is considered to be a liberal arts university.

Supposedly, educated people are to be the leaders

of the future. That sounds a bit elite, but to an extent it is true.

This world of ours is not perfect. In order to change it, we need a new pool of ideas. Without that, we're just learning the rules of "the game," instead of redefining the game.

In the film *Dead Poets Society*, Robin Williams's character said as educated people we must constantly look at things in a different way.

Those words hold true for this university as well.

The way it is now,

controversial speakers and protests are as sporadic as a victory from our football team.

We need to have more consistent events. Maybe not every week, but twice a month would be good.

That way students would have the opportunity to learn outside of the classroom and get some intellectual entertainment.

A day in the life of Gore's presidency

Campaign Commentary



Kevin Latta

Staff Columnist

The latest round of polls has shown the number of undecided voters shrinking as Al Gore's lead increases.

As usual, many in the media and the Democratic Party are already claiming victory even though over five weeks remain until Election Day. Earlier in the race, as he was enjoying what seemed to be an insurmountable lead, George W. Bush's camp alluded to his impending victory as well.

I know that the poll numbers on the whole are probably more accurate than not. But I also know that they can swing drastically in a very short amount of time. For example, this column is being frantically pounded out on the back side of deadline Friday, and we can hope...er...I mean...there's a chance that by publication Wednesday the numbers could be back in Bush's favor.

Although I have faith that Americans are going to do what's in the best interest of the greatest country in the world and elect George W. Bush on Nov. 7th, Gore's numbers give me a sinking feeling in my gut. My fear of what will result should a majority of Americans be blinded by the empty rhetoric of Al Gore and actually elect him haunts me.

Just imagine... (insert fuzzy screen for dream sequence here), your alarm clock wakes you from a slumber of pleasant dreams into a country under the administration of Al Gore. As you wrench open your eyes and click the TV on the morning news, the story on the screen in front of you is detailing the President's plan to phase out the internal combustion engine.

"I invented the internal combustion engine," says President Gore, "and I'm uniquely qualified to know when it's time for it to go."

Over your morning coffee, the lead story in the paper outlines a research project sponsored by Honda Inc. that has actually created an internal combustion engine that emits cleaner air than it takes in. In a related story, Al Gore claims to have invented this as well. He then goes further, and in a speech to the Big Three Automakers says that he will fight for the internal combustion engine for as long as their contributions have many, many zeroes behind them.

On your way to work, you stop at one of many tollbooths put in place because the federal government under President Gore grew so rapidly that, even while operating on a surplus, it funneled all of the local money from the states before re-instituting programs under a matching funds system. So it is at least a relief to know as you stop at the second tollbooth that half of what you put in will be used locally. Unfortunately it's being used to build more

tollbooths, and the Gore administration has recently been hinting at legislation that would federalize control of the money made through the program.

After a quick check of the stock market and a heavy sigh as you contemplate the money you could have made with the Social Security deductions that your President refuses to give you any control over, you pull in to work for another day. Lately, most of your job has been packing up boxes, through promises that he made and verbal contracts for which he was paid in campaign contributions. Al Gore has ensured that 99 percent of the workload in your company will be outsourced to people in places like Korea, and you've got to get them up to speed. However, since reviewing our most top-secret nuclear files and spending a few nights in The White House, most of them have become fairly pro-American, and it appears that they will assimilate quickly to the lower standards of quality that they will adhere to in the future.

Joe Leiberan is stumping in a town nearby, touting the money that their administration has saved since appointing one of the DNC contributing nuns to the post of Attorney General, only moments before her vow of silence began. Since this one minor change, The Justice Department is saving massive amounts of time and money that was previously being spent on the investigation and prosecution of those involved in actions harmful to Americans. In an unrelated development, a coincidental corollary has developed between the amount of time the new Attorney General has been in office and the lack of investigations into President Gore's activities.

In one positive development, with the little you have left over after the new taxes are levied to fund pet projects of Al Gore's like his "Presidential Committee on What I Did and Didn't Invent," you buy stock in a company that wouldn't have been around had George W. Bush been elected. The company, which dismantles military machinery and sells the parts for scrap, has enjoyed unprecedented success since the election. It looks like with your profits you'll be able attend what Al and Tipper are billing as the party of the new millennium.

The celebration, to be held on the Capitol Mall on the Fourth of July, will honor the culmination of both of their work during the first 100 days of their administration. A bonfire will be lit at the end of the evening, using the records that Tipper successfully outlawed and the stocks of the hunting rifles that Al confiscated as fuel. Everyone will sing and dance without the burdens that accompany inalienable freedoms and the responsibilities of sustaining a democracy, the mood will be much less "serious," and more earthy-toned fun will ensue.

Whew! For a minute there it all seemed so real, pardon me as I wipe the sweat from my brow. Remember what could happen when you pull that lever in November. As Dr. Gonzo, Hunter S. Thompson told us, "There's no such thing as paranoia...It's all true." ♦

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School spirit important for university

I am writing in this forum to respond to the Letter to Editor from Brian Spencer that appeared in the September 11 issue of *Sidelines* (MTSU's priorities are seriously out of wack [sic]). In his letter, Mr. Spencer expresses two opinions. First, Mr. Spencer suggests there is a misplaced priority being placed on school spirit. He believes that the issue of school spirit is taking precedence over more serious issues, e.g. classroom crowding and TBR policies. He goes on to assert, "It's just sports. Gimme a break. MTSU should be focusing on academics, not athletics."

On this issue, I would like to both agree and disagree with Mr. Spencer's position. To agree, it is clear that the University's primary mission is to develop educated persons. The academic mission of the University should always be paramount. In my view, however, academics and school spirit are not mutually exclusive terms.

My definition of school spirit is an enthusiastic attachment to an institution of learning. My definition of school spirit does not focus exclusively on sports or sporting events. I want students to attend sporting events, but I also want to

see them attend concert events from the music department, theatre productions, art displays, political discussions, student organization meetings and events and all the other myriad of connections available to them.

I would also suggest that wearing "over-priced college clothing" is not the only sign of support. At the same time, I rarely hear people complain about the cost of UT clothing or Titans jerseys, or even the cost of clothing bearing the logos of Michigan and Detroit teams. I would assert that cost could be more of an excuse than a reason. Our concept of cost is directly related to our desire. When we want something badly enough we find the money.

What I am interested in promoting is pride of association. I want more students to more readily display their pride at being an MTSU student in whatever way makes sense to them.

I also don't believe anyone has to give up his/her other allegiances. You don't have to stop being a fan of any other team or university to be proud of being at MTSU.

I would like to suggest two reasons why school spirit can be important to students. There has been extensive research over the past 50 years about why students choose to attend college and why they choose to stay at a specific institution. In many cases, a student picks an institution

carefully, based on specific objective criteria. In many more cases a student identifies a number of institutions, visits each and then goes to the one that "feels right." When you survey graduating seniors, you will also find that the "feel" of an institution is a powerful factor in retention. School spirit is an expression of that feeling at any institution. When students feel that they are in the right place, they are more likely to matriculate, more likely to persist to graduation and more likely to be successful.

This would suggest that school spirit is an issue worth considering because it (1) can be a factor in recruiting students, and (2) can be a factor in student persistence. We brought together numerous focus groups on campus last spring. Each time I asked them to tell me what the signs of a campus with strong school spirit are, they gave me the same answers every time — wearing school colors, attendance at school events, community support and high rates of persistence.

Mr. Spencer's second point appears to be that the University should not be providing resources in support of the Greek system on campus

Working with the Greek system does require an investment of time and energy on the part of the University. In my view, that is time and energy well spent.

Yes, groups do make mistakes. When they do,

we take appropriate action. When I look at the good they do the campus and compare it against the mistakes they have made and are likely to make in the future, I believe the good far outweighs the bad. I unequivocally support their presence on this campus. I will not back away from making them a central part of the student life plans we implement on campus. I am willing to expend the same amount of energy on any other student organization that wants to make a positive contribution to campus.

I suspect my views will not alter Mr. Spencer's views. I also suspect there are others who agree with Mr. Spencer. There will always be a segment of this student body who want to simply come to class and then leave. They want only what is in the classroom and have no significant interest in campus life. That is an observation, not a criticism. They are welcome to structure their collegiate experience in that manner. I will continue to try to be a catalyst for a campus life that is involving and spirited. I perceive that as one of my primary functions until I am told otherwise. For those who are still reading this, thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely yours,
Robert Glenn
Vice President of Student Affairs

Raiding the treasure chest

Childhood memories spring back to life in 'Raiders of the Lost Ark'

By Jared Wilson
Staff Writer

I was six years old when my parents took me to see *Raiders of the Lost Ark* at our local theater. It was a milestone in my life-long passion for movies. The next day, before Mrs. Palmer's first grade class began, my friends and I played Indiana Jones, dodging poison darts and fleeing bloodthirsty Nazis. In following years, I wore a *Raiders* T-shirt and hauled a *Raiders* lunch box to school. In rumpled shirt, oversized brown jacket, weathered fedora and — thanks to my mother's eyebrow pencil — whiskers, I adventured to house as Indy for Halloween. My Dad bought me a bullwhip in Mexico. Bad idea.

I was Indiana Jones-ing all the plants in our yard and, when the mood struck me, my little brother. I spent hours immersed in the *Raiders* storybook, the one that came with the record; the sound of the whip cracking told me when to turn the page. (The Map Room sequence was just a goosebump giving as the scene in the movie.) When my friends took to those *Time Machine* books, I took to the Indiana Jones *Choose Your Own Adventure* series. George Lucas's *Star Wars* had earlier sparked my three-year-old imagination; this and Steven Spielberg's *Raiders of the Lost Ark* helped me sustain it.

So, when I heard that a Middle Tennessee theater planned a limited release of this landmark film, I was understandably excited. I had not seen *Raiders* on a big screen in nineteen years, and multiple video viewings did not diminish the magical experience. I tried to replicate my younger self's



Indiana Jones attempts to board a German military truck in order to steal back the Ark of the Covenant from Nazi soldiers in the film *Raiders of the Lost Ark*.

juvenile fantasias: humor, rollicking adventure, a touch of the supernatural, a bit of horror and romance (light on the sap).

I found myself moved by John Williams's theme (the new prototype for adventure themes) resounding richly in the theater. I laughed at jokes I thought had grown stale. Ronald Lacey, as the bug-eyed villain Toht, still scared me. I didn't scoff at the forever-descending wall in the opening sequence or roll my eyes when Indy maneuvers under a speeding truck and body surfs along the dirt road behind it.

The fight scenes thrilled me. The one-note characters seemed perfectly placed in an unabashed "genre film." I winced during the face-melting climax (which gave me bad dreams as a child) and found Karen Allen's bare back incredibly sexy (which gave me dreams of a different sort as a child, when I was too young to even know what "sexy" meant).

I left the theater giddy as a . . . well, as a schoolboy, I guess. *Raiders of the Lost Ark* remains the best adventure film Hollywood has turned out in a long time. In a day when grotesque violence masquerades as a punch line in some films, when car chases are routine and unexciting, the *Raiders of the Lost Ark* still delivers the goods.

It is a mythic sort of movie that delights the senses and stirs the childlike spirit within. And wouldn't it have been asking my mother to rent me "serious" films like *Hope and Glory* or *The Mosquito Coast* as a grade schooler instead of unoriginal, uninventive cartoon dreck like so many of my friends watched. ♦

experience as closely as possible. I sat in the middle of the theater. When you're little, you think the middle is the best place to sit. Now, I just make sure no stranger is sitting in close proximity.

I haven't had movie popcorn in years. I'm a "candy guy" at the movies, but I had popcorn the first time I saw *Raiders*, so I bought popcorn this time, too. With my wife by my side — poor

thing, she hadn't seen *Raiders* or its two sequels on the big screen — I took my seat and prepared to be swept away. I was not disappointed.

Raiders of the Lost Ark was made for viewing on a large screen in its original projection ratio (ban "pan and scan," I say). I sincerely sympathize with those whose experience with Indiana Jones is limited to television. You just don't know what you're missing. Nothing

beats light projected through celluloid. It's mystical. It's dynamic. It breathes.

For nearly two hours, I was six years old again, absorbed in the action and entranced by the adventure. With Indiana Jones, George Lucas wanted to recall all the adventure serials, Western movies and comic books he had enjoyed as a kid. Indiana Jones was my equivalent to Lucas' childhood inspirations. *Raiders* has all the ingredients for

Some Indiana Jones trivia:

* John Rhys-Davies, who played Indy's Egyptian friend Sallah in the first and third films, is also known for his role as the Marvel Comics villain Kingpin in several Incredible Hulk/Daredevil television movies. His next role will be as Gimli in the big-screen adaptation of J.R.R. Tolkien's *THE LORD OF THE RINGS* trilogy.

* Tom Selleck was originally approached for the role of Indiana Jones, but could not commit due to "Magnum P.I." production.

* Harrison Ford suggested the "Raiders"

scene in which Indy simply shoots an intimidating swordsman. He had diarrhea and didn't feel up to filming the elaborate fight sequence that was scripted.

* In the "Raiders" Well of the Souls sequence, on the wall behind the Ark of the Covenant, set decorators included depictions of "Star Wars" droids R2-D2 and C-3PO among the hieroglyphics.

* Frank Marshall, one of the film's producers, plays the Nazi pilot of the flying wing in "Raiders." Marshall went on to produce movies

like the "Back to the Future" trilogy, "The Sixth Sense," and nearly every Steven Spielberg film.

* In the "Raiders" scene where a bazooka-toting Indy confronts the Nazi procession on the island, a close-up of Belloq (Paul Freeman) reveals the actor inadvertently eating a fly that lands on his lip.

* The club at the beginning of "Indiana Jones and the Temple of Doom" is called Club Obi Wan, a reference to the "Star Wars" Jedi.

* "Temple of Doom" inspired the MPAA's PG-13 rating.

* Although he portrayed Indiana's father in "Indiana Jones and the Last Crusade," Sean Connery is only 12 years older than Harrison Ford.

* George Lucas, Steven Spielberg, and Harrison Ford have all committed to a fourth Indiana Jones film, pending script agreement. Lucas and Spielberg have tapped M. Night Shyamalan, the writer-director of "The Sixth Sense" and this fall's "Unbreakable," to pen the third sequel. Possible story lines have included a re-teaming of Ford and Connery as they search for the lost city of Atlantis.

Art: An artistic celebration of all things

Continued from 1

joined each other for the last song. Surprisingly it was very good.

From there, the streets led to the many booths serving a variety of foods, from dessert to hot dogs to salad sandwiches. Kristina Bell, of Tullahoma TN, reported that one booth had "the best cheesecake [she had] ever eaten" between munches. She was right.

Down the street there were other artists. At the bottom of the stairs was a contortionist amusing children and their parents alike, by tight rope walking and juggling, what looked like flaming bowling pins.

Past him was the Fest de Ville Market place. This area is where more than 25 artists have artwork on display and for sale through the auction on the final night of Fest de Ville Nashville.

Next on the schedule for the evening was attending "Opera Goes Hollywood" performed by the Nashville Opera, the Nashville Chamber Orchestra and TPAC. This operetta included some of the greatest hits from popular movies such as *Pretty Woman* and *Amadeus*, set to Mozart and other classical composers.

The singers came out and performed with such ease and comfort that it was breath taking.

The first section performed was

"The Marriage of Figaro," where the Count and Susanna were in a love triangle with Susanna. In the end, of course, all was well, but the emotions evoked through the songs and the range of the performers was amazing, and in the end it left one hoping for an encore.

In the lobby of Polk Theatre, a different art form was taking place. Four barefoot women known as Relative, wowed the crowd with spoken verse.

Accompanied by John Hunter on keyboards, these ladies recited original works of poetry. Mind you, this was not your traditional poetry. It included such works as "Strong Women," "Nashville" and "Did I fail to mention" which dealt with date rape.

Hunter then did his own wonderful rendition of Prince's "Purple Rain" only on keyboards with Relative joining him in voice on one verse. When asked about their barefeet, one member of Relative named Ashanti, an MTSU graduate, stated that it was "a connection to the universe; a way to be closer to the Earth."

They finished to a standing ovation proving that they were definitely closer to the audience.

Some of the attendants enjoyed performances a little more on the silly side. Virginia Pirkle and Hays Brandon of Harpeth High School both stated that, "The guy with the puppets is the

best, especially his Jimi Hendrix one." Lee Zimmerman has been doing marionette work for 22 years now.

He has done work for hit sitcoms such as *Seinfeld* and *The Drew Carey Show*. All of his puppets are originals, handmade by him.

"It all started 22 years ago, when I was 15 with this Jimi Hendrix doll. This is my only marketable skill," said Zimmerman.

Throughout the weekend many artists did what they do best, performing. The variety of genres included something for everyone from children to teens to adults.

Nashville's "celebration of all things artistic" truly was a celebration in all aspects of the word, and many people hope to make it one of Nashville's traditions. ♦

(Right) Woodworking artist Vic Hood takes a break from adding the finishing touches to his carving. (Far left) Barto, the contortionist, wows the crowd by tight-rope walking while juggling flaming torches. (Below) A highly energized performance by The Born Again Choir adds tons of momentum to the weekend's excitement.

Photos by Heath Chitwood | Staff Photographer



Highlander, stick to the rules

'There can be only one!'

By Bill McIntire
Staff Writer

The good news is that *Highlander: Endgame* is the best of the sequels to the 1986 cult fantasy. The bad news is, that in spite of the good news, it's still a lousy movie.

The original *Highlander* is one of my all-time favorite films. My fellow fans and I have been waiting 14 years for a decent sequel. *Highlander 2: The Quickening* was blatantly awful. *Highlander 3: The Magician* was goofy to the point of being nonsensical. The only saving grace of these movies has been the willingness of fans to forget them and allow the filmmakers the opportunity to try again with a clean slate—the equivalent of a “do-over.” *Highlander: Endgame* doesn't give us that option. In the mythology of these characters, this really happened and there's no turning back.

This last installment in the adventures of immortal warrior Connor MacCleod (Christopher Lambert) finds him emotionally crippled by the never-ending conflict of the immortals as they battle for the power of the Prize. The prime instigator of Connor's condition is a powerful and evil immortal named Jacob Kell (Bruce Payne). Enter Connor's descendant and fellow immortal, Duncan (Adrian Paul), familiar to a wider audience as the focus of the popular *Highlander* television series. Together, the warriors commit themselves to ending Kell's threat.

The core story is surprisingly simple, and might have made a good episode for the television series. Instead, director Douglas Aarniokowski utilizes incredibly heavy cinematic storytelling to obscure the story at every turn in an attempt to stretch it to an hour and a half. For example, it's almost impossible to tell when or where anything is taking place for the first 30 minutes. If you lose “when” and

“where” this early in a film, you can't even begin to approach “why.”

Exposition would be hard enough for a backstory as complex as the immortals', especially including the information from the television series, but Aarniokowski feels the need to muddy that too. Duncan is given an immortal love interest from a few hundred years ago with a grudge (Lisa Barbuscia), requiring a whole other level of explanation. By the time we finally understand why she hates him, she and Duncan are having sex in two different time periods at once.

The problem of too little explanation too late haunts the entire movie. The film's initial setup involves a gang of motorcycle riding superpunks attacking machine gun wielding monks at a monastery where a dozen men are strapped to metal harnesses (one of whom may or may not be Connor). We don't find out why until well after the monastery is destroyed, and it makes even less sense than the attack itself.

On a technical level, *Endgame* is badly uneven. The incredibly inventive editing in the first *Highlander* has been replaced with sweeping helicopter shots of the Scottish Highlands and/or the New York cityscape that, at times, becomes dizzying enough to induce nausea. Most of the film is too dark, probably in an attempt to hide the actors' disdain for what they are forced to work with. Visual effects, mercifully kept to a minimum, still manage to overwhelm the film's climax, muting its emotional power.

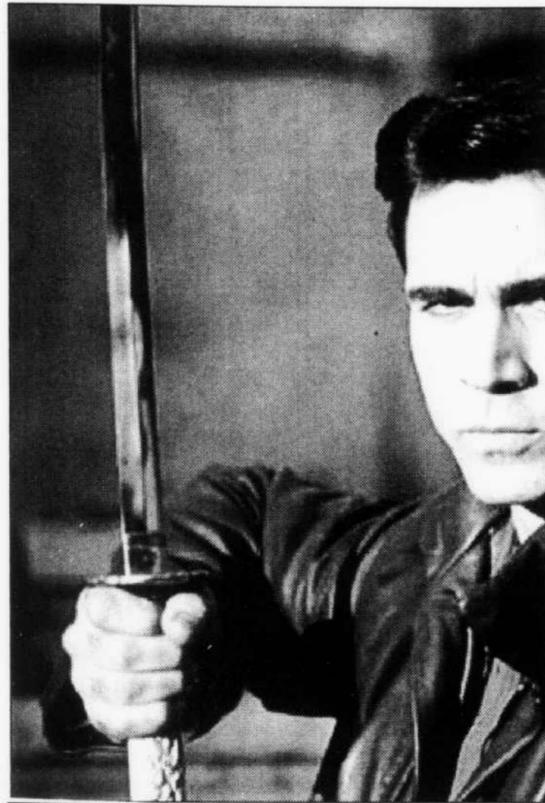
The film's only positive aspect is the excellent sword fighting. It has to be in a movie where all the principles have been using swords for centuries. Particularly good is a prolonged battle between Duncan and the aforementioned superpunks. The actors seem to be at their best only when handling cutlery. The emotional climax of

the film (not to be confused with the actual climax discussed earlier), comes at the end of the duel between

Duncan and Connor to see who will stop Kell. The emotions are the most genuine of the entire film. Even Kell's grand exposition (maybe a bit too grand) is given at sword point.

By now I'm certain most people have given up on ever getting a good sequel to *Highlander*. It's just as well, because *Endgame* didn't even try. This was a marketing tool from the beginning, intended to be a passing-of-the-franchise torch to the cast of the television series. Future movies will focus on Duncan fighting immortals at the side of his television cronies Dawson (Jim Byrnes) and Methos (Peter Wingfield). But now they get to curse and we can see Duncan's bare butt. Hardly adequate compensation for the loss of hope.

The immortal battle cry declares, “There can be only one!” When the sequels began, cynics like me changed it to, “There can be only one more.” After *Endgame*, one more change is appropriate. There should've been only one! ♦



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Blue Raiders win doubles title



Mark Pellerin was part of the winning doubles team at the MTSU Fall Invitational.

By Rachel Parrish
Staff Writer

For all three days of the Middle Tennessee Fall Invitational, rain caused delays and cancellations. Sunday's final rounds had to be moved indoors to the Racquet club.

Claiming the doubles championship were Middle Tennessee's Mark Pellerin and Trevor Short, who beat out Michael Chamberlain and Joe Schhumilian of Memphis.

"It's a great start for Mark and Trevor," Blue Raiders head coach Dale Short said. "I'm really excited for Mark. As a senior, he is really beginning to show his leadership. They are going to be a big help for our doubles team. I am happy for Trevor to be able to win his first tournament."

Michael Staniak, from Australia, had his first collegiate win and moved in to the quarterfinals for the Blue Raiders.

Staniak was the only player to win at least two matches in singles.

The Blue Raiders were otherwise shut out during the tournament.

This weekend the Blue Raiders will travel to Athens, Ga., to compete in the Southern Intercollegiate. ♦

Lightning Flash



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Lady Raiders drop fourth straight

MT Media Relations

Middle Tennessee dropped its fourth straight soccer decision with a 3-0 loss to South Alabama in a rain-soaked game on Sunday that featured a 45-minute delay due to lightning.

Middle Tennessee falls to 3-6 overall and 1-3 in Sun Belt play with the loss while South Alabama improves to 6-4 and 1-0 in the league.

Yolanda Janiga got the Jags on the board at 22:37 on a corner kick from teammate Cindy Rainville. Rainville delivered the next goal for USA just inside the box on a feed from Jackie Shirer at the 37:34 mark to give South Alabama a 2-0 lead at the half.

Heavy rains fell prior to game time and returned to action in the second frame. With lightning in the area, officials suspended the game at 51:00 to allow the storm to pass. After 45 minutes the lightning passed but the rain picked up, making the conditions difficult for both teams.

The game continued in a stalemate until South Alabama's Karen Monteleone blasted a shot past Middle Tennessee goalie Jennifer Robb at 65:45 to give the Jags a 3-0 advantage where the game eventually ended.

Robb's numbers were good for the Lady Raiders as she stopped 11 of the 14 shots on goal that she faced. The Lady Raiders only managed to fire three shots on net against USA goalie Kyla Rogers and she turned each of them away.

The Lady Raiders continue their current homestand with a conference match-up against Denver on Oct. 1. ♦

DuBose waves white flag

Associated Press

Alabama coach Mike DuBose, whose team is off to its worst start in a decade, offered to resign 10 days ago. His offer was declined.

The Birmingham News and The Tuscaloosa News reported Tuesday that DuBose made the gesture after

Alabama was beaten 21-0 by Southern Mississippi on Sept. 16. DuBose confirmed that he made the offer privately to athletic director Mal Moore in the locker room after the game.

"I did tell him after the Southern Miss game that I would resign, if that's what he thought was best for the university," DuBose said. "That was not intended for an immediate resignation. That was intended for the end of the year, based on what is best for this university and football team."

"It was a statement made in privacy, in the coaches' locker room that I never expected to get out."

Moore did not accept the resignation, which was made with several assistant coaches in the room. "It's an emotional thing after the game," Moore said Monday night. "In a dressing room like that, it is not an official meeting in that context, and I certainly took it that way."

The Crimson Tide are 1-3 after two straight losses. A Birmingham newspaper is taking a readers' poll on "Should DuBose stay or go?" That's also the hot topic on talk radio and Internet chat rooms, and DuBose is similarly critical of his own performance.

DuBose, at his regular Monday news conference, was openly critical of the job he has done.

"I'm mad at myself, because I'm not doing the job the way the job should be done," DuBose said. "I'm not going to make excuses. We're not playing as well as we're capable of. The staff knows that, the players know that, and that starts with me. I've got to do a better job of coaching."

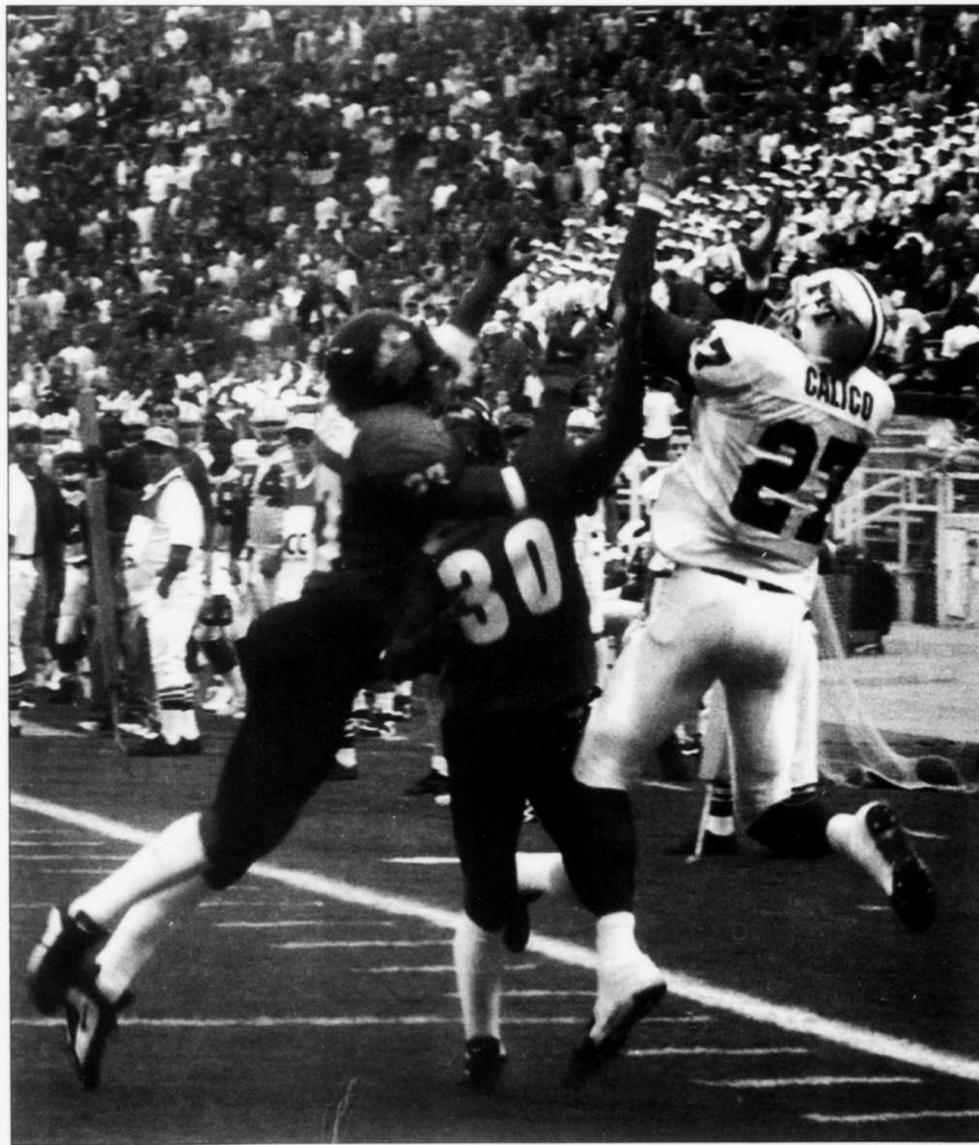
The questions are nothing new to DuBose, who also came under fire last September and went on to claim Southeastern Conference Coach of the Year honors. The Tide (1-1 SEC) could quiet some of the critics with a win Saturday over No. 23 South Carolina (4-0, 2-0). Moore, in his first year as athletic director, said he wouldn't evaluate DuBose until after the season.

"I think my job is to support the team during the season, and we evaluate every team and every coach at the end of their respective season," said Moore, a former Tide football player, assistant coach and administrator.

"That will be done here. I'm supporting these guys." The Tide were picked No. 3 in ESPN/USA Today preseason poll, fell out of the poll two weeks with the loss to Southern Mississippi. Last weekend, Arkansas scored a touchdown and two-point play to rally for a 28-21 win over Alabama. DuBose said that game was evidence that the Tide are "in the process" of coming together.

"I'm sorry it took four games to get into the process of doing it, and that's my fault," he said. "The only thing I can tell you is we're not coaching today any different than we did this time last year. We're not going to coach any different tomorrow." ♦

Calico has high goals



Photographic Services

Tyrone Calico fights to make a catch over two Maryland defenders.

By Colleen Cox
Staff Writer

Tyrone Calico is still learning his position of wide receiver for the Blue Raiders.

He has only played the position for two years and "still has a lot to learn." However, he started out as a line-backer before being switched to wide receiver.

Calico looks up to Kendall Newson and Hansford Johnson, two junior wide receivers for the Blue Raiders, because "they have been playing wide receiver all their life and I'm trying to learn more and more from them."

Size is a big strength for Calico, who was a member of the Blue Raider basketball team in 1998. It allows him to jump up and catch the ball over smaller defenders.

His goals for this season are to get

better, faster, and stronger. Calico would also like to win.

He chose MTSU over Memphis because he had a friend who came here as well. Calico says his experience has been, "Great. Especially the way the coaches treat the players."

Last season Calico set two school records. One was for most receptions in a season - 65 - by a freshman and the other was twelve receptions in one game.

According to Calico, the outlook on the football season is still positive.

"We started out slow, but we're about to pick it up," Calico said.

Although, he points out the main

thing the offense needs to improve upon is "finishing in the red zone in practice and in the games."

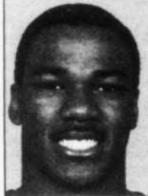
Calico is excited just to play the game of football.

He was excited about the Florida game, but says, "I'm excited about every game because it could be your last. I play every game like it's my last."

Football is not the only thing Calico is focused on. He also wants to get a degree in Business Administration and own his own business or get a job "working up somewhere real high."

Student support plays a major role in athletics according to Calico.

"I come from a high school where the whole town would shut everything down just to go to a high school game," Calico said, "but I come up here and we're struggling to get fans." ♦



Calico

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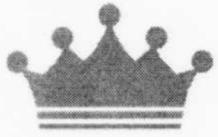


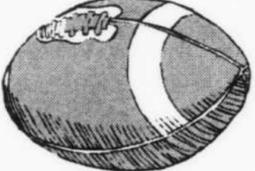
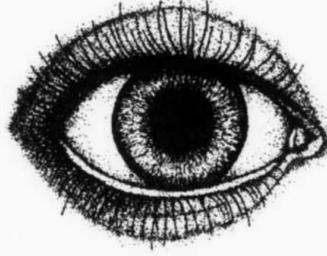
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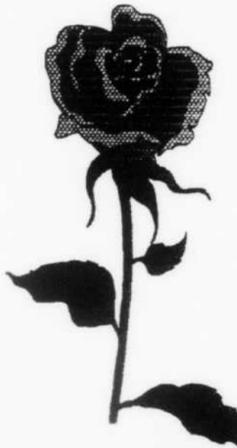
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 Wednesday, September 27

**Michael Acree
 Earl**
 and introducing...
Von Garson

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 information:

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