



This week's poll question at [www.mtsusidelines.com](http://www.mtsusidelines.com):  
Would you support making women eligible for the military draft?

**RED BULL RAISES HEALTH QUESTIONS**

In Living, 7



The university's editorially independent student newspaper

Middle Tennessee State University  
**SIDELINES**

MURFREESBORO, TENNESSEE

Volume 79 No. 62

**Campus briefs**  
Paintball club to have meeting in March

The MSTU Paintball Club will have a meeting March 1 for an introduction to the club.

It's not necessary to own equipment or pay dues to be involved with the Paintball Club.

The club is also currently looking for a faculty sponsor. The meeting will be held in the Cason-Kennedy Nursing Building, Room 106 at 7 p.m.

For more information, or to volunteer to be the faculty sponsor, e-mail Andrew Coleman at [acc2k@mtsu.edu](mailto:acc2k@mtsu.edu).

**Student Recognition Awards available now**

Applications are now available for the Student Recognition Awards. The awards pay tribute to three undergraduates who show exemplary character and achievement in scholarship, achievement and service.

Applications can be found at [www.mtsu.edu/~mtleader/news.htm](http://www.mtsu.edu/~mtleader/news.htm). The deadline for applications is Feb. 27.

**High school students will gather for science**

About 300 students combined from three area high schools will gather for the annual Demomania on campus tomorrow from 9:30 to 10:45 a.m. in the Keathley University Center Theater.

Chemistry and science students from area high schools will watch students in MTSU's Chemistry Lab perform various chemical demonstrations.

For more information about Demomania, contact Gary White at 898-2072.

**Democrats to hold elections tomorrow**

The MTSU Democrats will elect officers tomorrow at 5 p.m. in Peck Hall, Room 200. All positions are open, and new members are eligible.

**Saxophonist performs on campus March 8**

Memphis-born tenor saxophonist Kirk Whalum will be performing March 8 on campus. The event is part of the African-American History Month.

The concert will be held at Tucker Theatre at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$8 in advance or \$10 at the door.

Proceeds will benefit the African-American Study Abroad Program. For tickets, contact Jeanne Massaquoi at 898-5610.

**Collage entry deadline coming up on Feb. 27**

Feb. 27 at 4 p.m. is the deadline for submissions to *Collage*, MTSU's literary and arts magazine.

Students must fill out a cover sheet for all entries. Up to three entries can be submitted from one student.

For more information, contact *Collage* editor Callie Elizabeth Butler at 898-5927.

**New student union in the works**

**36-year-old Keathley University Center lacks resources for growing population**

By Andrea Hinch  
Staff Writer

University officials are currently talking about building a new student union or adding on to the Keathley University Center.

Built in 1968, the KUC was constructed to service 6,257 students as a student union according to MTSU's Office of Institutional Research.

Since then MTSU has grown significantly and undergraduate enrollment has surpassed the University of Tennessee - Knoxville by 642 students.

Many universities are building larger student unions that encompass a variety of offices and services so students don't have to leave campus as much.

Everyday issues such as paying student bills and getting parking passes and student ID cards are usually dealt with in

new student unions.

"The current shortcomings of our student union relate to its lack of adequate space for our growing student population," said John David Hays, associate vice president for Student Affairs and dean of Student Life.

"There aren't enough resources and meeting spaces for our students and their organizations," Hays said. "We need more meeting and conference rooms as well as a bigger student lounge space."

The university center at UTK has four floors and totals about 256,000 square feet.

"We are similar to your school in the

respect that we have a money wall, post office and bookstore but we also have cafeterias, billiards, a bowling alley, auditoriums and ballrooms," explained Sara Otti from the Dean of Students office at UTK.

The KUC currently is 122,000 square feet, with 79,000 feet of that space usable.

"It would be nice if there was another cafeteria in the KUC," said Sue Shonley, a freshman in the College of Education and Behavioral Science. "Your food options get kind of limited after awhile."

The problem with revising the

See Center, 2

**Drumming up support**

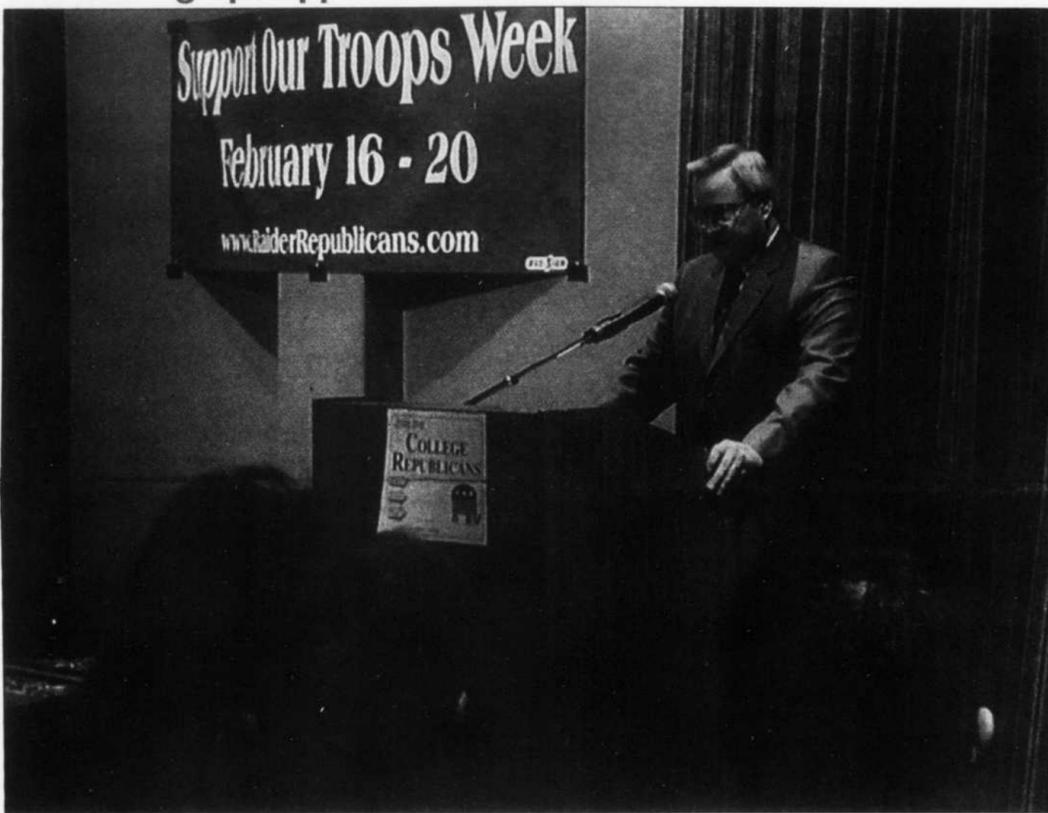


Photo by Micah Miller | Photo Editor

Col. Thomas Reeves, an MTSU alumnus and Vietnam veteran, speaks Monday about the effect of public support on troop morale. Reeves spoke as part of the Raider Republicans' "Support the Troops" event.

**Rally held to support troops**

By Juanita Thouin  
Staff Writer

The effect of community support on troop morale was discussed at a "Support the Troops" event held Monday evening on campus.

Featured speaker Col. Thomas Reeves, an MTSU alumnus and decorated Vietnam veteran, said support - or lack thereof - from U.S. citizenry filters down to the privates fighting on the front lines.

"It does affect their morale, very much so," Reeves said.

Reeves said negative press reports can do a lot of damage.

He said the anti-war movement during the latter years of the Vietnam War emboldened the enemy.

Reeves served as an Army helicopter pilot in Vietnam. He said his service as a

pilot allowed him to witness a great deal of action.

"Every day I was dealing with dirt and death," Reeves said.

He stated categorically that despite the casualties, the U.S. forces won nearly every battle they were allowed to fight.

Reeves criticized a recent *60 Minutes* program that focused on a nighttime raid in Iraq where a 9-year-old child was inadvertently killed.

"When they (the press) cut-and-paste, it makes our troops look like murderers," Reeves said.

He insisted that war naturally results in unintended death and destruction.

Reeves became emotional when he relayed a story about a 48-hour furlough during the early part of the Vietnam War, before he said the nation turned against its military.

He was in a restaurant having dinner

when another patron sent over a bottle of very expensive champagne with a note that said simply, "Thank You."

Reeves said that event had a great impact on him and really boosted his morale.

Amber Moseley, a freshman education major, said she came to hear Reeves speak because her stepfather is a soldier currently stationed in Kuwait and she wanted to get an idea of what he was going through.

Moseley said her biological father fought in Vietnam but was so traumatized by the experience and negative perceptions, he refuses to talk about it - even after many years.

Monday's event was the kick-off to a Support the Troops week sponsored by the Raider Republicans.

See Troops, 2

**Survey looks at cheating**

**Full results not yet released**

By Will Fanguy  
Staff Writer

A survey conducted last year by the Center for Academic Integrity at Duke University highlighted academic misconduct problems at the university.

Gene Fitch, associate dean of Student Life and director of student affairs research at MTSU, administered the survey via the Internet to MTSU students.

Fitch has said that the survey could identify a problem with academic misconduct on campus, and although he was aware of such a problem, he has had no research available until now to "show us at what level it exists."

The Office of Judicial Affairs and Mediation Services has seen an increase in the reported cases of academic misconduct in the last two years.

Last year MTSU had 98 cases of academic misconduct reported and 84 cases in 2002.

This is, according to Fitch, "the result of the Office of Judicial Affairs working harder to help faculty understand how to report and deal with instances of cheating and academic dishonesty."

Academic misconduct is defined in the MTSU student handbook as plagiarism, cheating, fabrication or facilitating another student's misconduct.

According to Fitch, plagiarism is the biggest problem on our campus, mainly because students are unaware that they are doing anything wrong.

Fitch said that most of the students that enter his office due to accusations of academic misconduct either don't know what plagiarism is or deny that they knew that they were in the wrong.

See Survey, 2

**Campus political organizations in conflict over debate**

By Juanita Thouin  
Staff Writer

What started out as a plan by the Raider Republicans to hold a *Crossfire*-type debate with their political opponents has turned into a battle of innuendoes and logistics.

The end result is that while Democrats and Republicans will likely be members of the audience for Friday's stand-off between conservative talk show host Steve Gill, and Democratic Party strategist Larry Woods, the student organizations will not be debating each other.



"It's ridiculous," said Tyler Smith, vice president of the Raider Republicans, of the MTSU College Democrats' refusal to participate on the panel.

According to Jacob Holt, president of the College Democrats, neither he nor any of his members are willing to debate the Raider Republicans because they weren't brought

into the event at the initial planning stages.

"It was shoddily planned," Holt said. "I should have been brought in from the beginning."

Holt was especially upset that he had no input regarding which seasoned Democrat would debate Gill.

"I want to have control of picking who's representing my side on the panel," Holt said.

Holt further claimed the event and the way it all came down was rigged to make him and the College Democrats look bad.

"It looks like I'm going to a

board that's been stacked by their guys," Holt said.

The Raider Republicans refute that claim.

"That's completely insane to think that," Raider Republican president Justin Owen said.

According to Smith and Owen, when the idea to hold a debate surfaced, they originally thought to have Steve Gill as a moderator. Because Gill is such a high-profile individual, they thought it best to contact him first.

Gill then suggested the event

See Debate, 2

## Kicking up a fuss



Photo by David McCombs | Staff Photographer

MTSU student Matthew Johns, left, kicks a footbag around Saturday with several other enthusiasts at the Footbag Jam, held in the Recreation Center. The jam was hosted by the Footbag Club of MTSU from noon to 5 p.m. Out of the 16 in attendance, Johns said only five were MTSU students. He said the club has practice each Saturday – alternating between Manchester and Murfreesboro.

# Dean discusses education history

## Controversial 'No Child Left Behind' act meant to close gap in achievement

By Tim Hill  
Staff Writer

Gloria Bonner, dean of the College of Education and Behavioral Sciences, said she believes the United States should live up to the commitments set forth in President George W. Bush's "No Child Left Behind" education policy.

"I'm not saying I agree with the entire document," Bonner said. "All I am saying is that I recognize, just as the document recognizes, that we have to get aggressive in closing the achievement gap."

During Monday's honors lecture, at the Paul Martin Sr. Honors Building, Bonner discussed the role of the NCLB legislation and how it is affecting the nation 50 years after the *Brown v. Board of Education* desegregation ruling by the Supreme Court.

"Quality education for all is not yet a reality," Bonner said. "We now have free education, but quality education that addresses female education and socioeconomic status is what is missing."

Bonner described how the education system in this country was when segregation laws were still in effect.

"White teachers were paid \$10.32 per student, and black teachers were paid \$2.14 per student," she said.

Although black students made up 30 percent of the student population, Bonner said they only received 3 percent of transportation funding.

"Because so little was allocated for transportation, black students had shorter school years and also suffered higher absenteeism rates," she said.

Bonner said that current law across the nation mandates that every child, regardless

of race, is required to attend school 180 days a year.

The move to desegregate public school systems had a voice in U.S. Supreme Court Justice Earl Harding.

"He came out and said publicly that our country needs to move away from desegregation," Bonner said. "After his comments, there were some people who initiated strategies to prevent black students from enrolling – communities burned school buses used by black students, and even their schools."

In 1965, 11 years after the 1954 *Brown* ruling, President Lyndon Johnson signed into law the Elementary and Secondary Education Act.

"That legislation was part of Johnson's 'War on Poverty,' and for the first time, introduced federal financial help for public schools."

"This legislation also mandated that public education was now part of the government's responsibility to its citizens," Bonner said. She said the signing of the law was significant because in 2001, under Bush, ESEA was re-authorized and restructured with the NCLB policy.

"This restructuring was meant to increase federal support for closing the achievement gap among all students," Bonner said. "We're still waiting for the federal funding support because we don't have that yet."

Some of the statistics that Bonner mentioned showed that black students at age 17 had the same reading level as that of 13-year-old white students.

Despite those statistics, Bonner said that there is hope.

"Across the nation, from school to



Photo by David McCombs | Staff Photographer

Gloria Bonner, dean of the College of Education and Behavioral Sciences, speaks Monday about the "No Child Left Behind" act.

school and from district to district, there are schools with a high percentage of African American and low-income students that are performing extremely well," Bonner said.

She showed numbers from a school in Baltimore, Md., where 99 percent of the students there did well in their math and reading test scores.

"Students are complaining that their teachers don't know their subjects," she said. "Just three in 10 teenagers say their school is 'very academically rigorous.'"

Bonner said that parental involvement and student apathy also contribute, but cannot by themselves be blamed for the problems in education. ♦

## Survey: Variety of cheating methods found to be used

Continued from 1

Although the final results of the report have yet to be released or even formulated, the raw data suggests that academic dishonesty and misconduct on this campus affects a large number of students, but the numbers do not approach majority status.

Of almost 1,700 students who returned the survey, only

308 admitted to cheating and 168 answered that that had never cheated.

The most common offenses admitted to were working on assignments with others when the instructor was not in the room, as well as copying a few sentences from sources without footnoting the source within the paper.

Students have used many different ways to cheat on

exams, written assignments and class work.

Techniques range from the common cheat sheets and Internet paper purchases to the less-than-usual earbud radios and people taking tests for others. However, MTSU has a lower number of incidences of cheating and academic misconduct compared to the national average.

When compared to a similar

survey given to faculty, students also seem to be admitting to the majority of offenses observed by professors.

The office of Judicial Affairs Web site has forms faculty can fill out to report academic misconduct as well as a brochure that explains the definitions of misconduct and punishments. ♦

News Editor Kristin Hall contributed to this article.

## Debate: Democrats won't be on event's debate panel

Continued from 1

be changed to a panel debate to make it more orderly and that Woods be brought in to represent the liberal voice in Tennessee. Gill has previously debated Woods on Gill's radio show.

Tyler said it is unfortunate that when Owen originally contacted Holt about the debate, he

misinformed him as to Woods' last name.

Holt said he does not know Larry Woods and claimed his contacts at the local Democratic Party didn't know him either.

However, Norm Farris, Rutherford County chairman for the Democratic Party, said he finds that surprising.

Farris said Woods is a long-time Democrat from Nashville.

"I'm sure the Democratic message will be in good hands [with Woods]," Farris said.

Christy Holden, a sophomore who is running unopposed for president of College Democrats, said that even though they now know that Woods is a capable debater, they still feel it was important for them to have chosen their own spokesperson.

In deference to the College Democrats' decision not to be on the debate panel, Raider Republicans said they would simply sponsor the event and allow the two seasoned debaters to field questions from the audience.

The debate takes place Friday at noon in the State Farm Lecture Hall of the Business and Aerospace Building. ♦

# English professor debates jazz criticism

By Tim Hill  
Staff Writer

MTSU English professor Bill Levine is looking for what he describes as a "more inclusive jazz criticism" that values audience input and jazz music writers.

"Oftentimes, jazz musicians are looked down upon if they are trying something new with their music," Levine said. "There is an attitude amongst critics today that if you only play a certain way, then that's the way you earn record contracts and grant money."

During his lecture yesterday, Levine read a commentary in a music magazine several months ago that criticized Wynton Marsalis' style of jazz.

"The writer criticized him by saying it's wrong to assume that jazz only had to include the blues," he said. "Putting down Wynton Marsalis, a man who has inspired thousands after him, is an interesting place to be in."

Levine's qualifications for speaking on jazz criticism include a new class he is instructing this semester. Jazz and Blues in Contemporary Literature had all of its seats filled in the first week of registration last month.

"What I do is show students the construction of criticism, how it is evolved over time and what needs to be done to be more inclusive to the artists and fans," Levine said.

In his class, Levine plays clips

of old and modern jazz music for his students. He also gives lectures on what thinks influences jazz criticism today.

"In newspapers, critics usually have to stick with the demands of the AP (The Associated Press) style, which result in varying writing styles from magazine to magazine," he said.

Levine said that the various arts history editors at those magazines and newspapers influence the way the articles are published.

He also gave examples of what he said he saw wrong in one critic's piece in this month's issue of *Down Beat* magazine.

"There were sentences spinning out of control, as well as a technically precise description of music," he said. "Only true fans that have researched their artists will be able to understand a piece like this."

Levine said that a poor jazz criticism style affects the artists the most.

"What usually happens is that there are just a few selections of the best music of the year that receive four and a half or five stars," he said. "In an industry that is exclusive and doesn't honor the innovative work of new artists, something has got to be done soon."

Levine spoke at the weekly Popular Music lecture series, which is held from 12:30 to 1:15 p.m. on Tuesdays in the Dean's Conference Room in the Bragg Mass Communication Building. ♦

## Troops: Group will accept donations for troops in KUC

Continued from 1

Each day from 10 a.m. until 3 p.m. members of the organization will be at the Keithley University Center to accept donations for troop care packages.

They are also asking students, faculty, staff and members of the community to come by with photos and/or names of friends or loved ones serving in operations Enduring Freedom or Iraqi Freedom.

The names and photos will be placed on a "wall of honor" outside of

the KUC Grill.

"We feel it's very important to honor the courage of our men and women in uniform," said Raider Republican president Justin Owen. "We don't think they get the respect they deserve."

Tomorrow, Raider Republicans will hold an event called "Kiss a Troop." This will involve accepting donations in exchange for a Hershey's kiss.

The proceeds will be given to the families of local military personnel who were either injured or lost their life in the war on terror. ♦

## Center: State can't fund student unions; officials looking toward private funds

Continued from 1

student union is the funding. The cost to undertake such a project has been said to be anywhere from \$60-\$90 million.

"We are trying to attract other businesses to alleviate the cost of a massive fee increase on students," said Bob Glenn, vice president for Student Affairs and vice provost for Enrollment Management.

"We are currently in talks over recruiting travel agencies, banks and a first rate-movie theater," he said.

It will take fewer than five years and no more than 10 to finish the new student union, once construction is started.

"Once built, the union will need to last 30 years at least," Glenn said. "We are looking at a very expensive piece of real estate here and it is difficult to fund such a building within the current budget climate."

According to the state, student unions are additional non-classroom buildings so no state money can be used to build them.

Any funding scheme devised

must reflect revenue-raising abilities such as a grocery store that can help pay for some of the building and make money at the same time.

Yet Glenn estimated only \$5 or \$6 million could be made off of such businesses.

"We are looking at a variety of revenue schemes and consulting with private bankers to see all the possible routes we can take," Glenn said.

"Just meeting all the state mandates and going through all the required procedures takes two years. Students should know we are looking at all the different roads to find the best one and that this will take some time." ♦

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## Davis appears in court for prelim hearing

### Faces more charges of animal cruelty, warrant not served

By Nona Kempton  
Staff Writer

A Murfreesboro man charged with multiple counts of animal cruelty will face more charges after another arrest warrant was served Tuesday just before his preliminary hearing was scheduled to begin.

William Terry Davis, 72, of 331 Calumet Trace, appeared in Rutherford County General Sessions Criminal Court Tuesday for a preliminary hearing on 10 counts of animal cruelty, one for each cat that was in his Indian Hills condo on Dec. 30, 2003. County animal services officers removed the cats and a dog due to unsanitary living conditions and poor health of the cats.

"They don't know what they've unleashed," Davis said after the hearing was continued. "I'm ready. I'd prefer getting it over and done, but we're not the one's delaying it. I'm looking for-

ward to my day in court."

The case was continued at the request of District Attorney Jude Santana so that another arrest warrant for an additional 38 animal cruelty charges could be served. The second warrant stems from a search of a Christiana property owned by Davis, where Rutherford County Animal Services officers removed 38 more cats from a trailer and a pen.

Most of the cats were euthanized after being removed from the trailer.

Murfreesboro attorneys John Price and Lance Selva, who are representing Davis, objected to the motion to continue. Price said in court that they were "taken by surprise" about the second warrant and a motion to combine all the charges into one case.

"That's an entirely separate incident," Priced argued before Judge Ben Hall McFarlin, "and we would like to continue on the original charges



Photo by Nona Kempton | Staff Photographer  
William "Terry" Davis, left, and attorney Lance Selva, second from right, speak with reporters after his case was continued.

today."

McFarlin granted the motion to continue and a new court date is set for March 23.

Price and Selva also asked the judge

to release Davis on his own recognizance after he agreed to surrender to the Rutherford County Sheriff's department on Tuesday. McFarlin granted that request.

Selva asked the judge to allow Animal Services to put Davis' dog up for adoption. The doberman was also removed from the Calumet Trace condo. Davis told the judge that he would be willing to allow the dog to be adopted on the condition that she not be spayed.

However, animal services officer Loreen Darley said in court that the dog, according to county regulations, would have to be spayed before being adopted.

Outside the courthouse, Davis and his attorneys expressed outrage over the case.

"We were ready today [to proceed with the preliminary hearing]," Selva said, "before they asked to continue." Selva also teaches in the criminal justice department at MTSU.

Selva called the motion to continue and the second warrant a "complete surprise and a travesty. This was an ambush, an intimidation technique by the prosecution." He also accused the district attorney of "pandering to the

See Cats, 4

### We are family



Photo by Micah Miller | Photo Editor

The Daily News Journal, which was previously owned by Morris Multimedia, was acquired by the Gannett corporation Monday. Gannett owns The Tennessean and several other newspapers in the Midstate area.

## Gannett acquires local daily

By Jason Cox  
State and Local Editor

Murfreesboro's Daily News Journal was acquired by the Gannett Corporation Monday as part of a multi-publication swap.

The other newspapers Gannett acquired in the deal with Morris Multimedia were The Review Appeal of Franklin, a daily newspaper, The Rutherford Courier and the Murfreesboro Sun, both weeklies. Morris Multimedia

received Gannett's only holding in Georgia.

The acquisition spreads Gannett's reach over the Middle Tennessee area even further. The corporation owns The Tennessean and its supplemental publications (including The Rutherford and The Nashville Rage), The Gallatin News-Examiner, The Hendersonville Star News, The Robertson County Times, The Dickson Herald, The Ashland City Times and the Fairview Observer.

Leslie Giallombardo, Tennessean

Publisher and President, told The Tennessean that the exchange was of commercial commodities only and that no cash was involved in the deal. Giallombardo did not return Sidelines' repeated calls for comment.

The DNJ also got a new publisher out of the deal. Judi Terzotis, who was formerly the general manager of the Middle Tennessee Community Newspaper Group, replaced former DNJ publisher

See Monopoly, 4

## 3 men arrested after stealing cop's cell phone

### Caught drinking underage, one with pot

By David Paulson  
Staff Writer

Three men were arrested after stealing a Murfreesboro police officer's cell phone at the Church Street International House Of Pancakes early Friday morning. Two were charged with underage consumption and one was also charged with possession of marijuana.

At approximately 3:00 a.m., officer Matt Lovejoy left his Nextel cell phone on the counter at the restaurant while paying for his meal. He was walking to his car when he realized he had forgotten it and went back inside. The cashier told officer Lovejoy that a patron had seen a male take the phone and sit at a table in the restaurant's smoking section.

Officer Lovejoy walked over to the table and spoke with Justin Baker, Gregory Baker and

Tyler Leverette of Shelbyville. All three denied taking the phone.

"I then told them if they did take my phone and returned the phone to me they would not be charged with theft," Lovejoy said. "All three subjects again denied taking the phone."

Officer Lovejoy informed the men that he would review the restaurant's security camera footage. While the IHOP's manager was playing the video tape, Gregory Baker walked into the restroom. Lovejoy followed Baker and found him standing next to the trash can. Officer Lovejoy found his cell phone in the trash can.

All three men were charged with theft under \$500.

Justin Baker, 19, and Leverette, 20, admitted that they had been drinking. Justin Baker also told police that he had a bag of marijuana in his pocket.

The subjects were transported and booked into the Rutherford County Sheriff's Office. ♦

## Bredesen proposes cuts to TennCare

### Governor hopes to save state \$2.5 billion

By Tom Sharp  
Associated Press Writer

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP) — Gov. Phil Bredesen proposes to cut benefits to a third of TennCare's enrollees, saving the state \$2.5 billion over the next four years and saving the health care program from extinction.

Bredesen outlined what may be the definitive proposal of his tenure before a joint session of the Legislature on Tuesday night.

He laid out a range of changes to the state's expanded Medicaid program for 1.3 million poor, disabled and otherwise uninsured citizens that is eating up a rapidly increasing share of the state's budget.

The governor has said the state cannot afford to keep TennCare as it currently exists, because within a few years it would starve all other state programs to death.

TennCare now spends more on prescription drugs than the state spends on all of higher education, a situation that would only get worse without some check on the program's growth, he said.

Bredesen's proposal does not

call for any enrollment reductions, and it protects 65 percent of TennCare's enrollees — 859,000 pregnant women, children, and the disabled — from almost all the benefits reductions.

For the remaining 35 percent, the proposal would implement an insurance package more in line with commercial insurance and other states' Medicaid plans.

The proposal does not cut the program from its current size, but tries to limit its growth. TennCare takes up 26 percent of next year's budget, about \$2.3 billion in state funding out of an overall cost of \$7.8 billion. Bredesen proposes to keep the program at about that percentage of state spending through 2008.

Slowing the growth to that extent would mean TennCare would cost the state \$1 billion per year less in 2008 than it would had no changes been made; the total aggregate savings through that period would be \$2.5 billion.

The bulk of the proposed savings come by reducing benefits in two categories.

The first is in pharmacy, where Bredesen proposes the state move beyond its current Preferred Drug List to paying only for the lowest cost prescription drug in

See TennCare, 4

## Board votes to rezone LaVergne schools

### Vote on Blackman postponed

By Nona Kempton  
Staff Writer

Zoning for students in LaVergne was decided at Tuesday's meeting of the Rutherford County school board, but students in the Blackman area will have to wait at least another week for a rezoning decision.

The school board voted to rezone 1700 students from Cedar Grove Elementary to LaVergne Primary School and Roy Waldron School. The board also voted to rezone everything north of Highway 41 to LaVergne Primary, Roy Waldron and the new LaVergne Middle School scheduled to open next year. This will move many students who live in LaVergne out of the Rock Springs schools in Smyrna.

"After years of campaigning we finally get schools built in LaVergne," parent Senna Mosley said, "and we have to fight to get

our kids to those schools. Roy Wise [school board member] and Harry Gill [director of schools] are the only ones on the board who seem to know where LaVergne is or even care."

LaVergne resident Julia Hill said she had to get an exemption for her daughter Keisha to attend Roy Waldron instead of Rock Springs Middle School and said she is happy that Keisha will move to the LaVergne Middle in the fall.

"We live and pay taxes in LaVergne," Hill said, "and they want to send our kids to Smyrna schools."

School board member Gary Patton expressed concern during the meeting that the new zones will not accomplish much to relieve overcrowding at many of the schools in the northern section of the county while leaving others with empty seats.

"It doesn't make sense to move those students [at Cedar Grove and Waldron]," Patton



Photo by Nona Kempton | Staff Photographer

One Mile Lane-area parents protest the possible move of their students from Blackman schools.

said, "We are moving them from one set of portables to another."

About 200 parents and students from the One Mile Lane area came to the meeting armed with bright orange signs to protest being rezoned out of the Blackman Schools. "I dropped everything to be here today," said Christopher Spera, who's

daughter Amanda is a fourth-grader at Blackman Elementary. "It was a big draw for us to move here to take advantage of the Blackman schools."

Under one of the zoning scenarios the board is considering, some students will move from

See Rezoning, 4

## Monopoly: Tertzotis: DNJ will 'remain autonomous'

Continued from 3

Tom Sizemore who said he was told of his termination yesterday and cleared out his desk at the DNJ the same day. He said he received a small severance package from Gannett, but declined to give an exact amount.

Sidelines' print contract is with The Middle Tennessee Community Newspaper Group. "Judi's experience over the past five years as general manager of our Middle Tennessee Community Newspaper Group leaves her uniquely qualified to lead *The News Journal*," Gary Watson, president of Gannett's Newspaper Division, said in a press release on Gannett's Web site. "She is very well suited to guide this new acquisition into Gannett."

While Tertzotis declined to elaborate on the new position, she said the DNJ will "remain autonomous" and cited several comments she made to *The Daily News Journal* as to how the DNJ will operate under the

new ownership.

"I want to say this loud and clear: We have common ownership, but we have distinctly different missions," she said in the DNJ. "All the decisions will be made locally by myself and the management team."

She said readers would see few changes, at least at first.

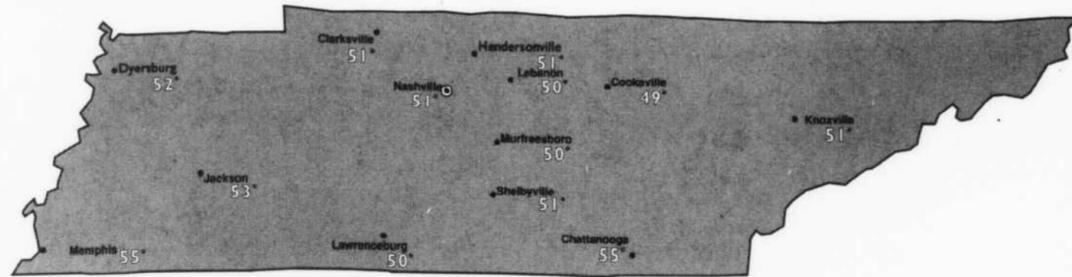
"My job is to take a strong newspaper and build on that foundation," she said. "At this point there is no master plan. If we will make changes, the changes will be redirecting resources to meet the market needs."

Both Mardee Roberts and Mike Pirtle, editors of *The Rutherford* and *The Daily News Journal*, respectively, declined to comment extensively on the matter, although Pirtle said, "I would anticipate that all our operations as they are will continue."

When asked how the move would benefit readers, Pirtle also said, "What our job is today ... is the same as it was last week." ♦

## Tennessee Weather – Wednesday's Highs

From the Associated Press



Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday
62° ▲ 35° ▼	63° ▲ 43° ▼	56° ▲ 47° ▼	54° ▲ 38° ▼	54° ▲ 36° ▼

## TennCare: Antihistamines would not be covered

Continued from 3

any category – with a limit of six prescriptions per month – at an estimated savings in 2008 of up to \$340 million.

He also proposes the state quit covering two categories of drugs altogether – antihistamines and gastric-acid reducers – instead requiring these to be purchased over the counter.

Those two categories of drugs – which are, broadly speaking, allergy medicines and remedies for heartburn or acid reflux disease – cost TennCare \$280 million a year, when the same drug is often available over the counter.

The second large category of benefit reductions would be in interactions with the health care system. Bredesen proposes for 45 inpatient and eight outpatient hospital visits per year; 10 visits to the doctor's office; and 10 laboratory or X-ray procedures a year.

The plan also would increase co-payments for the 35 percent of the TennCare population affected by the benefits changes. There are three subgroups within that population who would pay from \$1 to \$40 per visit, depending on their status and the type of medical attention they receive.

There would be appeals available for people whose lives might be adversely affected by

the benefit cuts.

The plan would create regional panels of health experts to hear those appeals. Each panel would have a set amount of money to allocate per year for, say, more hospital visits or more prescriptions drugs.

Also, certain hospitals would be designated to treat enrollees who cannot afford the co-payments. There would be additional funding for those hospitals.

The proposal also would focus more attention on managing the care for chronic diseases such as diabetes and heart disease.

Some changes would require amendments to the state's waiver with the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services; others can be done administratively; and others will require action by the Legislature. Few changes are expected to go into place before next year.

Bredesen also proposes to increase the pursuit of fraud within the program. He would combine separate fraud units now administered under TennCare, the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation and the Department of Human Services and make it an independent unit reporting directly to the governor. ♦

## Cats: Lawyer says search was unwarranted

Continued from 3

media" by waiting until today to serve the warrant.

Santana had no comment on the case after the hearing.

"This new warrant has been sitting around for two months," Price said, "and they elected not to serve it."

Court records indicate that Darley swore out the second warrant on Jan. 28. Darley said after the hearing that she thought the second warrant had already been served and did not know why it had not been until today.

Selva said he believes the case is based on an illegal search of Davis' home. The animals were removed from the home after a neighbor called police about Davis' dog wandering the neighborhood.

According to the police report, Murfreesboro police-

man Anthony Whitehead followed the dog into the condo after the smell of urine and feces and the trash made him concerned about the health and safety of the homeowner. He didn't get a search warrant before entering the home or after he called animal services.

"My position is this is an unwarranted intrusion into someone's home," Selva said, "everyone with animals is a potential victim of this type of invasion."

Selva said that the conditions at the Davis condo did not meet the criteria of "urgency" that would allow the police to enter without a search warrant.

"There are very limited circumstances that would allow the police to enter a home," Selva said, "and [in this case], there was no one crying out for

help, no billowing smoke, no gun shots."

Darley said that she had never been a part of a case like this, but said she believed that the officer thought he had probable cause to enter the home.

"The police signed over these animals to us," Darley said. Darley said that she was also disappointed that the case was continued, since the 15 remaining cats from the two properties can't be adopted until the case is resolved.

"That means the cats sit here for another month," Darley said, "instead of finding homes."

Outside the courthouse, Davis said he was no longer willing to allow Misty, his six-year-old white doberman, to be adopted if she had to be spayed. He said that the dog suffers from Von Willebrand

disease, a disorder in humans and dogs caused by a lack of clotting factors in the blood.

"Any surgery will be risky," Davis said, "and she should not have puppies."

Darley and other animal control officers said that they were sure that dog has already had at least more than one litter of puppies while in Davis' care.

"He has never stated that [the dog's medical condition] to us before today," Darley said, "and we've never heard that from his personal vet."

Darley said that Davis' vet was James Jarman of Murfreesboro. His office confirmed that they have treated the dog for this condition.

Selva and Davis not comment if Davis has acquired any more animals but said that there are no animals now at the Calumet Trace condo. ♦

## Rezoning:

Continued from 3

Blackman schools to Rock Springs and Rockvale schools.

The board postponed voting on the proposed Blackman zones. Gill told the board that revoking exemption students in the area would not have a significant impact on overcrowding. He asked for more time to work on a new plan and the board agreed to meet again in a week to discuss the issue.

Shelia Nicks, a One Mile Lane area resident who has two daughters at Blackman Middle School now, is dreading any decision that will rezone her kids into schools in different areas of the county.

"My oldest daughter will go the Blackman High next year," Nicks said, "but they want to zone my younger daughter for Rock Springs. I take them both to school and I would have to have one at school very early to get the other one to school on time, and the dismissal time is only 15 minutes apart when I'd have to pick them up."

Spera said that if his child is rezoned, he will have no choice but to take her out of the county school system and send her to Murfreesboro city schools.

"Since we live in the Murfreesboro city limits," Spera said, "she will be at Cason Lane at the end of the week [if she is rezoned.] And there may be an influx of students into the city schools from this."

"We are not going to make everybody happy," school board chairman Ed Jordan said at the close of the meeting, "but we will try to be as fair as possible." ♦

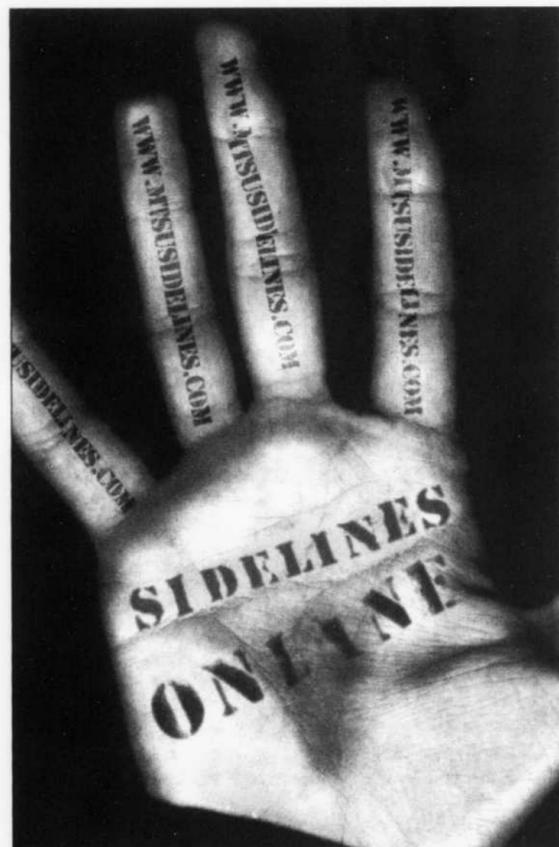
"We have on the air with us, the Sheriff of Rutherford County. Sheriff Jones, how has crime affected those who live and work in our County?"

-Bart Walker, host of Action Line



'The Action Line' is for those who care,  
Weekday Mornings from 8:10 to 9:07  
Only on Murfreesboro's WGNS AM 1450

It's not your daddy's AM radio...



# OPINIONS

Murfreesboro, Tenn.

Wednesday, February 18, 2004

SIDELINES ♦ 5

## From the Editorial Board Gannett expands reach to Murfreesboro's 'DNJ'

When the news of the *Daily News Journal's* shift to Gannett ownership hit the *Sidelines* newsroom, we were struck with the sudden realization we had become the only newspaper in Rutherford County not owned by one of the largest news corporations in the world.

Reaching out of the county, the move tightens Gannett's stranglehold on local newspapers. In addition to the *DNJ*, the *Murfreesboro Sun* and the *Rutherford Courier*, Gannett owns *The Tennessean* and six other newspapers in the surrounding counties, creating a virtual area monopoly over print news – something no fan of comprehensive news should like to see.

Competition is the driving force in news. It motivates newspapers in Washington, D.C., New York City, Los Angeles and other multi-paper cities to get the story, and get it right, first.

However, the *DNJ* has long been what would be nicely called a sleepy newspaper. The happy-looking sun at the top accompanies happy news about the whole community, save the crime stories. MTSU is great, the city of Murfreesboro and its mayor are great, the sheriff and his merry band of thugs are great, and so on.

Maybe, just maybe, the influence of new publisher Judi Terzotis and the influx of higher pay and benefits (or so we hear) will motivate the writers and editors at the *DNJ* to do more than paint a pretty picture and start actively pursuing stories of interest to the general public, even if it might hurt some feelings.

The problem isn't the necessarily or the loyalty to MTSU, the community or even the government. The problem is this steadfast loyalty has been more toward the people in the organizations, even if they do something that reflects very poorly on the university – say, when the president of MTSU faces serious sexual harassment charges – rather than that organization's founding principles or the group's morals or goals.

So instead of being a cog in a mid-sized machine, the *DNJ* is now a small bit of a massive, soul-eating, money-grubbing media tyrant. We say ho-hum. ♦

## From the Opinions Editor Bill O'Reilly issues apology for WMDs

On Feb. 10, right-wing media man Bill O'Reilly of *The O'Reilly Factor* did the unthinkable: He apologized.

O'Reilly issued the apology on ABC's *Good Morning America*.

O'Reilly apologized for supporting President George W. Bush's claims that Iraq was harboring weapons of mass destruction.

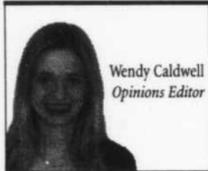
Imagine that. One of the most right-leaning propaganda machines said he was sorry for supporting the Republican president.

Talk about a no-spin zone.

I've never been one to support O'Reilly, and I usually get so mad when I'm in a room when his show's on that I have to leave, but I have to give him props for this.

Sure, it says something about his character, but I'm really just reveling in the fact that his apology demonstrates something we Democrats have known all along: Something is seriously messed up.

When a country goes to war with another country because the dictator has weapons of mass destruction hidden in the desert wasteland



Wendy Caldwell  
Opinions Editor

he rules, one would assume that someone would be able to locate these crazy madman of a dictator was ousted.

Of course, we all know that when we assume, we make an ass out of the Bush administration.

With the election being in November, Bush's top dogs had better start sniffing out some nukes if they don't want to be accused of misleading the American people.

Meanwhile, the rest of the country can just sit back and relax.

There are no weapons of mass destruction, or else they're so well-hidden that even those who could use them won't be able to find them.

O'Reilly admitted he was wrong to automatically believe Bush's claims.

If there are no WMDs found come November, it's time the country gears up for another apology. ♦

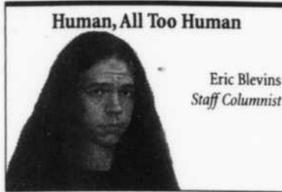
## Progressives want, need voice

It seems Ralph Nader may run for president again this year. It's not official, but he's definitely considering it. He has launched the Nader 2004 Presidential Exploratory Committee (www.naderexplore04.org) to see how much support he has before deciding if he will run or not.

And just like four years ago, Nader is being criticized by self-proclaimed liberals and progressives for wanting to take votes from the Democrats, thus ensuring a Republican victory.

This criticism is completely anti-democratic. In a democratic republic, you should vote for the candidate that best represents your views, not the lesser of the two evils that you assume are the only men who have a chance of winning.

It's also anti-democratic because it accepts the two-party oligarchy that currently runs our



Human, All Too Human

Eric Blevins  
Staff Columnist

country. A system that ensures that only two parties have a significant amount of governmental control, and has for over a century, isn't democratic.

Dick Meyer of CBS News has the right idea. He has said, "I hope Nader runs. I hope someone to the right of Bush runs, too. More is better. Run, Ralph, Run."

On the other hand, Richard Silverstein, a self-proclaimed left-leaning critic of Nader, said you need to "make a few compromises that enable you to create a viable centrist candidacy [as I believe Howard Dean is doing] – then you

might find you get what you need – which is a Democratic president in 2004."

This so-called liberal is pushing for what he openly admits is a centrist candidacy. He simply accepts the fact that the left has no representation in national politics without a fight.

There are only two men going for the Democratic nomination that can realistically be called liberals, Dennis Kucinich and Al Sharpton, and they're last in the runnings.

But Silverstein accepts that a centrist is the best the left should hope for. He even criticizes Nader for claiming that the Democratic Party needs a move to the left.

"If this were the best of all possible worlds, maybe Nader would make a great candidate," Silverstein said. Of course this was followed by a "but" and this cynic's surrender to a more "realistic"

position.

Shouldn't we try to make this "the best of all possible worlds?" Should we merely accept what our government has given us, or make the government represent the views and needs of the people?

What if all the people who vote Democrat because they think Nader doesn't have a chance and all the people who don't vote because they think Nader doesn't have a chance would vote for Nader?

Even if Nader still didn't win, at least progressives would make themselves heard on a national scale and improve chances for a true progressive candidate in the future. ♦

Eric Blevins is a senior recording industry major and can be reached via e-mail at ericblev@hotmail.com.

## Education lacks difficulty

I've noticed recently that U.S. kindergarten-12 schools did very poorly in a study that reviewed the schools' standards. This doesn't come as a surprise. After all, our kids can't think for themselves, and if they have to do homework for more than 15 minutes, they complain.

So let's keep sheltering our kids from breasts, cursing, sex and anything else remotely real. Because when we die, God will take over the parenting role and keep sheltering children, right?

Talk about a rude awakening to life when your poor kid realizes the truth after he or she blows through your entire life savings and wonders why the world is cruel.

It's sad that while our government is worried about money and war, other countries' fourth graders are mastering pre-calculus. According to a U.S. News report, India's level of education is greatly higher than ours.

Maybe if we spent more money on education, we could avoid war altogether. I guess it's more important to set up another dictator in Iraq (of course it will be someone we appoint) and make money off of that instead of worrying about our country's educational crisis. Then again, why give money to a messed-up system anyway?

All of our scientists and specialists in our government are from different countries; no wonder



On the Rocks

Klara Nizki  
Staff Columnist

everyone knows our secrets. But who wants a lazy American kid who can't even master algebra?

In fact, it's not the kids' fault – they don't know any better. Let's blame it on the schools and teachers. That's funny, when they try to teach kids, they receive parents' complaints that the subject matter is too difficult.

How are our children going to learn if all they're taught is boring, repetitive lessons that are easy?

I know – we need better enforced dress codes, and that will solve this problem. We shouldn't allow any religious symbols, except crosses of course, because the Christian faith is completely tied into our very fair school system. Yes, now we're just like the French, who are expected to soon pass a law banning any religious symbols except small crosses.

Why the hell are we wasting our time with this? Why are we lying to children that Muslims, Buddhists and Wiccans don't exist? You think this cocoon will keep them safe from going to your hell?

Once they're out from under your roof, they'll decide for themselves who they are and what they

believe. Our job as parents is to show them what not to do and why. We're supposed to prepare them for the real world, not hide them from it.

Even graduating high school gets you nowhere, except McDonald's or some factory job where you'll slave for the rest of your life. Sure, you could know someone and get lucky, but if you don't go to college, you're pretty much screwed.

High school here is a joke. Wasn't its purpose to prepare you for life and college? I can't remember how many times my college professors had to explain basic principles to the entire class that should've been taught in high school.

Talk about feeling stupid, because I did. This lack of what should be common knowledge is probably helped by teachers spending as long as two weeks reviewing for aptitude tests. If it's an aptitude test, it must not be very accurate, because we study two weeks for it by reviewing our easy, parent-approved lessons.

Unless things change, I've promised myself that when I have kids, I'll make sure they have a not anywhere near here. ♦

Klara Nizki is a junior business major and can be reached via e-mail at nkizki@aol.com.

## Literacy requires more than reading

Prepare yourself; I think I've stumbled onto something that threatens our very way of life. The majority of the world is illiterate.

What's that I say? Illiterate?

That's right. You may be saying to yourself that I've lost it, gone off the deep end, but in all actuality and despite temporary bouts of insanity, I'm still quite sane.

It's simple. Through my brief years of experience in this world and even fewer in this medium, there are only a few things I'm certain of, and one is that a lot of people can't read and comprehend.

That's the key phrase here, comprehend or understand. You actually thought they were going to print the words of some deranged columnist claiming the world can't read?

It's a little known fact that at least in this country the majority of citizens possess some reading ability. But the ability to read the printed word doesn't mean you can comprehend it.

And an even more common fault is that people with some ability to comprehend written work, either book, magazine or newspaper article, often get hung up on one word or sentence and can't take in the whole piece, or to put it bluntly, the point.

As a writer, I sometimes get frustrated and wonder why it is that some of the things I write aren't understood or are misinterpreted, which, as stated above, can bring on bouts of lunacy.

But as life has it, it's only through the frustrations, disappointments and the occasional lapse into lunacy that you see things more clearly.

So what great insight into life have I received for all my troubles? People are going to



Cosmo's Corner

Jeremy Coseo  
Staff Columnist

see what they want to hear, they're going to hear what they want to hear, and they're going to read what they want to read. It's as simple as that. The ability to be truly objective is rare.

Sticking with illiteracy, when people read the written word, most of the time they're going to put their own prejudices and beliefs on it.

For example, people can read the most non-partisan, well-researched article on affirmative action, and all that the article states is statistical data, which neither promotes the end to nor the continuation of affirmative action, but there would still be people who find the results racist just because it's dealing with a racial issue. The same applies to all works that deal with issues people are divided on.

So the problem is us, every one of us. We all think each of us has the answer and everybody else's views are wrong. That type of thinking is wrong. You don't need to become an agnostic and suspend all beliefs, but you do need to become a better reader and understand the different ideas that are presented to you.

Some words offend and others delight, but by themselves they don't carry much weight. Words are a part of something greater; they're used to lead you to the bigger picture. If you get hung up on one or two in the beginning, you'll never make it to the end. ♦

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## SIDELINES

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## SYNCHRONIZED SWIMMING

### Students express artistic talents through new sport

By Meg Akers  
Staff Writer

Middle Tennessee has a new sport to call its own.

They don't tackle. They don't run long distances. They don't even use bats.

They dance – in the pool, to be exact.

Synchronized swimming is the technical name for it, but the sport is often likened to dancing in the water.

Every Monday and Thursday night from 6 to 8 p.m., the MTSU Synchronized Swimming Club practices at the Recreation Center pool diving gracefully into the water, being lifted high into the air and doing maneuvers one can only imagine.

"It's a very competitive, highly skilled sport," says Pam Footit, aquatics director for MTSU.

Having been a synchronized swimmer and coach herself, Footit seems to be the right woman to talk to when researching the relatively unheard of sport.

"It's actually quite a popular Olympic event," Footit says proudly. "There are themes, with music picked accordingly for each show."

Footit recalls a story of one such show from her coaching days.

"We had a huge American flag spread out over the water," she remembers, "we even used to use black lights and everything. It's very creative."

Heather Phillips, a Belmont University student, has been an integral part in the beginnings of the synchronized swimming group here at MTSU.

Phillips, who has a job in Nashville, travels without hesitation the distance to campus twice a week to be with this ever-growing group of pool dancers.

"We are really thankful to have her," Footit says. "A synchronized swimming coach is hard to find anywhere."

But what are their reasons for having such high hopes for synchronized swimming on campus?

"Synchronized swimming develops discipline, grace and rhythm in all of its participants," Footit says.

"We would eventually like to see a full-fledged synchronized swimming program here at MTSU – competitions and everything."

As people hear of all the seemingly wonderful benefits of synchronized swimming, many will want to sign up immediately.

No background is needed to join the swimming club and anyone can join. The only requirements are a love of water, music and movement.

For information on joining MTSU's synchronized swimming team, please contact Heather Phillips at [hphillips@genesco.com](mailto:hphillips@genesco.com).



Photo by David McCombs | Staff Photographer

Heather Phillips practices a popular synchronize swimming technique in the Recreation Center's indoor pool.

## Campus living provides opportunities for growth

### Housing prices expected to increase this fall by as much as 30 percent for renovated dorms

By Erica Rodefer  
Features Editor

Cinder block walls (yellowed with age), old, creaky beds with uncomfortable, plastic mattresses, tiny, cramped rooms and a complete stranger sleeping less than three feet away.

**// Living on campus extends to you the opportunity you need and experiences you need to be the kind of person that an educated person should be.**

Vicki Justice-Lowe  
associate director of Residential Life

It may be hard to believe that anyone would actually choose to call such an institutionalized, prison-like setting "home."

But for many students, the perks of living on campus exceed the negatives.

"Living on campus extends to you the opportunity you

need and experiences you need to be the kind of person that an educated person should be," says Vicki Justice-Lowe, associate director of Residential Life.

In addition to the convenience associated with living in close-proximity to campus facilities and the reduced stress over parking on a campus that gets more crowded every year, living on campus encourages students to get involved in campus events and prepares them for future experiences, Justice-Lowe says.

"I think that's the big advantage, that you become more involved as a student, as opposed to having to suffer from driving into campus, finding a parking place, going off campus to work, going off campus to live and trying to find people that are sharing the same experience," she says.

It's important for freshman so they can become involved and make friends, and for seniors who are focused and ready to buckle down on their studies and what they need to do for graduation, Justice-Lowe says.

Also, the social structure of dorm living helps students make friends and develop lasting relationships that might endure past college years.

"Even if you're living in an apartment complex, not everybody there is always a college student. And if they are, if I'm the least bit inhibited, I'm not likely to go knock on doors to introduce myself," Justice-Lowe adds. "But I think that concept of the buildings on campus provide you with the opportunity, plus, we do a lot of special interest housing – honors living, women in science, aerospace – floors where people are trying to discover what they want to be in a career, living together."

However, there are a few things that students should take into consideration before they



Photos by Josh Jordan | Staff Photographer

Rutledge Hall is one of several dorms on campus currently undergoing renovations.

make their requests and pay their \$200 deposit for housing on campus in the upcoming school year.

Residential Life can only house 3,200 residents, according to Justice-Lowe. On a campus of well over 20,000 students, that usually leaves some students out.

"If you are provided a space it is my expectation that you honor the terms of the license agreement because there are people on that waiting list," she says.

There are few limited reasons why someone could get out of those agreements, she says, such as a diagnosis of terminal illness, extreme financial hardships (as determined by financial aid counselors on the cancellation committee) or a withdrawal from the university.

Of course, you can always

change your mind over the summer and cancel your agreement, but it will cost you. The closer it is to the beginning of the fall semester, the more money you'll lose if you cancel.

Speaking of money ... Justice-Lowe expects some of the residence halls to increase by as much as 30 percent in price this fall.

Recently renovated dormitories, Sims and Beasley Halls, will be equipped with brand new reformatted floors, kitchens, laundry facilities, lobby areas, sprinkler systems and card-swipe systems.

Renovations are in the plans for Judd and Gracy Halls in the 2004-2005 school year, one in the fall and one in the spring, which means one of them will be closed while the other is under construction.

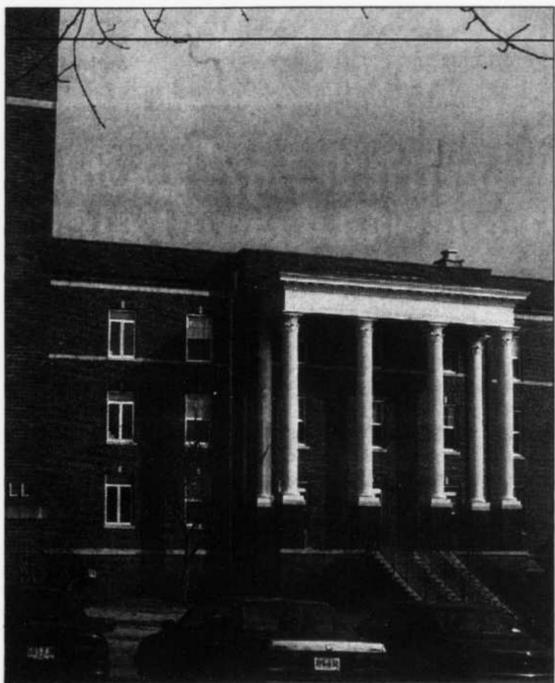
Then, at the start of the

spring semester, the students living in open dorm will be moved to the newly renovated building.

Justice-Lowe says she isn't sure which building they'll start with, but the students who have to move in the middle of the year will be compensated for their inconvenience because they'll get to live in the newly renovated building for the price of a regular dorm-room.

Students can expect regular residence hall prices to go up by four to five percent, and Scarlett Commons Apartments prices to go up by three to four percent.

Housing re-applications and a \$200 deposit must be turned into the Cope Administration Building no later than Feb. 28. ♦



Photos by Josh Jordan | Staff Photographer

Lyon Hall houses a 24-hour computer lab for residents.



I got an interesting question a little while ago from my mom.

My mom is an elementary school English teacher.

Though she is an excellent teacher, she knows nothing about computers and neither do the other teachers she works with.

Her question was this: "How do I send an attachment on an e-mail?"

I like to think of myself as a patient man, but this just really irritated me.

It didn't bother me that my mom didn't remember that I already showed her how to do this task, but that she couldn't find another teacher who knew how to send an attachment.

I would have thought that in a school full of teachers, someone would know something about computers.

My mom's explanation was that they were all older and none of them were really familiar with computers.

I would accept this answer if it weren't for the fact that I was asked a similar question by a student while I worked in the labs last semester.

She was younger than I am, and she didn't know anything about computers either.

What is with this apathy towards technology?

I read an article a little while ago talking about some of the highest paid professions right out of college, and the Top 10 were filled with some sort of engineering - all of them were technology-based.

Why are people avoiding computers when, the more you know about them, the better you can get paid?

Since I'm a computer geek I may never understand.

I mean, I love computers. They cause me some headache every now and then, but the possibilities that are open to me because of them far outweighs the pain.

What does concern me is that I don't think anyone out there is reading my column.

Just the fact that someone has a question like, "How do I send an attachment?," makes me question the worth of my little space here.

I know that if a person were to assemble all of my past articles and read them, then they could walk into a Best Buy and pick out a good computer deal and explain why it is good.

I want you guys to read my column and send me any questions you can think of.

I always answer the questions over e-mail first so I get back to people around a day after they send me a problem.

By the way, the way you send an attachment is as follows.

First, start a new message to be sent.

After you put in some data like the e-mail address the message is to and what the subject is there should be a button that says "attachment."

Click on it and you'll be able to choose the file you want to send with your e-mail.

Send computer questions to [jh2f@mtsu.edu](mailto:jh2f@mtsu.edu).

# Red Bull raises many health questions

By Erica Payne  
Staff Writer

You've seen the commercials. You've heard the slogan.

"Red Bull energy drink gives you wings," the commercial says.

The seemingly safe drink supposedly stimulates metabolism, improves performance and helps the consumer focus.

At MTSU, Red Bull energy drinks in the Cyber Café at Woodmore.

Cyber Café was the first store in the area to sell Red Bull, but now the drink is also available in the convenience store in the John Bragg Mass Communication Building.

Several students at MTSU have admitted to using Red Bull energy drink as a coffee substitute.

On those long, cold nights when cramming is a necessity and papers must be completed, Red Bull comes to the rescue, giving students the boost they need to get the job done.

Is Red Bull as harmless as coffee and other sports drinks?

Aimee Millsbaugh, a junior graphic design major, recounts her first time drinking Red Bull energy drink.

She had an art history exam, which required her to write 15 essays.

Sleep was not an option.

Despite her doctor's order to stop drinking stimulants, Millsbaugh felt she had no choice.

She drank Red Bull for the first time.

After drinking it, she experienced chest pains, which she ignored so she could finish her work.

Millsbaugh received the highest grade in the class on the exam, and she continues to drink Red Bull energy drink in times of need - but only half a can, she says.

On July 18, 2002, Dan Harris of ABC News reported that Sweden's National Food Authority was investigating the drink after three people died



Photo by Kyle Seamen | Staff Photographer

Red Bull, an energy drink, has currently been banned from France and Denmark.

soon after consuming it.

One person drank numerous cans of Red Bull after a vigorous workout and died from kidney

failure.

The other two people involved drank Red Bull in conjunction with alcohol.

France and Denmark have banned Red Bull energy drink.

Brandon Morris, a junior theater major, admits to drinking a Red Bull/alcohol mixed beverage "because it gets you drunk quicker."

Mixing Red Bull with alcohol is as common as mixing alcohol with pineapple juice, Morris says.

In fact, establishments that sell alcohol are the biggest Red Bull vendors.

So where did these controversial drinks come from?

Dietrich Mateschitz founded Red Bull in 1984.

Popular "tonic drinks" from Asia influenced him as he concocted the product, which is composed of taurine, an amino acid, glucuronolactone, a glucose derivative, and caffeine.

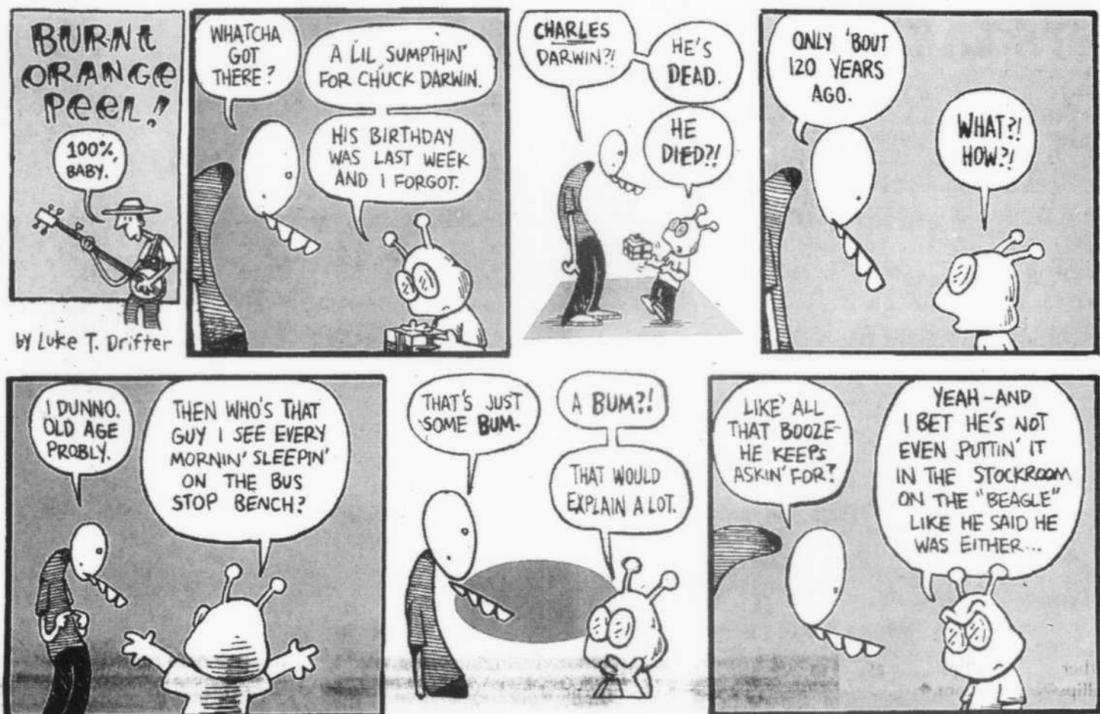
Red Bull captured its first foreign market in Hungary in 1992.

It is currently sold in over 70 countries worldwide.

Red Bull estimates that more than a billion cans of their energy drink is consumed each year.

Research on the positive and negative effects of Red Bull energy drink are still under investigation.

So, until the verdict is out, buyers beware.



By Luke T. Drifter

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## Men's tennis drops second straight match

By David Hunter  
Senior Staff Writer

The No. 63 Blue Raider men's tennis team traveled to No. 44 Georgia Tech and lost 5-2 Monday, despite several chances to pick up the victory.

MT was down 3-2 with the Nos. 4 and 6 matches tied at one set apiece. In the No. 4 match, MT's Kirk Jackson had a 4-2 lead in the final set against GT's West Nott. Nott took the next four points, however, to win the set and the match 6-4, 3-6, 6-4.

The No. 6 match between MT's Anant Sitaram and GT's Joao Menano went to a supertiebreaker in the third set, with Menano winning the match 3-6, 7-5, 11-9.

"Once again, we were in position to win, and somehow we just continue to lose," Blue Raider head coach Dale Short told MT Media Relations. "I feel like our team really took a step forward today and showed we can play with some of the top teams in the country."

GT also took all three doubles matches, including a win over the No. 46 doubles team in the country.

MT's ranked team of Brandon Allan and Kai Schledorn lost to Yellow Jackets Scott Schnugg and Marko Rajevac in the No. 1 match 9-8 (3). GT's Jason Pieters and Jose Luis Muguruza earned an 8-4 win against Blue Raiders Rishan Kuruppu and Andreas Siljestrom at No. 2. Trevor McLeod and Joao Menano finished the doubles sweep with an

8-6 win over MT's Trevor Short and Greg Pollack at No. 3.

Short rallied after missing last Saturday's loss to Virginia Tech with a knee injury.

The Blue Raiders gained their two points with Siljestrom beating Muguruza 4-6, 6-2, 6-2 in No. 2 singles and Kuruppu taking the victory over Rajevac 7-5, 6-3 in No. 5 singles.

GT also gained two points in singles with Schnugg defeating Short 6-1, 6-4 at No. 1 and Pieters defeating Schledorn 6-0, 6-1 in the No. 3 match.

The next match is Friday against the University of Memphis at the Racquet Club of Murfreesboro at 2 p.m. ♦



File Photo

Right: Kai Schledorn, right, and doubles team of Kai Schledorn and Brandon Allen (not pictured) lost their first match of the season Monday.

### Middle Tennessee Men's Tennis

The men's tennis team will play Memphis at the Racquet Club of Murfreesboro Friday at 2 p.m.

## Lady Raiders take out Denver 68-56

By David Hunter  
Senior Staff Writer

The Middle Tennessee women's basketball team (17-6, 7-3 Sun Belt Conference) went on the road and defeated the University of Denver (11-12, 4-7) 68-56 Sunday afternoon.

Lady Raider Tia Stovall scored 23 points in the victory. MT led the entire game.

However, MT had to fight off several rallies by Denver, including trimming a Lady Raider 11-point lead to four in the opening half. Denver stormed back by going on an 8-2 run starting with 2:30 left. The Lady Raiders had a 42-38 lead at halftime.

"I think we did a good job coming out of the gate," MT head coach Stephany Smith told MT Media Relations. "Near the end of the first half, we started turning the ball over and they began to press, and we panicked a little."

The story stayed the same in the second half, with MT gaining a 15-point lead.

The Lady Raiders again came back and increased the lead to seven. Denver's Tasha Jones nailed a three-pointer with 2:15 to go in the game to make the score 61-54. However, MT's Krystle Horton scored on a layup on the next possession to increase the lead to nine.

The Lady Raiders ended the game on a 5-2 run to seal the victory.

Fifteen of Stovall's season-high 23 points came in the first half. Stovall added five rebounds, three assists and three steals.

Keisha McClinic had 11 rebounds, five steals and three assists for the Lady Raiders. That makes 85 steals for the season by McClinic.

Horton and Patrice Holmes each chipped in with 15 and 12 points, respectively.

Denver was led by Tyesha Lowery's 18 points, and Stephanie Hart had 16 points



Photo by Micah Miller | Photo Editor

MT forward Krystle Horton drives the lane in MT's 70-68 loss to WKU Feb. 5.

and 12 rebounds in the loss. MT hit 57.1 percent from the field while holding Denver to 32.8 percent shooting.

The Lady Raiders have gone undefeated against teams from the SBC Western

Division this season. They're the lone Eastern Division team to accomplish that feat.

Currently, MT is in second place in the SBC Eastern Division behind Arkansas

State University (17-6, 8-2). The two teams will meet for first place at Murphy Center Thursday night. The game begins at 7 p.m. ♦

## The Greatest Victory

A month-long tribute

### Ali proved greatness beyond boxing ring

By Matthew Adair  
Staff Writer

He was a man who could not only boast to all watchers that he was "The Greatest of All Time," but who could also back up his words both in and out of the boxing ring.

Had any other man spoken the words, "When you're as great as me, it's hard to be humble," fans would be disgusted by such an arrogant display of pride.

The man who spoke those words, however, had every right to claim them.

Muhammad Ali became one of boxing's fiercest and most respected fighters. His name and his image are forever linked to the sport that has immortalized him as well as to the radical beliefs he believed with as much passion and fury as he demonstrated in the ring.

When others sought to drown him out, Ali shouted louder. When authority attempted to hold him down, Ali fought back. His wit and his strength in his beliefs made him unstoppable at anything he seemed to throw himself into, regardless of the obstacles in his way.

Ali was born Cassius Marcellus Clay, Jr. in 1942. Devoting very little attention to academics, it was clear from early on that he cared little for anything that wasn't boxing. When his bicycle was stolen from him, Clay was directed by a police officer to Frank Stoner, who shaped Ali and perfected his talents in the ring.

Stoner's training led Clay to win a series of victories and awards, culminating in a gold medal in the 1960 Rome Olympics.

He quickly entered professional boxing after returning to his native Kentucky, becoming Heavyweight Champion of the World by defeating Sonny Liston. His pride and wit were as his speed and punches, as he taunted opponents with his famous remark that he could "float like a butterfly, sting like a bee."

Clay used his lofty position as champion to

openly display his disgust with racism. He joined the radical Nation of Islam in 1964, converting to the Islamic faith and changing his name from Cassius Clay to Muhammad Ali. This, combined with his 1966 refusal to serve the Army during the Vietnam War, caused him to be stripped of his boxing license and his heavyweight title in addition to receiving a five-year prison term for draft evasion.

Ali, however, would not allow himself to be beaten by adversity.

Ali had his conviction overturned three years later and regained his boxing license. After a devastating loss to Joe Frazier at Madison Square Garden in 1971, Ali fought his way back up to his title. He knocked out then-champion George Foreman in the Zaire "Rumble in the Jungle" before traveling to the Philippines and knocking out Philipino in 14 rounds in what is known famously today as the "Thrilla' in Manila."

Ali would hold the title of champion almost continuously from then until 1980, when, after two losses, he announced that he would retire from boxing.

While his career as a boxer may be over, Ali continues several fights to this day, with Parkinson's Disease to the much broader fight of working for peace and equality world-wide. WORLD, the World Organization for Right, Liberty and Dignity, was established by Ali to help work toward his humanitarian goals.

Today, some compare modern sports stars such as Michael Jordan or Tiger Woods to the famous boxer in terms of status within an athlete's respective sport and the recognition of his name and image.

But to those who watched Ali prove time and again not just his talent, but the strength of his convictions, there is no comparison. His fame is more than the measure of those who recognize him or the wealth he has built. He is simple, beyond all material measure, the greatest. ♦

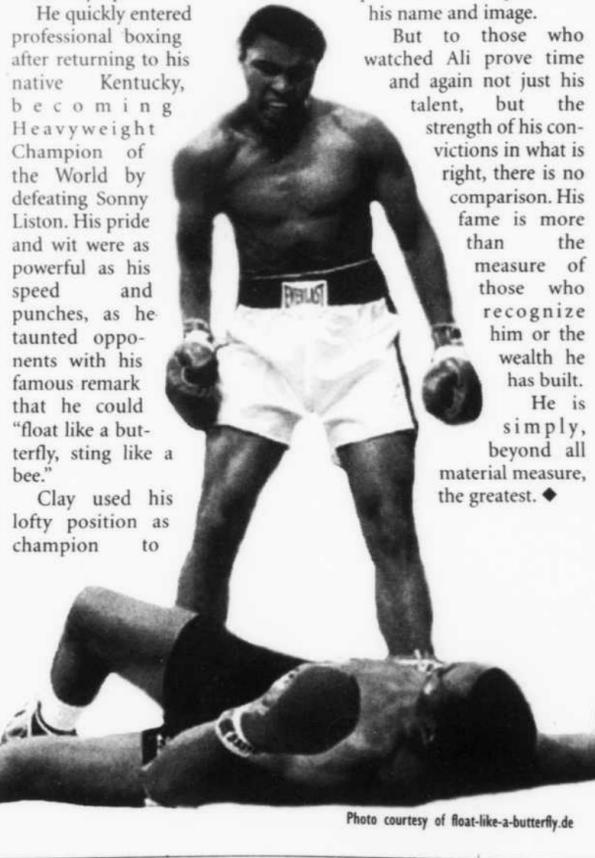


Photo courtesy of float-like-a-butterfly.de

## A-Rod deal benefits Yankees, baseball

### Sports commentary



Jon Leffew  
Staff Columnist

It's that time of year again.

Winter storms ravage the country, flu outbreaks conflict with every American's schedule, and Major League Baseball once again defies the laws of economics.

In the biggest trade since the man they call Babe was sent from Boston to New York, last year's American League MVP, Alex Rodriguez, was officially made a New York Yankee on Monday, while the Texas Rangers, Rodriguez's former team, received Alfonso Soriano and a player to be named later.

"I'm pretty excited," Yankees owner George Steinbrenner told ESPN.com. "This is a big, big one."

Steinbrenner is excited for a number of reasons.

For one, the Yankees now have one of

the best left sides of the infield in baseball history, with Derek Jeter at shortstop and Rodriguez making the move to third.

After an off-season injury to third baseman Aaron Boone, the Yankees appeared to have a rare hole in this year's lineup.

This trade seals up any questions on defense, however. Rodriguez is a reigning American League Gold Glove winner, while Jeter committed just 14 errors last season.

Perhaps the only problem the Yankees will have next season will be the order in which to send their \$200 million worth of sluggers to the plate.

With the likes of Rodriguez (47 home runs last season), Jeter (.324 batting average), Jason Giambi (41 HR), Gary Sheffield (132 runs batted in), Hideki Matsui (106 RBI) and Jorge Posada (101 RBI), the Yankees have the potential to be the best offensive team in baseball history.

"We have a chance to be a very special team," Yankees general manager Brian Cashman told ESPN.com. "But we have to go out and prove that. We have to go on that beautiful journey that baseball takes you on."

While many baseball insiders feel this journey will take the Yankees straight to another World Series title, several others will benefit from this blockbuster trade.

For one, the Texas Rangers will most likely improve because of this deal.

Sure, they lost the league MVP, but they gained a more important, financial freedom to attain what they really need: pitching. With the money Texas saves, the team should be able to sign better pitchers and eventually make a run at an AL West title. Major League Baseball as a whole will also benefit from this trade.

With two of the game's biggest sluggers playing for the Yankees, baseball fans worldwide will tune in to see how many records the team will break. Attendance records will probably be shattered, as will the confidence of many pitchers who have to face the Bronx Bombers.

Once again, the hearts of Red Sox fans are breaking, as this trade puts the Yankees on top as the favorite of the AL East.

Somewhere, Babe Ruth is observing the madness, smoking a fine cigar and laughing at the curse he created. ♦

# Better late than never: Softball begins Wednesday

By Brad Jameson  
Staff Writer

The Lady Raider softball team begins their season at home Wednesday with a doubleheader against Belmont University at Lady Raider Field.

Middle Tennessee was set to start the season last Sunday with a home opener against Alabama State University, but the doubleheader was cancelled due to snow.

The Lady Raiders were picked pre-season to finish fourth overall in the Sun Belt Conference by league coaches. The University of Louisiana-Lafayette was unanimously picked first, followed by Florida International University in

second and Western Kentucky University in third. Rounding out the bottom of the poll was the University of North Texas in fifth and New Mexico State University in sixth.

Head coach Cindy Connelley believes the tight camaraderie the team has formed in the off-season will improve MT's performance.

"They want to win and are willing to work hard," Connelley said. "But, you always want to polish that. You can usually win half

of your games [are] won on team cohesiveness."

MT is led by senior shortstop and co-captain Cortney Mitchell. Mitchell led the country in doubles last season with 27 and is the second player in Lady Raider history to finish the season with a batting average of more than .400, with .409.

Mitchell also received the SBC Newcomer of the Year honors last sea-

son, along with being named to First Team All-South Region and First Team All-South Region.

Ten of the 20 players on the Lady Raiders' roster for the fall season were new players. Connelley felt some bonding time was necessary to instill a sense of teamwork in her players.

"We did an awful lot of off-the-field bonding with the challenge course and some community service," Connelley said. "I think this is a really special team that finds a way to win."

Some of the team's contributions to the community included Christmas caroling at a nursing home and some in-school community projects around Murfreesboro.

Belmont began their season with a

12-0 shutout against Alabama State on Saturday. The Bruins, under new head coach Jose Garcia, were picked to finish last this season in the Atlantic Sun Conference by league coaches and media. The team finished the 2003 season in last place in the conference at 9-39-1 (5-17).

MT defeated Belmont twice in a Nashville doubleheader last spring season 8-2 and 5-1. The Lady Raiders finished the season 33-21, placing third in the SBC standings with an 8-8 conference record.

The Lady Raiders expect a successful spring.

"I think there is a question mark there in how good we can be and how early," Connelley said. ♦



Connelley



Mitchell

Sports e-mail [slsports@mtsu.edu](mailto:slsports@mtsu.edu)

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# MT women remain perfect at home with win over SLU

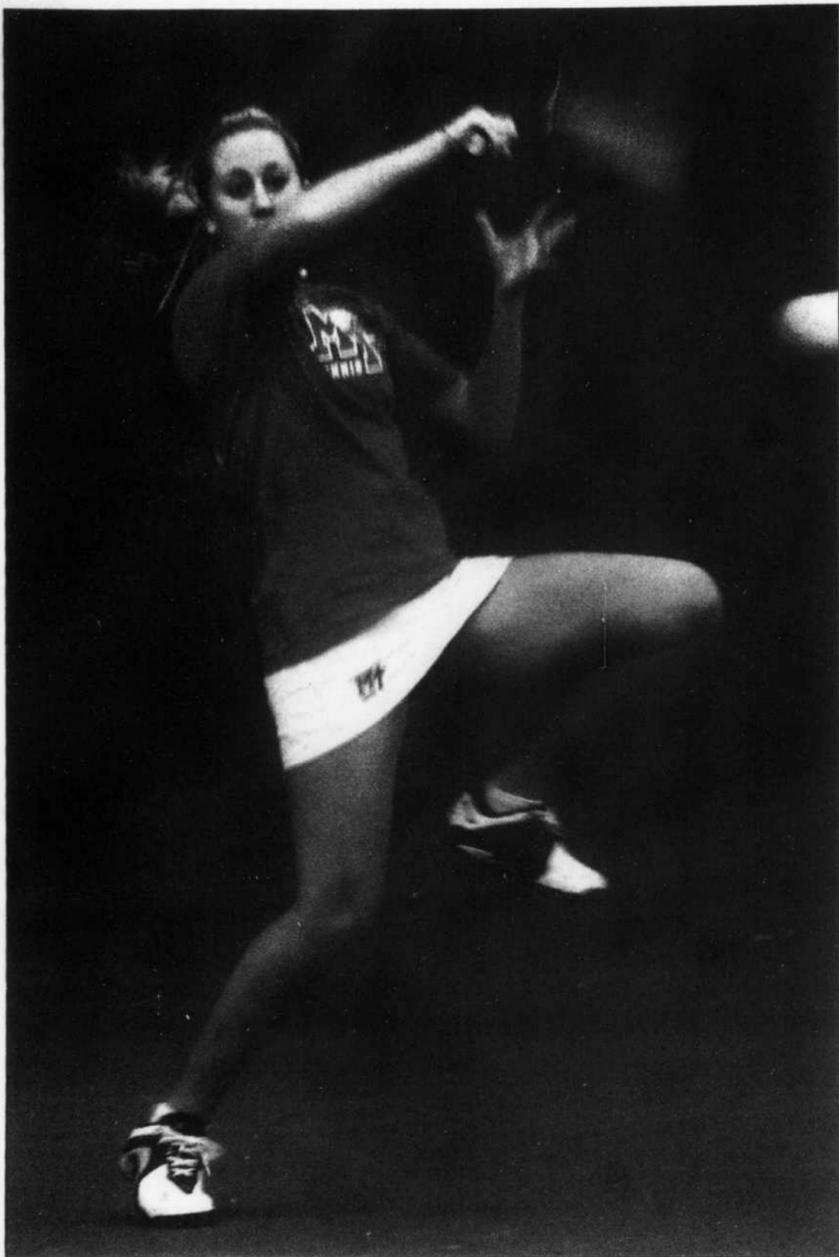


Photo by Micah Miller | Photo Editor

MT senior Laura McNamara returns a volley in MT's 7-0 win over SLU last Sunday.

**By Colby Sledge**  
Assistant Sports Editor

Manon Kruse extended her winning streak to six matches as the Middle Tennessee women's tennis team quickly defeated St. Louis University 7-0 last Sunday.

The Lady Raiders (4-2) won all six singles matches in straight sets en route to their third victory in their last four matches.

"We expected to do quite well," MT head coach Randy Holden said. "It [SLU] is a Conference USA team so we figured they should be pretty competitive, but we played extremely well and I'm proud of the way we competed and didn't really give them a chance to get in the match."

MT won all three doubles matches over SLU (1-9) as the Billikens lost their fifth straight match. Jennifer Klaschka and

Laura McNamara defeated SLU's Ana Renda and Melissa Cutler 8-1 at No. 2 before No. 31 Kruse and Carien Venter clinched the doubles point with an 8-3 victory over Katarina Lozanova and Amanda Hellberg in the No. 1 match.

The win was the fourth straight for Kruse and Venter and both MT teams moved to 5-1 on the season.

Ana Maria Cibils and Jacqui Williams then finished Lindsay Winninger and Rebecca Steer 8-4 at No. 3.

In singles, McNamara finished first in a 6-1, 6-0 victory over Cutler in the No. 4 match. No. 54 Kruse then remained perfect in the spring season with a 6-1, 6-0 defeat of Lozanova at No. 1.

"She [Kruse] has always been the staple of our lineup," Holden said. "It's her senior year and I think she wants to prove something."

Klaschka then defeated Hellberg 6-1, 6-1 at No. 2 to snap a two-match losing streak and Venter won over Renda 6-2, 6-3 in the No.3 match.

Emily Vest and Williams then finished the match as Vest won 6-2, 6-0 over Winninger at No. 5 and Williams defeated Steer 6-4, 6-3 at No. 6.

The shutout was the Lady Raiders' second of the season and the first since their 7-0 win over Austin Peay State University Jan. 22 in the season opener. The win also kept MT undefeated at the Racquet Club of Murfreesboro this season.

The Billikens were shut out for the fifth time this season.

MT travels to the University of Arkansas-Little Rock Friday and the University of Memphis Sunday before returning to Murfreesboro to take on Murray State University Mar. 3. ♦



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