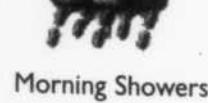


MONDAY

MARCH 28, 2005

▼ 38 ▲ 59



Morning Showers

An editorially independent newspaper

Volume 80 No. 68

CAMPUSBRIEFS

SGA homecoming, AIDS quilt directors

The Student Government Association is accepting applications for homecoming director and AIDS quilt director. Positions are also available on the homecoming and AIDS quilt committees. Applications are available in Keathley University Center, Room 208. They must be turned in by March 30 at 4 p.m.

Model United Nations places third in Virginia

The Model United Nations placed third at the Virginia International Committee Simulation at the University of Virginia. It was the Model UN's highest placement ever at a conference.

Career Center teaches etiquette at dinner

The Career and Employment Center and Office of Alumni Relations will host an etiquette dinner Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. The dinner will provide students with an opportunity to learn everything from eating soup and passing bread to choosing the correct fork with confidence. The \$10 registration includes a four-course meal. To register, contact the Office of Alumni Relations at 898-2923.

Candidates to appear at party meeting

Candidates for Rutherford County Democratic Party offices will appear at the College Democrat meeting Thursday. The meeting will be held in Business and Aerospace Building, Room S324. Voting for party offices will be at the reorganization meeting in the county courthouse, April 2 at 10 a.m.

Outdoor Pursuits plans various April trips

Outdoor Pursuits has several recreational trips planned for April. They include horseback riding, canoeing and whitewater rafting on the Ocoee River. The costs range from \$10-\$40, depending on the trip. Call campus recreation at 898-2104 for more information.

Chair sponsors 'executive takeover'

Approximately 50 executives from the region will take over morning classes at MTSU April 1.

The takeover program, sponsored by the Jennings A. Jones Chair of Excellence in Free Enterprise, will bring area CEOs, business owners, entertainment executives and media personalities to 10:15 and 11:20 classes.

"The Executives-in-Residence program provides an opportunity for our students to interact with some very dynamic executives in Middle Tennessee and gives them a chance to see some of the theory they're being taught in actual practice," Jim Burton, dean of the College of Business, said. ♦

Consignment for a cause

In Living, page 5



Middle Tennessee State University

SIDELINES

Men's tennis squad continues hot streak

In Sports, 6

2003 National Finalist
Best non-daily university newspaper
-Society of Professional Journalists

Murfreesboro, Tenn.

Students protest to save professor's job

University refuses to comment

By Lauren Buckley and DeAnn Currey
Staff Writers

Dennis Kramer, a nominee last year for the Teacher of the Year award, will have to spend the next year looking for a new teaching job if an appeal concerning his employment fails.

Kramer said he recently received a letter informing him his department chair recommended he not be reappointed for the 2005-2006 school year.

"When they hire faculty for tenure track position ... after each year the chair recommends to the dean that you be reappointed for the following year or not," Kramer said. "This year I was told that the chair is not recommending that I be reappointed."

Kramer said he preferred not to go into specifics as to why he was not being recommended for reappointment because he has made an appeal to review the decision. "I am going to be cautious

about what I say because the fat lady hasn't sung yet," Kramer said. "The president hasn't signed it. It's moving toward him, but it could be reversed, so I don't want to say anything to upset someone who might have been wanting to reverse."

"I wasn't stealing, I wasn't having sex with students ... I have nothing to hide," Kramer said.

Many students have responded negatively to the decision to release Kramer from his teaching position. Last Thursday, about 100 students protested outside

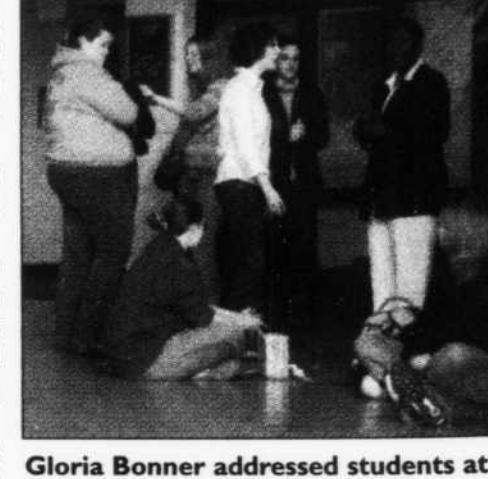
Gloria Bonner's office. The protest occurred before a meeting between Bonner, the dean of the education and behavioral science department, and Kramer.

At the protest, students passed around a petition in support of Kramer.

"He's somebody I can bounce my ideas off. I wish he taught more classes," Mary Tidwell, a senior family and consumer sciences major, said.

"If you want to learn more, he'll teach you more,"

See Professor, 2



Gloria Bonner addressed students at Thursday's protest, complimenting them on their professionalism.

Protesting for peace



Photo by Rachelle Morvant | Chief Photographer

Jessica McGee and Nick Johnson protested the war in Iraq on the corner of Greenland Drive and Tennessee Blvd. Thursday.

McPhee names four AD finalists

By Colby Sledge
Sports Editor

A two-month search for a new Middle Tennessee athletic director has yielded four finalists from across the country.

MTSU President Sidney McPhee announced Friday that Tom Collins, John Currie, Kathleen DeBoer and Chris Massaro were candidates to become the sixth athletic director in school history.

"We could have easily brought in 12 candidates to campus if we had the time," McPhee told MT Media Relations. "The pool was incredible. Every person we spoke with had direct experience in all the areas we are targeting for this position."

AD search committee chair Steven Smith was also pleased with the candidates and the process overall.

"Middle Tennessee has an opportunity to have a professionally trained athletic director for the very first time," Smith told MT Media Relations. "The AD job is not the same job as it was 20 years ago, and the Blue Raiders should be proud of the quality candidates our school has attracted."

Senior Michael Shirley, an avid Blue Raider fan who often

can be seen wearing a large blue cowboy hat at athletic events, is the lone student representative on the search committee.

"I want to know what the AD can do to help students connect to the athletic program and in turn the university, while

they're still in school, so that when they graduate, they want to give back," Shirley said. "Of course, I'm going to take academics and fund-raising into consideration, but that's not why I was chosen to be on the committee. I was chosen to give the students' perspective."

Shirley also told *Sidelines* that during the committee conference call at 10 a.m. Friday, McPhee was certain of three candidates but had not decided the fourth. Shirley could not, however, comment on who the final candidate was.

The search committee will meet with each candidate for two hours beginning at 8 a.m. on Wednesday and Thursday during the finalists' visits to campus. The finalists will then

See Finalists, 7

TennCare reform sparks protest

By David S.T. Driver
Staff Writer

state single-payer system and bulk drug-buying with other states.

"The administration is choosing not to look at these options," Smith said. "It is not that [Bredesen] can't fix TennCare; it is that he won't fix TennCare."

Dr. James Powers, Vanderbilt geriatrics specialist and chairman of the TennCare Pharmacy Advisory Committee, discussed drug discounts and the definition of medical necessity.

"If the state gets with other states buying drugs, we could cut costs in half," Powers said.

Powers also said he has talked with many doctors who treat "medical necessity" TennCare enrollees who will lose their coverage under the governor's plan. Without TennCare, these doctors will lose their practices, and these

See TennCare, 3

State, federal consider more meth laws

David S.T. Driver
Staff Writer

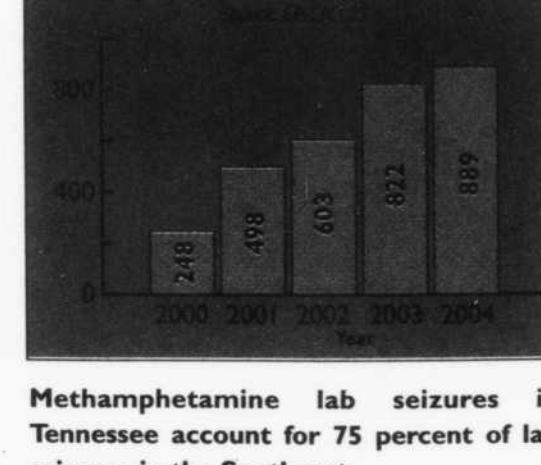
Crank, ice, glass, crystal and meth are becoming buzz words in the Tennessee State Senate and the U.S. House of Representatives. The U.S. House Committee on Science unanimously passed the Methamphetamine Remediation Research Act onto the House floor.

The act, sponsored by Bart Gordon, D-Tenn., will fund research in the clean up and remediation of meth labs.

"The meth epidemic has destroyed families and communities, leaving in its wake overtaxed law enforcement authorities, overburdened child services agencies and toxic dumps wherever it is produced," Gordon said.

"But we know very little about how much damage results from this aspect of the meth problem, or about how to clean up and remediate former meth labs," said science committee Chairman Sherwood Boehlert, R-N.Y.

The Tennessee State Senate is currently working on legislation to attack the meth problem, including limiting sales of cold and sinus medicines, which are used to extract Ephedra during



the manufacturing process.

During the science committee hearing, Rep. Jackson Lee, D-Texas, said the Texas legislature ran into a lot of challenges attempting sale-limiting legislation.

See Meth, 3



This week's poll question at
www.mtsusidelines.com

Who would you like to see as
Athletic Director?

Opinions 4 • Living 5 • Sports 6 • Classifieds 7

Professor: Final decision expected soon, Kramer says

Continued from I

Jennifer Henderson, a senior psychology major, said.

"I won't do my graduate studies here if he's let go," said Nikki Myers, a junior education and behavioral science major.

"You've conducted yourselves so professionally," Bonner told the protesters during the demonstration.

Psychology departmental chair Dennis Papini said he could not comment on why Kramer was not recommended for reappointment.

"Part of the policy and procedure stipulates that the faculty who serve on a committee and that are involved in personnel evaluations are expected to observe the highest appropriate standard on confidentiality about the deliberations," Papini said. "And as a result of that, I am not able to talk about any specific deliberations as issues."

"I am not aware of an appeal, and if the committee were to ask me to appear, I would appear," Papini said.

Emily Carroll, one of Kramer's students and a psychology major, is trying to get

the administration to re-evaluate the recommendation not to reappoint Kramer.

Carroll said she did not know exactly why Kramer is not being reappointed, but explained a rumor she had heard.

"From what I understand, the promotion and tenure committee in the psychology department felt that he wasn't working enough with graduate students, and that he was not doing enough research," she said.

"Obviously from the students' and professors' response to this situation, Dr. Kramer has had a tremendous impact," Carroll said. "He's passionate, respectful and is genuinely concerned about his students. I believe that MTSU has an opportunity to listen to the students' voices and keep Dr. Kramer on campus. The only people who lose if he leaves are the students."

Kramer said he returned to school last spring just three weeks after having major surgery to remove cancer from his stomach. Kramer had to go to Vanderbilt Hospital daily to

receive "shocks of radiation" and then returned to teach his classes while wearing a fanny pack that pumped chemotherapy drugs into his side.

Kramer teaches a psychosexual adjustment class that is known to present "controversial and provocative issues," Carroll said.

Self-gratification, anatomy, conception and genital mutilation of men and women are among the topics covered in this class.

"Others may be more by-the-book and not explore the avenues he does," Carroll said.

Kramer also teaches abnormal psychology and general psychology.

Kramer said he submitted a document to his department for review of his employment, including data with very high ratings given by students on university evaluation forms.

Kramer said if he is not reappointed, he will be able to teach at MTSU during the 2005-2006 school year while he seeks another teaching position.

"I think a decision is coming soon, within the next few days. So, depending upon what that



Photo by Rachelle Morvant | Chief Photographer

About 100 students protested the decision not to reappoint Dennis Kramer, a popular psychology professor. Kramer's appeal will be reviewed this week.

decision is, I'd be more happy to comment on those things once I know whether it's going to slide on up or whether it's going to be

reversed," Kramer said.

"We would like to think that they could make something happen, wouldn't we?" Kramer

said of the student efforts on his behalf. "In other words, will anybody listen to them? Let's hope so." ♦

Grape-growing proposed as alternative to tobacco

By Dana Owens
Staff Writer

An on-campus center proposed by an MTSU professor would encourage tobacco farmers to switch to growing grapes.

Tony Johnston, a professor of agribusiness and agriscience, said switching crops would benefit farmers because the tobacco market is on a general decline. Tobacco farmers could grow grapes as an alternative crop to bring in revenue and continue farming.

"With tobacco on its way out, there is a more serious interest in growing grapes," said Jim Thomas, president of the Tennessee Farm Winegrowers Association.

A viticulture and enology center would allow people who are interested in growing grapes to gain expertise and consultation as a "one-stop shop" for everything they need to get going," Johnston said.

He said one major factor for tobacco's decline is the government is no longer subsidizing tobacco products or paying farmers a minimum price for tobacco, regardless of its market price. The number of smokers in the United States is down from 10 years ago, due largely to anti-smoking campaigns and rising prices of cigarettes, Johnston said.

Currently, there is very little effort toward grape production in Tennessee, Johnston said. Because there are only a handful of people involved in wine or

grape production in the South, there is virtually no expertise in the region, he said.

According to Thomas, there are about 28 small wineries and vineyards in Tennessee, with several more in the planning stages. Thomas said grape-growing in general is catching on, and the last four or five years have seen more grapes being planted by tobacco farmers. Thomas said he expects grape-growing to "take off" within the next five years.

Tobacco farmers are considering grape-growing as an alternative because it is a new industry in Tennessee that has grown with an increased demand in grapes, said Tom Womack, executive assistant for public affairs of the Department of Agriculture. Womack said the department hopes the trend will continue.

"The Department of Agriculture has been actively supporting and looking for new opportunities in agriculture for several years, including grape production," Womack said.

Womack said that because the impact of the changes of the tobacco industry are so large and pervasive that grape-growing alone is not reasonable as a sole alternative.

While tobacco farmers who switch to grape-growing may not use the vineyards for wineries, there are still other uses for the grapes. Thomas said many farmers sell their grapes to wineries or directly to consumers with a popular "pick

your own" approach. Selling grapes in farmers' markets can also be profitable, Thomas said.

Tennessee is unique in grape production for the region because it can grow many popular Eastern varieties as well as Southern varieties of grapes, Johnston said. Thomas also said the geography of Tennessee with its many hills is beneficial to vineyards.

Johnston said MTSU is currently promoting the enology and viticulture center to gain legislative support. MTSU President Sidney McPhee recently proposed sending a delegation to Washington D.C. to request federal funding for the program, Johnston said.

Though MTSU is not currently equipped for a viticulture and enology program, Johnston said he hopes to work with other universities to establish nurseries and create a hardy rootstock source. Johnston said there is enough interest to consider offering courses in the field down the road. He said grape-growing in Tennessee is definitely an avenue for MTSU to explore in order to offer a service to the state and region. ♦

Online training available to advisers

By Kim Peer
Staff Writer

Online training will soon be available to help academic advisers gain the knowledge they need to advise students, university officials said.

"I think [the online training] is going to provide intensive information in a format that is easy for faculty to access and to refer back to," Deb Sells of the Student Affairs Office said.

"A good deal of the advising process is knowing what the rules and procedures are," said Larry Burriss, professor of journalism and president of the MTSU Faculty Senate. "The online training is a way of presenting all of this material in a logical sequence so advisers will know what the requirements are. Of course, students will always have questions about the requirements, and there will always be exceptions to the rules, but if the adviser is familiar with the basics, then dealing with exceptions will be easier."

"Advising is a critical service to students," said Laurie Witherow, director of the Academic Support Center. "I



Photo by Rachelle Morvant | Chief Photographer

Senior Jason Johnson maps the final route in his college career with adviser Hattie Taylor.

think the online training program is a great reference tool for advisers. It will provide them with the information they need to serve our students effectively."

More than 500 pages of material will be presented to advisers for them to absorb at their own paces, Sells said.

"We will continue to offer the faculty face-to-face work-

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Meth: Tennessee accounts for majority of lab seizures

Continued from I

Methamphetamines have moved from western Canada, Mexico, California, Nevada and Washington to Tennessee and New York, Scott Burns from the Office of the National Drug Control Policy said at the committee meeting.

Super labs have been erased in California and Canada due to legislation and task forces, but the problem has turned into small toxic labs in the homes, barns, trailers, apartments and motel rooms in states like New York and Tennessee.

The West has been supplied through super labs in Mexico and STLs in Washington, Burns said, but New York and Tennessee continue to be domestic breeding grounds in the Northeast and Southeast, Burns said.

Cleanup costs have usually been paid for through the sale of seized properties, but costs can exceed the worth of the property. Henry Hamilton from the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation said at the science committee meeting.

"Our research has indicated that very high levels of toxic chemicals are produced during methamphetamine 'cooks' and that hazardous chemical exposures can be expected to persist in rooms and buildings for an extended period of time," Tennessee Technological University professor John Martyn said.

The byproducts of the cook-

pling to porous surfaces like carpets, clothes and drywall.

Martyn said there were instances in which traces of meth were present six months after the original cleanup. Tennessee Tech is continuing research in the effects of the waste materials from cooks.

According to the U.S. Drug Enforcement Agency, 248 labs were seized in Tennessee in 2000, but more than 800 were seized in 2003 and in 2004.

Tennessee accounts for 75 percent of lab seizures in the Southeast.

"Currently, approximately seven states have established – by statute, regulation or guideline – a feasibility-based decontamination standard specific to methamphetamine," said Sherry Green, executive director of the National Alliance for Model State Drug Laws. Tennessee is included in those states.

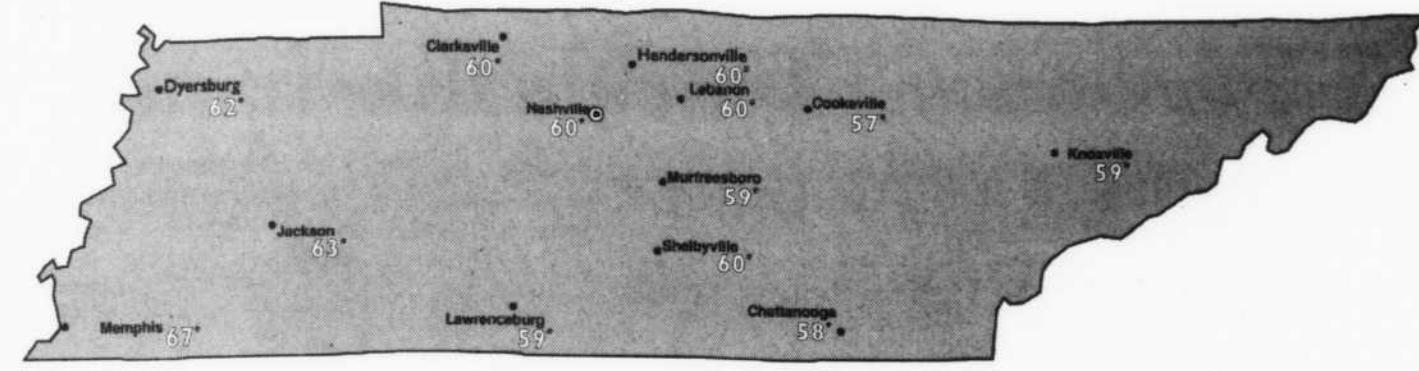
Tennessee Tech President Robert Bell warned of lack of long-term knowledge, especially when looking at exposure to children.

"Children taken from active, clandestine meth labs are stripped of all possessions," Bell said. "They are normally taken to an emergency room at a hospital, where they are tested, frequently by needle. They are separated from adult family members, sometimes from other siblings, and cannot even keep a favorite teddy bear for comfort."

Bell warned there are serious psychological issues with children, which has only been short-term tested. ♦

Tennessee Weather – Thursday's Highs

From the Associated Press



Tuesday



Wednesday



Thursday



Friday



Saturday



TennCare: Protesters offer alternatives to proposed cuts

Continued from I

enrollees will lose not only their health care but their doctors as well.

He said he feared county hospitals would not be able to provide service as the safety net for cut enrollees, especially in rural areas.

He proposed a hospital tax as a possible solution.

Bob Smiddie, a representative of the Single Payer Action Network of Ohio, said in the economics of health care, the market-based system has failed.

"We don't need to change the

system. We only need to change how we finance it. Every other industrial country in the world pays half what we spend per person," Smiddie said.

The single-payer health plan, would cover all citizens, having them pay only three cents on the dollar instead of one quarter or more, Smiddie said.

He said cutting enrollees is "criminal" and called those involved "public enemy number one."

"What would Jesus say?" Smiddie asked.

Rev. Henry Blaze III, pastor of the Progressive Baptist

Church and chairman of the Ad Hoc Committee on Equity, said he knew he was "preaching to the choir."

"We hold something in common – the glow in our hearts," Blaze said. "The question rests on you. Are you willing to sacrifice?"

Blaze and other advocates will lead a walk to the hill from Fifteenth Avenue Baptist Church Monday starting at noon.

Blaze invited everyone to take a lunch break and join them as they will present the governor a letter of concerns

and proposals "whether Bredesen is there or not," Blaze said.

More than 100 people were present at the rally.

Protesters held signs reading: "Food or Drugs," "Health Care is a Human Right" and "Bredesen Tells Sick: Drop Dead."

Four bands participated in a TennCare songwriting contest. The winner received a framed certificate with the governor's phrase "Get Used to It" and an emergency first aid kit. ♦

IRS may want share of money from eBay sales

By Mary Dalrymple
AP Tax Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — Hawking baby and children's clothes, along with some garage sale and thrift store bargains, on eBay helps Sunni Wojnarowsky bring in some extra money so she can afford to stay home with her two young boys.

The additional dollars are great, but does she really need to hassle with the paperwork and report her small profit to the Internal Revenue Service? Her question, posed to the online auction site's discussion board for sellers, generated much advice – and more confusion.

"You can't get an answer from anybody," Wojnarowsky said in an interview from her home in Brunswick, Ohio. "It would be nice to have a straight-

forward answer of 'Yes, you file taxes,' or 'No, you don't.'"

More than 135 million people have registered to use the auction site that calls itself "the world's online marketplace." Buyers bought more than \$34 billion worth of merchandise last year.

Some people make money by cleaning out items from their closets; others use the site to run small businesses.

In tax law, there is no clear line that separates fun from profit or a hobby from a business. But IRS instructions make it clear that all income – a category that includes bribes, gambling winnings, kickbacks and money made in illegal activities – can be taxed.

"When you're working on the Internet, it's kind of a gray issue," said Bart Fooden, a certi-

fied public accountant in Woodbury, N.Y., who advises small businesses and individuals. "The big issue is whether you're doing it as a business or not."

The IRS can apply a list of nine indicators that might prove whether someone's online auctions amount to a business. These indicators include evidence the taxpayer depends on the income, acts in a businesslike manner or puts enough time and effort into the activity to suggest a profit motive.

Fooden said the difference between a hobby and a business can often be the seller's intent.

If someone is selling the junk collecting dust in a garage or basement, then that person probably is getting less than he or she paid for it. No profit here.

If someone is buying goods in bulk from a wholesaler and hoping to make a couple extra bucks reselling each one, then that person could have just started a profitable business, Fooden said.

Some categories are not so clear.

If a great-aunt's collection of antique china fetched top dollar from collectors, that might mean capital gains taxes are owed.

If someone scours neighborhood garage sales for great deals on comic books to resell on eBay, that might amount to running a business.

It often is best to ask a tax professional, said Bob Miller, who says he spends about 18 hours a day on eBay, selling collectible postage stamps and advising other buyers and sellers from his home in northern

Utah.

"When the person that you owe the money to can throw you in jail, it's always a good idea to get professional advice," he said.

EBay spokesman Chris Donlay said the company does not report individual sales to the tax authorities. eBay urges users, in the site's educational materials and seminars, to learn about tax issues.

"It's really up to the seller, just like offline," he said. "We are just a venue, really. We're sort of like the mall landlord or the owner of the parking lot where the flea market happens."

It takes so little effort to set up shop on eBay that some might overlook the tax issues, Miller said.

"If you have an e-mail address, you can start selling. If you're a U.S.-based seller, you need to have a credit card and a bank account," Miller said.

"People have a feeling that [if] they're selling on eBay, they're not a business. It's not true. If you are selling and making a profit, you have to declare it."

An eBay survey last year found that 430,000 of its U.S. sellers make a significant portion or all of their revenue from selling on eBay.

While it might sound like nothing good can come of the headache involved in claiming a small profit from online auctions, consider the perks. Business expenses can be deducted from profits. That includes the cost of the goods sold, fees, supplies and maybe a home office – if the qualifications are met. ♦



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OPINIONS

4 ♦ SIDELINES

Monday, March 28, 2005

Murfreesboro, Tenn.

From the Editorial Board

Student protests essential to fabric of democracy

There once was a woman who lived on the streets of a big city. She didn't have very much money, but she made do with what she had. She made lots of friends in her travels from one city street to another. She befriended children, gave advice to businessmen and acted as a guide to anybody who seemed lost around her. She became a local legend in her own city.

One day, her path crossed with a policeman who patrolled the area near where she stayed at night. While the policeman had heard about all her travels, his job dictated she had to be taken into custody. As ordered, the policeman escorted the woman away from her home.

Once the woman disappeared, her friends were confused. Where was the kind woman who used to help them when they were in need? Soon after, one of the people found out the woman was taken away. The woman's friends were outraged, but they decided they were powerless to do anything. They gave up on the woman because they felt the authority above them wouldn't listen.

Fortunately for us, students at MTSU are slowly working their way out of the usual apathy. This weekend, two protests occurred involving MTSU students. One involved the potential firing of an MTSU professor, while the other was a demonstration against the war in Iraq. Both were handled in a mature and professional manner; nobody had to be arrested or tear-gassed or anything. *Sidelines* applauds the students involved.

While it may seem protests are sometimes fruitless endeavors, students must never stop expressing their feelings and concerns to those around them. A democracy is meaningless if decisions are left to those in authoritative positions of power. Yes, those in power are there because we, as voters, have given them the responsibility to deal with problems we don't want to deal with directly. If they act in ways we don't agree with, we should let them know, either through small means such as letters and talking directly with the person in question or larger endeavors such as protests.

If we want our democracy to have any merit, we mustn't allow ourselves to act like the woman's friends. Go out and tell someone what you think and how you feel (not in a "kissy-feely" type of way, unless that's your thing.) ♦

SIDELINES

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Letters Policy



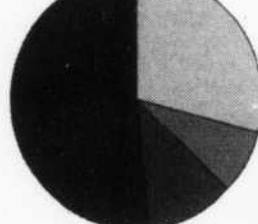
Sidelines welcomes letters to the editor from all readers. Please e-mail letters to slopinio@mtsu.edu, and include your name and a phone number for verification. **Sidelines** will not publish anonymous letters. We reserve the right to edit for grammar, length and content.

Sidelines online poll results

Are you getting shortchanged by the compressed semester?

- Yes, I'm paying for a full semester, and that's what I should get. (29 percent)
- Yes, I need all that time to get my thesis done. (8 percent)
- No, it's nice having a few more off days. (11 percent)
- No, as long as the work load isn't too overbearing. (26 percent)
- The semester's shorter? (25 percent)

Visit www.mtsusidelines.com to answer this week's poll question, "Who would you like to see as Athletic Director?" 107 people voted. Results are not scientific.



Florida, husband just in their decision

It seems every editorial writer in the world has written something about Terri Schiavo. For the most part, most conservative thinkers have sided with Schiavo's parents, who want their daughter to remain connected to an artificial feeding tube to keep her alive. On the opposite end, more liberal writers generally are agreeing with Schiavo's husband, Michael, who claims his wife would not want to be kept alive artificially.

At the risk of overkill, I'm chiming in with my two cents.

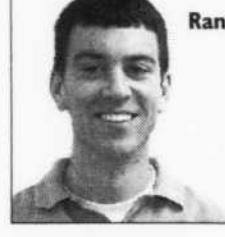
It appears Schiavo's end has been determined. As of this writing, Schiavo remains alive, but another court appeal from Schiavo's parents has been denied. Barring an unlikely scenario, Schiavo will die very soon.

The real reason for all the controversy is Schiavo's wishes in a situation such as this are not any-

Common Sense

Randall Thomason

Staff Columnist



where in writing. Under the circumstances, her husband should be able to decide what course of action to take. Although some people, for varying reasons, think Michael Schiavo is a sleazy character, all of that is mere speculation.

Michael says his wife would rather die peacefully than live artificially. It's certainly a reasonable assumption husbands and wives would discuss things like this. How many of us would want to be kept alive through machines

when, in all practical purposes, our bodies were incapable of sustaining life?

I have yet to hear anyone say they would rather be kept alive.

I fully recognize I'm probably parting ways with many people who I tend to agree with on most issues. It's a sad story no matter how it ends.

It's sad if Schiavo dies, and it's equally sad if she lives, still trapped in a body no longer useful to hold a life inside and still at the center of an increasingly frenzied media.

It's sad because many people have used Schiavo's situation to further their own careers or viewpoints. It's sad because all of the trouble and media mess could have been avoided if Schiavo had written something down in a will to make her wishes known.

The state of Florida is not mur-

dering Terri Schiavo; Michael Schiavo is not murdering his wife. He simply has chosen to remove a life support system he says his wife never would have wanted anyway. The reality is families across America make decisions like this each day. Are those who decide to remove life support from a loved one also committing murder? I think not.

The lesson in all of this is to put in writing somewhere how you would want to be treated in a similar set of circumstances. By doing so, you will save yourself from becoming a media spectacle like Terri Schiavo. You will also save your family from additional pain and uncertainty. ♦

Randall Thomason is a junior mass communication major and can be reached at rkt2c@mtsu.edu.

Democratic party needs unwavering leadership

With tax season looming on the horizon, there's no better time than now to look ahead to the days of usurping the White House from the Republican dynasty that is the Bush family.

While it's far too early to even begin predicting who the next president will be, we can be sure of one thing: It will not be George W. Bush.

And, most likely, it will not be Hillary Clinton.

Now, I have nothing against the former first lady. I think she's great. I'm sure we would have tons to talk about at some trendy cafe in Manhattan, and I bet she plays a mean game of Scrabble, but I'm not in any way representative of the majority of Americans, and far too many of them have very strong anti-Hillary sentiments. It just wouldn't work.

What Democrats need is another Bill Clinton, someone charismatic enough to get away with being a politician, because truth be told, that's what they are. Every president has had his share of bad decisions, shady dealings, pot smoking and the like. The trick is to find someone who can pull it off.

The good news is there is plenty of time to start looking. I'm not sure how one throws a hat into the ring for this, but from what I understand, the more the hat resembles a large off-shore account, the better the chances.

This is mistake number one.

We expect Republicans to have big bank accounts and throw money around, but we Democrats pride ourselves on looking out for the less fortunate. We don't need to put up people who are born into more money than Scrooge McDuck swims in in that gold coin vault of his.

Let's face it, John Kerry was just too well off. Clinton was just right. It's like Goldilocks and the three bears. And it's time we found the right bed to lie in.

If we could find a plausible candidate now, we could plaster their face all over the news and Oprah and whatever else it takes to get a head start. That way, come 2008, we've all but secured a spot for ourselves

Half Naked

Wendy Caldwell

Staff Columnist



in the Oval Office.

Democrats have become far too passive-aggressive when it comes to campaigning. Sure, I don't want us invading other countries, but is it so wrong to invade the minds of America?

We like to think the average person is smart enough to realize when things are really messed up and not going as they should. Well, maybe the average person does realize that, but, as George Carlin so delicately put it, half of all people are dumber than the average person.

We're not addressing a MENSA meeting or a board of NASA astrophysicists. The average person and, more importantly, the below average person, needs the downfalls and drawbacks of the current administration shoved down their throat until a bloodcurdling cry of discontent propels said person to the voting booth.

Obviously, that whole war thing wasn't enough to propel people to oust the current leader, so it's time to hit them where it hurts: the checkbook.

I can vividly remember paying \$1.12 for gas just a few summers ago. Now gas has gone up by almost \$1.00.

The scare tactic works both ways. If Republicans are going to scare everyone into voting for them because otherwise the terrorists will kill you all in your sleep, then Democrats can scare everyone into voting for them so gas prices won't be \$3.00 a gallon in three more years. ♦

Wendy Caldwell is a junior mathematics major and can be reached at wkc2d@mtsu.edu.

'Bad' words not always evil's root

Morality does not necessarily breed morality. Just because someone goes to church, doesn't drink and graduates

from college and graduate school does not mean they will not one day become a child molester, rapist or Ted Kaczynski.

For some reason, there is this distorted notion if you alter the environment enough and strip it of all things considered immoral, somehow people will no longer be immoral. But isn't morality just another arbitrary way of judging someone who acts differently than you do?

There will always be those who think they are holier than you, but that doesn't mean they are right. I recently watched the movie *Inherit the Wind*, concerning the story of the John Scopes "Monkey Trial," in which a Tennessee teacher is arrested and charged with illegally teaching evolution to high school kids.

It occurred to me even though the events depicted in the film transpired 80 years ago, I still see people acting and thinking along those same lines today.

They seem to think if everyone believes in God and doesn't listen to evil thoughts, such as evolutionary theories, somehow certain aspects of "evil" will be eradicated. What world do these people live in? Don't they understand moral relativism works both ways?

A quick example of moral relativism: Murder is wrong, unless you're a soldier. So we can agree murder is not wrong under all circumstances. This makes it morally relative and therefore arbitrary.

There will always be taboos, desires and lusts, and there will always be someone out there to tell you you're wrong for having them. Luckily, we live in a great country. Aaron Sorkin hit the nail right on the head when he wrote *The American President*. In it, Michael Douglas' character gives an impassioned address concerning the freedom of speech, and I find it extremely relevant to the kinds of things I'm talking about here:

"Everybody knows America isn't easy. America is advanced citizenship, you gotta want it bad, cause it's gonna put up a fight. It's gonna say, 'You want free speech? Let's see you acknowledge a man whose words make your blood boil, who's standing center stage and advocating, at the top of his lungs, that which you would spend a lifetime opposing at the top of yours.'"

Whenever someone stands up and screams the reason America is in such bad shape is because we allow smut peddlers to sell nudie magazines or because we allow homosexuals to live among us or because we allow our children to hear scientific theories concerning the source of life on this planet, I have to take a near-deadly overdose of painkillers.

My head throbs at the idea that these people think humans are moral computers, and if you just turn off the switches for evil and immorality, then you will have a decent human being.

If people think getting rid of "dirty" language will make us all better people, then I have to ask what kind of pain killers these people are almost overdosing on. I think they should be handed out every time you fill up your gas tank.

Manners do not equal morality, and we would all do well to remember that. As the old saying goes, "You can't judge a book by its cover."

Just because someone has what some might call an "immoral appearance," i.e. they wear baggy clothes, swear and don't have any crosses around their necks, doesn't mean they aren't the ones who might be feeding the homeless and clothing the naked.

We don't have to be perfect. All we have to do is try and help those around us the best we can, be it by sharing money, knowledge or just a smile. That's the best we can ever hope for, and you know what? That's OK. ♦

Carter Fort is a senior digital animation major and can be reached at cft2b@mtsu.edu.

Wouldn't you like to see something entertaining here?
We would too.
Draw editorial cartoons for *Sidelines*.
slopinio@mtsu.edu

Consignment for a cause



Ladies of Charity THRIFT SHOP

2216 STATE ST.

MEN'S WOMEN'S CHILDREN'S CLOTHING

NOW OPEN

MONDAYS thru SATURDAYS

10am - 4pm

Photos by Melissa Bowman | Staff Photographer

The Ladies of Charity Thrift Shop, located at 2216 State St. in Nashville, offers a wide variety of clothing for men, women and children.

Proceeds go to the Ladies of Charity Welfare Department, which benefits people locally by providing them with financial assistance.

"Our thrift shop is open twice a year for six weeks, in both the spring and fall," Devine says. "We have about 180 volunteers who work in the shop, and it is about a 13-week commitment."

The Ladies of Charity consignment sale has something for everyone, Devine says.

"Since many of our members are senior citizens, we have many treasures to share from our attics and closets," Devine says.

Even brides-to-be looking for wedding dresses can find what they need at the shop.

According to Mary Hance, writer of "Ms. Cheap's Bargain Bin" for *The Tennessean*, there has been a major donation of bridal gowns from Arzelle's Brides and Formals Shop in Nashville.

"The shop has been given more than 40 designer gowns, many of them silk satins, silk organzas and raw silk," Hance says. "These dresses had price tags of \$1,500 to \$2,400 but will be selling for \$59-\$399 at the Ladies of Charity sale, and I'm told that most of them are priced at \$175 or less."

Several MTSU students say they would be interested in the store and what it has to offer.

"Cheap is good for college students," senior psychology major Derek Richert-Hess says. "But if the things there are no cheaper than items found in Murfreesboro, I probably wouldn't travel the extra miles. The savings wouldn't be worth the gas money you spent."

Sophomore journalism major Kendrick Norman says he would be more likely to shop at the thrift store if he knew its proceeds went to charity.

"That would make a difference between going to that thrift store and another one, since there are several in the Nashville area," Norman says.

"I used to go to thrift stores a lot when I was younger," senior English major Rebecca Newhouse says. "I would still go now, because of those good experiences that I had, and especially if it's for a good cause."

The Ladies of Charity of Nashville is an organization of Catholic women who volunteer their time and efforts in various phases of charitable work in the local community. The Nashville chapter, founded in 1910, is affiliated nationally and internationally with more than 40 nations to comprise the largest volunteer organization in the world.

The thrift shop first opened in 1948 and grew into a large operation, generating funds for the group's charitable works. All proceeds from the consignment sale benefit the Ladies of Charity Welfare Department, a community resource that provides different forms of financial assistance to local individuals.

"We provide four-year scholarships to two girls each year and give out 700 Christmas baskets each holiday season," Devine says. "In addition, the welfare office gives groceries to the needy, pays fuel bills and helps with funeral expenses."

The Ladies of Charity Thrift Shop is located at 2216 State St. in Nashville.

Hours of operation are Monday through Saturday 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

For more information, call 327-3453. ♦

Greek Week The lesser-known side of sisterhood

By Julie Jenkins
Contributor

Greek week has arrived, and the ladies of Alpha Kappa Alpha would like to take a minute to explain what they are really all about. These days, sorority members tend to be labeled "party girls." While there is certainly nothing wrong with that, the ladies of Eta Phi chapter would like their fellow students to know they are about much more than parties.

The ladies of AKA say, "We have dedicated our lives to serving mankind under the guiding spirit of our founders." Eta Phi chapter is working to fulfill this mission through their ever-increasing presence both here on campus and throughout the Murfreesboro community. The ladies are involved in a number of philanthropy projects, including Habitat for Humanity, providing meals to needy families during the holidays and collecting books for local libraries and schools.

However, the projects closest to their hearts are those that provide them the opportunity to interact with children in the community, such as the Reading Academy and We Care Daycare.

The Reading Academy program allows the ladies to travel to local schools and read to students. Members also spend a great deal of time with the children at We Care Daycare.

"Most people do not realize the extent of our community involvement. Sure, this is fun, but it's also a serious commitment," President Ashley Hides says.

Whenever possible these ladies like to combine their three passions: service, sisterhood and fun. They did just that in the fall when they hosted a ball to raise money for cancer research.

To the ladies of AKA, sorority life is about much more than being a part of some sort of secret society; it is about contributing to all of society. ♦

Study finds licorice may be lifesaver

By Bianca Posterli
Washington Square News

(U-WIRE) NEW YORK -- The substance responsible for the sweet flavor in licorice may help fight a rare strain of herpes, a group of New York University researchers discovered.

Dr. Ornella Flore, associate professor of microbiology and dermatology, and her colleagues presented their findings in the March 1 edition of the *Journal of Clinical Investigation*.

They showed the substance Glycyrrhetic acid, or GA, also found in other licorice-containing products like gum, cough syrup, herbal suppressants and soft drinks, kills latent cells infected with Kaposi's sarcoma-associated herpes virus.

The incurable virus, first discovered in 1994, is associated with Kaposi's sarcoma, which is often found in patients with HIV and AIDS and manifests in tumors in tissues below the skin.

The virus has two different

phases: An active phase during which dark purple lesions occur on the extremities and a latent phase during which no symptoms of the virus are evident in an infected person.

GA works by "programmed cell death," meaning it targets and causes infected cells to self-destruct by altering levels of proteins involved in cell deaths. The acid does not affect non-infected cells.

"The research is important because it is the first step in discovering a treatment for herpes virus when the virus is latent," said Dr. Stacie Bloom, news and reviews editor of the *Journal of Clinical Investigation*. "This means that we could potentially treat the disease in a new way that doesn't require symptoms to be present."

Though KSHV rarely results in Kaposi's sarcoma, or cancer of the blood cells, it is typical in AIDS patients with weakened immune systems.

But Flore said KSHV-infected persons don't need to start eating licorice to treat

themselves.

"You would need to eat a lot of licorice," she said. "It also might have some secondary effect. It's not so simple, but the compound is effective. It needs to be tested further."

While licorice has been used as medicine in other cultures, including in ancient Egypt, where it was used to treat liver and intestinal diseases, it has never been tested as a latency drug in the United States before. This is the first time the compound GA has been tested and found to kill infected cells.

While the properties of GA are still being studied, some speculate the acid found in licorice could aid in fighting memory loss and SARS. Licorice also contains multiple other components which are believed to have cancer-fighting antioxidants.

Flore said she has been interested in studying the latency period in viruses like herpes for a long time and has been researching it for the past five years. She studied and

tested numerous substances to see if they were effective in fighting viruses in the latency stage before she discovered the effects of GA in licorice.

Flore has been researching latency for the past five years, and she has been studying GA at the NYU School of Medicine for the past three years.

"I have been interested in the latency period for some time," Flore said. "I was testing multiple things before I found the substance in licorice was effective."

Though the researchers haven't yet found a way to use GA to treat patients infected with KSHV, experts point to the significance of new discoveries in health care in general.

"Every time you find a treatment for something, it can open the door to finding a treatment for something else," said Lisa Daglian, spokesperson from the American Cancer Society. "Each mystery can help solve another. There's hope in everything." ♦

SPORTS

Monday, March 28, 2005

Murfreesboro, Tenn.

6 ♦ SIDELINES

Blue Raiders snap losing streak against UALR

By Jonathan Hutton

Staff Writer

Middle Tennessee (9-11, 1-1 Sun Belt) grabbed its first Sun Belt Conference win over the weekend and ended a five-game losing streak as they split two games with Arkansas-Little Rock.

On Friday evening, the Blue Raiders brought the offense in a 12-2 victory, and controlled the game behind good starting pitching from Matt Scott.

Scott improved to 4-0 on the year as he struck out a career-high 10 UALR batters. He allowed two runs in seven innings in another strong performance from the redshirt sophomore.

"Matt Scott did an outstanding job, really matching [UALR's] pitcher in the early innings and giving us another strong outing," head coach Steve Peterson told MT Media Relations. "He was strong and got big outs when he needed it, and I only pulled him because he sat in the dugout a long

time in the sixth and seventh innings, and I was just being precautionary."

Outfielder Todd Martin put up five of the team's 18 hits on the night. Martin was five for six from the plate and had three runs batted in. MT scored nine runs throughout the sixth, seventh and eighth innings to extend the earlier 3-1 lead.

We moved the lineup around some and put [Todd] Martin in the two spot, and it worked out well today," Peterson said.

Saturday's game was suspended due to rain in the top of the fourth. The Blue Raiders had a 2-0 advantage when officials ended the game for the day.

The game resumed Sunday morning, and UALR came back for the win. The teams were able to play only three more innings before heavy rain ended the weekend for the Blue Raiders.

UALR (13-15, 1-1) grabbed four runs in the fifth off of three walks and a home run and won the game 4-3.

MT had a chance to put a few runs on the

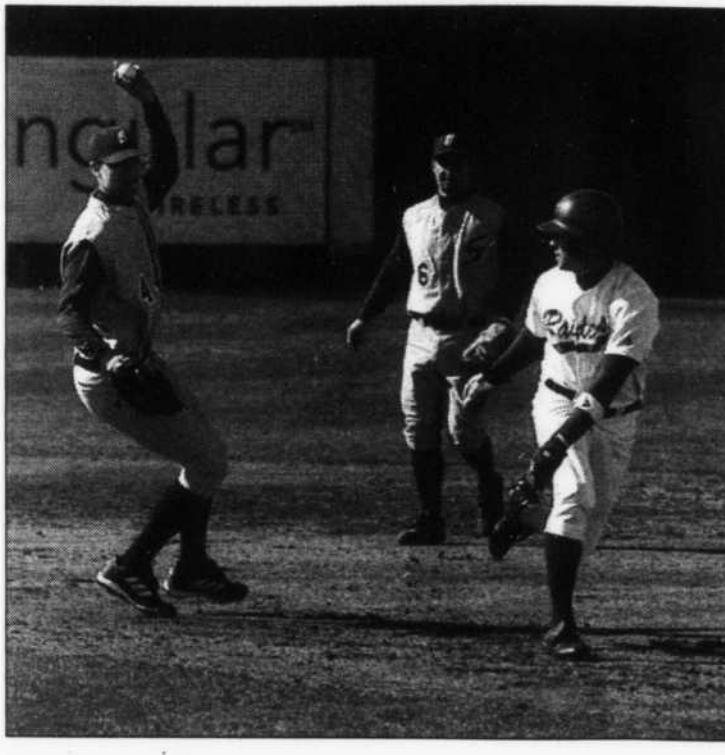
board in the third inning when Eric McNamee, Martin and Nate Jagers all singled to load the bases with no one out. Michael McKenry had a sacrifice fly to score a run, but the next two batters grounded out to end the inning.

Eric Blevins (0-3) received the loss for MT. Blevins gave up four runs on five hits in just three innings of work. He struck out three and walked four.

Trojan pitcher Scott Yant (3-0) picked up the win. Yant struck out one, walked two, allowed an unearned run and gave up three hits.

The Blue Raiders return home Tuesday night under the lights at Reese Smith Field to face Tennessee Tech. The game begins at 7 p.m. ♦

Photo by Rachelle Morvant | Chief Photographer
Blue Raider outfielder Adam Warren gets caught in a rundown against Southern Illinois on March 15.



Men's tennis squad continues hot streak

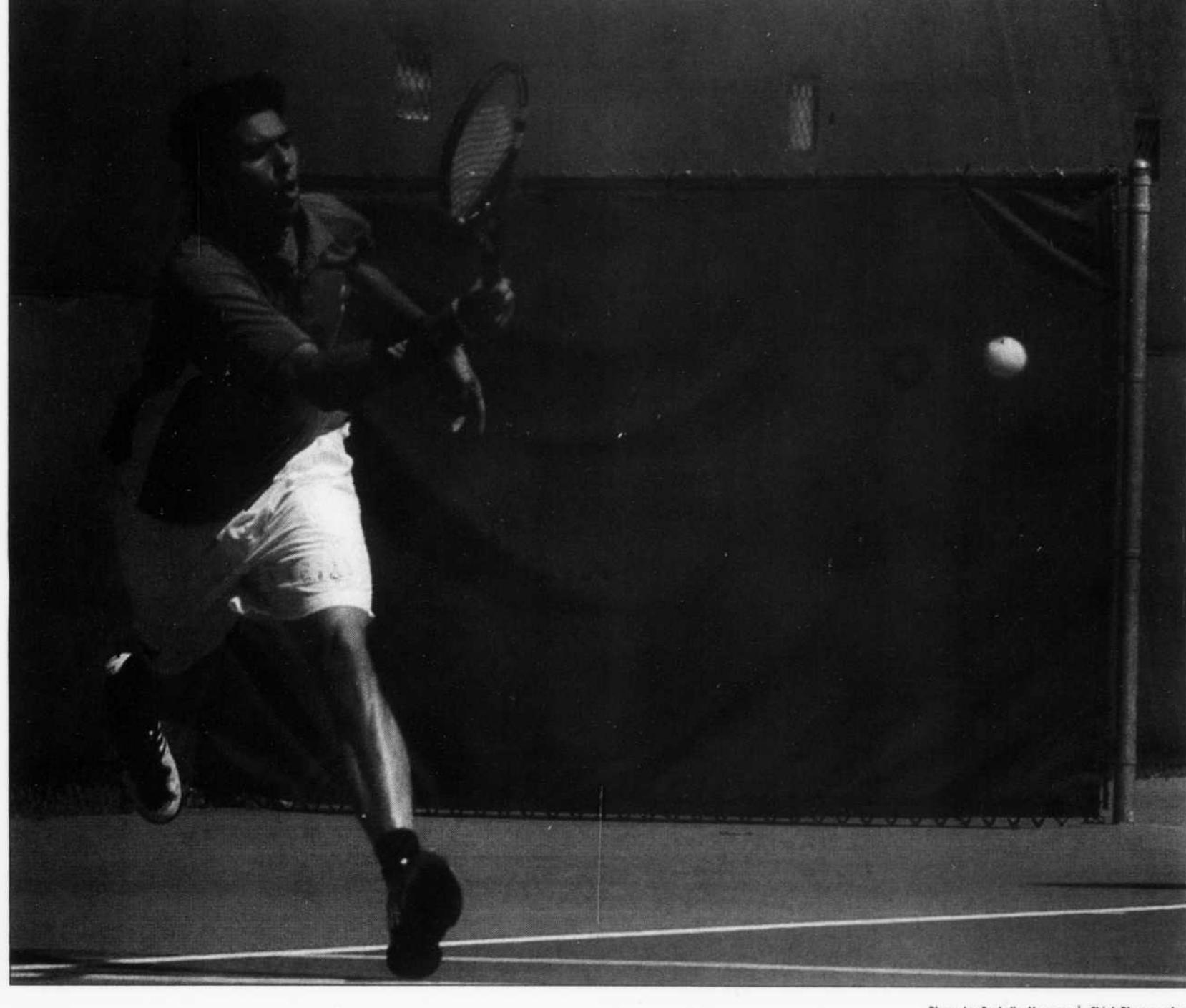


Photo by Rachelle Morvant | Chief Photographer
Blue Raider junior Brandon Allan won the deciding match against Georgia State's Frank Suro 7-5, 7-6 (6) on Saturday.

Blue Raiders drop three at tourney

By Jill Davis
Staff Writer

The Blue Raiders remain on the downside of the softball spectrum after falling to Louisville, Michigan and Western Kentucky over the weekend at the Courtyard by Marriott Classic in Louisville, Ky.

Middle Tennessee is now 6-19 after 14-0 and 17-1 losses against Louisville and No. 1 Michigan, respectively, on Friday.

The Blue Raiders managed one run between the two matchups. Their first game was against host Louisville, in which MT fell in just five innings and earned its sixth blanking of the season.

MT is singing another sad song, however, this time about pitchers, or lack thereof. Freshman pitcher Ashley Katinas has been sidelined by an injury, keeping the Blue Raiders on their toes in the pitcher's circle.

Jennifer Dorais started on the mound against Louisville. Louisville took advantage of MT's struggles, scoring runs in all five innings. Dorais went for three innings before being replaced by Trish White, her first encounter of the season on the mound.

Liz Davis led the Blue Raiders going 2-for-3 and one double against the Cardinals.

MT managed its only run of the series against Michigan, but only after giving up four runs in the first inning. The Blue Raiders opened the bottom of the first with back-to-back singles by Jennifer Grybush and Trish White.

The Blue Raiders scored on an RBI single by Dorais that brought Grybush home. The rest of the game was all about the Wolverines, however, who picked up nine runs in the second, two in the third and one each in the fourth and fifth to give Michigan the win.

Saturday went a little easier for the Blue Raiders. Although they walked away with another loss, the numbers were not quite as big as the Hilltoppers from Western Kentucky sent MT home with a 6-3 loss.

The Toppers took an early lead, scoring four runs in the first inning. With back-to-back singles, Western Kentucky scored its first run on a sacrifice fly by Shelly Floyd. RBI singles by Sam Young and Adrienne Lathrop gave the Toppers their second and third run. The fourth run was scored on an error by the Blue Raiders.

Trish White put the Blue



Photo by Rachelle Morvant | Chief Photographer
Leah Grothause went 1-for-4 against WKU on Saturday.

Raiders on the board in the top of the sixth inning. With two outs and Brandi Boehner on first, White picked up her first career home run over the left field wall for two runs batted in. MT's third run of the game came with two outs in the top of the seventh. Dorais took a 2-2 pitch to bring home Leah Grothause.

Dorais falls to 0-3 after taking the back-to-back losses. White tossed three innings of relief against the Toppers.

The Blue Raiders travel to Johnson City, Tenn., to play East Tennessee State on Thursday.

Game time is set for 1 p.m. ♦

Smith contract not yet finalized

Staff Reports

Middle Tennessee women's basketball head coach Stephany Smith has agreed in principle to a contract extension and an undetermined pay increase.

Interim athletic director Diane Turnham announced the agreement last Wednesday and said the deal, which extends Smith's contract to 2010 and includes "a significant pay increase," should be completed soon.

"Stephany and her staff have done a tremendous job enhancing our women's program, and we want to make sure we keep her at Middle Tennessee for many years to come," Turnham told MT Media Relations.

MT media relations official JoJo Freeman confirmed that the contract had not yet been finished.

Smith recently led the Lady Raiders to their second straight first-round upset in the NCAA Tournament in MT's 60-58 victory over No. 5 seed North Carolina State, 60-58 on March 19. Last year the Lady Raiders defeated No. 4 seed North Carolina 67-62.

Smith's name has been mentioned in other schools' searches for a new head coach, specifically at Alabama and Clemson. ♦

stability within our women's basketball program and led us to notoriety on a national level," MTSU President

Sidney McPhee told MT Media Relations. "She deserves to be rewarded for her hard work and program success, and we believe this shows how much we appreciate her efforts and the tremendous job she has done and continues to do at Middle Tennessee."

Smith did not return phone calls from *Sidelines* seeking comment.

The Lady Raiders are 153-88 (.634) in eight seasons under Smith, including 24-win seasons in the last two years. Smith has led the program to three conference championships.

Smith's name has been mentioned in other schools' searches for a new head coach, specifically at Alabama and Clemson. ♦



Smith

Finalists: McPhee, committee pleased so far

Continued from I

hold interviews with the local media.

"[The candidates] are going to get hammered from every angle," Shirley said. "There's no way you can possibly study for this interview. I'm sure there are going to be questions that they've never thought of."

Massaro, who currently serves as the senior associate athletic director for ticket operations at South Carolina, will hold the first media interview on Wednesday at 11:45 a.m.

"Middle Tennessee's reputation has preceded itself," Massaro told *Sidelines* when asked about the position. "It's fairly well-known in the

Southeast. Also, when the search firm [Baker, Parker and Associates] contacted me and described the situation and the chances for growth in the athletic department, that enticed me, too."

John Currie, the associate athletic director for external operations at the University of Tennessee-Knoxville, will follow Massaro at 1 p.m.

Collins, the associate athletic director for corporate and community relations at Arizona State, will have the first interview at 11:45 a.m. on Thursday.

"I have a passion for college athletics," Collins told *Sidelines* when asked about his motivation to become the new athletic director. "I've been doing this

for 20 years, and I've worked my way up the ladder. I'm ready to take that next step and provide the ultimate leadership for this department."

DeBoer, who currently works in the Lexington, Ky., city government after spending 18 years at the University of Kentucky, will speak to the media at 1 p.m. on Thursday.

When asked about the timetable for the search, Shirley said the committee is still on track to recommend a candidate to McPhee by mid-April.

"We're all just ready to take an active role," Shirley said. "So far, it's been the search firm, but next week is when I play a role in this process." ♦

Meet the AD Finalists

Name: Tom Collins

Graduated from: Northern Arizona, 1982 (B. Gen. Studies)

Current Position: Senior Associate Athletic Director for Corporate and Community Relations at Arizona State since 2000.

Responsibilities: He is the primary contact for all athletic department corporate sponsorships, merchandising, licensing and signage issues, and also oversees the media relations, marketing/promotions and ticket offices.

Former Positions: Assistant and Associate Athletic Director at ASU; has been at ASU for 19 years

Name: John Currie

Graduated from: Wake Forest, 1993 (B.A.); Tennessee, 2003 (M.S.)

Current Position: Associate Athletic Director for External Operations at Tennessee since July 2004.

Responsibilities: Oversees the marketing and ticket offices at Tennessee, and also is currently managing the men's basketball transition team. Also worked to complete projects for renovations of Neyland Stadium.

Former Positions: Assistant Athletic Director at UT

Name: Kathleen DeBoer

Graduated from: Michigan State, 1978 (B.A.); Kentucky, 1988 (M.B.A.)

Current Position: Commissioner of General Services for the Lexington-Fayette Urban County Government in Lexington, Ky., since Jan. 2003.

Responsibilities: Manages a \$25 million budget and oversees Parks and Recreation, Building Maintenance and Construction and Fleet Services divisions.

Former Positions: Senior Associate Athletic Director at University of Kentucky; associated with UK for 18 years, including as head volleyball coach

Name: Chris Massaro

Graduated from: Northern Colorado, 1983 (B.B.A.); Ohio, 1985 (M. Sports Admin.)

Current Position: Senior Associate Athletic Director for Ticket Operations at South Carolina since 2001.

Responsibilities: Oversees all aspects of the program's ticket operations and group sales, helps coordinate marketing efforts and serves in an advisory capacity for the school's athletic department web site.

Former Positions: Athletic Ticket Manager at South Carolina; has been with USC for 20 years

www.mtsusidelines.com

DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

Job Openings

Nashville, Tennessee

Are you ready to start your career?

The Tennessee Department of Human Services (DHS) is seeking motivated individuals to staff our expanding Davidson County office. These are full time openings with excellent benefits including health, insurance, 401K, and paid vacation and holidays. On the job training is provided

Strong communication and organizational skills and a commitment to excellent customer service are a must.

Duties include: determining eligibility for DHS programs, assisting clients in achieving self-sufficiency, and referring clients to supportive services.

Qualifying candidates must either be in their last semester/quarter of college coursework or possess a bachelor's degree. Candidates must also submit a State of TN Employment Application and achieve a competitive score on the written civil service examination for the position of Eligibility Counselor I.

Additional information regarding the employment process and testing procedures is available at our website: www.state.tn.us/humanserv or you may obtain an employment application at any DHS office or Tennessee Career Center.

The deadline for receiving applications is April 7, 2005.

Testing must be completed by April 16, 2005.

Applications should be mailed to:

**DHS Personnel
400 Deaderick Street
Nashville, TN 37248-2000
Attn: DHS Recruiter**

Fax application to: (615) 741-4398

The State of Tennessee is an equal opportunity, equal access, affirmative action employer.

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Classifieds

Automotive

1990 Lincoln Towncar, runs great, 2 year old paint job, 1 year old transmission, solid dependable car. \$1,750. Call 615-364-1004.

Ford Explorer Sport XLT, 2001 cd/cassette, keyless entry \$11,300. 615-409-6061.

1999 Dodge 4x4: Turbo Diesel. \$16,500 obo. Lists for \$18,465 in Kelly Blue Book. All pwr. New tires, am/fm/cd, automatic trans., tow pkg., excellent condition! Contact: mbl2e@mtsu.edu or 931-239-5613

Employment

Childcare needed in my home for 1 toddler Sat & Sun only. Good Pay! Must have references. 615-867-4201.

"Excellent opportunity for violin/strings teacher. Established clientele. Please email guitarlancer@hotmail.com or fax resume to 615-459-2557."

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Condo near MTSU for rent. 2 bedrooms left. 4 bed/3.5 bath for lease. Washer and dryer in Unit. 3,000 sq. feet. \$330.00 + 1/4 utilities per month. Valarie at 943-8274 or 904-1871.

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Sports Briefs



News from around Middle Tennessee

Compiled by Colby Sledge
Sports Editor

Truck contest added to clay shoot

The Blue Raider Athletic Association has added a contest to win a truck to its "Shooting for Scholarships" Clay Target Fun Shoot on April 9.

Names will be drawn at random during the event, and if a shooter is able to hit 100 straight sporting clay targets, he or she will win a 2005 Chevrolet Silverado, courtesy of Shelbyville car dealer Mark Pirtle.

"I hope someone wins the truck," Pirtle told MT Media Relations. "As a longtime Blue Raider supporter, I am pleased to help our athletic department raise funds. We are in the business of making people happy."

"This is a difficult task, but it is possible to accomplish," MT assistant athletic director Alan Farley said. "I hope that this will be an extra incentive for area sportsmen, hunters and shooters to participate in our event."

Those interested in participating in the event can contact Farley at 898-2915 to register. The deadline to register is April 5.

Team helps raise \$8,200 to fight hunger

The Middle Tennessee football team and Wal-Mart combined to raise \$8,200 last Saturday for the Murfreesboro chapter of the Feed America First program.

The Blue Raiders raised \$4,100.00, and Wal-Mart matched that figure to present Feed America First with the total check.

"I also want to thank the young men on the Blue Raider football team who showed great spirit and dedication," Feed America First executive director Tom Henry told MT Media Relations. "They came to us with this idea, and it's hard to put into words how excited we have been. This has been tremendous for our organization."

The team divided into two squads on Saturday, with the offensive players and coaches at the Old Fort Parkway Wal-Mart and the

defensive players and coaches at the South Rutherford store. The teams competed against each other to raise money for hunger relief by bagging groceries, carrying items to vehicles and signing autographs.

"This was a great event, and we appreciate the support we received from Wal-Mart," MT head coach Andy McCollum told MT Media Relations. "Our players were really excited about doing this because they know how many lives they can touch by doing something as worthy as helping out hunger, especially in our own community."

FAU football game moved to Oct. 15

Due to a scheduling conflict with the Sun Belt Conference, Middle Tennessee will now face Florida Atlantic in Boca Raton, Fla., on Oct. 15 instead of Oct. 8.

Florida Atlantic, which begins SBC play this season, was originally scheduled to play the Blue Raiders on Oct. 15, but the game was moved to help the Owls secure another contest against a

A opponent. After the game was moved to Oct. 8, FAU changed its schedule and asked Middle Tennessee if the game could be moved back to Oct. 15.

"We were trying to help out Florida Atlantic as much as we could," interim athletic director Diane Turnham told MT Media Relations. "But the move to the 15th of October is actually beneficial to our program, because now we do not have to play three straight weeks on the road."

The Blue Raiders will now have their bye week on Oct. 8.

Dance clinic set for April 16

The MTSU dance team will hold their "Lightning 101" dance clinic on April 16, and dance team tryouts are April 29-May 1. For more information on either event, visit www.mtsudance.com. ♦

19-year-old rookie easily wins Pepsi 300

Associated Press

GLADEVILLE, Tenn. (AP) — Rookie Reed Sorenson raced to his first NASCAR Busch Series victory Saturday, beating Kenny Wallace by a whopping 14.417 seconds in the Pepsi 300 at Nashville Superspeedway.

"I didn't really know what to expect this weekend," Sorenson said. "I never had run on a concrete track before so I just tried to keep an open mind. We had a good car and I thought we could run the same lap, lap after lap, but I had no idea we'd be this dominant. Now we need to come back here in June and defend the title."

The 19-year-old Georgia driver, making only the 11th start of his Busch career, started from the pole after topping qualifying for the first time.

About the only problem he had was with his rearview mirror.

"I really can't see out the rearview mirror," Sorenson said. "I think I have to adjust that. All I can see is the spoiler."

Hmiel had his third top-five finish in six races.

"Reed Sorenson must be one heck of a driver," Hmiel said. "If I was 19 I'd probably run over somebody. It's hard to keep up with somebody that fast. It's tough because my car was not that bad. There was nothing mechanically I could have done to make my car go faster, so my hats off to those guys."

Sorenson jumped from fourth to second in the standings, 95 points behind Edwards.

The Busch Series will remain in Tennessee next week for the Sharpie Professional 250 at Bristol Motor Speedway. ♦

"We redeemed ourselves," Sorenson said. "We came into

this weekend going after a top five, but when we unloaded we knew we were fast and our goals changed. My crew chief, Brian Pattie, was a little nervous, but I was just running smooth laps every time and tried to make my marks. But when you're out ahead you don't have to push the issue. They didn't want me to abuse the car or the tires."

Sorenson led three times for 197 laps in the 225-lap event on the 1.33-mile track. He also became the first Busch Series driver to win from the pole at NSS.

Wallace, driving a Ford, had his first top-five finish since the 2002 season.

"I had a great racecar and I could not ask for it to be any faster," Wallace said. "I was just stunned how fast Sorenson was. I can't remember the last time the field got beat that bad. But it was a good shot in the arm. It's fitting because this is where this team should be."

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