



Partly Cloudy

Let's get ready to rumble!

Candidates square off

In News, page 4

Neon Glow

Art exhibit features neon lights under the sea

In Campus Life, page 9



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ONLINE

Do you think that the constitution referendum was publicized enough?

INSIDE: College students should get priority over high schoolers

In Opinions, page 6

An editorially independent newspaper

SIDELINES

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Student e-mail disputes annual loss of parking

By Jason Cox
Staff Writer

A campus-wide e-mail sent by a student has raised new questions and emotions about a longstanding tradition at MTSU.

The e-mail, sent by junior Robert Lowe, informs students that March 7-10 and 14-17, the Greenland Drive lot outside the Murphy Center will be closed to students to allow ample parking for the Tennessee Secondary School Athletic Association's state boys and girls basketball tournament. It also states that the Tennessee Livestock Center lot will be closed for the Tennessee Beef Agribition March 9.

"While these causes may be worthwhile, is it really worth giving up the right of com-

muters to park in spaces they paid for to attend the classes they paid for?" Lowe asked in the e-mail.

The first week, which is the girls tournament, falls during many mid-terms. Lowe stated that parking could be a serious problem during those days and that students might not be able to take their mid-terms because they couldn't find a parking space.

"Parking Services is not part of MTSU," the e-mail continued. "They are a privately owned corporation that has been contracted to provide this 'service.'"

A subsequent message posted to the Student News board also announced the Greenland and TLC lot closings as well as dispelling some of the statements made in Lowe's e-mail.

"The university has more

than 500 empty parking spaces every day on campus," Connie Hagberg, manager of Parking Services, stated in the message. "Those spaces are in the Tennessee Livestock Center lot and adjacent to the Recreation Center."

She added that Parking Services doesn't receive any of the parking revenue that TSSAA collects during the tournaments. Hagberg said the Greenland lot, which will be closed March 7-10 and 14-17, has 933 parking spaces, and the TLC lot, which will only be closed March 9, has 613 parking spaces.

"There may be a perception, especially on March 9, that 1500-plus students are displaced because of the Greenland and Tennessee Livestock lots being reserved," Hagberg said. "However, that is not the case.

With the constant turnover of classes and commuters coming and going, there are always enough parking spaces on campus throughout the day for arriving students.

"While some students may not be able to park in their preferred areas, there are certainly welcomed to use our shuttle bus system to reach their campus destination."

Hagberg denied that Parking Services is a privately owned corporation. "We are an 'auxiliary' department of the university, which means we are part of the university but completely self-supporting. The department operates entirely from parking permit fees, citation fines, parking meters and other special services."

Lowe acknowledged that his statement about Parking

Services being a private corporation may have been incorrect. However, he maintains that students would be considerably displaced by the lot closings.

"They claim the Recreation Center lots are empty," Lowe said. "They're basically putting 930 people in about 500 spaces."

Athletic Director Larry Counts said the university has long viewed the tournament, which has been at MTSU for most of the years since 1975, as a great recruiting tool.

"The biggest majority of high school students never step onto a college campus until they go to school," Counts said. "Many who do attend the one they visit."

Counts said the TSSAA, which will bring in excess of 100,000 high school students, coaches, parents and fans over the two weeks, pays most of the

expenses that MTSU incurs in holding the tournament at the Murphy Center. However, Counts also said there will be almost complete turnover at each game, minimizing any impact that would be had on other campus lots.

Last year was the first year that the tournament did not coincide with spring break and was not a significant problem, Counts said.

"I really wish he would have done some research on it because it is totally erroneous," Counts said in Lowe's e-mail.

"I don't care [whether or not] the university is making money off this," Lowe said. "I think the fact that they are an academic institution and not an arena for high school athletes to compete." ♦



Photo by Matthew H. Starling | Chief Photographer

Chrissy Short goes over her notes from Biology before a test Tuesday.

SGA elections paired with second referendum vote

By Mary Anna Brown
SGA Reporter

Students who failed to vote in the Feb. 11-14 referendum on whether to change the student government constitution will have another chance next week during the spring election.

The Student Government Association election March 5-7 will elect new executive officers and senators, and again ask students to vote for or against proposed constitutional changes.

The election will take place on-line through WebMT under "SGA Voting" from 7 a.m. until 11 p.m.

"I would like for at least 2000 students to vote in this election," said Julie Graves, election commissioner. "Last year, only 1300 students voted in the general election and I know that there are more active students than voted."

The winning candidate must have a 50 percent-plus-one vote majority to take office, otherwise there will be a run-off. If necessary, the run-off will take place March 12-14.

Debate 2001 will take place on March 1 at 7 p.m. on MDTV Channel 10. All executive board candidates will debate issues and answer questions.

"I want people to be aware of the goals of the candidates they are voting on," Graves said. "The executive candidates' pictures and profiles are on our SGA webpage."

The current SGA acquired 500 signatures in a student petition to repeat the referendum question during the general election.

The three main proposed changes center in

See SGA, 4

"The constitution is 26 years old and MTSU has grown an extreme amount since the core of the constitution was revised.

Minor amendments have been made, but for the most part, the constitution is cumbersome and exercises power too bureaucratically.

We want a small, manageable balance with equal representation."

Matt Walker

- Speaker of the House

Midlander editor selected for 2001-2002 yearbook

By James Evans
Editor in Chief

The Student Publications Committee has picked Matthew H. Starling to serve as editor in chief of *Midlander* for the 2001-2002 year.

Starling worked at MTSU in the fall and is studying in the new digital media communication curriculum. He has been serving as photo editor for *Midlander*. This semester, he also joined the staff at *Sidelines* as chief photographer.



Starling said he knew he wanted to run for the position, but at first he had to struggle with his motives.

"I wanted [the job], but I tried to figure out why I wanted it," Starling said. "I don't need it for my resume. I'm doing it because I want to do it."

Starling's plans for the yearbook are extensive. The main problems with the publication in the past, he said, were a lack of organization which caused the staff to fall behind deadline and the yearbooks to be delivered late.

These problems resulted in a lack of interest and knowledge about the yearbook, Starling said, and some students didn't even know the university had a yearbook.

To combat these problems, Starling plans to start by training his staff, and improving morale.

To increase the yearbook's visibility, Starling is planning several marketing drives during other campus events. One possibility is to have a Web site where students can look at slide shows of photos that are going into the current yearbook.

The purpose of a yearbook, Starling believes, is to capture a slice of

life and moments in time.

"There should be some way to document what has happened as a memory," Starling said. "The yearbook is basically a photo album of the time a person spent in an atmosphere like this."

Before coming to MTSU, Starling served in the military for nine years, during which he served in Desert Shield and Desert Storm as an M1A1 tank crewman.

After his return from the Gulf War, Starling assumed the duty of executive photographer for the commanding general of the 3rd Armored Division. Later in his military career, Starling

served as assistant editor/ photographer and senior military supervisor for the *Paraglide* newspaper on Fort Bragg, N.C., as well as being the photographer for the marketing division of the Morale, Welfare and Recreation Activities Command at Fort Bragg, N.C.

After leaving the service in December of 1998, Starling worked as a freelance photographer for the *Southern Standard* in McMinnville, Tenn., and as a staff photojournalist for the *Island Packet*, located in Hilton Head, S.C. His most recent position was staff photojournalist for the *Bristol Herald Courier*, in Bristol, Va. ♦

CRIME LOG

Compiled By Matthew Kelly - Police Reporter

The following is a partial list of incidents responded to by the MTSU Police Department between Feb. 23, 2001, and Feb. 26, 2001. This log was compiled from the actual police reports.

Juvenile driving without license gives false name to officer

Feb. 24, 8:06 p.m. — Rutherford Boulevard and Second Street — While on patrol, an officer traveling on Halls Hill Pike observed the vehicle in front of him make a turn from a lane that was for through traffic instead of using the left turn lane. The officer initiated a traffic stop, approached the vehicle and asked the driver for his driver's license.

The driver stated that he did not have a driver's license and that his name was Joe Randolph Jr. The officer asked for his social security number, but he said he didn't know that, either. The officer then asked for his date of birth, which the individual said was Jan. 23, 1979.

The officer then asked the driver to step out of the vehicle and, after explaining that he could not identify who he was, placed him under arrest for driving without a license. The driver then admitted that Joe wasn't his real name. He gave the officer his actual name and stated that he was only 16 years old.

The officer asked the juvenile if he could contact someone to verify who he really was. The juvenile called his aunt who responded to the scene and corroborated his identity. The aunt drove the vehicle back to her residence and the officer transported the driver to the Rutherford County Juvenile Detention Center where he was charged with driving without a license and criminal impersonation. ♦

Student charged with DUI, underage consumption

Feb. 24, 4:12 a.m. — North Tennessee Boulevard and East Main Street — While on patrol, an officer observed the vehicle in front of him on North Tennessee Boulevard repeatedly swerve over the center line. After catching up with the vehicle, he paced it to determine its speed, which he found to be between 40 and 45 mph, above the posted speed limit of 30 mph.

After the vehicle turned onto East Main Street, the officer initiated a traffic stop. The vehicle traveled a short distance before stopping, turning onto 2nd Avenue. Upon approaching the vehicle, the officer noticed the smell of an intoxicating beverage as the driver "fumbled for his license." The officer asked the driver, later identified as William Glenn Adams III, to step out of the vehicle to perform some field sobriety tests.

form some field sobriety tests.

Adams told the officer that he had not been drinking, but later admitted that he had two beers. During the one-legged stand test, Adams touched the ground with his foot three times to maintain his balance. At first, Adams did not lean his head back as he was instructed to do during the finger-to-nose task. After trying again, he failed to touch his nose several times. While attempting the last test, the nine-step walk-and-turn, Adams did not place his feet heel-to-toe and stepped off the line several times to steady himself.

The officer then placed Adams under arrest for driving under the influence and underage consumption of alcohol. While conducting a search of Adams' vehicle, incident to the arrest, the officer discovered a half-empty bottle of Southern Comfort Whiskey in a backpack on the passenger side of the car.

Adams, 18, of 321 2nd Avenue in Murfreesboro, was transported to the Rutherford County Jail where bond was set at \$4,000. ♦

Driving without headlights nets DUI arrest for student

Feb. 25, 3:13 a.m. — North Tennessee Boulevard and East Main Street — While sitting in the parking lot of the old Woodfin Funeral Home, an officer saw a vehicle traveling on Greenland Drive with no headlights on. The vehicle traveled a short distance and then turned the lights on. After the vehicle turned southbound onto North Tennessee Boulevard, the officer pulled in behind it and observed that the vehicle was swerving.

The officer initiated a traffic stop as the vehicle was nearing East Main Street. Upon approaching the vehicle, the officer noticed the odor of an intoxicating beverage about the driver, later identified as Heather R. Pickey. He asked Pickey for her license and how much she had to drink. She replied that she drank two beers at Gentleman Jim's a short time ago. The officer noticed that her eyes appeared glassy, her speech was slurred and that she appeared "somewhat confused and disoriented."

The officer then asked Pickey to step out of the vehicle to perform some field sobriety tests. The officer explained that she should not begin any task until he instructed her to do so, but she repeatedly began the tests before she was told to start. The officer stopped the one-legged stand test after Pickey had only reached a count of six, because she had touched the ground several times and "it appeared that she might fall over."

During the finger-to-nose test, Pickey repeatedly failed to touch the tip of her nose and wavered back and forth on her feet. While attempting the nine-step walk-and-turn test, Pickey did not keep her feet heel-to-toe and again wavered back and forth on her feet.

The officer once more asked Pickey how much she had to drink. This time she stated that she drank four beers and one shot of

tequila.

The officer placed Pickey, 26, of 910 S. Tennessee Boulevard in Murfreesboro, under arrest for driving under the influence, first offense, and transported her to the Rutherford County Jail where bond was set at \$2,500. ♦

DUI charge for driver who took trip through yard, over sidewalk

Feb. 26, 2:45 a.m. — North Tennessee Boulevard and Greenland Drive — While on patrol, an officer observed the driver in the pickup truck in front of him put on his left turn signal and turn right. The vehicle then proceeded to drive through a yard on Tennessee Boulevard, over the sidewalk and back onto the road.

The officer initiated a traffic stop at North Tennessee Boulevard and Greenland Drive. Upon approaching the vehicle, the officer noticed that the driver had slurred speech and the odor of an alcoholic beverage about him. He asked the driver, later identified as George Gary Puckett Jr., to step out of the truck to perform some field sobriety tests.

While attempting the one-legged stand, Puckett had to jump around to maintain his balance. During the nine-step walk-and-turn test, Puckett did not walk heel-to-toe and "stepped either to his right or his left to brace himself from falling approximately every three steps." Puckett then lost his balance while standing and waiting for the officer's instructions on how to perform the finger-to-nose test. During that test, he missed the tip of his nose three out of eight times.

The officer then placed Puckett, 32, of 1304 Raby Ave. in Shelbyville, Tenn., under arrest for driving under the influence, first offense, and transported him to the Rutherford County Sheriff's Office where bond was set at \$2,500. ♦

Stove flames, shuts off electricity

Feb. 23, 7:10 p.m. — Womack Lane Apartments — Officers were dispatched to a possible stove fire. Upon arrival, they escorted the resident and her four children across the hall for safety reasons. The resident stated that she had been cooking when the stove sparked and a flame shot out. Then her electricity went off. The officers discovered a small amount of smoke in the apartment, but no fire. The Murfreesboro Fire Department arrived and disconnected the stove. They determined that the stove had shorted out. The officers notified maintenance to respond and advised the resident to stay at the neighbors until the stove was fixed. No damage was done to the apartment. ♦

\$\$ Did you lose money yesterday \$\$

I have specific information about a person who lost some. I would like to give it back. If you honestly think this is your money, e-mail snews@mtsu.edu with your name, phone number and amount lost.

TSSAA TOURNAMENT LONG-STANDING TRADITION AT MTSU SINCE 1975

MTSU parking will be altered somewhat but spaces will be available to everyone

The TSSAA girls and boys basketball tournaments will be held at Middle Tennessee State University, March 7-10, and March 14-17, respectively. With the increase in population at the university, the traffic and parking patterns will be altered somewhat on campus.

As in the past, MTSU officials appreciate the patience and understanding of students, staff, and faculty during this important annual event. The tournament welcomes thousands of visitors from across the state to MTSU, which provides an opportunity for prospective students and their families to see the university close up.

"We have since 1975 hosted this tournament every year except for six years when we did not host the boys tournament," said Larry Counts, director of athletic relations. "It's a tradition-it's something that every high school in the state of Tennessee is accustomed to. And from past experience, we do know that any given time, there are parking spaces available on campus," he added.

Connie Hagberg, manager of Parking and Transportation Services, agrees. "The university has more than 500 empty parking spaces everyday on campus," she noted. "Those spaces are in the Tennessee Livestock Center lot and adjacent to the Recreation Center. We have a shuttle bus to help transport students, faculty, staff, and visitors." The TLC lot will be closed only on March 9 for the Tennessee Beef Agribition.

Hagberg said more parking is available this year than during last year's TSSAA tournament, including new green-permit spaces located close to the Cason-Kennedy Nursing Building. In addition, another new green-permit parking lot is located next to the reserved Greek Row parking lot.

Contrary to sentiments expressed by a few people every year during the TSSAA Tournament, MTSU does not receive any of the parking funds collected in the Greenland Avenue lot reserved for TSSAA fans, Hagberg explained. All of the Greenland parking revenue goes to TSSAA.

Additionally, MTSU Parking and Transportation Services is not a private corporation and does not receive income from TSSAA or an other events scheduled on campus.

"We are an 'auxiliary' department of the university, which means we are part of the university but completely self-supporting," Hagberg emphasized. "The department operates entirely from parking permit fees, citation fines, parking meters, and other special services.

"Being a self-supporting entity, revenue that comes into our department pays for parking lot maintenance, re-striping, all signage related to parking and the shuttle bus service, construction of new lots, sidewalks associated with parking areas, and parking lot lighting," Hagberg explained. "We also fund our operating costs, office expenses, staff salaries and benefits, as well as the purchase and maintenance of the shuttle buses, the bus shelters, and drivers' salaries and benefits.

"It's also important for the campus community to know that our department does not have any control over events that are scheduled on our campus. Like every other service-oriented department on campus, we try to accommodate our campus population as well as our visitors.

"While there may be some inconvenience during these two weeks, we always survive it, and I think the benefits of showcasing our university to the entire state of Tennessee far outweigh some adjustments that all of us are asked to make," Counts summed up.

Parking Notice

We Need Your Help to Welcome TSSAA Fans to MTSU
Girls: March 7-10 * Boys: March 14-17

The TSSAA Basketball Tournament will once again be held at MTSU with the girls competition running from March 7-10, and the boys competition from March 14-17.

On March 7-10 and March 14-17, the Greenland Drive Parking lots will be reserved paid parking for TSSAA ticket holders. All other TSSAA fans will be directed to the lots on the east side of campus. (TSSAA receives all Greenland parking revenue during the tournaments.)

Student Commuters who usually park in the Greenland lots will be directed to C street, where, at the intersection, those with MTSU parking permits will be allowed to turn right onto B street and park in any legal green-permit space. Please watch for redirection signs and public safety personnel who will help direct you. (All TSSAA visitors will be instructed to turn left at the intersection.)

The Tennessee Livestock Center lot will be closed for the Tennessee Beef Agribition March 9. All other days, student commuters may find available parking in the Tennessee Livestock Center lot.

To avoid C Street traffic, student commuters may want to enter campus on 2nd Street from Rutherford Boulevard to access parking on the east side of campus, near the Greenhouse, Health Services, and in the lot near the Recreation Center.

The entrance to Faulkinberry Drive on Tennessee Boulevard will be closed Wednesday through Saturday, March 7-10 and March 14-17. Any persons who park on Faulkinberry will need to exit the campus via Loop Drive by Peck Hall.

The Raider Xpress shuttle service will run its normal routes throughout campus except for the Greenland Drive lots.

Parking and Traffic Rules and Regulations will be enforced as usual. Every effort is being made with signs, public safety personnel, parking attendants, and shuttle service to prevent undue confusion and inconvenience and still ensure the safety of everyone on campus.

We apologize for this temporary parking displacement and ask for your patience and understanding. Hosting the TSSAA tournament is an opportunity for thousands of prospective students and their families to see MTSU up close.

For questions and concerns, please call Parking and Transportation Services at (615) 898-2850 or Public Safety at (615) 898-2424. Thank you.

Seattle mayor cancels future Mardi Gras celebrations

By Brett Martel
Associated Press

Rowdy revelers threw bottles, smashed windows and looted businesses early Wednesday during violent Mardi Gras celebrations in Seattle, Philadelphia and Fresno, Calif., causing dozens of arrests and injuries.

Seattle Mayor Paul Schell said he would cancel future Mardi Gras celebrations in the city's historic Pioneer Square, where violence injured 70 people, including two men critically injured from an assault and a fall from an overpass.

"There will be no more Fat Tuesday," Schell said. "This event as it's now set up has to end. Something is wrong here and we can't tolerate it."

Some 80 people were arrested in Philadelphia. In Fresno, one person was stabbed as an unruly crowd stormed the city's Tower District, overturning portable toilets, smashing windows and hurling bottles at police officers.

Partyoers in New Orleans, home of the nation's largest and often craziest Carnival, laughed and danced the night away, then shook their heads in the morning at the violence and destruction in other cities.

"We've been doing this for 150 years, so I guess most of the kinks are worked out," Mardi Gras historian Arthur Hardy

said. "You can try to import Mardi Gras, but if you don't have traditions behind it, it's a tough thing to duplicate."

During New Orleans' 12-day parade season that ended Tuesday, police made 512 arrests, fewer than the 589 arrests made last year. Nearly half were for lewdness and more than 100 were for drunkenness.

Most in New Orleans credited a tolerant police force and locals who have participated for generations.

"Many of the police were reared here and went to Mardi Gras as kids," said Ed Muniz, captain of the hugely popular Endymion parade. "They know where to draw the line, as anyone who grew up here knows."

New Orleans police spokesman Marlon Defillo said he admitted that police ignored minor infractions, such as women flashing their breasts in exchange for beads, in order to focus on behavior that threatened public safety.

"There are a plethora of laws available to our officers that they could use to make arrests, but we can't enforce all of them, so we advise our officers to use good judgment," Defillo said.

Philadelphia Mayor John Street said Wednesday he wouldn't call for cancellation of the city's Mardi Gras event, although a curfew or other restrictions would be considered. Thousands of drunken

Up 'Til Dawn exceeds goal



Photo by Elisa Fisk | Staff

Courtney Stinson, Alpha Delta Pi, works on making cards for hospital patients at St. Jude Children's Hospital, during Up 'Til Dawn Friday. Up 'Til Dawn raised \$28,895 for St. Jude Children's Hospital. Twenty-eight teams participated ranging from fraternities and sororities to the Social Work Forum, the Chemistry Club, Freshman Forum and many others. There were approximately 300 students in attendance.

partyoers threw bottles and marauded up South Street, a trendy stretch of bars and shops at the edge of downtown.

"We are outraged by the conduct of those people who decided ... that they were going to disregard the rights of other people," Street said. "We will not tolerate it."

Business owners complained that the bars opened too early

and reneged on a promise to serve drinks only in plastic cups and cans, and that the revelers' lewd behavior included couples having sex in shop doorways.

"We destroyed our image one more time," pizza shop owner Steve Pissanos said. "South Street is not just for partying. We want families."

Most of the arrests were for public drunkenness, disorderly

conduct and fighting. Nine people were charged with burglary, three with robbery and two with aggravated assault on a police officer.

The fights in Seattle were broken up with pepper spray when as many as 4,000 people crowded into the streets. At least 21 people were arrested on charges that included assault, rioting, reckless endangerment

and hit-and-run driving.

Police Chief Gil Kerlikowske said one of those arrested had been waving a cocked .45-caliber pistol.

In Fresno, vandals in a crowd of 10,000 shattered about 40 shop windows, damaged police cars and set trash bins ablaze. Numerous assaults were reported. A stabbing victim suffered minor wounds. ♦

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What kind of experience do you have that qualifies you for the position?

**Maggie Clark-Schneider—
President**

I have held 20 years of management positions. I am trained in mediation, labor dispute, harassment and cultural sensitivity. I also have, in the past, held the position of president for a local chapter of an international non-profit historical organization.



Scott Griswold—President

Last fall, I was an intern for U.S. Congressman Bart Gordon. That allowed me to see exactly how government works and responds to the needs of the people. The internship showed me what programs work and gave me the experience to help the community solve problems. Many of the practices on the federal level can be used effectively on the local level. My internship experience will help me effectively govern in the Student Government Association.



John Marshall— President

Throughout life, my family and faith have given me the guiding principles to make a positive difference in the lives of others. It is



with this these principles that I have served three years in the Student Government Association as a member of the House of Representatives, the Senate and as SGA president. I have represented

students on several university committees ranging from Traffic and

Technology to the Presidential Search Committee. Off campus I have

served in leadership positions locally, statewide and nationally in the

FFA representing over 450,000 student members. I feel that these experiences qualify me to continue to serve as SGA president.

David Scott— President

I have been involved with area government both here at MTSU and at my previous college. Also, I have been president of a student activities board, and worked in various campus offices such as records, financial aid and housing. With all the experience I have gained from working in different offices, I feel that I would be able to personally connect anyone in a department and get a problem resolved without having to go through eight people.



And the candidates speak

**Jamie Burns—
Speaker of the House**

I have been actively involved in student government for the past three years, first in the House and now in the Senate. Currently, I serve as a senator for the College of Liberal Arts, as chairman of the External Affairs Committee and as the student representative for the Public Service Committee, which have given me knowledge and experience in our SGA. I have been involved in numerous leadership roles on campus such as serving as a Student Orientation Assistant last summer, as Panhellenic vice president this year, as a Greek Seeker and as a Recruitment Counselor. I am a good listener, a hard worker, full of ideas and very organized which will be beneficial to MTSU and to its student body.



**Susan Wilson-
Speaker of the Senate**

I have served as senator for the College of Mass Communications for the past two years. In my past term, I served as chairman for the Student Life Committee. During this time, I have been able to work with and pass legislation that directly impacted the student body. I also served one term in the House as a representative, and on the 1999 SGA Homecoming Committee.



**Daryn Thornbury-
Election Commission**

I have been involved with student government for the past three years, specifically as a House rep for Collegiate FFA. For the past 4-5 semesters I have been in the SGA Office about 20-30 hours per week answering phones, assisting students and doing anything else they needed done. I also currently hold offices in two other campus organizations.



SGA: Voting March 5-7

Continued from 1

the constitution's article four that concerns a consistency of service in a transitional electoral period; in article five regarding changing to a unicameral governing structure and in article seven that provides a judicial voice for students.

Other minor proposed changes include a new mission statement and some grammatical and format changes.

SGA is currently operating under a constitution that has governed MTSU students for 26 years.

"The constitution is 26 years old and MTSU has grown an extreme amount since the core of the constitution was revised," said Walker of the House Matt Walker. "Minor amendments have been made, but for the most part, the constitution is cumbersome and exercises power too bureaucratically. We want a small, manageable balance with equal representation."

One of the most controversial changes proposed by SGA calls for a condensation of the two bodies into a solitary Senate body, creating a unicameral governing system from a bicameral governing system.

Reasons for moving to a unicameral governing system

included poor attendance from organizations at House meetings, a barrier of communication between the House and Senate bodies and a lack of true representation of the entire student body.

A referendum addressing this issue was brought up last spring by the SGA, but was not passed by the student body.

"Some were adamantly against the proposed changes that were brought up with last year's referendum but we attribute those changes to the lack of information the student body received about the details," Walker said. "However, we feel that the student body will not lose their voice because they have the opportunity to present direct legislation through their organizations."

Students are encouraged to look at the proposed changes to the constitution and the current constitution on the SGA webpage at www.mtsu.edu/~sga.

"The changes that SGA is proposing affect the entire student body," Graves said. "Their vote will determine the future governing system for all students vote."

Students can get free "Vote SGA" T-shirts in the SGA Office in the KUC 208, while supplies last. ♦

These are the candidates running for Senate seats, in alphabetical order, as they will appear on the ballot.

College of Liberal Arts
(4 senate seats)
Ginny Boyett
Erin Bumbalough
Rashawn Crayton
Josh Graham
Haley Hopper
Larissa Nesbitt

College of Mass
Communications
(4 senate seats)
Cuyler Lanier III
Aaron Tannenbaum

Undeclared
(3 senate seats)
Cara Appleton
Amanda Newman

College of Education
(6 senate seats)
Michele Butler
John Wayne Parrish

College of Business
(5 senate seats)
Tim Cromer
Stephen Michael Cutlip
Travis Bryan Hix
Angela K. Hurst
Selena Hutchenson
Patrick T. Kinard
James Mason

College of Basic & Applied
(5 senate seats)
Ginny Barton
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Nikki Phanyoraj
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CASH REWARD OFFERED

MTSU Crime Stoppers is offering up to \$300 in cash for information that leads to the arrest of the person or persons who took a blue *Sidelines* newspaper rack from the north side of the Keathley University center. This theft occurred sometime between 12 p.m. on Monday, January 29th and 10 a.m. on Wednesday January, 31. This rack was most likely taken during the evening hours of the 29th or 30th. If you have any information about this theft or any other crime committed on property owned by MTSU or a felony committed within Rutherford County, please call Crime Stoppers at 893-7867 (STOP) between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. All callers will remain anonymous and if your information leads to an arrest, you will be eligible for a cash reward of up to \$1,000.

If you would like more information about MTSU's Crime Stoppers program call Sgt. Tom Wright at 898-2424 or visit <http://police.mtsu.edu>

Relative recalls gruesome murder

By Elizabeth A. Davis
Associated Press

KNOXVILLE, Tenn. - Stephen Michael West was sentenced to death for the murders of Wanda Romines and her daughter Sheila, but 15 years later he still awaits execution.

West was set to die Thursday in the electric chair, but a federal judge delayed the execution after West decided to resume his appeals Wednesday.

The women's relatives believe it is time West was punished.

"The way he'll die will be easier than the way they died," said Kate Campbell, Wanda Romines' sister-in-law and the girl's aunt.

Wanda, 51, and Sheila, 15, were tortured with a knife and stabbed multiple times after Sheila was raped inside the family's home on March 17, 1986.

They lived on a country road outside Maynardville, a small Union County town about 20 miles north of Knoxville. Jack Romines, the husband and father, found their bodies after he returned home from work.

Campbell, Jack Romines' sister, said the murders were the worst crimes to ever happen in Union County.

"We never had nothing like that happen," said Campbell, who lives in Andersonville. "We've thought about it ever since it happened. That will never leave you."

Romines, who still lives in Maynardville, could not be reached for comment, but state officials say he has told them he does not want to witness West's execution.

"He's worried and troubled

about it," Campbell said.

West, then 23, and accomplice Ronald David Martin, then 17, waited until Romines had left home that March morning before they attacked the women, according to trial testimony.

The plot was set into motion the night before when West and Martin got off work from a McDonald's restaurant and started drinking.

Martin knew Sheila, and West told investigators that Martin suggested they go to the house so they could have sex with her.

West said he and Martin visited one of Martin's friends and obtained a knife. They then waited outside the Romines' home for Romines to leave for work.

Wanda let the men inside after West said he heard one of the women say, "It's Ronnie."

Evidence showed that West raped Sheila and may have forced Wanda to perform oral sex with him.

West testified that Martin used a gun and knife to coerce him into participating in the crimes.

The coroner testified the women were found in different rooms. Sheila was stabbed three times in the heart; her mother stabbed numerous times.

West said Martin committed the murders and an FBI agent testified he couldn't link West to the crime scene.

But the agent also said West told him he saw Martin stabbing Wanda in a bedroom. Then Martin took Sheila into another room and stabbed her, West said.

"West said Sheila kept asking Martin, 'Why?' and he said, 'I owe you. I owe you.' West said Martin was cutting Sheila in a way just to

"hurt her."

Martin told West that he had to kill Sheila because he had killed Wanda, West said.

He said Martin then threatened to harm West's wife to keep him from talking about the murders.

After the women were killed, the men ransacked the home and stole guns, ammunition, knives, a gym bag, a pillowcase and over \$200, police said.

A bag, bloody pillowcase and bloody glove were found along a road in neighboring Anderson County, and a gun was found in a storm drain in Martin's hometown of Norris, police said.

West was arrested the next day while sleeping at his Lake City home. A year later, he was convicted of first-degree murder, aggravated kidnapping and aggravated rape.

Martin pleaded guilty to the same crimes and is serving two life sentences.

Campbell couldn't say what effect West's execution would have on her family.

"I don't know how to tell you about things like that," she said. "If the murders had never happened, this execution wouldn't have to happen."

Meanwhile, Romines moved out of his family's home shortly after the murders and built a smaller one behind it. He lives there alone, Campbell said.

Sheila was the couple's only daughter.

"Just think, she was 15 years old," Campbell said. "And now, she would have been 30 years old and probably would have had a family of her own." ♦

WORLD BRIEFS

Compiled By Pam Hudgens - Assistant News Editor

Earthquake shakes Pacific Northwest

SEATTLE (AP) - A powerful earthquake rocked the Northwest on Wednesday, shattering windows, showering bricks onto sidewalks and sending frightened people running into the streets of Seattle and Portland, Ore. At least 29 people were injured. The strongest quake to hit Washington state in 52 years shut down the Seattle airport, knocked out power to hundreds of thousands of people, cracked the dome atop the state capitol in Olympia and briefly trapped about 30 people atop a swaying Space Needle in Seattle. The magnitude-6.8 quake hit at 10:55 a.m. and was centered 35 miles southwest of Seattle, according to the National Earthquake Information Center in Golden, Colo. ♦

Bush hands \$1.96 trillion budget to Congress

WASHINGTON (AP) - President Bush shipped Congress a \$1.96 trillion budget on Wednesday, formally triggering the legislative fight over his push for a mammoth tax cut financed by swelling surpluses and restricted spending. Though scant in detail, the 207-page proposal is a first overview both parties will use in upcoming months in their battle over budget priorities. Bush's recipe of tax cuts, dramatic debt reduction and restrained spending on energy, agriculture and Medicaid covers fiscal 2002, which begins Oct. 1. Overall, Bush's first budget envisions spending 5.5 percent, or \$103 billion, more next year than the \$1.86 trillion planned for this year. ♦

Greenspan warns of economic weakness to come

WASHINGTON (AP) - Federal Reserve Chairman Alan Greenspan, expressing new worries about the economy, said Wednesday "has yet to run its full course" and signaled the central bank is ready to cut interest rates again to rev up growth. Greenspan delivered his latest assessment to the House Financial Services Committee as President Bush tried to rally the nation behind his plan for major tax cuts and for a budget blueprint that he says will shrink government debt while protecting important programs. At a factory in Beaver, Pa., Bush said Greenspan's downbeat remarks were "all the more reason to accelerate the tax cut ... as soon as possible." Bush wants to cut individual tax rates retroactive to Jan. 1. ♦

Prosecutor orders investigation of Milosevic

BELGRADE, Yugoslavia (AP) - The Belgrade prosecutor ordered a probe Wednesday into suspicions that Slobodan Milosevic illegally stashed away huge amounts of gold - the start of legal moves aimed at trying the ousted Yugoslav president for a wide range of alleged crimes. The order is the prelude to possible detention and multiple indictments against Milosevic that could include alleged complicity in war crimes, embezzlement of state funds, corruption and politically motivated killings during his 13-year rule. In a statement obtained by The Associated Press, the Belgrade public prosecutor's office ordered police to investigate news reports that Milosevic transferred more than 380 pounds of gold to Switzerland between last Sept. 21 and Nov. 2. ♦

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From the staff

College students should get priority over high schoolers

Anyone who uses campus e-mail couldn't have missed Robert Lowe's eye-opening mass e-mailing about the parking situation during the TSSAA basketball tournament.

After reading his e-mail message, we decided it was a hot topic that students should know about. Even though this tournament is hosted by MTSU every year and it causes inconveniences every year, no one has taken the drastic step that Lowe took to do something about it.

We realize that space must be made for the thousands of people on campus during the tournament, but why must our fully paid-for parking spots be taken away from us? Can't we all just get along and share the Greenland parking lot?

Parking Services claims that there are more than 300 empty spots every day on campus, but the days the lot will be closed are during mid-terms, when more students will be on campus than usual.

Why can't the university plan our spring break around this tournament (like in the past), so that we're gone when most of it is happening? Students who actually attend school here should have priority over "potential students."

Yes, we all agree that the publicity the TSSAA tournament brings to MTSU is good and that we gain a lot of prospective students by hosting it, but how does that directly affect every individual student on campus positively? It doesn't. It just brings grief and confusion and one more thing for students to gripe about.

Not only is it bad enough that the Greenland lot is closed for high school basketball, but the livestock lot will also be closed March 9 for the Tennessee Beef Agribition. So now we lose two lots for one day without being asked.

Maybe if the TSSAA fans were forced to circle the campus over and over again, looking for a parking spot like students do every day, they might dump some money into the pot for more parking on this campus.

Government taking away our privacy

Last week, buried deep in the front page of our esteemed daily newspaper *The Tennessean*, I came across two different news stories on, two separate days, that have really got the wheels turning in my head. They both dealt with the privacy that we, as human beings, are entitled to and the steps some government officials are taking to seize that coveted privacy away. For some reason, I feel these two issues deserved more than a few paragraphs at the bottom of page 10, as they directly affect every citizen's overlooked right of privacy.

Oh, I forgot, the nation is still extremely concerned over the death of a beloved race car driver and the safety regulations for racing cars around a circle at mach-5 speed.

I never thought the first laws dealing with cellular phone usage while driving would be so dim-witted. This is such a sensitive issue with me, after having almost been run off the road by countless motorists carelessly chatting away on their phones as they swerve back and forth from lane to lane. I figured someone would have enough foresight to limit such driver negligence, but I was badly mistaken.

A law has gone through legislation that strictly forbids teens from talking on cellular phones while driving an automobile. At first glance, this seems ok, right? But in the first place, why stop at teens? Sure, many of them aren't very experienced drivers and frequently cause accidents. But guess what, I've seen more adults driving crazy when talking than I've seen teens. They are just as irresponsible and a major part of the problem.

The one stipulation in the law is that a teen can talk on the phone in emergency situations and to family

Brian Spencer
Staff Columnist



Mind Manifestations

members. This makes no sense to me. How are the police going to know whom you are talking to when you drive by on the phone? They won't.

So, this actually pertains to a privacy issue with me. It feels like this is just another way our dedicated law enforcement is targeting the youth of our country. They already have plenty of shady reasons for pulling you over as it is, and now, the police can cite your phone usage as another means for poking around you and your car. I was a teen once upon a time too, and this law is more deviously misdirected than the bombs over Baghdad this past week.

If they can't get you in your car, the next place is in your home. Eight years ago a middle-aged suburbanite was arrested in the middle of the night for growing a marijuana plant in his home.

How did the law find out about it?

Using technology that was originally developed for use in the Gulf War, police converted heat waves being emitted from the house into an image of the plant and moved in. This device can measure anything that gives off heat and convert it into a picture, whether it be an indoor heater for illegal plants, a lamp or a married couple having sex. They had just gone through this quiet suburb community

scanning people's houses for signs of wrongdoing.

Our tax money pays for this kind of crap?

I wasn't aware that there was a human being who would've enjoyed having the authorities frolic around their assigned district and randomly scan people's homes with a device such as this. The fact that it is illegal to grow marijuana plants is not the point. Do we really need people to do this? In my opinion, this is a gross invasion of our privacy as citizens.

The man who was caught by the snooping detectives is now out of jail and taking the case to court, citing it as an invasion of his privacy. So our court system is about to decide whether or not using these kinds of devices should be allowed or not, which will certainly set a precedent for future surveillance technology regulations.

This is an important issue that needs to be looked into from the perspective of the big picture. If the courts were to rule that these spying devices are legal, it would be a huge step toward the government being able to further control our lives. In a time when our government is taking so much away from the average citizen, one of the big things we should fight to keep is our given right to privacy.

So I encourage everyone to take the time to read up on both of these important issues and spread the word to anyone who will lend their ear. Contact state and federal officials and voice your concerns.

When a nation stops caring about the right to privacy from surveillance, we have truly decided to lay down our souls to be reaped. ◆

Smitten with influenza

I didn't get a flu shot this year. Apparently this was a mistake. I spent last week expelling all sorts of vile fluids from my body.

I must admit the spread of the flu from person to person every year is intriguing. There is something preternatural about it. An invisible virus is floating through the air and could strike anyone at any time. It's enough to make a normal man paranoid. It's enough to make me insane.

It's such a penetrating act to infect someone with the flu. Suddenly, what was once a part of oneself, is inside another, festering and multiplying. The flu epidemic makes for an interesting connectedness of man. Transcendental it isn't, but it'll do.

Alas, I'm left wondering who infected me. Whose germs were in my body? I must have angered someone. It was someone in one of my classes. I'm sure of it. Someone was driving me,

Bathroom Stall Graffiti



Nick Fowler
Staff Columnist

and I had to know who.

There is that one girl who sits beside me. She sneezed the other day. I said bless you. She said thank you and gave me a look as if she knew something I didn't. Now I know.

On one level, I feel violated. She didn't have the right to knowingly infect me. How dare she send her germs across the room and into my body?

On the other hand, I am intrigued. Clearly this is some sort of cellular level flirtation. The spreading of the

flu virus must be some sort of sexual metaphor. This must be the new kinky thing to do. I'll bet she's a swinger.

This would be some sort of invite to her swinger community. I didn't catch on at first. I'm not into that scene. I don't usually keep up with the latest music or the latest sex games to play in class, but I catch on quick.

I have a friend who works at the hospital. I think I'll get him to bring home a tuberculosis patient. I'll take the patient to class and have him cough on her. She'll really dig that. If that doesn't make her loins burn, I don't know what will.

I always wondered why the flu spread so quickly.

Clearly, it's just love. In the winter, love is in the air. Sure, in the spring everyone hooks up, but it all starts in the winter with airborne spittle carrying Cupid's arrow in the form of influenza. ◆

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Afghan women stripped of basic human rights

Imagine a society where after decades of struggle, equality between the genders is finally being achieved. At least 50 percent of college students, teachers and government workers are women. Growth has been a bit slower in the "professional" world, with only 40 percent of doctors being women, but the glass ceiling is close to being broken in that field as well.

In this society, women are allowed to do as they wish, wear what they wish and say what they wish just the same as their male counterparts. Religion is still attempting to hold women back, not surprisingly, but it's not succeeding nearly as much as it would like.

Now imagine an invasion of this society by a right-wing fundamentalist militia. Suddenly, women are not allowed to work. All females are expelled from universities, and girls are no longer allowed to attend school. Women are no longer allowed to leave home without male relatives accompanying them. They are no longer allowed the same access to medical care. And, as a true symbol to their new prison, they are required to cover themselves from head to toe with a heavy cloth that covers even their face.

This isn't a dystopic science fiction novel portraying the United States in the near future. It is the all-too-real situation of Afghanistan, a country that, until 1996, allowed women freedoms that for the most part paralleled those enjoyed by women here in the U.S.

In 1996 the Taliban, an extremist militia that originated in Pakistan, seized Kabul, Afghanistan's capital, and immediately stripped all females of their most fundamental human

rights. The Taliban now occupies 95 percent of the country and is aggressively attempting to seize more.

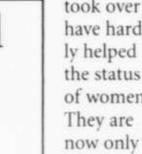
In addition to the sanctions listed above, women are forced to paint all windows in their homes black. A woman may not raise her voice in public, and her testimony is worth only half a man's testimony. All recreational facilities for women have been banned, and all entertainment, such as movies, has been as well for both genders. Women cannot wear heels or any other form of noise-making shoe, for the Taliban has decreed that the clicking sound "corrupts" men. They are forbidden to wear white socks, and if caught wearing nail polish, their fingers could be chipped off.

Consequences

Women are beaten, stoned, whipped and killed for violating these new laws. According to the Feminist Majority Foundation, an elderly woman was beaten with a metal cable until her leg was broken because her ankle was mistakenly showing from underneath her burqa, the body-covering cloth all women are required to wear. Women have been shot for leaving their home without a male relative to seek medical attention. Many have died from treatable illnesses because male doctors were not allowed to treat them.

The few changes that have occurred since the Taliban originally

Atypical Woman



Angela White
Online Editor

few are allowed to do that. The ones who are allowed to work are constantly harassed. Some hospitals have segregated wards for women, but those that do not will not treat women under any circumstance. A few home schools have sprung up for girls, some with Taliban approval, and some without. Those women teaching without approval have in some cases been shot in front of their young students. The Taliban was also gracious enough to finally allow war widows to work so they can feed their starving children.

According to research conducted by Amnesty International, a human rights organization, literacy rates for women have dropped to as low as four percent in some areas. Afghanistan is ranked at the bottom of the United Nations gender development index. The ban on female education will surely weaken Afghanistan's economic and social development. And the ban on female employment is sure to affect the education of men as well, as women made up almost 70 percent of school teachers before the takeover.

History

Before the Taliban moved in, natives of the country considered parts of Afghanistan "liberal." But we

would probably not agree with Western standards. Traditionally, male relatives have always controlled the lives of Afghan women. Females are expected to be modest and pure, and these virtues have always been essential to the honor of one's family. But while these aspects have a definite origin in Islam, political groups, especially the Taliban, have twisted them politically. Women are often raped during military attacks as a way to dishonor entire villages and weaken their will to fight back. Political regimes often use corrupted interpretations of Islam to rule over fearful populations, and no one has mastered this concept quite like the Taliban.

But things were beginning to change for Afghan women before the Taliban came. According to About.com's "Women's Issues - Third World Countries" Web site, in 1959 women were encouraged to remove the veil and not use the burqa in official ceremonies. In the '60s women were given equal rights, including the right to vote. In the '70s many women, especially those from the upper class, adopted the Western style of dress. And in 1978, when communists came to power, forced marriage was legalized and a minimum marrying age for girls was established.

When the Taliban came to power, however, they established what they call a fundamentalist interpretation of Islam, which they claimed allowed them to take basic rights away from women. ◆

In Monday's issue, learn about the corrupted version of Islam the Taliban uses in its tyranny, as well as the supporters and resisters of Taliban rule.

Sidelines is the editorially-independent, non-profit student newspaper of Middle Tennessee State University and is published Monday, Wednesday and Thursday during the fall and spring semesters and every Wednesday during June and July. The opinions expressed herein are those of the individual writers and not necessarily of Sidelines or MTSU.

A Tribute To Dr. Maya Angelou

By Lottie M. Carney
Former MTSU student

"And, The Lady Spoke"

I sat, I watched, I listened
Listened to the sound of the
Lady getting down,

With voice so sharp, so clear, so pleasant
Words flowing like melodies,
Perfect harmony in every direction

Did you get that pitch?
Listen at that note

"And she spoke!"

-Room so full of sounds-
Laughter - ha, ha, ha
Cheers and applause
And so on and so on

For this tall, black, beautiful
Lady
Was rhyming high
Stepping high
Shakin every now and then

Shakin those hips from side to side, letting
those poetic words
Glide and glide
Strolling on that platform
Twirling those words

Poets of old, Poets of new
A true rhymmer
Through and through

And the Lady slides on and began to lecture
Taking the audience on a tour of the world

"Join me in Switzerland," says the Lady in her
high society voice

"We may go to Greece, I've just left Africa,
So, when shall we meet?"

"I know," says she

"I have to get to New York by morning"

"Wait, the fog is too thick, and Tennessee is on
the blink

but, I will make it - I'll walk if I must,
for two postponements I cannot trust

So, let's get out of here
Time, I can't waste
For, I must move on
To help preserve this
Human
Race

For my time is much too precious to waste
So young men, young women alike
Travel, (see the world)
Dream dreams, use your imagination to
escape
The day-to-day routine

Join
Me
In
The
Library

For adventure and romance awaits
Meet me in the library in section "A"
Reading about black poets in history
For the way has been carved, the price has
been paid

Our ancestors (the slaves) we'll forever
remember them

They were abused, misused, treated with no
respect

Oh, but you have Hope, Dignity, and Pride

Don't let them take it away from you
For a young black man or woman, with a
rational mind can conquer the world!!"

With a fling of her hands
And a toss of the head
Such sounds of beautiful words were never
said

She speaks so melancholy, so -matter of fact
like, that one HAS to listen

Dream if I may, dream if I might, Wonder if I
will ever experience this Lady's delight?

With all eyes on her she glides upon stage,
stands tall, looks firm and direct, and begins to
engage

"An Evening with Dr. Maya Angelou"

"One thing you must remember, never trust a
man or woman who could not laugh!"

For laughter endures and laughter removes
pain, and laughter can start again and again

"A man or woman that cannot laugh, cannot
live and who wants to be stuck with a stiff?"

So laugh if you will, laugh if you may - today,
today, today

"And never forget 'Mama,' the Lady said,
'Who taught us well
For mama stood erect, and mama talked to the
point

'Mama knew what was best and guessed about
the rest!"

For her smile was as big as the bright morning
sun

And her aroma was just as warm
With a swirl of the tongue the Lady may speak
English, French, Spanish or even Greek

She portrays true beauty from head to toe
Doesn't take a scholar to know that
The Lady
Possesses charm, charisma, and all that

A teacher, a leader, a poet, a dancer, actress,
lecturer, a romantic, dreamer, playwright, a histo-
rian, as well as a civil rights activist

One who lives life every second of the day,
One who enjoys living in the utmost way!

Her fascination of words escapes most of us
And her love affair with a romantic (poet) or
(poem) stimulates us

What a show person, she must be
For she has revitalized
History!

A toast to you Dr. Angelou
A tip of the hat
A nod of the head
For truly you are
Well-bred

So friends let's join
Dr. Angelou in laughter,
In romance
And in love

"And by far, always think of others yet to
come," as she would say,
"And still I Rise," by far, "Always think of oth-
ers yet to come!"

Letters to the Editor

Mail your comments to Box 42, drop them off at JUB 310 or e-mail them to stupubs@mtsu.edu.
Letters may be edited for length, grammar or content.

Basketball team needs serious work

To the Editor:

I'm sure you guys have received some com-
ments on the MTSU men's basketball team. I am
a junior and psychology major, rabid Blue Raider
fan and a native of Murfreesboro, Tenn. Growing
up, I with my dad (an MTSU alumnus) went to
every home game at the Murphy Center and saw
some incredible games and talented basketball
players.

Murphy Center used to be one of the most
feared arenas in the OVC for opponents. MTSU
even sent a player to the NBA (Warren Kidd,
76ers in the early '90s) during the Bruce Stewart
era. Stewart's era came to a close quickly when
NCAA investigators found numerous violations
and slapped MTSU with recruiting limits - no
TV or postseason play. Pretty harsh conse-
quences for any program to bounce back from.

Enter David Farrar, a controversial coach who
recruited well and MOST IMPORTANTLY,
played very competitively during a time when
there was nothing for the team to play for except
pride.

Some of you might be surprised that Farrar's
Raiders beat Vanderbilt in overtime at Murphy
Center, in front of one of the largest crowds in
MTSU history. Farrar, however, played a boring
brand of motion offense basketball. After a few
so-so seasons with the NCAA sanctions lifted,
Farrar was disliked by fans and let go by MTSU.

Five years ago, Randy Wiel enters the scene.

So many MTSU faithful were happy to receive
the Dean Smith-Tar Heel-trained Wiel, hoping
for a new era of MTSU dominance like in the
days of Stewart.

His first four years: 65-53. Well, some might
say, "Hey, that's not bad, he's 12 games over .500,
that's an okay winning percentage."

How many pansies has MTSU played over
those four years? It just doesn't add up. MTSU
has been NOTHING but mediocre for the previ-
ous four years.

And the alumni and faithful fans who thought
Wiel would bring us back aren't talking. Mainly

because they DON'T COME to the games any-
more. They're depressing to watch.

That leads us to this year, a complete disaster.
A big theory going around is that the team is
too young. Well, for the 2,000 or so (big crowd,
last home game) who saw senior night, many
were surprised we had SIX seniors this year.

Freddie Martinez leads by a landslide over the
other five in output, and even his stats aren't
impressive.

"Oh..." you say, "we've been held back by
injuries."

Losing Fenando Ortiz was a blow, and Lee
Nosse, despite his attempt to play basketball, con-
tinued a tradition of injury and sitting in street
clothes. Though Nosse only played four games, he
was one of MTSU's THREE leading scorers with
over nine points in his four games. That's pitiful.

The fans are even worse. MTSU has pushed for
student support, but who wants to watch a team,
that is poorly coached, get smacked around by the
new and powerful Sun Belt Conference that
includes such rich histories as Louisiana at
Lafayette, Arkansas at Little Rock, Florida
International and Denver.

Sorry, but how can we be that bad? It hurts me
to see the gym so empty.

I am a member of a Greek organization that is
pushed even harder to urge other students to par-
ticipate, and it's extremely difficult for me to get
my fraternity brothers to come to the games with
me. It's not that they're lazy and don't like bas-
ketball, the most frequent response has been
"WHY, they suck."

I'll close with this. In our recent record break-
ing season, with 20 losses (and two more to
come), we have lost seven games by double digit
figures, FIVE by over 20 points - (and I'm leaving
out Kansas and Tennessee!)

Something is obviously wrong.

Boots, I know you're just the interim A.D., but
you're looking at some major money loss, AND
FANS, if you try to keep giving Wiel chances.

Hey, I hear Bobby Knight needs a job - now
that would bring some fans.

Sincerely,
Barry Wade Duggin



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To tell or not to tell: The truth about parental notification

By Travis Smith
Sidelines Guest Columnist

To tell or not to tell? This question saw its beginnings during the 1997-1998 school year with the so called "right to party movement." A movement that was nothing more than underage college students stupidly rioting over a believed right to drink alcohol on their particular campuses.

Several arrests, a burned police car or two, and a *Nightline* later, Congress responded by passing four new laws to deal with the serious drug and alcohol problem on America's college campuses. After all, you have to have been living under a rock not to have heard about the increase in binge drinking among college students and a resurgence in popularity of certain very illegal drugs on college campuses. The trouble is most of these laws do not seem to be the solutions many have made them out to be – including a little gem commonly referred to as parental notification.

This law was passed as an amendment to the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974, or the Buckley Amendment as it is more often referred to, and allows most postsecondary institutions to notify the parents or legal

guardians of students who are under the age of 21, when said students get caught using or in possession of alcohol or a controlled substance.

While students have obviously been less than thrilled with this new law, a growing number of campus administrators have been falling all over themselves to utilize it on their campuses. The end result of which has been lots of controversy, press coverage, and confusion – all of which has visited MTSU this school year.

It started with an article in *Sidelines* last semester that missed not only the point but the law when it claimed that MTSU can notify parents under this law. A point that was reiterated in more articles and in a speech given to the Greek community by Will Keim this semester. The initial *Sidelines* article also stated that universities were required to notify parents in these situations. The trouble is there is no such requirement, because this law leaves the decision to notify up to campus administrators. But the truth is MTSU cannot notify parents because it is illegal. Yes, you read right, illegal.

You see, what many people tend to miss when they look at this law is its last provision that states that it does not supersede state law. So if the state you are living in has a law that prevents the release

of this information, then these institutions cannot release it. Tennessee is one of those states. A point reiterated by a 1999 attorney general opinion. This is why officials at the University of Tennessee at Knoxville have decided not to notify parents and colleges in Memphis have been left to wonder "what if" as institutions in neighboring states have started to tell. This wondering and desire led Tennessee lawmakers to introduce two bills that would have allowed state-run postsecondary institutions to notify parents under this new law.

Both failed to pass – instead dying in committee. While the exact reason why has yet to come to light, the best guess is because these bills would have also allowed the press and public to access certain non-academic disciplinary hearing records. Something campus administrators do not want to see happen.

Have we seen the last of this question? It is doubtful because the idea of being able to simply notify parents in these matters is very attractive when compared with the very complicated legal alternative Buckley has always offered. Still, by the time parental notification comes up again in the state House it may not be as big of an issue because this provision is also unconstitu-

tional – failing to apply equally to all adults (i.e. those who are 21 and older).

The first place this battle may be fought is in Missouri, where students in its state university system have gone so far as to write up and successfully lobby for the introduction of a bill that would prevent parental notification to the state. Furthermore, if these bills fail to pass there is a good chance a number of students will challenge this very bad law in court.

In the meantime, students of all ages be warned. Federal law does allow notification in certain, very limited circumstances – such as health and safety emergencies. But if it is the police who catch you and arrest you, there is no law that prevents the release of this information once it qualifies as public document. Of course, as the University of New Hampshire Police Department recently found out, how this information is released by government agencies can prompt lawsuits when the constitutional laws of equal treatment are violated. ♦

Travis Smith serves on the board of directors for MTSU Crime Stoppers and is a guest columnist for *Sidelines*.



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CAMPUS LIFE

9 ◆ SIDELINES

Thursday, March 1, 2001

Murfreesboro, TN



Photo Provided

200 NEON COLORS UNDER THE SEA



Candice Gawne

By Nathalie Mornu
Staff Writer

Although the Art Barn, at one time, housed livestock, its exhibition gallery currently harbors a variety of life from the deep, including anemones, starfish, sea cucumbers, jellyfish and a crab. The university hasn't installed aquariums, though. The plants, fish and other sea creatures are the creations of California artist Candice Gawne.

Gawne uses mixed media, most notably neon, to make her "Gardens Beneath The Sea," as the show is called. In the darkened gallery, the work glows

erily under black lights. The large wall sculptures, made of layers of painted Plexiglas and wood lit from behind, are named Lightscares. Gawne calls the groupings of blown glass anemones, coral and sea cucumbers, which she has lit from within with neon, the Jewels of Nature.

The exhibit seems to vibrate with life as the neon, inside some of the anemones, pulses. The plants have softly luminescent trunks, but their tentacles look almost molten due to their nearly smoldering color. One brilliant white coral, made of neon tubing, flashes like lightning while a yellow coral filled with crackling and somehow fluid light appears. Reaching toward them (but don't touch!) causes some of the sculptures to glow more brightly or to buzz.

The Lightscares turn on and off intermittently. When the neon tubes

behind the shaped layers turn on, the colors of the jellyfish, plants and fish change and become more vivid. An undistinguished crab in a lightscape titled "Crabwalk" suddenly takes on depth and seems real. Some jellyfish tentacles appear to rapidly undulate because of the lines of neon in them, which bubble with small white flickers of gas.

To create neon tubing, noble gasses – argon, helium, krypton, xenon or neon – are pumped into tubes and electrified. Each gas gives off its own distinct color, but combinations of gasses, glass and phosphor can produce over 200 colors. The diameter of the tube and the type of transformer used also allow for subtle variations in hue.

Frenchman Georges Claude invented the first commercial application for neon lighting in 1910. By 1925, he had several successful neon signage fran-

chises in the United States with demand so high that rival companies opened shop.

Neon flourished until the 1950s, when plastic signs, illuminated by fluorescent lighting, replaced it for advertising. In the '60s, artists began to use neon in their mixed media sculptures.

Coincidentally, Gawne's first name, Candice, means "glowing" in Greek. In her artist's statement, Gawne says that she has had an interest in light since she first started drawing the human form.

"I paint thickly with great texture to try and 'catch' the light and make the form palpable. As I worked, trying to pull light out of pigment, I became aware of neon, the possibility of drawing with light."

Gawne took a class to learn to work with neon twenty years ago.

Near the gallery entrance, working

drawings – blueprints – of a sculpture have some formed tubing laid over top, giving an idea of the construction process for Gawne's whimsical art.

The exhibit shows recent work, most of it from 1998-99. The pieces are priced from \$1250 and \$3500.

The show also includes a strikingly large wall piece made solely of neon and named "Wave Sea Serpent." The piece consists of a dragon in the primary colors of red, yellow and blue, measures four feet in height and 22 feet in length.

"Lightscares: Gardens Beneath The Sea" will stay on exhibit at the Art Barn's Gallery through March 23. The gallery is open from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, with no admission fee.

For more information call 898-5653. ◆

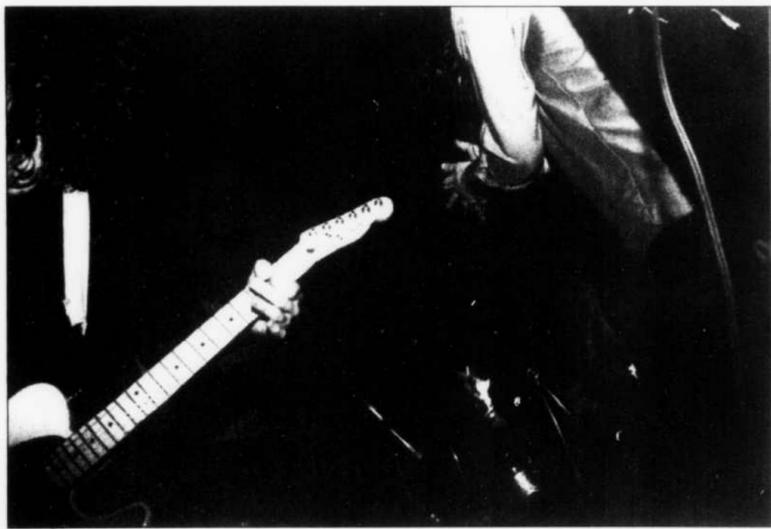


Photo Provided

Get your Lucky Guns

By Stacey Tomkiewicz
Staff Writer

It seems the rock 'n' roll train is departing, rattling past the spectators, who, in their feet, can feel its trajectory. The momentum of sound waves is traveling hard and fast. The energy of the moving metal proceeds with a solitary care – "a good time." This train is Murfreesboro's own rock band, Lucky Guns.

Lucky Guns formed last year and are known for their exceptional live performance.

The band consists of Steve Hitron (vocals), 22, MTSU senior; Corey McAfee (guitar), 22, MTSU senior; Paul Bancel (guitar), 23, MTSU senior; Jeff Hobes (bass), 22, junior and Casey Smith (drums), 28, junior.

Hitron and McAfee cite one band in particular as inspiration for their sound, "Guns 'n' Roses." They also draw their stimuli from Led Zeppelin, The Rolling Stones, Iggy and The Stooges, Blue Cheer, MC5 and a variety of independent Louisville

bands.

"We are not a revival, just a good time rock 'n' roll band," says Hitron, who started singing at the conception of the band.

Besides Guns 'n' Roses, Hitron and McAfee attempt to describe their sound as "a mix of the rock 'n' roll vibe, the blues, with a twist of punk and garage band."

"All the albums your parents made you listen to, and all the albums you bought

See Lucky Guns, 11



Make room for 'Shrooms'

By Brian Spencer
Staff Writer

Being able to hear all types of music on one radio station is one of the best things about college radio. Hip-hop might be on in the morning, electronica in the afternoon, and then, indie rock at night. There's something for each person to listen to throughout the day.

However, you don't have to wait a few hours to hear different kinds of music because it all gets mixed together.

Such is the case of "The Shroom Room" with Randi, which airs every Monday morning from 10 a.m. to noon on 88.3 WMTS.

Maranda MacBeth is the host of "The Shroom Room" and divides her show into two parts: one hour of rock and one hour of acid jazz.

"Even though those two styles of music don't really have anything in common, I love having the opportunity to play them both altogether on one show," she says. "It's great being able to hear everything that I listen to on the radio."

MacBeth is a junior from Maryville, Tenn., and is a public relations major in the recording industry. This is her second full year at WMTS and she was recently elected the new promotions director for the station. Judging by her take-charge attitude toward the position, you can expect to hear more about the station over the next year.

"There hasn't been too many benefit shows



Maranda MacBeth at WMTS

Photo by Brian Spencer | Staff

lately, and I plan on booking a lot more, so that people are reminded about the station," she says.

MacBeth also said that she's almost sure her show is the only one that combines the styles of rock and acid jazz together. She doesn't strictly focus on just those styles either.

On the rock portion of the program, you might hear more indie music – Buffalo Tom and Huck – and harder sounds from bands like Incubus, Deftones and NOFX.

When diving into the acid jazz hour, a variety of electronic music can be heard – LIJ Bukem, Radiohead, the Cinematic Orchestra and Portishead.

Without a doubt, almost anyone is bound to hear a song they like during "The Shroom Room" with Randi's two hours of airtime.

So don't forget to tune in to 88.3 WMTS to help cure the Monday morning blues every week. ◆

Evening of plays a success for theater students

By Heather Glass
Staff Writer

Hard work and dedication paid off for MTSU upper-class theater majors after more than a year of preparation and anticipation. Months ago, theater students submitted proposals for the idea of a one-act play for theatre faculty to evaluate.

Three one-act plays consisting of Jeffery Sweet's *Porch*, Sam Shepard's *States of Shock* and Edward Albee's *The Zoo Story* were decided upon by faculty and were presented Feb. 15 to 17 and

Feb. 20 to 24.

"We evaluate all proposals and look at them collectively to see which ones will work well together," said Richard Hansen, director of publicity.

Every other year, theater faculty tries to give the most talented students the opportunity to submit a proposal. Those students must have completed at least two semesters of play direction.

Auditions got underway this semester when many of the 150 theatre majors tried out for a role. A cast list was ready two days later for those lucky students selected.

"You are 90 percent done with the job once the play is cast," said Hansen.

After many days of rehearsals, set design, costume design and makeup, the creative cast, crew and directors were ready to perform.

Porch, directed by Melissa Goldhamer, was the first play. It was set on a porch in a small town in Indiana in the mid-1970s. As the theatre lights dimmed, the song of nighttime crickets spread throughout the theatre.

The spotlight then focused on Mr. Herbert (Cory Hutchenson), an old

man struggling to get to his rocking chair on the side of the porch. Followed by his concerned daughter, Amy (Katie Massari), he proceeded to engage in a conversation about future plans for her life. She becomes frustrated because she knows how much her father wants her to fill the role left vacant by the death of her brother.

Her meddling father even invited over an old beau to try to rekindle his daughter's feelings towards the beau.

She confronts her old beau, with whom she has had a complicated past and explains she isn't looking for a

future with him.

Pieces of the characters' lives were introduced slowly throughout the one-act play and, by the end, it was possible to make sense of the whole situation.

"I liked *Porch* because you really had to listen to hear the issues," said MTSU student Rod Cason.

The frustration of the characters toward each other was evident by the strain in their voice and the expression on their faces. There was a bit of humor when the father continued to

See Plays, 11

ON CAMPUS

Compiled By Leslie Fike - Copy Editor

Thursday, March 1

The MTSU Fencing Club teaches a beginning class on basketball court No. 6 in the Rec Center from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. through May. For information, contact Stuart Bernstein at 898-5998.

Campus Crusade for Christ invites everyone to attend CRU, the weekly fellowship and worship meeting on Thursdays at 7:30 p.m. in the LRC Room 221. For information, contact Mike Lipscomb at 848-6741 or Eric Rodgers at 896-2039.

The MTSU Martial Arts Club meets weekly on Tuesday and Thursday from 8:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. at the Rec Center. For information, contact Billy Colepaugh at 898-2104.

Live in Franklin, Brentwood or Cool Springs? Save money on gas, time and energy by joining the student carpool. Send an e-mail with your schedule and contact information to franklinarpool@aol.com or call 591-0290.

Sign up for all divisions of intramural softball at the Rec Center until March 6. Practice begins March 21. For information, contact Chris Gravlee at 898-2104.

Sign up for men's and women's intramural wrestling tournament at the Rec Center. For information, contact Mark Owens at 898-2104.

Want to be one of the 15 students chosen by Campus Recreation to attend a Nashville Predators hockey game March 1 at 4:30 p.m.?

Contact Ray or Vanessa at 898-2104.

The KUC Cube Gallery presents "Installation" by Eric Philpott through March 9. The viewer will be invited to participate in an interactive installation made of raw materials, trash, found objects, urban artifacts, kitsch and sound.

Tuesday, March 6

The MTSU Crime Stoppers is hosting a panel discussion on rape and sexual assault in the BAS State Farm Room at 7 p.m. After the panelists introduce themselves, they will answer questions from the audience. For more information, contact Sgt. Tom Wright at 898-2424.

Lucky Guns: Rock band worth a look

Continued from 9

yourself, combined."

Hitron writes the lyrics and McAfee writes the main structures of the songs. Then, the other band members elaborate on this basis.

McAfee accredits guitarist Paul Bancel with the band's "dirty, bluesy sound" and "playing around with incredible variations."

As for basses, Jeff Hobbs, Hitron and McAfee explain that Bancel is "the back bone of the band. He really holds it all down."

McAfee says drummer

Casey Smith is "hard-hitting and has a good attitude."

The bands songs are basically "good one-riffers" and "sing along songs," says Hitron.

The lyrics offer the listener raw chanting material.

Lucky Guns' song "Split Ends" infectiousy creeps through the air and drives its audience to echo Hitron in repetition, screaming "Come on baby, show me how!" Hitron and the rest of the band trash around stage with a certain primitive and cathartic energy equally contagious to the atmosphere.

Puking and furniture

throwing are not uncommon reactions to the quality of a live Lucky Guns' show.

Hitron and McAfee consider the band's main mission to be a "destruction of barriers."

We are all about getting everyone to let go and be themselves."

Lucky Guns are playing with fellow local band Glossary at Wallstreet on Friday, March 2, at 10 p.m.

The following night, they can be seen performing in Nashville with The Hissy Fits at The End.

If the power of the train scares you, have no fear. The destination - "a good time." ♦

Plays: MTSU theater shows talent

Continued from 9

pry and do anything to get a rise out of his strong-headed daughter, who is much like her father.

The next play *The Zoo Story*, was very successful, contrary to the mishap that occurred Feb. 22. When a female, who is not a student, walked on stage and sat down on the bench of the Central Park set. The show had to be immediately stopped and campus security was called. The female was removed and banned from the MTSU campus.

Production Stage Manager Dusty Evans said he is not sure of the reason for the disruption.

"It's been a great run.

Overall the shows blend well, the order was set in a good way," he says.

The Zoo Story, directed by Keith Dixon, starred two males, a family man and a crazy younger man who wanted to talk, but instead, told random odd stories. One was about his landlady's dog. He never got to his point of his story about why he went to the zoo until the end of the show. He confused the family man and, obviously, was just lonely.

As the play continued, the younger man's physical comedy came alive. As his craziness became apparent, he began to sweat. His hysteria caused his eyes to become crazed and red.

"The play couldn't have been more perfectly cast. The

actors were really believable," said audience member and student Maria Luchesi.

The play turns very dramatic and surprises the audience when an unexpected stabbing occurs after the two men fight over possession of the bench. The family man let himself be provoked by the out-of-control young man, and he stabs him in the heat of passion.

This one-act delivered no dull moments. From the part where the wounded soldier belted out many times about his manly dysfunctions, to the part where the waitress puts the rich couple in their place after they questioned their overdue order, she surprisingly replied, "Eat me." ♦

BRAD PITT JULIA ROBERTS

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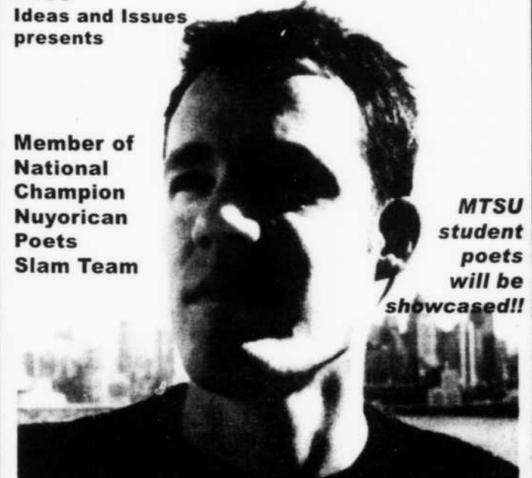
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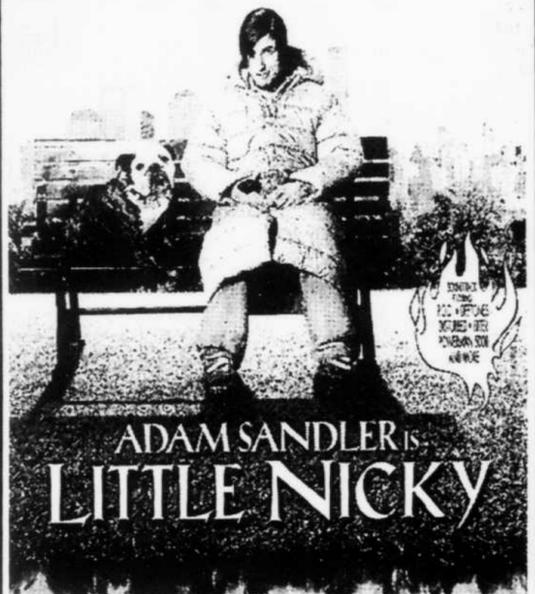


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The Two Minute Drill

R. Colin Fly
Sports Editor



Blue Raiders on TV

COLLEGE SPORTS Southeast announced today its agreement with NewsChannel 5+ (channel 50 on Intermedia Cable) in Nashville, Tenn., for the rights to air its live telecast of the University of New Orleans/Middle Tennessee men's basketball game scheduled for play Friday.

The contest will mark the third game of the 2001 Sun Belt Men's Basketball Tournament and will begin at 9 p.m. COLLEGE SPORTS Southeast will be televising the tournament in its entirety excluding the championship, which will be carried on ESPN on Tuesday at 8 p.m.

NewsChannel 5+ reaches approximately 350,000 cable homes in the Nashville television market.

Around the Sun Belt

(U-WIRE) New Mexico State's men's basketball team will not be participating in the Sun Belt Tournament this weekend after self-sanctioning their program due to possible academic and recruiting violations.

The Aggies mailed their response to the National Collegiate Athletic Association concerning the possible violations.

Last February, the university issued a self-report to college basketball's governing body regarding possible violations which occurred under former head coach Neil McCarthy and his staff.

Friday's response to the NCAA is expected to be NMSU's final step in the investigation until they meet with the NCAA's infractions committee in Indianapolis later this year.

December's letter of official inquiry from the NCAA asked NMSU to provide further information on four violations the university's investigation found, as well as asking NMSU to respond to three additional charges from the NCAA's enforcement staff.

Among the violations investigated in NMSU's self-report from February 2000 which the NCAA requested further information on, were allegations of academic fraud by former coaches and two former players.

According to NMSU's self-report, former assistant coach Fletcher Cockrell, who has a pending lawsuit against the university, was given a job at NMSU by ensuring to McCarthy that two of his junior college players, Antoine Hubbard and Louis Richardson, from Jones County Junior College in Ellisville, Miss., would play for the Aggies.

It is alleged that, in order for Hubbard and Richardson to become academically eligible to play for NMSU, Cockrell arranged for the "fraudulent completion" of two correspondence courses for them.

The NCAA's infractions committee will now review NMSU's findings and decide whether the self-imposed sanctions placed on the team by Gogue in December are sufficient punishment for the program. ◆

Lady Raiders poised for tourney



Photo by Jonathan Trundle | Staff
Paula Pentilla (10) swings the ball around the horn.

By Colleen Cox
Staff Writer

The Lady Raider basketball team heads into the Sun Belt Conference Tournament trying to tie up a spot in the postseason.

This is the time to for the Lady Raiders to make a statement.

"I expect us to be in some form of postseason play," Lady Raider head coach Stephany Smith said after the New Mexico State game last Thursday. "We are playing really

well and have one of the toughest schedules in the country."

Middle Tennessee is perhaps the hottest team going into the tournament. They have won eight of their last 10 games. Both losses came at the hands of Louisiana Tech.

The Lady Raiders last faced off with Louisiana Tech Feb. 15 in Ruston, La. They suffered an 83-64 loss. Since then, Middle has pounded Louisiana at Lafayette and taken two close battles with New Mexico State and Western Kentucky.

"I think we are playing

extremely well right now and this team does not think they are going to lose," Smith said after wrapping up the regular season. "It would be extremely unfortunate for us not to have an opportunity for postseason play."

Middle Tennessee started the season 7-3. They beat several area teams during this stretch including former OVC foe Austin Peay and Tennessee Tech. Tech recently clinched the top spot in the OVC going into their tournament.

From there the Lady Raiders

would lose seven of their next nine games. This included a 2-6 start in the Sun Belt. Middle Tennessee suffered losses to Arkansas State, North Texas, Florida International, South Alabama, and Louisiana Tech during this stretch. The only team to lose to the Lady Raiders in this time was Arkansas at Little Rock.

Middle rebounded from this stretch with the current eight out of 10 stretch.

Perhaps it was a last second

See Lady Raiders, 13

Softball sweeps Tuesday's games

By Colleen Cox
Staff Writer

On a chilly, cloudy day, on a wet field, the Lady Raiders pitched their way to two victories over former Ohio Valley Conference foe University of Tennessee at Martin.

Middle got stellar pitching performances from Jennifer Martinez and Stacy Prewitt. Martinez pitched the first game. She surrendered only one hit, struck out 10 batters and allowed one walk, going the distance for the Lady Raiders.

Prewitt went the distance in the second game. She gave up two shots over the left fielder's head, sitting down six batters, and allowing no free passes.

"Pitching has helped us out tremendously with our lack of offense the last couple of games," Lady Raider head coach Karen Green said. "Our defense has been superb and our pitching has been superb."

The first game was a scoreless tie until the bottom of the sixth inning. With one out, Lisa Sherman singled to center for the Lady Raiders. Laura Brockman then came in as a pinch hitter. She grounded to second base on what was almost a double play ball. Brockman used her speed to beat the throw at first. Then Brockman stole second, putting herself in

scoring position. Lindsay Azevedo came through with a clutch single to score Brockman.

This was the only run Middle Tennessee would get and need.

Azevedo went 2-for-3 in the first game. Four other players had one hit each. Martinez picked up the shutout win to run her record to 2-3.

In the second game, the Lady Raiders exploded for five runs in the bottom of the third. Steffi Silva got things started with a line drive single to left center. Kip Phillips followed and was hit by a pitch. Sherman then laid down a perfect bunt.

With the bases now loaded, Wendy Pollock hit a bullet to right to score two runs. Pollock's hit forced a pitching change for UT at Martin.

Things didn't get any better for UT-Martin. Azevedo singled past the third baseman to drive in another run. After a Courtney Wallace walk, Kristina Hieb smashed a change-up into left field for two more runs.

Martin got out of the inning but could muster no offense of their own.

"I think it helps our confidence a little bit," Green said about the breakout inning. "That's the biggest thing they (hitters) need right now is confidence. In offense you've got to



Photo by Matthew H. Starling | Chief Photographer
Lindsay Azevedo (8) races around second base Tuesday.

make adjustments and right now early we're not making some adjustments. We will and we'll get better in our offense."

Sherman was 2-for-3 in the second contest. Pollock and Hieb had two RBIs each.

Prewitt moved to 4-0 with the shutout win.

The Lady Raiders host the Middle Tennessee Invitational this weekend. Play begins Friday at noon as the Lady Raiders first action will be at 2 p.m. ◆

Women's tennis face tough year

By Colleen Cox
Staff Writer

The Lady Raider women's tennis team comes home seeking the winning touch.

Middle Tennessee's fall began with the hiring of coach Randy Holden on Sept. 6, 2000. Holden came in trying to replace the top two players from last year's team.

Middle participated in two fall tournaments — the Middle Tennessee Invitational and the June Stewart Invitational at Vanderbilt University. Holden experimented with his team during this time. He was trying to find out what his ladies were capable of and sought consistency.

"We're learning a lot in singles," Holden said after the Middle Tennessee Invitational. "We're learning how to play tight matches and do the right things."

The Lady Raiders also played the fall schedule without No. 1 player freshman Manon Kruse. Kruse was injured during the

fall, but has made a big impact during the spring. She is currently ranked within the top 40.

Holden said, "She leads by example."

The spring brought a tough schedule for the Lady Raiders. A schedule that is filled with ranked opponents from the SEC, Big Ten, and ACC.

"I moved them up into flights they normally wouldn't compete in," Holden said. "We have to get to where we're used to playing at a high level."

The Lady Raiders started the spring season at home against UT-Martin. Middle came out on top in that match which brought about some optimism.

"I was very pleased especially with it being the first match out," Holden said after the match. "We have some fundamentals to work on, but overall I was pleased."

"I was very pleased with our doubles. That has been our strength and I hope that continues all year."

From there Middle has taken to the road playing 12 matches

away from Murfreesboro. The Lady Raiders have faced nine ranked opponents going 1-8 in those matches.

Middle Tennessee beat 26th ranked Clemson Feb. 10. That win was only the second of the season. The Lady Raiders continued on to beat Furman — the first non ranked opponent they played in seven matches.

"This is a huge win," Holden said after the Clemson match. "We have been close in a lot of individual matches, but we just haven't been able to break through."

Most recently the Lady Raiders lost to 31st ranked Georgia Tech. Holden however is not discouraged.

"I don't want to keep playing this type of competition," he said after that match. "This team continues to fight hard, and I think it is going to make us better."

Junior Michaela Gridling has been a big factor in the tough matches. When the matches were on the line against Clemson and Furman, Gridling

stepped up with two key victories.

After the match against Tennessee, Middle is home for six of their next eight matches. Holden says this will be a big help for his team. He feels his team would have two more wins had they played in Murfreesboro. Holden also claims that his team is better outside than inside.

Another key player Holden says is "looking to make a move" is freshman Carien Venter.

Middle is currently ranked 56th. Holden says he would like to reach the top 45. The Lady Raiders will be helped by the weaker part of their schedule.

"We're getting closer and closer, and we're giving ourselves opportunities to win," Holden said.

The Lady Raiders look to make a run before the Sun Belt tournament April 20-22. ◆

The match begins at 2 p.m. on Sunday in Louisville. After that, the Lady Raiders will have home court advantage as Memphis comes to town March 7. That match will also begin at 2 p.m.

Coming off the first loss of the season, the Blue Raiders tennis team needs to refocus for the rough weekend on the road.

The Blue Raiders were 5-0 until they visited Oxford Feb. 11 where the Rebels crunched the winning streak. Middle has had some time to regroup, and now must head back to Mississippi to take on No. 17 ranked Mississippi State.

The Bulldogs are 6-2 overall and coming off a big win over LSU last weekend. Mississippi State also has history on their side as they have not lost a match to Middle in all 11 meetings.

Ranked 34th in the nation, Middle Tennessee has only lost one match this season by the slim margin of 4-3. Both teams have a strong season behind them. But as Jackson said history is history and either team could easily come out on top.

On Saturday, MTSU will travel south looking for a win over South Alabama. Sunday, the Blue Raiders head south to take on the Ragin' Cajuns of Lafayette, Louisiana. Middle has a rough weekend ahead and will not play at home until March 18. ◆



7 Day SportsCast

THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Women's Basketball Sun Belt Tournament Mobile, Ala., TBA Men's Tennis Blue Raiders at Mississippi St. Starkville, Miss., 2 p.m. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sun Belt Tournament Men's and Women's Basketball Mobile, Ala., TBA 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sun Belt Tournament Men's and Women's Basketball Mobile, Ala., TBA Baseball Blue Raiders vs. Memphis Murfreesboro, Tenn., 2 p.m. Men's Tennis Blue Raiders at South Alabama Mobile, Ala., 11 a.m. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sun Belt Tournament Men's and Women's Basketball Mobile, Ala., TBA Baseball Blue Raiders vs. Memphis Murfreesboro, Tenn., 2 p.m. Women's Tennis Lady Raiders at Louisville Louisville, Ky., 2 p.m. Men's Tennis Blue Raiders at UL-Lafayette Lafayette, La., noon 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sun Belt Tournament Men's and Women's Basketball Mobile, Ala., TBA Golf Matlock Classic Lakeland, Fla., All day 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sun Belt Tournament Men's and Women's Basketball Mobile, Ala., TBA Golf Matlock Classic Lakeland, Fla., All day Baseball Blue Raiders vs. Jacksonville St. Murfreesboro, Tenn., 3 p.m. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Baseball Blue Raiders vs. Trevecca Murfreesboro, Tenn., 3 p.m. Women's Tennis Lady Raiders vs. Memphis Murfreesboro, Tenn., 2 p.m.

Lady Raiders: MT opens with Lafayette

Continued from 12

Thomatis named to Sun Belt All-Conference Team



loss to Denver that turned the Lady Raiders around. That might sound odd, but bear in mind that Denver is the No. 1 team in the west. The fact that Denver only beat Middle on a last second shot gave the Lady Raiders the confidence they needed. Middle realized they could compete with the best teams in the Sun Belt.

Before the Denver game, Middle Tennessee suffered a 79-71 loss to South Alabama. After that game, coach Smith said that "when the game got tough, we really didn't grit our teeth and hang in there."

The game after the Denver contest, the Lady Raiders won 77-61 against Arkansas at Little Rock.

"I thought we really played hard for about 35 minutes and were focused on what we needed to do tonight," Smith said after that game. "I didn't think we played as well as we did at Denver but it was a win that this team needed and it's one they went out and earned."

Since this game, the Lady Raiders have avenged their losses to Florida International and

Arkansas State. Middle has also knocked off Western Kentucky twice, New Orleans, and New Mexico State.

Middle Tennessee also drilled Louisiana at Lafayette — their first round opponent in the tournament.

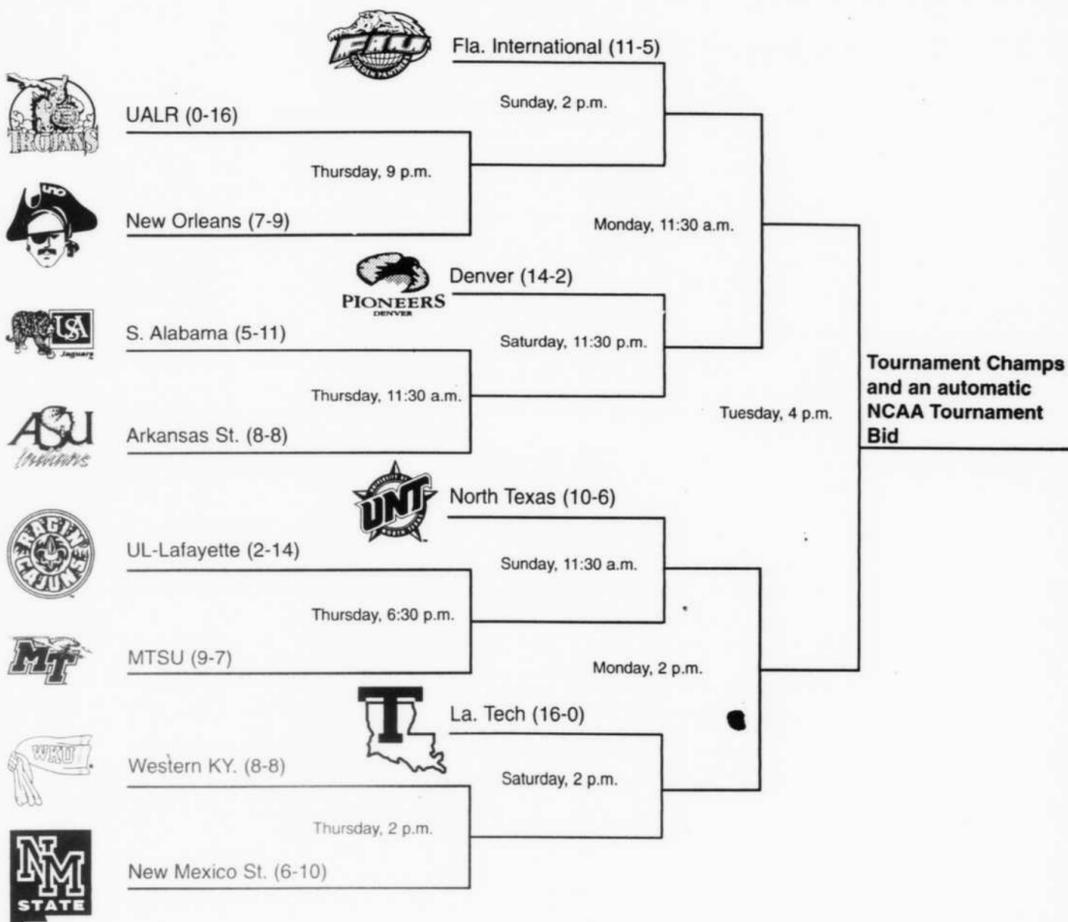
Lafayette has played better as of late. The Ragin' Cajuns had close contest with New Orleans and North Texas. Still they are the last seed in the East.

"Consistency has been our Achilles' heel for us," said Lafayette head coach Gay Nix.

The Ragin' Cajuns are being outscored by eight points a game and out rebounded by seven boards a game. They shoot a miserable 37.6 percent from the field. Lafayette only has two players scoring in double figures. Charlette Green and Billie Popovska each average 10 points a game.

"Traveling to Middle Tennessee, we just didn't have the legs in the latter portion of the game," Nix said about the last meeting. "They are a good ball club that is undersized. They use their quickness to get to the basket, and we had a hard

Women's Sun Belt Conference Tournament Bracket



time stopping what they were trying to do."

Should the Lady Raiders get past Lafayette, their next opponent would be North Texas. The Lady Eagles have won their last four games and eight of their last 10.

North Texas has only one double-digit scorer. Jolie Mitchell averages 15.3 points

per game in conference. The Lady Eagles are outscoring opponents by five points a game. They are also grabbing seven more rebounds per game than opponents.

Last time Middle and North Texas met, the Lady Eagles took an 85-70 victory. NT shot 58.3 percent while MT shot just 39.6 percent. North Texas also outre-

bounded the Lady Raiders 40-26. Mitchell had 15 points in that game. Three other players also scored in double figures for the Lady Eagles. Thomatis paced Middle Tennessee with 31 points. Kelly Chastain added 12 points.

The Lady Raiders have been very successful in February. In fact, they are 27-6 in that month

in the four years coach Smith has been here. Only time will tell how well Middle will do in March.

Senior Kelly Chastain might have summed it up best. "We beat Lafayette by 25, but that doesn't mean anything in this league," she said.

The Sun Belt tournament starts today. ♦

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will be held

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Blue Raiders likely one and done

MT opens with UNO

By Nick Hefley
Staff Writer

Middle Tennessee's first Sun Belt Conference year will not be remembered as the one that the Blue Raiders had a chance to get in the National Collegiate Athletic Association Tournament with a strong performance. It will simply be remembered as the year in which they lost 15 games in a row down the stretch and a year hampered by key injuries.

The Blue Raiders, 5-21 (1-15), play their first game of the tournament Friday night against New Orleans. Things definitely don't look very bright against the Privateers, who earned the Western division's No. 3 seed with a 16-11 (10-6) record.

MT's only chance will be a strong defense and lights out shooting by senior Freddie Martinez (9.0 points per game), junior Iiro Tenngren (9.7 ppg), and freshman Tommy Gunn (8.8 ppg). New Orleans will be a tough team to match up against with leaders Tory Walker (16.5 ppg), Clyde Ellis (11.0 ppg and 6.4 rpg), and Ben Adams (10.3 ppg). The Privateers' offense is a little too much for MT's defense to handle.

In looking at this year's bracket, there are some interesting match-ups. If New Mexico State can get by Florida International in the first round, it will pit them against another team on a hot streak, Western Kentucky. New Mexico State

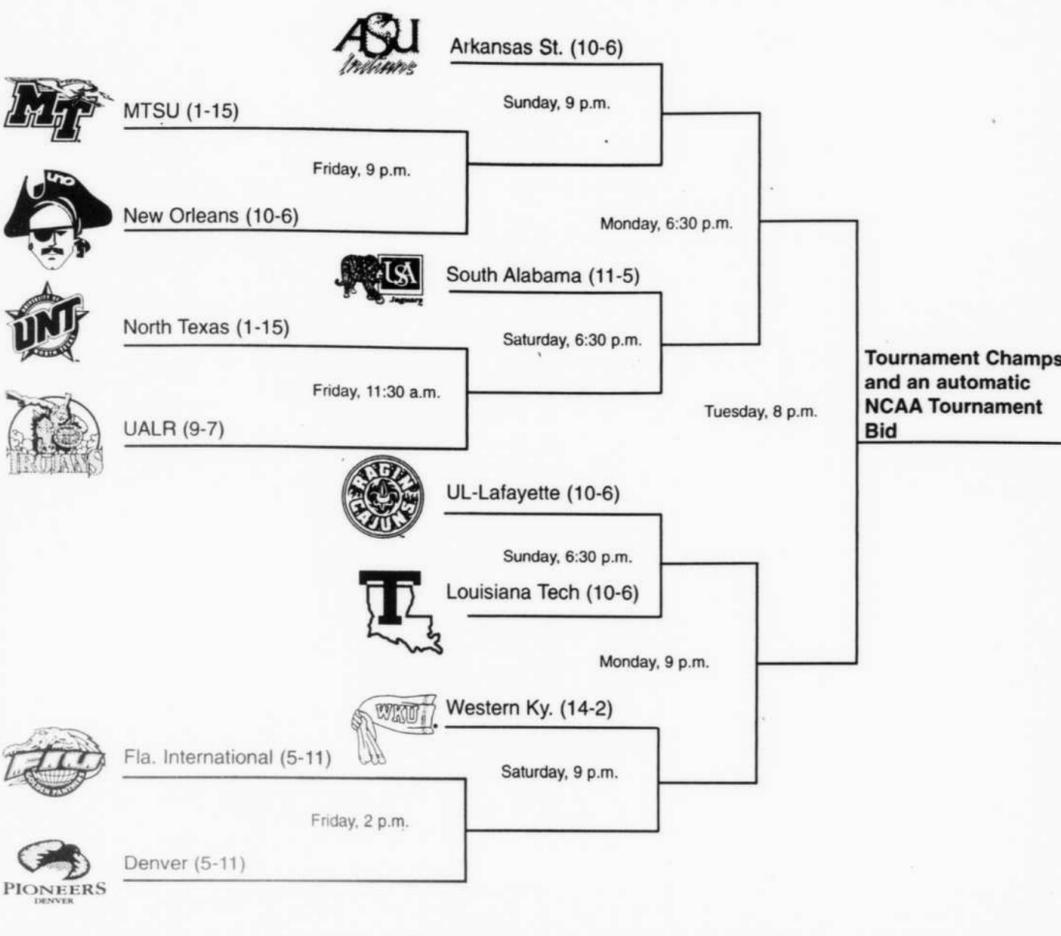
has won nine of their last 10 games, with a loss to WKU earlier in the season, while the Hilltoppers have won 15 out of their last 17 games.

The Hilltoppers are in a very difficult spot. The Sun Belt Conference is ranked very low in their conference RPI ranking, which means that no at-large teams will make it from the Sun Belt. A loss in the tournament likely will mean that even though Western Kentucky dominated Sun Belt opponents during the regular season, they will have to win the tournament or be forced to play in the National Invitational Tournament instead of the Big Dance.

Nick's Picks

From the way I see it, the Sun Belt Final Four will be South Alabama 20-9 (11-5) vs. Louisiana Tech 17-11 (10-6) on one side and Western Ky. 21-6 (14-2) vs. Louisiana-Lafayette 15-12 (10-6) on the other. South Alabama and Western Kentucky, who I think will barely pull out a win in the second round versus New Mexico State, will play in the Sun Belt Tournament Championship. However, contrary to popular belief, I believe that South Alabama, behind their home crowd, will stun the Hilltoppers and take home the Sun Belt Championship and head to the NCAA Tournament, where they will probably get a 13-15 seed in the tourney and get bounced in the first round. ♦

Men's Sun Belt Conference Tournament Bracket



MT aerobic instructors travel to Georgia to gain 'steps'

By Noelle Ball
Staff Writer

MTSU sent five aerobic instructors to the University of Georgia to learn the newest kickboxing, step, dance, and yoga trends in the country at the second annual Southeast Fitness Expo.

"I've never been to [any

other fitness expo]. It was really fun, and I learned some great stuff," said junior instructor Michelle Carter.

MTSU's Recreation Center offers a variety of classes including step, dance, kickboxing, and yoga.

The expo in Athens, Ga. was a conglomeration of aerobics classes and seminars to give the

latest trends around the country.

On top of actual aerobic moves, the group also took classes that dealt with motivation and development of a gym.

"I learned some stuff about motivating classes and also how to get started if I ever want to open my own gym," said senior Ashley Holmes.

"They really showed us some different techniques that will be beneficial in all class settings."

The expo began last Friday evening with a class teaching the latest craze: dance aerobics. Then on Saturday, the group signed up for six different classes including step, dance, kickboxing, martial arts, yoga, and ways to motivate.

"I've been teaching for six years, so I've been to several seminars. But this one was one of the best I have participated in," said recreation graduate assistant Keri Loyed.

If you haven't tried the aerobics classes at the Rec Center, now may be the time to give one a shot.

All the instructors are plan-

ning to use the new material they learned and are ready to get back to teaching.

"I can't wait for my next class," said graduate student Kelli Martin. "I learned some great new choreography that I really think will liven my classes up." ♦

Sidelines

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Football: McCollum makes new additions

Continued from 16

Woody Otis caught it behind the original line of scrimmage and ran nearly to the Adams State goal line.

BEST HUSTLE: Bethel College defensive back Doug DeGroot's never-say-die tackle and strip that prevented a Bethany College score near the end of the game. Bethany's Levi Esses had made an acrobatic catch and was headed for the end zone when DeGroot came from the other side of the field and caught Esses at the 5-yard line, punching the ball out of his hands and through the end zone for a touchback.

SPECIAL MENTION: The judges couldn't pass up the opportunity to recognize the "Miracle in the Mud" play that gave Central College of Iowa a Division III playoff victory over Linfield College of Oregon. In overtime, trailing by three points and in a muddy quagmire, Central kicker Tim O'Neil slipped in the mud as he tried to kick the tying field goal. The ball dribbled toward the line of scrimmage, and everyone thought the game was over. However, Central's Reid Evans picked up the ball and handed it to teammate Joe Ritzert, who

dodged the numerous Linfield fans on the field celebrating their apparent victory, and scored from 21 yards out. This gave Central a 3-point victory and a trip to the quarterfinals of the Division III championships.

Davis named defensive coordinator

Steve Davis, recently hired to coach the secondary for the Blue Raider football team, was named defensive coordinator Wednesday by head coach Andy McCollum. McCollum also announced two new additions to his staff - former Central Florida standout Darin Hinshaw will coach the running backs and Kevin Fouquier will be in charge of the linebackers.

Changing roles on McCollum's staff is offensive coordinator Larry Fedora. After spending two years coaching the running backs, Fedora will now take over the wide receivers.

"I am truly excited about the knowledge and enthusiasm these three additions bring to our staff," McCollum said. "All three have great reputations as top-notch recruiters throughout the country, which is very big to us at Middle Tennessee. They have a genuine care about

our kids both on and off the playing field. I could not be happier than to have these guys a member of our family."

Hinshaw spent the 2000 campaign as the quarterbacks coach for the Golden Knights making him the first person other than UCF head coach Mike Kruczek to coach the quarterbacks since 1985. Hinshaw, a four-year starter at quarterback for UCF, was a graduate assistant in 1999 coaching the tight ends and assisting with the quarterbacks.

Hinshaw as a player set numerous school passing records in his career at UCF. He also had a short stint playing with the Cleveland Browns, as well as the Arena League Orlando Predators.

Fouquier spent last season as defensive coordinator for Central Arkansas. The former Louisiana-Lafayette player has also had coaching stints at Louisiana Tech, Sam Houston State, Texas A&M, Tuerlings High School, Texas El-Paso and Louisiana-Lafayette.

Fouquier and McCollum have a history together. While Fouquier served as a graduate assistant at Texas El-Paso, McCollum was the linebackers and special teams coach. ♦

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Calico wins honor for reception

The Football Insider



J.P. Plant Assistant Sports Editor

Calico awarded the best pass reception in college football

Standout wide receiver Tyrone Calico was awarded with "College Football's Best Pass Reception of the Year" by a panel of sportswriters and sports broadcasters Tuesday. The award was given for his one-handed acrobatic grab for a touchdown against Mississippi State Oct. 28 of last season.

"College Football Plays of the Year" is the program that categorizes and judges plays that are nominated by colleges and universities from all levels of college football—NCAA Divisions I, I-AA, II, and III, the NAIA, junior colleges and community colleges. The winning play is memorialized with an oil painting at the College Football Hall of Fame in South Bend, Indiana. An identical canvas duplicate is also given to the winning university. The program is co-sponsored by the College Sports Information Directors of America (CoSIDA), and is supported by the Football Writers Association of America (FWAA). This is the ninth year of the program.

PLAY OF THE YEAR: From the Penn State 39-yard line, quarterback Shaun Casey faced a second-and-10. Casey scrambled back and forth, finally going beyond midfield and found himself trapped near the sideline. Eluding several tacklers, he weaved across the field,



File Photo

Standout wide receiver Tyrone Calico won College Football's Best Pass Reception for his acrobatic one-handed grab against Miss. State last season.

picked up blockers, and finally crossed the end zone.

BEST PASS RECEPTION: Middle Tennessee receiver Tyrone Calico's sensational one-handed acrobatic catch and 42-yard touchdown run in the midst of three Mississippi State defenders, including All-American defensive back Fred Smoot.

BEST KICK RETURN: North Carolina returner Bosley Allen's fourth-quarter punt

return for a touchdown that broke open a tight game against Wake Forest.

BEST RUN: Texas A&M junior Fullback Ja'Mar Toomb's spectacular 27-yard TD run as he literally carried and dragged three big defenders through the Oklahoma line that gave the Aggies a 31-21 lead against No. 1 Oklahoma early in the fourth quarter. A Texas record 87,188 fans saw the game at College Station.

BEST DEFENSE: Walsh University's fourth quarter fumble recovery and lateral for a 70-yard touchdown against Geneva College that gave the Cavaliers a temporary 16-14 lead over the Golden Tornadoes. Kevin Vaughn and Mack Mitchell provided the heroics for Walsh.

BEST PASS INTERCEPTION: Oklahoma defensive back Brandon Everagie's dramatic one-handed sideline interception of a pass that

Kansas QB Dylan Smith was trying to throw away.

MOST UNUSUAL: North Carolina tailback Willie Parker's pause-and-run to the left after quarterback Ron Curry faked a run to the right after showing the ball between Parker's legs. The 8-yard touchdown was the winning points in a 20-17 win over Pittsburgh.

MOST INSPIRATIONAL: New Mexico Highland's punt that was caught by a teammate

behind the line of scrimmage and "forwarded" 68 yards to Adams State's 2-yard line. With fourth-and-sixteen at their own 36 with 4:24 to play and nursing a slim 6-0 lead, New Mexico Highland's punter over his head. Chased by several Grizzlies, he ran back and picked up the ball at his own 10, then punted downfield where teammate

See Football, 15

Blue Raiders seek to tame the tigers

By R. Colin Fly Sports Editor

The University of Memphis (6-1) comes to town this weekend to play a pair of games with the Blue Raiders at Reese Smith Field.

Memphis, ranked 33rd in the nation by CollegeSportsNews.com, features a strong hitting attack paced by juniors Daniel Ugla, Paul Reuer, Jay Fik, and freshmen Joshua Payne and Michael Lewis. All five Tigers are batting above .300 and the team is batting .283 on the season.

The Tigers, with new skipper

Dave Anderson, also boast a staff earned run average of 2.05 while holding opponents to a .173 batting average.

Seniors Jason Wiedmeyer and Jared Wilson and junior Ryan O'Malley - all of which have ERAs below 2.50 - lead Memphis' pitching staff.

The Tigers pitching strength could be a problem for the Blue Raiders bats. MT (5-1) is batting a combined .239 and senior second baseman Josh Renick, who is batting a team high .467, did not travel with the team to Birmingham due to soreness in his shoulder.

Renick's status is day-to-day,



but is expected to play this weekend.

Also a concern to MT is the status of Jason Howarth. The junior shortstop, batting .350 this season, was injured last

2 p.m.
Reese Smith Field
Saturday & Sunday

Sunday against Southeastern Louisiana and will not play a pulled hamstring. He also did not travel with the team.

Howarth will be re-evaluated

this weekend.

The rest of the Blue Raiders traveled to Alabama to play a pair of games Tuesday and Wednesday, but both were cancelled due to inclement weather.

The games between Samford, Tuesday's opponent, and the University of Alabama at Birmingham, Wednesday's opponent, will likely not be made up, according to Ryan Simmons, media relations assistant director. That means Middle Tennessee's first road game will be Tennessee at Jacksonville State March 8.

As for this weekend, the Blue Raiders will likely send presea-

son All-American Dewon Brazelton to the hill in the first game of the season, according to Simmons. Brazelton, a junior, boasts a 2-0 record and no ERA in two starts. He is also averaging nine strikeouts per nine innings pitched.

On Sunday, the Blue Raiders will call on senior Kris Lammers to take the hill. Lammers is also 2-0 with no ERA. The Manchester, Tenn. native has given up just four hits in 13 innings pitched and 12 strikeouts per nine innings.

Both Saturday and Sunday's games will start at 2 p.m. ♦

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The Battle Continues



Sanchez captivates audience

By Angela White
and Angelica Journagin
Online Editor and Contributor

Monday was a night of laughter and tears as writer/activist Sonia Sanchez read her poetry in the Tennessee Room of the James Union Building.

Sanchez, an established African-American poet who has earned honors such as the Robert Frost Medal from the Poetry Society of America and the American Book Award, offered a smooth transition from Black History Month to Women's History Month.

Sanchez began by reading poetry that focused on "a new time for all Americans" when equality would overcome materialism and "a new day, a new deal" would arise. She also read the poem, "I Have Come Into the City," that she wrote for the band Sweet Honey in the Rock's *Sacred Ground* album. In the poem, she spoke of the "battlefield of life" and said that "it is time, to move us all into another century/time for freedom and racial and sexual justice."

She then read the poem "Catch the Fire" that she wrote for Bill Cosby to present to a group of middle school students. The poem encourages the younger generation to find purpose and keep the fight of past generations alive. She followed with a tribute to Tupac Shakur, who she called a genius "killed in the midst of journey" before he was able to grow. "I hope you think about

growth," she told the people in the audience, "and never stop, or you do yourselves a great disservice.

"You have to change, evolve and learn," she said.

Sanchez also read a variety of love poems, haikus and what she calls Blues Haikus, which are haikus that "get a little funky," she said.

She then read from one of her recent novels, *Does Your House Have Lions?*, which included a reconciliation between her father and brother, who died of AIDS, as told through her father's voice.

Sanchez told the audience that while writing the book, she heard the voices of many people come through her writing, including those of her brother and father.

But when her ancestors began speaking to her, she had to take a break from writing the book, saying at that point, "it had gotten out of hand."

She eventually finished the book, which was published in 1997. She said it was meant to show the importance of families reconciling their differences and uniting to form a common bond.

She also read several of her blues works, her 1986 Black History Month work debunking the notion that "Ol' Black Joe" is an authentic Black song ("We deported 'Ol' Black Joe' from the shores of Beijing..."), and finished with her work "Middle Passage."

At the end of her reading, Sanchez was presented with a MTSU T-shirt to add to her collec-



Photo by Matthew H. Starling | Chief Photographer

Sonia Sanchez reads from her collection of writing in the JUB Monday night. Sanchez's award-winning work and stories of her family, students and activist past moved the audience throughout the night.

tion.

She then participated in the reception/book-signing portion of the event.

Sanchez was born in Birmingham, Ala. in 1936. She received a B.A. from Hunter College in 1955 and then attended a graduate program at New York University, withdrawing after a year. After teaching at several universities, she ended up at Temple University in Philadelphia, where she taught English and women's studies for 24 years.

She has written more than 16 works of poetry, plays, children's books and essays, including *home-*

girls & handgrenades, which won the 1985 American Book Award. Her first two works, *Home Coming* (1969) and *We are a BaddDDD People* (1970) reflect a militant tone that she said was part of her growing process.

She explained why she did not begin writing prolifically until the '60s. "We didn't have any loyalties to each other...[we] didn't take politics seriously until we saw death looking us in the eye."

Martin Luther King Jr. and Malcolm X were among her original inspirations.

See Sanchez, 4

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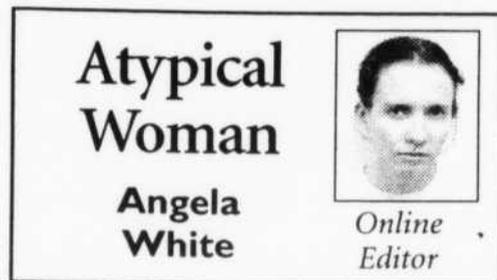
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Month gives chance to reflect on past, future

Women's History Month began in 1987, and for ten years prior it had been celebrated as Women's History Week. The concept was created to acknowledge women's contributions to the advancements of society, as well as to focus on the achievements of women toward equality.

In the late 1970s, approximately 17 percent of history books in this country dealt with these topics. Women were not included in the books partly because they were not given the same opportunities as men to change history, and partly because many times those who did make a difference were deliberately left out of historical records primarily written by men. The winners write the history books, as they say, and men have always historically been the winners, so to speak.

Nonetheless, women have made great strides toward equality in many parts of the world. We have achieved the right to vote, the right to work, the right to own assets, the right to be considered independent of our husbands, the right not to have husbands and the right to control our bodies. But these rights are not as concrete as we would often like to believe. And while women here in the United States enjoy these rights liberally, women in some parts of the world would simply enjoy gaining the right to leave their



homes whenever they wished.

An excellent example of just how far women still have to go can be best visualized by the United States' failure to ratify the Convention to End All Forms of Discrimination Against Women. The U.S. helped to draft the CEDAW two decades ago, and to this date it is the only industrialized country to not have ratified it. Sixty five countries have ratified it so far. This "international bill of rights for women" is the first treaty to set comprehensive guidelines concerning women's rights in the political, cultural, economic, social and family spheres. However, it is by no means enforceable on its own, but is instead a guideline that countries promise to follow when setting and modifying its laws.

The CEDAW is currently trapped in the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, headed by the ultra-conservative Jesse Helms of

North Carolina. John Ashcroft, Bush's new attorney general, was also on the committee when he was in the Senate. He once said he disapproved of the treaty because it "would require an end to all discrimination by every individual person and entity in the United States." I suppose we simply couldn't stand for that. When two female members of the House came to a meeting one day to discuss the CEDAW, Helms commanded them to "act like ladies" and then had them thrown out by capital police. How gentlemanly of him.

Today's CEDAW's situation parallels with the ERA situation of our parents' generation. While we may like to believe that women have more rights in the 21st century, clearly that belief is exaggerated.

Women still make only 72 cents to the man's dollar. While that number does increase with the level of education that men and women possess, there's absolutely no reason why women with "blue-collar" jobs deserve to be paid a lower percentage simply because they didn't choose (or had no opportunity) to advance their education. Worldwide, women do two-thirds of the work for 5 percent of the income, and two-thirds of that work - housework, child rearing, etc. - is unwaged. Women worldwide and even in this country are still often denied

rights to maternity leave and penalized in their careers for choosing to have children. Sexual harassment is still considered by many to be an "overblown problem" that women should just deal with. And while the glass ceiling may be cracked, it is far from broken in many fields, including corporate business and the military.

Our reproductive rights have never been more in jeopardy now that Bush is in control of the composition of the U.S. Supreme Court. Roe v. Wade is dangerously close to being overturned, and it may take as little as one conservative justice added to the court to make it happen. States are constantly adding their own restrictions to abortion, including spousal/parental consents, mandatory waiting periods and fetal protection laws. Abortion providers and clinic workers live in constant fear of being attacked and bombed by the ironically-self-proclaimed "pro-lifers." And women must deal with the fact that while many insurance companies do not cover the cost of the expensive birth control pill, most of them do cover Bob Dole's favorite blue pill, Viagra.

Women are still singled out for attacks based solely on their gender. Sexual assault and rape have been cited as the violent crimes

See **Reflect**, 4

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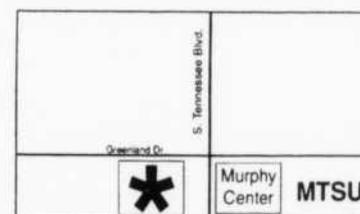
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Reflect: Some countries deny women basic rights

Continued from 3

women fear the most. Domestic violence often leaves women feeling like prisoners in their own homes, their only protection from police often in the form of restraining orders that abusive husbands tend to ignore.

Women in many countries have no rights when it comes to sexual assault, rape or domestic abuse. Women are still considered property in many societies and are treated and sold as such. In some mideastern countries, women are considered at fault for being raped and are punished for adultery.

Women in Afghanistan have been reduced to living under house arrest since the Taliban took control of the country. They are not allowed to work, to leave the house unattended or to receive adequate healthcare. Women in some African and mideastern countries are still genially mutilated against their will to ensure their virginity until marriage. Women in some mideastern countries are killed by their own family members in the name of honor with little or no punishment from their governments.

Feminism is considered by many to be a dirty word that con-

dures up images of man-hating, ill-mannered lesbians. And for some of us, that may be true. But most feminists simply want to alleviate the problems mentioned in this column, as well as a great deal many are not.

Women's History Month gives us an opportunity to look back on what we have achieved so far and to look to what's ahead.

The next generation of feminism will have a pivotal role in advancing the women of the world to a position they have never held in any political or social system on the planet thus far - complete equality. ♦

Sanchez: Lean into each other

Continued from 2

She said she was one of the few people who appreciated Malcolm X before his death. "Most people did not learn to love Malcolm until after he died," she said. "I fortunately learned to love him while he was alive." However, she said she finds herself sometimes having to find inspiration from newer activists, proclaiming "the dead do not lead."

The span of her activism has grown over the decades, and she is often criticized for the inclusion of equality for homosexuals in her works. She told the audience that as a response to this criticism, she uses her relationship with some of her students, who often came to her office with problems their families would never dream they could have.

She said some of them had even

reached the brink of suicide. She told those people, "I refuse to let you die," letting them know that someone cared for them as they are, not as what they are expected to be.

"As a professor, I can tell you who your children are," she told the parents in the audience.

Sanchez also spoke of a trip she once took to Cuba. She had asked to meet the poet Nicolas Guillen. Guillen was quite ill at the time, his legs ravaged by disease, but his arms were very strong to compensate. When he hugged the tiny Sanchez, she was unable to breathe.

"I thought to myself that I hadn't come this far to die in Cuba...but then I realized that if I just leaned into his breath, I could breathe," she said.

"I hope you all learn how to lean into each other's breath and be okay." ♦

Coverage of Women by Other Universities

Michigan Senate passes bill to toughen assault, fetus laws
U. Texas-Arlington student's response to assault helped her escape
Studies say society's beauty standards destroy women's self-esteem
Editorial: Morning-after pills should be legalized
Clery Act ensures access to U. Tennessee-Chattanooga crime statistics

Find these and more in the Women's History Month section of
Sidelines Online, www.mtsusidelines.com.

All stories obtained from UJWire



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Feminist conference offers activities for diverse audience

By Lindsey Turner
Staff writer

In honor of Women's History Month, MTSU's Department of Women's Studies will be hosting its biennial Women and Power Conference March 8-10.

The conference aims to "enlighten people about women's status," said Elyce Helford, a coordinator of the nationally-advertised event.

"Generally speaking, it's to highlight women's empowerment to the degree [that] women are [now] empowered, where we need to go and how we need to get there. It's a feminist conference in that it's focused on women's equality."

This year's theme, "Engendering Risk," is designed to focus on both women in the world who take risks to succeed and the many who are simply at risk in their environments.

"What we mean is to focus even a little bit more narrowly on

women taking risks, women at risk, risqué women and all those kinds of things," explained Helford, who also teaches English at MTSU.

"It's to talk about women and gender more generally as an issue of risk."

Because the conference is interdisciplinary, it offers pertinent information to a wide variety of people, not just feminists, Helford said.

"You get everything from the arts and humanities to the social sciences and the hard sciences and business and military," she explained. "You get things on a number of topics."

Throughout the three-day event - free for MTSU students, faculty and staff - there will be film presentations, featured speakers, a rock concert, book/craft exhibits and workshops as well as numerous luncheons and receptions. All events are scheduled to take place in the James Union Building.

Many well-known writers, film-

makers and activists will be attending the event, where they will speak, present films and conduct workshops.

Thursday's activities will include several panel sessions and a book and craft exhibit. Victoria Jackson will lead a workshop entitled "Painting Our Pleasure." Barbara Trent, an activist and Oscar-winning director, will present her award-winning film, *The Panama Deception*.

On Friday there will be more panel sessions, a luncheon and another showing of a feminist film. Mab Segrest, an author and activist, will be the featured speaker of the evening.

The Women for Women Rock Concert will follow Friday's activities. Donations will be accepted at the door for Murfreesboro's Domestic Violence Program.

More panel sessions, the last film showcase and another book

See Conference, 8

Women's History Web Sites

National Women's History Project www.nwhp.org
National Women's History Museum www.nmwh.org
National Women's Hall of Fame www.greatwomen.org
Women's History - About.com womenshistory.about.com
American Women's History: A Research Guide -
Kenn Middleton, MTSU Reference Librarian
www.mtsu.edu/~kmiddlet/history/women.html

Find these links as well as links to feminist organizations and Web sites concerning reproductive rights, sexual assault and harassment and politics in the Women's History section of *Sidelines Online* at www.mtsusidelines.com.

Web Sites of Women's Rights Advocate Organizations

National Organization for Women www.now.org
Feminist Majority Foundation www.feminist.org
Feminist.com www.feminist.com
ACLU and Women's Rights www.aclu.org/issues/women/hmwo.html
Amnesty International www.amnesty.org

Find these links as well as links to women's history sites and Web sites concerning reproductive rights, sexual assault and harassment and politics in the Women's History section of *Sidelines Online* at www.mtsusidelines.com.

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Friday, March 2

7 a.m. - 8:30 a.m.
JUB, Dining Room C
AFAW International
Women's Day Breakfast -
\$8.50 per person

Tuesday, March 6

1 p.m.
KUC, Room 314
The Status of Women in
Islam

3 p.m.
KUC, Room 305
Scribbling Mob general
interest meeting
Contact:
scribmob@mtsu.edu

Wednesday, March 7

3 p.m. - 5 p.m.
BAS, Room S328
Talk on the Politics of "Sex-
Positive" Feminism - Carol
Queen

Thursday, March 8

11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
In front of Senator Thompson's
office, corner of West End Ave.
and Murphy Rd., Nashville
Protest of plight of females
in Afghanistan
Contact: 269-7141,
now@nashville.com

4:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.
In front of Senator Frist's office,
intersection of West End
Avenue and White Bridge Road
Continuation of protest
during rush hour

7 p.m.
Voorhies Industrial Studies,
Room 115
Women in Construction and
Adapting to the Changing
Construction Workforce

7:15 p.m.
JUB, Tennessee Room
Film: *The Panama Deception*

Friday, March 9

Deadline for *Scribbling Mob*
submissions, Spring issue
Forms may be obtained in
Peck, Room 109B
Contact: scribmob@
mtsu.edu

10 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.
JUB, Tennessee Room
Films: *Crime of Honor* and
Ladies of the Lake

3 p.m.
JUB, Tennessee Room
Queer Socialism - Mab
Segrest

7 p.m.
Tucker Theatre
Women's Concert to Benefit
the Domestic Violence
Program

Saturday, March 10

KUC, Art Cube
Exhibit Opening: Paintings by
Currier Howard and Jennifer
Jennings, MTSU students

10 a.m. - 11 a.m.
JUB, Tennessee Room
Immigrant Women of Color
in Sweatshops: Miriam Ching
Louie

1 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.
JUB, Tennessee Room
Film: *No Man's Land: Women
Frontline Journalists*

Monday, March 12

7 p.m. - 9 p.m.
JUB, Tennessee Room
Testimony of a Comfort
Woman: The Experience of
Involuntary Sexual Slavery
during WWII (see story,
page 8)

Thursday, March 15

11 a.m.
Davis Science, Room 100
The Polymerization of the
Protein Actin - Sandra C.
Greer

7 p.m.
Davis Science, Room 100
Truth, Justice and the
Scientific Way: Ethical Issues
of a Working Scientist -
Sandra C. Greer

Monday, March 19

7 p.m.
LRC, Room 221
Ireland: Different Views -
Gypsy Ray

Tuesday, March 20

12:30 p.m. - 1:20 p.m.
Peck Hall, Room 222
Race and Gender in North
Carolina's Good Health
Campaign, 1945-46 - Lisa
Pruitt, MTSU history
professor

Wednesday, March 21

5 p.m. - 8 p.m.
William R. Snodgrass
Tennessee Tower, conference
room, adjacent to the
Legislative Plaza, Nashville
Annual reception honoring
Tennessee's women state
senators and representatives

Tuesday, April 3

3 p.m. - 4 p.m.
BDA, Room 303B
Russian Women - Irina
Rosenbaum, MTSU Russian
professor

Friday, April 6

12 p.m. - 2 p.m.
JUB, Hazelwood
Women's Voices: Lessons
from the Holocaust -
Elizabeth Limor

Copies of the *Women's
History Month calendar*
may be obtained from the
*June Anderson Women's
Center and the Office of
Multicultural Affairs in the
KUC.*



WEEKDAY FEATURES

MORNING BEAT (6-9AM)

ASSOCIATED PRESS NEWS

“FRESH AIR” WITH

TERRY GROSS (4-5PM)

OVERNIGHTS WITH BOB PARLOCHA

Former 'Comfort Woman' to speak

By Charlene Callier
Staff Writer

Hwang Geum Joo, a representative of the "Comfort Women" of World War II, will headline National Women's History Month March 12 in the Tennessee Room of the James Union Building at 7 p.m. She will testify about her time as a sexual slave in Japan during the war.

Hwang, a 73-year-old survivor from Korea, will speak on the years of agony she endured while being forced to have sexual relations with more than one hundred Japanese soldiers a day.

"It is an honor to have one of these surviving women [speak on campus]," said Jid Lee, chair of MTSU's National Women's History Month Committee.

"Comfort Women" ranged between the ages of 12-14. They were kidnapped, raped, lied to and forced to become sexual slaves by the Japanese soldiers.

"Some of these women were kidnapped from their front yards," Lee said.

From 1932-1945, more than



Photo Provided

Members from the Korean Council protest for an apology from Japan, as well as for compensation to survivors, family members and Korea as a country.

200,000 women were taken from China, the Philippines, Guam, Taiwan, Malaysia, Indonesia, Netherlands and the majority from Korea to partitioned army shacks called "Comfort Houses."

Military soldier morale and calming the masses of conquered lands have been cited as motivating factors for the establishment of these houses.

The women were infected with

sexually transmitted diseases and were given opium shots in an attempt to kill their pain. Many were made infertile by the repeated rapes.

When the war ended, the women were released, but going home to face their communities was difficult. The customs of their countries, particularly Korea, looked down on women in their situation. They were seen as "dirty"

and unmarriageable, and therefore worthless.

In 1991, survivors filed a lawsuit against the Japanese government, but the government refused to apologize for the crime.

It was the denial at the Diet session in June 1990 that led to the creation of the Korean Council for the Women Drafted for Military Sexual Slavery in November 1990.

The Korean Council sent a letter to Japanese Prime Minister Kaifu Toshiki that called for the Japanese government to admit that the kidnappings did happen, apologize for its actions, establish a memorial for the victims, compensate the survivors and their families and change the historical records to reflect that Comfort Women did exist.

"This is a chapter of history that has been buried for almost four decades," said Lee. "They are just now becoming an international issue."

For more information on National Women's History Month or "Comfort Women," contact Jid Lee of the Women's Studies Department at 898-2657. ♦

Conference:

Continued from 5

exhibit are scheduled for Saturday.

Miriam Ching Louie, an advocate for women in the global economy, will be the featured speaker for the afternoon. The second workshop, "Risk Living Life Fully," will be led by Mary Glantz.

Since the conference usually attracts more than 300 participants, people wishing to attend must register for the event.

A \$50 pre-registration fee for non-MTSU students will cover the cost of most of the activities. The cost of luncheons and workshops is not included in the registration fee.

All money made from the activities will go into producing the Women and Power Conference planned for 2003.

Information regarding the conference can be obtained by calling the Department of Women's Studies at 898-5910. An itinerary of the conference and a registration form can be found at www.mtsu.edu/~womenstu/wp.html. ♦



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