

SIDELINES

MIDDLE TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY

Editorially Independent ~ Thursday, Nov. 8, 2007

Gov. Bredeesen speaks on education

By Spencer Mohead
Contributing Writer

Tennessee Gov. Phil Bredeesen spoke Wed. at 2:00 in the Business and Aerospace Building's State Farm auditorium regarding his plans for Tennessee's education system.

Bredeesen's speech acknowledged several of the problems in Tennessee's public and higher education administrations and his plans to address them.

He called for change to improve Tennessee's education system through a redefinition of teaching credentials.

This is shown through a new program called Teach Tennessee, which offers a fast track to a teaching position for mid-career professionals.

"So far, I've received positive feedback," Bredeesen said. "The crew of the U.S.S. Public Education - that dedicated, hard-working crew is, of course, our teachers - they're doing their best to sail our ship. Despite our crew's qualities - despite the courage, the presence of mind, the flexibility and dedication it takes to make it in their profession - their ship is faltering."

The positions will primarily be available to professionals able to teach Math and Science.

Individuals who can provide practical knowledge of their subjects would also be included in the program. This is the plan to raise Tennessee's below national average math and technical scores.

Teach Tennessee is in its third year of action and has already yielded 140 new

teachers.

Graduates of the program are intended to work with students on the high school and higher education level.

Bredeesen said that this program will not replace fully accredited teachers.

Teach Tennessee is meant to deepen what Bredeesen calls, "the pool of talent."

"This country is full of bright, capable people who have it in their hearts to teach. Let's get these people in the classroom, where they belong," Bredeesen said.

Bredeesen said that higher education had a rapidly climbing, unsustainable budget that needed to be balanced more efficiently.

He compared this problem with the earlier problems with the soaring budget of TennCare.

Bredeesen also compared the United States to China and their systems of budgets and education.

He said that because MTSU produces more of Tennessee's teachers than any other state school that we have the "opportunity to be the front runners" of this program.

Several students of the Discovery School at Reeves Rodgers attended the speech.

"Social responsibility is the most important value students can have. People get as far as they do by the shoulders of others. And after students get into the real world, get a job, get married, get a house with kids, they should feel the need to give back to their community as well," Bredeesen said. ♦



Gov. Bredeesen gives a lecture as part of the Paul W. Martin Senior Lecture Series that was open to students.

Photo by Justin Keonigh | Photography Editor
Students gather outside the KUC to watch people try their hand at the new video game, "Rock Band."

"Rock Band" comes to KUC

By Daniel Potter
Assistant News Editor

"Rock Band," the hotly anticipated video game from Harmonix, debuted Wednesday outside the Keathley University Center, in a trailer rigged as a stage, complete with sound system.

The game follows in the footsteps of the popular "Guitar Hero II," also by Harmonix.

In the game, four players perform together as a rock group - two guitarists, a drummer and a singer - covering rock staples of the likes of David Bowie, Kiss and Faith No More.

Each player has an avatar on the screen, over which directions scroll for playing the game's simulated instruments.

Students could preview a demo version of the game on consoles inside the trailer, as well as perform before their peers like an actual rock band on stage.

A group of over 30 people clustered around to watch students try the game out late Wednesday afternoon, while some 20 more crowded inside to get their hands on an instrument.

Many used the offstage consoles to practice their chops, "before you embarrass yourself in front of all the people watching you," joked Ben Korn, "Rock Band" tour coordinator.

The demonstration is part of a months-long tour to promote the new game, and continues Thursday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. outside the KUC in attempts to introduce the target audience to its' new features.

"We just came from Philadelphia," Korn said. The tour has appearances booked around Middle Tennessee through Saturday.

"I definitely have dreams of being a rock star now," Korn said. "We try and make this game as authentic as possible and let people feel like they're a rock star."

"The game's really cool," said Marshall Gillikin, freshman business major. "It's like a group mentality thing."

Gillikin and his friends were preparing to take the stage to cover Bowie's "Suffragette City." Their band's name: Buying Squad.

"I'm probably going to buy this soon," said Corey Harper, a freshman nursing major and college-radio intern.

"This is fun; I'm loving this," said Harper, who was cutting class to sing for Equinox. "This was my fifth time up on the stage."

Not everyone was as thrilled to have the promotion on campus, however.

"They've had this same song playing for the last half hour. I never want to hear 'Black Hole Sun' again," said Josh Durham, sophomore criminal-justice major, who was waiting nearby.

Still, many students in the area were wearing "Rock Band" shirts and caps - part of the tour's promotion for the game, along with footage on MTV's Web site of groups playing the game.

In addition to some 60 songs included with the game, whole albums will be available as downloadable expansions; additional bands will range from the Gettlese Dead to Metallica. The game is set to release on Nov. 20 for Sony's Playstation 3 and Microsoft's X-Box 360, and a bundle version will include the necessary instruments.

A Playstation 2 version will follow on Dec. 18. of this year. ♦

Flu deadliest virus; MRSA close behind

By Sheena Robinson
Contributing Writer

Although concern about methicillin-resistant staphylococcus, or MRSA, has risen in Rutherford County recently, the flu virus stills claims more victims annually.

In 2005, 36,000 people died from the flu virus, while MRSA claimed 19,000 lives, according to Department of Disease Control and Prevention spokeswoman Shelly Diaz.

With the flu season approaching, health care professionals urge individuals to take advantage of flu vaccinations immediately. The flu is an illness of the respiratory system, and there are multiple strains of the virus, Diaz said.

Vaccinations have to be altered every year based on which three strains are the most common.

Typically, Rutherford flu season lasts from December to March, but some isolated cases may begin showing up in November. But Diaz said that vaccinations for the flu drop off after Thanksgiving.

Extreme cases of the flu virus are caused when the person develops a bacterial infection and is accompanied by bronchitis and pneumonia, but these infections can be treated with antibiotics.

MRSA is resistant to many of the antibiotics that are commonly used for ordinary staph infections.

According to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention's Web site, staph is a bacteria that all healthy people carry on their skin or in the nose.

Normally, staph causes such skin infections like boils and pimples and can usually be treated with antibiotics.

Diaz stated that sometimes more serious staph infection can arise due to surgical wound infections, bloodstream infections, and pneumonia caused by invasive forms of MRSA, which are forms of MRSA that come from inside the body from places like the blood, brain, organs, etc.

Infections occur more frequently in individuals who have longer visits in hospitals and employees working in the health care field.

Ways to protect against the flu and staph infections include practicing good hygiene by washing hands thoroughly and avoiding the sharing of personal items such as bath towels and covers. People must also be sure to clean all surfaces and make sure that open wounds are well covered.

Some things to look for with a staph infection include a boil or pimple that is red and swollen, that is tender and sore, and has pus drainage.

Individuals who experience such symptoms need to seek immediate medical attention from a personal doctor or Student Health Services. ♦

Patient records Master record system may be created for healthcare

News Release

In an effort to create a national system of secure, interoperable electronic healthcare records, the U.S. House of Science and Technology Committee passed health information technology legislation two weeks ago.

"Widespread use of electronic healthcare records would save patients and providers tens of billions of dollars and reduce errors by giving providers access to up-to-date patient records," said Tennessee Representative Bart Gordon, the committee's chairman.

"Instead, most patients today find themselves constantly filling out forms, repeating medical histories and reciting lists of medications," Gordon said. "The repetition wastes time and effort, and it's risky because patients often do not or cannot keep accurate records, especially in emergency situations."

The bill authorizes the National Institute of Standards and Technology to increase efforts to integrate the broad use of information technology in the country's healthcare system.

The bill would authorize NIST to create guidelines for integrating information technology into the healthcare system and to build a master medical record for patients that would be accessible to them anytime they move, change doctors or visit a specialist.

"Our healthcare system needs a uniform, efficient way to maintain patients' medical records while protecting their privacy," Gordon said. "Effective use of [information technology] can reduce errors within the health care field and provide doctors with more accurate, accessible information."

In addition to the wasted time patients and medical practitioners spend duplicating paperwork, inaccurate medical records also put patients at risk of being improperly diagnosed or prescribed incorrect medications. According to the Institute of Medicine, about 98,000 patients die each year in hospitals due to improper diagnosis, incorrect prescriptions and other medical error.

See Health, 2



Photo courtesy of MorgueFile.com

Mr. Satisfaction gets satisfactory reviews

See Features, 5

Kvetch a Break: "Comic strip not hate speech"

See Opinions, 4

Tribute to Todd at basketball game

See Sports, 6

LOCAL FORECAST

Thursday



HI: 57°
LO: 35°

Friday



HI: 62°
LO: 40°

Saturday



HI: 59°
LO: 40°

Sunday



HI: 64°
LO: 49°

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Nontraditional students supported by Pinnacle Honor Society, MTSU

By Diana Casey

Contributing Writer

MTSU celebrates National Nontraditional Student Week with a potluck dinner hosted by the Pinnacle Honor Society, the organization for non-traditional students. Initiation and awards follow the dinner.

Nontraditional students, who are accustomed to juggling school with other facets of life, have an active support system at MTSU in the student organization for Older Wiser Learners, better known as OWLs.

The organization developed in 1991 to answer the needs of a group of adult students here. It brought attention to the fact that almost 40 percent of the total enrollment was adult learners: 24 years of age or older, or traditional-age students with adult responsibilities.

Many among this group had adult responsibilities outside of college, such as families, jobs and other heavy commitments. The original organization was named Association for Non-Traditional Students, or ANTS, but soon changed its name to OWLs and adopted the owl for a logo.

"This same group of dedicated students also chartered the MTSU chapter of the national Pinnacle Honor Society in 1992," says Carol Ann Baily, director of Off-Campus Student Services.

"Since that time, the Pinnacle of MTSU has initiated over 570 members into this national society to recognize the academic success of nontraditional

students at MTSU."

In July 1993, the Adult Services Center became a formal budgeted entity within the Student Affairs Division, and Baily was hired to direct it.

In 2007, Baily expanded the services available to all students living off-campus; the office is now known as Off-Campus Student Services.

The services for adult students continue, but the Web site, mtsu.edu/~ocss, now allows students to select information for Adult Student Services or Commuter Student Services. Commuter Student Services is geared toward students living off-campus who do not have major adult responsibilities.

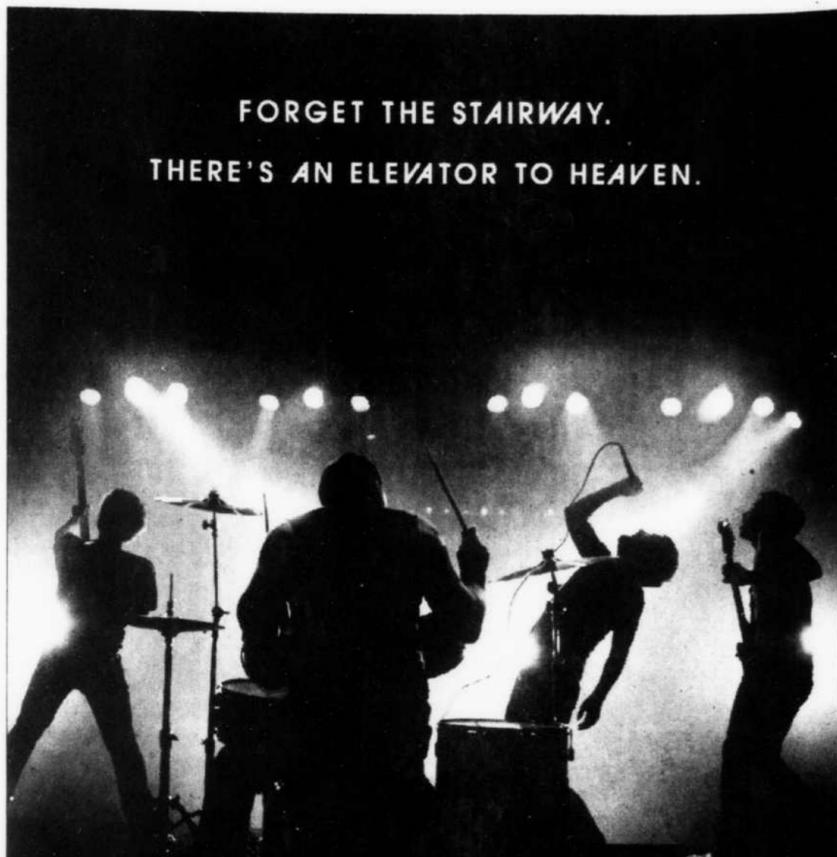
The original office for OWLs was a storage closet in Peck Hall, but these days its home is KUC 320 — a home away from home for nontraditional students. In addition to an office, there is a lounge, kitchen area, and study space with computers. Here students come together to study, eat, do homework, converse or just relax between classes.

A wide variety of students occupy the room, among them, DeDe Samford.

"I am a Nursing student. It's my first semester; I was just a mom. I've worked little jobs but..." she trails off.

"Just a mom?" interjects Melissa O'Flinn, a social work major, bringing laughter from everyone present.

See Nontraditional, 3



FORGET THE STAIRWAY.

THERE'S AN ELEVATOR TO HEAVEN.

Health: IT Bill

Continued from 1

One reason for the delay in bringing information technology to the healthcare industry has been the lack of interoperable record systems that also ensure privacy and data security, Gordon said. Doctors and hospitals are reluctant to invest in systems that are not interoperable with systems owned by other healthcare providers.

"Unless technical standards are developed to ensure interoperability, privacy, and security of electronic healthcare records, little will happen to move us forward," Gordon said. ♦

Free rides on Rover

Staff Report

Murfreesboro's first public transportation system, Rover, is planning a second all-day free fare day Nov. 9 so existing and prospective riders can try out its revamped schedule of five of six routes.

Usually, a one way trip on Rover, Murfreesboro's first public transportation system, which began operating in April of this year, costs \$1 and transfers are free. Tickets are available from each bus driver.

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Nontraditional:

Continued from 2

"My major is Aerospace," says Stacey Moye. "I'm a transfer from Columbia State Community College. I went there from 1996 to 1999."

Moye has a total of 43 credit hours and describes himself as "sophomore-ish."

"Algebra has been the bane of my existence, but this time I want to be here, so I'm doing better," he said.

"My major is Special Education," says David De Leon, before raising a cup and adding, "OWls have coffee!"

Students share this space with literally hundreds of owls in the form of statues, pictures, stuffed toys, and puzzles. Rachel and Ellen lounge on the floor with an owl blanket, their notes spread out before them as they study for a test.

The nontraditional students receive help and answers to questions from Baily, the director, Virginia Ellis, secretary, and student workers such as Chazlie Miller. The OWls office encourages every nontraditional adult and commuter student to attend the Nontraditional Student Dinner tonight, Thursday Nov. 8 from 5:30 - 7:30 p.m.

The dinner will be in the Tom Jackson Building, formerly Alumni Hall. Students can call 898-5989 for details about the potluck dinner and to reserve a place for themselves and family members. Pinnacle Honor Society initiation and Fall Awards follow the dinner. ♦

CRIME BRIEFS

Nov. 1, 2:20 a.m.
Public Intoxication
Todd Building
Individual arrested for Public Intoxication, Underage Consumption and Vandalism Under \$500.
Aaron Smith

Nov. 1, 3:50 a.m.
DUI
MTSU Blvd.
One individual arrested for DUI and Underage Consumption. A second individual issued citation for Underage Consumption.
Joshua Jordan
Korbin Kritch

Nov. 1, 5:22 a.m.
Drug Abuse - Simple Possession
Cummings Hall
Subject arrested for Public Intoxication, Underage Consumption of Marijuana.
William F. Strickland

Nov. 1, 9:15 a.m.
Underage Consumption
Cummings Hall
Officer called and advised that while at Cummings Hall, he noticed an intoxicated female in the lobby.

Savannah Rae Rohde
Nov. 1, 10:41 a.m.
Theft - Under \$500
Kirksey Old Main
Subject called to advise that someone had broken into KOM Room 104 and stolen a VCR.

Nov. 1, 6:00 p.m.
Theft - Under \$500
Murphy Center
Person called to advise that money had been stolen.

Nov. 1, 10:07 p.m.
Theft - Under \$500
Murphy Center
Person advised his bicycle was stolen in the Murphy Center area. Bicycle has a black frame with a green and silver lining.

Nov. 1, 11:01 p.m.
Misc.
Clement Hall
Man called to say he could not find his daughter, and that he had located her vehicle behind Clement Hall. He requested an officer make certain no one had broken into the vehicle.

Nov. 2, 3:40 a.m.
Fire Alarm
Miller Coliseum

Room 116's mechanical smoke detector gave a false reading.

Nov. 2, 10:03 a.m.
Drug Abuse
Cummings Hall
The Area Coordinator called to advise she was going to search a student's room and wanted an officer standing by. Subject was cited for Simple Possession.
Antonio J. Phillips

Nov. 2, 10:26 a.m.
Assault - Not Aggravated
MTSU Police Department
Subject came to the station to fill out a report in reference to verbal assault.

Nov. 2, 2:49 p.m.
Harassment
Kirksey Old Main
Subject called and requested an officer in reference to sexual harassment.

Nov. 3, 4:39 a.m.
Drug Abuse - Simple Possession
Sigma Nu House - Greek Row
Subject issued a citation for Simple Possession of Marijuana.
Michael Reeves

Nov. 3, 11:13 a.m.
Traffic Offense
Blue Raider Dr.
Subject cited after failure to provide proof of insurance.
Dominick White

Nov. 3, 4:22 p.m.
Theft - Under \$500
Alpha Gamma Rho - Greek Row
A report of a theft was received from the AGR house.

Nov. 5, 12:38 p.m.
Theft - Under \$500
Smith Hall
Subject called and advised that someone had stolen his bike. Victim called back later and said he had recovered his bike in another location.

Nov. 5, 2:40 p.m.
Theft - Motor Vehicle Parts and Accessories
MTSU Police Department
Victim reported that his license plate had been stolen.

Nov. 6, 12:12 p.m.
Theft - Under \$500
Keathley University Center
Subject reported his bicycle had been stolen. Victim called back later and stated his bicy-

cle had been found at the James E. Walker Library.

Nov. 6, 1:47 p.m.
Theft - Under \$500
Clement Hall
Subject called to report that his bicycle had been stolen.

Nov. 6, 4:57 p.m.
Theft - Under \$500
James E. Walker Library
Subject reported that his book had been stolen.

Nov. 7, 8:25 a.m.
Theft - Under \$500
Scarlett Commons
Subject reported that someone had stolen her debit card and that it was being used fraudulently.

Nov. 7, 8:43 a.m.
Harassment
Deere Hall
Subject reported that she was receiving harassing and threatening phone calls, possibly from a coworker.

Nov. 7, 1:23 p.m.
Vandalism - Over \$500
Cummings Annex Lot
Subject reported his vehicle had been vandalized.

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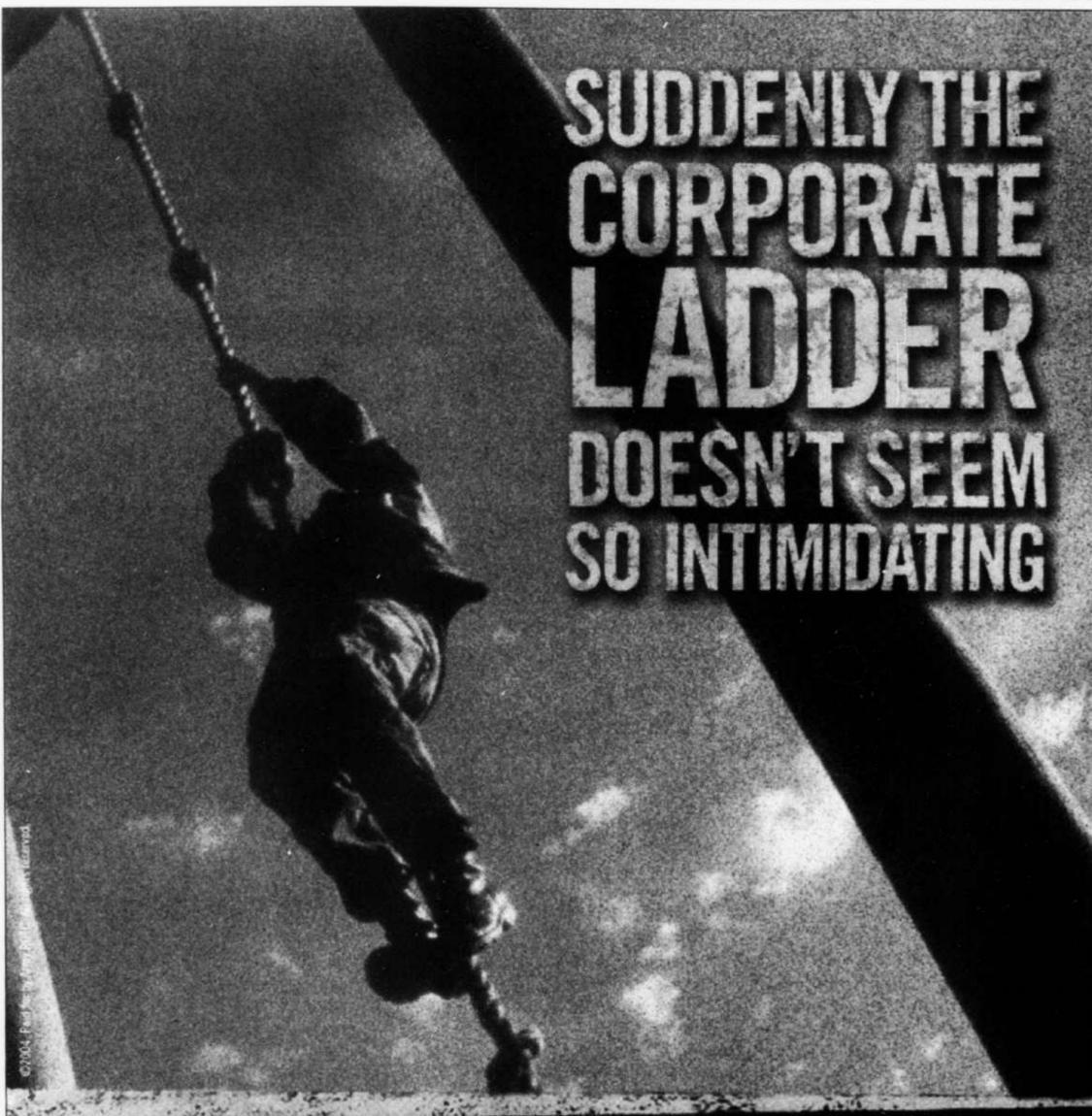
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OPINIONS

From the Editorial Board: Flu still more dangerous than staph "superbug"

Despite the news furor surrounding the methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus*, or MRSA, an average flu season is likely to claim more lives than Superbug.

Of course, as soon as the first flu case rears its ugly head, there will likely be news furor about that as well.

It seems like the logical thing to do would be the same thing you should do every day: practice good hygiene, eat a balanced diet and don't watch too much TV.

Aside from the point about TV, experts agree that flu and staph infections can be reduced by common-sense measures such as not sharing bath towels and washing hands, both of which fall under the category of good hygiene.

However, a recent article in Newsweek cites overzealous use of antibiotics as a leading cause of these medicine-resistant "superbugs," such as MRSA. There is something more than wild speculation to this point.

In recent years, there have been a deluge of products released to the market that claim to "eliminate airborne bacteria" and "kill 99.9 percent of bacteria on hands." We drink antibiotics in milk and eat them in meat. Of course, nobody's asking "what's the point?"

Antibiotics cost money to patients and their insurance companies, but more importantly, wipe out important bacteria in the body that help maintain good health.

Children raised in oversanitized environments often develop asthma, allergies and other conditions. It's only a matter of time before someone concludes, gee-whiz, that this same culture of unrealistic cleanliness is probably producing diseases that may well wipe us out.

Although the current strain of MRSA is not likely to put a dent in the world population, the next "superbug" just may.

Do yourself a favor. Hop off of the "sterility" bandwagon and save your money. Quit squirting jellied alcohol on your hands prior to every handshake or doorknob. It's OK, we trust you.

Besides, as the saying goes, "God made dirt. Dirt won't hurt."

Letters to the Editor

Comic hateful, anti-Semitic

To the Editor,

I am writing in regards to the "Go Medieval" comic strip in the Opinions section of the Nov. 5 issue of *Sidelines* [Frank Hasenmueller's "And Friends"]. As a Jewish student here at MTSU I find this "comic" to be more hateful than funny. MTSU is growing in leaps and bounds from the Nursing program to the Concrete Management field. With all of the positive things going on throughout campus, this comic strip knocks us all back down. *Sidelines* has been anti-athletics, anti-Greek, anti-administration and now, I guess we can add anti-Semitic to the list.

Freedom of speech is one thing – in this time of unrest (for example, the Jena 6 situation) caution should be taken to prevent exploiting one race or creed. This sort of "editorial" is unhealthy for a diversified campus to promote. What would happen if *Sidelines* ran a strip that said, "Hang all blacks!" One, it would never be run, and two, if it were run, it would bring a flood of trouble. And they would have every right to be upset.

This shows how much *Sidelines* does not care about the unity of campus and the peace here. After all that has happened in the last few years across the world with the troubles in the Middle East, Virginia Tech and the Jena 6, why would *Sidelines* support such a hateful and anti-Semitic comic?

Nathan Wallach
Junior, College of Mass Communications

"Romeo" inelegant, uncouth

To the Editor,

I attended MTSU's production of "Romeo and Juliet" on Saturday, Nov. 3. As someone with a degree in English, having taken courses on Shakespeare, as well as attending a number of productions of this play, I was extremely disappointed and offended by the way in which the double entendres were handled.

The over-the-top sexual gestures reduced Shakespeare's light-hearted innuendo and bawdy suggestiveness to mere boorishness and vulgarity. Most of the actors gave creditable performances, notably Capulet, Friar Lawrence and the nurse.

What a shame that they had to be a part of a production which, while displaying their talents, also pandered shamelessly to the basest elements of our society by the gross sexual pantomimes of a few characters.

In having the actors play these characters – Mercutio being the main one – with such exaggerated, offensive sexual gestures, the director, Dale E. McGilliard, clearly demonstrated that he has not grasped the subtleties inherent in the term "double entendre."

Mercutio was played so one-dimensionally as to insult our intelligence and offend our sensibilities. Wasted talent! The sexual connotation was carried to the extreme with absolute lack of regard for the intended double meaning.

Lines intended to be delightfully wicked barbs for the quick-witted to appreciate were reduced to the dumbed-down level of today's plodding sitcoms.

If that was your intention, Mr. McGilliard, you succeeded "admirably," but at the expense of the integrity of the play.

Marilyn Martin
Remington Lane
McMinnville, TN 37110



"And Friends"

frankhasenmueller@gmail.com

Frank Hasenmueller

Comic strip not hate speech

As the token Jew on the *Sidelines* staff – and every arena of my life, basically – the hubbub surrounding the recent publication of Frank Hasenmueller's cartoon has personally affected me.

Jews in Middle Tennessee are easily put on edge. And I should know, I've been in that situation multiple times in my life. I've seen a swastika on a street sign in a wealthy Murfreesboro neighborhood. I've been told I am going to Hell more times than I can count. I've had a drunk person at a party tell me all Jews should be killed – and he wasn't being satirical, he was just a bigot. We are, by far, a minority in the area, and, therefore, take offense easily.

Prior to production last week, the opinions editor showed me the cartoon and asked my thoughts. I know the artist and know he had no malicious intent. I immediately recognized his comic as satire.

Still, having the words "burn more Jews!" appear anywhere on a paper I work diligently to help produce made me wary. I told the Opinions Editor I was worried some readers might not be able to see the satire; that some would misconstrue it as hate speech.

Though it did not appear on a page for which I am responsible, I told the Opinions Editor I wouldn't tell him whether or not to publish the cartoon. Publishing it made me nervous, yes, but nerves are not grounds for censorship.

It was not my decision, and it is not my responsibility as a journalist and an editor to censor content that I don't agree with.

Words appear on page four of *Sidelines*



Kvetch a Break

Sarah Lavery
Staff Columnist

every week that I vehemently oppose. Words that, unlike Frank's satirical "burn more Jews," actually promote ideas that I find horribly offensive.

Frank was not implying that Jews should be killed. Instead, he was illuminating the fact that, throughout history, Jews and other minority groups have been blamed for events completely unrelated to them. When I spoke to Frank, he, in essence, said he had been doing a lot of research on the Black Plague at the time, and found the faulty logic used alarming.

Had his idea appeared in prose rather than art-form, I would imagine it saying something like, "Jews have been persecuted time and time again, usually serving as a scapegoat to larger social issues. Idiocy reigns when people don't understand something."

Would that have been offensive? No. The cartoon simply conveyed a more shocking image, one that could be misconstrued as promoting hate rather than satirizing injustice.

As editors, it is not our role to make people happy.

On the Opinions page, it is our job to fairly publish the ideas and words of our students.

The fine print on page four reads, "The opinions expressed herein are those of the

individual writers and not necessarily *Sidelines* or MTSU." To accuse *Sidelines* of being Anti-Semitic is laughable, irresponsible and just plain untrue. We are journalists. Most of us, I would argue, are anti-prejudice. Anti-ignorance.

What appears on page four is not a representation of the paper in and of itself, but a representation of student ideas.

This cartoon isn't hate speech. Being told your going to Hell because you're Jewish isn't hate speech – annoying, intolerant and frequent when you're a Jew in the Bible Belt, yes, but not hate speech. You might think the cartoon was in poor taste, that it was satirized-wrong, that it was pointless. Your opinions matter – if you believe the aforementioned, write in a letter to the editor. Join Hillel. Draw another cartoon yourself.

As aspiring and working journalists, the *Sidelines* editors are fans of the First Amendment.

Even if running the cartoon made me nervous, even if I would have preferred it not run at all, I would never have suggested barring it from publication.

I would love to live in a utopian world where people didn't persecute Jews, or African-Americans, or women, or any minority. I would love to live in a world where satirists and analysts had no persecution from which to draw.

But as much as I hate intolerance and prejudice, I hate censorship more.

Sarah Lavery is a junior journalism major and can be reached at slavery@gmail.com.

Condoms prevent spread of AIDS

Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome, or AIDS, declines in Uganda due to programs preaching abstinence; however, condom controversy erupts over safe sex methods.

AIDS is a life-threatening disease that has been affecting 39,000 people in the United States every year since 1989. In sub-Saharan Africa, it has been calculated that 24.5 million people are currently living with the HIV virus, and little hope of medical treatment. However, Yoweri Museveni, President of Uganda, believes abstinence is the answer to one of the most vicious diseases among the human race.

Currently in Uganda a huge controversy over condoms and safe sex measures has erupted with residents.

President Museveni has openly bashed condom use by replacing condom ads with virginity billboards and demanding condom ads disappear from the media. Museveni has also replaced safe sex educational programs with an abstinence-only policy.

Supporters of Museveni appear to be strongly committed to these programs and their "reliable" leader. To show their true loyalty, followers have been burning condoms in a bonfire rage similar to Nazis burning books by Jewish authors in the 1930s.

By ignoring other options, Museveni is actually leading his people into a world of ignorance



Open Mouth, Insert Foot

Tiffany Gibson
Staff Columnist

and suffering. Sexual encounters are going to take place regardless of how many times one preaches abstinence. Safe sex resources should be equally distributed to everyone in hope of stopping sexual transmitted diseases such as AIDS from being spread.

To take away valuable and effective resources such as condoms because of one man's moral standards is preposterous and monarchical. Even though Museveni's belief might be ethical, what's the point if the audience he's preaching to is already dead?

Scientists have not yet found a cure for this plague that is massacring the nation, therefore, the only other weapons in our defense are education and presentation.

AIDS-awareness programs have been assembled from the beginning of this epidemic to inform people how to avoid catching the virus. Due to programs applied in schools and society, participants have become more aware of the ways to contract the disease.

Some of these situations include coming into contact with

someone else's blood by sharing needles during any self-inflicted activity, being born to a mother who has been diagnosed with the disease and of course by having unprotected sex.

We are all aware of the ways and reasons, but will a thirty-minute lecture on abstinence really affect the choices people make?

Of course, people similar to President Museveni actually blame these sexual education programs for promiscuity and the distribution of sexually transmitted diseases like HIV. It is apparent that parents feel similar to Museveni when it comes to their children.

These parents who show up to PTA meetings and express outrage over sexual school education programs being hazardous to our youth are moronic. Studies held by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention show that these programs have actually lowered the pregnancy rate among teens and have increased the number of teens that use protection.

Parents should not be blaming funded sexual education programs for the distribution of AIDS or other sexually transmitted diseases because sexual conduct appears everywhere today. It is practically plastered across every neighborhood, in movies, television shows, music and magazines, so before parents begin to defend their nurturing skills perhaps they should take a closer

look at the education with which they are providing their own children in the living room.

Yet again, these people who burn condoms and rally in triumph over their success are in denial if they think that abstinence is going to lower the incidence of AIDS. If anything, the disease will become more common over time because not everyone will be able to follow this strict moral guideline of abstinence.

Not only are these pyromaniacs making fools of themselves by burning these useful products, but they are also taking away valuable alternatives that some individuals might need.

Fundamentally, alternatives and information regarding safe sex are always going to benefit a generation, because without it no one will survive. It is undisputable fact that abstinence is a good ethical value that perhaps more people should practice, but for those who refuse there should be other choices available.

For the most part, Uganda is in desperate need of assistance and support when it comes to AIDS and whether they endorse condom use or not, the point still remains that they should be prepared to expect the unexpected in a crisis such as an AIDS epidemic.

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SIDELINES
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Sidelines will not publish anonymous letters.

We reserve the right to edit for grammar, length and AP Style.

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FEATURES

Album Review

By Jamie Lovett
Staff Writer

Title: The Alchemy Index Vol. 1 & 2: Fire & Water
Artist: Thrice
Label: Vagrant Records

Thrice's latest release contains the first two volumes of an ambitious four volume concept album entitled "The Alchemy Index." Each of the four discs represents one of the four classic elements: fire, water, earth, and air. "The Alchemy Index: Vol. 1 & 2" consists of the "Fire" and "Water" discs, each a short but enjoyable listen.

The fire disc consists of heavy, guitar driven rock, hardcore and alternative metal. The opener, "Firebreather," is a rousing anthem that forms a bridge in sound between "The Alchemy Index" and the album preceding it, "Vheissu," easing fans into the lofty new project.

It's followed by "The Messenger," which is possibly the most aggressive song that Thrice has written in years. Dustin Kensrue, the usually modest and introspective lead singer and lyricist, forges some new territory by allowing his vocals to wander briefly into the realm of the cool and cocky.

"Backdraft" slows the album down with its moody flow, alternating between soft vocals and a heavy chorus to create something that wouldn't feel out of place on the Deftone's "White Pony" album.

The band channels their frustration with society through the eyes of "The Arsonist," and follows it up with the somber yet inspired tale of a determined army in a, literally, do or die situation in "Burn the Fleet."

The disc closes with the epic discord of "The Flame Deluge," which could easily serve as the soundtrack to a burning city.

The water disc takes an entirely different route. Thrice chooses to convey this element through a moody electronic sound that combines a murky and dark feel with sharp, lighter notes to create some of Thrice's most emotionally tender music yet.

The disc's opening song, "Digital Sea," combines a strong back beat and crisp vocals to produce something nobody would expect from Thrice: a song you could almost dance to. They follow this up with "Open Water," which almost mirrors "Backdraft" in its pattern of alternating a mellow body and a more spirited chorus, and then "Lost Continent," an electronic ballad with socially conscious lyrics that would make Bono jealous.

The album then flows into "Night Diving," an instrumental track. While possibly a little longer that it needs to be, the song does an amazing job of wordlessly describing a nighttime exploration of the sea, so much so that you can close your eyes and practically see it happening.

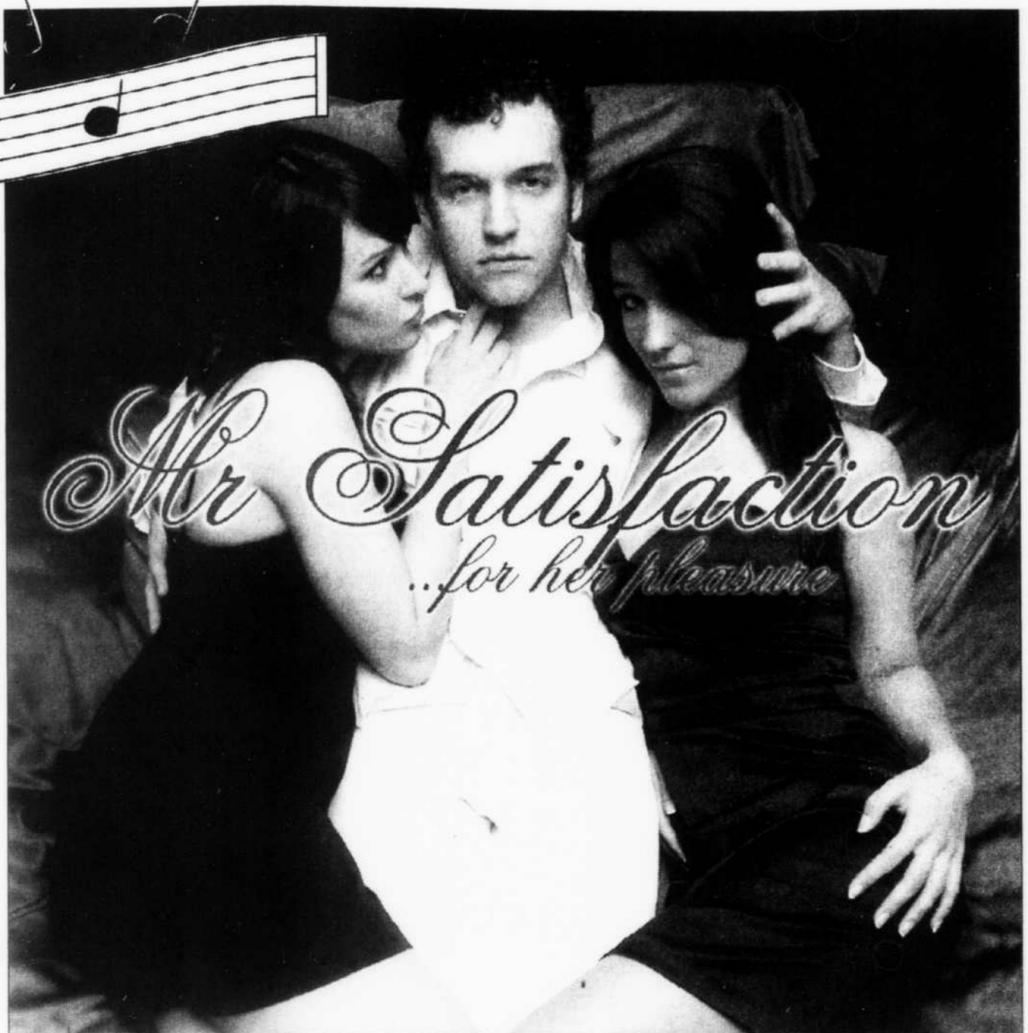
The high point of the disc is "The Whaler," a song telling the story of a whaler struggling to make a choice between answering the call of the sea and staying at home with his family. As subtle and subdued as it is, the music does an impressive job of creating a sense of urgency to add to Kensrue's lyrics as he plays the part of the whaler, only to perfectly shift to light, melodic chimes, conveying longing, sorrow and innocence when Kensrue changes voices to the wife and daughter.

Finally, the album comes to a close with an appropriate sense of evaporation through the disjointed melody of the disc's final song, "Kings on the Main."

Thrice does a great job of expanding their range on this album without becoming so lost in the concept that they lose touch with the sound they've developed over the years. The fire disc even seems to draw some inspiration from their fan-favorite breakthrough album "The Illusion of Safety" on some of its more aggressive tracks.

The only real problem with the album is in its structure. Each disc is very much its own separate entity, but with each being only six songs long, it feels like Thrice has produced two great but separate EPs rather than one incredible album.

Still, the project has already produced possibly the best collection of music that Thrice has come up with yet, and it's only half complete. Thrice's admirable "Do-It-Yourself" effort (they wrote, performed, and produced the project entirely on their own) has so far yielded a disc that proves they can hit just as hard and heavy as ever with the "Fire" album, and follow it with the "Water" album, that proves they can do so much more than that. Now all we can do is wait in anticipation for volumes three and four to arrive in the spring. ♦



CD cover submitted by Landin King

Mr. Satisfaction

By Landin King
Contributing Writer

With the sex-pop style of Justin Timberlake, local breakout solo artist Josh Hearing is sweeping the city in a white tuxedo and computer-generated electronica.

Under the stage-name "Mr. Satisfaction," Hearing's music strays far from the world of his metal-core band. With his first solo album "For Her Pleasure," Hearing created a 12 song album using his iBook, Garage Band synthesizers, boy band vocals and lyrics like "The smell in this room is passion, I can be your Mr. Satisfaction."

Opening the album, "Love Jungle" is a fairly brief instrumental that sets the mood for this 39-minute disc with a fading entrance into a trance-like techno uniform. From here, listeners are thrown into high-energy tracks like "Dangerous" and "Greedy," which lay vocal distortion and fast paced electronica windows over slow bass floors.

Staying with the album's titled theme, tracks "Nocturnal Sweetness" and "Feisty Martini Love" engage listeners in anthems of sex, love and in Mr. Satisfaction's own words — her pleasure. "All I Lack" begins a smooth descent towards the end of the record by combining a heavy-based Motown funk with vocal progressions comparative to a disappointing Michael Jackson slow jam.

In the final track, "The One and Only (Mr. Satisfaction)," Hearing claims that he "can be your Mr. Satisfaction." A first listen to the album creates thoughts of a plagiarized Justin Timberlake, however many of the songs are rooted in hardcore music, featuring breakdowns and drum beats similar to the sound of a double bass drum peddle.

"I had the CD release April 28 and [the bands] A Plea For Purging, Al Chino and Alert the Sky played. They all opened for me and let me be the rock-star that night," Hearing says.

Sitting in the living room of his apartment in Murfreesboro, Hearing is in the company of his live-in band mates discussing the beginnings of Mr. Satisfaction.

Describing the project as "seriously joking," Hearing recalls one of his original inspirations. Tommy Rogers of the band Between the Buried and Me created an album a few years back under the name "Giles."

"The album is entirely techno, he [Giles] doesn't even sing," Hearing says. "I got that CD my senior year in high school. I thought, 'He is in a metal band and he did that!' That was my first idea. I wanted to be like Giles."

The admiration of Giles, along with a half-joking idea to start a boy band, led Hearing to write "Dangerous," later becoming

the second track on his album. As he showed more and more of his friends the song, people seemed enticed with the concept of a hardcore kid turned boy band. Hearing spent the preceding months writing three more tracks, and once six songs were complete, he decided to go ahead and finish the album.

"Writing would come along with recording," Hearing says. "I actually finished writing the album and remixed all of my songs in the last three months before the release. I wanted people to see the album and think 'wow, this is ridiculous, this guy has an actual pressed album.' So I took the money I had made and finished it up."

Hearing completed "Feisty Martini Love," a crowd favorite on the album, in a tiny closet while on tour with Alert The Sky. Ignoring the fact that his band was working diligently planning for the rest of their tour, Hearing's mind was set on completing the final track for his album.

Without success, Hearing's first attempt at the recording was in the driver seat of his mini-van. Passing cars and cramped space made for a horrible sound. A later attempt found Hearing crouched in a wardrobe, wearing only his boxers and a t-shirt, screaming into his laptop's microphone. Fortunately his computer didn't pick up yelling band mates in the next room trying to hush Mr. Satisfaction.

Whether laughing or dancing, "For Her Pleasure" is truly an inspired piece of work that provides relief to the stereotypical sounds of college singer-songwriters. Unexpected, abnormal and surprisingly enjoyable, Hearing creates a party atmosphere of comical proportions.

"I write and I love," Hearing says, in character as Satisfaction. "I have ladies sitting outside my front door right now trying to get in to be satisfied. I am a man of constant sorrow, but it's okay. It's the sacrifice of giving others satisfaction. I find satisfaction in giving away my heart and letting it bleed away in your hands. Take everything you can get from me while you can. For I will not be as beautiful forever."

With no committed career advancements for Mr. Satisfaction, Hearing plans to keep writing songs and expects to have at least 10 more by summer 2008. Success with shows and online sales will determine whether or not there will be another CD.

Regardless of what happens with the sex-crazed Mr. Satisfaction, the white tuxedo will always be a perfect fit. Satisfied with his work, Hearing says, "I know your body better than you do" and bursts out laughing. ♦

Mr. Satisfaction Sightings:
The Muse — Nov. 14
For more information, check out:
myspace.com/joshhearing

Top 10 MTSU downloads

Here is this week's current Top 10 most downloaded music on RUCKUS.com at MTSU.

1. "Crank That (Soulja Boy) [Travis Barker Remix]"
2. "That's What (It's All About)" from the "A*Teens" album "Teen Spirit"
3. "(You Drive Me) Crazy" from Britney Spears' "Greatest Hits: My Prerogative [US Bonus CD]."
4. "Leave Out All The Rest (Album Version)," from the Linkin Park album "Minutes To Midnight"
5. "Stronger," from Kanye West's album "Graduation"
6. "Can't Tell Me Nothing," from Kanye West's "Graduation"
7. "Ayo Technology," 50 Cent featuring Justin Timberlake
8. "The Great Escape," from Boys Like Girls' self-titled album
9. "Crank That (Soulja Boy)," from Soulja Boy Tell'em
10. "Hip Hop Police," from Chamillionaire featuring Slick Rick on the album "Ultimate Victory" ♦



Photo courtesy of yotophoto.com

Writer's Guild strike rages on

NEW YORK (AP) — The writers strike only began Monday, and already you're falling behind.

Sure, the impact of the strike so far has been limited to late night, instantly banishing comedy-and-talk shows into rerun purgatory. But how are you supposed to know what's happening in the world without Jon Stewart and "The Daily Show" mocking current events? How will you keep your grip on contemporary life deprived of David Letterman's nightly Top 10 List?

The prospect of a strike was a wake-up call for viewers. Last Friday, "Late Night" host Conan O'Brien dispelled the popular belief "that I make the whole show up." Not true, viewers learned. "Believe it or not," confided Conan, "some of the show is scripted."

But that was then. On Monday, writers who once scripted "Late Night" and so

many other shows (and movies, too) were picketing outside NBC's Rockefeller Center headquarters.

The dispute between Writers Guild of America members and the networks and studios that employ them centers on issues like Internet royalties for TV shows. But it's you caught in the middle. And things could get worse. If the strike drags on (and the last one, in 1988, went for 22 weeks), the reservoir of new scripted shows could run dry.

Meanwhile, long-term speculation on the fallout from the strike is running rampant.

According to one theory, all those reruns and reality the networks plan to air might chase you onto the Web for your entertainment binges. Some of you (this theory predicts) will be so pleased with what you find online, you'll never watch TV the same way again.

A more certain outcome: If the strike lasts too long, it will be very costly to the networks and studios, as well as the writers. And that would serve them right, you may find yourself seething.

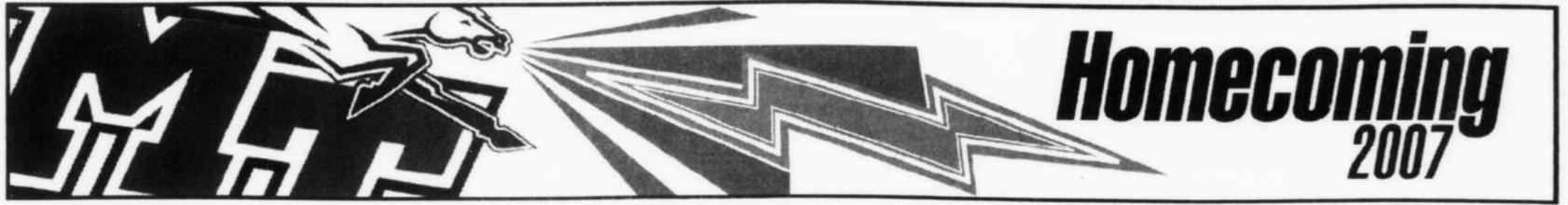
Strike back if you must. But the absence of writers from TV right now might be a good time to surmount your wounded feelings, and take measure of what writers bring to television.

Average WGA writer's annual income (at least, according to the studios and networks): About \$200,000.

The script for a top-notch TV show, one that makes you laugh or cry and talk about it afterward for days: Priceless.

EDITOR'S NOTE — Frazier Moore is a national television columnist for The Associated Press. He can be reached at fmoore@tampop.com. ♦

SPORTS



– Friday, Nov. 9, 2007 –

MT battles WKU for Sun Belt title

Winner in match will gain number one seed in Sun Belt Conference Tournament

By Richard Lowe
Sports Editor

The Murphy Center Athletic Complex will be buzzing all weekend, but only one event will feature two of the top teams in the Sun Belt Conference battling for the regular season championship. Middle Tennessee will be looking for revenge when they take on Western Kentucky University inside of the Alumni Memorial Gym.

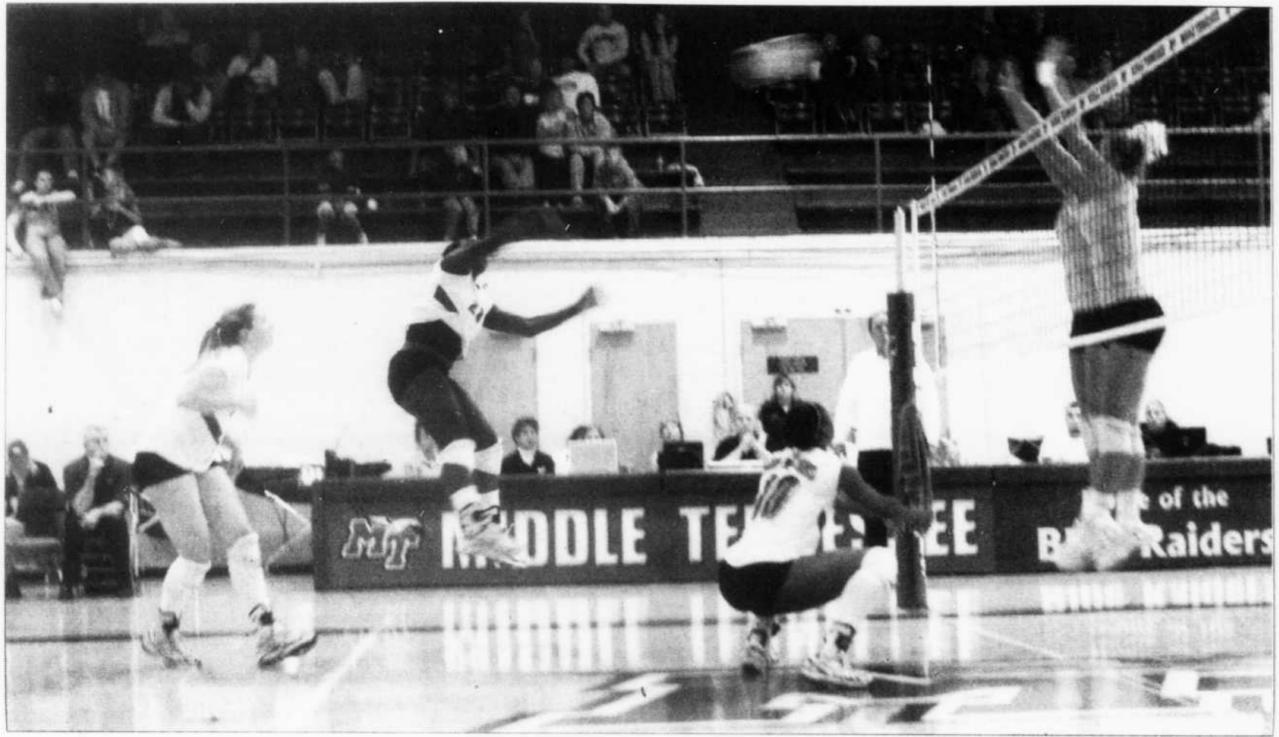
Friday's match has been anticipated since the Hilltoppers defeated the Blue Raiders 3-0 in Bowling Green, KY.

MT head coach Matt Peck has kept his volleyball squad focused on the matches before them. Since playing WKU, MT has gone seven straight matches without a loss – only dropping one game in a match against Florida International University. Now at the season finale, he can again focus on Western Kentucky.

"Obviously we want to play well this weekend. I think Western is going to play well. I think it will be an outstanding collegiate volleyball match and we are just really excited the regular season is ending like this right before the conference tournament. I think we could very well be in a position where we are playing Western again next Saturday in the conference championship," head coach Matt Peck said.

"I would be really surprised if that were not the case. It's been a fun week for us. I know the girls are really focused on this match and know what happened at Western when we played. I think we have something to prove and hopefully that will show on the court when we step out on Friday."

The past weekend, MT defeated South Alabama and Troy, giving Peck the 100th victory of his career. His record at MT now stands at 48-11.



Attendance is expected to be high due to the magnitude of the match. The winner of the match will receive the number one seed in the conference tournament in Denver, Colo. Photo by Justin Koonin | Photography Editor

The Hilltoppers team includes junior Megan Argabright, this week's Sun Belt Conference Volleyball Player of the Week.

In all, Middle Tennessee and Western Kentucky have a combined record of 53-8.

The winner of the match will receive the No. 1 seed in the Sun Belt Conference Tournament,

which will be held in Denver, Colo., Nov. 15-17. If Middle Tennessee wins the match it will be the East Division Sun Belt Conference Champion. If Western Kentucky wins the match the two schools will share the regular season title.

The match will begin at 7 p.m. in Alumni Memorial Gym on the campus of Middle

Tennessee. Live video streaming and live stats of the match may be found at goblueraiders.com. Admission to all home volleyball matches is free. ♦

Information from this article taken from GoBlueRaiders.com

– Thursday, Nov. 8, 2007 –

Athletic department plans tribute to "Operation: Full House" leader

Aaron Todd, retired professor at MT, passed away earlier this year

By Dwayne Douglas
Staff Writer

When Middle Tennessee hosts Lincoln Memorial University for an exhibition basketball game in the Murphy Center, it will be a special night for their supporters. Who can watch the basketball game, receive autographs from players and coaches, and have chances to win some great prizes. But what makes this a game for fans to remember is a tribute to the late Aaron Todd. The school will honor him for spearheading Operation: Full House.

After being diagnosed with brain cancer, Todd wanted to see the Murphy Center filled once more. "Dr. Todd's dream before he passed away with cancer was to break the record of 11,800 for the Murphy Center," says MT head basketball coach Kermit Davis.

As a professor and a season ticket holder at MT, Todd attended many games and knew it was possible to pack the house for a basketball game. He also knew exactly how to go about completing the mission of filling the arena. "Dr. Todd worked extremely hard with all media outlets and touched many people during his time here," says Davis.

The Western Kentucky game on Feb. 26, 2004 was chosen to carry out Operation: Full House. Davis said this match-up was selected because of the



Aaron Todd, along with wife Claire, rallies the record breaking crowd to cheer for the Blue Raiders, who were taking on Western Kentucky University that night. Photo courtesy of MT Media Relations

Dr. Todd worked extremely hard with all media outlets and touched many people during his time here.

Kermit Davis
MTSU Head Men's
Basketball Coach

conference rivalry with MT, and because of the timing with students who were in school.

The event was a success – the game was attended by 11,807. The previous record of 11,800 had stood since Feb. 8, 1975.

"We won the game and it was a fantastic evening for all of us," says Davis.

Todd also left great memories for Kevin Kanaskie, a former MT basketball player who was on the 2004 team. "Dr. Todd would come talk to the team at times after he was diagnosed with

cancer. The message was always more about us and what we had a chance to do than about his situation," says Kanaskie, who also credits Todd as a big MT fan who cared about what happened to the players beyond basketball.

MT has decided to give back to a man who many believe gave a lot to the University.

While honoring Todd at a basketball game, school officials will unveil a new seat where his season ticket was held.

Fittingly, the ceremony for the man who spearheaded the record crowd of 11,807 will take place on the date 11-8-07. Game time is set for 7:00 p.m. The tribute will take place during halftime of the exhibition. ♦

– Saturday, Nov. 10, 2007 –

FB tries to slow ULL run game

By Richard Lowe
Sports Editor

This Homecoming game will be more than about bidding farewell to the senior football players. If the Blue Raiders cannot defeat the University of Louisiana-Lafayette, hopes of a third Sun Belt Conference championship and a bowl bid will come to an end. Accordingly, all eyes will be on Murfreesboro when Middle Tennessee takes the field Saturday.

The Blue Raiders have an impressive record on Homecoming, totaling 46 wins and 19 losses. Of the last 19 Homecoming games, 17 ended as wins. The series between MT and ULL is tied at four games apiece with the visiting team winning three of the last four games.

Getting the start at quarterback for the Blue Raiders will be redshirt junior Joe Craddock. This is the second week in the row that Craddock will be getting the start and fifth time this year. Last week against the University of Louisiana at Monroe, Craddock threw for 401 yards and four touchdowns in a game that will go down as one of the greatest finishes in Blue Raider history. This week, however, he will take on a defense that hasn't seen their individual success translate into wins and losses.

MT head coach Rick Stockstill states, "UL-Lafayette is a very good team with a bad record. We won't be fooled."

ULL head coach Rickey Bustle commented on his team's frustrating season by saying that he still has plenty of faith in his team. "It is frustrating... to see how hard our players work and to see how good they want to be."

ULL has only one win on the season but Bustle says all is not lost. "It doesn't look like [we lost faith] on the practice field," explains Bustle.

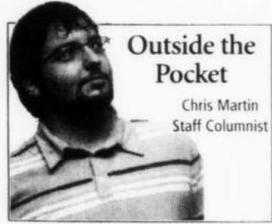
"You go out there during practice last night and you see them running around and working and paying attention. I watch how they practice. I spend time with the offense and I spend time with the defense. I have seen it before where guys just don't practice hard anymore, but they are practicing. That is what I am so proud of."

It's also very hard to discount a team that is currently ranked eighth in the nation in rushing offense. Their offense is led by quarterback Michael Desormeaux and running back Tyrell Fenroy, who are ranked second and fourth in the conference respectively.

This may be problematic for MT, which gave up 360 yards rushing against ULM. Commenting on the adjustments his team could make from last week's performance, Stockstill stated, "ULM and ULL are similar in what they do offensively so it's a challenge for our defense. We made some mistakes defensively against ULM but a lot of that was them. Their quarterback was very fast. We have to do a better job defensively on first down. We got hurt on first down in that game."

See Runners, 7

College football gone wild



Outside the Pocket
Chris Martin
Staff Columnist

This has to be the wildest college football season in recent memory.

I know every pundit says the same thing every year, but this time I mean it.

Looking at the Associated Press polls from the preseason to the most current poll, one thing sticks out — it's wildly inconsistent.

Seven of the top 10 teams in the preseason AP have fallen in the rankings. Three of those teams aren't even ranked in the top 25.

Also, 23 different teams have made their way into the top 10 this year. Annual cellar-dwellers such as Rutgers, Kansas, South Florida, Kentucky and South Carolina have cracked the top 10 at various points this season.

What is the explanation for all this?

The planets seem to have aligned in college football and the traditional powers are having down years while the up-and-comers are having uncharacteristically good seasons.

In the ACC, Miami, Florida St. and Georgia Tech have a combined 16-11 record.

Texas A&M and Nebraska have compiled a 10-10 record while Big 12 upstarts Kansas and Missouri have combined to go 17-1.

In the SEC, Kentucky's record (6-3) is good enough to match that of Tennessee, Florida, Alabama and Arkansas.

Illinois is ahead of Iowa, Penn State, Wisconsin and Purdue in the Big 10 standings.

UConn — yes UConn — has the Big East's best record while Louisville is 5-4. I'm not surprised if you didn't know UConn had a football team.

Guess who's tops in the PAC-10. USC? No. UCLA? Guess again. Cal? This is getting exhausting. It's a two-way tie between Arizona St. and Oregon.

So, what does all this mean?

There are two factors at play here. First, there is more parity in college football than ever before. There have been two mid-major teams to play in the Fiesta Bowl since 2005. In 2005, Mountain West Conference-champion Utah beat Pittsburgh 35-7. Last year, Boise St. of the Western Athletic Conference took down Oklahoma 43-42. This season, another WAC team, Hawaii, is undefeated and could play into a BCS bowl.

Second, the usual suspects in the championship chase are down. Teams like Miami, Florida St. and Tennessee are having out-of-character years, and the top teams this season aren't as strong as usual.

At the beginning of the season USC and LSU looked so good that people were penciling them in for the national championship game in the preseason. Now, USC has two losses, and LSU barely squeaked by Florida and Alabama. There's no team that you can look at and just say, "That team's going to win it all."

Ohio St. is the top team in the country, and rightfully so, but their two most impressive wins to date have been over struggling Wisconsin and Penn St. teams. This team isn't as good as the team that lost to Florida in the national championship a year ago. I don't think one could seriously say he prefers Todd Boeckman, Brian Robiskie and Brian Hartline over Troy Smith, Ted Ginn Jr. and Anthony Gonzalez.

Does this mean that the football is bad this year? No, it just means that you shouldn't get too comfortable with the AP top 10, because next week you're going to have to memorize some new names.

Chris Martin is a sophomore Journalism major. He can be reached at cgm2m@mtsu.edu.

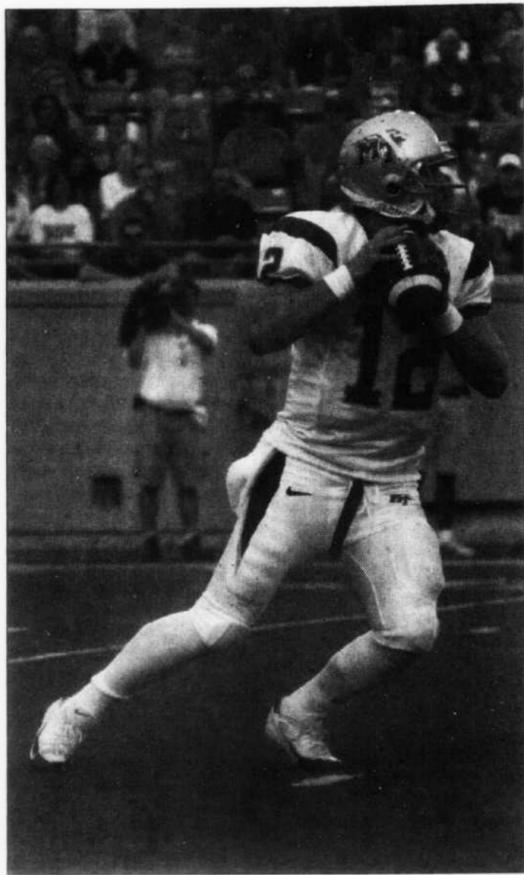


Photo by Jay Richardson | Staff Photographer
Redshirt junior Joe Craddock completed 22 of 29 passes for 401 yards, the third most yards in school history.

SOC lose in first round

Staff Reports

Middle Tennessee's opening match at the Sun Belt Conference Championships went according to form based on the results of the regular season.

Unfortunately, for the Blue Raiders, the strong defense wasn't enough to overcome more missed opportunities as No. 2 seed Middle Tennessee was upset by No. 7 UALR in a penalty kick shootout after the teams played a scoreless draw through two overtime periods.

It marked the first time Middle Tennessee failed to reach the semifinals of the league's postseason tournament since 2003. Technically the match goes down as a draw, so the Blue Raiders ended the season with a nine-match unbeaten streak; however, the postseason adds the dimension of penalty kicks and after playing to four draws during the regular season the tournament match followed the same pattern.

Middle Tennessee dominated possession and play and piled up 20 shots to UALR's four but the Blue Raiders couldn't find the back of the net and had at least three balls hit off either the post or crossbar, including Holly Grogan's miss off the cross bar on a free kick in the 89th minute, one of Middle Tennessee's best scoring chances.

"This was a tough match and

a well-played match between both teams, as we knew it would be," Middle Tennessee coach Aston Rhoden said. "UALR is a much improved team and we knew it was going to be a draw when the pairings came out. The defense was sound and we just didn't capitalize on some of the scoring opportunities we had. It really is the story of our season."

UALR won the match on the strength of a 3-2 advantage in the shootout that concluded after standout Kaley Forrest's attempt was just right of the far post UALR went up 2-1 in the shootout but freshman keeper Kela Casiple prevented goals on two of the next three attempts to give the Blue Raiders a final chance. Freshmen Fran Howells and Bethany Bertovic converted their penalty kicks for the Blue Raiders.

The unlucky result concluded a strong campaign for the Blue Raiders considering they started six freshmen and two sophomores and showed improvement as the season progressed. Casiple enjoyed a breakthrough season in goals. Her 0.52 goals-against-average is a new school record, besting the previous mark of 1.02, and her seven shutouts tied for the single-season lead.

The Blue Raiders finish their season 10-5-5.♦

Information from this article taken from GoBlueRaiders.com

BKW opens season

Staff Reports

Last year, Middle Tennessee's women's basketball team opened their season against the national champion, University of Maryland. This year, they will be traveling to Norfolk, Va. to take on the defending 16-time Colonial Athletic Association champion, Old Dominion University.

The Blue Raiders will be led by Amber Holt, a preseason first team all Sun Belt player. In exhibition play, Holt averaged 17 points and 23 minutes. In the off-season, Holt tried out for the USA basketball team to compete in the Pan Am Games. Although she did not make the team, she brought more notoriety to a program that was

ranked in national polls for the first time since 1988.

Coach Rick Insell will be going into his third year at MT. He has posted a 50-15 in his first two years at the University, winning the conference tournament championship in both years.

MT was picked to finish second in the Sun Belt Conference Coaches Poll, despite receiving more votes in both Associated Press and USA Today Coaches Poll than every team in the conference.

This year, Dick Palmer will be handling the play-by-play for radio broadcasts of all women's basketball games. All games can be heard on 89.5 FM.♦

Runners

Continued from 6

They were able to run the ball and get positive yards. We didn't miss a lot of tackles. We just have to do a better job of staying in our gaps and lanes and playing better than what we did defensively last week. Our mental

intensity and focus has to be strong."

Game time is 2:30 p.m. at Johnny "Red" Floyd Stadium and the game can be heard on 106.7 FM in Nashville, and WGNS 1450 AM and 89.5 FM in Murfreesboro.♦

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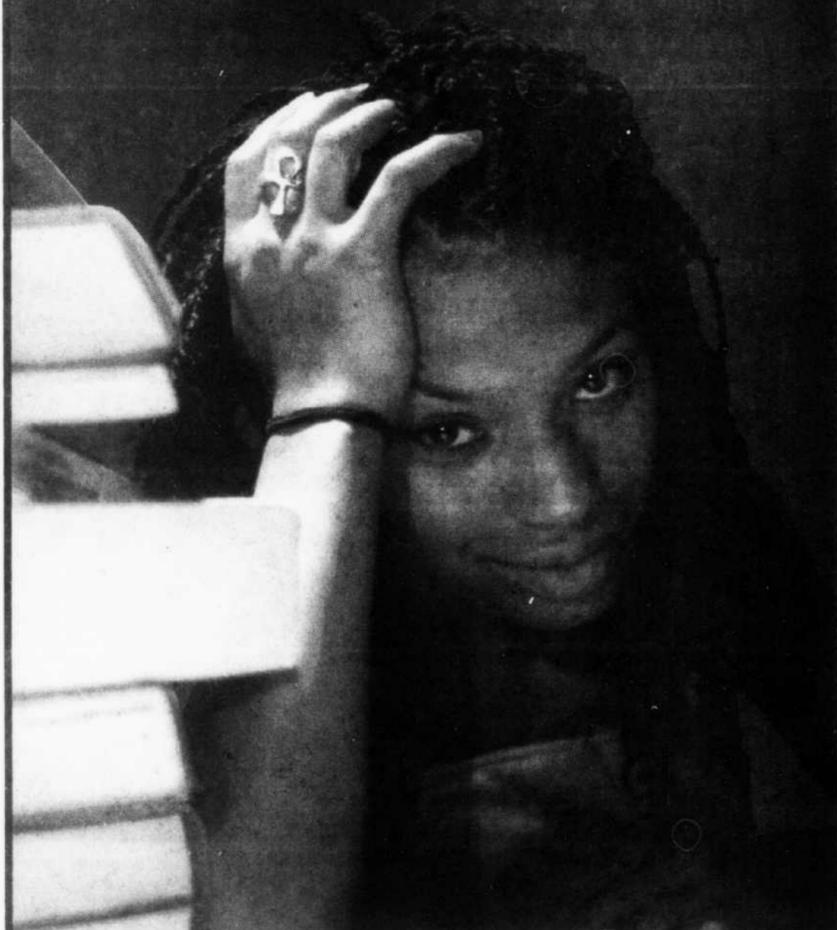
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Homecoming

MTSU Student Tailgating Contest

Nov. 10th on the Grove

WIN a \$500 MTSU Bookstore Gift Certificate

Pick up your Contest Decal W/MTSU ID at the
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Day Of at the DJ Booth in front of Peck Hall



Nov. 10th

Game at 2:30 pm - Floyd Stadium

RAIDERWALK at The Grove

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