

LOCAL FORECAST

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
HI: 42° LO: 17°	HI: 48° LO: 27°	HI: 52° LO: 28°



Documentary on Uganda
page 5



Tennis competes at home
page 6

MIDDLE TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY

SIDELINES

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Art benefits former staff member

Benefit show raises funds for former MT secretary suffering from spinal injury

By Faith Franklin
Staff Writer

A former MTSU employee, who was shot by her husband in an attempted murder, will benefit from a campus art sale that was held last Thursday.

Former Todd Art Gallery secretary Royce Anne Miller suffered severe injuries after being shot in the spine Jan. 8 and underwent extensive surgeries at Vanderbilt Medical Center.

The artwork was donated by students, faculty and local artists, with all proceeds from the Todd Art Gallery art sale going straight to Miller to help pay for medical costs. A fund has also been set up at Bank of America for the public to make donations.

On the day the incident occurred, Miller's husband, James Morris, called 911 dispatchers and told them that he had just shot his wife. According to the police report, he went on to say the shotgun was on the counter and he probably would not be there when the police arrived. Morris then shot himself in the head.

Miller was taken to Middle

Tennessee Medical Center to be treated, but due to the severity of her injury, she was transported to Vanderbilt Medical Center via LifeFlight, where she was underwent multiple surgeries.

Miller's tragedy caused the MTSU art department to spring into action on her behalf.

"I wanted to have an event rather than the gesture, that way we can make a big deposit [into the fund] to help her get started on the next stage of her life," said Wendy Koenig, assistant professor of art and organizer of the event.

Many artists from the community donated art to sale when they became aware of the incident.

"When I heard, I came to help," said Sher Fick, an MTSU graduate. "The art department sent the word out and people donated."

According to Koenig, the benefit was a group effort on the part of students and faculty.

"When asked for donations, the art department really delivered," she said.

Ellen Stevens, a senior sculpting major, frequently saw Miller in the Andrew L. Todd Hall.

"I saw her a lot and I thought it would be a good thing to come



Becky Dickovitch (center right), who worked with Miller, and Adam Gaskill (center left), senior art major, donated artwork to sell at the benefit in the Todd Art Gallery Thursday. Royce Anne Miller, a former MTSU employee, was shot in the spinal cord by her husband who then shot and killed himself last December.

out and support," Stevens said. "I just found out about it today and I had some pieces on hand that I could donate."

Many people came out

Thursday to sale, view and buy art. Many students, faculty and people in the community not only donated to the cause, but also came for support.

"I came to see what was happening and to support because it is a good cause. I hated to hear what happened to her," said Lin Sanders, a junior art education

major. "It is so nice of the community to support [Miller]. I am glad to see it." ♦

Photo by Chris Barstad | Photography Editor



The gravel parking lot on Blue Raider Blvd. retains water after rainfall. The Rec Center paved lot next to it will close down, as construction starts on an addition to the building.

Gravel lots annoying, not damaging to cars

By Matt Ferry
Contributing Writer

The parking situation at MTSU has been a concern among students for years.

One concern is that there is not enough parking spaces located in convenient areas, making the walking distance longer. However, there is another anxiety about parking nowadays.

Some students believe that the gravel parking lots may cause damage to their car's appearance and undercarriage.

"Every time I drive through these parking lots I think, 'great, another tire I have to replace,'" said Fatima McElveen, freshman mass communications major.

However, according to some Murfreesboro mechanics, gravel parking lots may not be damaging to your car.

Mechanics from Midas at 1728 N.W. Broad St., Jim Roberts Auto Repair at 1412 Mark Allen Ln., Meineke at 1411 N.W. Broad St. and Southern Imports at 1410 W. College St., all said that no damage should occur from driving and parking properly on gravel lots.

Ryan Marchese from Meineke, however, suggested that if dam-

age does occur, it is not the fault of the gravel lot, but many times the fault of the driver.

"If you drive too fast or the rocks are too big, it could mess your car up, but I've never seen regular damage from gravel parking lots," Marchese said.

"[Gravel] doesn't bother me, but I don't like how my car looks afterwards," said Elizabeth Jenkins, junior journalism major.

Even so, Jenkins still questions the purpose of the gravel lots. "With all the college's resources, why can't they just pave it?"

According to Nancy Weatherly, head of Parking and Transportation at MTSU, "the reason those [gravel] lots haven't been paved is some are being considered to build dorms on top of."

Beginning in February, the paved Recreation Center parking lot will close so that an addition to the building can be added. Part of this construction, according to Weatherly, will be to pave the gravel lot next to the Rec Center.

Because gravel lots can erode quickly from rain and other elements, Parking and Transportation has a code to fol-

low for repair. "Whenever the lots look bad, we put in an order to Grounds, and they put some new gravel on," Weatherly said. ♦

Campus Rec Project Overview

The project involving the gravel parking lot is for a wellness addition and recreation fields:

- Designer: Thomas Miller and Partners
- Funding: \$21,500,000

Status for the project:

- Recreation fields are under construction.
- Chiller plant addition is under construction.
- Wellness clinic addition has construction documents.

Expected completion dates:

- Recreation fields: Complete Spring 2007
- Chiller plant: Complete Spring 2007
- Wellness clinic addition: Complete Fall 2008

Information courtesy of Arthur Reed, Campus Planning

Students educated by disease exhibit

By Josh Daughtery
Staff Writer

This Valentine's Day, MTSU will once again celebrate the holiday of love with an exhibit showing graphic images of sexually transmitted diseases, which are the potential dangers of unprotected sex.

"The Tunnel of Love is a sexually-transmitted infection education event," said Casie Higginbotham, instructor of Health and Human Services.

The Tunnel of Love is set up like an art gallery, Higginbotham said. But instead of art, it is going to have visual images of actual sexually transmitted infections.

"It's meant to be an attention-getter," said Rick Chapman, director of Student Health Services.

The exhibit will help clear up misleading information regarding STIs, Chapman said.

"[Students] learn scientific fact and not just what they learn on the street," Chapman said.

Sarah Neal, a senior English major, has attended the Tunnel of Love for the past two years. "It was a creative way to inform students," she said.

There will be several tables from various organizations around the area, Neal said.

"When you first walk in they have pictures of STDs," Neal said. "Some of them were pretty graphic. Just gross pictures of sores and pus."

The Tunnel of Love is upsetting to some people, said Mary Ann Guiliano, secretary at the June Anderson Women's Center.

"I know for myself those pictures brought a physical feeling of disgust," Neal said.

According to Neal, the Tunnel of Love works because the exhibit of photos and graphics is memorable well into the future.

The event breaks barriers of embarrassment and lack of information that many students have regarding STDs, Guiliano said.

"The main goal [of the exhibit] is for students to walk away knowing how to protect themselves from STIs whether it's from condom use or absence," said Higginbotham.

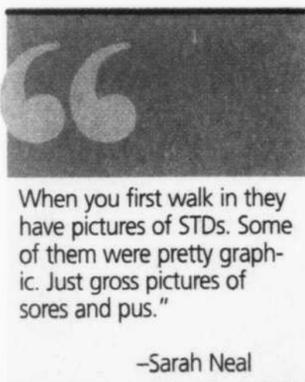
At least 2,000 students are expected to walk through the exhibit, which is free of charge, she added. It takes roughly 20 minutes to go through the entire gallery.

"Most student are better off having gone through [the Tunnel of Love]," Chapman said. "I encourage all students to attend. It's a good educational experience."

The event is sponsored by Student Health Services, Rutherford County Health Department, Planned Parenthood and Nashville Cares.

This is the fifth year the event has been held at MTSU.

The Tunnel of Love will be held in the Tennessee Room of the James Union Building on Feb. 13. ♦



—Sarah Neal

Illustration by Chet Overall | Staff Designer

Spring 2007 Honors Lecture Series

CRIME

Causes, Detection, Punishment, Fact and Fiction

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

- January 29 - The Sociology of Crime and Punishment**
Dr. Andrew Austin, Associate Professor of Social Change and Development Chair of Sociology, University of Wisconsin-Green Bay
- February 5 - Sherlock Holmes, The First CSI**
Dr. Robert Glenn, Vice President for Student Affairs and Vice Provost for Enrollment and Academic Services
- February 12 - DNA and Crime Scene Evidence**
Dr. Tammy Melton, Chemistry
- February 19 - The Death Penalty: If At First We Don't Succeed...**
Dr. Bill Schulman, Criminal Justice Administration
- February 26 - Crime in Film**
Dr. Mark Byrnes, Liberal Arts
- March 12 - Detective Fiction**
Dr. Pete McCluskey, English
- March 19 - Talking to the Dead: A Forensic Anthropologist's Perspective**
Dr. Hugh Berryman, Sociology and Anthropology
- March 26 - Causes of Crime**
Dr. James Tate, Psychology
- April 2 - Crime: Intervention and Prevention - What Works**
Dr. Gloria Hamilton, Psychology
- April 9 - Crime and Punishment in 1940s Murfreesboro**
Josh Alexander, Honors College Alumnus
- April 16 & 23 - Thesis Presentations**

Lecture series examines various aspects of crime

By Josh Hudson
Staff Writer

Crime is the topic of discussion for the 2007 spring Honors Lecture Series.

The lectures will range from cause and detection of a crime to various methods of punishment as well as a look at crime as it is portrayed in literature and film.

"[The lecture series] provides a great interdisciplinary look into a given topic and usually sparks discussion and debate in the audience," said Scott Carnicom, associate dean of the University Honors College. "Crime was selected because it seems to be a popular topic these days."

The series begins today with the sociology of crime and punishment by guest speaker Andrew Austin, associate professor of social change and the developmental chair of sociology at the University of Wisconsin Green Bay.

"Since this will be the kickoff lecture for the rest of the series, I will provide a general overview illustrating the trends in punishment and help try to understand how [these trends] are related to crime," Austin said. "For example, drug use has reportedly gone

down since the late 1970s, yet drug arrests are currently up. One can measure something in two different ways and come up with [opposing] results."

On the following Monday, Bob Glenn, vice president for Student Affairs and vice provost for Enrollment Management, will speak on the literary figure Sherlock Holmes with his lecture "Sherlock Holmes: The First CSI."

"Sir Arthur Conan Doyle was one of the first authors to write about a character in a series," Glenn said. "A lot of authors imitate some of the techniques he used in those stories today."

The series will then provide a scientific perspective when Tammy Melton, professor of chemistry, delivers her speech "DNA and Crime Scene Evidence" the following week.

The lecture will explain what is feasible from a technological perspective in a television shows like CSI, Melton said. She will also discuss case studies where DNA evidence helped solve a case or free a man wrongly imprisoned.

Lectures from several other departments on campus will also be held this semester. Mark Byrnes, associate dean of the

College of Liberal Arts, will deliver a lecture on how crime is portrayed in film.

Byrnes will discuss how this portrayal varies by era and speak on how the level of violence has risen over the years.

"There were also periods when crime was portrayed in a sympathetic light in more turbulent times [in the country's history], especially in the 1930s and 1960s," Byrnes said.

Pete McCluskey, associate professor of English, will offer up a similar lecture to those of Byrnes and Glenn on detective fiction, and Gloria Hamilton, professor of psychology, will deliver a speech titled "Crime: Intervention and Prevention - What Works."

The lecture will focus on, treatment methods that work, that do not work and those that simply make the situation worse, Hamilton said. She will also touch on the Nashville-based Regional Intervention Program - or RIP - which has received praise from the White House on its effectiveness.

James Tate, also a professor of psychology, will lecture on the causes of crime.

Other scheduled lectures con-

sist of Bill Schulman from the Criminal Justice Administration, regarding the death penalty, as well as sociology and anthropology professor Hugh Berryman, who's lecture is titled, "Talking to the Dead: A Forensic Anthropologist's Perspective."

The series will conclude on Monday, April 9 when Josh Alexander, an alumnus of the Honors College, gives a lecture titled "Crime and Punishment in 1940s Murfreesboro," which will include a presentation of his documentary on the last person executed in Tennessee.

The Honors College was established in 1973, and the lecture series can be traced back to that time.

Carnicom explained topics are generally decided upon by himself, the Honors Advisory Council or Phillip Mathis, dean of the University Honors College.

"Anyone who has an idea for the series and is even loosely associated with the Honors College should feel free to express their idea," Carnicom said.

All lectures are free and will be held on Monday afternoons from 3 p.m. to 3:50 p.m. in room 106 of the Paul W. Martin Sr. Honors Building. ♦

Indian mascots under fire in Tennessee

Associated Press

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP) - American Indian activists in Tennessee say sports teams with Indian mascots are offensive and plan to ask state officials this week to outlaw their use.

Close to two dozen high schools and 80 middle and elementary schools in Tennessee use Indians in their team name, according to activists, who say they will go before the state's Human Rights Commission on Friday to ask members to ban Indian mascots and symbols in state public schools.

The activists' resolution to be brought before the commission was adopted in 2005 by the Tennessee Commission of Indian Affairs, a state body that represents Indian interests.

"There's racism going on when you have a school mascot called the Redskins," said Tom Kunesh, an activist in Chattanooga, who plans to go before the commission. "That's Native American imagery used and controlled by non-native Americans and often used in satirical and non-flattering ways."

Numerous high schools in Tennessee have Indian mascots. Among them is

Riverdale High School in Murfreesboro, where the teams are nicknamed the Warriors and the school's mascot is Chief Win-Em-All.

Riverdale principal Tom Nolan said taking away the mascot would hurt the school, whose identity is tied to the Warriors. He noted the student newspaper is called Smoke Signal, and signs above classroom doors are shaped like arrowheads.

"We take a lot of pride in being the Warriors," Nolan said. "This whole community would go crazy if somebody tried to change our name from the Warriors."

Indian-themed symbols at the school were twice attacked by vandals last summer and it wasn't clear if the motive was sports rivalry or anger at the symbols.

According to the National Congress of American Indians, debate over Indian sports mascots dates back to the 1970s, when The University of Oklahoma changed its mascot, Little Red. In 2005 the NCAA banned the use of Indian mascots in postseason tournaments.

In Tennessee, the University of Tennessee Chattanooga stopped using Chief Moccannoga as its mascot in the mid-1990s when Kunesh and others asked

the school to change. The school's sports teams are now nicknamed the Mocs.

Tennessee Secondary School Athletic Association spokesman Matthew Gillespie said the group's rules do not address the Indian mascot issue.

"That's something we would leave up to the school and the concerned group," he said.

Human Rights Commission executive director Amber Gooding said the board mainly deals with discrimination in housing and employment, but added that board members are willing to hear Indian activists' concerns. ♦



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Stock market game prepares youth for financial future

By Ashley Brase
Contributing Writer

MTSU will sponsor the Stock Market Game, which teaches students vital investment skills for retirement by showing them how to manage stock portfolios and follow the stock market during the course of a single semester.

The Tennessee sect of the game, which incorporates real stocks with a simulated portfolio, is headed for the Center for Economic Education at MTSU.

Throughout the program, students learn to follow the Dow Jones and Nasdaq stock exchanges. Students and players are given artificial money to invest towards stocks in the actual stock market.

The goal of the program is to teach children and adults how to manage their money so they are able to invest in their future.

"One of the most important lessons I learned was to quit buying stuff and invest your money for the long term, so that at age 50, it is realistic that you can retire," said Maria Edlin, director of the Center for Economic Education at MTSU and state director of the Stock Market Game program. "I've had girls pick their boyfriends initials as a ticker symbol and win."

The program is commonly used in fourth through twelfth grades but is available to adults and college students as well.

"We have inmates playing at a prison in Jackson, Tenn. They are going to get out sometime, and they are going to be citizens and will need to do something with their money," Edlin said.

The names of all players, regardless of age, are kept confidential.

Several colleges have started teaching the Stock Market

Game in economics and finance courses.

A professor at Tennessee State University plays the Stock Market Game with his class, and the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga uses it in the adult sections of their finance classes.

No courses at MTSU currently teach the Stock Market Game.

The Stock Market Game requires players to understand what stock prices mean and how to spend their artificial money wisely over a ten-week period.

The guidelines to the program give teachers information on how to teach students to read newspapers and how to understand the stock market and

participant for a fee of \$20. The enrollment fee in the program is used to pay for newspaper distribution in

newspapers around the state. "Good reading habits come with practice," Edlin said. "With this program, the teachers get you, for every team you get, you get a certain number of newspapers. We hope it is encouraging students to read."

The aide from newspapers across Tennessee may be part of the reason the student program is ranked the tenth largest in the nation, Edlin explained.

The fee is also used to pay for a banquet and prizes for student programs at the end of each year, as well as materials for teachers to learn how to facilitate the Stock Market Game.

A new game starts Feb. 5 and runs through April 13.

For more information on the Stock Market Game contact Maria Edlin at medlin@mtsu.edu, or visit www.stockmarketgame.org.



high school and elementary level classes partaking

in the program. The Stock Market Game promotes newspaper use among high school and elementary students. The program is co-sponsored by First Tennessee Bank and The Tennessean and is partnered with seven other

Campus Briefs

Honors College and McNair Scholars program to hold joint reception

The McNair Scholars Program and the University Honors College will hold a joint recruiting reception for current MTSU students on Jan. 31, from 11 a.m. until 1 p.m. in the amphitheater of the Honors College.

"Current McNair and Honors College students will talk about their experiences and the deans or directors of the programs will talk about their programs," said Michelle Arnold, Honors College program coordinator and advisor.

"It was a great success last year," Arnold said. The event is open to students with a 3.0 grade point average or higher and who meet respective McNair and Honors College qualifications.

Job Fairs to be held in February

The annual MTSU Summer Job and Internship Fair will be held Feb. 7 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the Tennessee Room of the James Union Building. More than 60 employees are expected to be on campus to greet and talk to students. For more information on the MTSU Job Fair contact the MTSU Career and Employment Center at 898-5732.

The Nashville College to Career Fair will be held Feb. 13 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Tennessee State Fairgrounds. Admission is free, but a ticket is required for entrance. Tickets are available at the MTSU Career and Employment Center located in KUC 328.

More than 400 employers from business, government and education will be represented. For questions, call the Career Center at 898-5732.

Acclaimed documentary filmmaker to visit MTSU

Internationally acclaimed documentary filmmaker Lilly Rivlin will be on campus Wednesday to show her 2006 film "Can You Hear Me? Israeli and Palestinian Women Fight for Peace."

The film, which is directed, written and produced by Rivlin, focuses on how dialogue, even among those who have profound disagreements, can bring about positive and significant changes.

The viewing is free and open to the public and will be from 4:30 p.m. to 6 p.m. in the SunTrust Room of the Business and Aerospace building.

For more information contact Allen Hibbard, director of the Middle East Center at 494-8809 or Sonja Hedgepeth, MTSU professor of foreign languages at 898-2280.

Free Stones River Chamber Players concert Monday night

The Stones River chamber Players will perform the second of its annual three-concert series at MTSU Jan. 29 at 7:30 p.m. in Hinton Hall of the Wright Music Building.

"The title of the program, 'Two, Four, Six, Eight,' describes how the program will unfold to the audience," Todd Waldecker, MTSU professor of clarinet

and co-director for the group, said. The concert will feature the music of composers such as Beethoven, Stravinsky and Maxine Warshauer.

Paul Osterfield, his professor of composition at MTSU, will debut his piece entitled "Divertiment" for winds, piano and double bass. Reed Thomas, MTSU director of bands will also conduct the final piece of the evening.

The concert is free and open to the public. For more information contact the MTSU McLean School of Music at 898-2493.

Art Gallery goes South of the Border

The Learning Resources Center has gone south of the border with its newest exhibit.

"Landscapes of Mexico" features photographs by Hector Montes de Oca. The exhibit is comprised of 40 black-and-white photographs, which feature the landscapes of Oca's native country.

De Oca is considered to be one of the prominent Mexican photographers of his generation.

The exhibit is on display through Feb. 28 at Baldwin Photographic Gallery in the LRC and will be open from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday and 12 p.m. to 4 p.m. Saturdays.

De Oca will present a lecture on his work Feb. 28 at 7:30 p.m. in the State Farm Lecture Hall of the Business Aerospace Building.

The exhibition and lecture are free and open to the public.

For more information contact Tom Jimison at 898-2085.

MTSU professor to give gospel lecture

MTSU's Cedric Dent, music professor, will present a black gospel lecture and recital on Feb. 6 at 6 p.m. in the T. Earl Hinton Hall of the Wright Music Building.

The presentation will examine the development of black gospel music beginning with the blacks' manipulation of European-derived hymns while they were slaves in the United States. It will also show how the slaves' creative use of African retentions in the 17th and 18th centuries not only influenced structural developments in hymns, but also led to the invention of the black spiritual song.

"This presentation is quite unique in that I present the history of black gospel music in a relaxed setting, encouraging audience participation," Dent said. "The idea is to create a call-and-response atmosphere that is common in the black church."

Piano performances throughout the 60-minute lecture will support the discussion and address five centuries of cultural, religious and music history.

Dent, a native of Detroit, Mich., holds degrees from the University of Michigan, the University of Alabama and the University of Maryland. Dent's research interests include the historic and harmonic development of black gospel music, and vocal jazz group arranging and performance.

As a baritone vocalist, arranger and producer, Dent is a member of the Grammy award-winning group Take 6, which has released 10 recordings for Warner Bros. Records. The group also holds the distinct honor of being the most Grammy-nominated vocal group in history.

The lecture and performance is free and open to the public.

For more information contact the McLean School of Music at 898-2493 or www.mtsumusic.com.

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Grills from dentists only, lawmaker says

By Erik Schelzig
Associated Press

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP) - A Tennessee lawmaker wants to outlaw anyone but a dentist from taking impressions for mouth jewelry known as grills or fronts.

State Rep. John J. Deberry Jr. said his "Grills Bill" is aimed at mall kiosks and jewelry stores that take dental impressions under less-than-sanitary conditions.

"I guess we can't outlaw the jewelry for your mouth," said Deberry, D-Memphis. "But we can make sure that if your children go in there they are not getting an impression of their teeth with a mold and material that someone else has just used."

The customized tooth caps, popularized by rappers like Nelly and Paul Wall, are made of precious metals and jewels and can cost thou-

sands of dollars for a full set. Some can be snapped onto the teeth, while others are permanently bonded to the teeth.

Deberry's bill would allow only dental practitioners to take impressions used in "the fabrication of a cosmetic metal apparatus to be worn in the human mouth, whether or not such apparatus features silver, gold, or platinum caps, jeweled inlays, or any other cosmetic features."

Dentists are already the only ones allowed to take tooth impressions under current Tennessee law, said Dr. Walter Owens, a Nashville dentist and executive secretary of the Pan Tennessee Dental Association.

"I think Rep. Deberry wants to be more specific to make sure that it is stated clearly that no one who is not a licensed dental practitioner can perform these services," he said.

Owens added anybody getting a dental appliance should have their dentist evaluate their

medical history to make sure they won't have any allergies or other problems with their gum tissue.

Deberry said his personal feelings about the dental jewelry didn't factor into his decision to introduce the bill.

"I think that whether or not I have a problem with grills is irrelevant," he said. "I think people are going to do it, so there's no point in outlawing and pushing it underground."

Owens said he is concerned about what he called "the social implications and the cultural stereotyping" that the grills can encourage, but acknowledged there is little dentists can do about it.

"We can't change the value system," Owens said. "But we can protect the public by making sure that people who are not licensed practitioners can not fabricate appliances that go in the mouth." ♦

Classifieds

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Continued from last column

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Continued to next column

Continued to next column

OPINIONS

From the Editorial Board

Forget Tunnel of Love; hello, tunnel of horrors

The Tunnel of Love exhibit uses graphic scare tactics in an attempt to lure students away from sex and toward the exciting road of abstinence. While we applaud MTSU's effort at bringing a sensitive issue into the light, images are not enough.

For one thing, seeing images of disease-infested genitalia will not keep that drunk, overly friendly person from going home with some random, nameless partner. The biggest impact the exhibit pictures may have is causing the said drunkard to turn on the cabin light in the vehicle before making the journey.

This however, may not do a lot of good. Many sexually transmitted diseases are in fact symptomless. This means that even if you hurriedly run a flashlight over certain territories, you are not any more protected from disease than before taking a gander.

Also, individuals do not have to have intercourse to contract STDs. Intravenous drug use and the common cold can also give a person modified forms of STDs.

Sex education is important for learning how to stay STD-free. It would prove to be more effective that giant, magnified pictures of the genitals of those poor, faceless people.

The public needs to be taught that no birth control can guarantee protection against disease. The pill cannot prevent disease, neither can a condom.

President George W. Bush's abstinence-only agenda also does little for realities of our sex-obsessed society. The United States has undeniable problem with casual sex. It has become a social norm for young, single people to sleep around without a second thought, thanks in part to the movies and TV shows we enjoy.

True sex education is a start, but change needs to occur within our society.



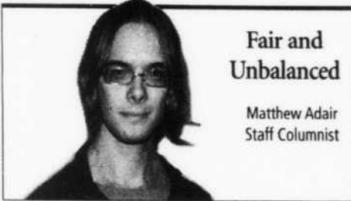
Evangelicals must reclaim reputation

Behold: the Christians in your neighborhood are no longer known as the evangelicals. Instead, they are now the Christians known as 'creedal' or 'biblical.'

The consensus among theologians, clergy and the public, as reported in *The Tennessean* last Wednesday, is that the term 'evangelical' has picked up so much baggage in the past few years that it has become a caricature of itself on the same footing as 'fundamentalist.' With the ship of evangelical political clout seemingly running aground following Congressional elections last year, everyone seems to be jumping before the label drags them to the bottom of the sea of credibility.

Analogies, jokes and "Monty Python" aside, the growing rejection of the term evangelical as a description for Christians looks remarkably similar to the laughter drawn by the at-times absurd range of politically correct terminology that came about in the 80s and 90s. The matter is made all the more ironic, as it was conservatives who usually did the laughing. What can they think of themselves now as they redefine their identity in much the same way?

For starters, they'd probably need to figure out what that identity is. One of the biggest reasons that 'evangelical' seems to have fallen out of style is that no one is really sure what exactly it means to be one. Everyone from strictly conservative preachers and groups such as Focus on the Family and their message of a strictly biblically-derived morality to churches that interpret 'spreading the gospel' as a mission to fix the environment and promote the importance of



Fair and Unbalanced

Matthew Adair
Staff Columnist

human rights around the world has taken the word as theirs. As a result, it is felt that the word has become so diluted in a pool of different values that it has come to mean nothing at all.

It would be easy to tell the formerly-evangelical crowd to just forgo the labels and get on with their work, whatever it is. Labels and terms like 'evangelical' – or liberal and conservative, rich and poor or tall and short for that matter – are important to us. People like knowing who they are, and being able to explain that to anyone who asks without having to produce a 15-page manifesto every time. They are Christians, of course, but they are specific in how they put their beliefs into action that distinguishes them from, say, Catholics or Mormons, who have equal claim to the name 'Christian.'

This still leaves us with the question of what not-evangelicals anymore should call themselves, and what that name means to them.

The easiest option is, of course, the one that a number of people are already taking: creating new names and terms. This seems to be the cheap way out, in much the same way that politically-correct language is sometimes used to avoid talking about the problems raised by

offensive terms. People don't seem want to contend with the junk and bad press the word 'evangelical' has accumulated, and would rather put as much distance between themselves and the word as possible so that they don't get tagged as absurd and out-of-touch.

The former evangelicals' own faith, however, should caution them against taking the easy road. It is not for me to tell anyone what their beliefs should be, especially on as sensitive a topic as religion. However, Christians have traditionally held that their faith calls for personal sacrifice, and that believers should not waver from it as a result of ridicule or persecution. Granted, no one is throwing evangelicals to the lions or hunting them down en masse, but these Christians should stand up for themselves and work to bring a sense of dignity back to the label 'evangelical.'

What often gets lost in the shuffle of politics and preaching, in associations that try to stifle the free will that we are told is our gift as human beings, is that the word evangelical comes from the Greek "euangelos," which means "bringing good news." For a religion that prides itself in bringing a story of hope and mercy to all the people of the world, reclaiming the word that hits to the very heart of its mission is something that shouldn't be avoided. Surely, after all the bad press evangelicals have received from figures who fail to practice what they preach, any good news at all would be worth embracing.

Matthew Adair is a senior art education major and can be reached at matt.adair@gmail.com.

Sacrifice to show troops support from homefront

It's been said before, and is said often these days. The current war effort in Iraq and Afghanistan is different from other wars in our nation's history, due in part to the fact that this war has required little sacrifice from our citizens, save for our civil liberties.

In World War II, it was electricity, Victory Gardens and grass-roots recycling. In Vietnam, it was gasoline. The so-called "War on Terror" has asked nothing of the citizens, save for their consent to let the government have a free hand in dealing with affairs.

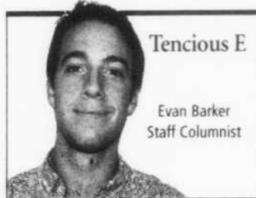
This is bad for several reasons. Firstly, it sends the message to our finest overseas that we really don't care. Certainly, if we asked SUV drivers to curtail trips to soccer practice on the grounds that they consume too much fuel, there would be resistance. If we asked people to purchase less fuel, or adhere to a rationed schedule, to better feed our troops, there would be resistance. That, however, is support.

We need to bring back fuel rationing, to increase the supply of fuel that may be sent overseas. By increasing supply and reducing demand, the market price will drop, which makes it easier for our people to do their jobs, instead of having to ask why Halliburton is selling fuel to our armed services at ridiculously inflated prices.

During World War II, there were incentives to citizens to bring scrap metal to collection centers, where it could be devoted to the war effort. This is good because it forces us to be more aware of our consumption, and to focus our surplus materials for a common cause. If it helps armor more Humvees, then it serves a purpose.

Another World War II phenomenon was the Victory Garden, where people would grow vegetables, with the same effect of reducing demand on the commercial supply of food, leaving more supplies to "keep 'em fighting."

We have learned the lesson of Vietnam; that the troops are there to do their jobs, regardless of who sent them. In Vietnam, protesting the war grew into antagonism towards the soldiers, most of whom certainly did not choose to be there. These days, contrary to



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Evan Barker
Staff Columnist

right-wing rhetoric, supporting the troops and disagreeing with the war are not mutually exclusive. The other lesson of Vietnam; to not waste American lives trying to stabilize warped third-world countries, is completely lost on us.

Most families either have a member or know of someone serving in Iraq or Afghanistan. Regardless of personal feelings towards the war, the fact remains that these people are there to do their jobs, whether they agree with the war or not. What our fighting forces need now, more than nationalism or troop reinforcements, is a boost in morale.

They need to know that we care. They need better-armed Humvees. They need more supplies from home. They need not to lose hope, or feel abandoned by the civilians. They need the kind of encouragement that a weekend visit from Vice President Dick Cheney just can't bring. They need to know that we on the home-front want them supplied and well-fed, the better that they may come home sooner.

As college students, these men and women are our contemporaries. Most of them are our ages. MTSU has sent several of its finest to the sandbox, some of whom paid the ultimate sacrifice. As a civilization, we need to further understand the causes, and the mechanics of fighting a war, so that in the future, we may never embark on that road, unless we are focused and clearly motivated.

World War II taught us that a focused citizenry with a motivated force could prevail against all odds. The so-called "War on Terror" shows us that a half-assed war is a likely failure, and in the interests of our family members and loved ones, we need to do a better job, regardless of political stance.

Evan Barker is a senior music performance major and can be reached at ehb2d@mtsu.edu.

Letters to the Editor

Alumna refuses to pay unearned ticket

To the Editor:

I am an alumna of 2005. I apparently got a parking ticket in 2006, and now the Business Office is threatening to take legal action against me for, yes, \$25. Unbelievable, since I have not been back to campus since 2005. What happened you ask? After the December graduation, I took my parking pass off of my mirror and threw it out the window because I had just graduated. Someone else must have picked it up and used it, getting a ticket the following summer. The make, it up and license plate number were nowhere near my own.

I appealed and they denied. So why don't they find the person who is registered under that license plate number and charge them? Please tell your graduating seniors to beware. They will come for you.

Kerin R. Neff
Alumna, '05

Problems with Greek Life start at top

To the Editor:

I would like to start this editorial by stating I have nothing personally against the Sigma Nu Fraternity, but more so Greek Life and the people who are in charge of it, and I believe that every fraternity should be held to the same high standard.

In the previous two issues of *Sidelines*, information has been released about the revocation of the Sigma Nu Charter due to numerous hazing and alcohol violations. The issues have also included statements by Greek Life Director Gentry McCreary and Vice President for Student Affairs Bob Glenn supporting the chapter in an appeal process because they thought punishment from Sigma Nu's nationals was too harsh.

I am a member of the former Kappa Iota chapter of Kappa Sigma at MTSU, whose charter was revoked about one year ago. We were dealt with in a much more "harsh" manner and did not receive any support from campus officials. The charges that we were found guilty of were for consumption of alcohol by those not of legal age and having alcohol present during fraternity functions. According to *The Daily New Journal*, Sigma Nu suffers the following accusations:

"Pledges were required to do personal service for active members, there were a number of occasions where pledges were brought to the house at odd times of the day and night and required to stand at attention. Members of the chapter would allegedly shout at them, ask them questions and/or berate them. There was at least one allegation of required consumption of alcohol. [There was] encouraged and coerced consumption of alcohol, consumption of alcohol by those not of legal age. Violations included but were not limited to presence of kegs of beer at chapter activities, situations designed to cause mental discomfort, physical discomfort, embarrassment, harassment and ridicule, situations designed to cause excessive fatigue, situations designed to cause

psychological shocks, scavenger hunts, late work sessions, physical pushing, kidnapping of candidates, or pledges, and initiates, or chapter members."

In addition, The Sigma Nu nationals stated that this sort of activity may have been going on over the past three years. I am not really sure what "throwing the McCoy out with the water" really means but I don't understand how McCreary can say he "in no way condones hazing," then in the same article say, "I think they got too harsh of a punishment." These statements are about as hypocritical as it can get. I am not sure if things have changed in the past year, but when I was in the Greek Life system hazing was always "zero tolerance."

Another point I would like to make is the Sigma Nu Chapter at MTSU was named one of the top Sigma Nu chapters in the nation, which makes it hard for me to believe that their nationals would just revoke their charter without good reason.

So a question you might be asking yourself is, "Why are the campus officials going to such great lengths to protect this fraternity and keep them on campus?" While the answers to this aren't printed in a newspaper anywhere, one of the reasons is because of the financial reasons and another might be people might be afraid of losing their job. Whenever Kappa Sigma's charter was revoked, campus immediately broke our lease, giving us 30 days to be moved completely out of the house. This put a huge financial strain on campus because we paid about \$13,000 a month in rent. The house remained empty from February until August 2006, which means they suffered a \$91,000 loss. I'm not exactly sure how much Sigma Nu's rent is, but it's close to what we used to pay, and could be more.

Another reason Gentry McCreary is giving all this support for an appeal is his job could or should be in jeopardy. He has been in charge of Greek Life for about a year and a half, in which two of the biggest fraternities on campus have had their charters revoked. I think this is an obvious example of administrators trying to save their own behinds because they have painted themselves into a corner financially by treating other fraternities too severe.

Maybe "throwing the baby out with the water" is an analogy to not only to describe the status of Sigma Nu at MTSU but also Gentry's status as Greek Life director. There is obviously a huge problem with the Greek Life system and I think that instead of getting rid of all the fraternities, MTSU should start at the top.

In conclusion, I would like to say that I have always disagreed with the revocation Kappa Sigma's charter. I think two minor alcohol violations should not be a reason to ruin one of the biggest and best fraternities on campus. However, if that is the rules, the rules must be applied to everyone equally. Once again, I have nothing against the Sigma Nu Fraternity, I just would like to see all the fraternities be put on the same expectations we were put on, regardless of how much money it will cost the university, or who's job is at stake.

Thomas Austin
Junior, criminal justice

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FEATURES

Ten Commandments battle gains steam

County commissioner serves up debate, community responds with diverse views

By B.C. Bouchillon
Staff Writer

Thou shalt not decorate thy local courthouse with placard replicas of the ten commandments. Or so decreed Rutherford County Court in its ACLU of Tenn., Inc. v. Rutherford County decision this past September.

Last week, the Rutherford County Commission finally complied with the ruling, hocking up \$50,000 to the American Civil Liberties Union for the judgment.

In an official ACLU press release, Hedy Weinberg, ACLU-TN Executive Director, states that "The posting of the Ten Commandments sends the message that only certain believers can receive justice at the courthouse. Rutherford County residents should not be made to feel like second class citizens because they do not hold the prevailing religious beliefs promoted by the county government."

Weinberg adds, "The posting of the Ten Commandments in the Rutherford County Courthouse broadcasts a divisive message to the religiously pluralistic community of Rutherford County."

Commissioner Mike Sparks doesn't give up so easily, though, and he's opened a new front within the community. Sparks has passed out some 500 replicas of

the embattled Ten Commandments, each identical to the placard barred from the courthouse.

"There's been an overwhelming response from the public and area businesses. People have donated everything from \$20 to \$100," reports Sparks. "Businesses have even run out of copies, so we give 'em more."

900 copies of the Ten Commandments have been printed so far, with \$400 of the funding donated by area residents. The replicas are neatly framed upon delivery, ready for mounting.

"The ACLU will never defend the rights of Christians, so I will," Sparks claims, adding, "If this effort is going to make a difference, it'll be a positive one, not negative. And that's a chance I'm willing to take."

Owners of participating local businesses, like Ginny Williams of Gil's Ace Hardware in Smyrna, say customers have been very appreciative of the displays.

"I've had the Ten Commandments in my store for some time already, mainly so shoplifters notice the 'Thou Shalt Not Steal,'" jokes Williams. "Never had one complaint, though. A number of people tell me how much they like our having it up."

Management at Smyrna's the Rockin' Chair Café and at

Lavergne Tire echoed William's sentiment, claiming customers have been all-too-kind. No negative reactions at all.

Local sentiment is more diverse, however.

"Moral change isn't passed up in Wal-Mart or tacked up in the drug store. It comes from within, along your own path," muses James Murray from Smyrna. "To try and force it any other way is laughable. It's totalitarian."

Others see it differently. "It doesn't bother me, and I'm not a Christian. If you don't want a copy, then just say 'No thanks.' If the sight of the commandments offends you, then don't look," argues MTSU alumnus Tyler Bell.

In the shroud of the Southern religious majority, though, some have a different perspective.

"But why raise this fuss in the Bible belt? Maybe take all those copies of the Ten Commandments up to Washington," responds Margaret Dickinson of Murfreesboro. "People here have this stuff memorized already."

Some views hinted at a larger issue.

"[Sparks] is making an assumption about Rutherford County as a whole," Ryan Driber says. "Oh, 'y'all' live in the south, so 'y'all' must be Christian. It's untrue, not to mention unfair."

Sparks dismisses such notions, saying, "Our forefathers left England to get away from religious persecution, and we're under a similar threat today. It's our heritage. I don't see that as being intolerant at all."

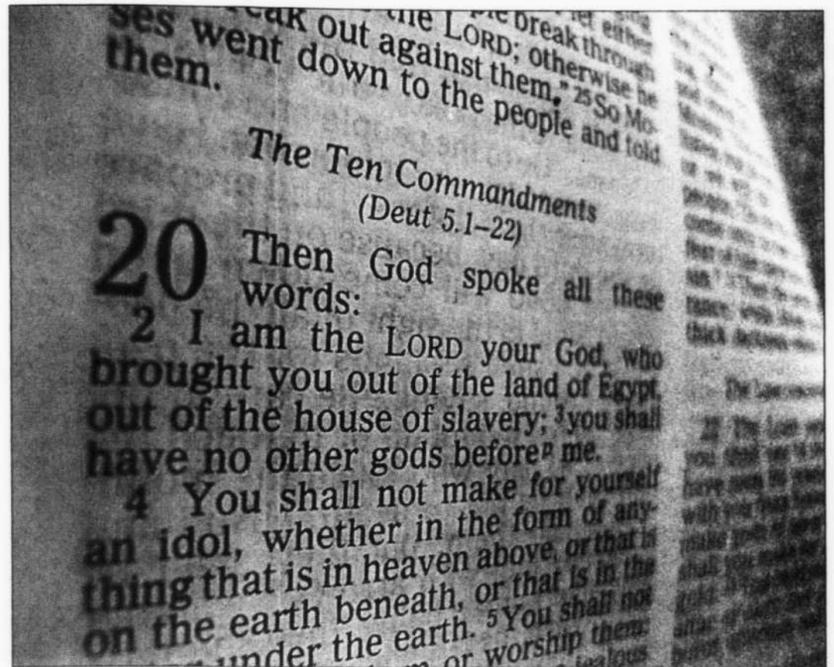


Photo by Chet Overall | Staff Graphic Designer
Public display of the Ten Commandments has become a topic of heated debate in Rutherford County. County Commissioner Mike Sparks is working tirelessly to reinstate the county's right to display the commandments with pride.

But do these displays say something about the religious state of our nation? For one, leaders have mated The Ten Commandments with consumer routines, slipping the public biblical lessons, solicited or not.

God and his holy word and here's your sales receipt and have a nice day.

The sky's the limit as to where it ends.

Real quick, Commissioner Mike Sparks wants to make sure and thank his inspiration for all this.

"The ACLU has done us a favor by taking \$50,000 of the taxpayers' money. Instead of having one Ten

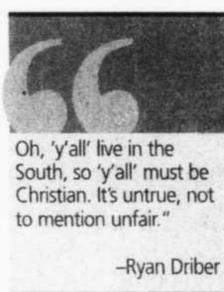
Commandments in the courthouse, you've got hundreds of them up in businesses and homes throughout the area. In a way, I'm grateful," he offers.

ACLU-TN Executive Director Weinberg, however, explains that the "ACLU

brought the lawsuit to ensure that individuals have the right to decide for themselves whether to practice a particular religious faith or to post the Ten

Commandments in their homes, businesses or places of worship. Were government to prohibit these postings, ACLU-TN would fight to protect citizens' right to promote their religious beliefs and practice their religious

faiths. That is what we're here for. Even in the south, when it comes to The Ten Commandments, nothing's written in stone. ♦



Students react to conflict in Uganda

Documentary *Invisible Children* sheds light on an ongoing issue



Photo credit Invisible Children Inc.
The youth of Uganda struggle everyday to resist the kidnapping and enslavement by the Lord's Resistance Army. For decades, the LRA has waged a destructive civil war with the Uganda government. Three Berkeley, Calif. college students created a documentary capturing the ongoing strife.

By Laura Roberts
Contributing Writer

Between worrying about term papers, budgeting money and finding a parking spot on campus, it's easy for college students to get sucked into the "university-bubble" and stay there. This Thursday, however, MTSU students have the chance to step out of their comfort zone and catch a glimpse of a problem a little bigger than determining what to do on a Friday night.

At 7 p.m. in the State Farm Room of the Business Aerospace Building, the documentary "Invisible Children" will give students the opportunity to see the struggles the youth of Uganda are facing on a daily basis.

For twenty years, the terrorist group Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) has waged a bloody civil war against the Uganda government. In 2003, three college students from Berkeley, Calif., traveled to Uganda to film a documentary.

During their filming, they stumbled across a tragedy unknown to the world.

Every night, the students witnessed thousands of Ugandan children leaving their homes to

travel miles and miles to seek shelter in churches and hospitals. There, the adolescents would rest a few short hours before sunrise to travel back home.

After inquiring into this strange ritual, the students learned the youngsters were making their midnight journey in order to escape kidnapping and enslavement into the LRA army. The LRA abducts children who are as young as eight years old and subjects them to gruesome violence. The children, as a result, grow up desensitized, knowing little more than murder. It is estimated that over 50,000 children a year from Uganda are picked up and forced to fight with the rebels while enduring mental, physical and sexual abuse.

The three students left the country and brought home the images of the children's grief-stricken faces. Upon arriving back into the United States, the three put together the footage from their trip, pieced it into a fifty-five minute documentary and began screening it to friends and family in June 2004. Word spread about the heart-wrenching film, and soon, it was being shown in schools, churches and other organizations across California.

From there, the non-profit organization Invisible Children Incorporated was developed to raise awareness in the United States about the tragic situation in Uganda. Any donations made to the organization are deposited into the program, with a large percentage sent directly to the children of Uganda. The funds are then put into programs to help with the education and rehabilitation of children who were once soldiers of the LRA.

Invisible Children Inc. is also responsible for organizing the Global Night Commute that took place on April 26, 2006. Nearly 60,000 people in 130 cities across seven countries walked to the central parts of their cities and spent the night outside. The goals of the event were to draw attention to the crisis in Uganda and also to spark a change in the policies of the United States government regarding the situation. Footage of the event was shot in the participating cities around the world and collaborated into a film, with the proceeds benefiting the children of Uganda.

Invisible Children Inc. has also recently begun a Bracelet Campaign, allowing Ugandans residing in displacement camps to

hand-make bracelets. The bracelets can be purchased online at www.invisiblechildren.com and come with a short film telling the story of an invisible child. The program not only gets the "Invisible Children" story out to the world but also helps create a much-needed income for a number of Ugandans.

A 35 minute version of the original documentary will be shown on campus and, following the screening, a discussion will take place to further educate students of the Invisible Children project and how they can become involved.

"It is important as college students to be aware of what's going on in the world, and not only that, but to stand up and take action for what we know is right concerning the Uganda crisis," says Erin Yeldell, an MTSU junior who's worked on bringing the documentary to campus. "Whether it's writing to a congressman about the subject or simply telling other young people about what's going on in Uganda, we have a duty and responsibility to do something." ♦

For additional information or questions, please contact Erin Yeldell at emy2@mtsu.edu.

Environment Briefs

TVA claims nuclear plants better option

SPRING CITY, Tenn. (AP) - The Tennessee Valley Authority will submit applications to build two new nuclear reactors under the government's streamlined licensing process and restart its oldest reactor after a 22-year shutdown at Browns Ferry, TVA officials told The Chattanooga Times Free Press.

"We need more power and, at this point, nuclear looks to be the best option," said TVA Chairman Bill Sansom.

No new nuclear reactors have been ordered in the United States since a 1979 accident at the Three Mile Island plant in Pennsylvania raised public concerns about nuclear power and caused the Nuclear Regulatory Commission to revamp its rules.

But industry officials believe concerns about global warming have changed attitudes about nuclear energy. U.S. utilities are pursuing plans for up to 31 new reactors.

Proponents say nuclear power is an attractive alternative to coal, which is blamed for contributing to global warming and air pollution. It also provides an alternative to natural gas, which has been buffeted by high and volatile prices.

The Bush administration and some Republican lawmakers also are touting the resurgence of nuclear energy, along with a new-to-the-United States reprocessing and recycling technology for highly radioactive spent fuel waste.

"Nuclear power is almost the only answer for clean electricity to meet our growing needs," said Republican Sen. Lamar Alexander of Tennessee, who is co-chairman of the TVA Congressional Caucus and a member of the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee. "When I look at all of the options, I think nuclear is the leading technology."

"Of all the places on Earth that have given nuclear power a shot and failed, the Tennessee Valley has got to be No. 1," said S. David Freeman, a former TVA chairman who has headed four other electric utilities.

America under oil siege, Bush plans to react

WILMINGTON, Del. (AP) - President Bush, trying to add urgency to his shrinking domestic agenda, said Wednesday that America will be held hostage by oil if it doesn't change its habits.

"Dependence on oil provides an economic and national security risk, a problem that this country better start dealing with in a serious fashion now," Bush said in a speech to employees of DuPont Co., a chemical giant and leading researcher of energy alternatives.

The president used a quick trip to Delaware to promote bio-fuels such as cellulosic ethanol, which can be made from wood chips, switchgrass and corn-plant parts.

Ramping up production of alternative fuels is one way Bush says the nation can cut consumption of gasoline by up to 20 percent over 10 years. The other key element of Bush's plan, as outlined in his State of the Union speech Tuesday, is higher fuel-economy standards for cars.

Bush cast the energy debate in terms of terrorism, depicting scenarios in which oil-rich enemies could disrupt the United States by targeting its reliance on gas-powered vehicles.

"If a terrorist were able to destroy infrastructure somewhere else in the world, it's going to affect what you pay for at the gasoline pump," Bush said at the Hotel DuPont.

The administration is asking Congress for the power to set high fuel-efficiency standards for cars, using a system it says will preserve choices and safety for costumers. DuPont was one of the corporations that urged Congress this week to require limits on such greenhouse gases, contending voluntary efforts to combat climate change are not enough.

"President Bush has never looked more out of step on global warming," said Kevin Curtis, senior vice president for the National Environmental Trust. "Companies like DuPont realize that limits on heat-trapping pollution are coming, and they want to start planning today."

SPORTS

Men's tennis: Virginia Tech, Florida Atlantic

By Colby George

Contributing Writer

The Blue Raiders men's tennis team will be taking on the Hokies of Virginia Tech and the Florida Atlantic Owls this Saturday.

Out of the three teams the Owls is the only team to play a game this season. They are fresh off of a 6-1 win over Jacksonville.

The Hokies have yet to play this season they are looking strong coming in to the season with a team ranking No. 63.

"Rankings are not something that people should put too much thought into especially going into the first game of the season," said head coach Dale Short. "Many teams are going into their first games with injured players who were factored into the rankings during the preseason, but as soon as a few games are played the new rankings will change drastically."

Middle Tennessee has some talent on their side with the duo of Andreas Siljestrom and Marco Born who are ranked No. 16 in the nation as a doubles team.

As a team last year Siljestrom and Born finished a close second by only one point in the National Indoors Championship.

"In the indoors championships only the Top 16 teams are even invited and to finish second was a big accomplishment for Born and Siljestrom," Short said. "They are both upset with their ranking of 16, they feel they showed much more after doing as well as they did in the nationals and they are looking to show what kind of talent they really have in the next few games."

MT will be short handed this

entire season after having their valued recruit from South Africa, Rich Cowden, blow his meniscus, a tendon in his knee during the preseason in Florida.

Cowden was expected to be a big addition to the already strong Raiders team.

In singles Born and Siljestrom are going to be alternating in the top three while Cowden was going to be holding up the back end of the lineup.

"We brought in Cowden from South Africa hoping he would be able to keep them in the hunt to stay in the top 25. We have been floating in and out of the rankings the last 25 years," Short said. "Without him, we are definitely going to be weaker, but we are going to need our seniors to step up and lead our team."

With only six players in the entire MT lineup due to injuries the Raiders are going to be very short handed, and have to work very hard to put it together and get two wins.

"Although Born and Siljestrom are very strong together and are ranked highly in doubles we may have to break them up to help out the team," Short said. "If Cowden was not hurt, we would have no problems with depth and we would not have to break the two up, but every team has it's problems and this is one we are going to have to work through."

Siljestrom-Born received All-American honors during the 2006 season in doubles and finished the season ranked in fifth place.

They struggled earlier in the year, but came back to win six straight matches.



Photo by Chris Barstad | Photo Editor

Freshman Joao Paoliello returns a service shot during the season opener against Western Michigan. Look for the WMU recap Thursday.

Last year they won the ITA Southeast Championships and made it to the Intercollegiate Indoor Championships back in November.

Morgan Richard finished the season last year with an 8-5 record and freshman Marc Rocafort will get his chance to play at the No. 3 spot on the roster.

Redshirt freshman Joao

Paoliello and junior Marc Bioron will finish out the remaining spots on the schedule for the Raiders.

Last year MT finished the season with a 16-8 record and eighth NCAA Team Championships appearance in the last 12 seasons.

Middle Tennessee had a change of schedule for it's home game against Vanderbilt on Feb.

25 at 1 p.m. The match was originally set for Feb. 17.

MT will be playing 10 home games this season, with a six matches scheduled from Jan 28-Feb 3.

Going into the new year MT will be looking to improve on its success for their 14th regular season conference championship and another conference tournament title.

Middle Tennessee plays against Western Michigan and East Tennessee this past weekend and the results from those events will be in Thursday's edition of the Sidelines.

Although they are limited on players Short believes that the Blue Raiders have what it takes to win and they have a chance to go for it all and push for a Sun Belt Championships. ♦

Raiders winning record streak snapped at North Texas

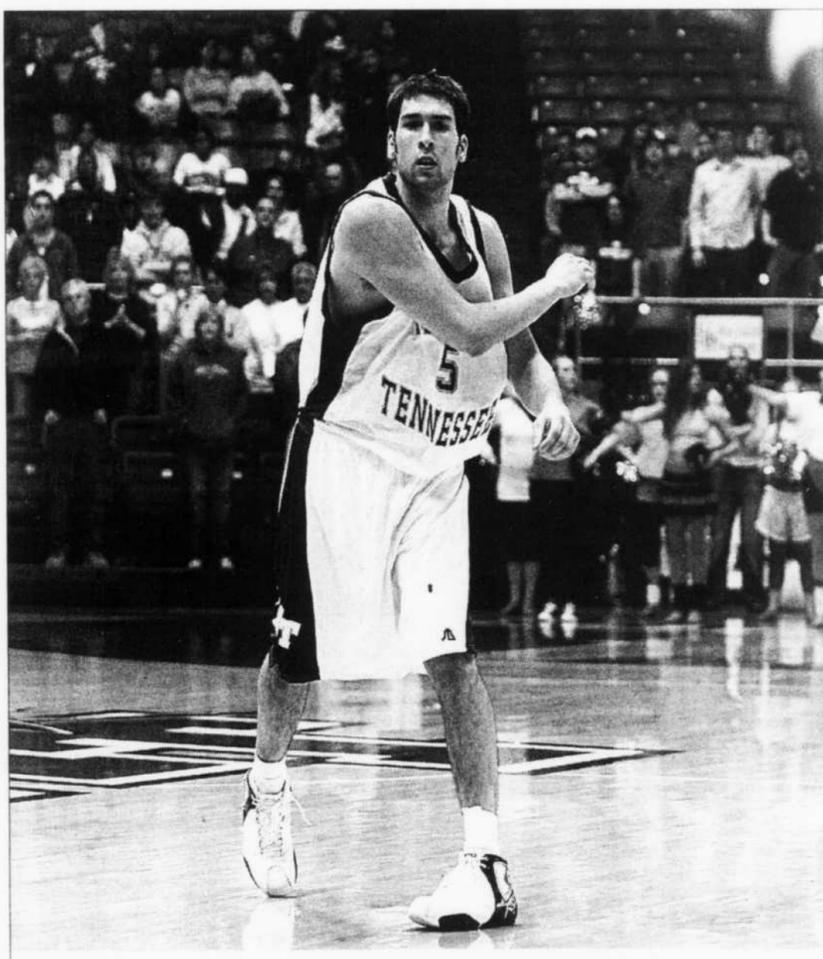


Photo by Greg Johnson | Staff Photographer

Sophomore Kevin Kanaskie was 6 of 9 from the floor. He finished the game with 18 points.

By Wesley Mize

Staff Writer

A home winning streak prevailed over a road winning streak on Thursday night as the Blue Raiders fell to North Texas 66-53.

MT lost their school-record winning streak of five games snapped to UNT, who extended its home conference winning streak to four games.

"The streak was nice, but our goal is to simply get better every game," said Blue Raider head coach Kermit Davis. "We didn't take care of business tonight but the good thing about basketball is we have a chance next time to go out there and improve on what happened tonight."

MT managed to shoot only 37 percent from the field and committed 15 turnovers, with 11 coming in the first half.

UNT scored 18 points off of MT's turnovers in the game.

Middle Tennessee could only get 10 points off of North Texas turnovers.

"We had a lot of careless turnovers," said Davis. "North Texas played tough defense on us but we helped them out by turning the ball over early. We were able to correct the turnover problem in the second half but we couldn't make enough baskets and take the lead."

The Raiders (9-11, 5-5) connected on only one field goal through the first nine minutes of the game and trailed 21-11 at the six minute mark of the first half.

Despite the slow start, MT was able to cut the lead to 42-40 with 13 minutes remaining in the second half. North Texas (14-6, 5-4) was able to answer by connecting on back-to-back 3-pointers to end the Blue Raider rally.

MT looked for Desmond Yates to provide an offensive spark, but he was unable to do so.

Yates came into the game as the team's leading scorer but managed only three points before fouling out.

"Desmond's energy level was down tonight,"

Davis said. "He's been playing with great energy of late and he's been getting rebounds. When he rebounds well, he also seems to score. He settled for jumpers on the outside and then fouled on defense. It was an overall frustrating night for him."

Middle Tennessee came into the game looking to hold UNT under its average and did exactly that. The Mean Green's 66 points are 15 points below its season average.

"We were able to hold them in the mid 60's which is exactly what we wanted to do," said Davis. "What we didn't do is hit baskets. Our front court wasn't able to hit shots around the basket. We missed too many opportunities on shots that we should've made and that hurt us."

Tim Blue led the way for MT scoring 16 points and was the only bright spot in the Blue Raiders offense.

Blue was 7-of-12 in shooting and had five rebounds to tie Kyle Young for the team lead.

While Kevin Kanaskie added 14 points and Nigel Johnson tied his career high for field goals with four and (2) 3-pointers. Johnson had 14 points.

After trailing 27-22 going into the half, Kanaskie hit a 3-pointer with eight seconds to go.

Blue free-throws brought MT within two points of tying the game 42-40, with 13:10 remaining.

UNT went on a 9-2 run for the next three minutes to give them a nine point lead 51-42.

Middle Tennessee managed to get within seven points of the leading Mean Green, but failed to close the gap between them.

Calvin Watson had 21 for the Mean Green, his eighth game of 20 or more points this season.

Murfreesboro, Tenn. to host Louisiana-Lafayette on Jan. 27. ♦

Track team wins three meets, break record

By Clarence Plank

Sports Editor

Middle Tennessee track team won three events and set a new record in the Carle Health Alliance Invitational in Champaign, Ill.

"We don't normally go up to Champaign. This is the first time the school's been up there in 20 years or something," James Thomas said. "It was a pretty good meet, there was pretty good competition. I really liked the track."

Senior Orlando Reid won two events, and McLyn Thompson won the shot put, while freshman Brittany Cox broke the school record in the weight throw.

Reid won the 60-meters with 6.78 and the 200-meters, 21.79. Senior Juan Walker finished behind Reid in second place with 6.98. Rounding out the 60-meters class was junior Carlos Morgan third and Jermaine Barton seventh place.

Sophomore Samuel Adade finished the 200-meters in fourth place with 22.03, and Barton was fifth.

Walker won the 60-meter hurdles with a NCAA provisional mark of 7.81, almost breaking the time he set in Kentucky earlier in the season.

"Our runners, they did it man, They were running hard," Thomas said. "I think Juan won his event in hurdles."

Peire Ingram finished second in the high jump with a distance of 6-6. Walker won the

long jump with a mark 24-0.75 followed by Morgan for second and JaKeith Hairston in third.

Over in the triple jump, Frederick Middlebrooks finished fifth, Hairston was sixth, and rounding out the class, was sophomore Brandon Jones was seventh.

Thomas was second in the hammer throw 55-11 and fourth in the shot put.

MT's men's distance medley relay team finished in third, and the 4x400-meter did not finish their relay.

Thompson won the shot put with a mark of 46-6.75 with Cox in second place. Cox finished third in the weight throw and broke her own school-record by two inches, 56 8.

See Track, 7



Photo by Megan Allender | Staff Photographer

Senior Pierre Ingram finished in second place in the high jump with a leap of 6-6.

Lady Raiders keep on rolling



Photo by Jay Richardson | Staff Photographer

Freshman Brandi Brown was 3 of 5 from the field goal range as MT beat UNT 70-56 on Wednesday.

By Cody Gibson
Staff Writer

Just days after being named to the watch list for the Wade Trophy, Chrissy Givens again delivered a strong outing in leading the Lady Raiders to a 70-56 victory over the Lady Mean Green. This marked the 15th straight win, which is a school record.

Middle Tennessee only led at halftime by one point, 32-31. However, the Lady Raiders proved they are indeed the No. 19 team in America as they used a 20-2 run to begin the half.

This put the game out of reach for North Texas and they were unable to answer the run. Head Coach Rick Insell felt his halftime adjustments were necessary for the team to get in rhythm and take care of the basketball.

"We executed our offense early and we changed defenses on them and I think that gave them some problems," Insell told MT Media Relations. "We went to a point-drop and a contain trap instead of a hard trap up front so they couldn't take it to the basket."

Givens had 26 points on the day as she led the

way for the Lady Raiders. The shooting struggles continued in the first half as the Lady Raiders were only able to shoot 40 percent from the field.

This game marked the ninth road victory of the season for the Lady Raiders. Three pointers were also sparse for the Lady Raiders as they hit only 31 percent from behind the arc.

Amber Holt chipped in with 16 points and had six rebounds, Kystle Horton had another double digit rebounding since her defense was invaluable to the Lady Raiders.

Coach Insell is still a firm believer in Middle Tennessee's talent and ability to keep improving. However, he said he was very impressed with the effort shown by North Texas.

"MT doesn't take anybody for granted. North Texas is very athletic," Insell said to MT Media Relations. "They have lateral quickness. [Amber] Jackson is just deadly. She just did a great job. Right off the bat we let her get off. Then we [have] Chrissy Givens in foul trouble but I felt like we'd be alright. But they came out and really stuck us. They did a great job."

MT will host Denver on Wednesday at 7 p.m.

Results from Saturday MT 7, UT Martin 0

SINGLES

1. Sufi def. Schoonees (UTM), 6-1, 6-4
2. Siljestrom def. Leavy (UTM), 6-4, 6-3
3. Parkison def. Belisa de Brito (UTM), 6-0, 6-0
4. Yusupova def. Wahl (UTM), 6-0, 7-6 (3)
5. Kommireddi def. Koomhof (UTM), 6-2, 6-2
6. Szabo def. Victoria Cann (UTM), 6-1, 6-2

DOUBLES

1. Sufi-Szabo def. Schoonees-Leavy (UTM), 8-6
2. Chemin-Siljestrom defeats Koomhof-de Brito (UTM), 8-2
3. Kommireddi-Parkison defeats Gunn-Wahl (UTM), 8-2

Results from Friday's MT 7, Tennessee Tech 0

SINGLES

1. Hala Sufi def. Amy Anstay (TTU), 6-1, 6-2
2. Ann-Kristin Siljestrom def. Margot Carter (TTU), 6-3, 7-6 (4)
3. Stephanie Parkison def. Marina Ruiz de Guana (TTU), 7-5, 6-0
4. Elvira Yusupova def. Evgenia Yartseva (TTU), 6-2, 6-2
5. Pooja Kommireddi def. Kay Ngiam (TTU), default - injury
6. Claudia Szabo won by default

DOUBLES

1. Sufi-Szabo (MT) def. Anstay-Carter (TTU), 8-7 (7)
2. Marlene Chemin-Siljestrom (MT) def. Ruiz de Guana-Yartseva (TTU), 8-0
3. Parkison-Kommireddi (MT) won by default

Lady Raiders tennis briefs

By Clarence Plank
Sports Editor

Middle Tennessee women's tennis team won its second straight dual match, by sweeping all single and doubles matches to win 7-0 over UT-Martin on Saturday at the Racquet Club.

The Lady Raiders are 2-0 at the beginning of the tennis season.

MT won six singles matches, with Stephanie Parkison beating out Belisa de Brito, 6-0, 6-0.

Teammate junior Claudia Szabo defeated Victoria Cann 6-1, 6-2.

Sophomore Pooja Kommireddi beat Ernestine Koomhof 6-2, 6-2.

Senior Hala Sufi, who is ranked 47th in the nation in singles, beat Elizma Schoonees, 6-1, 6-4.

Ann-Kristen Siljestrom defeated Sara Leavy, 6-4, 6-3.

Rounding out the field sophomore Elvira Yusupova won the last singles match, 6-0, 7-6 (3) over Martie Wahl.

Over in double action Parkison-Kommireddi beat out UTM's Mary Beth Gunn-Wahl, 8-2.

Marlene Chemin and Siljestrom defeated Koomhof and de Brito, 8-2.

Sufi-Szabo beat Schoonees-Leavy, 8-6 for the final win of the events.

Lady Raiders sweep Tennessee Tech

In their home opener on Friday the women's tennis squad swept Tennessee Tech in double and singles matches.

Tennessee Tech defaulted some of its matches because they were short a couple of players due to injuries.

In doubles Szabo-Sufi defeated Tennessee Tech after falling behind 6-3.

They finish the match with a score of 9-7 after fighting back from a tie.

Chemin-Siljestrom won their first game 8-0 and the Blue Raiders won another by default.

In singles competition the Raiders swept all of the singles events and picked up win at No. 5 and No. 6 by default of TTU.

Sufi beat Amy Anstay, 6-1, 6-2. Yusupova beat Evgenia Yartseva, 6-2, 6-2.

Parkison defeated Marina Ruiz de Guana 7-5, 6-0.

Siljestrom beat Margot Carter, 6-3, 7-6 (4).

The Lady Raiders head to Ole Miss next weekend to play against the Lady Rebels on Tuesday Feb. 6 at 2 p.m.

Track: Record breakers

Continued from 6

ished third in the weight throw and broke her own school-record by two inches, 56-8.

"It actually went really well. Brittany, I believe, set a school record in the weight throw and Melyn set a PR in the shot and ended up winning," Thomas said. "Brittany got second. I had my best throw, so far this season since I injured my back."

Stephanie Tamgho finished second in the long jump, while teammate Sarah Nambawa was sev-

enth in her first attempt. Nambawa also finished fifth in the triple jump and Tamgho was seventh.

Freshman Tenesha Hill finished in sixth place in the 60-meters and senior Shanna-Kay Campbell was fifth in the 200-meters. Hill competed in the 200-meters and finished seventh.

Senior Veronia Patterson finished in third in the 400-meters, followed by TraMayne Gillyard, who finished in eighth place.

Freshman Sangau Zamzam finished eighth in the mile run and finished eighth in the 600-meter. Nambawa was sixth in the 600-meters.

Iceca Epps was fifth in the 60-meter hurdles and the women's 4x400-meters team finished fourth.

Middle Tennessee travels to Bloomington, Ind., for the Indiana Invitational on February 3-4th. ♦

HOUSING REAPPLICATIONS NOW BEING ACCEPTED FOR FALL 2007 / SPRING 2008

The Housing and Residential Life Office is now accepting housing reapplication forms from returning students for the Fall 2007/Spring 2008 academic year. Students are encouraged to reapply for housing as early as possible, particularly if they are requesting to move to a different location on campus next year, as new assignments are made by application date.

Students requesting to remain in their same location on campus next year will be given first priority to do so as long as their reapplication and \$300 prepaid rent deposit are received by the deadline. The reapplication deadline with priority for the 2007/2008 academic year is **FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2007 at 4:00 PM.**

Students need to complete a reapplication form available in the Housing and Residential Life Office, pay the \$300 prepaid rent at the business office cashier windows in the Cope Administration Building, 1st floor, and return the reapplication form stamped "paid" to the Housing and Residential Life office in the Keathley University Center, Room 300, Monday through Friday, 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM.

Students also have the option of reapplying for housing with priority online at www.mtsu.edu. The \$300 prepaid rent is paid by using a credit card, MasterCard or Visa, or by completing an online check. There is an additional \$19 nonrefundable service fee charged by the third party for processing the payment online. Please note that the amount of the prepaid rent deposit has increased to \$300 for the Fall 2007/Spring 2008 academic year.

To obtain a **HOUSING REAPPLICATION FORM**, please come by the Housing and Residential Life office during office hours, 8AM to 4:30PM, Monday through Friday, in the Keathley University Center, Room 300.

****Summer '07 Housing Applications** are also available in the Housing Office. Reserve your summer space now by completing the housing application and submitting it with the \$125.00 prepaid rent deposit. It is not too early!!

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For additional information or questions, please contact Housing and Residential Life during office hours at 898-2971.

Coming out swinging

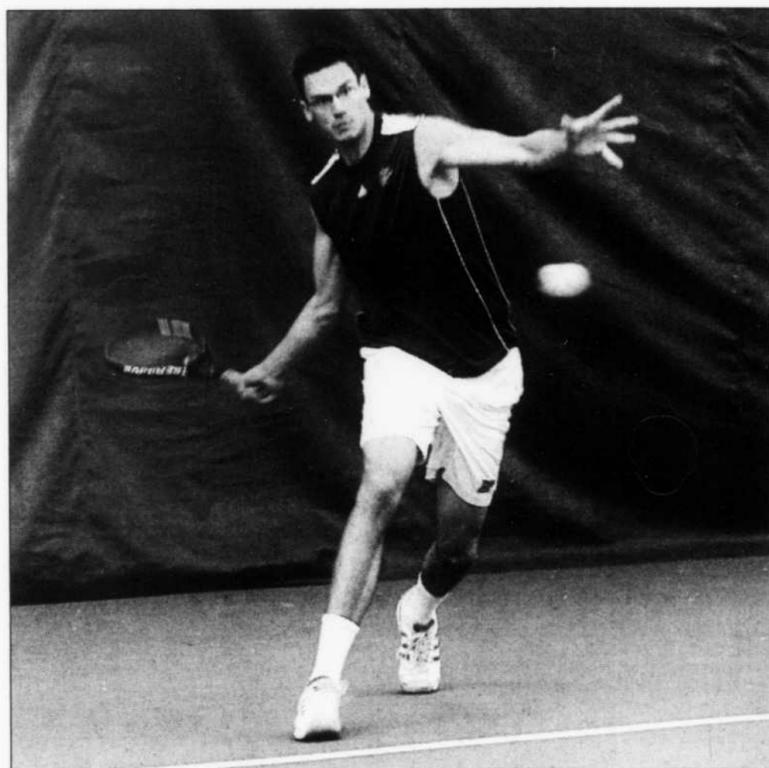


Photo by Chris Barstad | Photo Editor

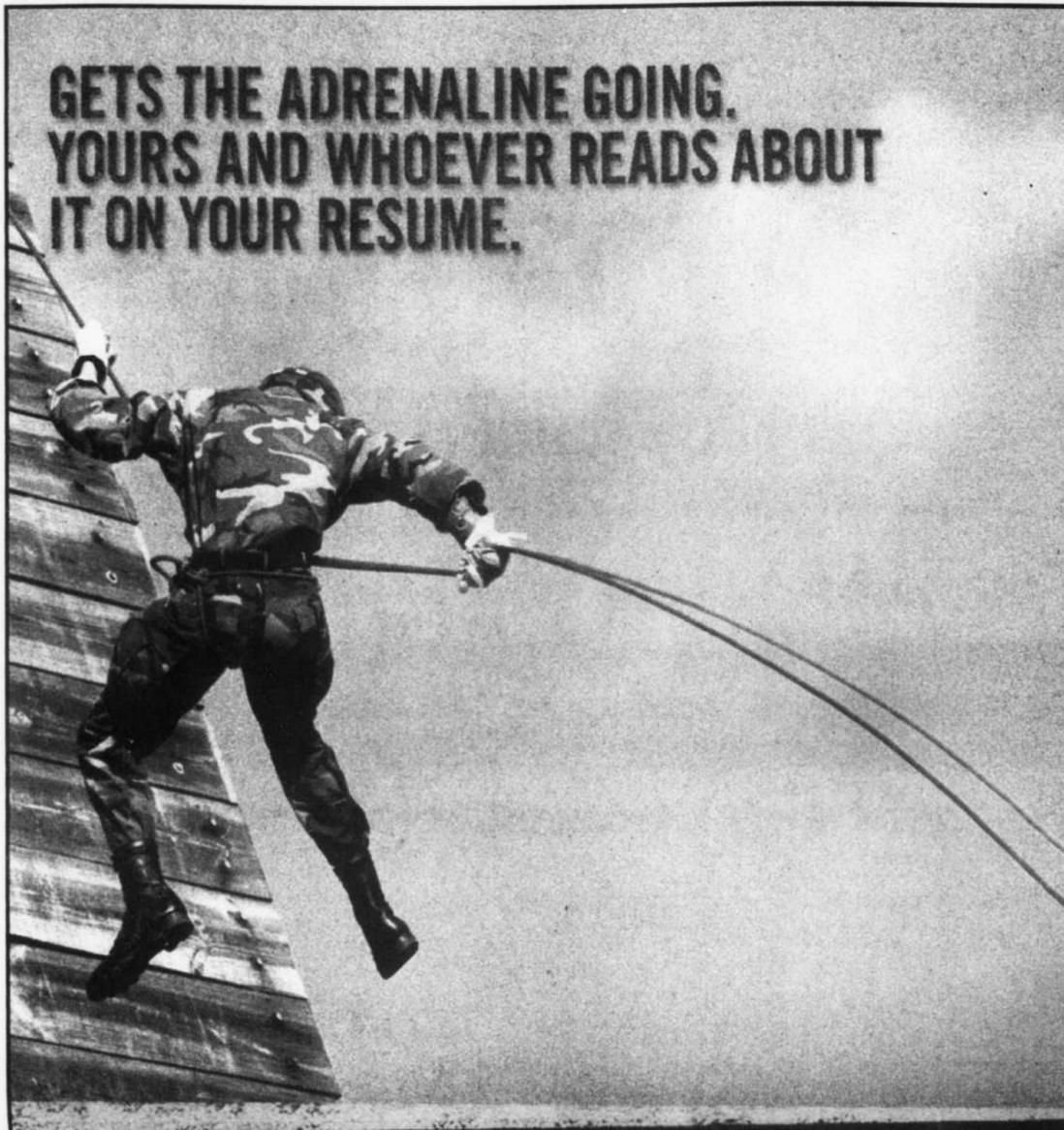
Redshirt senior Marco Born is currently ranked 3rd in double and 88th in singles this season. Look for tennis preview on page 6.

Always wanted to be a
Sidelines sportswriter?
Come to Mass Comm 269 and sign up
today!

SPRING 2007 INTRAMURAL SPORTS SCHEDULE

Event	Entries Due	Play Begins
5 on 5 Basketball	1 / 23 / 2007	1 / 29 / 2007
Indoor Soccer League	1 / 30 / 2007	2 / 5 / 2007
Wiffleball Tourney	2 / 21 / 2007	2 / 19 / 2007
Softball League	3 / 13 / 2007	3 / 16 / 2007
Arena Football	3 / 20 / 2007	3 / 26 / 2007
Dodgeball League	3 / 27 / 2007	4 / 2 / 2007
Racquetball	3 / 27 / 2007	4 / 2 / 2007
Sports Trivia Contest	3 / 29 / 2007	4 / 2 / 2007
Table Tennis	4 / 5 / 2007	4 / 10 / 2007
Kickball Tourney	4 / 11 / 2007	4 / 16 / 2007

For more information please call the Campus Rec office at 615-898-2104.



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For more information, visit Forrest Hall, Room 1, or contact Major Giles at 898-2470 or cgiles@mtsu.edu. VISIT THE ARMY ROTC BOOTH AT THE MTSU SUMMER JOBS & INTERNSHIP FAIR ON FEB. 7.

SGA ELECTIONS

Elect Your 2007-2008 Executive Officers and Senators!

IMPORTANT DATES

January 29	Candidate Election Packets Available in SGA Office (KUC 208)
February 6	Candidate Election Packets Due to SGA Office by 4:00 p.m.
February 13	Candidate Eligibility Announced
February 15	6:00 p.m. Mandatory Candidate Meeting
February 17	Campaigning Begins
February 19	6:00 p.m. Candidate Debate (BAS State Farm Room)
February 27-March 1	Elections via PipelineMT
March 2	Election Results Announced

MTSU Master's Swim Club Wave Raiders Team Scores

The MTSU Wave Raiders traveled through the heavy rains on Sunday – January 21, to compete with 10 teams at the Barbara Steven's Memorial Swim Meet sponsored by the Western Kentucky Green Gators. Nine Middle Tennessee Masters Swimmers scored 150 points. MT won the WKGG overall team division trophy and the women's WKGG Highest Scoring female team plaque.

Team Stats:

500meters Freestyle	Meet Times	Points/Place
Karen Wallace	7:49.52	5pts 2nd
Sue Ann Holton	8:11.88	4pts 3rd

200m Medley Relay	2:03.86	14pts 1st
Men's Relay		

Luke Robbins:	36.72
James Brendle:	34.83
Chad Farmer:	26.37
Hap Parsons:	25.94

Women's Relay	2:19.96	14pts 1st
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200meters Medley Relay	
Bethany Powell:	37.70
Desirae Selitsch:	32.62
Karen Wallace:	35.08
Sue Ann Holton:	34.28

50meters Butterfly		
Karen Wallace:	42.26	7pts 1st
Pam Footit	1:01.16	7pts 1st
Chad Farmer:	26.42	7pts 1st
James Brendle:	30.43	5pts 2nd
Hap Parsons:	32.28	7pts 1st

100m breaststroke		
James Brendle	1:18.63	7pts 1st

50meters Freestyle		
Women		
Desirae Selitsch:	27.72	7pts 1st
Bethany Powell:	29.76	5pts 2nd
Sue Ann Holton:	36.50	4pts 3rd

Men		
James Brendle:	28.72	4pts 3rd
Chad Farmer:	24.13	7pts 1st
Hap Parsons:	26.27	7pts 1st

100m Backstroke		
Pam Footit	2:08.24	7pts 1st
Bethany Powell	1:19.35	4pts 3rd
Chad Farmer	1:07.44	5pts 2nd

100m Freestyle		
Bethany Powell	1:08.66	7pts 1st
Karen Wallace	1:08.90	5pts 2nd
Hap Parsons	1:01.80	5pts 2nd
Chad Farmer:	52.75	7pts 1st

50m Backstroke		
Desirae Silitisch:	33.25	7pts 1st
Karen Wallace:	41.32	4pts 3rd
Pam Footit:	53.44	7pts 1st
Hap Parsons:	34.94	7pts 1st

200m Freestyle		
Sue Ann Holton	3:00.77	5pts 2nd

100m IM		
Desirae Selitsch	1:10.00	7pts 1st
Bethany Powell	1:22.66	4pts 3rd
Pam Footit	2:06.57	7pts 1st
Chad Farmer	1:03.14	5pts 2nd
James Brendle	1:09.24	4pts 3rd

200m Freestyle Relays		
Men's Relay	1:47.52	14pts 1st

James Brendle:	29.07
Chad Farmer:	29.07
Hap Parsons:	26.23
Luke Robbins:	25.94

Women's Relay	2:13.45	14pts 1st
Karen Wallace:	31.17	
Bethany Powell:	38.83	
Sue Ann Holton:	32.62	
Desirae Selitsch:	30.85	

Team Points= 262
Men's pts= 112
Women's pts= 122

Individual pts:	
Women	
Pam Footit	35
Desirae Selitsch	28
Karen Wallace	26
Bethany Powell	20
Sue Ann Holton	13

Men	
Hap Parsons	33
Chad Farmer	31
James Brendle	20
Luke Robbins	0