



Mostly cloudy



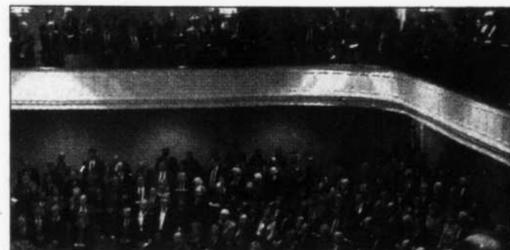
This week's poll question at
www.mtsusidelines.com:

Do you believe in UFOs?

IN MEMORY

Bragg remembered at service Tuesday

In State and Local, 3



Middle Tennessee State University SIDELINES

The university's
editorially independent
student newspaper

MURFREESBORO,
TENNESSEE

Volume 79 No. 56

Campus briefs

Phi Chi sorority holding recruitment next week

Phi Chi sorority will hold recruitment Feb. 9-12. Feb. 9 will be an introductory evening at 6:30 p.m. in Keathley University Center, Room 315. There will be a skating party Feb. 10 and an ice cream social Feb. 11. Bid night is Feb. 12. For more information, contact Katie Least at 895-0737 or visit www.devoted.to/phichi.

Fraternity recruitment continues this week

Students interested in joining a fraternity can sign up to participate in fraternity recruitment this week in the Greek Life office in KUC, Room 326S.

For more information, contact the office at 898-5996.

Students to form Murfreesboro NOW

An official chapter of the National Organization for Women is forming in Murfreesboro. The first meeting is scheduled for Friday at 7 p.m. at the Joe Muggs Cafe inside the Murfreesboro Books-A-Million. Contact Blanche Sanchez via e-mail at HeartofTennesseeNow@yahoo.com for further information.

Professor, author to speak on traveling

David Keeling, head of geography and geology at Western Kentucky University, will lecture on "Study Abroad as a Window to the World" Monday at 7 p.m. in the Tennessee Room of the James Union Building.

The lecture will be sponsored by the department of global studies, and will be free and open to the public. For more information, contact Doug Heffington at 898-5978.

Campus Freethought announces meeting

The Campus Freethought Alliance will have a meeting tonight at 6:30 p.m. in Peck Hall, Room 220. Members will discuss the success of their recent flying saucers debate.

For more information, contact Amanda Cotton at freethnk@mtsu.edu.

Co-ed music fraternity will sing serenades

Phi Mu Alpha, the campus co-ed music fraternity, is taking orders to serenade loved ones Feb. 13. A small ensemble of songs costs \$10, while a larger ensemble costs \$20.

For more information, or to set up a serenade, call 849-7687 or 653-0050, or e-mail sinfonia@mtsu.edu.

John Hood to speak at group meeting

The College Democrats will host Rep. John Hood at their meeting tomorrow at 5 p.m. in Peck Hall, Room 200.

For more information, e-mail mtsucollegedemocrats@yahoo.com.

Celebrating heritage

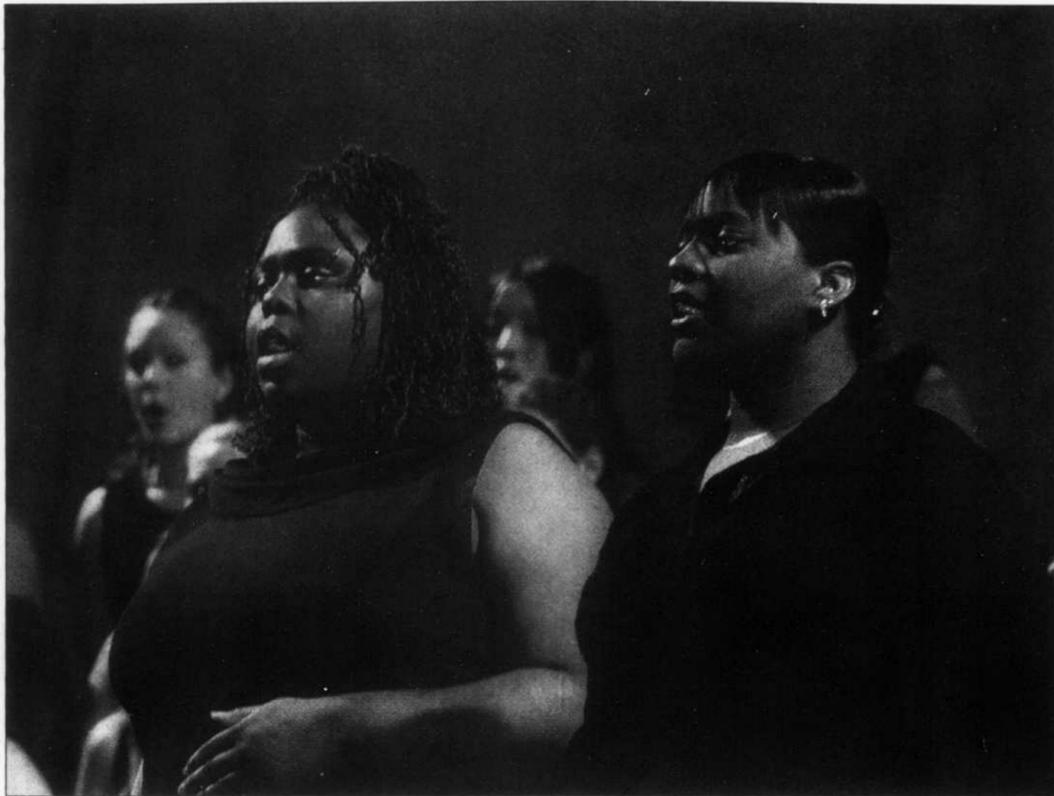


Photo by Kyle Seaman | Staff Photographer

Oakland High School students Janora Nance, left, and Shamika Wilson sing hymns Sunday during the Gospel Extravaganza, held in Tucker Theatre, to kick off African-American History Month 2004.

Black History Month kicks off

By Meagan Kirby
Staff Writer

MTSU has a full calendar for the month of February to celebrate African-American History Month.

On Feb. 12, there will be a panel discussion over Race and the Criminal Justice System. The location and time was not available by press time. For details, call the African-American studies office at 898-5905.

An Alumni Achievement Reception will be held Feb. 20. This reception will honor African-American alumni from the university who have given back to the community. The reception starts at 6 p.m. in the Alumni Center.

The annual School Children's Luncheon will be held Feb. 20 in the Tennessee Room in the James Union Building. This luncheon brings in a few hundred local school children and shows them the campus, and will take place

from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

The annual civil rights trip to Birmingham will be Feb. 20. This trip will also include a viewing of the documentary, *4 Little Girls*, en route. Spike Lee directed this documentary about the bombing of the 16th Street Church in Birmingham in 1963. Students wanting to go should meet in the faculty dining room of the JUB that morning. A bus will leave from the JUB at 7 a.m. and return at 7 p.m. For more information, contact Margaret Seime at 898-5766 or Robert Rucker at 898-2510.

A faculty development seminar will be held Feb. 20 in the Cason-Kennedy Nursing Building. The seminar is titled "Focus on Student Learning," and will last from 12:30 to 4:30 p.m.

"50 Years after Brown: The Impact of the Brown Decision on Education and Society," a panel discussion, will be held Feb. 24 in the Business and Aerospace Building, Room S128. Panelists will

include Rondal Rochon, associate dean of the College of Education at the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse, and Sekou Franklin, professor of political science at MTSU.

A few other events have been planned for March.

On March 4, George White Jr., professor of African-American studies at University of Tennessee will present a speech on "How History Looks Different When Race is Taken Seriously."

A jazz concert will be held in Tucker Theatre at 7 p.m. March 8.

On March 18, Adonijah Bakari, professor of African-American studies, and Ayana Imani Bakari, a marriage adviser, will give a lecture on "Relationships from an African Spiritual Perspective."

The lecture will be in the BAS, Room S128, from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m.

For more information on any of the events, contact the African-American studies office at 898-5909. ♦

Survey to focus on fan turnout

By Leah Massey
Staff Writer

The Blue Raider Athletic Association is conducting a study, with help from consultants, to find out why people do or do not attend home football games.

Don Roy, assistant marketing professor, is the market research director of the Sports Insight Group, which is acting as a consultant to the BRAA.

SIG has created a survey, known as the Fan-Friendly Initiative, to learn what factors contribute to people attending, or not attending, home football games.

"The goal is to take the information we've collected from those attending and non-attending, and use that information to try to make game day experience at an MTSU football game more enjoyable," Roy said.

He added that they wanted people to leave the game feeling that they had received a great value for their money.

The athletic department sent postcards to season ticket holders, alumni in Rutherford County and BRAA members. The cards contained a message from James "Boots" Donnelly, the athletic director, asking the recipients to take a survey on the MTSU athletics Web site.

According to Bill Lansden, associate athletic director of marketing and fund-raising, postcards were sent out to about 15,000 individuals.

"If anyone is going to come to the games, you'd expect them to come from those three audiences," Roy said. "They have very significant ties to MTSU."

A similar project was conducted in the fall semester among MTSU students.

Roy said that the objectives of both campaigns are the same: to find out why students who do

See Survey, 2

Songwriters' rights addressed

Authors coerced into giving partial credits to artists

By Meagan Kirby
Staff Writer

According to recording industry professor Geoff Hull, songwriters are trying to get their rights back.

"Songwriters often offer or are coerced into giving partial writer credits to recording artists or producers who agree to record their songs," Hull said

yesterday during the second lecture of the weekly "Perspectives on Popular Music" series.

Hull said that according to the Copyright Act of 1976, new rights were given to authors for terminating transfers of rights years later.

One of the rights is for songs written in 1978 or later. The termination of transfer rights is "after 40 years after the transfer or 35 years after the first publication if the transfer involves the right to publish," Hull explained.

"However, there is a five-year

time period when the termination must take place," Hull said. "There must be a two-year written notice and no more than 10 years written notice to the transferee."

The second right applies to songs written before 1978.

"The five-year termination period begins after the end of the renewal period or after 75 years of copyright if the transfer was not terminated during the first opportunity," Hull said.

The third right says that the

See Rights, 2



Photo by Micah Miller | Photo Editor

Geoff Hull, recording industry professor, speaks yesterday about the rights of songwriters.

Professor discusses health care trends in honors lecture

By Tim Hill
Staff Writer

Republicans have talked about it for years. Democrats have said it doesn't go far enough.

But according to Kenneth Hollman, Martin Chair of Insurance at MTSU, "Consumer-driven health care is considered the last resort before a universal national health care plan is adopted in this country."

On Monday afternoon, Hollman described the pros and



Hollman

cons of consumer-driven health care during the weekly honors lecture.

"Consumers have purchasing powers over everything else in their lives except for health care," Hollman said. "Is it a coincidence that only in the health care industry is where you'd find that third-party reimbursements determine prices, rather than the

laws of supply and demand?" he asked.

Hollman said that there are three key characteristics of what is called consumer-driven health care. The first, which was passed by Congress and signed into law by President George W. Bush in 2002, is called Health Reimbursement (or Savings) Accounts.

Under this arrangement, employers and employees can contribute up to \$2,000 on annual basis into a tax-free medical account.

"There is no 'use it or lose it'

provision, so consumers begin to look at this money at their money," Hollman said.

The money can be used for non-catastrophic routine care, such as breast cancer screenings or annual physicals. In the event an employee switches jobs or is laid off, the money "rolls over" to the new job and stays active in the account until it is used.

The second part of consumer-driven health care is a medical hotline. It is a 1-800 number giving millions of Americans access to a database of answers to their health care

questions.

"Under a complete arrangement, people would be able to see how long different services and procedures would take at various hospitals in their town," Hollman said.

Consumers could also receive a password-protected Web page that would ensure the confidentiality of their requests. People could also find out which doctors are available at certain hospitals.

The third side to

See Lecture, 2

Class holds mock Democratic debate

By Kristin Hall
News Editor

Students in a women's studies class got involved in the presidential election by holding a mock debate between candidates.

Last week, each student picked a Democratic primary candidate or Republican candidate George W. Bush and researched his platforms on issues important to young female voters.

"They were responsible to present those views and ideas in their own words in a written statement in an interactive live debate," explained professor Andy Smith.

The candidates represented by students in the class were Bush, Gen. (ret.) Wesley Clark, Sen. John Kerry, former Gov. Howard Dean, Rep. Dennis Kucinich, the Rev. Al Sharpton and Sen. John Edwards. The only Democratic candidate not represented was Sen. Joe Lieberman.

"For the full 75 minutes of the class, the students were posed questions, had to think on their feet, respond on their feet, and then the class held a mock election," Smith said.

The issues students were concerned

about included reproductive rights, whether insurance companies should cover prescription birth control, education and rights of gay and lesbian people.

"A lot of diversity and a lot of good opinions were expressed in the debate and we talked about real issues that were of concern to young people," Smith said.

The students researched the candidates online and found it an easy way to understand the basics of a candidate's platform.

"Most the candidates have a fairly coherent, fairly in-depth platform that articulates well-defined positions on the issue," Smith said.

Smith said that he thinks these specific issues are helping Democratic candidates stand apart from Bush.

"I think in this 2004 election, one of the big differences will be a clear cut philosophical, ideological, political, moral difference between the president and his challenger, whoever that might be," Smith said.

The mock election of Democratic candidates ended with Kerry in the lead and Clark and Dean in close second.

"Then we had a general election, where

we pitted an unnamed nominee, whoever the Democratic nominee was, against President Bush," Smith explained.

The Democratic nominee won an overwhelming majority of the votes, but Smith attributed this to the nature of the course itself and the make-up of the individuals who take women's studies classes.

Overall, the mock debate and election helped students become aware of the candidate's position on important issues facing young people today, Smith said.

"I think it's a good thing to do to help people see the intersection between public life and school life," Smith said. "I think it needs more of a place in the university classroom, not less of a place."

While Smith hopes that the debate encouraged students to vote on Feb. 10 during Tennessee's Democratic primary, he is optimistic that their involvement will not be limited to voting.

"Voting is only one part of being a part of the political process," Smith said. "It's the easiest part, but one that many choose not to exercise." ♦

Lecture: Media have aided consumer-driven health care

Continued from 1

consumer-driven health care involves vision care.

"As new technology becomes available, prices tend to go down," Hollman said. The LASIK correction surgery has gone down anywhere between \$250-\$500 per eye. The operation originally cost more than \$1,000 per eye when it first became available less than 10 years ago.

Hollman said that advertising is key to educating the public about the advantages of consumer-driven health care.

"There's plenty of advertising about vision care," he said. He also said that computer literate and tech-savvy folks are adjusting to consumer-driven health care better than people who don't have access to computers.

"All of this new attention in the media, however, is giving consumer-driven health care an encouraging launch pad," Hollman said.

Educating the public about these new initiatives is crucial to decreasing the number of the uninsured, he said.

Although Hollman discussed

many of the advantages of consumer-driven health care, he also mentioned a few problems.

"Employers could use their contribution to health savings account as a means to cap their total annual investment in an employee's health care," he said.

Hollman said that the Health Savings Accounts are "good for healthy employees, but unfortunately leaves out unhealthy ones." He mentioned that for employees who are rarely sick, the accounts will continue to build up over time.

"Employees with predictable health care expenses — such as

single parents with children — will see their \$2,000 used up pretty quickly," Hollman said. "Some employees would most likely stay with their HMO or PPO because of lower co-payments and premiums."

Hollman noted that there are currently 43.6 million Americans without health insurance, including 8 million children.

"Consumer-driven health care seems to be the best way to fix a broken health care system before a national plan ever becomes law," he said. ♦

Survey: Team needs numbers to retain Division I status

Continued from 1

come to games attend as well as the reasons why students don't attend home football games.

"The greatest impact attendance has on the athletic department would be ticket sale," Roy said.

Larger attendance numbers at home football games also has favorable psychological benefits for the team, Roy added.

Lansden said that another reason more fans are needed at home football games is so that the football team can retain its Division I status in the NCAA.

Last year, MTSU averaged around 10,000 people at each home game. The average needs to rise to at least 15,000 in the fall of 2004 or the football team may lose its Division I status.

The average attendance of 15,000 is a new NCAA guideline that goes into effect this fall. Football is the only sport that the NCAA requires a certain number of people to attend.

"We want to make sure that we meet the minimum," Roy said. "Obviously we want to go beyond that."

There are five home games scheduled for this fall. The foot-

ball schedule has not yet been announced, but Lansden expects it to be released within the next couple of weeks.

"I think fans ... are appreciative that someone is taking the time to ask them what they think of MT football," Roy said.

The last day to take part in the survey is Feb. 8. Anyone who takes part in the survey can receive two free tickets to the men's basketball game on Feb. 26 against Western Kentucky University.

Lansden will receive the results of the latest survey on Feb. 10, and hopes to receive

information that will help him and the BRAA create new ways of making the home football games more enjoyable.

"With this initiative, we're going to create a whole new group of fans," he said.

To learn more about the BRAA, the NCAA guidelines and MTSU athletics, visit www.goblueraiders.com. Anyone interested in taking the survey can visit the Web site and click on the "Football fan survey" banner. ♦

CRIME LOG

Sunday, Jan. 25 — 8:14 p.m.

Davis Science Building lot
Two people came in and filed a report on a hit and run that happened overnight.

Monday, Jan. 26 — 7:44 a.m.

Monohan Apartments
Vandalism under \$500.

Monday, Jan. 26 — 1:41 p.m.

Murphy Center
Subject witnessed a hit and run accident in parking lot of Mass Communication Building. A silver Ford mustang hit another vehicle and then backed out and left.

Tuesday, Jan. 27 — 10:09 p.m.

Business and Aerospace Building
Vending machine found vandalized in Room S106.

Tuesday, Jan. 27 — 11:32 p.m.

Gracy Hall
Boyfriend put hand through window. Suspect is white male about 5-feet-10-inches driving a white Chevy S10. Possible injury. Blood at the scene.

Wednesday, Jan. 28 — 3:06 a.m.

Old Main Circle at Visitors Center
Daniel Collett of Darden, Tenn., was arrested for driving under the influence. This is his first offense.

Thursday, Jan. 29 — 11:13 a.m.

Keathley University Center
Subject came in to report her bike was stolen from the bike rack in front of the KUC.

Thursday, Jan. 29 — 1:07 p.m.

Greenland Drive, Lot A
Subject called and reported that someone hit her car while she was in class.

Friday, Jan. 30 — 1:56 a.m.

Greek Row
Beta House complained that the Sigma Chis were provoking a fight. One male beaten up. Officers called for an ambulance and victim was transported to the hospital. The on-call dean was at 3 a.m. by Sgt. Jason Morton concerning the study being taken to the emergency room due to injuries from the fight.

Friday, Jan. 30 — 12:34 p.m.

Campus
Subject came into station and filled out a report in reference to a stolen bike.

Monday, Feb. 2 — 1:02 p.m.

Cummings Annex lot
Subject reported a hit and run.

Monday, Feb. 2 — 1:27 p.m.

Smith Hall
Subject's debit card was taken and used.

To report crimes or emergencies, contact Public Safety at 898-2424. Contact MTSU Crime Stoppers at 893-STOP.

Rights: Authors can now recapture rights, Hull says

Continued from 1

right to terminate may not be waived or sold.

Hull also said that many people claim to be the author or co-author of a song. He said the term "author" is specific in copyright law.

"It applies to people who create songs, or to their employers if it was a work-for-hire job," Hull said. "Unless a person actually wrote the song, they cannot be the author under copyright laws."

Hull said any agreement that

says someone is an author can't be true.

"These agreements can only transfer rights between people, and these transfers can be terminated," he said. "Actual authors can now recapture their rights, even from fake authors using these rights."

For more information about the lecture series, call the Center for Popular Music at 898-2449. The lectures are held every Tuesday from 12:30 to 1:15 p.m. in Room 241 of the John Bragg Mass Communication Building. ♦

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STATE AND LOCAL

Murfreesboro, Tenn.

Wednesday, February 4, 2004

SIDELINES ◆ 3

Bragg remembered at service yesterday

By Jason Cox
State and Local News Editor

Family, friends, former associates and well-wishers gathered yesterday afternoon to remember former state Rep. John Bragg.

Former Gov. Ned McWherter, university President Sidney McPhee and Student Government Association president Michele Butler were among those present for the memorial service at First Baptist Church in Murfreesboro. Speakers praised Bragg for what they described as a selfless service to the state and to the community.

He "had a way of making hard things look easy," said David Garth, who delivered the opening prayer.

"It always seemed the political challenge was not getting elected, but it was getting the good thing and the right thing done," Garth said.

"(Bragg) maintained a happy approach at all times," said Eugene Cotey, retired pastor of First Baptist Church.

"John would bring people together and, in mutual trust, they would work things out," Cotey said. "He cherished lofty ideals — truth and justice and purity."

Cotey pointed out that Bragg could have used his skills for far more financial gain than he did, but that Bragg chose a life of servitude.

"He had a mission to accomplish in life, and it was that of a public servant," he said.

To know Bragg, Cotey said, "was to know his friendliness (and) his desire to serve" and that Bragg never harmed a person in his life.

Shortly before the crowd rose to sing the hymn "Just As I Am," Cotey said the song related well to Bragg because he "was not a man of pretense."

Bragg died Saturday of complications stemming from a heart attack he suffered approximately a week before. *The Daily News Journal* reported that he had bypass surgery 20 years ago. He is survived by wife Susan, sons Tommy and David, a sister, five grandchildren and three stepchildren.

He spent nearly 30 years as a representative from the Murfreesboro area and is responsible for legislation that provided the first child safety seat law in the country. He actively worked to promote MTSU, and the John Bragg Mass Communication Building pays tribute to that legacy. He was a member of the class of 1940, has been inducted into the Blue Raider Hall of Fame and received the MTSU Distinguished Alumnus Award. He also worked to establish the Chairs of Excellence program throughout the state.

"On behalf of the entire MTSU family, I would like to extend my sympathies to the entire Bragg family," McPhee said in a statement issued Saturday. "We will miss him, but really, he will never be gone from our midst. To be part of the MTSU family is to be surrounded by John Bragg's presence each and every day." ◆



Photo by Seth Holland | Staff Photographer

John Bragg III and Tommy Bragg welcome visitors at John Bragg's memorial service.

Meat Murfreesboro



Photo by Seth Holland | Staff Photographer

Brandon Richards serves Chris Odbert and Anne Duggan an Atkins-friendly meal from Ruby Tuesday's low-carbohydrate menu.

Local eateries jump on Atkins' wagon

By Melissa Coker
Staff Writer

Meat is neat, at least to the many Murfreesboro eaters on the Atkins diet/low-carbohydrate plan.

Several restaurants have honed in on this trend to offer menu choices for the carbohydrate-challenged. Ruby Tuesday's, O'Charley's, T.G.I. Friday's and the sandwich chain known for its own diet plan — Subway, have all jumped on the bandwagon.

In addition to regulars already on the list, meat-eaters can wrap their paws around the two new Atkins-friendly choices on the Subway menu. The turkey and bacon melt wrap has eight net carbohydrates and the chicken bacon ranch wrap has 10. The ingredients for any 6-inch sub can also be made into a wheat-based wrap with the understanding that customers count these carbohydrates themselves. "The best diet is a balanced diet that includes a variety of health foods,"

said Lanette Kovachi, Subway restaurants staff dietician. "We recognize there are many different approaches to weight loss and have always tried to offer dieters a menu with the choices they are looking for." Murfreesboro Subway employee Deidra Layne of the 116 Chaffin Place location says in a few weeks they will be adding Atkins-friendly salads with such ingredients as feta cheese and spinach leaves. T.G.I. Friday's has also partnered

with Atkins Nutritionals, Inc. to offer Atkins-friendly appetizers and entrees such as tuna salad wraps, a chargrilled salmon fillet, chicken choices and more. Selections are served with vegetables in place of the usual bread or french fries.

Another way consumers are cutting carbohydrates is to go bunless on their burgers, which is one option offered by both T.G.I. Friday's and O'Charley's.

See Atkins, 4

Budget calls for cuts

By Patrick Chinnery
State Capital Bureau

Gov. Phil Bredesen announced his new budget proposal to a joint session of the General Assembly Monday night, trumpeting his \$174 million of new state revenue proposal to improve K-12 education.

The \$23.85 billion budget includes a 5 percent budget reduction for most state departments, including the Tennessee Higher Education Commission. Bredesen noted in his State of the State speech, however, that new money for capital outlays on campuses would make up most of the difference.

Although the governor earmarked \$77 million for direct improvements, he has requested an additional \$94 million to match university fund raising two to one to complete the rest of the new construction.

"This partnership, if our college presidents take advantage of it, will allow us this year to fund the 11 highest priority building projects across our higher-education system," he said.

In his K-12 proposal, Bredesen asked for \$90 million to give across-the-board pay raises to the state's teachers and \$50 million to fully fund the Supreme Court-mandated Basic Education Plan.

One of the largest cuts is from the TennCare program, which faces a reduction of \$112

See Bredesen, 4

Permission now needed to recognize outstanding students



Photo by Kyle Seaman | Staff Photographer

Some students in Nashville will have to have parental permission to be on the school's honor roll or have their work put up in the halls.

School officials cite privacy, other students' esteem

By B.J. Chaplin
Staff Writer

According to a new rule set down by the Metro Nashville-Davidson school board, academic achievements published by Nashville students now require parental consent forms.

The new rule was put in place to protect student privacy rights and will affect awards like the honor roll, according to school officials.

School board officials first became aware of concerns over student privacy when the parent of a Metro Nashville-Davidson student contacted the school board, according to Metro Schools coordinator of Public Information, Craig Owensby.

According to Owensby, the parent told school officials that she was "concerned about how the other children felt" even though she said that her child made the honor roll.

Owensby said that the board's attorneys told them that state law requires permission to publish and display student work.

"It's a legal issue that started with a self-esteem issue," Owensby said.

Owensby said permission forms have now been distributed to students for at least a week. The school district spans 520 square miles and includes some 69,000 students.

Many parents of Metro students have raised concerns about the implications of the new rule. Some have questioned whether the new rule cause an end to the honor roll and hanging students' work on walls.

"It could potentially affect athletic rosters, special events — everything that relates to publishing a student's name,"

Owensby said.

But Owensby, along with the school board, asserted that the media-hype surrounding the new policy has been largely exaggerated.

"I want everyone to understand that this does not mean the end of honor rolls in our schools," Director of Schools, Pedro Garcia said in a statement released by Metro schools.

"We will get parents' permission before making any child's name or activities public, in order to comply with the law," Garcia said.

Of the 129 Metro schools in the Nashville-Davidson district, only one has done away with the honor roll "completely, according to Metro school officials.

Julia Green Elementary, a Kindergarten through fourth-grade school, has opted not to continue the honor roll, as a "personal decision by

See Honor, 4

Atkins: Sales up at some locations

Continued from 1

O'Charley's Memorial Boulevard location, according to Service Manager Gregg Watson, has definitely experienced sales going up since offering this option and others such as salads without croutons or chicken wings without their typical chips. A chicken cordon bleu (which contains two net carbohydrates plus whatever its side item adds) is a new specialty arrival.

"I sometimes eat low-carb from our menu to be healthy myself," Watson said. "And I think anything that helps people accomplish their goals is all for the better."

O'Charley's has had the low-carb choices for about three months now and Watson adds that he doesn't see it going away any time soon.

Ruby Tuesday's is one eatery that's been noted nationally (via *Good Morning America*) for its low-carb menu. Independent studies examined three restaurants, according to local manager/shift leader and head of the To-Go program Marian Myers, and it was the only one who hit their printed carbohydrate numbers right on target (with the pepper bleu steak).

Myers is very excited about the more than 20 low-carb choices, which include steaks, salads and wraps, such as the turkey burger and peppercorn chicken caesar. There's even a low-carb cheesecake, made with NutraSweet and chopped nuts instead of more common crusts.

"We sell at least 30 slices of it

a day," Myers said. "As a manager I choose the low-carb menu items to eat, too. We count and countercheck to make sure the numbers are precise."

Upon taking a seat inside the restaurant, diners will find what Myers calls a "table tent," which explains all of the low-carb options with exact carb count details. Although their low-carb choices don't have the Atkins name, there are a variety of selections available.

One added signature side is the creamy mashed cauliflower, which, Myers admits "sounds disgusting but is actually really delicious."

"We've been getting business from a lot of gyms and health food stores recently," she said. "I've worked here for 13 years and I eat here all of the time."

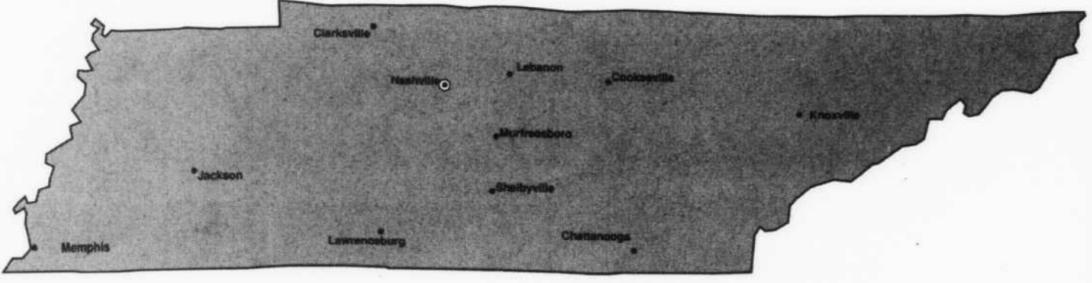
There are risks, though, and according to the *Gale Encyclopedia of Medicine*, the Atkins diet can result in vitamin and mineral deficiencies. In fact, Atkins recommends a wide-range of nutritional supplements, including a multi-vitamin, in his books.

Ellen Coleman, a registered dietician and author, said the diet might have serious side effects for some people. Complications associated with the diet include dehydration, electrolyte loss, calcium depletion, weakness and nausea. The unusually high protein consumption could also cause kidney failure.

For more information, visit WebMD.com and see your doctor before starting any diet. ♦

Middle Tennessee Weather – Five Day Forecast

From the Associated Press



Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday
45° ▲ 34° ▼	40° ▲ 34° ▼	42° ▲ 27° ▼	45° ▲ 25° ▼	44° ▲ 26° ▼

Families in rural South most likely to be lowest-wage earners, Brookings study finds

Defies notion that inner cities lay sole claim to lowest earners

By Mary Dalrymple
AP Tax Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — Families in the rural South are more likely to earn low incomes than families in any other part of the nation, according to a study released Tuesday by the Brookings Institution Center on Urban and Metropolitan Policy. In rural communities stretching from Maryland to Texas, 30 percent or more of all families claimed the earned income tax credit, which is

designed to lift working poor families out of poverty by refunding some federal payroll taxes. The study charted earned income tax credits claimed on 2001 tax returns.

The researchers concluded that the evidence should prompt politicians and policymakers to reevaluate their assumptions that the working poor are confined to distressed inner-city neighborhoods.

"I think we're trying to offer a reality check about where the working poor live," said Alan Berube, senior researcher at the Brookings Institution. "If you're under the impression that they live in somebody else's community, you're probably wrong."

The Internal Revenue Service runs a nationwide campaign to publicize the credit and

educate families who might qualify. It has neighborhood offices in some places and partners with community organizations in other areas, particularly rural regions.

In the nation as a whole, a higher percentage of families living in urban areas claimed the earned income tax credit, but they were followed very closely by families in rural areas. "The most remote rural areas closely resemble large cities in their incidence of working poverty," the study concluded.

The total number of working poor families living in rural areas, small towns and suburbs are three times the number who live in large cities.

Working poverty tends to be deeper in the rural South. Families there claim a larger tax

credit than other regions. Families in the South were also much more likely to pay a fee to get an immediate loan on an expected refund instead of waiting for the Internal Revenue Service to mail a check.

The earned income tax credit is generally available to families who earn less than 200 percent of the federal poverty level. A full-time, year-round worker with two children could make no more than \$15 an hour to be eligible for the credit. Families must have income from work to be eligible.

Between 2000 and 2002, there was an 8 percent increase in earned income tax credit claims. The credit returned more than \$36 billion to more than 20 million recipients last year. ♦

Honor: Teachers have mixed feelings on policy

Continued from 3

the principal [Dr. Steve Baum]," Owensby said.

"It's been that way at every school he's [Baum] been with us," Owensby said. "The parents of the school seem to be OK with that."

Two second-grade teachers, who teach at different elementary schools around downtown Nashville, had mixed feelings about the new rule. They requested that their names not be printed.

"Instead of making kids work harder and do the best they can, they want to punish the kids that do the best they can," said one teacher, who has taught for 20 years. She mentioned, however, that she was unaware of the new rule and

permission slips at press time.

A second teacher was aware of the new rules and had already given out the permission slips to her students.

"Few children have returned them," she said. "Because of that, we haven't had 'Award Day.'"

The second teacher acknowledged that she partly understands the reasoning for the rule.

"I understand the parents' point of view," she said. "Sometimes during 'Award Day' — in which awards such as 'Most Improved Student' and 'Most Outstanding Student' awards are handed out — some of the students that do not receive awards are let down."

"It really does make those kids feel low," she said. ♦

Bredesen:

Continued from 3

million. "Left alone, TennCare will itself consume virtually all of the new funds we expect from our growth, and will starve and kill our commitment to education," Bredesen said. "That cannot happen."

He also informed legislators that he will present to them a long-term plan to control TennCare spending in two weeks' time. ♦



HOUSING REAPPLICATIONS NOW BEING ACCEPTED FOR FALL 2004 AND SPRING 2005

The Housing and Residential Life Office is now accepting housing reapplication forms from returning students for the Fall 2004/Spring 2005 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 as long as their reapplication and \$200 prepaid rent deposit are received by the deadline. The deadline for students living in on-campus housing to reapply for housing with priority for the 2004/2005 academic year is **Friday, February 27, 2004 at 4:30 PM**. Students need to complete a reapplication form which is available in the Housing and Residential Life Office.

Students will need to pay the \$200 prepaid rent at the business office cashier windows in the Cope Administration Building, 1st floor; returning the reapplication form stamped "paid" to the Housing and Residential Life office in the Keathley University Center, Room 300, whose hours are Monday through Friday, 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM.

Students also have the option of reapplying for housing with priority online at www.mtsu.edu. Housing is found under **STUDENT AFFAIRS**. The \$200 prepaid rent can only be paid by using Mastercard or Visa, or by completing an online check. There will be an additional \$10 nonrefundable service fee charged for any processed payments online.

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

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

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OPINIONS

Murfreesboro, Tenn.

Wednesday, February 4, 2004

SIDELINES ♦ 5

From the Editorial Board

Missing WMD

Given the doubts that have been raised about the Bush administration's claim of weapons of mass destruction in Iraq, a bipartisan commission to study the question is an excellent idea.

Back when the president was trying to take us to war, he said that Iraq posed an imminent threat to the American people via the development of weapons that could kill hundreds or thousands in one attack.

President Bush and his cohorts coupled intelligence findings with the fact that Saddam Hussein did use chemical weapons against the Kurdish people of northern Iraq to justify the war.

However, some seem to think that there are none of these weapons remaining in Iraq. The Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, after a nine-month investigation, concluded that Iraq had ended its chemical weapons programs in the mid-1990s and that the country did not pose an immediate threat to the U.S.

The report went on to suggest that intelligence findings could have been influenced by Washington policy makers in the months following the attacks of Sept. 11, 2001.

While the Carnegie report is by no means conclusive evidence that the Bush administration misled the American public, it does suggest that the bipartisan commission that Bush, bowing to public pressure, finally supported is essential to finding out where the intelligence breakdown — if it happened at all — occurred.

And given the number of countries around the world that go against the general philosophy of the United States, Bush seemed almost bloodthirsty in his quest to go to war with Iraq in particular. Many reasons have been given; some virtuous and some outright sinister.

But since the supposed weapons of mass destruction were the reason Bush gave in pushing the country toward a bloody conflict, it is important to find out if there were any such weapons and, if not, why Bush and company thought there were ... or wanted us to think there were. ♦

From the Opinions Editor Chill out FCC — it's just Janet's breast

During the halftime show of Super Bowl XXXVIII, viewers got more than they anticipated when Justin Timberlake tore off part of Janet Jackson's costume, revealing her breast.

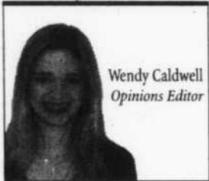
Why it happened is irrelevant. Timberlake said Janet's wardrobe malfunctioned, but that sounds a little unlikely since he was singing, "I'll get you naked by the end of this song."

Well, he got her slightly exposed, which was enough for the country to go ballistic about something as common and natural as a woman's breast.

Naturally, the outcry has led to an investigation by the Federal Communications Commission, and their history doesn't exactly show a love of risque behavior or language.

I can understand some of the concern, because the Super Bowl is a widely-watched event, be it for the game or the commercials, which were sub-par this year.

However, in all my years of watching the Super Bowl, I rarely go out of my way to catch the halftime show. Generally, that's when I refill my plate, take a quick trip to the store to



Wendy Caldwell
Opinions Editor

replenish the chip supply or channel surf to find something else to watch for the break.

I doubt that was anyone's first look at a breast, although the sun medalion was probably new to most viewers.

This raises an interesting question: What is so shocking and distasteful about a breast?

Anyone who watches television is going to see some nudity, and not all of it is tasteful. *NYPD Blue* showing Dennis Franz's bare buttocks was less than appealing.

But it didn't offend me. I didn't stop watching the show because of it. I didn't feel dirty for watching it, and I didn't call the network to complain.

A woman's breast is, essentially, milk ducts and fat. There's nothing inherently sexual about that. If anything, it's just functional. Children are just as familiar with them as adults.

While the FCC conducts this investigation, they should reconsider what is obscene. ♦

No liberals on Dem's ballot

There is a presidential election coming up and, as usual, there are no progressive candidates with a chance of winning. What a joke it is that the white boys going for the Democratic Party nomination are branded as liberals as if that were an insult.

What's insulting is that these political wimps, whose ideology are described as centrist at best, can be called liberal with a straight face.

The terms "liberal" and "progressive" are often used interchangeably. Some liberals don't like the word liberal because it can be considered an insult. I don't find the term insulting, but I prefer progressive because it's more descriptive. Progressives want progress.

On the other hand, people who want to keep things the same or go back to how things used to be are conservatives. They want to conserve the established order. With this in mind, take a look at the top runners for the Democratic nomi-



Human, All Too Human

Eric Blevins
Staff Columnist

nation.

We'll start with Gen. Wesley Clark. I don't think it's possible for a general in the U.S. military, or anyone in the U.S. military for that matter, to be progressive.

Clark supports this theory as well as anyone. This guy used to be the NATO Supreme Allied Commander. The good general, who is now retired, had an active role in the bombing of areas that were densely populated in Yugoslavia in 1999. He even wanted a more aggressive attack and permission to launch a ground attack if the airstrikes weren't effective.

Clark also commanded forces in the Vietnam War, the first Gulf

War and Latin America in the 1990s. Lack of military restraint is clearly a trademark of conservatives, because it upholds U.S. military dominance and aggression.

Next we have Sen. John Kerry, who used his senatorial vote to support the invasion of Iraq in October of 2002. Those not outraged at that act of aggression don't deserve to be labeled liberals.

Kerry also supported the welfare reform law of 1996, which Norman Solomon has rightly called "class war against low-income mothers."

Howard Dean, who many seem to consider the most liberal of the group, also supported this law. Dean recently told the *Wall Street Journal*, "I've always considered myself a centrist" and "I am pro-business." The *Journal* then reported about Dean's family roots on Wall Street and history of being pro-business.

All of these candidates are critical of how the Bush administration has invaded Iraq; if they

weren't, there would be no reason for them to belong to a different political party, but their criticisms are lacking.

They never hear any of them mention the thousands of civilian casualties on the hands of Bush and the rest of this country (at least 8,000-10,000 now). They rightly criticize the current administration for lying to Americans to build support for an act of aggression, but they don't criticize the spread of U.S. imperialism.

This is a disturbing excuse for democracy. This two-party system that might as well be a one-party system is not democracy. There are more than two sides to almost every issue. The people can't possibly be represented properly by two parties that are so alike. ♦

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

Bird flu could be avoided

First Y2K was going to shut down the nation, then the African killer bees were going to kill us off by 2002, and of course after Sept. 11, 2001, terrorists were going to rob and kill every American in their sleep. Now it's the avian bird flu.

The bird flu virus is commonly found in wild birds and normally doesn't infect humans. Wild birds that carry the virus are strong, usually showing few symptoms and often surviving. Domesticated animals have a lower gene pool, especially in mass breeding, leading to weaker immune systems.

Since all the media has disclosed about the virus is how many people are infected and the death toll, the virus seemed really scary. SARS was terrifying, too.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and the World Health Organization, statistically there are about 3-5 million cases of severe flu illness each year. Of those cases, only between 250,000 and 500,000 people die. These deaths are mostly elderly people and the chronically ill. SARS claimed only 774 lives from the 8,098 cases reported worldwide. Now it's the avian flu's 15 minutes of fame.

Flu viruses attack the upper respiratory tract. This means if you don't take good care of yourself when you're sick, you can develop pneumonia and even die. So why are we scaring economically and angering their farmers



On the Rocks

Klara Nizki
Staff Columnist

instead of encouraging everyone to be careful?

The reason people are being infected with the bird flu is because certain stubborn secretive countries don't like to admit they have a problem, so while governments are trying to hide traces of a disease, the citizens are suffering. They aren't being informed.

Most of the countries that finally admitted they had a problem have commanded farmers to dispose of their chickens. The *New York Times* reported that the Vietnamese government gave about 10 cents on every dollar for their farmers' losses. No wonder the farmers decided to smuggle the chickens and sell them.

The government workers of those countries are just kids. They're sent out in jeans and a T-shirt to dig 15-foot holes. To save the time and money from killing chickens, these children stuff them into plastic bags live, tie the end of the bag close and throw them in the back of a dump truck to haul them to the trenches.

What's worse is the workers don't wear protection; in a photo recently published by the *New York Times*, a kid was walking around chickens without any shoes on. Plus, putting

live chickens into bags is asking to get scratched with a feces-laden talon, increasing the chance of getting the flu.

Many people don't like birds as pets because they involve constant cleaning to avoid the risk of your pet or you getting sick from "feces dust." It's the same in these countries. When you have so many animals crammed into one small space, they're going to become sick because it's too difficult to keep it sanitary.

This disease is preventable by regular good hygiene habits. From what's been reported, most of the people that have been infected are kids. Why isn't someone telling them not to play with dead birds or to avoid playing by birds or where feces are commonly found?

The worst fact is most of these countries are treating their citizens with the cheapest drugs, some of which don't have a high incidence of success against this type of flu. Better medicine costs about a dollar more per person; most people can't afford the cheap one.

What worries me is the bird flu can mutate with the human flu, creating a hybrid that's slightly more lethal. At this rate, a hybrid will happen. Hopefully people will realize that most of this could have been avoided. ♦

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

El Presidente Bush

"Remember the Alamo!" That's what President George W. Bush and the Democratic frontrunner John Kerry need to remember. A recent Fox News report announced that Sen. Kerry had just run a campaign ad in New Mexico and Arizona where he spoke exclusively in Spanish; Bush has also done the same thing.

The Southwestern states we once fought for and claimed as part of our nation are slowly receding back to their Mexican past. Decade after decade, millions of illegal immigrants have crossed the border to live and work in this country, often returning to Mexico after a couple of years. It's estimated that more than 14 million illegal immigrants are in this country right now.

Even though most Americans think something needs to be done about the border, politicians have continued to turn a blind eye because it means cheap labor for big industries who contribute to their re-election campaigns.

But the willing commitment to run a political ad in Spanish, which isn't the national language, does disservice and dishonor to all Americans who have fought for or care about our identity as a nation. In America, English is spoken.

Apathy continues to pervade this country in dealing with this issue. Most people think it's a harmless situation; Mexicans are just coming here for a better opportunity and a chance at the American dream, right?

If that's what they want, then by all means, they're welcome to it, but there are legal processes that they're supposed to follow. The requirements of legal entry and citizenship is ignored by the vast majority of Mexican immigrants; after all, it's just too easy for them to come illegally and not have to worry about any severe consequences if they're caught.

For generations immigrants have come to America from all over the world for the chance to be an American and share in the fruits of our democracy. But the presence of all the illegal immigrants throws dirt



Cosmo's Corner

Jeremy Coseo
Staff Columnist

in the eyes of those who have come here legally, and our country as a whole.

America is a sovereign nation, not some pit-stop where people from other countries can come freely, make a little money, and then go back to their own country again.

Bush and Kerry are aiding in an invasion that will split this country apart. There'll be the English-speaking America and the Spanish-speaking America if this concession to illegal immigration continues.

Gen. Santa Anna must be smiling in the afterlife at the fact that what he couldn't accomplish by force is being accomplished so easily and without much resistance.

Bush and Kerry make these ads for the purpose of winning the Latino vote. If selling our country's heritage for the sake of a few votes is something a politician is willing to do, they don't need to be in office in the first place.

Nobel Prize-winning author Alexander Solzhenitsyn once said, "A people which no longer remembers has lost its history and its soul."

Our history is half forgotten, and our elected officials don't seem up for preserving what's left. All that's left, then, is our soul, which is suffering from a lack of being exercised. We can break up terrorist nations and remove dictatorships in lands far from our own, but we can't recognize and preserve something as simple as our national language.

Davy Crockett and Jim Bowie need to be remembered for what they stood for and the ultimate sacrifice they made for this country before a new generation is left to fight the same fight they once did. ♦

Jeremy Coseo is a sophomore journalism major and can be reached via e-mail at jdc3g@mtsu.edu.

SIDELINES

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Gentlemen Jim's:



Murfreesboro's own historical pub

Local bar's business prosperous year-round

By **Trey Porter**
Staff Writer

Trendy bars come and go. It's tough to stay in business in a college town.

Becoming the "hot spot" and keeping that appeal alive and well is hard to do for most places.

"It's very difficult getting started and trying to attract a customer base," Pelham McMurry, a local bar owner who is in the processes of getting his business underway, says.

Establishing an image and keeping it is a dream for a lot of local bars. To have that base and go out and get new customers while keeping the old is a feat that few businesses accomplish.

The Gentlemen Jim's on East Main Street seems to be the exception.

"There are always five cars in the parking lot," E.J. Baldwin, Jim's son, says.

Gentlemen Jim's, commonly referred to as simply as "Jim's" by locals, has been a fixture around the campus bar scene for over 20 years.

The building has quite a history.

It started out as a gas station. Then, it became a bar called the Fillin' Station before it

changed owners to become known as Diddy's.

The local businessman and legend, known as Gentlemen Jim, purchased the bar in the early 1980s.

For a short time, the bar continued to operate under its old name, Diddy's, before changing to E.J.'s and then its current name.

"There was red shag carpet all over the walls and floor when we first got the place," Baldwin recalls.

Jim's has seen an array of atmosphere changes in its day. At one time, there was a raised dance floor, as well as a stripper pole (complete with strippers.)

Now patrons enjoy the one-of-a-kind second level it offers. One can be upstairs without really being secluded.

Even on Christmas day, there are at least five cars there. Jim's seems to have a way of crossing all the barriers and attracting everyone.

"I wanted to have a drink on Christmas, and there was no question about where I was going to go," Brandon Liggett, a sophomore business major, recalls.

Sophomore marketing major Beth Garret, has similar feelings.

"It's my second home," she



Photos by Meagan Allender | Staff Photographer

There's rarely a dull moment at Gentlemen Jim's, according to several students and Murfreesboro residents. The building on East Main Street has endured much from name changes and new owners – and even a fire.

says.

Gentlemen Jim's may be successful, but certainly not lucky. Roughly three years ago it burnt down.

When an unruly patron was asked to leave on a cold January night, the building caught fire within an hour.

The customer had gone out back and started a fire to keep warm, catching the building on

fire, Baldwin says.

Rising from the ashes, Gentlemen Jim's has continued to be a success in Murfreesboro.

The great campus location combined with the excellent drink specials have given this bar staying power.

"There's one thing – you can always count on; you will always pay a good price for a good drink," Baldwin says.

Whether it's staying power, consistency, darts or just good atmosphere, doesn't matter. It seems there's something for everyone at Jim's.

"Ten years from now, I want to come back to 'G Jim's' and have my liquor and remember the good times," Wes Selbe, a junior marketing major, says.

"Truthfully, I think it will still be here. I don't see that

place changing, ever."

As others continue to struggle, Jim's seems to thrive.

It keeps the old crowd, while making new friends every day.

The next time you get thirsty driving down East Main Street, swing by Jim's. You can't miss it. ♦

Students consider animal adoption



Photo by Micah Miller | Photo Editor

Caring for pets during college is challenging for many students who are short on time and residential space.

Pets often bring more trouble than companionship

By **Petroula Makrinakis**
Staff Writer

Dog or cat? Small or large? Male or female? There are many things to consider before adopting a pet.

Some decisions are easy – like what to name it. Others may be more difficult, such as what breed to get. In any case, owning a pet entails responsibilities, especially if the owner is a student.

"Students don't live in a stable environment" Pennie Jekot, director of the Humane Alliance of Rutherford County, says. When someone adopts or purchases a pet, they're making a commitment.

"Maintaining a long term relationship with the animal [is the commitment]," Jekot says.

Because students aren't settled in their residences and don't have enough free time, it makes properly caring for a pet very difficult, Jekot explains.

"One student passes the pet to another," Jekot says.

This makes it very difficult for the pet to find stability, she says.

Students present unique challenges to owning a pet. Each student experiences these challenges in various ways.

"Not being there for long periods of time is the hardest thing about having a pet and being a student," Angela Mullin, a senior sociology major, says.

Mullin shares her home with two puppies.

"When they are little, they demand so

much time," Mullin says.

When she is at school, she lets her puppies run around the house, she says, but sometimes she finds a big mess when she returns.

Staci Moore, a senior journalism major, has 17 cats.

"They are such a big part of my life – they don't cause any conflict," Moore, who was a veterinary technician for three years,

Not being there for long periods of time is the hardest thing about having a pet and being a student.

Angela Mullin
Senior
Sociology major

says. This helps her take better care of her pets.

"They are really well behaved," she says. When Moore's pets behave well, it makes owning them an enjoyable and carefree experience.

Owning a pet in an apartment presents different challenges than owning a pet in a home.

"Not having a back yard makes it difficult to care for pets," Emma Parker, a senior philosophy major who lives in an apartment with two dogs, says.

"They often bark at the neighbors," she adds.

Money is something else to think about when considering whether or not to get a pet.

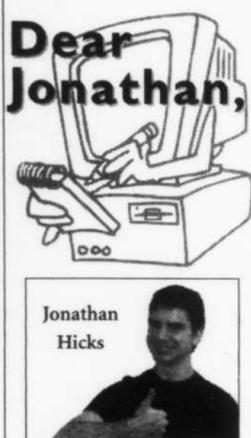
From the type of food they eat to the exercise they get, pet health varies with each pet and owner, according to the "Science Diet Guide to the ABCs of Puppy Care."

"They cost a lot of money to take care of," Parker says.

Nutrition, grooming, and regular veterinary care play an important role in the health of your pet, The Science Diet guide explains.

Once a pet owner learns to cope with the responsibility of owning a pet, it becomes a major part of the home, Moore explains.

"It's their home, they just let me stay there," Moore says. ♦



Jonathan Hicks

Because of a combination of anger at the Recording Industry Association of America, which is walking all over our legal rights, and my inbox being empty, I've decided to go on a tirade about some of the new laws being passed.

These laws have been passed under the guise that lawmakers are trying to crack down on illegal online theft, or protecting us from terrorists, but the laws only exist to remove certain key freedoms.

As an experienced citizen and computer programmer, I feel it is my duty to pass along what I've learned about these laws.

Let me first cover what the RIAA is doing.

The recording industry is hemorrhaging hundreds of millions of dollars a year from lowered Compact Disk sales. This is horrible from a business standpoint and it means less money (in general) for not just artists performing these songs but also the writers of the songs.

Obviously something must be done, but what?

The RIAA has decided to do massive suings to stop downloaders. This just doesn't make sense to me. Why is the recording industry alienating customers? Why are they making enemies where they should be making friends?

I could go on and on with questions and possible answers, and fans of mine know that I already have. Check Sidelines archives for a previous article I wrote on the topic of downloading digital rights.

It is horrible that the RIAA is trying to take money from a bunch of poor college kids, but I'm appalled at the Digital Millennium Copyright Act and the U.S. Patriot Act. If you are unfamiliar with these laws let me explain how diabolical they are, especially when they are combined.

The DMCA says that any circumvention of digital media is illegal. This may sound reasonable until you hear an example.

I use Linux, which is in a totally open source and free operating system. Before I got a digital video disk player I would use my computer to watch DVDs, but DVD player manufacturers would not make Linux-compatible players.

So, some hackers got together and found a way to decode a DVD and made their own player.

This code, of course, was illegal and these people were taken to court and sued. Before they were told to take the code down from their Web site, people downloaded it and memorized it, a la Fahrenheit 451.

Progress couldn't be stopped. Now you can buy T-shirts with the code on them. A funny thing about that, though, is that since you are spreading a way to circumvent a copyright, you can still be sued - you might even be seen as a terrorist according to the Patriot Act.

As such, you would lose certain rights. If you are suspected of being a terrorist you can be held forever without being given the right to talk to an attorney or even be charged with a crime.

Some of you might be saying that I'm an alarmist. That this could never happen in our little Boro. On the other hand, the RIAA has just issued a subpoena for a student's name here at MTSU. ♦

Send computer questions to jh2f@mtsu.edu.



Cornell alumnus develops coffee alternative

By Katy Bishop
Cornell Daily Sun

(U-WIRE) ITHACA, N.Y. — It's 3:37 a.m. on the night before a final, and despite the empty coffee cups littering the desk, your eyelids are losing their bat-

tle with gravity. Suddenly ... thump, your head hits the notebook and you wake up bleary-eyed and scowled in the morning.

For students and others who want a drink with a high-powered caffeine kick, BAWLS Guarana, a high-caffeine soft drink created by Hoby Buppert '95, offers an alternative to coffee.

"I have always been a big fan of caffeine, but the smell of coffee makes me sick," said Buppert, who came up with the idea for BAWLS when he was traveling in Europe over winter break during his senior year in Cornell's School of Hotel Management. "I noticed in Europe that they had a lot of high-caffeine energy drinks. I thought they tasted terrible but that the idea was really interesting."

When he got back to Cornell, Buppert asked his adviser, Christopher Muller, if he could do a business plan for his idea as an independent study. Muller said yes, and Buppert set to work.

"When the entrepreneurial bug catches someone, you can tell," said Muller, who taught at Cornell for 16 years and is now an associate professor for the

Rosen School of Hospitality Management at the University of Central Florida in Orlando. "It becomes an all-encompassing flame, a fire that kind of consumes them. I could tell Hoby had that. He was going to do this project. The seriousness of his desire, to other people, might have looked a little bit pie-in-the-sky, but having been entrepreneurial [myself] in the past I recognized the look."

BAWLS got its name one night at Ruloff's during Buppert's senior year.

"There are drinks like Red Bull, Flying Tiger that use aggressive animal symbols, so I was trying to think of a different, strong name to use," said Buppert. "One of my friends said, 'Why don't you just call it Balls?' as more of a joke, but I liked it, so I changed the spelling and trademarked it."

BAWLS' caffeine kick comes from guarana, a berry that grows naturally in the Amazon. One 10-ounce bottle of BAWLS contains the same amount of caffeine as a cup to a cup and a half of coffee. It tastes like a "citrus cream soda" according to Buppert, and each cobalt-blue bottle costs between \$1 and \$1.50.

When he was growing up in

Baltimore, Md., his parents called him "Hobarama," the name he eventually gave to his company, because he was always starting businesses.

BAWLS wasn't Buppert's first business venture. From a lawn-cutting business to importing small items like puka shell necklaces and decorated wooden boxes from the Philippines at age 13, Buppert was always an entrepreneur.

When the time came to apply for college, Buppert knew that he wanted to go to Cornell's hotel school, and it was the only place to which he applied.

He continued his lifelong interest in business at Cornell, where his favorite class was on entrepreneurship, taught by David BenDaniel, the Berens Professor of Entrepreneurship in the Johnson Graduate School of Management.

"He was a very personable young man," BenDaniel said, "hard-charging and proactive. It is no surprise to me that he has been successful."

While he was a student at Cornell, Buppert played polo, belonged to Alpha Delta Phi and participated in hotel school activities - "when I wasn't at Ruloff's," he said with a laugh.

In fact, Buppert met his wife Christina, also a graduate of the hotel school in '95, at Ruloff's. She is now Hobarama's vice president.

"He was a very social, very energetic young man with an easy smile and lots of friends," Muller said. "When Hoby walked in - he must've been about 19 or 20 - I could just tell that something was going to happen to him. He had that entrepreneurial drive."

During October of 1995, the fall after he graduated with a degree in finance from the hotel school, Buppert decided to pursue his BAWLS business plan.

Buppert got a loan to begin, and he called his former adviser Muller for advice. At times he ran into resistance because of his young age, but he also feels that it helped him succeed.

"It helps in that you're willing to try things in a new way," Buppert said. "You haven't been trained yet about what's right or wrong. It also helps because you have perseverance; you're not as easily discouraged."

Today, BAWLS distributes in 32 states and is available online. The company will be introducing its first new product, Guarannex, a sugar-free version, this spring. ♦



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MT Men's Basketball

Next Game Feb. 5
Blue Raiders
at Western Kentucky
Tip-off at 7 p.m.

SPORTS

Wednesday, February 4, 2004

MT Women's Basketball

Next Game Feb. 5
Western Kentucky
at Murphy Center
Tip-off at 2 p.m.

8 ♦ SIDELINES

Murfreesboro, Tenn.

Tennis squad falls to Arkansas-Little Rock

By Brad Jameson
Staff Writer

The Blue Raider tennis team fell 5-2 to the University of Arkansas-Little Rock Saturday in Little Rock, Ark.

Middle Tennessee (0-2) won the doubles point but lost five of six singles matches to the No. 75 Trojans, including three that carried into three sets.

MT's No. 46 doubles team of Brandon Allan and Kai Schledorn defeated the UALR team of Mark Edney and Alexei Poutchinets 8-5. Rishan Kuruppu and Andreas Siljestrom also won their match 8-6 over Trojans Jarrad Bunt and Mithun Murali. These two teams were also the doubles winners from the last contest against the University of Indiana.

The only Blue Raider doubles team that did not win its match was the No. 30 duo of Kirk Jackson and Trevor Short, who lost 8-6 to UALR's Bastian Faisst and Sebastian Falk.

The Blue Raiders won one of six singles matches, Kuruppu's two-set victory over Bunt at No. 6, 6-2, 7-5.

Faisst quickly defeated Blue Raider Trevor Short at No. 1 6-1, 6-2. At No. 2, MT's Kirk Jackson took Falk to three sets, winning the first 6-3 but dropping the next two 6-4, 6-3. Siljestrom did the same at No. 3, winning the first set 7-5 against Poutchinets before losing the last two 6-4, 6-4.

At No. 4, UALR's David Baxendine defeated Blue Raider Anant Sitaram in two sets 6-4, 6-4. No. 5 was another three-set battle, with MT's Schledorn losing the first to Mithun Murali 7-5, then winning the second 6-4 and finally dropping

ping the final set 10-8 in a tiebreaker.

"I am very disappointed with the loss," MT coach Dale Short told goblueraiders.com. "I felt like we were more talented, but we have some guys who are not used to the team environment and we're just not getting the job done when we need to."

MT returns to Murfreesboro to host two Saturday home matches against No. 52-ranked Louisville and Belmont at the Racquet Club of Murfreesboro. ♦

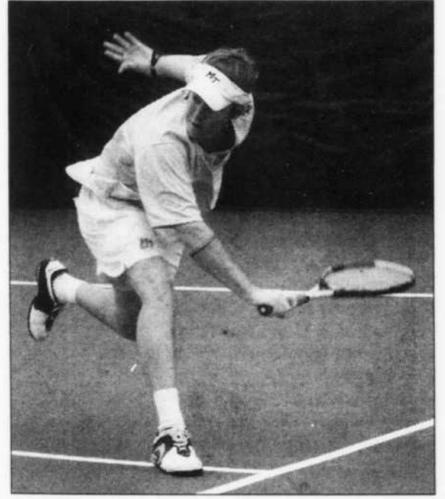


Photo by Steve Cross | Chief Photographer
MT senior Trevor Short lunges for a shot against Indiana University Jan. 24.



MIDDLE TENNESSEE MEN'S TENNIS

The Men's Tennis team will play against
Louisville Feb. 7 at 11 a.m.
and Belmont at 6 p.m.

Nationally ranked, locally unknown

By Colby Sledge
Assistant Sports Editor

Manon Kruse is perhaps the most unassuming star athlete at Middle Tennessee.

She plays an individual sport in a team format, a sport in which 100 fans is considered a huge crowd.

At 5-feet-10-inches, no one is going to automatically label her as an athlete, much less one who carries a three-year national ranking in her sport.

Yet one would think the senior from Hamm, Germany, would get a little more attention, considering she has almost single-handedly made MT women's tennis a nationally respected program.

"We owe a lot to her," MT women's head coach Randy Holden said. "She's probably the most talented kid I've ever been around."

Kruse came to MT after former head coach David Thornton sent her a letter of recruitment in her junior year of high school. Kruse also received a letter from an unspecified school in Iowa, but the commitment shown by Thornton led her to become a Lady Raider.

"He [Thornton] called me, and we talked on the phone, he sent me e-mails, I sent him e-mails, and there was a lot more communication," Kruse said.

Kruse also came to MT to study business in the United States because of the high unemployment rate in Germany. Even so, she only intended to come over for a semester before returning. Now, she's working as her Master of Business Administration.

"I just liked college tennis more than I thought I would and that's why I stayed," Kruse said.

When Kruse began her first season at MT in 2000-2001, she had trouble adjusting to the hard court, which may have attributed to the ankle injury she suffered in the fall that limited her to just six matches. In Germany, Kruse had always played on carpeted surfaces or clay, which provide more cushion underfoot than American hard courts.

After surgery to remove a bone fragment from her right ankle, Kruse recorded a 12-9 singles record in the spring while playing at the No. 1 position the entire season, something else she hadn't dealt with before.

"Usually, when you play a tournament [in Germany], you would play maybe two rounds against people who were not very good, so you didn't have to worry about it too much," Kruse said. "But here, every time I had to try to play at a very high level. At the beginning it was kind of hard for me to be that consistent."

The biggest adjustment Kruse had to make to American collegiate tennis, however, wasn't a matter of court surfaces or consistency. It was a matter of dishonesty.

"[In Germany], if my opponent disagrees [with a call], then we get the referee, and he says 'OK, repeat the point,'" Kruse said. "Here, if the referee doesn't see it and the other person called it, then there's no way you can complain about it. You can't get the point. As a consequence, a lot of people in college tennis cheat."

Kruse has adjusted, however, and is currently ranked No. 54 in singles by the Intercollegiate Tennis Association, the governing body of collegiate tennis. Kruse finished last season at No. 58 in singles and finished No. 43 in 2002, the highest end of season singles ranking for a Lady Raider in school history.

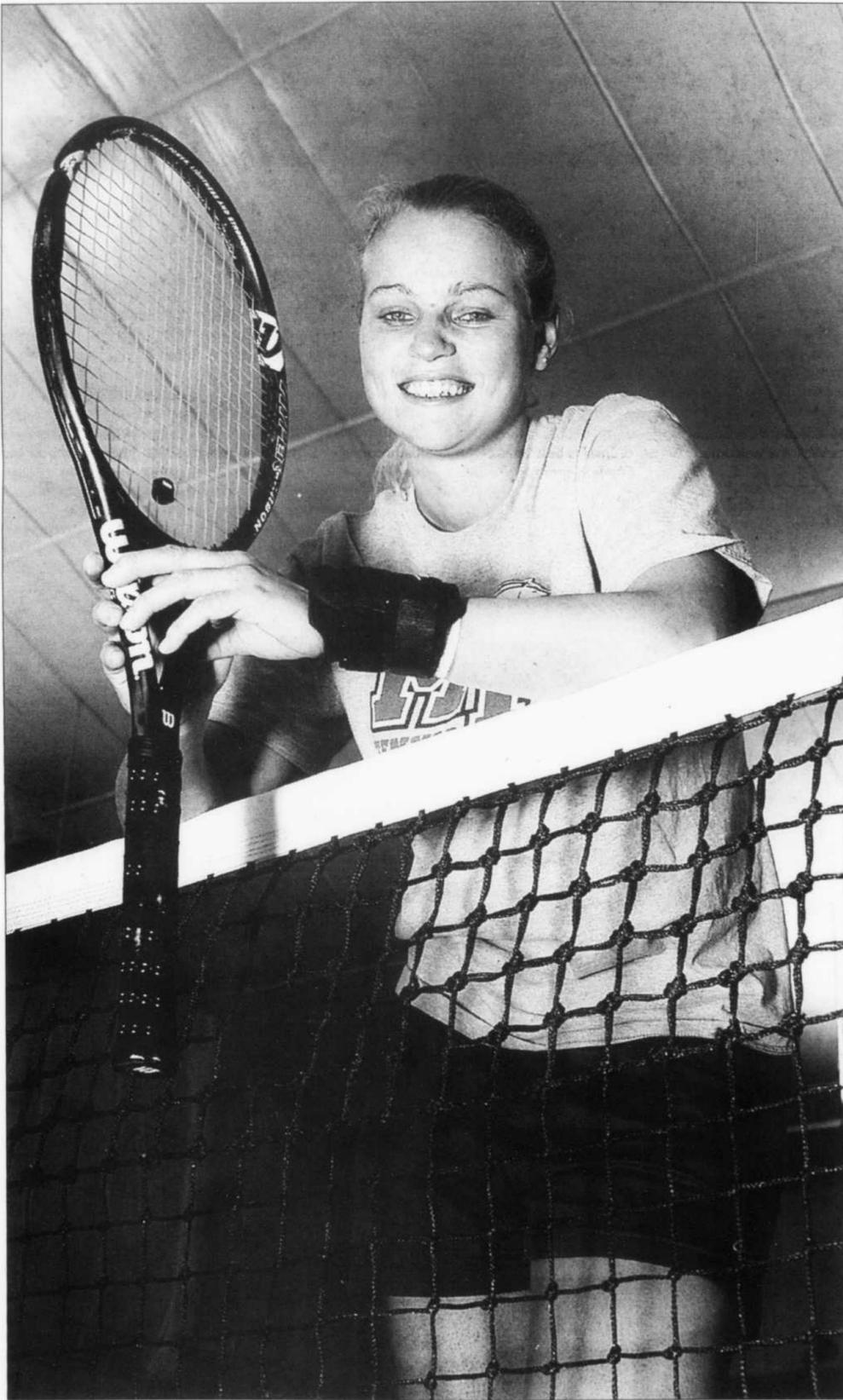


Photo by Steve Cross | Chief Photographer

MT senior Manon Kruse is ranked No. 54 in the nation among women's collegiate tennis players.

Her doubles play with partner Stacy Varnell, however, signaled the beginning of the rise of MT women's tennis. Kruse and Varnell began playing together in the fall of 2000, where they advanced to the finals of the Indiana Fall Invitational. After Kruse recovered from her injury, she and Varnell were named to the All-Sun Belt Conference team in the spring after going 14-10, including wins over ranked opponents from the University of Vanderbilt and the University of Alabama-Birmingham.

The following season, Kruse and Varnell became the first tennis Lady Raiders to attend the NCAA Singles and Double Championships, where they won their first-round match against Fresno State University's

Debbie Larocque and Maja Mlaker before falling in the second round. The duo returned a year later, losing in the first round to No. 3 Sarah Riske and Alex Tsoubanos of Vanderbilt University.

Kruse also played in the singles bracket both seasons, losing in the first round each time. The importance of getting to the tournament, however, overshadowed the pair's early exits.

"It's always been pretty much a regional program," Holden said. "Now we have Manon and Stacy and Manon in singles, and they were the first kids ever from Middle Tennessee to be nationally ranked and obviously go to the NCAA Tournament. All of a sudden, we're going to the NCAA tournament with individuals, and now the

rest of the team expects the same thing."

Kruse has been forced to adjust her doubles game this season after playing with Varnell for the last three years. Kruse now plays with senior Carien Venter, whose finesse and location is much different from the power and speed of Varnell's game.

"With Stacy, she was kind of preparing the balls, and I just had to finish what she was preparing," Kruse said. "With Carien, it's more of both of us at the net, and we both have to work together."

So far this season, the combination has worked. Kruse and Venter entered the season ranked No. 30 in the nation

See Kruse, 9

Super Bowl should award two MVP's

Sports commentary



Jon Leffew
Staff Columnist

There were several injustices at Super Bowl XXXVIII in Houston Sunday.

Two weeks of hype, escalating ticket prices and the ever-obvious illegal use of the hands penalty that wasn't called on Justin Timberlake are just a few of the examples.

However, the biggest injustice of all surrounding the Super Bowl last Sunday was the selection of the MVP.

While Tom Brady did everything he needed to do to win on Sunday (and much more), the real most valuable members of the Patriots are the seven members of the offensive line.

Sure, Brady threw for 354 yards and 32 completions in 48 attempts. He even threw for three touchdowns and led the Patriots downfield with just more than a minute to set up the game-winning field goal by Adam Vinatieri. However, none of this would have been possible if not for the unheralded men in the trenches.

All week long, fans and observers were informed about the dominating defensive line of the Carolina Panthers.

With the sheer size of defensive tackles Brentson Buckner and Kris Jenkins, as well as the pass-rushing abilities of ends Julius Peppers and Mike Rucker, the Carolina defense was sure to shut down the New England offense.

However, the Patriots dominated the game behind the blocking of left tackle Matt Light, left guard Russ Hochstein, center Daniel Koppen, right guard Joe Andruzzi, right tackle Tom Ashworth and tight ends Christian Fauria and Daniel Graham.

New England gained 127 rushing yards on 35 attempts, all of which contributed to the huge gap in time of possession.

Due in large part to the efforts of the offensive line, the Patriots were able to control the ball for nearly twice as long as the Panthers (38:58 to 21:02).

Even more impressive than this lopsided statistic is the fact that the Patriots did not allow a single sack during the entire 2004 postseason.

Not one missed assignment in three playoff games.

Not a single defensive player who crept through the line on a passing play in 180 minutes of play.

Not even a slip-up on the torn-up tundra at Gillette Stadium in New England.

While Brady and Vinatieri found themselves in the spotlight kissing the Lombardi Trophy, the members of the Patriot offensive line were quietly winning the second world championship in three years for the franchise.

Several people doubted the offensive line's abilities all season, but New England offensive coordinator Charlie Weis was quick to defend them.

"We've been hearing the whole playoffs how crummy we are," Weis told SuperBowl.com. "How we're just a bunch of bums on the offensive line that aren't any good. Did they allow any sacks today? OK, so they had a sackless postseason, so let's give the offensive line their due."

Here's hoping next year's big game is every bit as exciting as this one, and these "bums" get the credit they rightfully deserve. ♦

Kruse: Leads team in victories

Continued from 8

and earned preseason Sun Belt Conference honors. They are 1-1 this season, having lost their last match against the University of Kentucky's Sarah Foster and Aibika Kalsarieva 8-5 on Jan. 24.

Kruse got revenge in singles play, however, when she upended No. 23 Kalsarieva 6-1, 6-2 for her first victory over a ranked opponent this season.

Both Kruse and Holden were reluctant to set goals for Kruse's final season in collegiate tennis, not for fear of falling short of expectations, but instead because of Kruse's already demanding self-discipline.

"We've talked about goals in a very vague sense ever since she's been here because she puts a lot of pressure on herself," Holden said. "With her, I don't have to worry about effort and motivation. She wants to do the best she can."

Her best may turn out to be the best MT has ever seen, if it isn't already.

"She is by far the best athlete I have ever coached, and with that No. 1 status she is by far the most team-oriented player I have had," Holden said.

And maybe now, she's a little more noticeable as well. ♦



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Sports Briefs

News from around Middle Tennessee



Compiled by Jon Leffew, Katy Hamlett and Colby Sledge
Staff Writers

Women's Rugby faces VU Saturday

This Saturday the Middle Tennessee Lady Moose rugby squad will attempt their third win in a row against Vanderbilt University. The match marks MT's second game playing under collegiate regulations and will determine eligibility for the USA Rugby South Championships.

Both teams lost several long-time veterans to graduation in December, meaning many rookies will most likely see playing time.

The game is at the pitch across from Slick Pig and next to the old Faces building. Kickoff is at noon.

Softball picked to finish fourth in SBC

The Middle Tennessee softball team was picked to finish fourth in the Sun

Belt Conference in an SBC coaches' poll last week.

The University of Louisiana-Lafayette was the unanimous choice to finish first, followed by Florida International University and Western Kentucky University. ULL received all six first-place votes.

Last season the Lady Raiders finished with a 33-21 record and an 8-8 conference record. Senior shortstop Cortney Mitchell was named Sun Belt Newcomer of the Year and First-Team All-Conference last year.

The Lady Raiders open the 2004 season at home with a doubleheader against Alabama State University Feb. 15.

Track members honored, recognized

Several members of the Middle Tennessee track team have been honored in the past week.

Pedro Holiday and Rosemary Okafor were both named Sun Belt

track performers of the week last week after excelling at the Blue Raider Invitational.



Okafor

in the nation in the 60-meters by Trackwire this week.

Scales and the MT men's 1600-meter relay team were also named to Trackwire's Dandy Dozen list last week, which is a power ranking of individuals in each NCAA track event. ♦

Okafor continued to impress during the Middle Tennessee Classic on Saturday, as she ran an NCAA provisional time in the 400 meters while winning the event.

In addition to these awards, senior Mardy Scales was named fourth

CLASSIFIEDS

Sales

JOHN MAYER. 3 Concert tickets for sale. Mid-south Coliseum, Memphis, TN Feb. 28, 2004. 7:30pm. \$135 or best offer. Section T-N Row 14 Seats 1-3 email rkb2b@mtsu.edu if interested.

Hippe stick holder for sale! Brand new Gator black hard-shell acoustic guitar case. Never been used. \$50. Contact Katie 504-296-2509.

1968 Ford Mustang for sale. Great condition, new engine.. 3-speed. \$8000 obo. 423-902-0401

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Sociology: A Down to Earth Approach 6th Edition textbook for sale. Good condition. Selling for \$45. Call 615-898-3484.

Very nice computer desk/stand for sale! Excellent condition, approx. 4' tall with raised levels for monitor, tower, and printer. \$40 obo. Contact Allison at (423)506-1197 or alc2q@mtsu.edu.

Microphone, AKG C1000S. Condenser, w/ hard case \$115 call 867-9052.

Guitar Amp-Fender Bassman 50 Vintage tube tone 1973. \$325 Call 867-9052.

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Motorola V60i silver flip phone. Use with AT&T. Includes house charger, car charger, belt clip, hands-free handset, and navy face plates. Call 653-8253. \$80 obo.

Slightly used Canon Rebel 2000 SLR camera. \$200 Call Micah 554-0390.

'03 Honda Civic EX coupe. 4 K, pw, pd, sunroof, spoiler, alloy wheels, am/fm, CD, blk/blk, bought new car, must sell. \$15,700 obo. 931-607-9077. Leave message.

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Career

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Internships

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St. Marks United Methodist Student Ministry, 1267 N. Rutherford Blvd., is looking for a part-time "Praise & Worship" leader- approximately 10 hrs/week, Wed. & Sundays. \$10 per hour. Interested parties may contact Rev. Kirk Dana at 893-5271 or kdana@comcast.net.

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Peck prepares to move in Monday

By Colby Sledge
Assistant Sports Editor

Even though new head volleyball coach Matt Peck hasn't coached a game yet at Middle Tennessee, he is already brimming with confidence.

"I have a system that works really well offensively," Peck said in a telephone interview yesterday. "It's very exciting, but we need specific kinds of volleyball players and athletes to do it."

Those volleyball players, in Peck's words, have to be "super-athletic kids."

"Some programs would say 'She's 6 [feet] 3 [inches], let's take her, and she can't move,'" Peck said. "I want mobile kids. I want kids who can get from point A to point B faster than the other team can get there."

MT has three scholarships available this season for Peck to recruit players to fit his system. He emphasized, however, that he doesn't expect too much from his players right away.

"Obviously I have to give them the opportunity to show them some of the things we're going to do and for them to have the chance to learn it," Peck said.

"There may be a situation where somebody can't change something. If a senior has a habit that is making her a less effective player, I would be less prone to changing that than if it was a freshman."

Peck is only a week removed from being named the head coach at MT after spending nine seasons as head volleyball coach at the University of North

Alabama. Last season he led UNA to its eighth consecutive NCAA tournament and its first-ever NCAA Division II National Volleyball Championship. He was named the Division II National Coach of the Year by the American Volleyball Coaches Association in conjunction with Tachikara.

Peck replaces Lisa Kisse, whose contract was not renewed by the MT athletic department after the Lady Raiders finished with a 14-18 record last season. He becomes the ninth head coach in the volleyball program's 27-year history.

Given the timing of his hire, Peck has had to tell some of his potential recruits for UNA about his change of schools. However, he doesn't expect his recruits to have a hard time changing schools if they wish.

"A couple of kids I've talked to are going to take a couple of weeks to think about it," Peck said. "I don't want to say that you come to a school for a coach ... but there's not that much difference going from one campus to another if you haven't gone to either school yet."

Former UNA assistant volleyball coach Jeff Motluck will be coming to MT as well, which Peck fully expected to happen.

"In most situations, when a school hires a head coach, they want that coach to have everything he needs to be successful," Peck said.

"Matt has been a very loyal employee to me for 10 years. It would be difficult to turn a pro-

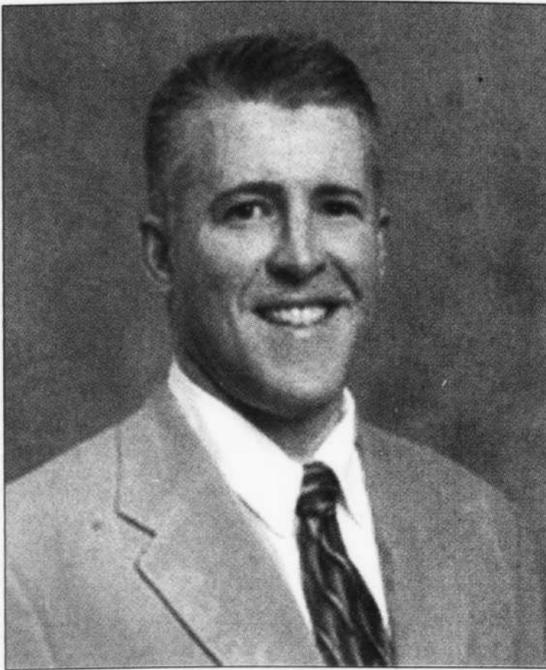


Photo Courtesy MT Media Relations

New head volleyball coach Matt Peck led North Alabama to the 2003 Division II national title.

Matt Peck: Career Statistics

Record at Wayne State University: 231-135 (11 years) .631
Record at University of North Alabama: 312-61 (9 years) .836
Career Collegiate Record: 543-196 (20 years) .735

gram around with someone you haven't worked with."

Peck is still in the process of moving with his family from Florence, Ala., to Murfreesboro

and is currently looking for a house. He hopes to be on campus by Monday. ♦

Panthers fall short of Cinderella season

Sports commentary



Brad Jameson
Staff Columnist

I should feel lucky.

It's not often a football fan gets to experience a game like this year's Super Bowl. There was Panthers quarterback Jake Delhomme's record-setting 85-yard touchdown pass to take the lead. Then we saw Adam Vinatieri kick a last-second 41-yard field goal to win the Super Bowl ... again. And who could forget Janet Jackson flashing billions of viewers on live television? It's not often this much excitement is crammed into one game, much less the Super Bowl.

In fact, this might have been the best Super Bowl in history. It had all the key elements.

The "Cinderella" Panthers won six in a row to reach the championship game in which they faced the dominant Patriots, who had not lost since Sept. 28 in the fourth week of the season.

New England quarterback Tom Brady provided another MVP performance. The fourth quarter was the best 15 minutes of football the NFL has ever produced.

And then there was Vinatieri's winning kick from 41 yards, almost identical to his game-winner in the Patriots' victory over the Rams' in Super Bowl XXXVI, when Vinatieri made a kick from 45 yards as time expired to give New England a 20-17 victory.

Yeah, I should feel lucky. What's not to love?

Throughout the entire regular season, Carolina fought through intensely close challenges, usually coming out on top. The 14-6 Panthers were 4-1 in overtime games, and 14 of their 20 games were decided by 6 points or fewer.

Carolina was there again, facing a six-point deficit midway through the fourth quarter. They were backed up on their

own 15 yard line and faced third-and-10.

Delhomme got the snap, scrambled a bit and released a bomb that fell right into the hands of receiver Muhsin Muhammad down the field for the longest pass completion in Super Bowl history and an 85-yard touchdown, giving Carolina the 22-21 lead.

It was the first time the Patriots fell behind in a game since Nov. 23.

The Patriots made their next touchdown look easy, taking back the lead 29-22.

Delhomme and his offense took the field with 2:51 left on the clock. The 29-year-old quarterback proceeded to lead one of the most clutch comeback drives ever, completing five of six passes for 73 yards, including a third-and-eight 12-yard completion to receiver Ricky Proehl for the touchdown.

With just more than a minute left in the game, Carolina was tied with New England 29-29, and the Panthers were feeling good.

"No doubt," Delhomme said on ESPN.com. "It was like we had done all season long. We had the feeling. We were going to win."

However, like a playground bully, the Patriots marched over the Panthers into field goal range rather easily and stole back the game.

But for a few minutes, things couldn't have been better for Carolina. The Panthers, a team that didn't exist 10 years ago, that has had only one winning season before this one, was competing with a world champion and almost took the title for themselves.

So while everyone is raving over the possibility of a Patriots dynasty, the disappointed Panthers slip away into the off-season with no shiny new ring on their fingers.

"It's been a great ride," Carolina head coach John Fox said on ESPN.com. "We just came up a little short. We have a lot to build on. ♦

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