



Morning Showers



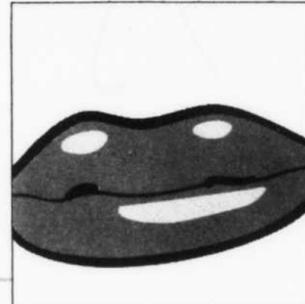
This week's poll question
online at
www.mtsusidelines.com

"Have you ever, or do you know any-
one, who has been hazed in order to
join a campus group?"

Getting smart

Program addresses cigarette smoking
and pregnancy

In Living, 6



Middle Tennessee State University

SIDELINES

MURFREESBORO,
TENNESSEE

The university's
editorially independent
student newspaper

Volume 79 No. 44

Campus Briefs

Holocaust studies conference this week

The Sixth Holocaust Studies Conference will begin on Thursday. The conference will continue through Saturday. The topic of this year's conference is "The Holocaust and Perspectives of Gender, Race and Race"

Anna Rosmus, author of *Against the Stream: Growing up Where Hitler Used to Live* will be discussing the film *Nasty Girl*. The film by Michael Verhoeven is about Rosmus.

The film will be shown on Saturday at 1:30 p.m. The discussion will follow at 3:30 p.m.

All sessions, with exception of the keynote address, will be held in the Hazlewood Room on the second floor of the James Union Building.

Pi Kappa Phi receives partnership grant

Fraternity Pi Kappa Phi received a partnership grant in the amount of \$1,500 from Push America to benefit the MTSU office of disabled student services.

The money will be used to purchase carbonless notetaker notebooks to benefit disabled students at MTSU that require note takers.

The grant check was presented to Jon Harris, director of disabled student services, on Monday by Pi Kappa Phi's service officer Josh Higgins.

Blue Raiders collect coats for poor

The Blue Raiders and Lady Raiders are sponsoring their first ever coat drive.

The group is asking for new or gently used coats for needy families during the holiday season.

Coats will be collected during a racketball double-header on Monday.

The Salvation Army is working with Middle Tennessee athletics to get the coats to people in Middle Tennessee area.

Sorority holds Date Auction Friday

Omega Phi Alpha is holding a Date Auction Friday at 8 p.m. The event will be held in the upper level of Inferno Bar on Main Street.

The money raised will be donated to Kiersten Johnson, who is suffering from cystic fibrosis. The cost to bid on a participant is \$5. For more information, call Michele Helton at 907-9662 or 556-1827.

Social work collecting clothing for Goodwill

Until Nov. 26, the social work department is collecting coats, sweaters and other warm clothing of all sizes to give to Goodwill. New and used clothing will be accepted.

Drop off donations at the social work office in Peck Hall, Room 309, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. ♦

Fraternity's operations suspended

National organization tells SAE brothers to cease, desist activities pending investigation into alleged hazing

By Patrick Chinnery and
L.P. Anderson
Editor in Chief and Staff Writer

Sigma Alpha Epsilon Fraternity and MTSU Judicial Affairs launched separate investigations of the school's Tennessee Beta chapter Monday after allegations of hazing emerged over the weekend.

In addition, the national

organization has ordered the chapter "to cease and desist all chapter operations until the close of the investigation," according to a press release issued yesterday.

"We're moving pretty quickly on this situation," Christopher Mundy, spokesperson for the national group, said in a phone interview yesterday. "We'll be working closely with

the host institution."

The Tennessee Beta chapter wouldn't answer phone calls or knocks on their door to discuss the cease and desist order last night. President Josh Leyhew also didn't return phone calls seeking comment about the order.

MTSU's investigation began Monday after director of Greek Life Kim Godwin received an

anonymous e-mail stating that seven members of the fraternity hazed several pledges last week, Godwin said in a telephone interview Monday.

SAE's national organization, *Sidelines* and Student Government Association President Michelle Butler also were sent copies of the e-mail.

According to the document, an SAE member kidnapped a pledge.

Another fraternity member allegedly fringed pledges held a four- or five-pound wooden

paddle above their heads for extensive periods of time, the document added.

Yet another SAE member forced a pledge to do sit-ups by jerking upon the pledge's hair, according to the document, which also cited frequent cases of alleged mental, verbal and emotional abuse.

Leyhew said Monday the allegations were false and that fraternity members had not hazed pledges.

See Fraternity, 2

Playing Banana Republic



Photo by Micah Miller | Staff Photographer

Jessica Hunt, Bonnie Hall and Sarah Simekins from Watertown High School represented Brazil at the mock Economic Summit held on campus yesterday.

Speaker will discuss blacks in media

By Liz Karlson
Staff Writer

Media-created images of blacks will be the lecture topic delivered by visiting professor Rodney Coates on Wednesday.

Coates is the keynote speaker at MTSU's annual Tennessee Undergraduate Social Science Symposium, which will be held in the Tennessee Room of the James Union Building.

Coates is a professor of sociology from Miami University in Ohio and director of the Black



Coates

studies of the media and if the portrayals of blacks in the media are stereotypical or realistic.

"What [Coates] has been looking at in the last few years has really been looking at how media images of minority groups are created and how relevant they are to community participation," Austin said.

Austin said he believes the media is inaccurate in its portrayals of this particular minority group, and is excited to have Coates' lecture.

"I think blacks are stereotyped, and I think he knows that

See Coates, 2

Fashion show to benefit Special Kids

By Tiffany Brown
Staff Writer

A fashion show will be held Saturday in the James Union Building to benefit Special Kids, a non-profit Christian agency that provides nursing and rehabilitation services to special needs children.

The show is a primarily student-run event with students in MTSU's textile merchandising and design program working collectively to present the show as part of a project for their junior-level fashion promotion class.

"I think the best part about the fashion show is the fact that the students are exposed to every aspect of producing a fashion show," said Christine Kennard, class instructor. "They are involved in the publicity, the finances, the set design, and besides the clothing, they are involved with the models' hair and makeup."

Kennard said that the main motivation behind the show is the financial help that it provides for Special Kids.

"We donated to Special Kids last year and they are so good to work with," she said. "Plus they

just do such good work with children. Last year they only serviced nine counties, and this year they are servicing 12. We are just going to keep with them and try to give them more money. Last year we gave them \$1,000. We are actually hoping for the numbers to go up this year, we just need attendance."

The class is split up into five different teams, each being responsible for certain elements of the "Style in the City" theme show. These teams are the set and stage committee, model

See Fashion, 2

MTSU alum dies in helicopter crash

Staff Reports

An MTSU graduate died in a Black Hawk helicopter crash in Mosul, Iraq on Saturday.

First Lt. Pierre Piche graduated from MTSU in May 2000 with a degree in political science.

He was on one of the two Black Hawk helicopters that crashed on Saturday. Seventeen soldiers died in the crash.

Piche was in the 101st

Airborne Division stationed at Ft. Campbell in Clarksville, Tenn.

He was 28 years old and was a political science major at MTSU.

Piche received a scholarship to attend MTSU.

Piche is survived by his mother Lisa Johnson and his father Hugh Johnson.

He is from Starksboro, Vt. He will be buried in his home state. ♦

Music industry run on outdated model

By Leah Massey
Staff Writer

Recording industry associate professor Beverly Keel discussed the problems faced by the recording industry to a packed room during Monday's Honors Lecture.

"Things are not going good for the music industry," she said. "They're operating on an outdated business model that uses technology that is quickly becoming obsolete."

Some estimates are that compact and digital video discs may be outdated within five years.

The problem facing the recording industry that has been getting the most coverage and concern is Internet downloading through peer-to-peer networks.

"The record industry views it as you're walking in their store for free and taking out their music," Keel said.

The Recording Industry Association of America reported that 2001 was the worst year ever for record sales. Even top record stores are on the verge of bankruptcy.

Ironically, the best selling items in record stores are blank,

recordable compact discs, Keel said.

Keel said that with the current recession and other factors, there is no conclusive evidence that file sharing is responsible for the decrease in sales.

"People see burning as a skill and not really illegal," said Lindsey Lane, freshman mass communications major. "It's called 'file-sharing,' but it's really stealing."

The RIAA filed lawsuits against 261 downloaders in September, but it is too soon to tell if the lawsuits have deterred downloading and aided record sales.

"They had a little public relations problem there," Keel said. "It didn't help that they went after some children and the elderly."

Keel said that 2.5 million people used the popular peer-to-peer network Kazaa last year. This year, the number went up to four million users.

"You can't sue four million people a year," Keel said.

Keel contends that record labels are not completely obsolete. She believes that they just need to restructure their business

See Honors, 2

We're surrounded

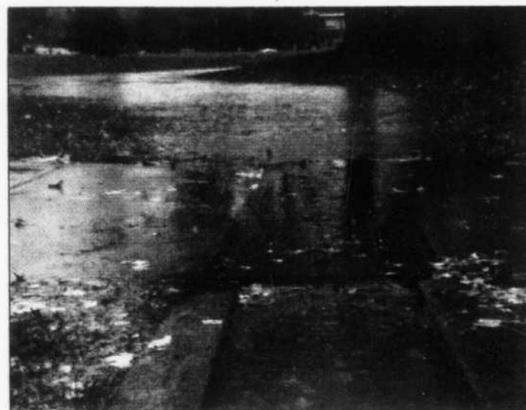


Photo by Micah Miller | Staff Photographer

Afternoon showers created a moat around most of Peck Hall yesterday. More rain is expected today.

Fraternity: Investigations to move quickly

Continued from 1

"We don't condone hazing in any form or fashion," he said during a telephone interview Sunday.

"The majority of our policies of hazing are within what the state requires," Munday said. He added that the national organization had certain expectations of how chapters should behave, in addition to the organization's

written rules.

Michael Ceccarelli, president of the Interfraternity Council at MTSU, said he didn't know of any wrongdoings at the fraternity. The council governs all fraternities at MTSU.

But all fraternities here have policies against hazing, he said. Anything, however, may occur "behind closed doors" inside a fraternity house, Ceccarelli added.

"I've heard stories of things in the past," he said, "but those could be urban myths."

Judicial Affairs is also moving as quickly as possible with its investigation.

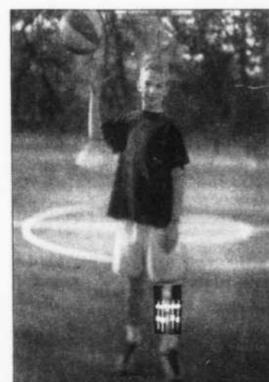
"Hopefully, we'll know something before the end of the semester," John Dickerson, assistant dean for Judicial Affairs, said last night. "We'll just have to do our investigation and see where we go."

SAE members will meet with Judicial Affairs during some point in the investigation, Godwin said, adding she will act as an intermediary between the groups.

"We take these things as serious as possible," she added. "There's no messing around when it comes to hazing."

MTSU's student handbook defines hazing as, "any intentional or reckless act, ... on or off

the property of any higher education institution, by one student acting alone or with others, which is directed against any other student that endangers the mental or physical health or safety of the student, or which induces or coerces a student to endanger such student's mental or physical health or safety." ♦



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Honors: Record companies necessary evil, professor says

Continued from 1

model.

Labels are necessary in many cases for promotional purposes for new artists. New artists are rare these days, but even with the Internet it is hard to find a new sound or band if you don't know what you're looking for to begin with.

"The record companies are a necessary evil in music," senior

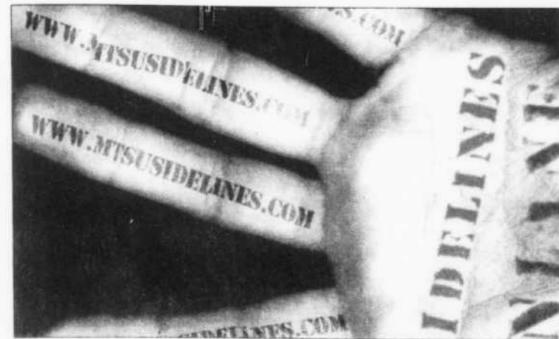
recording industry major Ben Angeloni said. "They're sucking the life out of the music, but without them it's not going to work."

"The criticism is there's no passion," Keel said. "It's all about the research."

Focus music will listen to a snippet of a song, and based on the group's reaction the song may or may not be put onto the airwaves, Keel explained.

"The good news is music is still a very passionate, emotional, personal thing," Keel said. "Everybody connects to artists. In fact, we want to connect to artists but the industry doesn't let us anymore."

The glamour attached to many artists and the way the celebrity is often pushed more than the music itself has taken away from the music and people's interest in it, Keel said. ♦



Coates: Blacks stereotyped in media

Continued from 1

the media creates images of African-Americans for example, including crime rates, dysfunctional families, and all kinds of things," Austin said. "I am anxious to see what he has discovered."

Coates has a master's degree in anthropology and sociology and received his doctorate in sociology at the University of Chicago.

He is also a member of many professional associations, including the Association for Black Sociologists, the National Association of Black Studies and the American Sociological

Association.

The Tennessee Undergraduate Social Science Symposium is an annual program that is structured like a professional conference.

An average of 60 undergraduate students from around Middle Tennessee present their research projects in areas of sociology, history and anthropology.

"This is for students to get experience in making public presentations, to help them polish their research skills, to learn from other students and there is a social component," Austin said. "MTSU students get to meet students from other uni-

versities."

Austin said he believes it will be beneficial to students to either participate or attend this year's symposium.

"We want to expose our students to someone who's a professional in the field," Austin said.

"We are pleased that he has agreed to come and be our keynote speaker," Austin said.

More than 100 students are expected to attend, and the event is free and open to the public.

The symposium will start Wednesday morning and end Thursday afternoon. ♦

Fashion: Show is Saturday in JUB

Continued from 1

selection committee, wardrobe committee, publicity and promotion committee and hair and makeup committee, said Alison Madwell, senior fashion merchandising student.

The class consists of 32 students who are doing almost all of the logistics and planning involved in the show.

In addition, there are 22 student models, all of whom auditioned for their parts in the show, and eight student designers.

Kennard said that while the student designers do make up the middle segment of the show, there are in fact four other segments for which the clothing being modeled has all been donated by local businesses.

"We do this on a zero-dollar budget, and all the proceeds, above costs, go to Special Kids, so we try to limit everything by getting donations," Kennard said.

"The sponsors, who include Dillard's, the Stones River Mall, Leslie's Shoppe on the square, Wet Seal and The Limerick, Hickory Hollow, Hue Hosier, and Stewart Lumber and Haynes Lumber, have all given us sizeable donations and they are really helping us out a lot," she said.

"We've had to work every night this week, but I think that it's worth the time and effort because it is helping children who need special help," Madwell said. "It's a great thing that we are doing it just for them and I wish we could publicize it more just because of that."

"The clothing being shown is for both sexes, and we are incorporating how you can go from workwear to happy hour in a few simple steps," Madwell said.

"I think everyone needs to come to the show because when you graduate from college and you go out to a bar after work with your coworkers, you need

to know how to go from business casual to just a few easy pieces," Madwell said. "If you show up in your navy business suit, you are going to feel very out of place."

Most importantly, Kennard said that she thinks it is important to teach students to give back to the community and that Special Kids is a worthy cause.

"They provide these services free pretty much, and the money that they get are donations and such, like those of the fashion show," Madwell said.

The show will be Saturday at 10:30 a.m. in the Tennessee Room in the James Union Building.

Tickets are \$10 for general admission and \$5 for students, and can be purchased by calling Amy Gardner at 904-4124.

Kennard said there will be more than 25 door prizes consisting of items such as restaurant and other gift certificates and cosmetics baskets. ♦

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Advocacy group urges no alcohol advertising at games

By Paula Haynes
Minnesota Daily

(U-WIRE) MINNEAPOLIS — A leading health advocacy group is asking universities to keep alcohol advertising off the air during college sports broadcasts.

The Washington-based Center for Science in the Public Interest launched a campaign last week aimed at curbing alcohol advertising. Jay Hedlund, spokesman for the center, said it is hypocritical for schools to allow the advertising, which can fuel alcohol misuse.

"It's very honest on the one

hand to warn students about the risks of underage or excessive drinking and on the other hand profit financially from the beer companies," Hedlund said.

According to the Center on Alcohol Marketing and Youth, the alcohol industry spent \$58 million on 6,251 advertisements during college sports broadcasts in 2002.

University of Minnesota athletics and health officials said they have not been contacted by the center but said alcohol advertising is an important issue that should be reviewed.

"Alcohol advertising gives the impression that everyone is

drinking in all events," said Dave Golden, director of public health and marketing at Boynton Health Service. He said he would support a ban on alcohol advertising during college athletic events.

When the university signs broadcast contracts directly with stations, it does not allow alcohol advertising. However, many broadcasts are coordinated through the Big Ten or the NCAA, which set their own standards, said Mark Coyne, assistant director of intercollegiate athletics.

University Athletics Director Joel Maturi said the university

has limited control over these regional or national broadcast contracts.

"I am one of 11 votes," Maturi said of the Big Ten contract, which applies to all 11 Big Ten universities.

Maturi said while a ban on alcohol advertising might be right for one university, it might not be right for other schools. Maturi said he personally does not oppose alcohol advertising during games.

"If it's legal to advertise it and the audience is of age, I'm not opposed to it being advertised," he said.

Howard said, university sen-

ior fellow of journalism and mass communications and former CEO of the Cambell Mithun advertising agency, said he does not think alcohol advertising during college events is wrong if most of the audience is of legal drinking age.

University health officials, however, said alcohol advertising can harm viewers.

"I think advertisers in the alcohol industry do not always have health as one of their goals," said Dana Farley, a Boynton associate program director who designs alcohol awareness ads.

He warned many young people

watch college sports on television. If the university signed the center's pledge to ban alcohol advertising it could help reduce adolescent drinking, he said.

But television advertisements are only a small part of the problem, said Traci Toomey, an epidemiology professor who researches alcohol misuse.

"I think that saying there is one magic pill and then our work is done is naive," she said.

Toomey said factors such as the number of bars near a campus and other types of advertising are equally if not more dangerous than television ads. ♦

Financial aid agencies under investigation for loan practices

By Virginia Zignego
Badger Herald

(U-WIRE) MADISON, Wis. — In response to what some see as the U.S. Department of Education's failure to prevent wasteful spending, fraud and abuse in the multi-billion dollar student loan program, the department inspector general's office is working to correct the problem.

In addition, several lawmakers have either introduced legislation on the matter or are planning to do so in early 2004.

An anonymous letter sent in 2002 to the education department accused Sallie Mae, the largest student loan firm, of offering illegal inducements to Pace University and other colleges to increase its loan vol-

ume. In response, the inspector general's office examined the loan practices at two colleges at which loans from Sallie Mae had increased significantly.

The inspector general decided the education department needed to better address guidelines concerning loan lenders. The department responded by saying it wanted to conduct a more extensive analysis so as not to hastily harm lenders with the formation of new policy based on the occurrences at the two colleges.

The National Association of Financial Administrators is still deciding what route of action to take in response to these recent allegations.

Larry Zaglanizny, NASFAA's

director for Congressional relations, said he could not comment on the policies NASFAA was replicating, but said the legal repercussions are already felt.

"It's entirely possible, if lenders and the department cannot reach some sort of consensus, that Congress will intervene with legislation," Zaglanizny said.

Zaglanizny said the real issue is what is legal versus illegal in terms of financial aid distribution.

Under the current law, if a loan lender is found to be offering illegal inducements to colleges, the lender is banned from participating in student loan programs. While not routine practice, some lenders have been known to provide their

staff members to colleges to help during the admission process, or sometimes provide software at no cost.

The investigation and recent news articles addressing the issue have provoked a bipartisan outrage among lawmakers, who have called for a reform of the current system.

Rep. George Miller, D-Calif., called for a Congressional hearing in a recent press release.

"The Education Committee should hold hearings on the serious issues raised and the Department of Education, which has failed to properly oversee these programs, should immediately correct these abuses," Miller said in the press release.

Rep. Tom Petri, R-Wis., is planning to introduce legisla-

tion in early 2004 aimed at strengthening the direct loan program, where students take out a loan from the U.S. Treasury, rather than a private company.

"Representative Petri wants to make the direct loan program more competitive and more attractive to colleges," said Jason Belisle, legislative assistant for Petri. "Schools decide whether to use direct loans, or private loan lenders. They're both the same for the student, so far as interest rates go, but the private lenders are trying to undermine the direct loan program by going to schools and saying, 'We'll give you these kickbacks if you switch over to us.'"

Steve Van Ess, University of Wisconsin's director of Student Financial

Services, said UW uses the private loan lender system.

"Because it's private, the investors can afford to be competitive and provide benefits to student borrowers, such as for early loan payments. UW allows any lender to make any loan offer to our students," Van Ess said.

"Our primary lender is the Great Lakes Higher Education Corporation, although some of our students do use Sallie Mae, but there are no extra borrower benefits or private inducements."

Van Ess added, however, that current practice, if passed, might make direct loan programs more beneficial to students, in which case UW might consider that program. ♦

Report shows a sweet tooth may indicate future alcoholism

By Caley Meals
Badger Herald

(U-WIRE) MADISON, Wis. — According to a recent report in the November issue of *Alcoholism: Clinical and Experimental Research*, a candy bar today could mean alcohol abuse tomorrow.

Researchers at the Mount Sinai School of Medicine in New York found that having a sweet tooth precedes alcoholism and may serve as a marker for the genetic risk for developing the disease.

In a prepared statement to the press, study author Alexei B. Kampov-Polevoy said, "Previous research has established that in mammals such as mice, rats and monkeys, the preference for and consumption of sweet fluids are strongly correlated with voluntary alcohol intake."

Kampov-Polevoy is an assistant professor of psychiatry at Mount Sinai and decided to create the study upon reviewing his previous research.

In looking over his notes on past studies, Kampov-Polevoy noticed that people who are alcoholics generally preferred sweeter fluids than their non-alcoholic peers.

But it wasn't clear whether the preference for sweet fluids was a result of a long history of drinking or whether this sweet tooth preceded alcoholism, so he decided to set up a study to find out.

In the study, Kampov-Polevoy studied 163 social drinkers who were divided into two groups.

The 81 people in the first group had a paternal history of alcoholism, while the 82 people in the second group did not.

All the study participants were then asked to rate a series of sucrose solutions for intensity of sweetness and palatability.

The researchers found that people with a paternal history of alcoholism were 2.5 times more likely to enjoy the sweet solution than the people in the second group, demonstrating a link between sweet consumption and alcoholism.

"Craving alcohol is a complex psychological phenomenon, but is based on biology within the reward pathway in the central nervous system," said Dr. Mark Peterson, medical director of a private clinic in Georgia and consultant for AlcoholMD.com.

According to Peterson, the correlation between sweets and

alcohol is a result of similar biological reactions to both substances.

Since both sweets and alcohol increase serotonin production in the brain, thereby stimulating pleasure, it is only natural that people with a sweet tooth are more likely to become alcoholics.

A May 2002 study at Harvard Medical School titled "Alcohol Abuse and Dependence among U.S. College Students" found that 6 percent of college students met the criteria for a diagnosis of alcohol dependence (also referred to as alcoholism), and 31 percent met the clinical criteria for alcohol abuse.

"Heavy drinking is most often regarded as a behavior problem only," said John R. Knight, principal investigator of the study and an assistant professor of pediatrics at the Harvard Medical School.

"Many students who drink heavily are at high risk of true mental disorders such as alcohol abuse and dependence. Alcohol dependence especially may become a lifelong illness, and more should be done to recognize and help students at risk." ♦

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OPINIONS

4 ◆ SIDELINES

Wednesday, November 19, 2003

Murfreesboro, Tenn.

From the Editorial Board Save music from money

In case you didn't hear about this in a mainstream media source (and why would you?), EMI is currently the leading bidder to the Time Warner music catalog. If the acquisition occurs, it would concentrate the majority of the music business in three global companies, according to London's *Financial Times*.

According to the article, the Federal Trade Commission has already warned attorneys at Time Warner that the merger would be reviewed before it would be allowed to proceed. The European Commission is also expected to review the merger.

The Warner Music Group includes The Atlantic Recording Corporation, Elektra Records, Warner Bros. Records, Warner/Chappell Music, Alternative Distribution Alliance, Warner Music Latina, Rhino Entertainment. Joint ventures include Maverick Records (with Madonna) and Lava Records.

Planned acquisitions such as this and the proposed merger between Sony Music and Bertelsmann's BMG division are, unfortunately, a sign of the times. Media sources have quietly (and sometimes not so quietly) been merging and buying each other up for several years now.

With the number of separate, independent record labels with a significant sphere of influence slide, so do the number of jobs that will be available for tomorrow's recording industry degree-holders.

The recent acquisition of DreamWorks Records by Universal Music Group is the latest move that has resulted in lost jobs. The reason is simple: With such consolidation, there is no reason for these companies to essentially double up on jobs. It works out great for the shareholders, but badly for pretty much everyone else.

The notion that massive corporate ownership will free up money for more talent and good work has certainly not held true in the news industry. There's no reason to think corporate board members beholden to shareholders will be inclined to reward creative genius if it means a few dollars might fly out the door. ◆

Correction

In Monday's issue of *Sidelines*, in the story "International trade topic of summit for high schoolers," the pull quote was misattributed to Martha Turner. The quote should have been attributed to Maria Edlin, as it was in the story. *Sidelines* regrets the error.

SIDELINES

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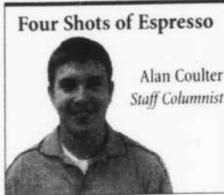
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Letters Policy

Sidelines welcomes letters to the editor from all readers. E-mail letters to slopinio@mtsu.edu and include your name and a phone number for verification.

Sidelines will not publish anonymous letters. We reserve the right to edit for grammar, length and content.

Badly written laws let negligent off scot-free



Four Shots of Espresso
Alan Coulter
Staff Columnist

Nothing's better than grabbing a Bud and going for a ride around town on your bicycle.

At least, that's the approach Laura Roberts took, according to the *St. Petersburg Times*.

Roberts allegedly took three prescription drugs and drank several beers before she decided to ride her bike on U.S. 19 in New Port Richey, Fla. She eventually swerved into the path of William Anderson's Chevrolet Monte Carlo.

Anderson dodged Roberts and crashed into a Nissan truck, killing both his wife and his mother.

Right now Roberts is on

trial for driving under the influence and manslaughter, and it appears as though it's an open and shut case with the alcohol level in her blood at .07, just shy of Florida's .08 limit, mixed with traces of the pills. (She gets a bonus .01 for those. If only she had stuck to the one painkiller. Tsk, tsk, tsk.)

But when do appearances mean anything? Since when did common sense become important in this country, especially in Florida?

Roberts' lawyer claims to have a sure defense for his client. He claims that the evidence gathered against his client was obtained illegally. The Florida troopers were not allowed to take urine and blood samples from Roberts, as they are able to from any other DUI offender. Why?

The law only applies to "motor vehicles." I suppose

it wouldn't count if I landed on someone purposefully with my handy-dandy hang glider.

The attorney writes in his motion, "As Florida law excludes bicycles from the definition of motor vehicles, the arrest of the defendant was illegal, any evidence gathered was unlawfully obtained and is fruit of the poisonous tree."

Fruit of a poisonous tree? Oh yeah, that's right, because trees kill people more often than drunk people on bicycles.

The only poison around this case appears in the veins of Roberts and her attorney. Two people died, and they are not coming back because Roberts decided to take her vices and mix them with her hobbies.

Anyone with a brain could see through this defense, and I pray the citizens of Florida are no

exception.

I understand we have the judicial process for a reason. Interpretations of the law should be pushed and debated in the forums this country established in the beginning, but how in the world is this unclear?

Because of the word "motor," a woman who clearly made a wrong decision might escape the consequences of her actions that extinguished the life of two human beings.

Not only did Roberts make a bad decision, she stooped beneath hideousness by trying to escape taking responsibility.

This would never happen on our campus, though.

I mean, no one even drinks on campus. It's dry, remember? (Vodka in water bottles counts.)

Can you imagine smoking a fattie, then plowing over some freshman or that professor who gave

you a D last semester with your shiny 10-speed? Wouldn't you feel guilty?

OK, bad example, but you see my point.

I can't think of a good example, but try to imagine you feel really guilty because someone died.

Wouldn't you want to come clean and face your consequences, even when you knew you might be able to get off on some technicality?

Wouldn't you?

Come on.

No?

Well, perhaps Roberts will get away with it. May this serve as a lesson to all of us, boys and girls. Even the power of human deduction can't overpower the dumbest of poorly written laws. ◆

Alan Coulter is a senior English major and can be reached via e-mail at ajc2h@mtsu.edu.

Hooray for U.S. socialism



Human, All Too Human
Eric Blevins
Staff Columnist

The headline was on page 30 of the Nov. 13 edition of *Rolling Stone*: "Indie Radio Beats the FCC." Of course, I was skeptical about news I knew was too good to be true.

Apparently, a new Federal Communications Commission rule allowing one company to completely control the airwaves of an entire market had been temporarily blocked when "a former radio pirate and his ragtag political group" sued the FCC.

Once again, American socialism has allowed a system of oligopoly, in which a small group of companies controls most of a market, to remain in place. The few corporations controlling the media and telling us what to buy and how to live are probably the real victors here.

If the system were deregulated and allowed to become a monopoly, what would result? One can only speculate, since this has never happened, but those in power would surely be in serious trouble. It's hard to believe that the public would or could stand for the kind of homogenization that a media monopoly would create.

Perhaps there would be a massive movement towards illegal use of the airwaves and we would see something similar to London's massive collection of pirate radio stations. This month's issue of *The Fader* called London's FM band, which boasts more than 200 pirate stations, "the most culturally loaded city soundtrack in the world."

Do you know how many public radio stations you can pick up in Murfreesboro? I know of four, and two of those are NPR stations. That means there are two stations you can turn to if you want to hear someone playing what they feel. Just imagine having access to more than 200.

It seems strange to see indies pushing for insignificant regulation and corporations pushing for complete deregulation. For governmental regulation to really help independent media outlets, a complete redistribution of power would have to take place, which seems highly unlikely.

The indies are just on the fringe as it is now. For the vast majority of the population, they don't even exist. To really get people to notice and care about what's going on, something more than a temporary FCC rule block has to happen.

The huge conglomerates on the other hand, don't seem to realize what a dangerous game they are playing. Completely unregulated capitalism is a recipe for destruction. You have to throw in a little socialism to keep Marx from being right.

That's why, according to Noam Chomsky, "most government regulatory systems have in fact been strongly lobbied for by the industries themselves: industries want to be regulated, because they know that if they're not, they're going to destroy themselves in the unbridled competition." Check out his book *Understanding Power* for more on the subject.

So, we seem to have a dilemma here. What is a better path toward a society where cultural diversity thrives and there is no main stream of crap? Do you try to take tiny steps to increase regulation, which seemingly gets you nowhere, or do you forget regulation and hope the system destroys itself?

People are diverse. We are diverse as individuals and as a society. Centralization of power tries to combat this by preaching greed and telling people what they need. Our socialist institutions have allowed this to go on by keeping power from becoming too centralized. Some see these insignificant regulations on power as victories for the people, but they are part of what keeps the system in place. We have oligopoly instead of monopoly.

Is this acceptable to you? ◆

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

Fringe benefits harmful, could result in carnage



Cosmo's Corner
Jeremy Coseo
Staff Columnist

With the great freedom we have in America, we are allowed to express and hold any type of belief we want. But they're not all good beliefs and they need to be exposed as such. From the extreme environmental nuts, to the people who want to legalize sex with children (NAMBLA), and the ever present socialist minorities, all the extreme colors of the political and moral spectrum are represented.

They have the freedom to express their views and the rest of us tolerate it. Americans have become very complacent of the fringe groups in society. We're told they're all part of being a democracy. But should we be so tolerant?

Just because these groups aren't mainstream and followed by the masses doesn't mean they don't have an effect or make them any less dangerous. These bad ideologies live on because there's no shortage of impressionable individuals who buy into their propaganda.

Ignoring them on the grounds that they're the lone dissidents of our society and will never accomplish their radical visions of America is a mistake. These groups are out for

change, and they will not stop their campaigns of revolution until they're fulfilled.

But for the rest of us, tolerance will not do. It will not make them go away or stop their bad influences. These fringe groups of society are like wolves in the woods waiting for the moment to pounce and devour the lambs who graze in the green fields. They'll leave nothing but carnage and chaos in their wake.

Our country was founded with freedom in mind, but it was also founded under strong moral convictions of right and wrong. However, once these convictions become blurred, it allows for the wolves to roam freely because the shepherd is napping under the tree of indecisiveness.

The shepherd needs to wake up. The flocks are in danger. Not calling these groups for what they are – evil – keeps us blind and at risk of attack. Pardon the pun, but the wool has been pulled over our eyes.

When people start caring more for the environment than they do for people, it's wrong.

When the avocation for pedophilia is defended by the American Civil Liberties Union, it's wrong. When the poison of socialism is still allowed to pump through the system, it's wrong.

These things are wrong and need to be stood up against.

They are injustices to the American democratic system, and as the great philosopher king Marcus Aurelius once put it, "Injustice results as often from not doing as from doing."

If you're tired of having to hear and deal with these injustices time after time, do something about it. Become a good shepherd of the American system and way of life. Stand up for what you know is right.

America has more national parks and sanctuaries than any other nation, so why destroy people's lives because they're trying to make a living cutting timber for products everybody uses?

Protect our children because they're our future and will one day be taking care of us.

And, protect our type of government because it has proven itself time and again to be the absolute best form of government under the sun.

Turning a blind eye to these fringe groups in society only allows them to continue their fight and pick off the lambs one at a time.

Wake up and chase them from the fields. The danger is real. And never forget the old Russian proverb, "The cloth unravels from the edge." ◆

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

Letter to the Editor

Confederate flag a racist remnant, Hitler and Democrats different

To the Editor:

Randall Thomason needs to read a few history books that exceed his sophomore level ("Dems get free pass on race," Nov. 10). Or, maybe he could just keep up with current news. The blurb that Howard Dean made was that Democrats need to connect to people with Confederate flag stickers on their trucks.

First off, the Confederate flag is a racist symbol. The Sons of the Confederacy did nothing to prevent it from becoming anything but that. Second, if these people are carrying the symbol as a racist tool, then we can assume they are undereducated. What's the best way to educate somebody? Connect to them, or deny them because we're ashamed?

Thomason also needs to re-think who he quotes. First off, connecting Adolf Hitler to the Democratic party is purely naive (too much Fox News?). Second, in *Mein Kampf*, Hitler was attributing the "big lie" to the Jews. He didn't actually think he was lying.

Also, Sen. Trent Lott actually prevented blacks from joining his fraternity. He did, not his father.

Jason Johnson
Junior, mass communications

Someone you know is a narc. Just thought we should tell you.
E-mail your thoughts to slopinio@mtsu.edu.

Anti-woman backlash frightening sign of times

By Alicia Ebaugh
Iowa State Daily

(U-WIRE) AMES, Iowa — The amount of freedom we as American citizens enjoy in our lives has always been a source of pride for me — I feel the United States is a great nation only because it places a high value on our "inalienable right" to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.

But, seeing as how our numerous freedoms have been the only reason I have ever thought America to be so grand, I'm not sure if I should still be proud of our country or more rightly disgusted with it when these freedoms are threatened.

Right now, experiencing a threat to our freedom could pertain to lots of things going on in the world today, but I want to concentrate on one particular issue that has been both

erating me.

Lately, I've noticed a frightening trend of backlash at women, specifically on our right to make our own choices regarding reproduction. This isn't limited to Bush's partial-birth abortion ban, although the "Kodak" moment when it was signed into law was enough to push me over the edge itself.

Why? Because, in the photograph I was surrounded by six smiling men, zero women and a hell of a lot of self-righteous, "I know what's better for you than you do" rhetoric.

This is also not limited to other measures Bush has taken to restrict women's access to and information about abortions, birth control and sexual health since he took office. In his very first month, Bush resurrected the Global Gag Rule, ending U.S. aid to international family planning programs

whose services included — but did not use U.S. funds for — informing women of legal abortion options and providing safe and legal abortion services.

In June 2002, wording was altered on the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and National Institute for Health Web sites, according to *The Detroit Free Press*.

This refuted volumes of evidence previously available on the sites regarding findings that abortions do not increase breast cancer risks and that condoms do protect against HIV.

And we're not anywhere near the end of the list.

The full realization of my fears has come with recent letters regarding abortion in our very own newspaper, written by men attending our university. These letters were quite forceful in their absolute claims of father's rights and insisted

women have a "responsibility" to carry through with pregnancies created through consensual acts.

However, both of these work to undermine a woman's autonomy of body and right to make her own decisions.

This isn't to denigrate the importance of fathers or their contribution to their children's lives. Fathers do have rights to their children, but giving men absolute power of paternity when the child is located inside a woman's body effectively denies women bodily autonomy.

Fully informed decisions on abortion and adoption should definitely be discussed between the mother and father before any steps are taken, but ultimately left up to the woman, in whose body the pregnancy will develop, to decide.

The same goes for our

"responsibility" to carry out pregnancies. When people have consensual sex, it would follow both parties are responsible for its outcomes.

When a pregnancy occurs, it's too easy to say the mother should be obligated to "deal with the consequences" and have the child. How do we propose to offer an equal, nine-month-long responsibility of bearing life to the male? Should we allow exemptions for couples who tried to prevent pregnancy through birth control?

The ultimate question is: Should we even question a woman's decision at all? It seems people are beginning to think women don't have enough sense to make sound decisions on their own — that we need legislation and propaganda to keep us in our place as "good mothers."

But that, my friends, is one huge load of crap.

Women are not vessels created solely for reproduction. We are not sperm receptacles, nor are we indentured servants. We are human beings who were born with the ability to reason and take control of our own destinies. This effectively gives us the facilities to decide for ourselves when we'll be pregnant and whose children we will bear.

It seems scary and threatening to me that some day I may be forced to bear a child I have no desire to create.

I would hope the rest of America would be behind me if I were to decide I wasn't ready to bring another human life into this world.

Our values of "liberty and justice for all" don't allow for obligatory motherhood. ♦

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Come to JUB Room 310 to pick up an application

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NEWS WORTH WRITING * HOME ABOUT

The advertisement features a collage of images. At the top, a basketball player is shown in action. Below this, there's a large clock face with numbers from 25 to 105. The text 'SIDELINES ONLINE @ MTSU SIDELINES.COM' is prominently displayed. Below that, it says 'NEWS WORTH WRITING * HOME ABOUT'. There are also some smaller text elements and a small illustration of a person.

Got news?
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slnews@mtsu.edu.

WHEN HE WAS FOUR, CHAD COURTNEY LEARNED NOT TO PLAY UNDER THE RIDING MOWER. THE HARD WAY.

It took 14 hours to reattach Chad's left leg. And countless hours of rehab and therapy to strengthen and lengthen it back to basketball condition. Last year, there were some 70,000 lawnmower accidents in the U.S. For free information on injury prevention, contact the American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons.

AMERICAN ACADEMY OF ORTHOPAEDIC SURGEONS
1-800-824-BONES www.aaos.org

Getting you back in the game.

Sidelines Classifieds

The illustration shows a woman in a dark dress and a large hat sitting at a typewriter. To her right, a large hand is holding a sign that says 'FOR SALE'. Below the sign, there's text about students going to the James Union Building, room 310, to fill out forms for free classified ads. The background shows a landscape with a boat and some figures.

Students, go by the James Union Building, room 310, and fill out the proper form if you want your FREE Classified ad in Sidelines

Fill out the form by noon on Friday so your ad will appear in the following week's paper.

for student, non-commercial, non-retail purposes only

Getting S.M.A.R.T

Program addresses cigarette smoking and pregnancy

By Laura Beth Jackson
Staff Writer

It's easy to pick out expecting mothers in a crowd.

If the tendency to call everything pink or blue, "adorable," or "ohmagoonessthatsocute" doesn't give it away, then a slight roundness accompanied by a nonchalant attitude towards eating well might. They're "eating for two" as they say.

"For two" applies to everything in pregnancy, which is why the March of Dimes is in its second year to fund a campaign promoting cessation of smoking by pregnant women.

A little smoking goes a long way in both mom and baby during a pregnancy. Both can incur poor health effects as a result of smoking.

In 2002, the National March of Dimes awarded a \$300,000 grant to the Tennessee Chapter of the March of Dimes and MTSU to fund the Smart Mothers are Resisting Tobacco program.

The project includes working with the Tennessee Department of Health to create a curriculum that teaches health care providers how to educate their patients on the effects of smoking and the importance of maintaining a healthy lifestyle during pregnancy.

"In the past, the Women, Infants and Children nutrition program has worked to promote the importance of folic acid in pregnancy," says Chairperson of the Adams Chair of Health Care Excellence at MTSU Jo Edwards. Now we're adding smoking and tobacco information too."

According to the curriculum, low birth weight babies, preterm births and infant mortality are higher in cases of a mother who smokes.

"The information may be out there in general, but women haven't gotten it," she adds. "Providers aren't doing it. But it makes the difference. Part of the goal of this project is to retrain providers on how to educate their patients."

The S.M.A.R.T MOMS program is especially geared towards lower socioeconomic groups and the health care providers who serve them.

"We're trying to target at-risk populations, such as those involved in the WIC nutrition program," Edwards says. "For many of them, getting good nutrition is a struggle, good health care is not available, and you add on top of that smoking."

The S.M.A.R.T curriculum provides a step-by-step way for health care providers to teach their patients about stopping smoking.

Known as the "5 A's," providers must ask a woman about her smoking status, advise her to

quit and provide information for her, assess a patient, by asking her if she is willing to quit, assist her through educational materials and counseling and arrange for follow up meetings.

The program also provides literature and educational materials for patients to read.

In 2001 there were 7,235 low birth weight children born in Tennessee. In each county, LBW pregnancies in smoking mothers exceeded those born to non-smokers, as did preterm and infant mortality rates.

"The problems come from what smoking does during pregnancy," Edwards says. "In LBW children, they will often experience developmental delays as they grow up."

Bio-chemically speaking, carbon monoxide and nicotine from cigarettes play the largest part in health problems in pregnancy. Carbon monoxide decreases oxygen supply to the baby, while nicotine is toxic. Both will have higher levels in the blood of the child than in the mother.

Women who are heavy smokers often experience decreased fertility and menstrual dysfunction. They are also more susceptible to spontaneous miscarriage and earlier onset of menopause.

According to Edwards, the time of pregnancy is a time when women begin to rethink their habits and are open to learning more about a healthy lifestyle.

"Pregnancy provides them an impetus to stop smoking," Edwards says. "It's a teachable moment. It gives them incentive to do what they had only thought about before."

"This is a statewide attempt to educate providers, getting them convinced that this is important," Edwards says. "We have to be as consistent with this as we were with the folic acid campaign. It's a form of influence when a mother is coming in to a health care provider and she's pregnant. It's more effective than a simple non-smoking message."

For S.M.A.R.T literature and more information on the program, call the S.M.A.R.T MOMS project director at 612-2989 or 898-2905. ◆

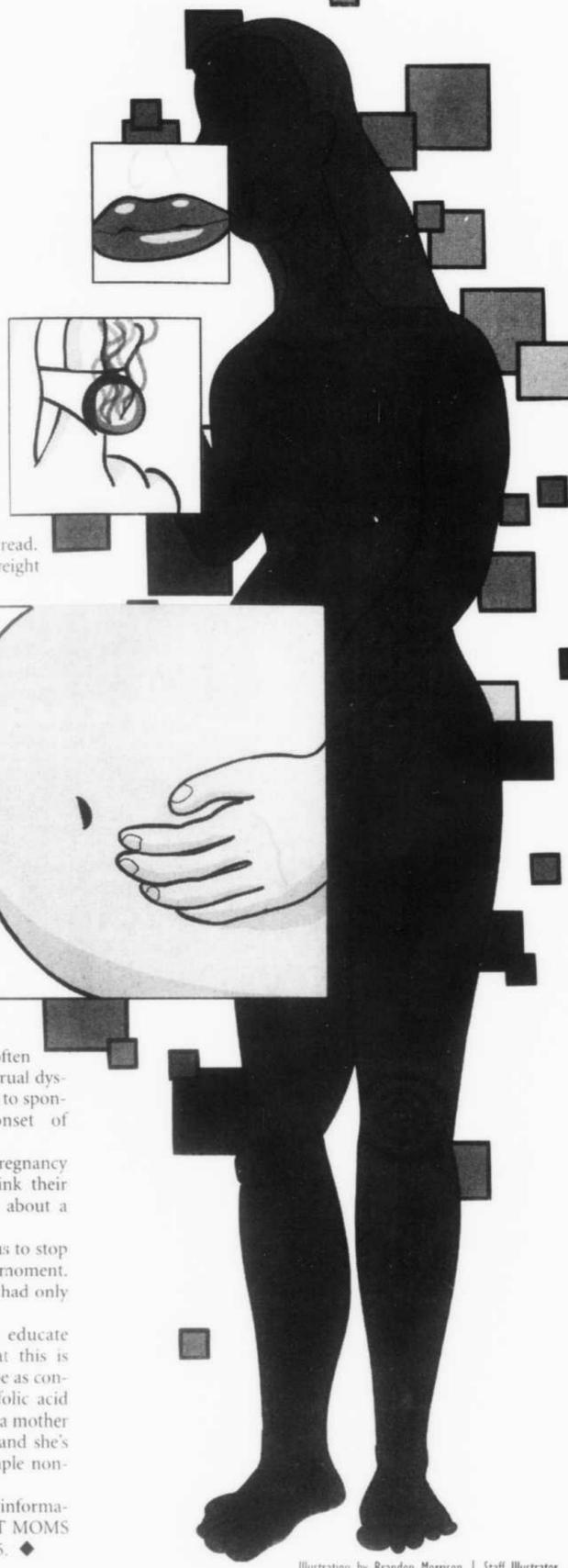


Illustration by Brandon Morrison | Staff Illustrator



Isn't it horrible when you are surfing the net and you get tons of pop-up ads offering you don't want? Or the truly ironic pop-ups that offer software to stop pop-ups. Wouldn't it be great if there was some free way to get rid of this problem?

Well, there is - sort of. Microsoft ships with its Windows Messenger Service, automatically turned on. This means that anyone, anywhere in the world can pop-up an ad on your computer.

Unfortunately if you have Windows 98 or Millennium Edition you can't disable the messenger service. However, for other Windows users, here is how you can disable Windows Messenger.

- Windows 2000
1. Click Start-> Settings-> Control Panel-> Administrative Tools->Services
 2. Scroll down and highlight "Messenger"
 3. Right-click the highlighted line and choose Properties.
 4. Click the STOP button.
 5. Select Disable or Manual in the Startup Type scroll bar
 6. Click OK

- Windows XP Home
1. Click Start->Settings->Control Panel
 2. Click Performance and Maintenance
 3. Click Administrative Tools
 4. Double click Services
 5. Scroll down and highlight "Messenger"
 6. Right-click the highlighted line and choose Properties.
 7. Click the STOP button.
 8. Select Disable or Manual in the Startup Type scroll bar
 9. Click OK

- Windows XP Professional
1. Click Start->Settings->Control Panel
 2. Click Administrative Tools
 3. Click Services
 4. Double click Services
 5. Scroll down and highlight "Messenger"
 6. Right-click the highlighted line and choose Properties.
 7. Click the STOP button.
 8. Select Disable or Manual in the Startup Type scroll bar
 9. Click OK

This will disable some pop-ups, but not all of them. Other pop-ups use something called Javascript. If you are using Windows and Internet Explorer you will have to download a program to stop these types of pop-ups.

One program can be found at <http://toolbar.google.com>.

In downloading this free program, when asked if you want the advanced options, select no. Selecting yes will allow the toolbar to act in a way that is similar to spy ware. The program appears under the address bar as a toolbar. Just type in your search keywords and nearly all pop-up ads will be blocked.

The best way to avoid pop-ups is to use just about any other internet browser such as Mozilla, found at www.mozilla.org, Opera, found at www.opera.com or Firebird, found at www.mozilla.org/products/firebird/ ◆

Send computer questions to jh2f@mtsu.edu.

'School House Rock' Campus ministry creates community with theater

By Laura Beth Jackson
Staff Writer

Remember when you could skate a figure eight to remember the multiplication tables and a little song taught you about "electricity?"

The Wesley Foundation Players drama group from the Wesley Foundation College Ministry remembers and is putting nostalgia on stage this week with their production of *School House Rock*.

The play tells the story of a schoolteacher's first day on the job.

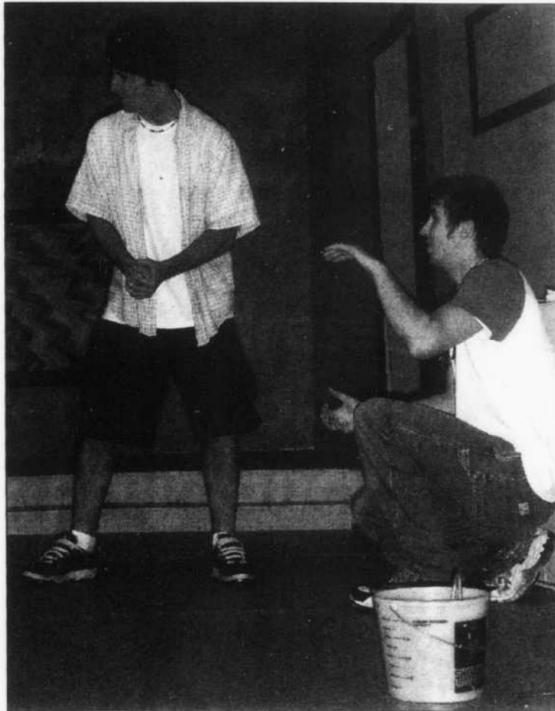
In his desire to make learning exciting, the teacher dreams about putting lessons to music.

The result is finger-snapping tunes about everything from math to history to sentence structure. Mix that with some hilarious dialogue between characters and the result is satisfying entertainment for all age groups.

"I'd been looking at other plays and this one is not done a whole lot," William Coleman, the play's director, says. "It's a kind of fun and uplifting kind of nostalgic play to do."

It was this sense of nostalgia that attracted Coleman to this play.

He says that in America's



Richard Templeton and Wes Hobbs rehearse the musical.

current state of political and economic worries, he feels that taking time for normalcy is important.

"The show brings back a lot

of good memories for baby-boomers as well as their kids," he says of the musical mini-cartoons, which began in 1973. "It reminds people of being eight

years old on Saturday mornings and watching TV. It's a feel good kind of thing."

All involved with the production are either MTSU students or faculty. Coleman himself is a music professor and has been involved with the Wesley Players off and on for five years. And while many of the students are part of the Wesley Foundation Ministry, some are not. But all agree it's a place where the good times rock.

"The drama group is open to anyone," Coleman says. "We just hold auditions and anyone who wants to can try out."

"The drama group is definitely a great way to use your major," senior information systems major Sheryl Mabry says. "Whether you're helping out with costumes or selling ads or helping out with lighting or music, you can use your interests somewhere."

"My multiplication tables are solid after singing about all this stuff in 'School House Rock,'" sophomore recording industry major Richard Templeton says with a grin. "But it's been great. We have so much fun, like the night we all played a prank on Will and said we were all going to quit, or when we have to improv our dance moves or

lines when we forget our own. It's been fun."

The Wesley Foundation Players have been in existence for nearly 18 years. They have an impressive record of performances, including *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dream Coat*, *Grease* and *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown*.

The troupe has never performed any evangelical plays. Instead the group's first priority is to produce good performances that anyone can enjoy watching and that all the students can enjoy making.

"When you bring people together for something like this, community can happen in all kinds of ways," Coleman says. "And that is part of our responsibility as Christians, to build up community and encourage those around us."

"The Wesley Players use theater as a way of extending the ministry of the church," Mike Campbell, Wesley Foundation minister and producer of the play, says. "We use it as providing a way for someone to get involved in the Christian community that may not otherwise."

"But the performance is not the most important part," he

See **Rocks 7**

Scientific research

INTEGRITY VERSUS ENTERPRISE

By Michaela Jackson
Staff Writer

"Show me the money" has become the almost universally accepted mantra for just about every aspect of life in the public arena. But what happens when the quest for wealth interferes with the standards of health and safety that keep our country among the most scientifically advanced in the world?

Many people involved in today's ever-growing drug research industry are having to ask themselves this question. According to biology professor Amy Jetton, there are three ways in which researchers can be tempted to compromise the integrity of their results.

The first is when scientists start their own companies to market the discoveries made in their labs.

"People that are working for [the scientists] are dependent on good outcomes," Jetton says.

She worries that not only the economic dependency but also the emotional element of not wanting to hurt loyal friends may affect their scientific judgment.

The second potentially problematic circumstance is when research labs are funded by the drug companies whose products they are researching.

Jetton says this situation can lead to scientists giving favorable reports about a drug they know is not beneficial to the medical community, or society as a whole, simply to avoid losing the financial backing necessary for them to stay profitable in business.

The third way in which research data can be skewed comes in the form of university pressure on professors engaged in scientific research. These universities want the professors to start companies backed by the universities. The resulting companies then enter

into symbiotic relationships with their parent educational institutions.

The research labs benefit by having the support of the university budget and their facilities, which are often leased. The university reaps the rewards of having award-winning discoveries coming out of the labors of their own scientists, who then partner with the university to patent and exclusively market the new products. So the university acquires not only financial benefits, but honor and prestige, as well.

"I [question whether] there is a temptation to perhaps inflate or adjust which data you use," Jetton says.

While she does not feel negative toward these funding practices, she does stress the importance of full disclosure when publishing scientific results and the quality of the journal in which the data is published.

A fresh example of economics swaying the revelation of scientific data is the recent battle with tobacco companies over whether or not smoking directly leads to lung cancer.

"The link between tobacco and lung cancer is not fully understood," biology professor Sarah Barlow says. "The way [they were connected] was not shown, but it was very clear that there was a link."

Instead of conceding to common sense, the tobacco companies operated by the letter, Barlow adds. Since there was no clear understanding of the direct link between their product and lung cancer, they were able to continue producing tobacco products.

She also believes their disregard for the public health, in favor of their multi-billion dollar industry, is a perfect example of putting money ahead of safety.

The moral of the story, according to Barlow, is that there is more than one interpretation of the data, and how much money one stands to walk away with can certainly influence which interpretation makes it into print. ♦



Illustration by Lucas Antoniak | Staff Illustrator

Rousing Rodeo

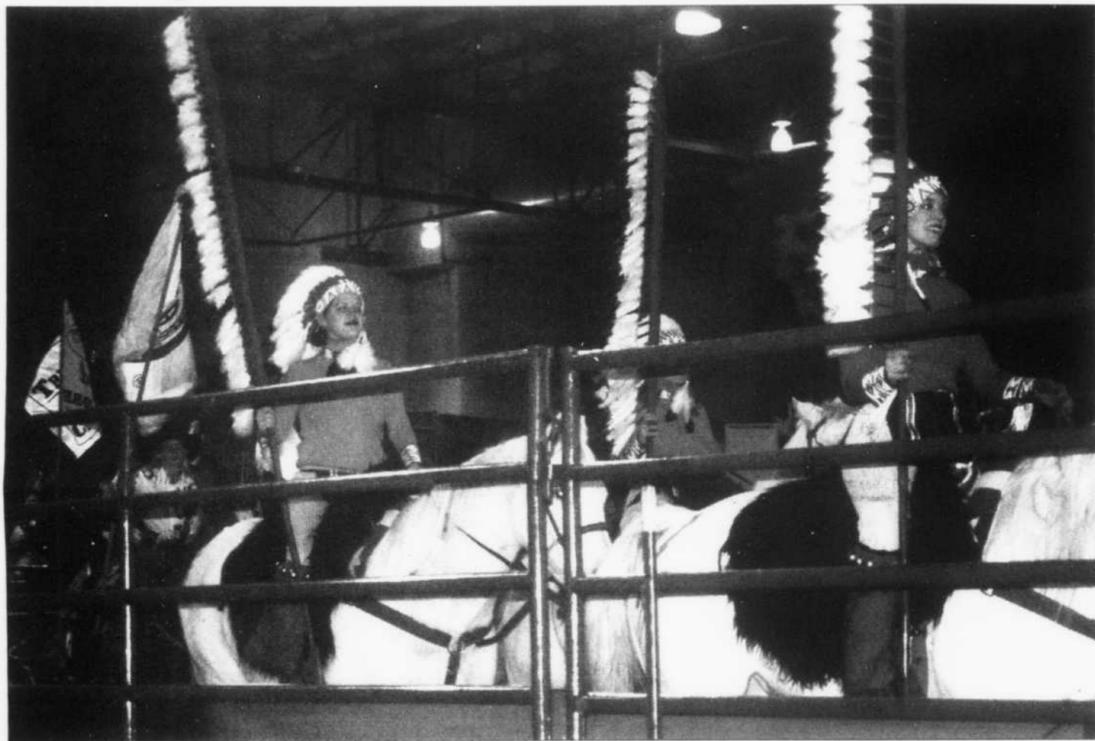


Photo by Tiffany Evetts | Staff Photographer

Staff Reports

The Longhorn Championship Finals Rodeo entertained crowds at the Tennessee Miller Coliseum this past weekend.

Winner of the cowgirls barrel racing was eight-year-old Cheyenne McGuire of Webbers Falls, Okla. She competed against women four times her age.

The bareback bronc riding and saddle bronc riding winner was Shawn Minor of Colony, Okla.

The calf roping winner was Ricky Hyde of Mt. Vernon, Ariz. Winner of the steer wrestling competition was Joe Farrelly of Auburn, N.Y.

Two-time world champion bull rider, Blaine Whipp of Marion, Ariz., was declared the champion at Longhorn's finals. ♦



Rocks: Musical coming

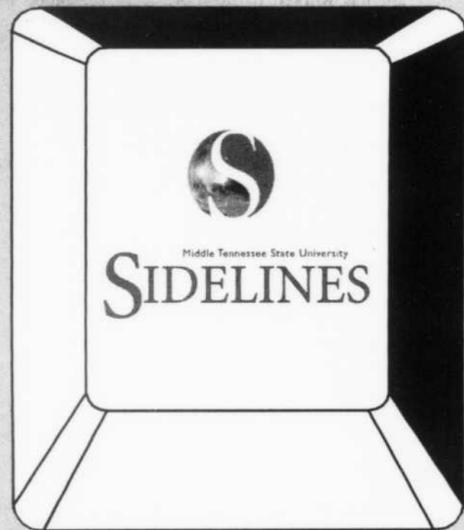
Continued from 6

adds, "It's the weeks of students being in dialogue with each other, asking questions and working together."

The Wesley Players will present *School House Rock* at the Wesley Foundation at 216 College St. Nov. 19-21 with shows starting at 8 p.m. Nov. 22 will feature a dinner theater with show starting at 6:30 p.m. Nov. 23 will be a special performance for children and begins at 3 p.m.

Tickets for the performance cost \$6 or \$3 for children and college students. Tickets for the dinner theater cost \$14 for all adults and \$6 for children 11 and under. For information or to reserve your tickets, call the Wesley Foundation at 893-0469. ♦

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SPORTS

8 ♦ SIDELINES

Wednesday, November 19, 2003

Murfreesboro, Tenn.

Horned Frogs try to improve C-USA record

By David Hunter
Asst. Sports Editor

The game between undefeated Texas Christian University and the University of Southern Mississippi Thursday night is for the top spot in Conference USA.

The Horned Frogs are coming off a 43-10 victory over the University of Cincinnati last Saturday. The win improved TCU's record to 10-0, 7-0. However, the Horned Frogs fell from No. 6 to No. 8 in the new Bowl Championship Series poll.

Since TCU is not in a BCS conference, the Horned Frogs will have to finish in the top six to earn an automatic BCS bowl bid.

The BCS conferences are the Atlantic Coast,

Southeastern, Big 10, Big 12, Big East and Pacific-10.

The BCS Bowls are the Nokia Sugar (site of this year's national championship game), Tostitos Fiesta, FedEx Orange and the Rose.

If the Horned Frogs lose, the team will have no shot of playing in a BCS bowl.

The Golden Eagles are back with a 7-3, 6-0 record. USM is on a four-game winning streak after beating Tulane University 28-14 last Saturday.

Besides both teams playing on five days of rest, the teams will be playing in front of a nationwide audience on ESPN at 6:30 p.m. Thursday night.

Right now, there are six C-USA teams eligible for a bowl game. However, the conference has five bowl tie-ins — AXA Liberty, GMAC, Sheraton

Hawaii, PlainsCapital Fort Worth and the New Orleans Bowl. If TCU earns a BCS Bowl berth, that will open up another spot. Normally, the conference champion would play in the AXA Liberty Bowl.

The Sun Belt Conference opponent for the New Orleans Bowl was determined after the University of North Texas won their third consecutive SBC Championship last Saturday.

The Mean Green earned the trip after beating Arkansas State University 58-14. The game will take place on Dec. 16 on ESPN2.

University of Memphis (7-3, 4-2), University of Louisville (7-3, 3-3) and the University of Houston (6-4, 3-3) are the other C-USA teams that have qualified for a bowl berth.

This is the first time the Cougars have qualified for a bowl in five years.

Last week, UM beat UL 37-7, and UH defeated winless UL 34-14.

UC can qualify if they beat either UM on Saturday or UL on Nov. 28. Currently, the Bearcats are 5-5, 2-4.

The other matchups in C-USA include Army (0-8, 0-11) going to the University of Hawaii, TU hosting East Carolina (1-5, 1-9), the University of Alabama-Birmingham (3-3, 4-6) traveling to USF and UH playing at home against UL.

All of these games are on Saturday.

These games might determine who will spend the holidays playing in a bowl. Other teams will be staying home. ♦

Rhoden named SBC Coach of the Year

By Colby Sledge
Staff Writer

Aston Rhoden just led the Middle Tennessee women's soccer team to its most successful season ever and was named the Sun Belt Conference Coach of the Year earlier this month.

Rhoden, however, attributed his accolades to those around him.

"I think it [the award] reflects on my team and my staff and, in some respects, the administration," he said. "Great coaches are made by great teams, great staff and great administration."

This season, the Blue Raiders compiled a 12-7-2 record and won their first SBC tournament game ever, a 3-0 victory over the University of Arkansas-Little Rock. MT's win total was the highest since the program began in 1996 and was the third winning season in its history.

"Unlike past years, we had good team chemistry. We had good senior leadership," Rhoden said. "I think when you combine the talent that we had with the senior leadership and with the chemistry, it made for a good team."

This season was Rhoden's second year at MT after coming from the University of North Alabama, where he created the women's soccer program. He served as head coach for six seasons at UNA before deciding to come to Murfreesboro, where he found that his situation wasn't as different as he might have expected.

"Starting a program from scratch at North Alabama was much like starting my first year here," he said. "Whenever you get into a new situation, it is like building from scratch; it's just sometimes it's a little bit easier. We're able to progress faster here

because we have more resources here."

The team certainly improved on last year, when the Blue Raiders finished 8-12-1 and earned the seventh of eight seeds in the SBC tournament. This year, MT went 5-1-2 in conference play and earned the third seed.

"We took a tremendous step from the standpoint of the results we had, but I think we also took a tremendous step in terms of the

way we want to play the game," Rhoden said.

Rhoden has had soccer in his blood almost from birth. He was born in Jamaica and lived there for more than 20 years, playing for the Jamaica Youth National Team and the Real Mona Football Club.

He left Jamaica for the University of Alabama-Huntsville in 1985 due to the economic and social status of his home country and in order to "make something

of myself that was only controlled by me." Therefore, he enrolled in school with his sole focus on majoring in soccer.

"I'll be lying if I said I came [to USA] for school," he said, laughing. "Back then, I was much younger. Soccer was pretty much my life, and this was just a way to use my talents somewhere else. School was kind of a side benefit."

See Rhoden, 9

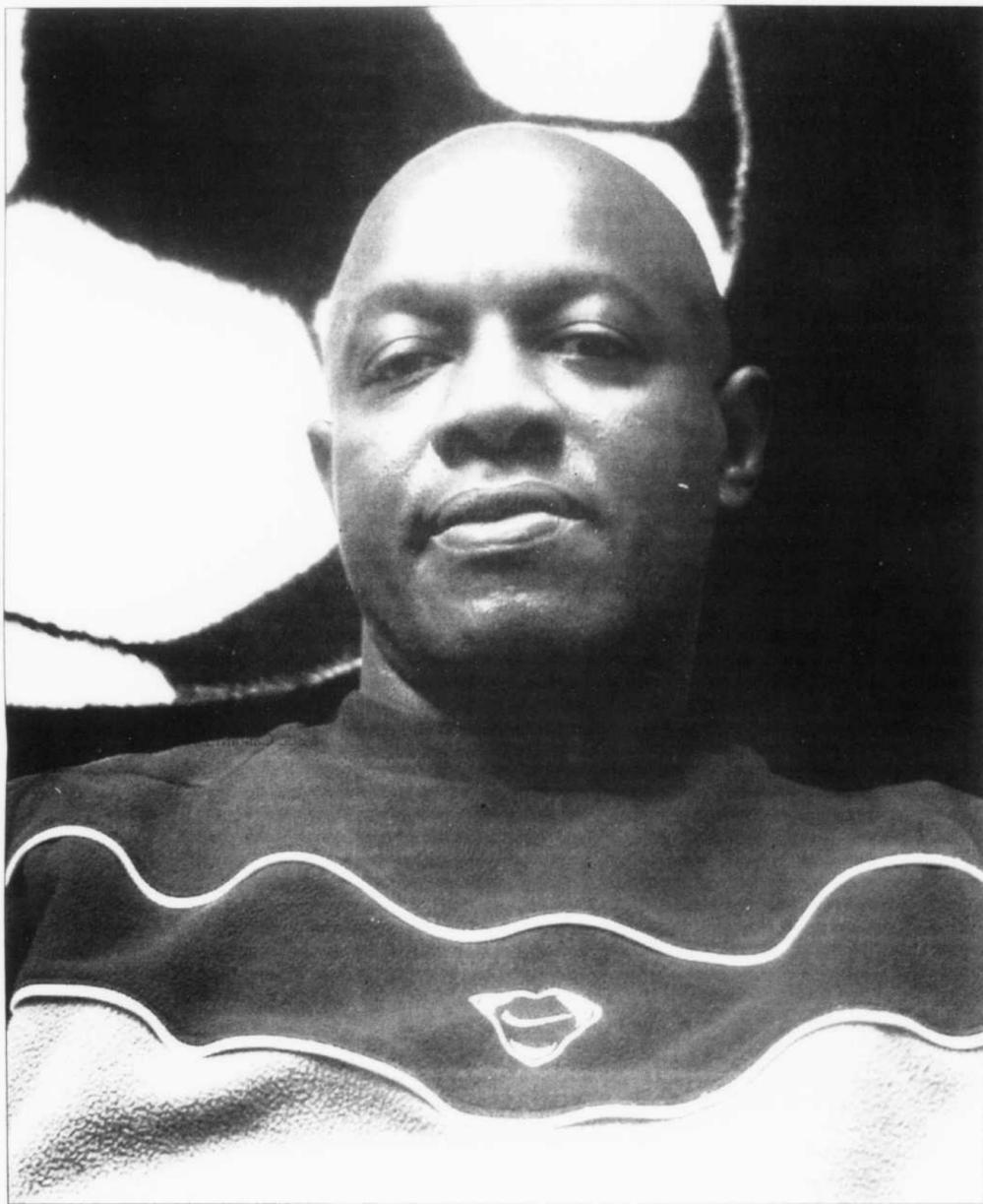


Photo by Micah Miller | Staff Photographer

MT Soccer coach Aston Rhoden lead the Blue Raiders to their first Sun Belt Tournament win this year.

BCS picture getting brighter for Sooners

By Chris Glasser
Staff Columnist

If you wanted to spell controversy, it would only take three letters — BCS.

It seems like every year, some sort of controversial issue appears through the Bowl Championship Series standings. It started in 1998, when Florida State sneaked into the national title game instead of Kansas State. It happened again in 2001, when Nebraska got into the title game after losing two games in the last month of the season. And it has happened again this year, with Ohio State leapfrogging the University of Southern Cal in the latest BCS standings.

The Buckeyes jumped into the No. 2 spot in the BCS, despite the fact that USC easily took care of Arizona last weekend 45-0. The Buckeyes 16-13 overtime win over Purdue changed their strength of schedule just enough to give Ohio State a 0.19 point lead over the Trojans.

Many argue that this is unfair, but if you think about it, it's not that difficult to figure out why the Buckeyes are where they are.

After their 17-10 loss at Wisconsin on Oct. 11, many thought the Buckeye's title hopes were gone. However, they slowly crept back to the top as Miami, Southern Cal, Louisiana State

University, Texas and Georgia all suffered setbacks.

This sets up a big matchup at Michigan this weekend, where the Wolverines have dominated this year. If the Buckeyes win, they'll stay No. 2 spot most likely, but I don't think they'll be able to beat Michigan in the Big 10, where the Wolverines' smallest margin of victory at home this year was 14 points, and if OSU loses, the second spot may be up for grabs.

USC will probably need a Buckeye loss to regain the No. 2 spot and even then, it may be close. LSU is currently ranked fourth in the BCS, and if they can win their remaining games against Mississippi and Arkansas and win the Southeastern Conference Championship game, they may be able to move into the No. 2 spot.

Those three are really the only teams that probably will contend if things fall into place. While trying to sort out the national championship, the BCS will also influence the SEC East.

Tennessee, Florida and Georgia are all tied in the SEC East, and the tiebreaker to determine who represents them will be whichever team has the highest ranking.

With last week's win over Auburn, Georgia was able to move ahead of Tennessee by one spot. Georgia currently ranks No. 6, Tennessee No. 7, and Florida No. 13. Tennessee will proba-

bly need a Georgia loss to move past the Bulldogs, while Florida needs a Tennessee loss, but neither team faces any formidable opponents the rest of the way.

The team that could be left out of the BCS mix is Texas Christian University. The Horned Frogs are still undefeated, but dropped to No. 8 in the BCS rankings, mostly because their strength of schedule is so weak. While the top 12 BCS teams are BCS eligible, TCU probably won't get a bid unless they finish in the top 6.

With all this said, here is how I think the BCS will pan out. Oklahoma will hold on to the No. 1 spot to earn it's bid in the Sugar Bowl. Ohio State will lose to Michigan, and Southern Cal will narrowly hold onto the No. 2 spot over LSU.

Michigan's win will give the Wolverines the Big 10 championship, earning them a spot in the Rose Bowl. They will probably take on Texas, who will earn an at-large bid. The Longhorns rank No. 5 in the BCS, and their only remaining opponent is Texas A&M, meaning Texas will win out.

Florida State University has already clinched the Atlantic Coast Conference and will probably play in the FedEx Orange Bowl against LSU, who will win the SEC by defeating Georgia in the

See BCS, 9

Lady Raiders to host Tech, in-state rival

By Jori Rice
Staff Writer

The Middle Tennessee women's basketball team is preparing for the season opener with Tennessee Tech University.

However, the Lady Raiders have been ready since last week's 69-46 exhibition victory over Georgia College and State University.

Krystle Horton led with 23 points, and Tia Stovall with 14.

Meanwhile, TTU also anticipates the Golden Eaglettes' first game.

Senior Andrea Brown and junior Casey Bradford were selected as co-captains for TTU for the 2003-2004 season.

"Andrea and Casey have all the attributes you'd want your captains to have," head coach Bill Worrell said.

Brown has played in 89 games in her career, including 16 starts.

She has scored 529 career points, and, last year, she led the team in both free throw accuracy and three-point shooting. Brown also shared the team's prestigious Frank Porter Award last year.

Brown's teammate Bradford is a 6-foot forward from Shelbyville, Tenn. She is expected to have a major impact on this 2003-2004 season.

Bradford has received action in 56 career games with seven starts. She has been an effective shooter, hitting 51.4 percent from the field for two years.

Although Brown and Bradford take on leadership roles, Emily Christian is a player whose statistics show her effort.

Christian, a 6-foot-1 inch sophomore, averaged 17.6 points and 40 blocked shots last year.

She also earned a spot on the Ohio Valley Conference all-tournament team and was ranked among conference leaders in six categories, including second in scoring.

Christian also charted highly in blocked shots, rebounds, steals, defensive rebounds and free-throw percentage.

She was third in blocked shots, fifth in defensive rebounds, sixth in steals, seventh in rebounding and 10th in free-throw percentage.

Christian was also the top scorer in the league in conference play, averaging 21.1 points, the second-highest scoring average by a freshman in school history.

"Emily is a profound player no matter what we do she is going to get her points," head coach Stephany Smith said.

"She has great size and a wonderful understanding for the game," Smith said.

MT will wait until Friday night to take on TTU in the Murphy Center at 7 p.m. ♦



Photo by Micah Miller | Staff Photographer

Lady Raider Chrissy Givens lays the ball up against the Georgia College and State exhibition game on Nov. 11. MT won 69-46.

Rhoden: Finished up second season with impressive finish

Continued from 8

Rhoden was in for a surprise, however, when he discovered that Americans don't exactly share the same passion for soccer that Jamaica does.

"My first collegiate game here, there were probably 30 people. That was a shocker for me," he said.

"I was like 'Well, does nobody know when the game is? Where is everybody?' And most of the people there were either girlfriends or Mom or Dad."

After graduating from UAH in 1989, Rhoden began coaching youth soccer teams and playing competitive adult soccer in Huntsville.

He was then hired at UNA in 1994, where he started the women's soccer program as a club team before moving it to varsity status a year later. When Scott Ginn resigned from MT in 2001, Rhoden applied and was hired.

Now, as he looks back on his second season, Rhoden is pleased with the progress that has been made - but he's also focused

on the future.

"I think we're a year late," Rhoden said. "I expected to be where we are now last year, but I think we had so many variables that affected that."

"I think now we're at the beginning of developing a culture for our team, expectations for our team and internal expectations from us as coaches and our players."

If the Blue Raiders continue their improvement, perhaps Rhoden should be expecting a few more awards as well. ♦

BCS: Second place battle

Continued from 8

the SEC Championship.

The Tostitos Fiesta Bowl will probably pit the winner of the Big East against an at-large team. The winner of the Big East will be decided with the Pittsburgh-Miami game. The at-large, however, could be a number of teams. If Ohio State loses, how far will they drop in the BCS? They may still end up as an at-large. Tennessee also has a chance, even if they don't go to the SEC Championship game. If they win out, they may be able to jump ahead the loser of the SEC Championship game.

Just another complicated season that proves the BCS isn't the answer to college football's biggest controversy. ♦

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ARTISTS / ART STUDENTS A graphic design student is planning to publish a 2005 art calendar featuring artwork of MTSU students and middle Tennessee artists. If you would like for your artwork to be included in the calendar, call John at (615) 832-4702 or email at jdcunningham@bellsouth.net.

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Forget Heisman, 'Sidelines' gives its own award

By Jerry Wilkinson
Sports Columnist

After the Tennessee-Miami game, Miami tight end Kellen Winslow made a few statements to the press that were disturbing to some sports fans, which is why Winslow has been voted for the *Sidelines* Jack-Ass of the year award.

Apparently, Winslow was upset at how the game was officiated and wanted to be heard. Not only did Winslow make statements against the officiating crew, he also made statements against the Tennessee player that he injured with a cut-down block. After the hit, Winslow pulled his helmet off as if he were celebrating.

Most people who keep up with college football understand what kind of qualities a Heisman candidate should possess.

Not only should he be a great athlete, he should also have good character.

The statement Winslow made that upset most around the college football world was:

"It's war," Winslow said. "I don't give a freaking you-know-what about him or about you. They would kill me. You print that. You make money off that ..."

"If I didn't hurt him, he'd hurt me," Winslow said. "I'm going to come right back at him. I'm a (expletive) soldier. Now get away from me or I'll go off."

In no way should a player have ill intentions of trying to ruin another player's career by a cheap hit.

Winslow apologized for his statements to the press the next day, saying:

"With the deepest regret for comments made after the loss to the University of Tennessee I humbly apologize to the University of Miami, President (Donna E.) Shalala, Athletic Director Paul Dee, Head Football Coach Larry Coker and my teammate.

"After speaking with the press, I immediately regretted my comments and felt embarrassed for my family, my team, the University of Miami, our fans, alumni and myself.

"What I have learned from this experience is to take my triumphs and failures in stride.

"My outburst should in no shape or form be a reflection on this institution or the Miami football program.

"As for my reference to being a soldier in a war, I meant no disrespect to the men and women who have served, or are currently serving, in the Armed Forces. I cannot begin to imagine the magnitude of war or its consequences.

"Again, I apologize to the University of Miami family and everyone else affected by my outburst." ♦

"If I didn't hurt him he'd hurt me. I'm going to come right back at him. I'm a (expletive) soldier."

— Kellen Winslow
Tight End, University of Miami



Illustration by Lucas Antoinak

MT Sports Brief

MT basketball squads to host coat drive

Middle Tennessee's Blue Raiders and Lady Raiders request your support during their first ever coat drive. Please help needy families during this holiday season by donating new or gently used coats at the MT double-header on Monday Nov. 24. The Salvation Army has teamed up the MT athletics in order to help people throughout the Middle Tennessee area. Please help make this a successful "Coat Drive" and assist those less fortunate during the upcoming holiday season. ♦

Want to get the word out about a campus event?

Reintroducing the Campus Events calendar, located in the *Sidelines* Features section each Monday.



Submit your event's details for publication by filling out the Campus Events form in the James Union Building, Room 310.

Sports e-mail
slsports@mtsu.edu

AN EVENING OF SHORT PLAYS

2003 winners of the Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival Region IV Short Play Competition

the pillbox
by paul daniel bond

the view from this room
by josh dunkin



november 11 - 15 & 18 - 22, 2003
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