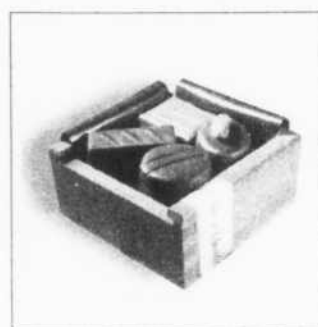




Scattered Thunderstorms



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treats sent
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opens with win

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Should cell phones
be banned
from classrooms?

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INSIDE: Womack's departure leaves education with little hope

Middle Tennessee State University

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Campus Briefs

Crayola colors character

MTSU's Department of Art and Crayola have teamed up to sponsor the southeast region's Crayola Dream-Makers Exhibition for grades K-6.

Shirley H. Yokley-Witzel, associate professor of art, will oversee the K-6 exhibition at MTSU as well as the southeast region's entries for Crayola.

Yokley-Witzel has extended this region's Feb. 15 deadline until March 1.

Judging of the exhibition will take place in mid-March when 40 entries will be selected for inclusion in an art exhibition in May at MTSU's Art Barn Gallery.

The chosen entries will be framed by the exhibitions sponsor, Binney and Smith. Additionally, other exhibitions of submitted works will take place in various local institutions and businesses.

"Drawing on Character" will be the theme in this year's exhibition.

For more information, contact Yokley-Witzel at 904-8085 or by e-mail at syokley@mtsu.edu.

NEA chair to speak

Renowned actress Jane Alexander, a four-time Oscar nominee and the recipient of both Tony and Emmy awards, will visit MTSU to present a free lecture Monday, March 4 at 7 p.m.

"An Evening with Jane Alexander: From Broadway to Washington" is the complimentary presentation in the 2002 installment of the William and Westy Windham Lecture Series, which is sponsored by the College of Liberal Arts.

This year's lecture was coordinated by the college's fine arts division with assistance from the Division of Student Affairs and its Distinguished Visiting Scholars Series.

For more information, contact the College of Liberal Arts at 898-2534.

Debate gets big win

Forty-two teams from 18 schools in 11 states competed in the Mardi Gras Classic debate competition, which was held Feb. 8-10 at Louisiana State University. MTSU's Courtney Carver and Tierra McMahon collectively claimed the championship in the novice division as well as individual awards.

In the preliminary competition the MTSU duo won four of six debates, beating two teams from Eastern New Mexico University and two teams from Southeastern Louisiana University.

Carver and McMahon semifinal to the sudden death semifinals debates as the fourth-seeded team. In a unanimous decision from the panel of judges, they upset the top-seeded team from ENM.

The MTSU debate program is sponsored by the department of speech and theatre within the College of Liberal Arts.

The team is coached by assistant coaches John Schweri and John Mast, both graduate students at MTSU. ♦

SGA elections to be held next week

Voting held
Feb. 25-27

By Donovan Stewart
Contributor

The Student Government Association elections got revved up in high gear Friday as formal campaigning officially began.

Each seat up for grabs has seen an increase in candidates this year compared to last year, according to Vice President of Administration and Public

Affairs Jamie Burns.

"Last year the only person who had someone running against him was John (Marshall) so that's encouraging to see that more people are getting involved," Burns said.

Each office has a term of one year starting officially May 1, after a grooming period of about three months.

The elections will be held February 25-27 and students can vote online at www.mtsu.edu/webmt.

The office positions open this election are president, vice

president/speaker of the Senate, vice president of administration and public affairs and election commissioner.

Senate seats are also open this year but most senators find themselves unopposed.

The other races are a different story as all offices have at least two people running for them.

In the president's race, the following people are running: Brandon Robbins, Nyrannon Bryant, Daryn Thornbury, Travis Jordan, and Josh Graham.

"It will be harder to run against friends but we still look at each other's ideas and we know there won't be any dirty campaigning," Jordan said.

In the vice president/speaker of the Senate race there are two candidates: Jason Searles and Amanda Newman.

"I will use flyers but more importantly I will use the platform of the Student Party, an organization I'm vice president of to help get the vote out," Newman said.

The vice president of administration and public affairs will

be interesting as three candidates vie for the position, including Michele Butler, Jarret Rice and Tracey Johnson.

The election commissioner race will see four people competing for it: Lisa Barkley, Katy Wansing, Willie Nelson III and Justin Broddrick.

"I'm not going to hand out cards, I'm going to do person-to-person campaigning because I think people will remember a face better than they will a handshake," Barkley said. ♦

Journalists discuss diversity at panel



Photos by Jason Cox | Staff

Acel Moore (Above), a columnist for the *Philadelphia Inquirer*, answers a question posed to him by the moderator.

(Left to right) Journalism professor Wendell Rawls introduces the diversity panel (left to right) Sybril Bennett, Moore, Lucas Johnson and Dwight Lewis.

By Nick Fowler
Staff Writer

A panel of distinguished black journalists encouraged student journalists of all races to play an active role in affecting racism in the newsroom Monday afternoon.

They told stories of race relations in the newsroom and media coverage.

The panel featured Acel Moore, columnist and member of the Editorial Board for the *Philadelphia Inquirer*, Dwight Lewis, member of the Editorial Board for the *Tennessean*, Lucas Johnson, reporter

for the Associated Press Nashville Bureau, and Sybril Bennett, reporter for the NewsChannel 5 network. The moderator was Wanda Lloyd, executive director of the Freedom Forum Diversity Institute at Vanderbilt University.

Lloyd cited a study by the American Society of Newspaper Editors that found that only 12 percent of journalists at daily U.S. newspapers are people of color, despite 28 percent minority population.

"There are not enough people of color," Lewis said. He said it is often difficult to be the only one in the

newsroom to notice race issues.

"You want to raise race issues, but think 'do I have to do it all the time? Can't others see the bigger picture?'" asked Lewis.

Bennett said black reporters can cover stories from perspectives whites cannot.

"The very fact that I am on the air is a positive outcome," Bennett said.

But Bennett said blacks should not just cover black stories, and whites white stories, but that all journalists should strive for diversity in their reporting and be sensitive to race in their reporting, even when the story is

not about race.

Moore showed how racism in the media coverage could be subtle. In a content analysis of how the *Inquirer* covers race he found that the paper habitually favored white candidates for public office over black candidates.

For example, in a story about the Chicago Mayoral race, in which there were three viable candidates, pictures were shown of the white candidates, but not the black candidate. In headlines, the name of whites always came

See Panel 2

Book thief caught selling goods

By Laren Anderson
Staff Writer

A student was arrested Friday at Phillips Bookstore on a charge of theft, after a backpack which held five books, valued at \$415, was stolen from a campus computer lab.

Ricky Garrett Jr., 23, 310 Jackson St., was arrested by the MTSU Police Department, according to the arrest report, for stealing books which belonged to Joshua R. Dunham. He is to appear March 18 in the General Sessions Court of Rutherford County, the officer said.

The backpack was picked up through a mishap, Garrett said in a telephone interview Monday.

"The books were from a friend," Garrett said, and added the friend, whom he wouldn't identify, would acquire the money after the books were sold.

Garrett said his friend didn't inform him where the books were located.

At about 11 a.m., Dunham, a 21-year-old MTSU student, found his book bag missing from the Business and Aerospace Building computer lab, according to the officer.

With the book bag, Garrett entered the Blue Raider Book and Supply, according to Chris Lane, manager of the off-campus bookstore, at 1321 Greenland Drive.

Lane said he acted edgy and shady when a clerk asked for a driver's license - a routine which tracks who returns books.

A clerk, who Lane wouldn't identify, had further suspicions when Garrett sold the books at reduced prices, Lane said.

Texts receive greater value when BRBS confirms next semester's book list.

Garrett sold two books at a minimal price of less than \$100, according to Lane.

Twenty minutes after Garrett left the bookstore, Dunham called BRBS and inquired whether his books had materialized, Lane said.

"There were 'marks to verify' his books," Lane said, and added BRBS encourages students to "mark" texts, or personalize them with symbols, as identification, if they become stolen or lost.

At 12:49 p.m., Garrett was in Phillips Bookstore, where he attempted to sell *Principles of Economics*, Jeff Whitwell, text-book manager, said.

But, the campus bookstore already had an alert for him, Whitwell said, and added that Garrett had tried to sell a possibly stolen book earlier this year.

Identification was required, the text-book manager said, when Garrett attempted to return the book.

Garrett's name merged with the alert, Whitwell said, and notified MTSU Police.

Garrett stood up and waited until the police arrived, Whitwell said.

Taken to the Rutherford County Sheriff's Department, he was held on \$2,000 bond, Garrett said, and added he was released on \$200. ♦

Demomania to teach kids chemistry fun

By Jennifer Dotson
Contributor

The Chemistry Club has cooked up some interesting presentations to demonstrate for local high school students tomorrow morning during Demomania.

Demomania, an annual event held by MTSU's award-winning and nationally ranked Chemistry Club, will take place tomorrow in the Keathley University Center Theater from 9:30 to 11 a.m.

Demomania is one of the Chemistry Club's public outreach activities. It will feature five themed sets of demonstrations performed by teams of MTSU Chemistry Club members. Demonstrations to be presented range from showing how blue jean dye works to the principles behind egg white whipping to a demonstration called "Methane Mambo," which will end the show with a bang.

"We hope that it will spark some interest in chemistry among Murfreesboro high school students, teach them some basic chemical principles and also make them aware of the diverse kinds of people that enjoy chemistry," said Gary White, chemistry professor and co-sponsor of the Chemistry Club.

Niger Kaur, graduate student and former treasurer of the Chemistry Club, encourages MTSU students to attend Demomania as well.

"Students should come and see Demomania to see that chemists are not only 'nerds,' but can show that chemistry can be fun," she said. "The demonstrations shown at Demomania are very interesting." ♦

CRIME LOG

Compiled By Laren Anderson - Staff Writer

A partial listing of incidents filed by the MTSU Police Department between Feb. 12 and Feb. 17 included:

Tuesday, Feb. 12, - 2:04 p.m.

Wiser-Patten Science Hall - A bicycle was stolen.

Tuesday, Feb. 12, - 2:19 p.m.

Davis Science Building - Property valued in excess of \$500, was reported missing from the chemistry department.

Tuesday, Feb. 12, - 3:30 p.m.

Orchard Lot - Arrested on a charge of criminal trespass. Nathaniel D. Haynes of Goodlettsville and Gilbert Malone, Jr. of Hendersonville. Also issued were trespass warnings.

Tuesday, Feb. 12, - 6:49 p.m.

Family Apartments - Laundry was stolen from the laundromat.

Wednesday, Feb. 13, - 4:30 p.m.

Clement Hall - "Snitch" was inscribed with permanent marker on a resident's door.

Friday, Feb. 15, - 12:49 p.m.

Business and Aerospace Building (BAS) - Ricky V. Garrett, 23, 310 Jackson St., was arrested on a charge of theft under \$500.

Garrett, an MTSU student, was taken into custody by campus police at Phillips Bookstore, where he tried to sell a stolen book. A total of five books were stolen from the BAS computer lab at approximately 11:00 a.m.

Friday, Feb. 15, - 3:27 p.m.

A student reported a cellular phone was stolen.

Friday, Feb. 15, - 5:40 p.m.

Gracy Hall - A student reported that a car was "keyed."

Saturday, Feb. 16, - 12:21 a.m.

Greek Row - Seth Boyd, 19, a resident of McMinnville, was arrested on a charge of driving under the influence (DUI). Boyd, an MTSU student, was also charged with underage consumption. This is Boyd's first DUI charge.

Saturday, Feb. 16, - 2:48 p.m.

Deere Hall - A 2000 Nissan Sentra was burglarized. A beer bottle was thrown through the driver's side window.

Sunday, Feb. 17, - 5:41 p.m.

Nicks Hall - A male made threatening and obscene comments on the telephone.

Former MTSU doctor's record could be cleared

Staff Reports

A former MTSU physician arrested for prescription drug fraud last year was granted diversion late last week and could have his record expunged in two years.

Dr. Jerry Slay of Brentwood was charged April 16, 2001, with obtaining prescription drugs by fraud, possession of the drugs and DUI by an Eagleville School Resource Officer.

Under an agreement between the district attorney's office and Slay, he will be granted diversion as long as he continues a drug treatment program, pays a fine and the court costs and maintains good behavior for two years. If he follows the conditions, his record will be cleared in two years.

Slay was found April 16 wandering around Eagleville School confused and unaware of where he was.

"Dr. Slay apparently thought he was at a shopping mall in Waverly, Tenn.," Detective Dan Goodwin told *Sidelines* in April.

Greg King, the man who found Slay, escorted him to his car and found needles and pills

inside. King retrieved an empty 12-count prescription bottle of Mepergan, a Schedule IV drug, and an almost full 90-count bottle of Lorazepam from Slay's car. Both prescriptions had been filled earlier that day at the Walgreens pharmacy on Mercury Boulevard.

Apparently, Slay had been mixing Mepergan with water and shooting it up.

According to state records, Slay has a history of drug problems stemming to 1984, and his license to practice medicine has been suspended twice by the Tennessee Board of Medical Examiners.

University officials were aware of Slay's history of drug problems but believed that he had been rehabilitated, News and Public Affairs Director Doug Williams told reporters in April.

Slay's license was suspended indefinitely last May for personal misuse of drugs, unprofessional conduct, inappropriate and/or illegal prescribing practices and engagement in the practice of medicine when it was mentally or physically unsafe to do so. ♦

Panel: Journalists discuss newsroom diversity at panel

Continued from 1

before blacks, Moore's study found.

Lewis pointed out similar troubles at the *Tennessean*. The newspaper was prepared to run a story on Deborah Faulkner, Nashville's deputy police chief, as centerpiece on the front of the local news section. "Are we promoting 'D&B' Faulkner?" asked Lewis.

This was important, he said,

because the police chief, Emmett Turner, is black and Faulkner may be running against Turner in the next election.

Lewis asked if they were running the story on Faulkner because she was white. Were they not running a story on Turner because he was black?

Lloyd said many black journalists leave the field because of the lack of challenge and opportunity. They are often not given

difficult assignments or allowed to advance into management.

Lloyd said that some have criticized the media for covering racism too much. Moore responded, "We have a role to play as journalists not to just give them what they want, but to inform them."

The panel also discussed the lack of positive images of blacks in the news. There are too many stories about black crime and not enough positive stories said

Lucas Johnson, reporter for the Associated Press Nashville Bureau and MTSU Graduate.

On the effects of these negative images Bennett said, "The discomfort we feel is constant." Moore added, "That kind of coverage has been the most destructive social force of the day."

The John Siegenthaler Chair of Excellence in First Amendment Studies sponsored the panel discussion.

U. South Florida prof criticizes Israel in speech

By Ryan Fuller
The California Agony

(U-WIRE) - Amid the busy lunch-hour backdrop of a University of Florida-Davis coffee house on Friday, Dr. Sami al-Arian, an engineering professor from the University of South Florida, delivered the second of two scheduled speeches titled "Why you should support the Palestinian cause."

According to al-Arian, the administration of the University of South Florida put him on leave shortly after he spoke out against the United States' war in Afghanistan on the Fox News Network's "O'Reilly Factor." Students for Justice in Palestine sponsored the event.

After thanking the crowd for coming to hear him speak, al-Arian plunged into a statistical timeline of the region set aside as the state of Israel in 1948.

"In the 19th century, the Jewish population of Palestine was 3 percent," he said. "In 1945, the Jewish population made up one-third of the regional population. After World War II, the western governments partitioned Palestine, giving 53 per-

cent of the land to the Jewish population, to address the Jewish problem."

Dr. al-Arian likened the Jewish occupation of Palestine to Apartheid in South Africa, saying that Jews receive privileges because they receive United States support. He did say, however, that the contention does not lie in religion or ethnicity, but rather the occupation itself.

"Within 24 hours, Jews can become citizens of Israel to augment the Jewish population," he said. "And every part of their lives will be government subsidized. ... What we have here are two different populations of people and a great imbalance of power. The U.S. government has armed Israel to the teeth with the most modern weaponry. The other side is a population that refuses to go away, people who refuse to become American Indians."

To answer his question of why people should care about the Palestinian cause, Dr. al-Arian said that it is our basic duty as human beings.

"Human beings cannot live in isolation from the rest of the world," he said. "And the U.S.

has many interests in the region. The interests should include justice, peace and security."

He also addressed what he called the double standard of U.S. foreign policy.

"The U.S. has imposed sanctions on Iraq because they have weapons of mass destruction," he said. "But they turn a blind eye to the fact that Israel has nearly 69 U.N. infractions. Millions of Iraqis starved because of the sanctions imposed. Was it worth it?"

Students need to educate themselves with facts and logic, al-Arian said.

"What happened is a crime," he said. "Palestinians are paying the price for the Holocaust — something for which they had no responsibility. Politicians are incapable of solving this problem. The solution must come from the bottom up to the top, starting with the people."

Dr. al-Arian also spoke of the importance of the freedoms that the Constitution guarantees U.S. citizens.

"We often speak of our freedoms, but in many instances we do not practice them," he said. "We do not question the information — rather, the misinfor-

mation — that is represented as truth by the news media. Whenever a Palestinian dies something to an Israeli, it is on the first page of the newspaper, but when it is the other way around it is on the fourth or fifth or 10th page."

According to al-Arian, the U.S. government is hindering peace. He encouraged young activists to "speak up, organize and mobilize."

"It is easy to say, but difficult to do," he said. "We need activists who are yearning to see justice served. We learned our lesson from Sept. 11; we cannot sit idly on the sidelines."

The talk merited some dissenting voices. Al-Arian opened a question forum, and some audience members voiced their opposition. One member accused Dr. al-Arian of saying that the Holocaust was fabricated.

Al-Arian rebuffed the accusation by saying that he does not deny the Holocaust, but added that Muslims had nothing to do with it.

He ended by again encouraging students to act by educating themselves. ♦

Punctuating the difference

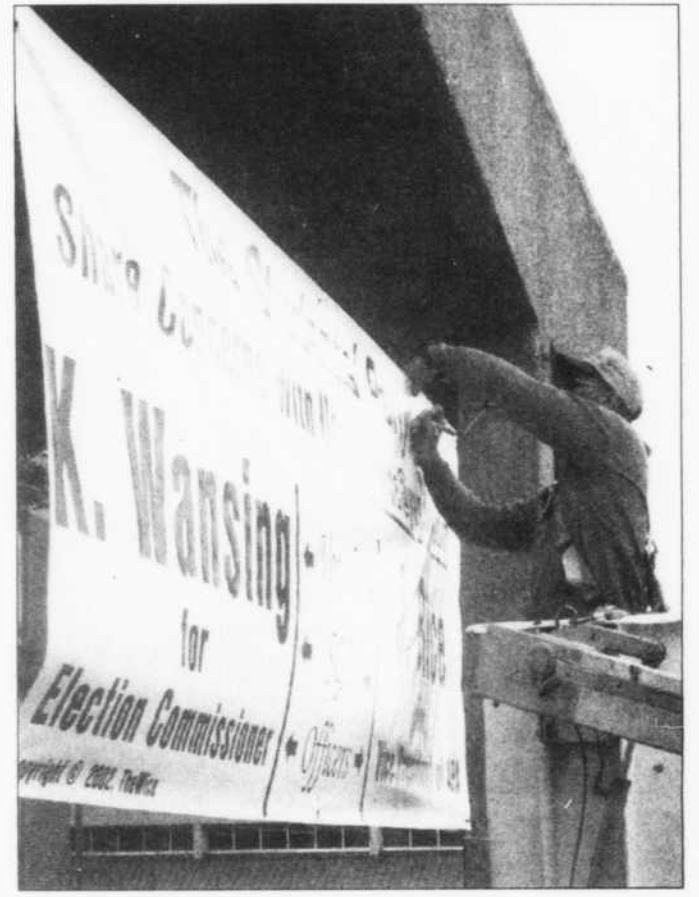


Photo by Steve Cross | Staff

SGA candidates Jarret Rice and Katy Wansing have their banner outside the Keathley Student Party, a registered campus organization, complained that the banner, which said "The Students' Party" at the top, was too similar to their banner hanging close by and that the banner would cause confusion. The banner was changed the day after the election.

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SGA Candidates Speak

Starting this week and continuing through Monday, Student Government Association officer candidates will answer questions on issues pertinent to campus. The questions asked were:

1. What kind of experience do you have that qualifies you for this position?
2. What do you feel are the top five most important issues on campus in need of addressing?
3. What will you do to increase student participation in campus events? How will you tackle the issue of student apathy?
4. What can be done about the lack of parking on campus? What should the parking policy be? How should parking tickets be handled?
5. What changes, if any, should be made to the SGA constitution in the wake of the SGA Investigative Committee's findings?

President Nyronn Bryant

1. I've been the station manager of the student run radio station for a year with no major negative incidents on my executive record. I actually took the position over before I was elected because (my) predecessor resigned. You might say I'm "the clean up man."

2. I'm not ashamed to say I asked around for ideas. After all, what I think is a major issue may not be for all the students. I found out: construction, student awareness/ involvement, parking, 24-hour facilities and housing issues were the top five. The clocks in Peck Hall and having a wet campus were also mentioned, but I don't believe they were serious complaints so we'll keep them on honorable mention.

3. All I can say is the more aware people are, the more likely they are to get involved with certain events. Increase student awareness about upcoming events and allow the students to choose what they would like to see or participate in. Do a survey, or use the televisions in the KUC to broadcast upcoming events. Make events available to students on the weekends as well. The only alternative is for me to get in a g-string and paint myself blue and white and run around campus screaming "I Care, I Care."

4. The lack of parking has been a problem since I arrived at MTSU. There is not a magical answer and cannot be solved overnight. I do believe as the campus expands, MTSU should continue to find land to make parking lots. I also believe there should be equal representation for students as there is for faculty on the traffic committee. I also discussed the problem with my peers and the suggestion was brought up that MTSU get its own tow lot. When you put a

boot on the car, all that does is occupy a parking space for a longer period of time. With all these vehicles and all the land MTSU owns, I'm surprised no one has thought of that option before. Parking tickets should all be handled by the same office. Separating the office of where the tickets are issued and where they are appealed only causes problems. It seems as if the student is getting the "runaround" and all that does is piss them off. You can quote "piss."

5. I've read that constitution three times, and I still don't know how the hell you can mess that up. In theory and on paper it looks fine. I would have to encounter problems during practical application before I can comment on changes.

Josh Graham

1. I am a senator in the College of Liberal Arts. I am on the Internal Affairs Committee. I was on the Investigative Committee. I am currently on the Constitutional Reform Committee.

2. I feel that the top five issues that need to be addressed are: library hours, lighting on campus, financial aid abuse in parking services and parking for residents.

3. I don't believe that all MTSU students are apathetic. Today's students are apathetic from years past. They have jobs, marriages and families. The students who are able to be involved are involved. Therefore, events should also attract those whom aren't "traditional" college students.

4. There is nothing that any student can do about lack of parking. Parking services already has future plans for handling parking. However, some rules should be altered to alleviate the stress of parking.

The SGA budget submitted at the beginning of the year should be more defined. The Senate should be given a budget report at every senate meeting. Each executive officer should be given their own smaller budget created from the original.

Any allocations of money should have the approval of all four SGA executive officers. The contracting rules should be known by members of the office and they should be complied with.

Executive Vice President

Amanda Newman

1. During high school I held leadership positions in every organization I could. I served on the executive board for student council, was a class officer, and served as Lt. Governor for Kentucky and Tennessee area for Key Club. At MTSU, I am a Student Orientation Advisor, a Raider Rep, involved in various campus organizations, vice president of the Student Party and I sit on the executive board for Alpha Delta Pi sorority. Also, I have been a senator in SGA since I was a freshman, and I am a student worker in the SGA office.

2. Improving parking, increasing library hours, heightening school spirit, increasing student involvement and addressing the lack of equal funding for all departments are all issues I feel are important at MTSU's campus.

3. I feel that providing incentives for students to come to school sponsored events would help to increase student participation. By giving away book scholarships to the student who can make a field goal during half time, or \$100 to the student who makes a free throw at a basketball game would hopefully help to improve school spirit and participation. Making

events fun, providing incentives, and connecting events together are all ways to increase student (and hopefully faculty) participation at MTSU.

4. There are many possibilities to better the parking at MTSU. From listening to other students a parking garage, buying out the old church parking lot, and opening more lots after 5 are all possibilities for improvement. As for handling parking tickets, I feel that the policy we currently use is somewhat too strict, but effective.

5. I feel that an abuse of power clause needs to be implemented into our constitution, as well as adding changes to produce a better system of checks and balances, especially regarding such issues as the budget and expenditures. Power, as in any organization, should be evenly distributed. Also, honesty and integrity be strictly adhered to and consequences for dishonesty should be enforced.

Vice President for Administration and Public Affairs

Jarret Rice

1. Vice president of Administration and Public Affairs will require leadership and public relations skills. I have had salary positions in management, and I am currently communications director for the Association of Recording Management Students. I have taken several journalism, communication and publicity classes.

2. - Parking ticket appeals - WANTED - fair appeals

- An analysis of school funds appropriation

- Old vs. New facilities - is there heat in some of those older buildings?

- Does a dry campus promote drinking and driving? Has there been an increase in acci-

dents and tickets?
- School event attendance

3. In reference to sporting events, school spirit is created by repeat attendance. Attendance comes with publicity. The schools Athletic Department publicity team is not doing a professional job. They rarely leave the office to build relationships and promote events. Publicity is the key to other events as well.

4. The time for white sessions to open up to green passes could reasonably be moved up from 6:30 to 4:30. The appeal system needs reform; has it ever helped you? The profit and loss statements of the parking services need to be analyzed to check if fines could be reduced.

5. I believe the investigation was conclusive in finding "no merit" in the charges against Marshall. The lessons learned from this are as follows. First, there should be consideration in amending the rules concerning allocation of funds in the SGA Constitution. Secondly, there should be more cooperation among the officers.

Election Commissioner Justin Broddrick

1. The qualifications I have for this position is first, an Area Government VP and a resident assistantship in Area IV. I have always been involved in some form or another with Middle Tennessee State University. I feel that my other qualification is my passion for this position and the passion to be a voice for 20,000 students.

2. a) Communication between the SGA and the students, to really show the students that their governmental voice really cares about what they have to say.

b) Awareness about the SGA, and what it is. (Not too many

people know what the SGA is about)

c) responding to real problems and providing solutions quickly

d) parking

e) movement on agendas

3. Well, increased participation by students on campus events is going to have to be a co-opted task. This means working with housing, the SGA and the administration to drive publicity for events. Working together benefits us to get more students attending MTSU functions. Also, maybe we should put out a questionnaire to students on what events they would like to have

4. As a student, this is a very important topic. It responds to our academic responsibilities (basically to get to class on time), and it responds to the ever increasing attendance at MTSU. More students have cars and need a place to park. I would work with the president, and other faculty to help this process along the best I can. This needs to be done soon, we have deliberated to long on what to do (no ticketing after 5pm)

5. I think there should be more of a detail description on what the budget should contain and be formed. Also, we need to place responsibility on someone to handle payments for events. Also, have the books maintained, and then checked by our adviser. We also should apply more responsibility on the presidency if funds are not in check. The budget is something that responds to what the next administration can do to get what you want done. This is something the constitution needs. Also, laying out the duties for all executive officers more specifically. ♦

Look for more questions and answers with SGA candidates in tomorrow's edition of Sidelines.

SPEAK

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- PANAMA CITY BEACH
- STEAMBOAT
- BRECKENRIDGE
- DAYTONA BEACH-ASPEN

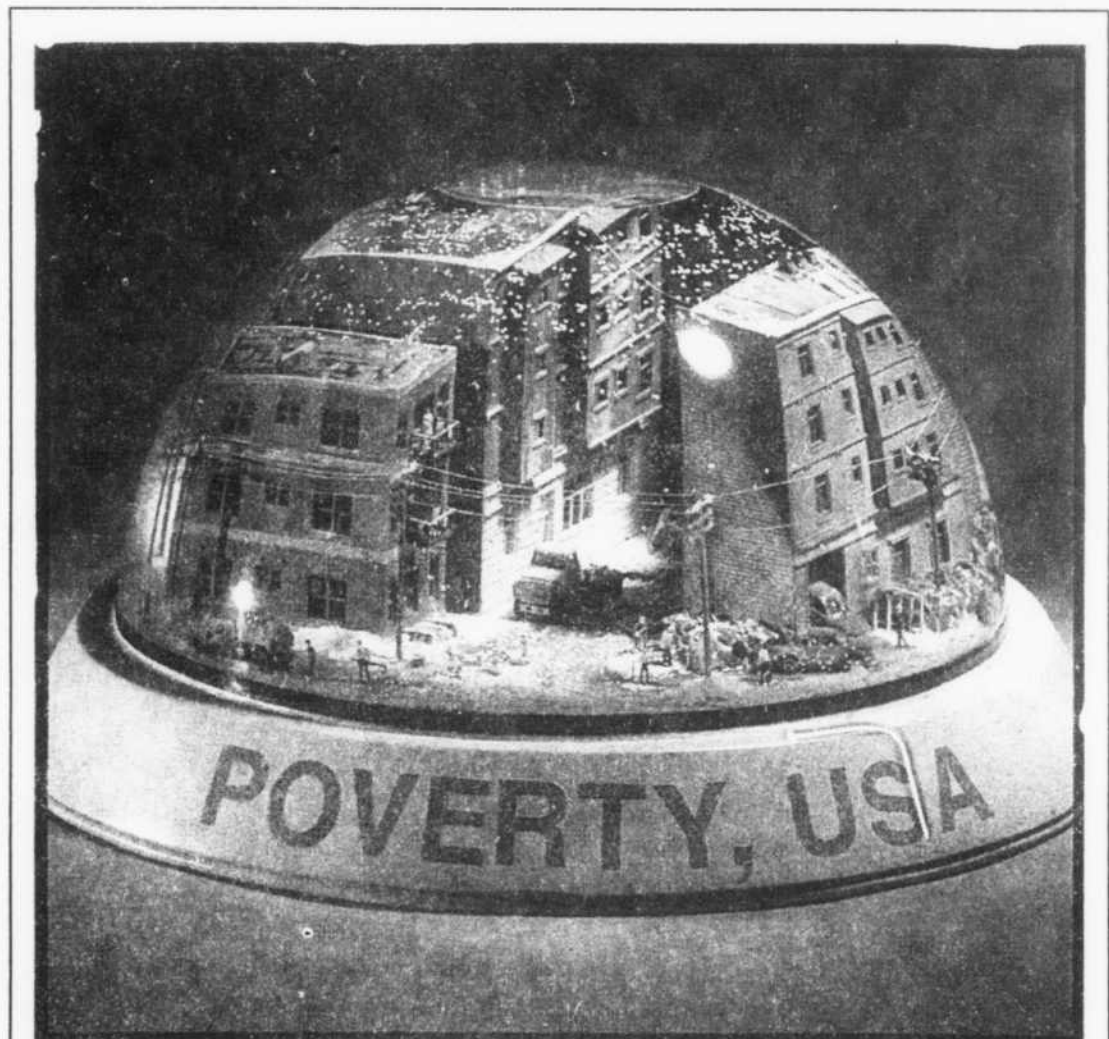
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OPINIONS

SIDELINES ♦ 4

Wednesday, February 20, 2002

Murfreesboro, Tenn.

Editorial

'Open Line' provides campus with golden opportunity

The upcoming telecast of "Open Line with MTSU President Sidney McPhee" promises a rare opportunity with the campus commander in chief: a public forum where unscripted questions will be asked and, McPhee has vowed, answered on the spot.

Hopefully, the student body will be well prepared for this event by thinking of important, tough questions that beg for straight answers and posing them to him when the time comes.

Students will have the opportunity to ask him about campus construction issues, such as the new (not yet complete) courtyard, the elevators in the James Union Building and Cope Administration Building, the huge crater in front of Cope, and any of the other projects the seem to be lagging.

Students can inquire about his recent administrative reorganization and get the inside word on his decision to demote former Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs Barbara Haskew as well as former Vice President for Development and University Relations Linda Hare.

An interesting question might pertain to the Office of Information Technology, and how being at the cabinet level will help them now. What changes are in store for OIT, and are we up to par as far as technology goes?

Many students want to know where the line between academics and athletics will be drawn. Some think MTSU is taking an unhealthy turn toward favoring athletics above academics, but some feel that excellent athletics can eventually enhance academic quality. In McPhee's opinion, are we an athletic or academic school — or neither?

We commend McPhee for participating in this sort of event. He has shown his willingness to answer student questions by supporting these types of public forums and trying his best to find the answers to questions he may not know offhand. Hopefully, McPhee will continue to have this "open line" policy throughout his tenure as president. The campus can benefit greatly from communication with our leader. ♦

From the Opinions Editor Protect the rights of America's innovators



keep the rewards for their efforts.

At odds with the administration is a coalition of groups that claim to have a right to view and access all published works.

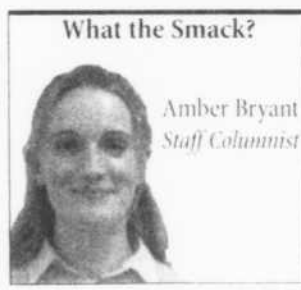
The lawyer for one of the coalition members told the Supreme Court that in 1930, 10,027 books were published, but as of last year only 174 remained in print. He argued that without the law, "digital archives could inexpensively make the other 9,835 books published in 1930 available to the reading public in 2005."

Another point: perhaps at some point public utility outweighs personal rights.

The best solution in this case is compromise. While all rights of the inventor must be maintained while he is alive, dead people don't care. Congress should change the law to have copyrights expire upon the death of the inventor. That way, the public keeps his dividends and the public gets its books. ♦

This makes sense because the innovators who did the work get to

Credit card vendors should be given the boot



What the Smack?

Amber Bryant
Staff Columnist

With warm weather just around the corner, it's time to prepare ourselves for those evil credit card vendors who lurk around our campus in search of fresh blood.

As if offering students "MTSU pride" shirts in exchange for the key to financial irresponsibility wasn't enough incentive, they often appeal to the obsessive-compulsive buyer in us all.

Why is such a stupid idea allowed to be peddled on a university campus, a place where intelligence should reign supreme?

The average college graduate leaves school owing thousands in student loans. I'm no scholar,

but it might be somewhat sensible to avoid adding to that pile.

Credit card junkies consider a job in politics, where you'll get paid for borrowing large amounts of money that America will never be able to pay back.

Why not go with the flow in a country where the social norm is to take items you can't possibly pay for? Last time I checked, that was stealing. While I wish I could say

that I haven't allowed the credit card pirates to hijack me, it sadly isn't so. I exchanged my freedom from debt for dozens of odds and ends which are probably collecting dust right about now.

My reasoning? Hey, I might die tomorrow, so why not, right? Right?

In cases like mine, the submission to credit cards often leads to blinding addiction.

For example, if you find yourself rationalizing with

thoughts such as, "If this were my last day on earth, I would want some Nike moon boots that play Glenn Frey's 'The Heat Is On' when I take a step," I would say you have a problem.

If the point of college is to teach us how to be responsible and intelligent, inviting credit card hawkers to set up shop for the purpose of tempting us into financial suicide is a move in the wrong direction. ♦

Being happy with yourself is the key to happiness

By Ashly Callaway
Staff Columnist

I'll admit it, I don't watch a lot of television. I'm one of those odd, freak show types who would rather read or write than sit in front of that electric brainwasher. However, the mood does strike me every now and then to watch something. After last night, however, I will start ignoring that mood.

Within one measly hour of flip prog channels, I was simultaneously appalled and saddened by what I saw. I was watching *ER* and, during commercials, I flipped to MTV's *True Life: I'm Getting Plastic Surgery*.

One of the two girls was obsessed with being "skinny" and getting rid of her "fat legs." She had gotten her nose and lips done, breasts done twice and liposuction on various parts. The other quickly followed suit evidently enticed

by all the credit card debt her friend was now in) and got her breasts done twice. These girls were in their early 20s but had begun their quest for physical "perfection" at the age of 18.

"Where did we go wrong?" I was asking myself. The answer was no further away than a flip of the remote. In the episode of *ERI* I was watching, I watched Dr. Susan Lewis counsel an overweight 10-year-old girl on the benefits of losing weight.

The doctor admonished, "You know, you're going to start liking boys soon." So, I thought, this little girl is supposed to lose weight so that boys will like her? This is where we went wrong.

No sooner had I recovered from that faux pas than a Victoria's Secret commercial flashed before us a kaleidoscope of naked body parts and lacy bras holding bulging breasts that were probably held up by duct tape.

"What is sexy?" it asked us. Evidently this, airbrushed and flawlessly made-up models, a standard that no real person could possibly live up to?

What are they airbrushing, though? What don't they want us to see not only in those commercials, but in the catalogs and magazines? Stretch marks? Wrinkles? Cellulite? What woman really looks like those models? No one. Not even them.

I know the topic of women and the unrealistic standards we face every day is nothing new. Thankfully, there are great magazines out there like *Girl* and *Mode* that promote real bodies, real, beautiful women of normal, healthy sizes.

Because, after all, the average size for women is 12 and the average weight is 145 pounds. But when is everyone else going to get a clue — mainly, ourselves? We're not going to change the way com-

panies promote their products or stop publications, but we can start by accepting ourselves the way we are. It's so sad to think of how we went from a society that praised voluptuous hips to women that hate their bodies if they're not 110 pounds.

What are we afraid of? That we're not going to see the figure of Britney Spears looking back at us in the mirror?

Eating disorders, among other things, have stemmed from the pursuit of physical flawlessness, and it's not fair to us. We have to remember the next time we pick up a magazine or watch a video on MTV, that that is not reality. Reality is what's reflected in our mirrors, and whatever that may be, we should be proud of it and not want to change it.

Because being real and being happy with our bodies is truly what is sexy. ♦

Letters to the Editor

TennCare should be spared the tax ax

To the Editor:

Nick Teply's commentary on Tennessee's financial crisis shows a complete lack of understanding of the problem and its causes. First, most of what the state spends money on is necessary.

Here is how our state spends its tax dollars: 32 percent goes to K-12 education, 13 percent to higher education, 9 percent to law enforcement, courts, and corrections, 3 percent to children services, 10 percent for transportation, 2 percent for parks and 9 percent for smaller departments (revenue, tourism, etc.).

Where should we cut? People seem unwilling to give up parks, I do not want more criminals on the streets or fewer police officers, and I doubt we should cut education.

Teply suggests TennCare is the area to cut. First, TennCare does not cost the \$4.33 billion to the taxpayers of Tennessee. This year, TennCare cost \$1.625 billion to the taxpayers of Tennessee. TennCare is also financed by federal funds, but if you cut those, it does not save the state any money.

The only people we can eliminate under TennCare are the "uninsured" people. Cut them all and the total savings is \$91 million, but estimates show the state would have to pay the same amount that charity care hospitals give to these people under Medicaid.

Finally, Teply compares us to Kentucky. Since 1980, how many times has Tennessee had to raise taxes? Twice. How many times has Kentucky? None. Look at our neighbors around us since 1980. Georgia cut taxes three times since 1980, Virginia lowered its food tax and other taxes and Missouri cut its food tax.

They all have income taxes that grow with the economy, while

Tennessee relies on the sales tax that does not.

Tennessee does not have a spending problem. Tennessee ranks 18th in population, but its state budget is 49th and tax burden on its citizens is 49th. If we have a state income tax, we can get needed revenue to improve the state, while still remaining a low tax state. We should move to 48th with an income tax. Plus we would be able to eliminate the sales tax on food, clothing and non-prescription drugs and lower the overall sales tax to 7 percent statewide.

Thomas Hoffman

Womack withdrawal not end of the world

To the Editor:

As a supporter of Andy Womack, I was saddened to hear his withdraw from the governor's race, but there are still candidates that will make education a priority. Randy Nichols has gone on record as saying he will invest in education and has proposed a tax plan to pay for it.

When he spoke here last Monday, Nichols stated that he would fund education and would work hard to improve higher education, as he has throughout his campaign. If Nichols is not to your liking, then there is also Charles Smith.

Smith served as education commissioner under Governor McWhorter and will also make education a priority. Rather than become upset over Andy Womack dropping out of the governor's race, we should support these gentlemen in their drive for the governor's race.

I personally plan to support Nichols, and I hope the people of MTSU will join me instead of letting people that will not make education a priority win the governor's race.

Abbie Hayden

WHAT A SCHMUCK !!

Sidelines'
occasional watch
for
mutton-heads.



Yesterday at Louisville International Airport, a security screener was found asleep at his station, allowing passenger's bags to pass on through the X-ray machine without being observed. Once a National Guardsman noticed the sleeping guardian of the skies, he was relieved of his duties, and every, yes, every, concourse was evacuated and all passengers, every last one of them, were forced to go through the security process again.

Doofus. It has not been released if the screener was at the end or beginning of his shift, but that is irrelevant in our view. A big part of an airport security screener's job is to screen passengers at airports. While some sixth sense possessing freak of nature may be able to divine if a passenger is carrying three knives and shoe bomb while catching some Zzzz's, we'd bet our collective paychecks (total amount: \$387.53) that no member of Globe Aviation Security could ever even hope to audition for Miss Cleo's

posse. One small consolation to the thousand passengers who had to go through an additional hassle because of the screener's bungling incompetence is that the screener was fired immediately by his boss. He deserved it.

Airport security checks have reached a ridiculous level, and sleepyhead's antics made matters worse for a thousand people, and it set the airport behind schedule by three hours. Of course he deserved to get fired. But really, that wasn't enough.

Before being dismissed, his boss should have put him on a soapbox and made him sing "I'm Sorry" or "[You won't be] leaving on a jet plane." Public humiliation is the quickest fix for bungling employees. Just ask Bill Boner. ♦

SIDELINES

P.O. BOX 42

Murfreesboro, TN 37132

Editorial: 898-2337

Advertising: 898-2533

Fax: 904-8487

www.mtsusidelines.com

Editor in Chief
Managing Editor
News Editor
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Chocolate treats sent from heaven



Incredible Edible Chocolate Festival brings diverse taste

By Alicia Pickett
Staff Writer

Chocolate benefiting a worthy organization's cause — how sweet is that?

Creamy, chunky chocolate, vanilla bean minkyhem — all under one roof, all in one day. This year's Incredible Edible Chocolate Festival serves up the sweet stuff and the green to benefit disabled children and adults.

"People love chocolate, and they love to eat," said Lisa High, Outlook Nashville's director of development.

For the past 13 years, Outlook Nashville has had a nonprofit approach to helping

the developmentally disabled by letting everyone from professional chocolate connoisseurs to the average American chocolate freak in us all sample and compete in the festival.

The festival has not only enabled the 47-year-old organization to aid those with disabilities, but also has allowed communities across the country to satisfy their temptation for the one and only ultimate dessert ingredient: chocolate.

"(The Incredible Edible Chocolate Festival) is our biggest fund-raiser of the year," High said.

Picture it, more than 100,000 pieces of white, milk, dark, semi-sweet chocolates at your



Photo by provided

This bowl of chocolate is an example of the sweet treats offered at the Incredible Edible festival.

disposal — the ultimate eye candy — under one roof, only one day.

From the All You Can Eat chocolate competition to the name-dropping Starbucks Coffee Sampling, anything and everything that has to do with chocolate can be not only enjoyed, but also viewed by chocolate enthusiasts from all walks of life.

Culinary artists and pastry professionals alike will be active patrons in aiding Outlook

Nashville with their festive edible celebration as they let the public view their unbelievable chocolate creations in the 'Professional Chocolate Sculpture Competition', donating 100 percent of the proceeds to Outlook Nashville.

For the past few years, Outlook Nashville's Incredible Edible Chocolate Festival has been sponsored by Jack Daniel's.

"(Jack Daniel's) was gracious to agree to help us sponsor," High said.

"Jack Daniel is my great grand uncle, so I have the taste," said Lynn Tolley, judge for the chocolate fest and manager of Miss Mary Bobo's Boarding House.

From Lynchburg boarding houses to Nashville caterers, culinary cooks from across the state judge the best amateur works of chocolate.

"We look for creativity, ease, preparation and presentation, (but) the most important is

taste and some of Uncle Jack's product, but not too much," Tolley said.

Although this year's location for the annual chocolate lovers' paradise has changed from being the Maxwell to the more spacious Gaylord Entertainment Center, it is a good change for the chocolate festival.

"In the past, a minimum of 2,500 (chocolate enthusiasts attended the festival), and we would like to have more than that this year," High said.

The press release for the chocolate extravaganza, solely beneficial to the nonprofit Outlook Nashville, expresses that last year's minimum number of persons who attended will actually double this year to a whopping 5,000 amateur culinary pastry makers, restaurant industry professionals and average sweet-tooth samplers.

With the notoriety of Jack Daniel's sponsoring the affair and Outlook Nashville's worthy

cause, aiding young adults and children with developmental disabilities, it is no wonder that the Incredible Edible Chocolate Festival attracts more than 30 booths made up of Nashville's own culinary pastry makers along with culinary business owners from across the United States whose only purpose is to serve up their most delicious pastries, cake and candies for patrons to taste.

High said budget is still available for local businesses that want to participate in this beneficial celebration.

The cost for admission is \$10 for adults and \$5 for children. The festival will be held at the Gaylord Entertainment Center Sunday from noon to 4 p.m. Prizes will be awarded for both the Amateur Chocolate Dessert Competition and the Professional Chocolate Sculpture Contest. The sculpture winners will receive \$500 for first place, \$300 for second and \$150 for third. ♦

CD Review

Barenaked Ladies are more than what the name suggests



Photo provided

Barenaked Ladies: All Their Greatest Hits contains all their hits from 1991-2001.

By Melissa Coker
Staff Writer

Before you proceed any further (hopefully you will), I find it my obligation to inform the reader that these particular Ladies are men. They're a group of five witty, talented and very entertaining men, to be more exact.

Difficult to categorize, the Barenaked Ladies have something for everyone. If pressed, I'd say that their music is folksy, quirky pop but with added unique riffs and harmony twists. They can move from the craziest song ever into a moving ballad within seconds.

Barenaked Ladies: All Their Greatest Hits is a compilation of hits from 1991-2001 with 19 tracks, including two new songs. If you're a hardcore BNL fan you probably already have most of these tracks in some form or another, except for the two new ones: "It's Only Me (The Wizard of Magicland)" and their newest single "Too Little Too Late." If you know very little about the band or only know them by the hit U.S. single, "One Week," then you

don't know the band like you should. In that case, buying this CD should intrigue you enough to buy more of their material.

The Ladies are hugely popular in cult music circles and in Canada, with more than six albums under their belt. If you don't buy this CD for the music, then buy it for the liner notes. They feature a brief band history by a Canadian *Billboard* editor and by the president of the band's Reprise label, plus witty details about each song from BNL vocalist/writer Stephen Page.

Here's an excerpt from his comments: "I think this one might stretch the definition of 'Greatest Hits,' as the 'King of the Hill' soundtrack, from which it comes, has sold about three-and-a-half copies worldwide. However, it does have a video that features a cartoon version of us ..." (in reference to the song "Get in Line").

Now, don't get me wrong. The group isn't all style and no substance. A number of their songs deal with serious issues such as child abuse and adultery; this just isn't what they're known for. I myself was once a

lowly listener who knew them only on the merits of "One Week," but then the group played "If I Had a Million Dollars" for me, and everything snowballed from there.

If you want to get behind the band, I'd definitely recommend this song to be the first direction you take in your listening journey.

BNL is also one of those groups you have to see live to truly "get." Not only will a live performance make you appreciate their immense vocal and instrumental talent, but you'll also enjoy their covers of songs by other artists, such as Britney Spears and Eminem.

Don't worry, I'm sure they update their cover songs with the times. They even custom-designed a few jokes for the Nashville locale by referencing artists like Garth Brooks and Travis Tritt.

All in all, I'd say this is a very satisfying disc, whether your purpose is to have a collection of the best BNL songs or merely to introduce you to their greatness. But by no means should it completely fulfill your Barenaked Ladies needs. ♦

Upcoming events in arts, entertainment



By Charlene Callier
Flash! Editor

Bill Cosby coming to TPAC

Award-winning actor, author and comedian Bill Cosby will appear at the Tennessee Performing Arts Center on Sunday at 3:30 and 7 p.m. Cosby will perform his stand-up comedy routine in the Andrew Jackson Hall.

He has been in comedy for 30 years, including television and film performances. Cosby was the winner of eight Grammy Awards for comedy.

He won best actor for his television debut of *I Spy* in 1967 and the dominating TV series *The Cosby Show* in the 1980s. He has appeared in several films including *Ghost Dad*, *The Cosby Mysteries* and the TV show *Kids Say the Darndest Things*.

He received his bachelor's degree from Temple University and both a master's degree and Doctorate of Education from the

University of Massachusetts. The event is sponsored by Bell South, *The Tennessee* and Cadillac, the official vehicle of TPAC.

For tickets, ranging from \$25-\$50, visit the TPAC Box Office Downtown, Davis-Kidd Book Sellers or their Web site at www.tpac.org.

Playwright visits campus

Deb Margolin, performance artist and playwright, will be MTSU's first visiting artist for the Honor's College Feb.25-March 1 in Room 322 of the Keathley University Center from 3-5:40 p.m. Margolin and the students from this class will perform their new writing March 1 at 5 p.m. in the KUC. For more information, contact Claudia Barnett at 898-2887.



MLT performs 'Romeo and Juliet'

The Murfreesboro Little Theatre will perform a special one-day-only performance of William Shakespeare's *Romeo and Juliet*. This famous love tragedy will be performed for ninth and 12th graders from Rutherford County schools. The MLT mission is to provide quality entertainment while working with the community to raise awareness of theatrical arts. ♦



Photo provided

Chris Jackson (Romeo) and Amber Timbs (Juliet) will perform the vault scene of the Shakespeare love tragedy for local high school students at the MLT.

Ron Howard directs another classic story in 'A Beautiful Mind'

By Zachary Hansen
Staff Writer

In Ron Howard's latest film, *A Beautiful Mind*, Russell Crowe turns in another outstanding performance. But the film as a whole is very "by the book" and keeps it from being an entirely rewarding experience.

The film, based on a true story, focuses on genius mathematician John Nash (played by Crowe), who suffers from schizophrenia. It begins with his enrollment at Princeton, continuing into a top-secret job cracking codes for the United States government. The new job throws him into a chaotic world of extreme paranoia and danger. Or does it?

Nash marries one of his stu-

dents and begins a family. But his imaginary friends begin to put the marriage into turmoil and endanger the safety of his child. But his wife, played by the stunning Jennifer Connelly, sticks by him throughout it all, and Nash is able to live a fulfilling life, going back to teach at Princeton and winning a Nobel Prize for his studies.

Though the story and direction of *A Beautiful Mind* are both well done, it is Crowe that carries the picture. Here, he resorts back to the style of acting he used so well in *The Insider*, and it is a welcome break after the macho over-acting of his last films, *Gladiator* and *Proof of Life*.



Shown before *A Beautiful Mind* was a preview for the new film *I Am Sam*, in which Sean Penn plays a stereotypical mentally handicapped man. The film looks heartwarming, emotional, made with the Oscars in mind, and I know that I do not need to see it to know that it is a bad movie.

Thankfully, Crowe doesn't take this route and instead, by underplaying the part, gives a believable portrayal of a man with schizophrenia. Although

he just won an Oscar last year, I wouldn't be upset if he were to repeat this year.

The film does many other things right. The way in which Nash's schizophrenia is introduced into the film is interesting and keeps the audience guessing as to what is real and what is imagined. The first half plays as a mystery and then makes a transition into a serious drama about this medical condition. While treading potentially sappy waters, it never gets

overly sentimental, although the last couple scenes get mighty close.

But despite all the nice aspects of the movie, I just wasn't satisfied once it was all over with. Though the strong performances hold up throughout, the film loses its uniqueness once Nash's schizophrenia is actually diagnosed about halfway in. At this point, the story begins to follow the basic biopic formula in which the hero struggles through obsta-

cles but ultimately comes out on top. Although its evidence could have been much worse, the film often gives the impression that it was manufactured to win awards and not really to present anything new or memorable.

Still, the film succeeds overall. It is not one of the best films of the year, and it sometimes feels a bit too familiar. But outstanding performances and a compelling story still make it worth seeing. ♦

What's going on in the 'Boro

Compiled by Justin Ward
Staff Writer

Wednesday, Feb. 20

•Chase Adam at Sebastian's at 10 p.m.
•Karaoke at Cantina Restaurant and Nightclub at 7:30-close in the D Room.
•Hip Hop night 10-close in the Barcar.
•Ladies Night at Bongo Johnny's. Ladies free before 11 p.m. Starts at 9:30 p.m. \$7 admission.
•The Nationals at The Boro Bar and Grill at 9:30 p.m.

Thursday, Feb. 21

•Money Penny at Sebastian's at 10 p.m.
•Guest Bartenders for charity at Cantina Restaurant and Nightclub 6-8 p.m. Cliff and the Cliff notes 8-midnight.
•College Night at Bongo Johnny's at 9:30 p.m. \$3 with college ID. \$2 pitcher of beers.
•My Hotel Year, Serotonin and Stuck Lucky at the Red Rose Café at 9:30 p.m.

Friday, Feb. 22

•Datula Record Release at Sebastian's at 10 p.m.
•Johnny Jackson's "All Good Fridays" at Cantina Restaurant and Nightclub with D.J. Terry Grant at 9 p.m. Sony Holland and The Dennis Burnside Trio 6-9 p.m.

•Fiesta Friday's at Bongo Johnny's at 9:30 p.m.
•The Davenport at The Boro Bar and Grill at 9:30 p.m.
•Dixie Dirt at the Red Rose Café at 10 p.m.

Saturday, Feb. 23

•Tasty Puddin' and Infradig Ensemble at Sebastian's at 10 p.m.
•Johnny Jackson's "Soul Satisfaction" at Cantina Restaurant and Nightclub at 9 p.m.
•Ballistic Whiplash, Phist, Soul Erosion and Skullkin at Bongo Johnny's at 9:30 p.m.
•Sand Which Is, The Falling and The Gold Room at the Red Rose Café at 9:30 p.m.

Sunday, Feb. 24

•Louis Brown's Firehouse Jazz Band 5-8 p.m. at Cantina Restaurant and Nightclub. D.J. Viper in the Barcar at 10 p.m.
•Phat Sundays at Bongo Johnny's at 9:30 p.m.
•Mike's Open Mic at The Boro Bar and Grill at 4 p.m. Roland Gresham Jazz at 8 p.m.

CLASSIFIEDS

Announcements

Fraternalism* Sororities Clubs* Student Groups
Earn \$1000-\$2000 with the easy Campusfundraiser.com three hour fundraising event. Does not involve credit card applications. Fundraising dates are filling quickly, so call today! Contact Campusfundraiser.com at (888) 923-3238 or visit www.campusfundraiser.com

Employment

Positions available for Midlander Marketing Staff. Job requirements are: Previous experience in Marketing and/or Advertising or classes that are equivalent to experience. Good customer relations or service. Goal oriented, motivated. Must be able to work in office at least 10 hours per week.

Midlander Editorial Staff Writers and Photographers. Fill out application, submit 3 samples of work.

Christian Leadership desired for Summer Camp Position. Riverview Camp for Girls on top of Lookout Mountain (45 min. S. of Chattanooga) in Meriton. All offers a challenging experience for those who want incredible experience working with campers ages 6 to 16. Seeking females to work as counselors/active instructors. Call for information on a challenging outdoor-summer opportunity. Equestrian Program, Swimming, Tennis, Lifeguarding, WSL, Canoeing, Gymnastics, Sports, Soccer, Basketball, Golf, Dance, Archery, Rifle, Arts & Crafts, Ropes Course, Climbing, Tower and more! Call now for application and interview appointment @ 1-800-882-0722 or online www.riverviewcamp.com. Will be interviewing on campus @ 800.

\$250 A DAY POTENTIAL
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works/great. Call 397-4056 or email npl2a@mtsu.edu

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83 Chevy Truck. 112,000 miles, almost new tires, manual transmission, dependable, runs great, good farm or work truck. \$2,000/obo. 274-2565 or 232-6914

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80's model Canon AE1. Fully manual camera with timer-50mm lens & 70-210mm zoom. \$175. For more info, call 615-497-3407

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Roommate

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Female roommate needed for at least three months. No deposit necessary. 4BR, 2BATH. Furnished house, large kitchen, Washer/Dryer. Within 1 mile of MTSU. \$277.50 plus 1/4 utilities (50/month). Call Andrea or Tracey at 806-4173, cell: 24-2387

Female, non-smoker, new house utilities paid, washer/dryer, Laverge (1000k). 615-287-9731 After 6pm.

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I'm Just a Girl
Wendy Caldwell
Staff Columnist


Canadian ice skaters get recognition they deserve

Call the Mounties! If you saw the pairs figure skating Feb. 11, you no doubt already know what situation I am referring to. If you missed it, I'll fill you in on what has become one of the most contested Olympic events.

Pairs figure skating is divided into two parts: short program and free skate. The short program, which occurred Feb. 9, determined the four pairs who would compete for medals.

The top two pairs were, in order, Elena Berezhnaya and Anton Sikharulidze of Russia and Jamie Sale and David Pelletier of Canada, the current world champions.

Since the 1960s, every Olympic gold medal in this category has gone to a Russian pair.

The way the judging system works (or does not work), if any of the pairs who placed in the top three in the short program wins the free skate, they win the gold medal.

Prior to the free skate, it was common knowledge among figure skating fans that the gold medal competition would be a tight race between the Russians and Canadians. During the free skate, the Russians skated before the Canadians.

The Russian routine was just that — a routine. They skated it, but they failed to perform it. Sikharulidze stepped out of a double axel and almost lost his balance, a mistake that in ordinary circumstances would cost them the gold medal.

Berezhnaya had a few shaky landings, but she managed to maintain her balance. After their scores were announced, the Canadian pair knew they had a shot at Olympic gold.

The Canadian pair skated flawlessly. Their routine was an amazing performance of gold medal skating. They were so captivating that they won over the crowd, receiving a standing ovation and chants urging the judges to give them a perfect score.

However, when a majority of the judges failed to rank them above the Russians, the crowd responded with angry booing. The Canadians, so sure of their success that they shared a joyful embrace after which Pelletier kissed the ice, fought back tears of disappointment. Their gold medal skate had only earned them the silver.

An investigation followed, revealing that the French judge was pressured to vote for the Russian pair in exchange for a vote for the French pair in the upcoming ice dancing competition.

The vote of the French judge was cancelled, making the vote a 4-4 tie.

The ISU decided to award gold medals to Sale and Pelletier as well. On Sunday, the two were officially awarded co-champion status alongside Berezhnaya and Sikharulidze in a ceremony in which both anthems were played. Sale and Pelletier finally got the recognition they deserve. ♦

Editors Note: The International Skating Union proposed a new judging system yesterday. The new system would rely on a simpler grading system and a computer's random selection of scores. The plan must be reviewed before being implemented.

Call from the Press Box normally appears on Wednesdays. It will be back next Wednesday. You can contact the sports department at 898-2816 or slsports@mtsu.edu.

Mooseman streak snapped

By Maura Satchell
Staff Writer

Eighth-ranked Ohio State University ended the Middle Tennessee men's rugby team's A-side 11-match winning streak with a 10-6 win in an hour of hotly contested rugby Saturday at Metro Center in Nashville.

The Moosemen dominated first-half play, leading 6-0 at halftime. The ball was kept on OSU's side of the pitch for much of that half.

Freshman standout Colby Wright put 3 points on the scoreboard with a penalty kick. Wright launched a perfect ball from 50 meters for another 3-point penalty kick in first half play.

After the halftime break, however, OSU drew a line in the dirt. No additional Moosemen points were allowed. Within five minutes of the start of the sec-

ond half, the Buckeyes produced 10 points of their own.

Their first score was on a penalty kick by senior Corey Allenbach. Moments later, the Buckeyes added 5 points on a try by Nick Benner. The conversion kick after the try put another 2 points on the scoreboard, giving the Buckeyes a 10-6 lead.

The remainder of the game was a nail-biting battle mostly played out in OSU territory thanks to an impressive 15-meter run by Mooseman Jarden Thornton, who broke at least 3 tackles on his way down field.

This was followed by a 30-meter drive by various MT rug- gers that culminated in a field placement kick by Cayo Nicolau that sent the ball down to the OSU 5-meter line.

The Moosemen were in

See Rugby, 8

Baseball team opens with victory

By Kevin Rose
Staff Writer

An opening day record crowd of 2,317 watched the Blue Raider baseball team squeak out a 6-5 victory over visiting Austin Peay at Reese Smith Field Sunday.

"The crowd was great," Peterson said. "They were really into the game, and they saw an exciting ballgame. I really appreciate the crowd, and I know the team appreciated it."

The Blue Raiders used the strong pitching of left-handed starter John Williams and right-handed reliever Adam Larson, while getting timely hitting from left fielder Justin Sims and first baseman Doug Kunicki to pull out the win.

Austin Peay took a 1-0 lead in the first inning. Leadoff hitter Ben Fuller led off the game with a soft single to right. Fuller stole second and later scored on a

throwing error by third base- men Nathan Jagers.

Middle Tennessee got its first runs of the game in the bottom of the fourth when left-handed starter Mike Weel was tagged with 2 runs.

Right fielder Marshall Nisbett led off the top of the fourth with a single. Sims followed with a double. Nisbett and Sims later scored on a double off the right-field wall by Kunicki to give the Blue Raiders a 2-1 lead. Kunicki was thrown out at third trying to stretch the base hit into a triple.

The Blue Raiders scored 3 more runs in the bottom of the fifth. Second basemen Chad Cooper led off the top of the fifth with a home run to left. Nisbett followed with a single and scored when Sims took his first offering from Weel over the right-field wall, upping the Blue Raider lead to 5-1.

Weel worked 5 innings, giv-

ing up 10 hits and 5 earned runs in the losing effort.

The Governors scored 2 more runs off Williams in the top of the sixth.

Fuller led off the sixth inning with another single and moved to second on a Williams' balk. After moving to third on a groundout by Jared Walker, Fuller scored on a groundout by Johnson.

Fourth place hitter Chris Hyde doubled next and scored when A.J. Ellis slapped a single to right. Right fielder Marshall Nisbett's throw wasn't in time to get Hyde. However, Kunicki tagged out Ellis on his way to second in a rundown to end the threat.

Williams pitched 6 strong innings, giving up 5 hits, 3 runs, 2 earned runs and striking out 6 getting the win.

"I think having a crowd like this is going to pump anybody up," Williams said. "Everyone hit the ball, we played good defense and that's all you need."

The Blue Raiders added another run in the seventh off right-handed reliever Tony Matthews. Sims doubled in the seventh, his third hit of the game. He later scored on a double by freshman designated hitter Josh Archer.

Newcomer Adam Larson came on for Williams in the top of the seventh and closed the door. But not without some close calls.

Larson entered the game with the Blue Raiders leading 5-3. Governor right fielder Frank Kunich greeted him with a double to right leading off the bottom of the seventh.

DH Chris Poynter followed with a single, setting up runners at first and third. Larson balked on a bizarre play playing Kunich.

The home plate umpire



Photo by Amy Jones | Chief Photographer

Nathan Jagers rounds third base and tries to score.

seemed to call a balk, but the field umpire said no balk. Both umpires then discussed the call and ruled the play a balk, allowing Kunich to score from third and moving Poynter to second.

After a sacrifice bunt by Travis Beech, Larson got Joseph Peer and Fuller to fly out with the infield in, ending the threat. Larson allowed 1 more run in the bottom of the eighth. Johnson walked in the eighth and scored on a double by

Hyde. Larson barred down in the ninth, retiring the Governors in order in to get the save.

Sims and Nisbett led the Blue Raider offense with 3 hits apiece. Sims also had 2 RBIs. Archer and Jagers had 2 hits each. Kunicki added 2 RBIs.

Chris Hyde led the Governors with 3 hits.

The Blue Raiders travel to Troy State Friday to play a three game series with the Trojans. ♦



Photo by Amy Jones | Chief Photographer

Derek Phillips loses his mask as he throws to second.

Men's tennis team remains undefeated with win over IU

By Justin Ward
Staff Writer

The No. 28 nationally ranked Blue Raider tennis team improved to 6-0 on the season after a close win over No. 54 Indiana University Sunday.

In doubles, Greg Pollack and Michael Staniak defeated IU's Ari Widlansky and Reid Strand 8-3 at the No. 3 position. The No. 27-ranked duo of Daniel Klemetz and Kirk Jackson sealed the doubles points with an 8-3 win over Milan Rakvica and Jakub Praibis at the No. 2 position.

Klemetz finished the match with an ace to continue their undefeated streak for the season. MT's No. 9 nationally ranked team of Oliver Foreman and Robert Gustafsson came out ahead of Rahman Smiley and Ryan Recht 9-7.

In singles, the No. 12 nationally ranked Klemetz swept Rakvica at the No. 1 spot, 6-1, 6-1. No. 27 Gustafsson came out ahead in a tiebreaker in the first set against Smiley at the No. 2 spot, 7-6 (5). He finished up the match with a 6-3 set. Jackson won the match for the Blue Raiders when he defeated Jon Magnes at the No. 5 spot, 6-3, 6-3.

Staniak and Trevor Short both lost their singles matches in three sets. Staniak lost 6-3, 4-6, 1-6 to Praibis at the No. 3 spot. Short lost 7-5, 6-7 (6), 6-3 to IU's Tom Bagnato. He had a match point in the second set but went on to lose the set and the match. The Blue Raiders also lost the No. 6 spot when IU's Recht defeated Rishan Kuruppu 6-2, 6-4.

"I am very happy to be 6-0 as a team," Blue Raider head coach Dale Short said. "We have always played well indoors and this season is no different. Hopefully we can get a good week of practice in to get ready a very good Georgia Tech club next weekend."

MT hosts No. 25 Georgia Tech Sunday at noon at Buck Bouldin Tennis Center next to the Murphy Center. ♦

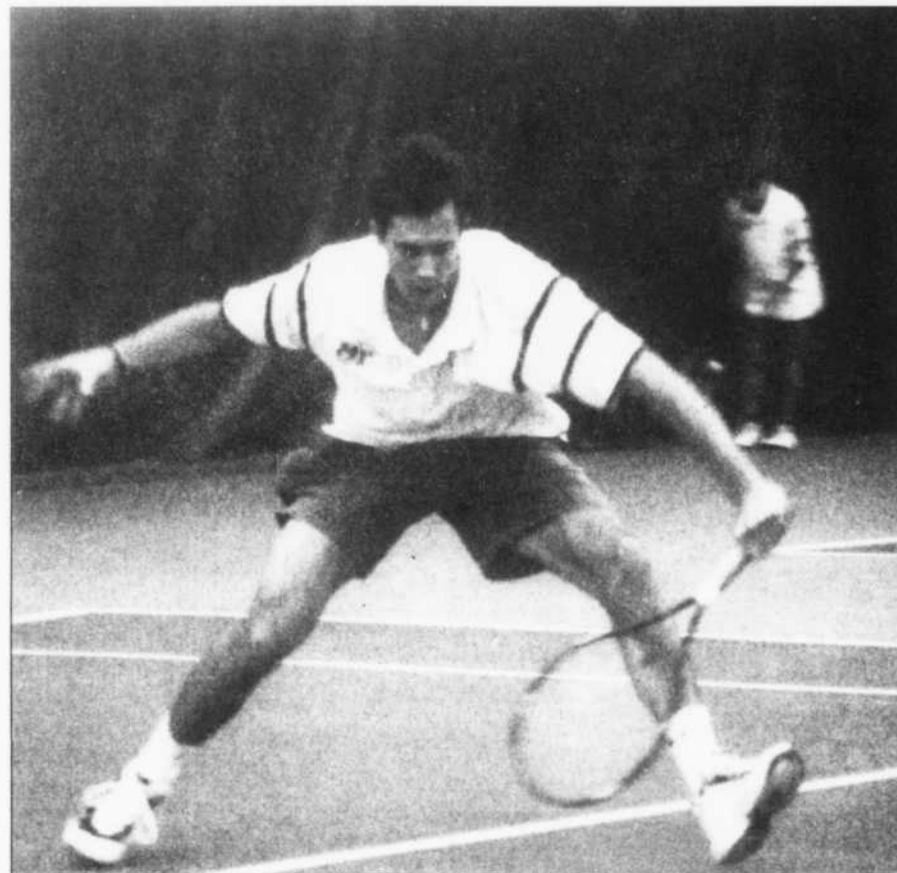


Photo by Amy Jones | Chief Photographer

No. 12 nationally ranked Daniel Klemetz remains undefeated on the spring season with his 6-1, 6-1 win over Milan Rakvica of IU Sunday.
Rugby glossary

Pitch – the field on which a rugby match is played
Try – similar to a touchdown in football; a try is scored when the ball is carried over the opponent's in-goal area. In rugby, however, the ball must be touching the ground to count. This action scores 5 points.

Conversion – following a try, 2 points are awarded for a successful kick.

Penalty Kick – following a major rules violation, the kicking team has the option to "kick for points" and earns 3 points if the kick is successful.

Drop Goal – a successful drop kick, which is taken from anywhere on the field at any time. The ball remains in play if the kick fails.

Scrummage – the formation used to restart the game after a minor rules violation. This is the forerunner of the football line of scrimmage, only the formation is a circle, and the players involved maneuver the ball with their feet toward the outside of the cluster. The backs remain behind the off-sides line until the ball emerges.

Ruck – when players from both sides are fighting for the ball when it is on the ground.

Lineout – restarts play after the ball goes out over the touchline. The team that didn't touch the ball last has the throw-in.

Pack – the forward unit of a team, composed of eight players who participate in the scrummage.

Backs – the players who spread out ready to run the ball delivered from a scrum or lineout.

Flyhalf – similar to a quarterback in football, sets the pace of the game, determines the alignment of his backline.

A-side – a rugby club's premier team, similar to a varsity team in NCAA sports such as football.

Key differences between rugby and football:

- All the players on a rugby field play the entire game unless another player is used as a replacement.
- Rugby players do not wear padding.
- Forward passing of the ball is not allowed in rugby.
- Blocking is not allowed.
- Play is not stopped when the ballcarrier is tackled to the ground. The ballcarrier must release the ball.
- The ball must be touched down in the opponent's in-goal area, not just carried over the line.
- In rugby, officials are addressed by the players and coaches as "Sir."

Lady Raiders finish 3rd

By Colleen Cox
Sports Editor

The Lady Raider softball team (2-3) fell 3-2 to the University of Louisiana-Monroe in the semifinals of the Mardi Gras Classic in Monroe, La., Sunday.

The game was scoreless until the fifth inning. Lisa Sherman started the Middle Tennessee offense in the bottom of the fifth with a single.

Kip Phillips singled, advancing Sherman to second. Jennifer Martinez walked to load the bases. Megan Cherinka doubled, giving the Lady Raiders a 2-0 lead.

UL-Monroe responded with

2 runs of its own in the top of the sixth. Connie Coleman doubled, starting the sixth inning rally. Coleman moved to third on a pass ball. Lori Tande singled to score Coleman and Casey Goodman, followed with a double-scoring Tande.

Ashley Palma blasted a home run in the top of the seventh to give the Lady Indians the victory.

"It was a tough opening tournament for this team," said head coach Cindy Connelley, "especially since we have only practiced six days outside. We learned a lot about this team and had a chance to make it to the finals." Jennifer Martinez suffered

her first loss of the season. She pitched 6 innings, giving up 6 hits, including the game-winning home run, and striking out 5. Stacy Preator tossed a scoreless seventh inning.

Freshman Leah Grothuese went 2-for-2 at the plate. Cherinka finished 2-for-4 with 2 RBIs.

The Lady Raiders took third place in the tournament. Freshman Danielle DeCamino and Martinez made the Mardi Gras Classic All-Tournament team.

MT plays in the Tennessee Tech Tournament Saturday and Sunday in Cookeville, Tenn. Game times for Saturday are 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. ♦



Photo by Amy Jones | Chief Photographer
Lindsay Azevedo rounds second base against Motlow.

Miss the last 'Sports Wrap?' Don't miss it Monday, Feb. 25!

Rugby: Mooseman lose

Continued from 7

control of the ball and nearly scored several times, only to be pushed back by penalties and a tenacious Buckeye defense.

In the end, with less than a minute to play in the game, MT lost possession of the ball to the Buckeyes.

The battle at the 5-meter line lasted for nearly 10 minutes, but the game ended with the Moosemen unable to improve their score.

"I was very happy with our goal-line stand," said OSU head coach Dan Porter, referring to the gripping 10-minute showdown at the OSU 5 meter line.

The MT coaching staff was pleased with the performance of the Moosemen as well.

"If that's the number eight team in the country, what the hell are you?" asked Moosemen assistant coach Robert Keith in a speech to the players after the game. "Outstanding job," he added.

"We're harder than we think," said MT player Scott Knox, encouraged by the team's performance against this nationally ranked powerhouse.

"They're tough," said Marty Snider, captain of the Buckeye's A-side team, referring to the Moosemen.

"They (MT) played very tough and made use of our mistakes," Porter said.

"They put in a performance within our ranks, and I wouldn't be surprised if we see them in Berkeley in the spring," Porter said, referring to the USA Rugby Collegiate Championship tournament to be held at UC Berkeley in May.

MT finished last at the Sweet 16 Championship in 2000 when they lost in quarterfinal action.

With a first place berth in the upcoming Northern Regional playoffs, they are headed in the right direction.

The game Saturday was non-conference play. ♦



Photo by Amy Jones | Chief Photographer
The Moosemen huddle before Saturday's game.

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