

WEDNESDAY
OCTOBER 9, 2002

57 73



Showers



More than
a vessel
for text

In Living, 7

Middle
Tennessee still
looking for
complete game

In Sports, 9



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

Should the number
of students enrolled in a course
dictate what classroom is used?

An editorially
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newspaper

Middle Tennessee State University SIDELINES

MURFREESBORO,
TENNESSEE

Volume 78 No. 32

Campus Briefs

Angel Tree drive to begin next Wednesday

The department of Public Safety will start its annual Angel Tree drive one week from today in the Keathley University Center.

The tree will feature angels with the names of children residing in Womack Lane.

Students and campus organizations can select an angel and purchase a gift for the named child.

Children will receive their gifts in the Angel Tree party on Dec. 6 in the James Union Building cafeteria.

The drive to pick an angel will end Oct. 22, unless all the names are selected before then. The deadline to return gifts is Nov. 22.

For more information, call 898-3831.

Gold medalist to visit campus Friday

Olympic gold medalist Jim Shea Jr. will share his story of focus, determination and success despite learning disabilities.

Shea won the 2002 Winter Olympics gold medal in the skeleton competition that was just recently brought back to the games. With a picture of his gold medal-winning grandfather in his helmet, Shea went on to win the competition while his father watched on.

Shea will speak in the Learning Resources Center, Room 221, Friday at 12:30 p.m.

For more information, contact News and Public Affairs at 898-2919 or Beverly Keel at 898-5150.

Women's center offers free legal advice

The June Anderson Women's Center will host a free legal clinic on Oct. 24 from 7 to 9 p.m. in the James Union Building.

Faculty, staff and students can make appointments by calling the center at 898-2193.

Symphony to hold volunteer sessions

The Nashville Symphony will hold two volunteer orientation sessions to introduce new volunteers to the symphony.

At the sessions, to be held Oct. 23 and Nov. 2, volunteers will be introduced to the symphony's staff, musicians and history.

For more information, contact Noah Sanders at 783-1233.

Health Services, nursing to offer flu shot

Health Services and the School of Nursing are planning to offer flu shots to the MTSU community.

Students, faculty and staff may now make appointments.

Times may be reserved by contacting Linda Lawrence, either via e-mail at lawrence@mtsu.edu or by phone at 898-5950.

Shots will be administered Nov. 12, 13 and 14 in the Cason-Kennedy Nursing Building.

The shots cost \$12. ♦

Gays now covered by tolerance policy

Lambda group has lobbied for change since 1995

By Amanda Maynard
News Editor

After seven years of deliberation, MTSU has revised its discrimination policy to include sexual orientation.

The policy now reads, "It is the policy of Middle Tennessee State University that neither its students nor its employees are discriminated against on the basis of the individual's sexual

orientation."

In 1995, MTSU's Lambda association, which was developed to serve the gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered campus community, began to lobby for a change in the existing discrimination policy.

The issue had been ignored until recently, being reevaluated by President Sidney McPhee.

"It is a big step for us to say, 'Hey we're getting recognized after seven years,'" said Lambda president Gene King.

History professor Jim Williams first brought the proposal to the Faculty Senate in 2001.

After gathering further information and sending a memo to the Senate, McPhee

decided to add a completely new section highlighting discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation.

"I don't think it's a big problem, but now there's a policy and people can apply to it," Williams said.

MTSU was slow to add the new clause into university policy. Many Tennessee Board of Regents schools like Austin Peay State University, East Tennessee State University and Volunteer State Community College already have existing clauses.

Before the recent addition, the university had only a sentence in the student handbook that addressed the sexual orientation discrimination issue.

The new policy for MTSU

defines sexual orientation as "heterosexual, homosexual or bisexual." Through the policy, students and faculty will have the assurance that their complaints or confrontations will not go unheard.

Students with academic complaints involving discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation can contact the Office of the Vice President for Academic Affairs; all other complaints will be heard by the assistant dean of Judicial Affairs.

Employees with discrimination complaints can bring those issues to the university's Equal Opportunity and Affirmative Action compliance officer as well.

Although the policy applies to all students and employees of the university, it does not apply to ROTC junior- and senior-level courses because they are governed by federal law and MTSU is governed by state law.

"If you're a member of the community, staff, student or even if you're just on campus, this policy applies to you," Williams said.

"Students interact with students, faculty interact with faculty. Any relationship you can draw between students and faculty it applies to," he added.

For more information on the policy, contact the Equal Opportunity and Affirmative Action office at 898-2185. ♦

Not all it's cracked up to be



Photos by Kevin Jones | Staff Photographer

The \$1.4 million Quadrangle has been broken for at least two weeks and university officials have concrete plans to fix the crack, said Construction Administration officials. The crack was created after someone drove over the center of the courtyard in a vehicle. University staff has since been instructed not to drive on any sidewalks or concrete areas. The new piece is being constructed by the Dow-Smith contracting company. Upon completion, the piece should arrive on campus within the next day. "I think it is a very nice area," said Jay Wallace, manager of Construction Administration. "I think it has become the new center of campus."

Kimbrell warns against hate speech

By Michael Haynes
Staff Writer

Fundamentalism and hatred's ability to unravel society was the theme of journalism professor Ed Kimbrell's honors lecture Monday.

Kimbrell attributes five factors to the erosion of tolerance in society—desire to be popular, the power of peer pressure, family influence, insecurity and media influence.

"There is a rise of hate rock bands," Kimbrell said. "One band alone sold 50,000 copies of its latest CD, which is filled with nothing but hate."

"I think at the core, one of the greatest reasons for hatred is religion," he said. "Salmon Rushdie wrote that hate runs in the blood of all religions."

"Salmon Rushdie is no stranger to either censorship, oppression or hatred himself," Kimbrell said. "His verses (Satanic Verses) drew from the Ayatollah Komeni what is known as a fatwa."

The fatwa was a price on Rushdie's head for \$1 million for blasphemy, because Rushdie's book offended a Muslim cleric.

See Honors, 2



Photos by Blake Pearson | Staff Photographer

Professor Ed Kimbrell speaks to a crowd of students in Peck Hall during Monday's honors lecture.

Wheelmobile rolls into Murfreesboro and onto campus

By Sarah Saussy
Staff Writer

Pat and Vanna weren't there, but Sunday's Murphy Center crowd of *Wheel of Fortune* fans still had reason to cheer.

Everyone at the gathering had the chance to fill out a contestant application, which registers them as a potential candidate on the show.

Fans waited in line to drop their game show application into the lottery bin.

As the Wheelmobile officials removed the bin from the line and carted it down to the stage, the hosts rallied up the crowd

for the contest that was about to occur.

Parents and their children danced to the enthusiasm of the Wheelmobile hosts and their effect on the crowd. Pom-poms, handed out earlier, fluttered over the crowd as hoots and hollers bellowed across the arena then down to the camera man in front.

The anticipation grew as the *Wheel of Fortune* theme song played and the stage assistants individually picked the names from the gold-colored bin. Then the host called out the names. The excitement exploded when the chosen contestants

jumped to their feet while shaking and waving their hands in the air and ran down to the stage centered on the main floor. The game contestants jiggled as though they had just been chosen to win big bucks, but had they? *The Wheel of Fortune* Wheelmobile lured people in from around the region to participate in numerous "Speed-up Rounds," focusing more on the contestants' personalities and interests rather than turning out winners.

Each group of five contestants was then asked to fill out a release form, and the assistants

took pictures of the contestants for future reference.

The whole day consisted of three different shows, each one lasting about an hour, and included about eight rounds with five contestants in each round. During each game, the five contestants lined up on stage waiting to be drilled with the "Barbara Walters interview," as the host called it.

Contestants were asked questions such as "Where are you from?" and "What do you do for a living?"—which led to the personality profiles used to

See Wheel, 2

Sorority lends a helping hand

By Melanie Blair
Staff Writer

The Alpha Delta Pi chapter of MTSU made dinnertime a little more special last Monday night when they cooked for families staying in the Nashville Ronald McDonald House.

"The Ronald McDonald House volunteer said our dinner was one of the best turnouts he had seen for people coming down at dinnertime," said Latricia Thomas, philanthropy chair of Alpha Delta Pi, "and that the food was excellent."

The ladies of Alpha Delta Pi met Monday afternoon to travel together to the house to cook and serve a meal of lasagna, salad, bread and cake to the families in the house.

The Ronald McDonald House, a home for families with critically ill children in Vanderbilt Children's Hospital, is the national philanthropy for Alpha Delta Pi. All MTSU sororities on campus that are part of the Panhellenic Council, including Alpha Delta Pi, have a philanthropy that they contribute to throughout the year.

"The purpose of the house is to take some of the worry off of the families," Thomas said. "This way, they can spend all their energy concentrating on their child getting better instead of what motel they are staying at or what fast food restaurant they will go to for dinner."

The house in Nashville has 32 rooms along with some suites for families. It costs \$50 per night, but if the family can't afford it, they don't pay. The house is mostly supported by donations, such as the meal Alpha Delta Pi served.

"While we were at the house, we got to take a tour to see the facilities, meet some of the families and see what the money we donate funds," Thomas said.

The ladies said they enjoyed visiting the house, since they spend much time and effort supporting it throughout the year.

"There is a plaque in the playroom [at the house] that says 'This room made possible by Alpha Delta Pi,'" said Brittany Vassar, Alpha Delta Pi member. "Knowing that the money we raised built that is an awesome feeling. My visit and

See Sorority, 2

CRIME LOG

Sept. 27 – 11:30 p.m.
Driving under the influence
Tennessee Boulevard at Greenland Drive
James Randall Fitzgerald of Murfreesboro was arrested for DUI.

Sept. 28 – 8:05 p.m.
Public intoxication
Murphy Center
Rachel Breanne Sulkers of Ft. Myers, Fla., was arrested for public intoxication.

Sept. 28 – 11:32 p.m.
Driving under the influence, 1st offense
Rutherford Boulevard
Jared James Davis of Dyersburg, Tenn., was arrested for DUI.

Sept. 29 – 1:27 a.m.
Failure to stop – halt-frisk
Womack Lane at Nicks Hall
Jeffery Thomas of Millington, Tenn., was arrested for failing to stop-halt-frisk.

Sept. 29 – 7:51 a.m.
Theft
A wallet was reported to have been stolen. This report was taken at the police station.

Oct. 1 – 7:36 p.m.
Disorderly conduct and resisting arrest
Schardt Hall
Camillya L. Gift was arrested for disorderly conduct as well as resisting arrest.

Oct. 2 – 7:47 and 10:29 p.m.
Vandalism
Cummings and Health Services parking lots
A white Nissan and red Ford Mustang were keyed in the above mentioned parking lots.

Oct. 3 – 3:17 p.m.
Theft
Keathley University Center

A purse was stolen while the owner was in the KUC.

Oct. 3 – 3:52 p.m.
Theft under \$500
Parking and Transportation Services
One orange parking boot – meant to detain automobiles, was stolen from Parking on Thursday.

Oct. 4 – 3:03 a.m.
DUI, 1st offense
Frank Fuentes of Franklin, Tenn., was arrested and charged DUI, first offense.

Oct. 4 – 4:20 a.m.
Underage consumption
Health Services Lot
Michael Moghadam was issued a state citation for consuming alcohol before attaining the required age of 21 years old.

Honors: Speech effects diverse groups

Continued from 1

"Religion has been used throughout the history for extreme oppression," Kimbrell said. "Islam may have a horrible record – it does – but Christianity's is worse." He mentioned the Crusades, the Spanish Inquisition and the religious wars of the 16th and 17th centuries.

"Europe has seen more blood spilled for religion's sake than the Muslim world did," Kimbrell said.

Hate speech is targeted toward Jews as well, he said. In 1897 there was a book published, titled *The Protocols of the Learned Elders of Zion*, alleging to be the "minutes of 24 secret meetings between Jews and Free Masons in which they conspired to bring down Western Civilization and jointly rule the world," Kimbrell said. The book is used in much of anti-Semitic literature and it is the basis upon which groups detest the Jews.

"There's only one problem – it (*The Protocols of Zion*) never happened," Kimbrell said. "It was exposed in 1921 by Philip Raves of the *London Times* who went out and did a complete job of research on *The Protocols* and found out it was based on a French satire aimed at Napoleon III." The book, however, never went away even though it was a fabrication.

Islam is no stranger to hate and religious fundamentalism, he said.

"Even though President Bush called on the nation to respect millions of followers of Islam, it's a religious war," Kimbrell said. "Think on this. Osama bin Laden's words were drenched in religious arguments and theological language. The Taliban and Afghanistan are fanatically religious. The shoe bomber's testimony last week revealed that he was fighting in a battle of Islam versus the evil of non-believers."

The hate of al Qaeda does not represent all of Islam.

"The terrorist strains of Islam is not shared by most Muslims, we know that," Kimbrell said. "It represents the most radical, fundamentalist parts of Islam. It is a war of fundamentalism against all faiths of all kinds that live at peace."

Fundamentalism is not confined to the Islamic world; it is in the United States as well.

"There are millions of adherents to fundamentalism in this nation and in the world," Kimbrell said.

Hate and its distribution is sophisticated.

"Don't start that business that they are a bunch of beer-belly rednecks running around with shotguns and blowing them off in the air. You're wrong," Kimbrell said. "They have arcade-style games, music, bulletin boards, tech-savvy gimmicks to attract children in larger and larger numbers."

The people or groups to whom they direct their message include blacks, Jews, gays, Hispanics, pacifists, abortion doctors, immigrants and the federal government.

"They used to run pictures of abortion doctors, if they could get them, and they would put them as a target," Kimbrell said.

"You cannot kick them off the Internet ... and remember they too have the First Amendment, just like you," Kimbrell said.

The hate Web sites are growing in number from the first in 1994 to 250 separate sites today. They represent about 600 groups, including the Ku Klux Klan, neo-Nazis, neo-Confederates, racist skinheads, patriot groups and black separatists in the United States.

"The neo-Nazis have a chapter in middle Tennessee," Kimbrell said. "These groups can form overnight."

With the Internet, hate groups have a new, low-cost way to distribute and market their messages. Furthermore, they are now more organized and connected, according to Kimbrell. There are approximately 250 million people worldwide on the Web and 150,000 sign up daily. This makes it possible to attract more people to hate sites.

According to an HBO production, *Hate.com*, shown during the lecture, these hate groups are not only targeting the rednecks, but also young, college-aged, educated males who "wouldn't be caught at a Ku Klux Klan rally," Kimbrell said. ♦

Opposing teams join to raise funds



Blake Bradley (center), Arkansas State University's Up 'til Dawn executive director, and Jonathan Sanders (right), MTSU executive director, helped other ASU students raise money at this weekend's football game.

Wheel: Students may get chance to play for money

Continued from 1

choose contestants for the game show seen on television.

Then the five contestants each played a version of the "Speed-up Round" of *Wheel of Fortune*, spinning the upright "wheel" and choosing a letter.

The prizes on the wheel consisted of T-shirts, hats, fanny packs, key chains and water bottles all with the *Wheel of Fortune* logo print. Other prizes were *The Daily News Journal* souvenirs and a 35mm camera. All contestants received the same prize as the winner they competed against. "We are givers," the host said.

"My husband and mother-in-law dragged me here, so I didn't expect to be chosen," said contestant Christa Schuessler of Old Hickory. "They asked me to sign a release form, and I was shaking when signing it," she added.

The to-be-guessed themes were mounted on the back wall portraying the set of *Wheel of Fortune*, but instead of the touch-light-sensored letters, each letter plank was made up of a dry-erase board. Holly, imitating Vanna White, pushed the planks around from the outside and wrote the correctly guessed letters on the board.

Sometimes Holly goofed and had the wrong number of letters shown for the phrase or wrote too many of one letter in the wrong place causing an incorrect sequence. The host and the crowd laughed it off.

"I always had a desire to get on a game show and win lots of money," said Elizabeth Simmons of Woodlawn. "This is my dream game show, next to *The Price is Right*."

All tickets collected Sunday will go back to Los Angeles with the Wheelmobile, giving everyone who attended Sunday a chance to be on the show.

"It's my favorite show, but I knew I'd never make it out to L.A., but now they are here, I had no excuse not to be here," a loud woman from Eagleville said, laughing away.

"I do real well at home. I'm the *Wheel* watcher (of the family)," Elaine Pruett of Cowan, Tenn., said.

The Sunday event was to open up the opportunity for people to audition for the several *Wheel of Fortune* television shows to be filmed on Jan. 9-10 at the Grand Ole Opry House in Nashville, according to the WKRN News 2 Web site. ♦

Sorority: Charity to help disabled children trick or treat

Continued from 1

seeing what Alpha Delta Pi contributes to the house gave me a feeling of purpose and love."

"Going to the Ronald McDonald House was an experience I will never forget," said Lesley Seaver, Alpha Delta Pi member. "Seeing the faces of critically ill children tore at my heart. All I kept thinking was 'How can I do more?'"

One of the founding values at the sorority is service, Thomas said. The members hold several fund-raising events for the house including their annual Dress Again sale in the spring. They also take up money and collect items to donate to the Ronald McDonald house.

Alpha Delta Pi completes other service projects in the Murfreesboro area. Last month,

they went to Murfreesboro Even Start Preschool to donate coloring books made during recruitment.

Thomas said that the ladies are looking forward to one of their next philanthropy events called Trunk or Treat on Oct. 30. This event, held in the livestock parking lot on campus, is done annually in conjunction with Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity.

"We put our cars in a circle, put candy in our trunks and let children who wouldn't usually be able to go door to door because of a disability, trick or treat at our cars," Thomas explained.

"We are trying to continue the traditions of the dedicated sisters that have come before us," Thomas said. ♦

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Highland games highlight ethnicity, history and culture



Photo by Kyle Postlewaite | Staff Photographer

Authentic Scottish pipers showed off their bagpipes at this weekend's Highland Games that took place on the MTSU's intramural fields. The annual event showcases traditional Scottish games and athletic competitions, such as turning the caber.

Title IX not helping women in science fields, less resource access to blame

By Aidian Holder
The Maneater

(U-WIRE) COLUMBIA, Mo. — Title IX of the education amendments of 1972 was supposed to bring women equality in higher education. Thirty years after its passage, women are still underrepresented in science and engineering.

"Studies have shown that women have less access to important resources than men," said April Brown, a professor at Duke University, during testimony Thursday before a Senate committee.

While women are underrepresented in all the sciences, the most noticeable gap is in engineering. Women earn 53 percent of all bachelor's degrees, but only 20 percent of engineering degrees. At MU, women receive 15 percent of bachelor's degrees in engineering.

Despite continued underrepresentation, Matthew Doster, director of the Engineering Workforce Commission, said Title IX has helped redress the imbalance.

"Over the last 30 or so years, the number of women in engineering has increased substantially," he said.

Allison Salyer, director of Public Policy for the American Association of Engineering Societies, said Title IX has had a huge effect on both enrollment statistics and attitudes.

"Prior to Title IX, it was really frowned upon for women to enter professional fields like law, engineering or medicine," she said.

Since Title IX, Salyer said women experience less overt discrimination but are limited by societal expectations and a lack of exposure to the sciences.

"Having young women understand that careers in science and engineering are an option is important," Salyer said.

Activists and education pro-

fessionals suggest a complex mix of possible remedies.

Seileach Corleigh, president of the Columbia area National Organization for Women, said guidance and career counselors need to help promote awareness.

"It's not all due to the guidance counselors, but they need to show girls that these fields are open to them," Corleigh said.

Sheryl Tucker, associate professor of chemistry at MU, runs an outreach program for mid-Missouri girl scouts that gives hands-on experience with chemistry. She said this kind of outreach is critical for exposing girls to the sciences.

"All the national studies point to these middle school-aged girls," as being at the critical point when they can lose interest in the sciences, Tucker said.

Salyer said elementary education for girls needs to be improved.

"All children need qualified teachers, teachers who are qualified to teach math and science," she said.

She also supports more public and private partnerships to bring hands-on science into the classroom, and she suggested a more radical proposal.

"We'd like to see (educators) explore the possibility of single-sex classes," she said. "In a single-sex environment, girls have the opportunity to succeed."

Tucker said change isn't likely to come from the government.

"The government can mandate whatever they want," Tucker said. "The reality is, the people who are already there will have to act." ♦

Protesters say military violates nondiscrimination policy

By Amanda McGrath
The Hoyas

(U-WIRE) WASHINGTON — Shouting chants and carrying signs with slogans such as "Don't Ask, Don't Tell, Don't Recruit on Campus," more than 100 students and faculty members protested the presence of army and air force recruiters on the Georgetown Law Center Campus on Friday.

In the past, the university's nondiscrimination policy, which prohibits prejudice on the basis of sexual orientation, has prevented the military and other organizations that bar openly homosexual individuals from recruiting on campus. A more strict interpretation of a government statute, however, forced university officials to permit recruitment or forfeit millions of dollars in funding from the federal government.

The protesters marched from the Washington Court Hotel by the campus, where the military and other recruiters were conducting interviews for the Law Center's Government Interview Week, to a park in the Capitol where students crowded on concrete sidewalks in the morning's muggy heat to listen as several professors taught courses, some of whom discussed the interpretation of the Solomon Amendment, the statute that sparked the demonstration.

"For many legal academics, nondiscrimination is a matter at the heart of American justice," law professor Wendy Williams said. Williams was one of several faculty members to move her classes outside on the Capitol.

"Most of my students attended the class at the Capitol, lugging casebooks and laptops, and participating with their usual energy and insight, despite the oppressive heat and the less-than-comfortable cement on which they sat," she said. Her class, on the law of employment discrimination, regularly deals with issues of sexual orientation in the workplace. She said other professors conducted special lectures on the Solomon Amendment and other related topics.

The Law Center is a member of the American Association of Law Schools, which requires its members to have a nondiscrimination policy that, among other things, prevents discrimination based on sexual orientation. Georgetown's policy coincides with this requirement and as such, the Law Center faculty opted in 1991 to exclude the military from holding recruiting interviews on campus.

The Solomon Amendment, enacted in the mid-1990s, denies certain federal funding to any educational institution that "has a policy or practice that, regardless of when implemented, either prohibits or in effect prevents ... access by military recruiters for purposes of military recruiting." Since 1995, the Law Center compromised by allowing the military to distribute information to student mailboxes and to interview interested students at the main campus. In recent months, the Department of Defense has demanded universities permit recruiters on campus, or else forfeit funding for the entire university.

Dean and Executive Vice President of the Law Center Judith Areen said she did not participate directly in the protests because they had the potential to divide the community, but did attend to ensure that the demonstration did not disrupt the other interviews being conducted at the hotel.

"The Medical Center and Main Campus together receive many millions of dollars annually in federal funds — mostly for medical and scientific research. Their loss could seriously cripple the university," Areen said. "The law faculty and I did not feel it was fair to impose the cost of our opposition to discrimination by the military on other parts of the university in this way."

"Under the Solomon Amendment, universities risk losing important federal financial aid funding sources as well as research grants that support students and programs on all of our campuses," according to Assistant Vice President for Communications Julie Green Bataille.

Though Green Bataille said exact figures for Georgetown were not available, a statement from Harvard Law School Dean Robert Clark noted his school's potential loss as \$328 million if federal funding was withdrawn. Harvard and other universities have also held protests in recent months to voice opposition to the compromising of nondiscrimination policies as a result of the Solomon Amendment.

Areen said the military bolstered their efforts to participate in campus interviews in the past few months, both at Georgetown and other U.S. institutions.

"[AALS] member schools are permitted to have military recruiters on campus, but they are required to take steps to 'ameliorate' the situation by making clear to all students that the military's employment policy is not in keeping with the nondiscrimination policy of the school or the association," Areen said. In an e-mail to the Law Center community, Areen detailed the reasoning behind the decision and emphasized a commitment to the nondiscrimination policy.

"It's complicated exactly what happened and ... what Georgetown's done in the past and what's being done now," protest organizer Jen Oliva said. "There's no change in the administration's policy, they still say you shouldn't discriminate based on sexual orientation, and some people feel like or are under the impression that all of a sudden there's been some dramatic change and we want something new at Georgetown — no, we just want the military to stop threatening higher education and universities who should have the authority to make their own nondiscrimination policies."

"All gay people are asking is to get their full citizenship rights — to serve in the military, the largest employer in the United States, the toughest duty you can possibly have — they're asking to serve their country. They're not asking for special rights or to get special benefits, they're just asking to serve their country — that's all. And it's cruel and it's really sad," Oliva said. ♦

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OPINIONS

4 ◆ SIDELINES

Wednesday, October 9, 2002

Murfreesboro, Tenn.

From the Editorial Board Policy change positive step

MTSU has made an appropriate step into the future by changing its discrimination policy to include the gay and lesbian population.

Up until recently, the university's discrimination policy only addressed racial and sexual discrimination — two forms of discrimination still prominent enough to mandate a written course of action for potential grievances.

Now, discrimination based on sexual orientation will be included in the university's scope of potentially offensive action.

For a university in a community so heavily influenced by religion and "family" values, this is a bold step, though many other Tennessee Board of Regents schools have already managed to include such a clause in their student handbooks.

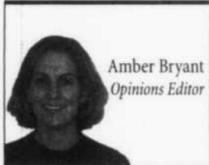
Unfortunately, the university's ROTC program is exempt from the anti-discrimination policy, due to a federally mandated policy that is essentially "don't ask, don't tell." This means that, in order to participate in any branch of the U.S. Armed Services, a man or woman must make no reference at all to his or her sexual orientation.

Because sexuality is such an integral part of adult human consciousness, being forced to keep that much of one's identity in the proverbial closet just to defend one's country is counterproductive and outright unacceptable.

MTSU's steps to acknowledge the gay and lesbian community and recognize its importance and significance in the university culture are commendable.

Now it's up to the average student and university employee to make an effort to cut down on the amount of discrimination against all our fellow campus community members — no matter what category society may dictate they fit into. ◆

From the Opinions Editor Medical professionals should be colorblind



Amber Bryant
Opinions Editor

A recent study conducted by Children's Hospital of Philadelphia found that parents of black and Hispanic children admitted with broken bones are more likely to be investigated for child abuse than their respective white counterparts.

According to CNN, the researchers said, "The findings suggest white doctors may be unfairly suspicious of minorities and are overlooking actual abuse among whites."

Across the country, abusive parents are going unnoticed simply because they fit a profile automatically associated by many with the law-abiding, all-American citizen. Their children are sustaining injuries that are overlooked by medical experts who have the potential to save them from absolute hell at home. On the other end, I'd be willing to bet that black and Hispanic parents are often falsely accused of hurting their children, which, I imagine, is the worst thing an innocent parent can be charged with.

This just goes to show that our medical field and, consequently, our national community, hasn't progressed past passive racism enough to act professionally and protect abused kids. Regardless of what color a person is, he or she is just as likely to be a criminal as the next person. Still, as a culture, we're constantly drawing lines and succumbing to racial profiling. Once a decision is made about a group based on a few experiences, it's almost impossible to convince a person otherwise.

As hard as it is to combat socializing, medical experts should make decisions as impersonal as possible when working for the public, which includes everyone. This especially should apply toward children, who are limited to their often unhealthy environments.

Dr. Cindy Christian, the research group's leader, said, "All of us have personal biases ... it's human nature not to be able to see something negative in a person or group of people like you."

Sadly, this is undeniably true. I certainly have mine to battle. However, when abused children are on the losing end, we should all re-examine our personal tendencies to discriminate. ◆

Book banning breeds ignorance



Wit and Wonder

Callie Elizabeth Butler
Staff Columnist

The practice of banning books has continued throughout history and remains a modern act.

Books have been burned, locked away and forced from the public's view, particularly that of school students. But should these students be denied exposure to various works based on the premise that younger generations shouldn't be exposed to literature with themes of rape, incest and racism?

The answer is no. Students shouldn't be denied exposure to ideas of any kind, including those that are negative or different. By shielding our chil-

dren from various societal occurrences and ideas, we blind and limit them.

Rape, racism, incest, sexism and violence are parts of our society and exist throughout the world. Exposing school students to these topics is important in providing children with a complete perspective of the world. It's important that people know of negative occurrences within society to be aware, global citizens. Censorship won't protect the youth — it will keep them locked in ignorance. It's this naivety that breeds hate and violence. Nothing will change in the face of inexperience.

Besides negative practices, themes that deviate from societal norms are often censored. Books dealing with alternative religion, sexuality and other such ideas are often taken from shelves in an effort to shield the youth. These ideas are important

to incorporate into education to allow students to gain greater understanding and a more global, multicultural view. Incorporating other perspectives into learning also aids in the formation of solid values and opinions based in knowledge of ideologies that differ from our own.

Perhaps the most well known and current example of book banning is the attempts by religious activists to ban the *Harry Potter* book series, on the grounds that it exposes children to paganism.

This is an uneducated perspective and, in itself, shows that books with pagan themes (the *Harry Potter* books not being of such themes) should be accessible. Paganism doesn't involve large multi-headed dogs guarding secret goods or turning a classmate into a pig. Anyone who knows about Wiccan theologies would

be aware of that. Providing students with a background in religions that deviate from Christianity (or the new, hip Eastern religion) is essential and important for growth.

So, what's the real story of book banning? Such censorship is conducted by religious, political, educational and community leaders who don't agree with a particular idea within a given piece of literature. Often, this is an effort to mask practices within a society, such as incest or rape, in the hopes that it will aid in eliminating such acts.

However, these are not grounds for silencing ideas or hiding atrocities that occur. It's not protecting the children — censorship is about blocking the flow of ideas.

Engaging people about incest doesn't mean they'll engage in incestuous relationships. Silencing expression about societal

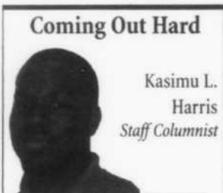
problems is only ignoring the issue, which only inhibits change.

It's still incredibly important to be aware of and possess knowledge concerning ideas that don't fit into our personal thinking. That knowledge aids in comprehending the world around us, something we attempt to instill in children. A one-sided, sanitized perspective fails to provide such understanding.

Information, even concerning subjects that cast a negative or alternative picture of our society, is important and should be easily accessed, particularly by children learning about the world around them. To deny them the access to such topics is to deny them the ability to learn and gauge their environment. ◆

Callie Elizabeth Butler is a junior journalism major and can be reached via e-mail at ceb2k@mtsu.edu.

Cowards just stand by



Coming Out Hard

Kasimu L. Harris
Staff Columnist

While I was planning for this column, I wanted to write with a different spin on an untouchable topic.

I thought about the two women in California in an alleged sorority hazing.

I also thought about writing about the state of Middle Tennessee's affairs.

But after hearing some truly disturbing news from one of my older Kappa Alpha Psi fraternity brothers, as much I didn't want to, I knew I had to write about it.

I was hesitant because, in public relations and in life, it's asinine to portray something you love or value in a negative light. However, one must realize that the unfortunate events that follow aren't totally indicative of life in New Orleans.

I once wrote about the value of human life diminishing among other humans. Last Thursday, around 10 p.m. in New Orleans, 7-year-old Ishmael Combre lost his life in an unimaginable manner.

During his death, the killer, the child's mother and the neighbors were too afraid to come to his defense, didn't give a damn about anybody's life but their own.

Theodore McCoy, 49, who is on parole until 2006 for a crack-cocaine conviction, was the boyfriend of Combre's mother, Barbara Montgomery.

McCoy was arguing with Montgomery and pulled a knife during the heated argument.

The child then attempted to defend his mother.

New Orleans Police

Capt. Marlon Defillo said, "The mother and the live-in boyfriend were involved in an argument over drugs and possibly this individual being evicted from the house." WWL Channel 4, a local news station, reported, "It was at this time the mother had asked the 7-year-old to leave the house and go to a nearby phone and call the police."

The boy fled and was tracked down by McCoy in front of a church about a block from his home.

Neighbors say young Combre was screaming, "He's trying to kill me! He's trying to kill me!"

Ironically, Ishmael is derived from the Hebrew name "Yishma'el," meaning, "God will hear."

McCoy then began to stab the child repeatedly in his chest, arms and face, while screaming that he hated the little boy. Members of the congregation and neighbors merely watched.

When asked why no one helped the child, Sgt. Kevin Anderson, a New Orleans Police spokesman, said witnesses were too afraid for their own lives.

He said, "I think because of his deranged manner, people couldn't intervene," adding, "People were yelling at him to stop."

"I just find it inconceivable that somebody could do that."

A woman nearby screamed, "How could he do that to a damn child?"

"He's a good little boy. That little boy don't do nothing to no one. He's an innocent child and an innocent baby!"

In many instances, we believe things are unable to get worse. In this situation, it did.

After seeing her son stabbed, Montgomery did little to defend him the way Ishmael had defended her.

In fact, the crack-head mother fled inside and hid.

During her exclusive interview with FOX 8 News, while she lackadaisically lay in her bed, Montgomery said she ran because she feared McCoy would also kill her.

I thought parental instinct would take over. I thought she would risk her life to save her offspring.

There were so many people, but there was only one man with one knife.

Damn. He couldn't have stabbed everybody.

What happened to the phrase, "there's power in numbers?"

Although McCoy was a crack-head, the presence of an angry mob could have ended his angry rage.

Much like young Ishmael, it was another young boy who had at least a modicum of fidelity.

A 12-year-old boy, who had been leaving the church during the crime, said, "It was a good little knife, where you could cut up meat."

"My grandmother stopped me from going at him."

Even in crime, there's a code of conduct among criminals.

McCoy, who was charged with first-degree murder, didn't adhere to the code.

Once incarcerated, I can surmise that he'll be severely punished by his fellow inmates.

True indeed, until you are placed in a certain situation, it's difficult to say what you would do, or what you would have done.

However, I couldn't live knowing that I watched a child die.

Hopefully, even as he died, "God heard" Ishmael's plea for his valuable life. ◆

Kasimu L. Harris is a senior entrepreneurship major and can be reached via e-mail at kasimuharris@msn.com.

'Hoax' founded on lies, greed

By Anna Baker
Guest Columnist

The idea that Jesus Christ faked His resurrection is false theology from the masonic lodges, the most famous of them being the Knights of the Klu Klux Klan.

Their teaching of spiritual evolution says spirits are evolving toward becoming gods. This is close to the Mormon theology, since Joseph Smith was a freemason (black people weren't allowed inside the Mormon temples until the late '70s due to civil rights lawsuits, and, to this day, they have their own masonic lodge and aren't allowed into the white lodges as equals). The Mormons teach that a male will need many wives to replenish the planet that he will inherit when he reaches the stage of being a "god-man." This is similar to elements of new age theology, such as Shirley McClain stated in *Out on a Limb* — "we can all be gods if we just realize it."

The spiritual evolution teaching claims that a spirit begins as the spirit of an animal evolving into a human.

Unfortunately, this carries with it the racist belief that, in the first stages of evolution, a spirit will reincarnate into darker races of man, then spiritually evolve upward into the white race. This was founded in Nazi beliefs, and brought in by the Thule Society and other masonic temples.

Because the masonic temples, like the Knights of the Klu Klux Klan, believe that Jesus evolved into God, unlike the scriptures which teach that he was the "only begotten Son of God." They teach that Jesus faked His death and married Mary Magdalene,

having children with her and moving into Europe. They also teach that their children were divine and rightly given the monarchies of Europe.

The Europeans justified their greed and need for land, which spiraled into their move across many continents in a land grab for their own benefit, because they believed that they ruled Earth by divine right. They believed that all the Native American tribes were lesser evolved persons, or mud people; therefore, it wasn't wrong to take their land and slaughter them. They went into Africa and made slaves of the Africans while trying to take their land. They went into Australia taking land from the Aborigines, driving what was left of them into the outback.

All this they justified because they believe Jesus faked His death, married and bore descendants. The Bible says that those that believe a lie are damned, and, as a Native American, I hope that scripture holds true.

There is danger in twisting scriptures for one's own benefit. If someone doesn't want to believe the Bible as it's written, they need not pervert it into their own wants and man-made theology.

Keeping an open mind is being able to read the Bible without criticism. It's being able to step outside of the mainstream anti-Christian skepticism, and look into the hearts of those trying to find who their creator is.

Let's not be like the Nazi party, taking any doctrine that sounds acceptable and running with it. Weigh the teaching, look for its historical accuracy, and consider the end result if you're wrong. ◆

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More than a vessel for text

Artist to lecture about exhibition of handmade books

By Nathalie Mornu
Contributor

Does the boring, square format of textbooks turn you off from the possibly drier contents inside?

The Special Collections Department at the James E. Walker Library has an antidote for dull publications in the form of an exhibition of handmade artists' books, titled *Four Dimensional Art: The Books of Peter and Donna Thomas*.

"They are like little treasures because they're not everywhere," California resident Peter Thomas said about the contribution of letter-press and artists' books.

Treasure hunters seeking a reprieve from their textbooks can view artistic works of both Thomas and his wife through early November.

Some of the couple's works come in unusual shapes, such as a frog or Hawaiian dancer, with quirky texts illustrated by etchings or watercolors. A few in the form of scrolls have no pages to turn. A one-of-a-kind book is mounted inside a ukulele. Their more conventionally-shaped books might feature esoteric binding methods or be miniature in size.

The artists' books expand on the common view of what constitutes a book. Thomas explained in his literary work, *Manifesto of a Book Artist*, that his college professors argued that art "has intrinsic aesthetic content and the only aesthetic a book has is its text." They considered a book, no matter how beautiful and marvelously crafted, simply a vessel for the text.

"One day," Thomas continues in his manifesto, "as I stood in line to see the scrolls of Kells at

the San Francisco Public Library, I realized the flaw in their logic. The *Book of Kells* had no other function than to be looked at and be enjoyed.

"Manuscript books like that, with their lavishly illustrated and illuminated pages, their covers that were jewel-studded sculptures, were not made with function in mind," Thomas said. "Most people could not read and the monks knew the text from memory. These books were made to be looked at as painting and sculpture."

To create art, then, a book-maker must not consider function as a primary goal. Beyond the literature, artists' books combine mixed media: architecture, visual art, sculpture and more.

The exhibit's title, *Four Dimensional Art*, refers to the dimension of time.

"The time it takes you to go through the book," Thomas said. Thomas addressed this topic in his manifesto.

"Books are intimate public objects," he writes. "Books are not best shown behind glass, or on display in a museum or gallery, for they are not only two- or three-dimensional works like paintings or sculpture. Books have a fourth dimension, which is time."

"Buzz Spector, a conceptual artist who sometimes works with books," Thomas clarifies in his manifesto, "pointed out to me that people will spend on the average only a few minutes in front of even the best painting but will spend hours in front of a really bad paperback book."

"I believe the book artist can exploit this fact, working with everything between the front and back covers to create move-



Handmade books featured in *Four Dimensional Art: The Books of Peter and Donna Thomas* are on display at the Special Collections gallery in the James E. Walker Library until early November.

ment as a composer, and guide the viewer's aesthetic experience deeper than is possible with lesser art forms."

If art forms like an artist's cerebral mumbo-jumbo, consider something simpler.

"Book museums are called libraries," Thomas said.

The computer, he writes, has shifted the burden of information storage to an electronic medium, freeing the book from its elemental function and servitude. The book can now explore its status as an object and as art.

The Thomases author some of their books but have also borrowed from sources as varied as the Bible, Kurt Vonnegut, Aesop's fables and Walt Whitman. In all cases, however, they typeset, bind and illustrate the volumes themselves. These factors, as well as the handmade paper made by the couple, give the books a highly tactile quality, says Janet Higgins, MTSU

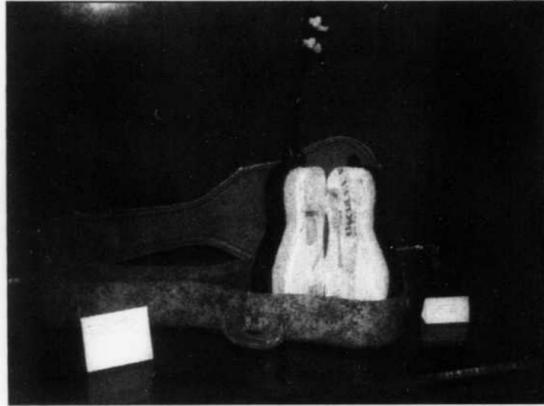
professor of book arts.

"You get a sense of the spirit of the maker residing in these materials," Higgins said. It gives handmade objects a warmth completely opposite to the cool, slick feel of commercial products. "Sometimes you just want something that feels good and has a different quality than the sort of [mass-produced] thing you can purchase. It's high-tech versus high-touch."

Viewers of the exhibit might find themselves frustrated by the inaccessibility of the work inside the cases.

"A lot of times," Thomas said, "the work succeeds as a visual object. Book art is so rich because it can go further."

The unsanctified attend a free lecture by Peter Thomas at MTSU's Special Collections Gallery on the fourth floor of the Walker Library, Monday at 4:15 p.m., during which the artist will bring books for the audience to handle and/or purchase.



An avid ukulele player, artist Peter Thomas hand made a book using a ukulele illustrated by Donna Thomas.

less, acquires an original work of art.

Four Dimensional Art: The Books of Peter and Donna Thomas will run through early November. For more information, call 904-8503. ◆

Manipulating compositions



Jeanette Pasin Sloan's use of photo-realistic style in lithographs can be viewed in the Art Barn's Art Gallery through Nov. 6, along with other Landfall Press prints.

Writing satire, trying to survive office politics

Southern Book Festival features former adjunct professor's work

By Kristin Hall
Staff Writer

While Miriam Drennan may not bolster employee confidence, she's definitely good for a laugh.

"Eagles may soar, but turkeys don't get sucked into jet engines," writes the former MTSU adjunct professor in the topic of leadership in the office.

Drennan will present her book, *Soar Above the Madness: Surviving Office Politics Without Losing Your Mind, Your Job, or Your Lunch*, at the Southern Festival of Books this weekend along with 200 other authors.

The festival, which takes place on War Memorial Plaza in downtown Nashville, celebrates both adult and children's books and will feature a wide range of authors from the well-known to the novice.

Although Drennan might not be well-known, she is not a novice to writing, as she has worked as both a news editor and a publicist. She also keeps herself pretty busy with freelancing, ghostwriting and working on three book manuscripts at home.

"I have ADD [Attention Deficit Disorder] of life," she said. "I can't make up my mind so I just do it all."

Drennan is a veteran of office jobs, currently writing advertising for Lifeway Christian Resources in Nashville.

"Truth be told, I've had some of the most bizarre working conditions and coworkers," Drennan said.

Those bizarre conditions served as fodder for her while she wrote this satire of the office world. In the book, Drennan creates archetypal characters like Glory Swiper, the Stealer of Thunder, who takes credit for others' successful projects.

But Drennan doesn't claim to be immune to certain characteristics she describes in her book.

"There's a little bit of all those characters in all of us," Drennan admits. "Everybody has their down time, their slack-off time."

The idea for the book came from designing a company calendar that mocked those "cheesy motivational posters," as she says in her book.

Drennan's satirical motivation includes axioms like, "Priorities: Do unto others before they do unto you."

The design of the book, created by Joel Anderson, looks like a notebook, with sticky

See Book, 8

Dear Annie

I just moved to Murfreesboro for school from about four hours away. I have noticed a nice, cute guy in one of my classes that I would like to get to know.

I just wish he sat next to me to make it easier! My biggest problem with guys is I don't really know the best way to just approach one, and on top of that, I am a bit shy when it comes to getting to know guys. Once I talk to them, I'm usually fine, but it's the fear of rejection that has held me back so much, thanks to past bad experiences with the species!

They just confuse me sometimes! Have any simple advice to give me on talking to this guy? Or on talking to guys in general? I'm tired of being alone on Friday nights! Help me get a date! — Bored & Crushing

Dear Bored & Crushing, Friday night, I went to Wall Street on the Square. While I was there, I asked some of my guy friends about this topic to get the male perspective. All of the guys had been faced with the same issue. I started with the woe conversation. You could wait until he turns in his test, and hopefully, you'll be finished too and you walk out of class together.

There are a few tricks and plans you could use to talk to this guy. One of the most popular ones is the old "test woes conversation." You could wait until he turns in his test, and hopefully, you'll be finished too and you walk out of class together.

Then you say, "So how did you do on the test?" In case you get fumbled and



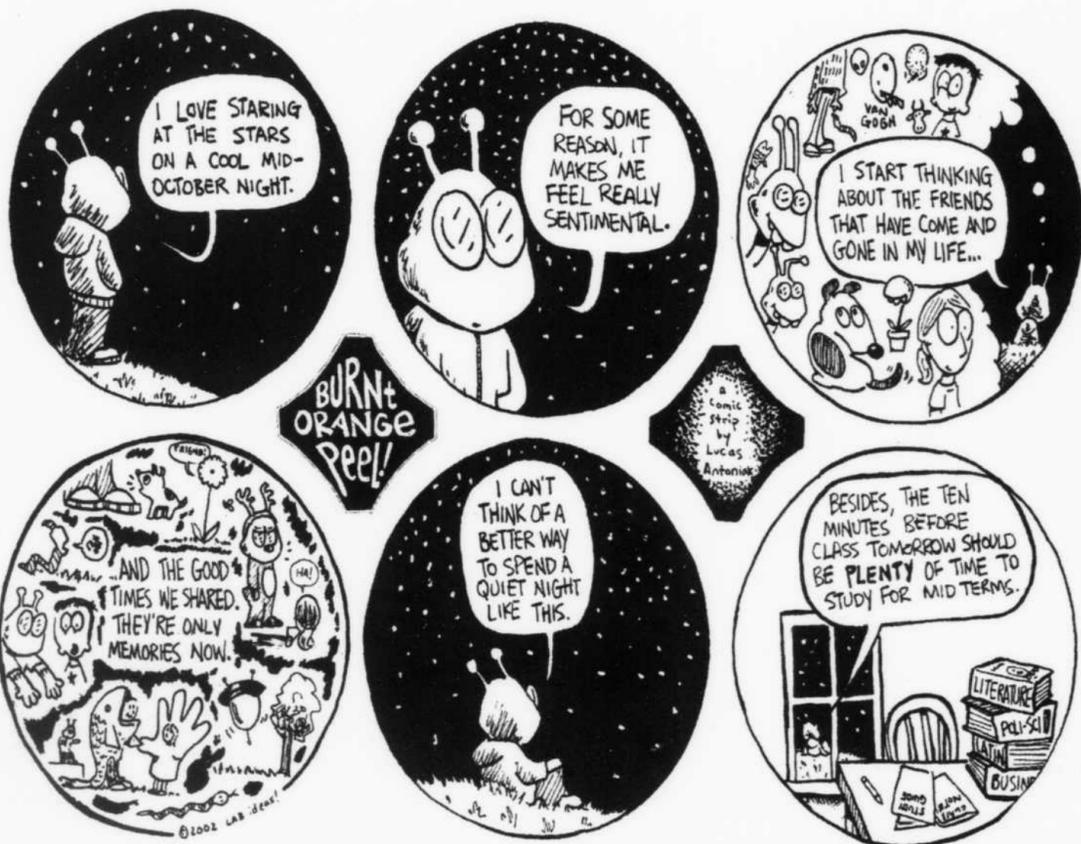
lost in his eyes, have this response ready: "I know. I thought the test was ..." Then say the opposite of whatever he says. If he thinks the test was hard, say, "Maybe I could help you, and we could study together?" If he thinks the test was easy, say, "Maybe this could help me study?" This will open the door of opportunity.

Whether you're coming or going out of class, take every opportunity to speak to him. A smile and a friendly "hello" are unbeatable.

However, don't focus only on the process of starting a conversation. Be a good listener. Be yourself. Just talk like you would to your best friend or a family member.

One point I do want to stress is that everyone has a fear of rejection. Take this opportunity to be bold. Just remember the old saying, "Nothing ventured, nothing gained." I'm sure your Friday nights won't be lonely for long. ♦

Please e-mail your questions to DearMtsuAnnie@aol.com.



Book: Plaza will feature autographing authors, more

Continued from 7
notes and paper clipped memos covering the pages.

Anderson, one of the founders of Anderson Thomas Design, a Nashville graphic arts and Web design company, has published six children's books and will also be at the festival to promote *Soar Above the Madness*.

Besides the authors and illustrators, around 90 booths will be set up on the plaza, representing major national publishers, regional publishers, booksellers and other book-related organizations.

In addition, three performance stages will showcase national and local singers, songwriters, poets, musicians, storytellers, actors and playwrights. All authors will be selling and autographing their books, which will help to fund the free event. The festival starts at noon on Friday and Sunday and 9 a.m. on Saturday. ♦

Sidelines features line

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Study Abroad Fair

sponsored by the International Programs and Services Office

Showcasing study abroad opportunities for MTSU students

October 9th 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.
2nd floor of the KUC right outside the GRILLE

Students can stop by between these hours and talk with the faculty or representatives from the study abroad program and find out first hand information.

"IPSO We'll Take You Where You Want To Go"

Graduating? Not Returning to MTSU?

The Housing and Residential Life Office is currently accepting housing cancellations for the Spring 2003 semester from students who are graduating from MTSU and will no longer be taking additional classes, and for those students who will not be returning to school at MTSU for the spring semester. The deadline for submitting cancellations for prepayment refund is October 15, 2002. Requests for cancellations must be submitted in writing to the Housing Office in the Keathley University Center, room 300 or mailed to Box 6, MTSU.

SPORTS

9 ◆ SIDELINES

Wednesday, October 9, 2002

Murfreesboro, Tenn.

Golf team hits middle of road in Hillman Robbins tourney

By David Hunter
Staff Reporter

The Middle Tennessee men's golf team improved their position after the second round of the 2002 Hillman Robbins Memorial Intercollegiate, held at The Club at Big Creek in Memphis, Tenn.

After shooting a score of 314 in the first round of the tournament, the Blue Raiders improved their score during the second round by shooting a 299 to move into seventh place with a total score of 613. The University of South Alabama is the leader with a total score of 588, and 25 ahead of MT.

The top scorer for MT is senior Patrick Williams, with a two-round score of 151. He shot a 76 in round one and a 75 in round two. Williams is currently tied for 17th place in the standings. Blake Bivens shot a 74 to go along with a first round score of 78 for a total of 152, which puts him tied for 22nd. Charlie Gibson put down

a score of 74, but an 80 in the second round has him in 34th place.

Carter Henderson and Willie Daniel had scores of 156 and 161 that put them in 44th and 64th, respectively.

During the second day, Bivens finished out the tournament in 12th place. This tournament is Bivens best performance in a tournament for the Blue Raiders.

Bivens had a three-round score of 226. His back to back 74-stroke games were the best stats for the Blue Raiders.

Despite Williams' strong start, he finished off the tournament with an 80-stroke game to tie for 31st place.

Other players with impressive performances were Daniel, with 61st place, and Henderson, with a 245 stroke total.

Henderson tied for 71st place. The Blue Raiders' next competition is at the Rio Pinar Intercollegiate in Orlando, Fla., Oct. 28-29. ◆

Hillman Robbins Memorial Intercollegiate Scores

1	South Alabama, U. of	(298-290-299=887)
2	Jacksonville St.	(300-290-302=892)
3	Central Florida, U.	(300-295-308=903)
4	Memphis, U. of	(308-297-300=905)
5	Austin Peay State U.	(306-304-297=907)
6	Southern Mississippi	(301-301-315=917)
7	Middle Tennessee	(314-299-306=919)
8 (tie)	Memphis-Gray	(316-301-303=920)
8 (tie)	Marquette University	(303-311-306=920)
10	Oral Roberts Univ.	(313-304-308=925)
11	St. Louis University	(314-312-301=927)
12	Morehead State Univ.	(316-299-316=931)
13	Eastern Illinois U.	(317-310-305=932)
14	De Paul University	(308-314-311=933)
15	Cincinnati, U. of	(314-313-310=937)
16	Troy State Univ.	(312-319-317=948)



Give women's sports a chance, and some cash



This season in MTSU sports, one thing is clear: this is the year of girl power.

This rather dated, pop culture term is a great description of what we've seen thus far in the world of MT athletics. The Blue Raider volleyball team, consisting of only women, won victoriously against the Arkansas State Indians, 3-2. The women's soccer team also played against the Indians and won, 1-0, ushering in another win.

The winning battle with ASU didn't continue, though, as the Blue Raider football team challenged the Indians and lost 7-13.

Women's soccer games average only approximately 200 attending supporters and spectators, and the volleyball team has an even smaller following. Yet, they still perform admirably and represent MT athletics incredibly well. Our football team, with its large fan base of thousands, failed to defeat the Indians, sending fans grumbling and pouting back home wondering why they wasted time and money.

At least some of our teams please the fans.

Another fact should also be examined: money. The funds devoted to MT women's athletics - all the teams included - only make up a small fraction of the amount expended upon the football team. Why do we devote so much money to one team that continues to perform poorly while excluding the women's teams that are embarking on a promising year?

Pour the money into our losing teams and continue limiting and restricting the funds of those that win. They're girls. Is that MT's philosophy?

Attendance and popularity would increase for these women's sports if more money and endorsement were invested in them. Yet, historically, women's teams are cut short when fund distribution begins and remain invisible athletic entities in the face of men's teams upon whom funding is primarily devoted. Obviously, a team lacking funding and adequate recognition from its school is not going to have a large following or generate large amounts of revenue.

Certainly I recognize that football is generally the biggest money-making college sport, but I still remain outraged that the amount of my tuition that goes toward athletics is not also devoted to teams that apply hard work, dedication and persistence to their games and win.

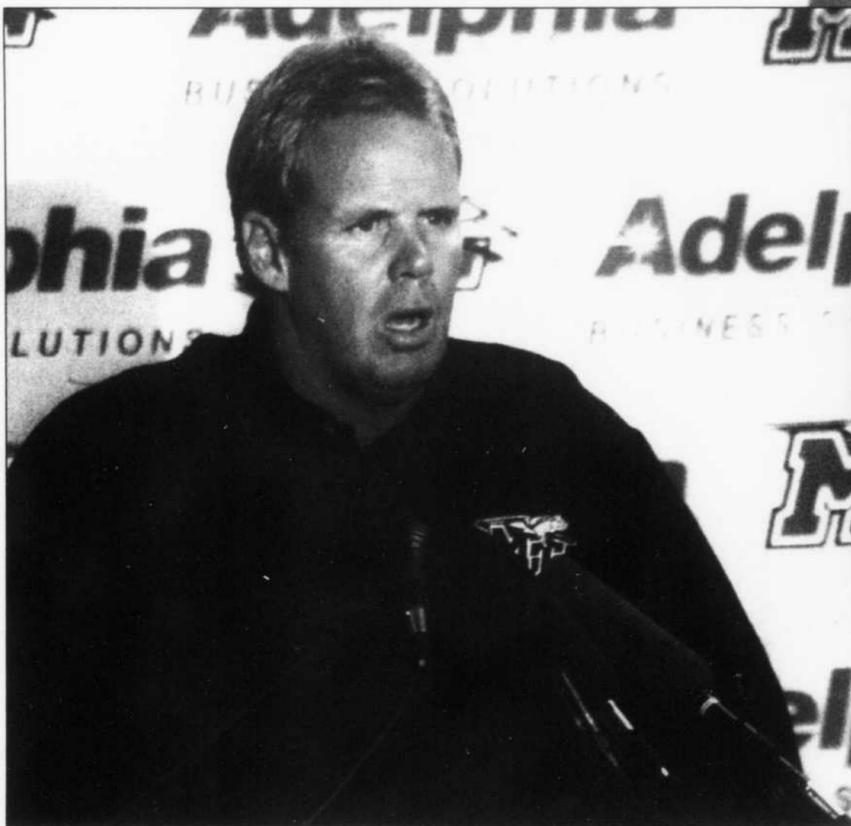
Women's suffrage has come and gone, folks, and the verdict is in - women should not be

See Women's Sports, 10

Middle Tennessee still looking for complete game

"The coaching staff preaches that we can't turn the ball over and now we see why. It's time for us to get our first win. We can't look at the big picture anymore, trying to win the Sun Belt. We have to take it one game at a time and get that first win."

-David Youell,
MT wide receiver



By Angelica Journagin
Sports Editor

Middle Tennessee's football team is determined not to let their 0-5 record, including a loss to a Division I-AA team, get them down.

"We have got to learn to win," head coach Andy McCollum said at Monday's press conference following the Blue Raiders' 13-7 loss to Arkansas State University Saturday.

"We're a struggling football team right now that is not playing with a lot of confidence," McCollum continued. "We've got to go back to work and get

that done. We're going into another tough challenge, another game on the road against an SEC team that is a greatly improved football team. We know the challenge ahead of us, and we've got to have the other great week of work to get ready for it."

The Blue Raiders' 34-39 loss to the University of Alabama, 3-26 loss to University of Tennessee, 22-44 loss to the University of Kentucky, 14-24 loss to Southeastern State University and loss to ASU have put them in the precarious position of being on the road to tying their 0-8 starting record in 1980.

"It hurts to lose and we're all looking for answers," said defensive back Tony Sutton. "We're

Photos by Nathan Atwood | Staff Photographer
David Youell (above) defends his team's performance this season. Football head coach Andy McCollum (left) tries to explain an 0-5 record, the worst start in his coaching career at Middle Tennessee.

looking for one little thing we can do to get that win."

Some of the obvious differences in MT vs. their opponents can be seen in the statistics. Before Saturday's game, MT trailed their opposition in rushing yardage (847-968), passing yardage (783-1043), first downs (88-97) and scoring (80-146).

Another factor hurting the Blue Raiders is a series of questionable calls in various outings, including the suspension of Jerry Vanderpool after MT and UK got into brawl.

"It's just a matter of making plays when we have the opportunity," said wide receiver David Youell. "We turned the ball over [against ASU] and we can't let it come down to a referee."

Other problems in the MT game have been its

See Football, 10

Baseball team defeats itself ... no, really

Staff Reports

MT's baseball team finished its practice Saturday with a series of inter-squad scrimmages.

The Blue/Gray series signified the end of a semester's worth of practice. For the series, the baseball team divides into Blue and Gray teams. The series games were played last

Thursday, Friday and Sunday. The Gray team won the series, 2-1.

The Gray team was led by Jeff Beachum, who had three hits in the series.

Other players with impressive showings were Brett Carroll, Shane Kemp and Robert Toline. Each player had two hits in the series. Carroll's high point in the series came

with a solo-home run in Thursday's opening game.

In Thursday's game, the Gray team won 11-3 with the help of pitcher Steve Kline. Kline pitched for five innings, only allowing two earned runs on five hits. He had two walks and three strikeouts.

Freshman pitcher Nick Jones pitched two scoreless innings during Thursday's game.

During Saturday's game, the Gray team once again dominated against the Blue team with a 11-7 win. The Blue team had their revenge on Sunday with a 13-3 romp over the Gray team.

During the series, freshman Marcus Taylor had four runs to his name. He gave the Blue team two doubles and a triple during Sunday's game.

Freshman pitcher Tyler

Copeland picked up the win Sunday with three solid innings, giving up one earned run on three hits with two strikeouts.

Blue player Chuck Akers led the Blue team with six hits during the series. Akers had two runs over the weekend.

The Blue Raiders start off their season with a three-game set against Jacksonville State on Feb. 21-23. ◆

Sun Belt teams give Lady Raiders 1-1 weekend

University of Arkansas-Little Rock defeats MT, Arkansas State unable.

Staff Reports

The Lady Raider volleyball team had its ups and downs this weekend as they played two Sun Belt Conference teams from Arkansas.

The first match came on Friday when the Lady Raiders fell to the University of Arkansas-Little Rock, 3-1. The team started out behind when they lost the first game, 30-25. In the first match UALR had 18 kills compared to MT's 12. UALR also had a better attack error rate, coming in at seven instead of MT's eight.

In the second game, MT rallied to come back with a tough

31-29 win in game two. In game two, MT improved their kills record to 20 with seven attack errors, while UALR had 16 kills and only 6 attack errors.

Things went downhill from there for MT when they lost the next two games 29-31 and 30-20. In the third game, UALR had 19 kills and five attack errors and MT had 18 kills and seven attack errors. In the final game, UALR had 15 kills and six attack errors, while MT had six kills and as many attack errors.

In the match sophomore Keke Deckard registered her ninth double-double of the season with 19 kills and 10 digs. Kelly Quinn dominated the set-

ting scene, with 37 assists. Statistically UALR had a more blocks than MT, UALR had nine and MT had seven, and has a better SBC record than MT, 2-0 compared to MT's 0-3.

In an effort to reestablish itself in SBC play, the Lady Raiders won their first conference game against Arkansas State University Sunday at the Alumni Memorial Gym. Again Deckard was a force in the match, tallying her 10th double-double of the season with 19 kills and 20 digs.

Again in the first game, the Lady Raiders fell to an Arkansas team, this time losing 22-30. Attack errors once more played a role in the loss, the Lady Raiders had nine errors com-

pared to the Indians' four.

The second game went to ASU, with the Indians having 15 kills to beat MT's 11. With only one more game left before ASU took it all, MT started a comeback to overcome the Indians.

The Lady Raiders had 19 kills in the third game, 17 kills in the fourth game and 10 kills in the fifth game. ASU had 18 kills for the third game, 15 kills for the second game and six kills for the fifth game.

Deckard had the highest number of kills in the match, followed by Dara McLean's 18 and Katie Thiesen's 10.

MT plays their next SBC match Friday against Florida International University at Miami, Fla. ♦



File photo

No 13 Karisse Baker assists Keke Deckard in the match

2002 Sun Belt Conference volleyball overview

2002 Sun Belt Conference volleyball stats (Week of Oct. 7)

East Division

	W	L	Pct.	Stk.
Western Kentucky	18	4	.818	W4
Arkansas-Little Rock	6	7	.462	L1
Arkansas State	6	10	.375	L1
Florida International	5	12	.294	W1
Middle Tennessee	10	7	.588	W1

West Division

	W	L	Pct.	Stk.
New Mexico State	13	4	.765	W4
North Texas	8	12	.400	W1
New Orleans	7	10	.412	L1
Denver	2	11	.154	L2
UL Lafayette	6	11	.353	L5
South Alabama	5	8	.382	L3



Arkansas-Little Rock

UALR opened conference play 2-0 for the first time since 1999 after the four-game victory over Middle Tennessee Friday.

The Trojans have had at least four players post double-digit kills in four consecutive matches. Sophomore Ivana Vracar extended her streak of double-

digit kills to four consecutive matches with 14 against Middle Tennessee and 13 against Western Kentucky over the weekend. She also posted a double-double in both matches with 14 kills

and 14 digs against Middle Tennessee Friday and 13 kills and 11 digs against Western Kentucky on Saturday. Freshman Ivana Kuzmic added to her conference-leading block total with one solo and eight assists against

Middle Tennessee and one solo and nine assists against Western Kentucky. Kuzmic also registered double-digit kills for the fourth consecutive match with 10 against Middle Tennessee and 14 against Western Kentucky.

Sophomore Bojana Vulin set a season high with a .500 hitting percentage against Western Kentucky.

Western Kentucky

Sara Noe finished with a season-high 68 assists Saturday vs. UALR. She finished with 109 assists in the two matches last weekend, and is now just 119 shy of become Western's all-time assist leader. Noe also surpassed the 1,000-assist

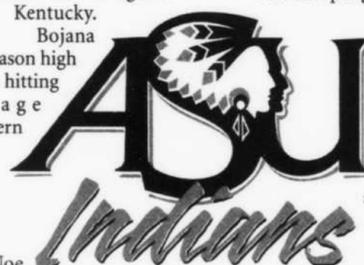
mark for the season over the weekend, passing that plateau for the third straight season. Freshman Abby Borrer finished with a career-best 11 digs against UALR. In both wins this weekend, Western coach Travis Hudson got the better of the two coaches ahead of him on the all-time Sun Belt match wins list (ASU's Craig Cummings and UALR's Van Compton). Western extended its school-record home court winning streak to 19.

The Lady Toppers have now won their past five meetings with Arkansas State, and the last four with Arkansas-Little Rock. Jessie Wagner averaged a team-best 5.00 kills per game to lead Western to two

conference wins over the weekend. She finished with a career-best 24 kills against Arkansas-Little Rock Saturday in a 3-1 Lady Topper victory. That is also the most kills by a Lady Topper this season in a match.

Arkansas State

ASU went 1-2 over the week, including a 3-2 victory in a non-conference match against Belmont University. The Lady Indians hit .206 as a team, 35 points higher than its season average of .171. Setter Tristan Erford has 173 assists (10.81 a/g) since taking over the primary setting role against FIU on Sept. 27. Erford has 391 assists on the season. Opponents hit .225 and had 25 aces last week. Opponents are hitting .198 on the year and have recorded 128 aces. Three Lady Indians have reached the century mark in kills. Heather Malaschak leads the way with 172 kills while Caitlyn Mitchell has 167 and Miranda Griffin has 148. ASU has 127 total blocks, led by Malaschak with nine solo blocks and 58 block assists. ♦



Football: McCollum, team waiting for first season win

Continued from 9

rate of turnovers.

"It's tough to win when you turn the ball over two times in the red zone and you miss field goals in the red zone," McCollum said.

"The coaching staff preaches that we can't turn the ball over and now we see why," Youell said. "It's time for us to get our first win. We can't look at the big picture anymore, trying to win the Sun Belt. We have to take it one game at a time and get that first win."

Defensively, the Blue Raider team saw a marked improvement in the last game, holding the Indians to 13 points.

"It's encouraging," McCollum said about the defensive play. "But when you

lose you can see the positives, but we still didn't win. I think when you are struggling on one side of the ball than you look for the other side to make a play, and we had opportunities."

Still, McCollum is hopeful for the future.

"I have never been 0-5," McCollum said. "Do I like losing? No. It is frustrating losing? Yeah. We have a team that has gone through a rough start and hasn't gained confidence going through it. So, we've got to have breaks. We've got to make some plays. We've got to have good things happen to us and we've just got to keep overcoming the adversity of it."

MT plays its next game Saturday against Vanderbilt in Nashville. ♦

Women's Sports: Money in MT sports should be even

Continued from 9

excluded.

It's time to begin devoting some attention, recognition and funding to our women's teams. We should be rewarding our hardworking, winning teams,

regardless of gender. MT's female athletes have continually represented the university well.

Show them the appreciation and recognition they justly deserve and maybe some dollar signs for a change. ♦

MT PER RALLY



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