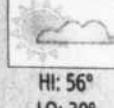


Monday

Hi: 56°

Lo: 30°

Tuesday

Hi: 53°

Lo: 27°

Wednesday

Hi: 58°

Lo: 35°

Special section examines
SGA executive candidates.

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Season finished
undefeated

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Vol. 82 No. 49
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MIDDLE TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY

SIDELINES

Monday, Feb. 26, 2007

Editorially independent

Campus summit focuses on media ethics

By Jaz Gray

Staff Writer

The past, present and future of media ethics will be discussed by media professionals this week during the U.S. Media Ethics Summit.

The Summit is a gathering of leaders in media ethics from across North America, with each leader representing a different professional association.

There will be three sessions open to the public during the

summit. According to Anantha Babbili, dean of mass communications, the three sessions will give students a great opportunity to become involved and informed.

"[The summit] teaches [students] to be good citizens in a democracy," Babbili said.

Tom Cooper, ethicist-in-residence for MTSU and co-creator of the summit, says that students are citizens and will one day be parents, so they need to be aware of the problems that plague the media.

Another major reason students should attend the sessions, according to Cooper, is because most of the knowledge that people have today comes from the media.

"[Students] may have maybe 2000 hours of formal education in college and high school, [and] they may have 20,000 hours of television consumption; that is ten times as many," he said.

On Wednesday there will be a session at 7:30p.m. premiering a film on government secrecy.

According to Cooper, the film, presented by Harvard film professor Robb Moss, should be interesting because Moss has interviewed people on a wide variety of subjects related to government secrecy.

The session on Thursday at 7:30p.m., will focus on privacy issues and will also have a Black History Month theme. The speaker, Adam Clayton Powell III, is the son of Harlem Congressman Adam Clayton Powell II, who one of the first African-American con-

gressmen, according to Cooper.

On Friday at 10:30a.m., a panel of professionals from the summit will give a press conference to discuss with the public their collective findings and what they hope to change in media ethics.

Cooper and Clifford Christians, from the University of Illinois, created the first media conference in 1987 during what Cooper said are "the infant years of the internet."

This year there are an increasing number of ethics issues, and

the challenge of following these numerous problems is one of the main reasons the conference will take place, Cooper said.

"We have twice as many issues to keep track of [now]. Every new year there is a new technology; each one brings with it its own issues," Cooper said.

The "kick-off thinker" for the summit will be former Vice President Al Gore. Gore has seen the media from all sides because

See Ethics, 3



Photo by Chelsea Tabor | Staff Photographer

A celebration for the new Recreation Center was held Friday afternoon and included the groundbreaking for the expansion site, which will house Student Health.

Rec Center breaks ground

By Josh Daughtry

Staff Writer

The groundbreaking of the Rec Center expansion symbolizes the beginning of construction and moves MTSU closer to a new goal of wellness for students.

Friday's groundbreaking showcased the plans for the Rec Center addition to university officials such as Sidney McPhee, president of the university, and Bob Glenn, vice president for Student Affairs and vice provost for enrollment management, as well as state Rep. Jim Tracy (R-Shelbyville) and John Hood (D-Murfreesboro).

The expansion will add 50,000 square feet to the Rec Center and will be the new home of Student Health Services. The Rec. Center expansion alone costs \$17 million and will take approximately 18 months to complete.

Charles Gregory, director of the Rec Center, said the expansion is essentially two projects in one. There is the expansion of the current facility and there is the addition, which will become the new location of Health Services.

"The reason we're doing this is for more of a fitness or wellness concept in taking

care of the students," Gregory said.

McPhee said the Rec Center expansion is an opportunity for MTSU to put into practice the philosophy of being student centered by addressing the total needs of the students.

"I believe [the expansion] is a major step in terms of addressing some of the needs [of students], the physical needs and of course the health related needs," McPhee said. "Combining the two together puts us kind of as pioneers among universities and addressing the issue of wellness."

Gregory said the Rec Center will expand the weight room by 4,000 square feet, add 4,000 square feet to the cardiovascular room, add another dance aerobic room and expand other aspects of the facility as well.

Rick Chapman, director of Health Services, said the new location for Student Health Services will provide 22 exam rooms, a pharmacy, X-ray facilities, expanded lab services, observation and procedure rooms, an expanded Women's Health Clinic and add other amenities to Health Service as well.

The expansion will also include a health education office, which will be charged with the coordination of wellness pro-

gramming, Chapman said. It will work campus recreation as well as various departments, including student affairs and student life, to develop evidence based programs in order to guide students down a path of lifelong wellness.

"I think this puts us on the cutting edge of what is going on across the nation, that is a growing recognition that wellness is a concerted effort not an isolated effort," said Bob Glenn. "It's a matter of looking at the way you're living your life and doing it in a more thoughtful and calculated way to give you the best possible life you can have."

The current parking lot and entrance to the Rec Center will be closed over spring break. A temporary entrance will be located on the north side of the building across from the softball field, Gregory said.

When construction begins the cardiovascular equipment will be moved into the seating area of the gym. Also, at a point during construction towel services will be temporarily suspended.

The Rec Center's hours of operation will not be effected by construction unless there are special circumstances, which might pose a safety risk for students. ♦

Lectures look at differences in gender, sex

'Performing Gender' main theme for women's studies conference

By Josh Daughtry

Staff Writer

The "History of Transgender Political Activism" was one of many presentations at the Interdisciplinary Conference in Women's Studies at MTSU last Thursday through Saturday.

Presented by Marisa Richmond, adjunct professor of history at MTSU and current president and lobbyist for Tennessee Transgender Political Coalition, the lecture went through the history of transgender activism from the 1960s transgender riots in Philadelphia and San Francisco to present day transgender efforts and issues.

The lecture also discussed the issue of discrimination against transgender persons and touched on the broader issue of eradicating homophobia and trans-phobia.

"Transgender simply means those who transgress gender lines and that can occur at any time in your life for any length of time," Richmond said.

She said a couple of things she tried to show in her lecture were the diversity of gender expression and the power of organization.

"[There are] people out there who have previously been anonymous who are doing some significant work to effect social change," Richmond said. "These people are out there on the forefront of a modern day civil rights movement, just as we look back in history at certain icons, some of these people, while not being recognized today, probably one day in history will be."

Abby Mann, graduate student from Indiana University, said she thought the lecture was a fascinating history of the transgender movement. She said that

seeing the slides of the individuals who started the different transgender organizations personalized the lecture and created an interesting way to look at the movement.

"I think Dr. Richmond was trying to individualize the experience and point out that different people have different experiences and that the transgender experience depends on the person and it's not this singular experience," said Jill Wood, graduate student from Indiana University.

Laura Crawford, graduate student from the University of Alberta in Edmonton, Canada, said she thinks it is important to have transgender content, which is often overlooked, in gender related and feminist inquiries.

"The fact that a lot of people in the room probably have Ph.D.'s and know very little about trans-history is a testament of how much it's alighted in the education system," Laura Crawford said.

One of the important things the lecture did was put faces with the names she mentioned. Since that is the classic way of learning history, it could possibly get more people involved in trans-history that otherwise might not be interested.

Jennifer Crawford, graduate student from Saint Mary's University in Halifax, Canada, said the lecture highlighted the importance of learning about transgender from an early age.

Elyce Helford, English professor and director of Women's Studies, said Transgender issues are very important to the Women's Studies conference theme.

She said as far as MTSU is concerned they are transsexual people in several aspects daily life: in classes, on television, and relatives. ♦

Women voice concerns in Tennessee Listening Tours

By Ashley Brase

Staff Writer

Women in Rutherford County can voice their opinions on issues such as pay rate, lifestyle dilemmas and problems with work conditions, at the first in a series of Listening Tours.

"We want to achieve awareness of what's happening in our communities," said Karen Claus, member of the Greater Nashville Development District Advisory Council and mediator of the event. "This will let women realize they are not alone in what they are facing."

Listening Tours will be conducted in all 13 counties in the greater Nashville area. Rutherford County was chosen to kick off the event this year because it is the third fastest growing county in the state and 75th in the country.

The goal of the tour is to put in motion a positive change in the lives of

women by listening directly to local women in each county speak about barriers which may be keeping them from success.

During the meeting, women will place concerns on note cards, which are separated by topic. The recurring topics will be discussed in a Socratic method, to understand varying opinions and specific instances that may be problematic for the individual's lifestyle.

"Women will voice issues such as lack of daycare or lack of transportation that may negatively affect their lifestyle, or make it difficult for them to be part of the workforce," Claus said.

The tours are hosted by the Greater Nashville Development District Advisory Council and will be running through the Nashville area for the first time this year.

"This is the first year for the tour in Rutherford County," Claus said. "Other

councils in the state have had similar events, and they have been a success."

The Listening Tours were initiated after the Tennessee Economic Council on Women released a study in 2004 titled, "The Status of women in Tennessee." The study helped bring to light some of the issues women were concerned about that needed to be reformed.

The Greater Nashville Development District Advisory Council was developed to help find solutions to the negative conditions and address women's needs specific to the greater Nashville area.

"We want to bring all the issues of concern to the table," Claus said. "We are hoping this will bring some changes throughout the state."

All information released at the Listening Tour is confidential. Further information may be requested on some topics but will continue to

Tennessee counties hosting tours



Graphic by Chet Overall | Staff Designer

Listening Tours are conducted in the 13 greater Nashville area counties, including Rutherford, Davidson, Montgomery, Robertson, Sumner and Williamson.

remain confidential.

There will be seating for 50 women at the event. As of Friday, 20 women were scheduled to attend, though R.S.V.P. is not required.

This year, there will also be an electronic survey for those who are unable to

attend the meetings.

The Rutherford county Listening Tour runs from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. on Thursday. Participants will be meeting at the Murfreesboro Housing Authority Office on 415 N. Maple Street. The tours are open for women of all ages. ♦

SGA CANDIDATE PROFILES

Students campaign for executive and senate offices

Chassen M. Haynes

Desired Office: Student Body President
Major: business finance, junior

Previous Experience:

I have been involved with the Executive Branch of the Student Government Association for the past three years. I am also the president of Sigma Nu Fraternity and have been the corporate sponsorship chair for Up 'Til Dawn for the past two years. I was also the vice president of the Raider Republicans.

Most important issues:

1. To completely revise the SGA to better suit the student body as a whole.
2. Get a wider variety of students involved in the SGA.
3. Inform more students about what the SGA does and can do for them.

Student involvement with the SGA:

I would reach out to them. I would personally go to organizations and classrooms to talk about the positive aspects of getting involved in the SGA. The position of director of student services would have multiple chairs and committees under them.



Haynes

Meaghan Richmond

Desired Office: Student Body President
Major: finance and general science, senior

Previous experience:

I was a member of Kappa Delta, held office on Panhellenic council, member of Gamma Iota Sigma, Student's National Medical Association, and have had a role in the SGA and homecoming since freshman year. Being that I was a part of Greek Life, I can relate to both populations of MTSU's campus and act in the best interest of the campus, rather than showing favoritism towards one group or individual.

Most important issues:

1. Implementing the necessary steps to the construction of a new student center.
2. Increasing athletic game attendance.
3. The small things which include more metered parking, a bigger Café in the BAS, as well as a higher quota for our MTSU e-mail inbox.

Student involvement with the SGA:

Incoming freshman are the key to involvement at MTSU. They are the future and would be my primary focus in getting an increase in involvement with the SGA.



Richmond

Kelly Wilder

Desired Office: Student Body President
Major: plant and soil science, senior

Previous experience:

Over the past three years, I have participated in the Student Government Association, Alpha Gamma Rho Fraternity, Interfraternity Council, Raider Republicans, Ag Council and the Collegiate FFA. I have taken a full load of classes and held a steady part-time job while being involved with these organizations.

Most important issues:

1. I believe that the lack of funding from the state to our university is a major problem.
2. Student involvement needs to be increased on campus.
3. I feel that lack of diversity on university standing committees and other governing bodies is a major concern.

Student involvement with the SGA:

MTSU has been labeled as a suitcase college, but there are ways to encourage students to stay. Lowering prices at on-campus venues, building a larger student union center and having more corporate giveaways at sporting events.



Wilder

Josh McKenzie

Desired Office: Vice President and Speaker of the Senate
Major: electronic media communications, senior

Previous experience:

I currently hold this position for the 2006-2007 academic year. I have also been active in area government for campus housing, student ambassadors, resident assistant, Student Programming, student orientation assistant, the Honors College, honors societies, religious groups and mass communication organizations.

Most important issues:

I feel student involvement, student participation, and student awareness are three areas that should be addressed and improved on. If the issue of student involvement changed in a positive manner, I not only see diversity of students on campus becoming a larger part of the university, but that will also correct the other two issues.

Student involvement with the SGA:

I believe the more students that are involved in the SGA, the better the SGA will be able to represent you. The restructuring of the SGA is needed so as to more effectively represent the student body. With the creation of more positions in the SGA comes the involvement of more students.



McKenzie

Danny Bounds

Desired Office: Student Body President
Major: political science, junior

Previous Experience:

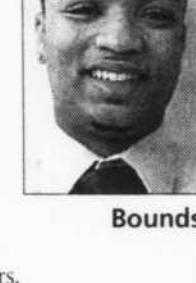
I served the SGA on the Freshman Senate my freshman year. I also have been a student ambassador for two years and serve as the current president of Student Ambassadors. I am the vice president of Kappa Alpha Psi, and currently serve as a student orientation assistant, and have been for the past two years.

Most important issues:

The top three issues that need to be addressed on campus are school spirit, student involvement and more student services. I believe student services is a major issue on campus. I believe that we need to put more emphasis on advertising the resources that this campus has available for the students.

Student involvement with the SGA:

I would make sure that I am more personal with the students and people would be able to address something to me. I want students to know that I am just like them and that they can relate to me. I want students to know that their voice needs to be heard.



Bounds

Lora Hortert

Desired Office: Student Body President
Major: political science, junior

Previous experience:

I have served as attorney general on campus for the last year. It has afforded me the opportunity to see first hand the strengths and weaknesses of the SGA in relation to working with the student body as a whole.

Most important issues:

1. The SGA needs to be more vocal about what it is doing to help the student body.
2. There needs to be more diversity within the SGA.
3. In the past, the SGA has operated from the top down. This is a student organization designed to represent the students, which means it should be operating from the bottom up.

Student involvement with the SGA:

The most important thing the SGA can do is be purposeful in talking with the students, whether it is a senator attending organizational meetings within their college to get information and ideas or the president holding open-forum meetings.



Hortert

Due to the large number of senator candidates, *Sidelines* is unable to run individual biographies for each candidate running in the 2007 Student Government Association.

However, executive office candidate do have mini-profiles to the left. Below, separated by seats, are the names of each senator candidate.

Remember, voting begins Tuesday on MTSU Pipeline and will end on Thursday.

College of Liberal Arts

Steven Altum
Jameel Braddock
Tanesha Bufford
Andrew Dunkin
Erin Dycus
Michael Hawker
Matthew Hurtt
Adrian Mackie
Brad Rich
Shayna Taylor
Marcy Videau



Taylor

Jonathan Taylor

Desired Office: Student Body President
Major: business finance, senior

Previous experience:

I am the president of Sigma Chi and have learned several things that are crucial to effectively leading an organization. I was raised in a Baptist Church and my father was the pastor. I feel I can connect with all the students at MTSU, and I have built relationships with students from diverse backgrounds and lifestyles.

Most important issues:

1. We need to communicate with the campus that will actually inform students without annoying them.
2. The retention rate at MTSU must be addressed. The number of students who come to this university as freshman and never graduate is far too high.
3. We have to overcome lines that are keeping us from unifying and truly achieving greatness at MTSU.

Student involvement with the SGA:

I want to improve the positive communication. Word of mouth is the most powerful tool to utilize. In order to do this we must have a good relationship with the rest of the student body, something that must be improved on.

College of Mass Communication

Anthony Davis
Samuel Luis Delgado
Brenna McDaniel
Jonathan Joy
Lemon Keith
James C. Perry III
Wil Shults
Megan Stacey

College of Business

Olivia Barker
Clarissa Blackwood
Travis Deck
Ryne Joyner
Quinton Ladd
Jacob Marlin
Justin Morris
Jessica Utley



Jenkins

Gretchen M. Jenkins

Desired Office: Vice President and Speaker of the Senate
Major: political science, junior

Previous experience:

I am currently the president of the National Society of Collegiate Scholars, the vice president of Gamma Beta Phi and the scholarship chair of Alpha Delta Pi.

Most important issues:

1. People often overlook the job security rate of MTSU graduates.
2. School attendance and involvement in extra-curricular activities is severely lacking.
3. We must continue to seek top-notch students and improve standards within the university.

Student involvement with the SGA:

I feel that if students are given the opportunity to be a part of something more than their classes, they will have a much higher reward. By implementing committees, by setting up more informational meetings, and by making sure that SGA represents each and every student, individuals will become more involved on campus and in the SGA.

College of Education and Behavioral Science

Jonathan Bryan
Brandon McNary

College of Basic and Applied Science

Kevin Colvert
Michael Hicks
Braeden Kehoe
Ryan King
Lekeisha Hudson
Savitri Matthews
Wes Merriman
Mark Murphy
Amanda Petty
Justin Phalichanh
Aaron Pirani
Jozmen Robinson



DeSabetino

Ashley DeSabetino

Desired Office: Vice President of Administration and Public Affairs
Major: political science, junior

Previous experience:

My experience and involvement with many different facets of campus life has equipped me with all the tools necessary to effectively execute the duties of this office. I have been fortunate enough to utilize what MTSU has to offer through my involvement in the SGA and other committees working to improve the university.

Most important issues:

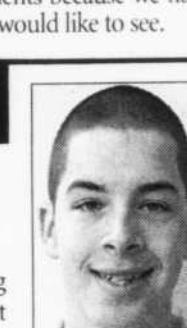
MTSU is a large and diverse campus with many needs that should be addressed. What is important to some is equally unimportant to others. As VP, I will place equal importance on every issue and work diligently to resolve these issues. Legislation needs to be passed that makes the SGA more accessible to the students so more students can be involved.

Student involvement with the SGA:

Unfortunately, many students are waiting passively for someone to get them involved. To counter this apathy, I would actively seek to generate a sense of motivation among students because we have the collective voice to make the changes we would like to see.

Senator At Large

Meredith Blair
Michael Crabtree
Steven Disser
Emily Faulk
Brad Craig
Tiffany Gray
Nathan Haynes
Trenton Hughes
Erin Johnson
Ashley Kirkpatrick
Jessica Putman
Kortney Simmons
Jessica Turri



Reedy

Brandon Reedy

Desired Office: Election Commissioner
Major: marketing, junior

Previous experience:

I have four years of sales and marketing experience from past and current jobs that has given me the skills to market any idea that I am passionate about. I am also the recruitment chairman for my fraternity, in which I am in charge of seeking out new members in order to enhance and expand our organization.

Most important issues:

The three most important issues that face the election commissioner are the lack of voter turnout during elections, a need for more candidates that desire each position within the SGA and also increasing the visibility of the SGA in order to better appeal to the student body.

Student involvement with the SGA:

I plan on speaking to all student organizations, contacting the dean of each college so they can inform the department chairs and let students know how to get involved. I will also emphasize the importance of voting, letting students know they have a voice.

Undeclared

Jennifer Beadle
Mary Alice Porter



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EOE/AA/M/F/H/V

Ethics: Summit views media.

Continued from 1

the media from all sides because he was a journalist when he started his career, Cooper said.

"Al Gore does a lot of research... and now is a filmmaker with An Inconvenient Truth, so he actually has multiple perspectives on the media [and] most people only have one or two," he said.

To construct the 2007 conference, an advisory committee of media leaders was organized to submit the names of organizations that had, in their opinion, accomplished the most in media ethics over the past twenty years. Forty of the 80 organizations presented by the advisory committee were invited and 20 plan to send delegates.

The American people have been extremely concerned about some media issues and they feel that their concerns are not being heard, Cooper said. Sometimes a group of experts' showings statistics

can have a louder voice than individual citizens.

"If your mother or my mother or somebody else's mother is upset because there is too much violence on TV, they may not get a lot of attention or have a lot of power," Cooper said.

The professionals attending the conference have collected research thoroughly detailing the major media concerns of the American people. After they come together, discuss their findings and develop solutions, they plan to take their disclosures to U.S. leaders.

The professionals intend to make recommendations to the White House, the FCC, the Congress, chief executive officers and educators, according to Cooper.

"It's not a bunch of talk that people will just forget about," he said.

The U.S. Media Ethics Summit will be at MTSU Feb. 27 through March 2. ♦

Attention *Sidelines* reader:

Check out more Campus Briefs online at
www.mtsusidelines.com

To submit a brief, send your organization's event, with date and time, to campusbriefs@gmail.com

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Campus Briefs

Music concert
for women, by
women

The MTSU Women's Chorale will give a free concert Tuesday, at 7:30 p.m. in the T. Earl Hinton Hall of the Wright Music Building.

"All of the compositions for the first spring semester concert were written or arranged by women, so we have music by women for women," said Dr. Jamila McWhirter, conductor of the chorale and assistant professor at MTSU.

McWhirter said the audience will also enjoy a variety of octavos from folk songs to modern selections. The performance will end with a women's barbershop selection.

"There will be something for everyone as we celebrate women's literature by women composers."

For more information on this and other events in the McLean School of Music call 898-2493 or visit www.mtsumusic.com.

Spring events
continue at
Campus Rec
Center

Interested in climbing high peaks? Then consider attending the Campus Recreation's lead climbing clinic Wednesday at 6 p.m. The cost for the clinic is \$10 for students and \$12 for others. Participation is limited, and the deadline to register is 5 p.m. Feb. 28.

Splash Splash Kids for Children with Challenges begins at 4 p.m. March 13 at the Rec Center. The class is for children four to six years of age. Cost is \$25 for eight lessons.

Children must have doctor and/or parent's permission and must have a signed waiver on file in the Campus Recreation Office.

Lifeguard Instructor Training at the Rec Center will begin March 16 at 5 p.m. and continue through March 25. Cost is \$130 for students, \$145 for fac-

ulty and staff, and \$150 for guests. The registration deadline is March 14 at 5 p.m.

For more information on these events contact the Campus Recreation office at 898-2140 or www.mtsu.edu/~campusrec.

'Music from
Japan' comes to
MTSU

The Japan-U.S. Program of MTSU will present the Junko Tahara Biwa Ensemble at this year's Music from Japan concert Monday at 7 p.m. in the T. Earl Hinton Hall of the Wright Music Building.

Tahara has performed extensively in Japan and at major venues around the world, including Carnegie Hall and Lincoln Center. Her instrument, the biwa, is a fretted lute frequently used in performance of traditional Japanese music. She will be accompanied by Kohei Nishikawa on nohkan and shinobue, types of lutes, and Akikumi Takahashi and Tsuyoshi Abe on Narimono, percussion.

Music from Japan bills itself as "the leading presenter of Japanese contemporary and traditional music in the United States and the world." The group has presented nearly 400 works, including 51 world premieres and 39 commissions over the course of 30 years.

"MFJ is a very prestigious non-profit organization chaired by the former Japanese ambassador to the United Nations, who is currently a judge at the International Court of Justice," said Dr. Kiyoshi Kawahito, director of the Japan-U.S. program.

The event is free and open to the public, but tickets are required. To obtain tickets, faculty and students may stop by the Japan-U.S. Program office in Room N340 of the Business and Aerospace Building. For more information, call 898-2229 or contact japan@mtsu.edu.

SIDELINES

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for

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2006-2007

I Nominate _____
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from _____
(Department of Nominee)

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(Nominees must be full-time faculty members to be eligible)
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Signature of Nominator _____

Please return this ballot to:

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111 Cope Administration Building
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Deadline

Monday, March 12, 2007

Classifieds

Marketplace of MTSU

Continued from last column

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Continued from last column

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Continued from last column

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the first two weeks.

Continued next column

OPINIONS

From the Editorial Board SGA fails to represent, interest student body

It's that time of year again. As the semester slouches towards its halfway point, students begin seeing the all-too familiar signs all around campus. No, not spring weather, mid-semester burnout or anything like that. It's the Student Government Association's elections.

It is refreshing to see that year after year, a handful of students are willing to step up and show some interest in improving and maintaining the campus and student life. However, wouldn't it be nice if said candidates represented more than a small portion of the actual student body? Many candidates addressed this issue in their statements, realizing the need to include more people in the SGA from more diverse backgrounds, but no viable solutions seem in sight.

There were also several who talked about connecting with students in order to ensure communication and to precipitate change. The general consensus the SGA seems to have of the MTSU student body is that of a timid group of deeply concerned students who are simply afraid of the daunting SGA machine to speak up and make their voices heard. We regret to inform them that this is simply not the case. The majority of campus does not become involved with the SGA simply because they do not care. It is apathy, not fear or reluctance, that keeps the students from supporting resolutions or engaging in debate. However, in recent semesters, the campus has seen some fine examples of what can occur when that apathy is overcome.

However, once the SGA makes its resolutions and decisions, what actually results from this process? The proposals move to the desks of Student Affairs, where they will either be accepted – most unlikely – or die a terrible and unlamented death, the most common response. This is most unfair. These students have, presumably, worked hard on these issues. It would certainly generate more interest and a more profitable experience for those involved if the SGA was given reasons for the resolution's failure, and allowed to rework them. This, and more actual representation of students, are what could truly create a SGA worth taking seriously.

Capitalism's focus profit, not value of human lives

Conservative attempts to hold back the human papillomavirus vaccine appear to have abated recently. Attesting to this, the Web site of the Family Research Council offered a "clarification" last week to ameliorate remarks it made against the cancer-preventing vaccine in 2005, when it implied if the threat of the disease discourages young people from fornicating, it's not all bad.

Given that such an argument would evidently regard cervical cancer – a possible death sentence for a woman – as an acceptable deterrent for promiscuous sex, it seems like a wise public relations move to soften this hard-line, Christian stance. In fact, given the timing with the recent weakening of the Republican party, I expect that is exactly the case.

It is no accident that much of the agenda of the GOP coincides with that of the fundamental Christian right. Conservative columnist George Will has claimed evangelical Christians as half the party's base, while the other is primarily libertarian. Though Will regards this as a schism, it seems like a fitting match.

It's no surprise that a paragon of morality willing to use the fear of cancer to deter female promiscuity would couple itself with an economic philosophy that cheerfully exports the very miseries it causes, but I'm getting ahead of myself.

The argument for deregulation and privatization – libertarianism in a nutshell – is essentially that, in the absence of government oversight, the economy could grow strong enough to elevate the standard of living for all, via a free market in which competitors profit by besting the products and services of each other and the solutions they offer to consumers.

The problem here is that, simply put, capitalism is about profit first, giving a back seat to quality of human life.

In "A People's History of the United States," Howard Zinn writes extensively on what he calls "the other civil war," which took place throughout the 19th century as workers suffered wage cuts and inhuman working conditions, often resulting in strikes and violent clashes, but rarely leading to significant changes in treatment from their employers.



iscaRIOT

Daniel Potter
Staff Columnist

The government was loathe to intervene with any sort of regulation, so despite the growing wealth of the young nation, for decades countless workers, including children, struggled through long hours on dangerous jobs that kept them in abject poverty and uninhabitable squalor.

In terms of the cruelty the market is willing to heap upon poor workers in order to maximize profitability, little has changed in the last century. Although the United States has implemented laws mandating a minimum wage and safer workplaces, an increasing trend in U.S. companies is to simply export labor to poor countries where such laws do not exist.

Indeed, it's easy to blur the working conditions of the 1800's with those of the current age, albeit in different countries. In her book "No Logo," Naomi Klein writes of the working conditions in modern day export processing zones throughout Asia, describing 12-to-16 hour workdays, wages below subsistence, abusive supervisors and low-skill, tedious work filling orders for U.S. companies.

As stated earlier, the justification for this is the claim that the massive production it enables, unfettered by government regulation, will lead to economic growth and increased wealth for all, offsetting the immediate cost to workers.

This rationale is clearly flawed.

Rather than benefit workers at home with decent wages, profitable American companies maximize their return by exploiting foreign labor. Meanwhile, countries that host such export processing zones are hard-pressed to benefit either, as such operations rarely stay around long enough to be taxed. Rather than spread the wealth, the rich simply get richer.

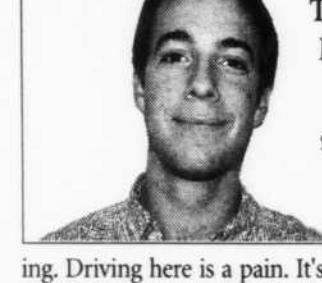
Daniel Potter is a senior journalism major and can be reached at dgp2h@mtsu.edu.



"And Friends"

Frank Hasenmueller

Let Rover provide parking solutions



The Pen is Mightier

Evan Barker
Staff Columnist

Due to the influx of new residents in Murfreesboro, the population has risen above a critical threshold. As of now, Murfreesboro is eligible for federal funding to promote a mass transit system. The new bus system, Rover, will be coming online soon. It's the next step towards Murfreesboro becoming a real city, rather than a strange amalgamation of bedroom communities, high-rent college apartments and seedy pawnshops. This is a great opportunity for you to participate in an important milestone for this city.

However, the MTSU community needs to take steps to make sure that it's not left high and dry when the bus routes are finalized.

As any number of whining students and their Facebook groups will tell you, parking is an obvious problem on our campus. It is common knowledge that if you want to arrive on time for an eight o'clock class, your best bet is to try to reach campus at 7:30. The roads surrounding campus are jammed in the morning, not just by MTSU traffic, but working commuters, and those annoying soccer moms driving their kids to the numerous elementary schools nearby. There never been a whole lot you could do, until now.

Rover is a tremendous opportunity for the students in this town. Even if you think that most regular folks wouldn't be caught dead riding a bus, especially not around Murfreesboro, I think Rover could alleviate some of the traffic problems we face. The problem is that it will require a re-thinking of the way we move from place to place.

Personally, if I could take a city bus to the edge of campus, and walk the same distance as I would from the parking lot, I'd give up driv-

ing. Driving here is a pain. It's time intensive, fuel-consuming, polluting and your car gets whacked by doors in the parking lots. Breakdowns and flat tires keep you from getting to class, and hurt your grades.

Rover would be a far superior way to get to school, because it's just nicer when you're not driving. You can spend time reviewing for your test, or listening to your iPod, because you don't have to concentrate on road-raging your way down Middle Tennessee Boulevard.

In a perfect world, Rover would serve MTSU well. However, we don't live in a perfect world. Student involvement is necessary to ensure that we get the assistance we need in making this a viable substitute to driving.

Bob Nugent is the director of the Rover program. He's been soliciting feedback on how to best structure the bus routes. MTSU students need to make their voices heard. We make up a huge part of the clientele that Rover intends to support. They need to know that we want buses to run close to campus from outlying areas. They need to know that the proposed one-way fare of \$2 is too high for us and that we want affordable prepaid passes, monthly or yearly. They need to know that we want marked bus stops, preferably near our apart-

ments. Mostly, they need to know that if they cater to us, we won't let them down.

The problem with a transportation system like this is that it needs to be effectively dovetailed with other systems for maximum efficiency. If Rover were to drop people off on Rutherford Drive near Greek Row, the MTSU buses could pick them up and bring them into campus. Ditto for the Murphy Center or the parking lots on Bell Street. If it were made reasonably easy to hop on a bus and arrive at campus within a similar time to driving, I think people would ride the bus.

Don't take 'no' for an answer. Murfreesboro owes it to us to help the students out. With a population of approximately 23,000 students, MTSU is 25 percent the size of the entire city. Our students, professors and sporting events pump millions into the local economy. There is a disconnect, however, between the city and the university. Most of the roads around campus, like Clark Blvd, don't even have sidewalks. With conditions like that, and the usually idiotic drivers, walking is not always feasible.

It's time for that to change. Murfreesboro and MTSU can leave the stone-age and enter the ranks of sophisticated locales with efficient transportation, less traffic and cleaner air. Make your voice heard. E-mail Bob Nugent at bnugent@murfreesborotn.gov. Demand the cooperation that we students deserve. Plenty of people whine about transportation, but now you have a choice: keep complaining about parking, or participate in the Rover solution.

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

Letters to the Editor

'Raiders for All' only represents Greeks

To the Editor:

Though the Student Government Association is important to the student body, the recent 'littering' of campus with fliers, yard signs, banners, etc., as well as the absurd number of Facebook groups, is unnecessary and annoying.

With that said, as I was walking through campus last week, I noticed a flier promoting the "Raiders for All" party. After doing some research, and getting even more invites on Facebook, I discovered that every single candidate within the party, both the Executive and Senate candidates, are all Greek.

How can they claim to be for the entire student body when their agenda is obvious, focusing only on supporting the Greek Community? I am by no means 'dissing' the Greek community, but SGA is not the place for an all-Greek party, it is representation for all students.

After this discovery, I will not be supporting any of the candidates in the "Raiders for All" party and will keep my options minimized to the presidential candidates: Chassen Haynes, Lora Hortert, Jonathan Taylor and Megan Richmond, the executive vice president Josh McKenzie and election commissioner Danny Bounds.

Porsche Kristina Piz
Sophomore, organizational communication

Focus on "Party's" outcome, not name

To the Editor:

After reading through Liz Estes' column, "PHC makes light of domestic violence," published in the last issue, and the comments that have been left in response to it on mtsusidelines.com, I can't help but laugh. As an active member of Alpha Chi Omega, who's philanthropy happens to be domestic violence, I [along with my sisters] spend a great deal of our time each semester helping out the local Domestic Violence Shelter here in Murfreesboro.

Along with being a member of Alpha Chi, I am also active on Panhellenic, and I support the Panty Party whole-heartedly. Sure, the name "Panty Party" raised a few eyebrows, but so many times events try to get started on this campus but go unnoticed for lack of publicity. When attempting to start up a new event, it is important to come up with a name and advertising that will get the event out to the students, and this name did just that. At first glance the name might have sounded inappropriate to some, but if those

same people took the time to look into what the party accomplished, maybe they would reevaluate their negative opinions.

I believe it was stated in the previously mentioned column that "bras and panties would be the last thing on women's minds after going through such a traumatic experience." Well, first I would like to say that many donations are sent to the shelter each day by organizations, but most of the time undergarments get overlooked. Sure, those things are quite private, but what most people fail to realize is that some of the women in the shelter leave their homes with nothing but the clothes on their backs and are too scared to go out and shop for themselves once they get to the shelter, or have no money to do it. This event raised over 3,000 items for the shelter, for women and children alike. No matter the name, no matter the advertising, the event did even more than it set out to do. Can't we all just look at the good that this event did for our community?

Jennifer Gibson
Sophomore, undeclared

Column perpetuates cliché, misses point

To the Editor:

I agree with Liz Estes ["PHC makes light of Domestic Violence," Feb. 22] that calling the recent Panhellenic benefit event a "Panty Party" could be considered somewhat disrespectful. As I understand it, however, it was given that title to pique interest and thus generate a better turnout and more donations. Estes is partially correct in her assessment, but a bit hyperbolic in saying that the participants exhibited an "image of insincere concern and flagrant sexism," or that the name of the event "demonstrates this obviously coy therefore superficial regard of this criminal violence and disrespects the honorable work of the domestic violence shelter."

For what it's worth, the vast majority of donations were not articles of underwear, but instead basic necessities such as shampoo, toothpaste and other toiletries. I appreciate her concern, and would consider myself progressive in terms of gender equality; I just wanted to offer a little perspective from one who attended the event and made a sizable donation, since I'd be willing to bet that the columnist didn't make an appearance. You make some valid, important points, Ms. Estes; I just ask that you would stop perpetuating the same old stereotypes and come down off your high horse just a bit.

Casey Brown
Junior, journalism
Sigma Pi Public Relations Chair

Letters Policy

Sidelines welcomes letters to the editor from all readers. Please e-mail letters to slopinfo@mtsu.edu, and include your name and a phone number for verification. *Sidelines* will not publish anonymous letters. We reserve the right to edit for grammar, length and content.

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FEATURES

Alumna moves up in army rank



Photo courtesy of MTSU AROTC

Two of Lt. Col. Karen Johnston Neely's children, Julie Anne, 15 and Daniel, 14, help celebrate their mother's recent promotion pin their mother at a ceremony celebrating her recent promotion in the U.S. Army Reserve in the James Union's Building's Tennessee Room. Neely, MTSU's first female ROTC cadet commander in 1985, is preparing for deployment to Iraq. The journey she is about to embark upon may be dangerous, but Neely and her family are unfailingly proud of her achievements.

By Sarah Lavery

Features Editor

When Karen Johnston Neely woke up a few mornings ago, she started to cry.

Not because she's on the verge of leaving for Iraq or because she was scared of leaving her three children behind.

She was crying because her 15-year-old daughter Julie Anne had changed the screen saver on her computer. The words "Mom, I'm so proud of you. I'm proud of you for defending our country. I'm proud of everything you've done for us," scrolled across the screen.

To Neely, the fact that her family supports her means more than any promotion ever could.

An MTSU alumna, Neely has continually broken ground for women in the military. She was named the first female ROTC cadet commander in 1985 and was recently promoted to lieutenant colonel – an extremely prestigious rank for any soldier, man or woman.

Neely is tough and capable, determined and thick-skinned. Every time she's doubted, she relishes the challenge.

"As a female, you're constantly wondering, 'what [is the other male soldiers'] take on me?' You can see it in their eyes," Neely says. "They'll talk to everyone and come to you, and sometimes they treat you differently. I guess it's human nature but I try to not let that bother me. I try to let them know I'm just like any other [soldier]. And I'll prove I can do the job."

When Neely was at MTSU studying math and biology, she noticed a classmate wandering into her calculus class in an army uniform. Always a fitness fanatic, Neely asked him what the workouts were like.

For most, his answer probably wouldn't sound very appealing: running for miles, countless pushups, stretching your physical, mental and emotional capabilities to their limit.

But it was just what Neely wanted.

She joined in the ROTC's workouts for nearly a year, still more interested in the severity of their strength training than becoming a soldier. Once she attended a basic training in Fort Knox, though, she graduated as top cadet.

Some might argue that the military is no place for a woman. Some might say Neely would have been better off if she'd been satisfied with her degree in math and biology or her master's degree in education. Maybe she should have just stuck to the classroom.

Despite this, Neely – and her three kids – couldn't be prouder of the path she's chosen.

"Just like when we have our first female president," Neely says, "there will be obstacles. I'm sure there will be some people that think women aren't up to par. I had a lot of people that tested me, and I'm sure it was a tougher job at first than it would have been for a man."

With Neely calling the shots, some men thought they could get away with more. Even in the tough-edged, hard-as-nails world of the military, some soldiers thought her gender meant they could goof off.

They didn't know who they were dealing with.

"One time, we were preparing a brief to present to the professor of military science," Neely remembers, "and a lot of the guys just wouldn't show up for

our weekly meetings. They were totally disrespectful. They made light of my position, even in front of the other cadets. But I pulled them aside. I set them straight."

While Neely prepares for her deployment to Iraq, the country's opinion of the war is becoming more and more pessimistic. September 11 might have caused a short-lived sweep of patriotism across the nation, but the images being presented of the war are increasingly negative. Some people think we're in over our heads, the original goal has been lost.

On the verge of deployment, Neely stays focused on her job.

"I try to not pay attention to the politics," she says. "I have a more microview of the war. I wonder to myself, 'how can I help the Iraqis?' When you watch the news, it's negative, it's like we're not successful. But the stories I hear from my friends who are coming back say something different. We are successful, even if it's not in big ways yet. Those seeds that are planted, I believe—I'm confident—are going to create a long-term change. You can't go in there and

expect democracy to grow overnight."

Female presence in the military is growing – it as nearly doubled in the last 20 years – but the idea of women in combat is still debated.

Neely understands the issues that could arise with women and men working together in dangerous missions. Men may still feel an overwhelming need to be the protectors, but she says the nature of the battlefield is changing.

"Women are in combat," she says. "In the battlefield today, there's no such thing as the front line, no such thing as a safe rear area. Dealing with terrorist insurgents, they're so small, the only way they can fight is in little hideouts. They're smart. There is no safe place anymore going to Iraq."

It's clearly a dangerous job, but Neely is sure that without her experience in the army, she wouldn't be the woman she is today. It's given her courage and challenged her in every way possible.

"Whether we're on a 10 mile road march with a 50-pound rucksack on our backs, or exer-

cising for 48 hours with no sleep," she says, "you're emotionally and physically drained. But it has been the part of my life that has always strengthened me."

Neely's confident in her ability to handle the pressure in Iraq – even in such a powerful position as lieutenant colonel – but she still feels a twinge of anxiety at the thought of leaving her family.

Her 10-year-old son, Jonathan, will take it the hardest.

"I'm so excited, so proud, but when you think about what you're leaving," she pauses and thinks of her three children, the most important part of her life. "It's hard. They break down at times."

When she returns from her 14 to 18 month tour of Iraq, she wants to take part in a triathlon. She wants to continue teaching. But most of all, she doesn't want to miss another moment of her children growing up.

"It is tough, and they're scared," she says. "But they're so proud of me. And so am I!" ♦

Students turn to military for options, education

By Derrick McBrearty

Contributing Writer

For young men in Middle Tennessee and the rest of the country, the military seems to be not only a second chance but also a way out of a boring, monotonous routine.

Just one more time to do a better job, start over or find a way out of the everyday struggle is sometimes all it takes for young adults to be shipped off to basic training.

The military lifestyle is not just an alternative to college anymore.

Now, it's a chance to get an education and gather valuable work experience. With branches like the Army offering up to a \$40,000 sign-on bonus, that second chance becomes more of a reality.

With a bachelor's degree, one is eligible to become an officer in the military. With this, a whole other career choice is available for young adults out of college.

For Richard Foran, a graduate of the Marine Corps Officer

Candidate School and a recording industry major, being an officer in the Marines was the way to go.

"I was actually going to go to law school," Foran says. "I just wasn't satisfied with what I was doing. I thought it was time for a change."

Foran will be graduating from MTSU in May 2007. Upon graduating, he will be commissioned as 2nd Lieutenant and will be attending the basic school for the Marine Corps in the fall of 2007.

For others, the military is an opportunity to start over. After failing his first year of college, Airman 1st class Josh McEachern, 20, of Murfreesboro

needed a change from the everyday routine at his Pizza Hut job.

"I wanted to have a life, be successful and see the world," McEachern says. "That, and the girls love the uniform."

Being completely broken down during the first few weeks at basic training and then being rebuilt in the

mindset the military demands is quite a change for some people. For better or worse, these are the people who are defending our country, and it was the decision of a soldier.

Basic training isn't a walk in the park, though. Basic Training – officially called Initial-entry Training – prepares recruits for all elements of service—physical, mental and emotional. It gives servicepeople the basic tools necessary to perform the roles that will be asked of them for the duration of their tour in the military.

Each of the armed services has its own training program, tailoring the curriculum to the specialized nature of its role in the military.

The Army's basic combat training is more than just pushups and mess halls. It's a nine-week-long journey of self-discovery.

According to the Marine Corps official Web site, their training is "meant to separate those capable of being Marines from those who are not."

Though people like Foran enter the ranks of the army in the hopes of getting a fresh start, the path will certainly not be easy. "There is no room for weakness," the Marine Corps boldly states, "[hopefuls] bring with them perceived limits and learn to crush them."

The military is no longer viewed as an outlet for tough guys or people who

couldn't find their niche elsewhere; instead, education and military service have become inextricably linked.

According to the Army's official Web site, servicemembers can receive more than \$70,000 in tuition benefits. In fact, over 30,000 degrees were earned by service personnel in 1999 alone. More than half the enlisted force has some college experience.

And Military offers retired personnel up to \$100/month reimbursement for tutorial assistance; and many military bases even bring in professors from local colleges to teach courses.

Long gone are the days when the military was a man's only job.

Today, approximately 95 percent of all jobs in the military are open to women; the percentage of women serving on active duty in the military has more than doubled since 1978; and women account for close to 20 percent of the U.S. military.

With all of the dangers, grueling physical demands and emotional responsibility being a soldier demands, the benefits seem to overshadow the negatives.

"I have more integrity and I've gotten so much more responsible," Foran says. "I'm in charge of lives now." ♦



Graphic by Chet Overall | Graphic Designer

SPORTS

Lady Raiders finish season undefeated

Feb. 24

FAU 63
MT 76Next Game at Sun Belt
Tournament
March 3

By Cody Gibson

Staff Writer

Middle Tennessee's two starting seniors went out in style as Chrissy Givens recorded 31 points and Krystle Horton had 27 points in the team's 76-63 victory over Florida Atlantic.

The Lady Owls, who only had five wins on the season, stood little chance against Middle Tennessee as they were down by nearly 20 points for the duration of the game.

Except for a number of late scoring runs by FAU, the Lady Owls were clearly out matched.

Saturday's game was clearly about history in the making as the Lady Raiders tied the school record for most wins in a season.

The biggest stat of the game was the ability of the Lady Raiders to continue to score points off the other team's mistakes.

The Owls went on a 11-2 run in the second half to pull within 12 points of tying the game, but the Lady Raiders continued to pull away.

As MT got 16 points off 18 turnovers from FAU.

Middle Tennessee proved how easy it was for them to take advantage of other team's mistakes.

Horton had 27 points and 10 rebounds for her 14th career double-double.

Givens scored 31 points and had five rebounds. She finished with three assists and three steals on the night.

Head coach Rick Insell had nothing but praise for Givens and Horton as the team went out on top even with the sub-par offensive effort.

"You couldn't have scripted it any better," Insell said. "You've got two kids that have played such a big part in Lady Raider Basketball history, and to come out today and do what they did is just another chapter in their book."

Givens believes that this season has ended just like her career at Middle Tennessee started as a dream come true.

"The records we've broken, the things we've done, I just don't want to wake up," Givens said. "Everything is just coming and coming, and it's something we never would have expected."

Starr Orr finished the game with nine rebounds and scored seven points. Orr got four assists and four steals.

This was the Lady Raiders' 18th straight conference victory allowing Middle Tennessee to pass Louisiana Tech's winning record of 17 wins. ♦

It wasn't easy, but the Lady Raiders finally subdued the scrappy Lady Trojans on Thursday night by a score of 68-60.

Middle Tennessee struggled in the first half, and it took a tremendous run in the second half to break the tie and the momentum of Troy.

Givens willed the Lady Raiders to victory with her 31 points and 13 rebounds on the evening.

This was Givens' best game of the season statistically as she picked up six steals and a couple of assists.

Horton had another double-double as she picked up 10 rebounds to go along with her 14 points. Amber Holt also reached double digits again with 14 points.

Coach Insell believed that the team's will and determination was the difference in the end as the Lady Raiders prevailed with their strong second half.

"The big thing was when we got behind eight or nine points, we didn't panic," Insell said. "We came back, cut it to three at half-time. They scored right after half-time, and then we shut them down the rest of the way. There wasn't anyone who didn't have a hand in this victory."

The Lady Raiders continue their dream season in Lafayette, La., at the Cajundome for the Sun Belt Conference Tournament.

MT will be waiting to see who they will be playing against in the quarterfinals on March 3. ♦

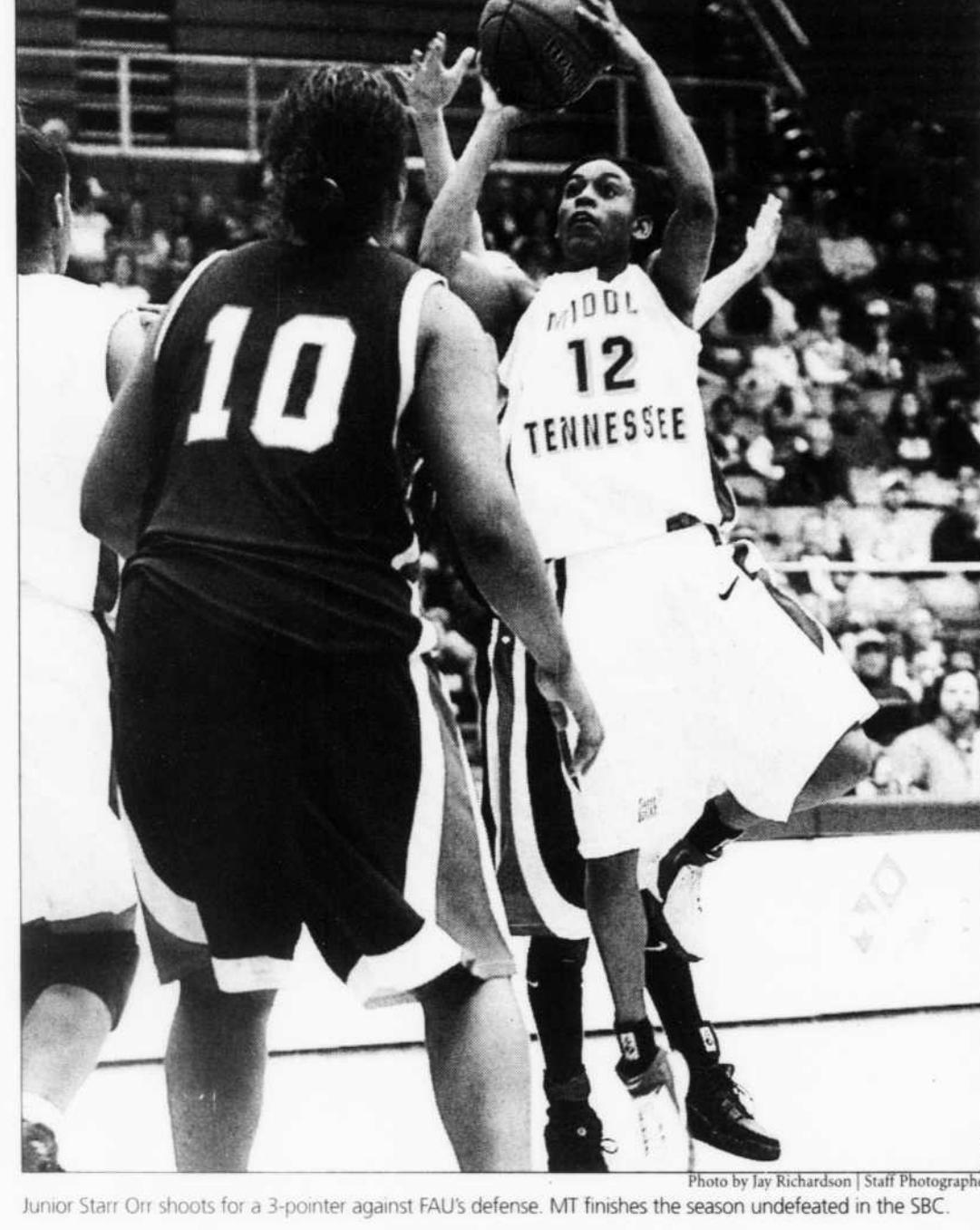


Photo by Jay Richardson | Staff Photographer

Junior Starr Orr shoots for a 3-pointer against FAU's defense. MT finishes the season undefeated in the SBC.

Men's basketball sends seniors out in style

Saturday, Feb. 24

FAU 59
MT 79Next Game at Troy,
Mar. 3

By Wesley Mize

Staff Writer

The Blue Raider men's basketball team ended its regular season on a high note as they sent the seniors off with a 79-59 home victory over Florida Atlantic on last Saturday.

Seniors Kyle Young and Tim Blue were honored before the game for their contributions over the last four years, and they also managed to contribute quite nicely on their last appearance on the Murphy Center floor.

MT (13-16, 8-10) came out of the gates quickly as they went on a 14-3 first half run to distance themselves from the Owls.

The Blue Raiders shot 56 percent in the first half and went into the locker room with a 36-28 advantage.

"We got into a great rhythm," said Blue Raider head coach Kermit Davis. "People were moving around and setting screens and getting open, which helped us a lot. Our guards were able to find those open players, and then those guys hit the shots."

The starting guard trio of Kevin Kanaskie, Nigel Johnson and Calvin O'Neil had a season-best 19:1 assist to turnover ratio

for the game.

Many of the assists came off of dribble penetration followed by a kick out to the open player.

"Our guards were really able to get us good looks off the penetration," Blue said. "We got most of our points when the guards were able to get in the paint and then dish it off to us."

Blue, who tallied 14 points and seven assists in his final home game, was able to get many of his baskets off Kanaskie assists.

Kanaskie had 11 assists for the evening making him the first player in MT history to reach double-figure assists three times in a season.

Kanaskie became the first player in Middle Tennessee history to lead the team in scoring, assists and 3-point shooting in the same season.

Young put together a nice game in his last appearance inside the Murphy Center.

He scored eight points before fouling out with seven minutes remaining.

His eight points were part of 34 scored in the paint for MT.

The Owls (15-14, 10-8) came into this game as the hottest team in the Sun Belt winning five straight games.

Sun Belt Player of the Week Carlos Monroe was held to only five shot attempts by the Blue Raider defense.

The win ended a five game losing streak for Middle. The 79 points for MT is a season-best, and they will look to continue the hot shooting into the conference tournament.

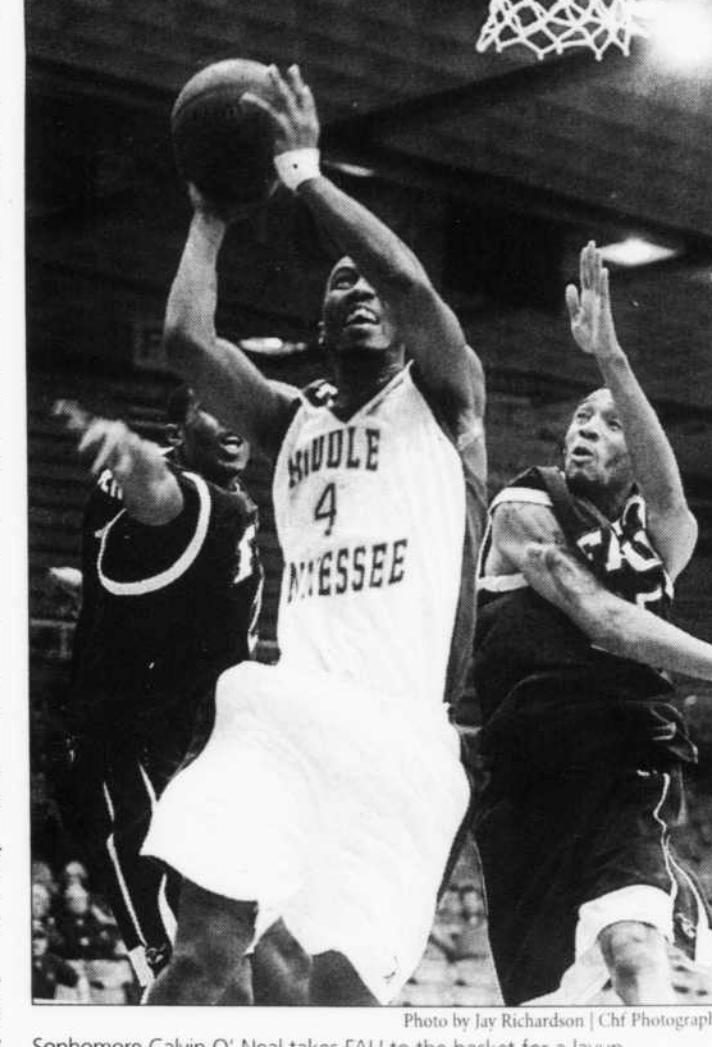


Photo by Jay Richardson | Chf Photographer

"I think the win was great timing," Blue said. "It was our last regular season game. We had lost five straight, and to get that last win before going to the tournament gives us a little momentum."

The Blue Raiders will travel to Troy to take on the Trojans in

the first round of the conference tournament this Wednesday.

A victory for MT will send the Raiders onto Louisiana-Lafayette to continue the conference tournament, while a loss would end Middle's season. ♦

I AM Sportacus

J. Owen Shipley
Staff Columnist

A storybook ending to fairy-tale season

A fairy tale isn't possible without a touch of drama. No one ever wrote a children's book about the show time Lakers or Lombardi's Packers.

These teams were never in danger of being overwhelmed by giants or demons. They were the giants. A fairy tale season can only be done by a team whose run appears to be magical, a team which rises above their conference, their injuries and their past to prove they have the heart it takes to change the status quo.

This senior class of the Lady Raiders has definitely been a Cinderella squad. No matter how far they go in March, these seniors have already clinched the Sun Belt for the fourth straight season. A school that, once again, hasn't been renowned for athletics found a group of girls with enough talent and heart to forever alter the image of Middle Tennessee basketball.

Saturday's Senior Night game was the ultimate end to that story.

"You couldn't have scripted it any better," said head coach Rick Insell.

MT only needed to repeat the 30-point shellacking they handed to FAU in January to secure the best season in Sun Belt Conference history. It looked like a perfect ending was guaranteed for this senior squad in their final game at the Glass House.

Then, something went wrong. Some how, this team that had been shooting well all season missed 34 shots in the first half alone. Combined with at least 10 air balls, six blocks and several bad calls by the referees, the dominance of the Lady Raiders was starting to look a little bit more like an old wives' tale than a Cinderella story.

"I think the second half against Troy, and then the FAU game is the best we've played all season on offense," Davis said. "We've been getting great guard play and our guys are beginning to knock down shots that they were missing earlier in the season."

In the end, MT missed 52 shots, including a 2-16 per-

formance behind the arc. They shot worse than any team I have ever seen in person, and yet, they won.

That's right, they won. They missed more shots than their opponents took, and they still won against a very determined FAU squad with their hearts as their only asset.

Seniors Chrissy Givens and Krystle Horton were the heroines in this hard luck tale, but Givens was as much a part of the problem in the first half as anyone with 3-of-14 shooting.

Horton, on the other hand, was perfect from the get-go.

Her 6-for-6 shooting accounted for half of MT's made field goals.

In fact, in a half where she shot 100 percent – including free throws, her teammates were 6-of-40 from the field.

Not to be outdone, Givens came out on fire in the second half to finish the game with 31 points, three assists and three steals. By the time the game had ended, Givens and Horton were only five points away from outscoring the entire FAU squad.

"I've always said it's like a fairy-tale story," Givens said. "I don't want to wake up."

So how did MT win after missing nearly 60 shots? They played tough, tough defense. FAU may have shot well, but they didn't get to shot often.

MT had 45 rebounds, 18 steals, and 31 points off

turnovers. They flustered FAU so badly they were throwing passes into the stands like it was free-basketball night.

"We're not pleased with the play," Insell said "but we are pleased with the win. Believe it or not, we're gonna have some shooting drills [next week]."

The glitz and glamour of senior night could have been a reason for the lax shooting, but at least one player, Horton, wasn't distracted. Her flawless

Sun Belt Conference tournament preview

By Wesley Mize

Staff Writer

The Middle Tennessee men's basketball team travels to Troy on Wednesday in the first round of the Sun Belt Conference Tournament.

The Blue Raiders have lost to Troy twice this season, but as the old basketball saying goes, it is hard to beat a team three times in one season.

The Blue Raiders (13-16, 8-10) were pounded at home in its first meeting with Troy by a score of 71-57. The Trojans trailed at half-time but went on to shoot 54 percent in the second half including

8-12 from beyond the arc.

Middle traveled to Troy last Thursday in its next-to-last regular season game and fell to the Trojans 73-70.

The Blue Raiders trailed going into half-time before coming out in the second half to close the gap, but only to fall short by three points.

Troy (13-16, 8-10) is led by O'Darien Basset, averages 15 points per game. Basset is one of the five Trojans averaging double-figures in scoring. Second leading scorer Richard Chaney was the leading scorer in both games against Middle. He scored

15 points in the first meeting and added one more point in the most recent contest.

"They've got six guys that are capable of scoring 20 points," Blue said. "The Blue Raiders reached its season-high in points with 79 in that game. Coach Davis feels the offense is preparing for them because they are all so good. We've seen them twice this season so we have an idea what to expect but it's still a challenge."

Kevin Kanaskie leads Middle in scoring, assists, and three-point shooting for the season. He is the first player in school history to lead the Blue Raiders in each of those categories in the same sea-

son.

MT is coming into the tournament off a win at home versus Florida Atlantic. The Blue Raiders reached its season-high in points with 79 in that game. Coach Davis feels the offense is reaching its stride at this point in the season.

"I think the second half against Troy, and then the FAU game is the best we've played all season on offense," Davis said. "We've been getting great guard play and our guys are beginning to knock down shots that they were missing earlier in the season."

In the end, MT missed 52 shots, including a 2-16 per-

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Middle Tennessee State University

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Basketball: Tournament

Continued from 6

"I think the second half against Troy, and then the FAU game is the best we've played all season on offense," Davis said. "We've been getting great guard play, and our guys are beginning to knock down shots that they were missing earlier in the season."

Troy defeated South Alabama

on Saturday in overtime to clinch the eighth seed, the last seed able to host a first round game, thus knocking MT out of hosting the first round.

A victory for MT will send the Raiders onto Louisiana-Lafayette to continue the conference tournament, while a loss would end Middle Tennessee's season.

Tip-off is at 7 p.m. at Troy. ♦

Sun Belt Conference 2007 Men's basketball tournament

Top 3 seeds receive first round byes
USA: 1st seed - east division champion best overall winning pct
ASU: 2nd seed - west division champion
WKU: 3rd seed - best winning pct. for non-division champion

Lower seeds include:

Louisiana-Monroe 4th seed	North Texas 5th seed
Florida Atlantic 6th seed	New Orleans 7th seed
Troy 8th seed	Middle Tennessee 9th seed
Arkansas-Little Rock 10th seed	Florida International 11th seed
Louisiana-Lafayette 12th seed	Denver 13th seed

Five first-round games will be held on different campus sites on Wednesday, Feb. 28 and then the tournament moves to Lafayette, Louisiana for quarter-final action on Sunday.

March 4. Quarter-final games

The men's championship game is live on ESPN2.

Wednesday, February 28

First Round (Campus Sites)

Denver (13) at Louisiana-Monroe (4)
Louisiana-Lafayette (12) at North Texas (5)
Florida International (11) at Florida Atlantic (6)
UALR (10) at New Orleans (7)
Middle Tennessee (9) at Troy (8)

Sunday, March 4 (Quarter-Finals)

Game 1 - 12:30 p.m., USA (1) vs. MTSU/Troy winner
Game 2 - 3:00 p.m., Denver/ULM vs. ULL/North Texas winner.
Game 3 - 6:30 p.m., ASU (2) vs. UALR/UNO winner.
Game 4 - 9:00 p.m., WKU (3) vs. FIU/FAU winner

Monday, March 5 (Semi-Finals)

Game 5 - 6:30 p.m., Winner of Game 1 and Game 2
Game 6 - 9:00 p.m., Winner of Game 3 and Game 4

Tuesday, March 6 (Championship)

Game 7 - 8:00 p.m., Winner of Game 5 and Game 6

MTSU WAVE RAIDERS

2007 Dixie Zone Short Course Yards Championships -

Auburn, Ala.

Feb. 17-18, 2007

Event Name Time Place

100 Intermediate

Chad Farmer 1:00 2

James Brendle 1:06.07 8

50 Freestyle

Luke Robbins :27.12 3

James Brendle :26.56 1

Hap Parsons :24.30 4

100 Breaststroke

James Brendle 1:15.65 1

Hap Parsons 1:18.15 2

200 Freestyle

Chad Farmer 2:00.05 3

James Brendle 2:17 9

50 Butterfly

Chad Farmer :27.41 6

James Brendle :29.62 9

Hap Parsons :28.53 DQ

500 Freestyle

Chad Farmer 5:52.06 1

James Brendle 5:59.56 2

Luke Robbins 6:48.84 3

50 Backstroke

Hap Parsons :30.78 2

200 Breaststroke

James Brendl 2:40.43 1

100 Freestyle

James Brendle :57.75 6

Chad Farmer :50.13 1

Hap Parsons :55.71 5

50 Breaststroke

James Brendle :33.06 1

Hap Parsons :34.27 1

100 Butterfly

Chad Farmer :57.78 1

James Brendle 1:07.89 4

8 = First Places
1 = Fifth Places
2 = Ninth Places
4 = Second Places
2 = Sixth Places
3 = Third Places
Total Team Points = 14
2 = Fourth Places
1 = Eight Places
Total Points - Men

Chad Farmer = 43 pts. 1st in 18-24 age group
James Brendle = 40 pts. 3rd in 18-24 age group
Hap Parsons = 32pts. 5th in 25-29 age group
MTSU Masters Swim Club "Wave Raiders" Place 4th At The 2007 Dixie Zone Short Course Championship Four MTSU men finished 4th out of 14 medium sized teams for a total of 145 points. A total of 27 teams competed with 177 athletes.

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Sportacus: Storybook

Continued from 6

first half and eventual double-double secured the final game of their perfect conference run.

"I'm glad that I didn't come out nervous after all that senior stuff," Horton said after the game.

Horton's consistency has been a hallmark of MT's fairy tale season, and Givens' spirit has delivered the killing blow in many a second half. Their final game at the Glass House

really was a storybook ending to an amazing regular season.

Their legacies solidified, Givens and Horton look forward to leading this team as far into the post season as their heart and talent can bring them, and I look forward to watching. ♦

J. Owen Shipley is a senior (ish) English major and can be reached at Myspace.com/lamsportacus.

Did you catch that awesome game over the weekend?

It was so amazing.

A MTSU team won a National Championship.

Guess what?

We missed the game.

No reporters.

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Come to Mass Comm room 269. Staff meetings Monday at 6p.m.

**THURSDAY NIGHTS
5-on-5 Basketball Scores**

MEN'S A LEAGUE 10 p.m.

Roger's Team 35
Old School 66

Project Exposure 71

Desperate Housewives 41

RUF 46

Trifecta 60

**THURSDAY NIGHT SCORES
INDOOR SOCCER**

CO-REC B LEAGUE 6-7 p.m.

Effin All-Stars 7
NE SouthCentral Unt'd 3

CO-REC A LEAGUE (8-11 p.m.)

Felder 1st & Friends 11

Red Wings 8

CO-REC A LEAGUE (8-11 p.m.)

Blue Crew 5

Who Cares 3

Showtime @ the Apollo 14

Off Constantly 2

Hot Pockets 8

Sumerica FC 5

Penguins 10

Azzuri 7

WOMEN'S OPEN 7-8 p.m.

Lady Devils 49

Front Desk 44

Lady Dallas 34

Lady Hoopaz 49

Angela's team Default

Lady Lyons Win

Area II 42

High School ALum 44

MEN'S B LEAGUE 8-9 p.m.

Army ROTC 11

Make It Rain 43

Effin All-Stars 68

Spikes Team 40

Air Ballers 41

Vundalay Ind. 54

Primetime 50

A-L-L-S-T-A-R-Z 48

The Core 25

The Grovers 47

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**Application Deadline is
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For more information, contact:

Dr. Deana Raffo
Director of Leadership Development
Keathley University Center 306
(615)-898-5786
draffo@mtsu.edu

For more information, including criteria and applications, please visit www.mtsu.edu/~mtleader.

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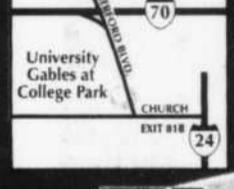
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(MTSU Staff and Faculty Are Eligible)
- 2. Bob Womack Distinguished Faculty Award**
(MTSU Faculty Are Eligible)
- 3. Johnna L. Pearcy Community Service Award**
(MTSU Students Are Eligible)

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