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ONLINE

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Middle Tennessee State University

# SIDELINES

An editorially independent newspaper

MURFREESBORO, TENNESSEE

Volume 76 No. 96

www.mtsusidelines.com

## Campus Briefs

### Investment workshop held in BAS tonight

The African-American will hold an investment workshop tonight from 7 to 9 in Business and Aerospace Building, Room S305.

Shawn Johnson, an investment representative from Edward Jones Investments, will be making a presentation on getting started in investing and managing money.

For more information, call Ernest Miser at 898-4302.

### Liebman to perform with Jazz Orchestra

Saxophonist David Liebman will be performing with the Middle Tennessee Jazz Orchestra tomorrow at 7:30 p.m. in the Music Hall of the Wright Music Building.

Liebman, who has performed with such notables as Miles Davis and Elvin Jones, will play selections from his compositions, one of which will feature MTSU saxophone professor Don Aliquo.

For more information, call 898-2724.

### Piano duo to perform Gershwin selections

Elaine Harriss and Allison Nelson will perform "At the Opera With Two Pianos" at 3 p.m. Sunday in the Music Hall of the Wright Music Building.

The concert will include selections from Percy Grainger's arrangements of songs from George Gershwin's Porgy and Bess, including "Summertime," "I Ain't Necessarily So," and "It Ain't Plecterly No."

The performance is free and open to the public. For more information, contact Tim Musselman at 898-2493.

### Coffee hour held for international students

International Programs and Services will be holding an International Student Coffee Hour Nov. 14 from 4 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Students, faculty and staff are invited to enjoy refreshments and the opportunity to converse with international and American students and faculty. The event will be held in the Hazelwood Dining Room of the James Union Building. For more information, call 898-2238.

### Forum to focus on 'What is terrorism?'

The Middle Tennessee College for Peace, along with Middle Tennessee Solidarity, is sponsoring a forum titled "What is terrorism?"

Speaking will be Amy Staples, history; Michael Principe, philosophy; and Andy "Sunfrog" Smith, an alternative journalist and adjunct professor at MTSU and Tennessee Tech. The speakers will discuss international and domestic issues regarding terrorism.

The forum, which is Monday in the James Union Building, Room 202 at 3:30 p.m., is free and open to the public. For more information, call Staples at 898-2569 or Principe at 898-2048.

## Adjuncts petition McPhee for more benefits

By Lindsey Turner  
News Editor

MTSU's adjunct and part-time faculty are calling attention to their lack of benefits and equal pay.

Amy Staples, professor of history and president of MTSU's chapter of the American Association of University Professors, is a

national group of university faculty, graduate students and administrators — delivered a petition Monday to President Sidney McPhee, calling for "equitable, proportional compensation for all contingent faculty" along with other benefits such as university-provided health and life insurance and retirement contributions.

McPhee said he would

review the requests to see what is financially feasible for the university during the ongoing state budget discussions involving the possibility of raising taxes or cutting spending.

However, the problem with contingent faculty benefits neither begins nor ends at MTSU. It begins at a higher level.

"We are paying our adjuncts at the rate set by the [Tennessee

Board of Regents]," he said.

Because contingent faculty comprise around 33 percent of MTSU's professors, and because they carry many of the same responsibilities as full-time professors, Staples said they deserve the same benefits.

"People doing equal work deserve equal pay," she said.

McPhee said it's not easy to compare part-time faculty with

full-time faculty.

Currently, MTSU's 270 adjuncts don't have access to university-provided health or life insurance, longevity pay or retirement packages, and they make \$20 per student hour on average, whereas full-time professors make \$104 on average, according to a Faculty Senate

See Adjunct, 2

## Suspicious powder found in post office

By Jason Cox and Scott Laming  
Assistant News Editor and Staff Writer

A suspicious powder found in the MTSU post office Monday morning has closed the post office and left university officials waiting for answers.

According to Gary Farley, assistant chief of the Murfreesboro Fire Department, the MFD received a call from a postal employee at approximately 9:45 a.m. Monday regarding a suspicious white substance found on some mail in a table in the post office, located on the first floor of the Keathley University Center.

MTSU Police closed and evacuated the first floor and turned off the building's ventilation system. MFD brought in its Hazardous Materials team, which sent two workers into the building, Farley said.

The workers cleaned the table and the area surrounding it with bleach and placed the powder and mail that had come in contact with it in biohazard containers.

The workers were in biohazard suits, which is a precautionary method to protect the firefighters," Farley said.

These items were sent via an MTSU police car to the Tennessee Department of Public Health laboratory in Nashville for testing. These tests have yet to be completed and a TDPH official, citing department policy, declined comment.

Sidney McPhee, MTSU president, said the post office will remain closed until tests have been performed and the results are reported; however, outgoing mail will be metered at a temporary location inside the former Telecom Warehouse on

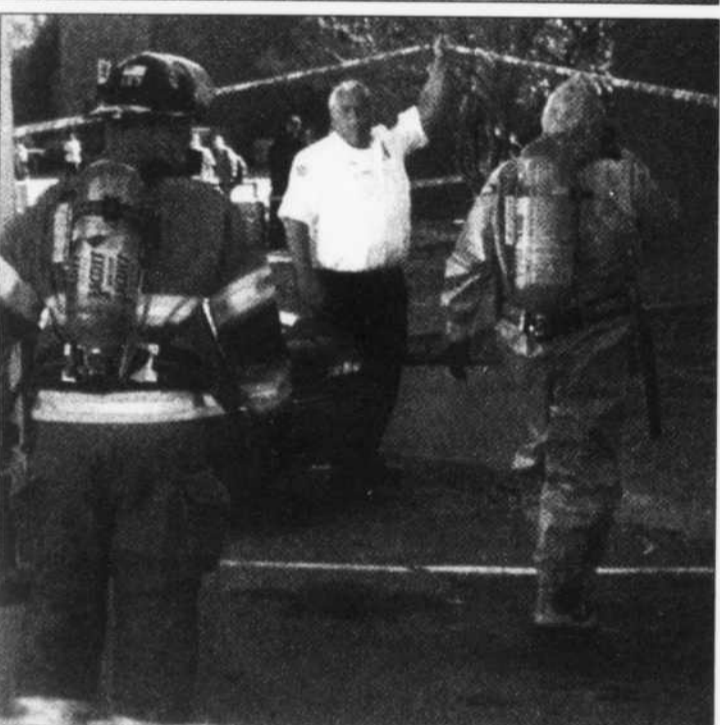


Photo by Matthew H. Starling | Photo Editor

(Above) The MTSU Post Office, Phillips Bookstore and first-floor offices sit empty and blocked off Monday morning after officials discovered a white powder on some mail and evacuated students and employees.

Photo by Scott Laming | Staff

(Right) Murfreesboro firefighters get suited up to retrieve the reportedly contaminated pieces of mail.



campus.

"It takes [lab technicians] 48 hours to do the required testing," McPhee said. He is expecting to hear from them today.

McPhee said the tests and closure of the post office were merely precautionary measures, and the post office will be reopened immediately if the materials test negative for anthrax. When MFD officials arrived, the postal employees were standing just outside the

KUC.

The employees were isolated in a conference room on the first floor and were released once the area was decontaminated. The first floor was reopened yesterday.

McPhee said no university employees were tested for anthrax.

Operations at other post offices in Murfreesboro have not been affected.

## Recycling program thrives

By Kelly Smith  
Contributor

A part of campus since 1972, MTSU's recycling program has attempted to conserve resources while raising environmental awareness on campus.

Patrick Doyle, an MTSU biology professor, has headed the program since it first began. He received a Lifetime Achievement Award from the Tennessee Department of Conservation in 1998 for his hard work and dedication to the project. He also received the nation's highest honor for volunteer service, the President's Service Award, which was presented to him last year at the White House.

The MTSU program began by recycling only mixed paper and has since added aluminum

cans and white office paper.

Since its inception, the program's volunteers have recycled 11 million pounds of newspaper, 1.3 million pounds of office paper and 218,400 pounds of aluminum cans, Doyle said.

Although the recycling program has no budget on which to rely, its hard-working students and volunteers are a valuable resource to the program and more volunteers are always needed.

"It is the lack of perception and habit that makes students and others not participate in the program," Doyle said, adding that if students and faculty realized the incredible benefits recycling offers, they would be more willing to participate.

For example, he explained, every recycled aluminum can saves enough energy to run a

television set for three hours instead of burning 141 pounds of coal.

Also, Doyle said, all of the recycling program's proceeds go toward student scholarships, which have totaled \$450,000 since the program first began. The majority of these scholarships are given in honor of MTSU.

Although the program has many benefits, it has only a few students who help recycle weekly and only a handful of volunteers who lend time every once in a while, Doyle said.

Tony Partida, an MTSU senior, works for the program and said students and faculty are helpful with recycling, but the program needs more help.

"We could definitely use

See Recycling, 2

## Women's Health Clinic to offer new options

By Angelica Journagin  
Staff Writer

MTSU Health Services is expanding its services to include women's health and birth control, beginning tomorrow.

One of the services that the new Women's Health Clinic will offer is a yearly Pap smear. Women over the age of 18 or women who are sexually active are suggested to have a Pap smear once a year to detect precancerous cells in the cervix.

The clinic also will offer the birth control pill, Depo-Provera, and Lunelle injections for patients as a means of birth control. The Pill is the most common form of birth control and involves taking a pill 21 days. It is 96 to 99 percent effective

at preventing pregnancy.

Depo-Provera and the recently released Lunelle are both injections that are 99 percent effective. Depo-Provera involves having a physician administer injections every three months. Lunelle has to be administered every month but its effects don't last as long after the patient stops taking injections. It is mainly geared toward women who want to get pregnant in the near future.

The yearly Pap smears will cost \$40 if the patient doesn't have insurance. With insurance, health services will require a \$10 collection fee so they can have the results processed in a lab.

The contraceptive prices will

See Clinic, 2



## Adjunct: Role has changed

**Continued from I**  
 report. They don't have access to the Campus Recreation Center and don't get discounts on MTSU sporting event tickets. Staples, a full-time, tenure-track professor, said the issue concerns more than just contingent faculty. "Full-time professors see it as a threat to their profession" because universities might opt to hire cheaper contingent faculty as opposed to expensive, tenure-track professors, she said. The role of contingent faculty has changed throughout the years, Staples said. "Traditionally, when con-

tingent faculty came into use, it was primarily to bring someone to campus based on life experiences.... [They] weren't interested in being college professors," she said. An example of true contingency is Al Gore teaching a class, she said. In the past 10 years, many universities have tipped the scales in favor of hiring contracted professors, but most do not treat the adjuncts equally, she said. To raise awareness of the drawbacks adjuncts must face, the AAUP organized Campus Equity Week, held Oct. 28 through Nov. 3. To find out more information about contingency benefits, visit their Web site at [www.aaup.org](http://www.aaup.org).

## Clinic: Birth control offered

**Continued from I**  
 range from \$10 to \$15 per cycle. The implementation this fall of a student health fee as part of the general access fee has enabled Health Services to expand, said Richard Chapman, director of MTSU Health Services. "We've had had a lot of requests from students for these services," he said. Pre-physical therapy sophomore Lindsey Hollis said that, while she will not be going to the clinic personally, she thinks it is a good idea. "I do think that it would be more accommodating for students if the price was lower," she added.

Health services already has increased their nursing staff and have plans to hire another to physician and nurse practitioner. While health services will not be hiring a gynecologist, health services physicians and nurse practitioners are allowed to administer the exams. Health services currently accepts cash, checks and Raider funds, and plans on adding a credit card option soon. The clinic will be open Thursdays and Fridays from 8 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. and 2 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. by appointment only. Students and faculty can schedule appointments by calling MTSU Health Services at 898-2988. ♦

## Recycling: Doyle to retire

**Continued from I**  
 more volunteers," Partida said. Because volunteers for the MTSU recycling program also collect goods to be recycled at off-campus locations, including several area car dealerships, Rep. Bart Gordon's office, the Murfreesboro Water Department and other county offices, the need for more participation is crucial for more success, Partida said. "I've enjoyed working for the recycling program and recommend it to students who need part-time jobs and don't mind hard work," Partida added. Doyle says he hopes students will participate more in the future. "I think they have to have the mindset to recycle

responsibly and reflexively," he said. Doyle will retire from MTSU in July 2002 and his replacement in the recycling program will be Jeff Leblond and Matt Elrod-Erickson, both faculty members in the biology department. Because of the tremendous efforts Doyle has put into building a successful program, neither Leblond nor Elrod-Erickson plan to change the way the program operates. "We will strive to keep people aware of the difference they can make by recycling their office paper and aluminum cans," Leblond said. Students and faculty are encouraged to help the recycling program and its efforts. For volunteer information, please call 898-2069 or 898-2847. ♦

# POLITICAL UPHEAVAL

## From the left

### "War" on drugs violates constitutional rights

By Angela White  
 Staff Columnist

Our government likes to fight vague, pointless "wars." It feeds on the public's instinctual need for a safe environment, promising an unattainable habitat free of the dangers of human nature. While striving for such an environment, the government quietly strips away our constitutional rights to privacy and personal autonomy, a loss most of the brainwashed public believes is necessary to ensure survival.

The War on Drugs is one such battle. The government has taken it upon itself to punish people for activities that can ultimately only be harmful to themselves. Unlike rape, murder, and robbery - crimes committed against other people - drug use is a private act. The Department of Justice's argument that drug use causes crime is inadequate at best. Alcohol, MAO inhibitors, nicotine and other mind-altering legal drugs affect people's moods and actions, possibly causing them to commit crimes in the process. Yet they are not illegal.

But people aren't afraid of alcoholics and smokers. They're afraid of crackheads and people jumping out of windows while on LSD trips. They're afraid that if drugs are legalized, they'd affect people's ability to be productive at work, be freely peddled to children at every street corner and cause a strain on the welfare system as an increasing number of low-income citizens become addicted. News flash: This is already happening, and the "war" is making it worse.

The government's answer to drug addiction is not to seek help for the addicted but to alienate them from society. More than half of all police resources in this country, including prison space, is wasted on people prosecuted and convicted of drug crimes, according to the American Civil Liberties Union. Anti-drug legislation and minimum sentencing requirements has made the United States the world's leading jailer of its own citizens.

The Department of Education denies financial aid to students convicted of the possession or selling of drugs through the Higher Education Act. Students who are convicted but who can still afford to go to college are not affected - it is those dependent upon financial aid to make better lives for themselves who are forbidden to do so. Society has judged them as part of an "untouchable" sect unworthy of a second chance. Students convicted of crimes like rape and murder may, of course, still receive federal aid.

As does much of our government legislation, anti-drug laws disproportionately affects minorities. Although drug use rates among whites and minorities are similar, African-Americans make up more than 62 percent of convictions and more than 70 percent of incarcerations for drug possession, according to the ACLU. Our society has placed minorities in a cycle of poverty, re-enforced by the incarceration of parents and other family breadwinners, the reduction in welfare and financial aid opportunities and the resulting abandoned, destitute children who turn to drugs as an escape, only to be arrested.

Instead of giving desperately needed help to the addicted, the government chooses instead to turn a deaf ear and blind eye as it throws away the prison key. The DOJ argues that the criminalization of drug use is the only way to end it - legalization would only increase availability of and access to drugs, as well as increase use and addiction.

In some aspects, the DOJ is correct - legalization would most likely increase the supply of drugs entering the market and may even increase demand. However, government regulation would be enforced, ensuring quality control and thus preventing many of the hard-core drugs on the black market today. When Prohibition took place in the '20s, beer and wine were replaced with more concentrated liquors as people sought to purchase the same amount of alcohol in a smaller container easier to hide from authorities. Legalization of drugs would mean the replacement of dangerous, potent drugs with quality-controlled, government-regulated drugs. Just as the government regulates tobacco and alcohol production, drug producers would finally face product scrutiny, a far better use of government labor and funds than the invasion of citizens' constitutional rights through mandatory drug testing, asset forfeiture laws and racial profiling.

The de-potency of drugs would also lead to fewer addicts, as well as more scientific tests to discover means to alleviate the negative symptoms and addictive effects of drugs. Crime associated with "turf wars" would decrease. Children will actually no more access to drugs as they do to legal alcohol and cigarettes.

Unfortunately, this is an unrealistic utopia, at least for now. The Bush administration is no more likely to legalize drugs than any other administration has been. The Moral Majority is sharply against most victimless "crimes," including drug use, prostitution and most forms of pornography. It can't see the difference between these and crimes that harm others. Innocents will continue to be punished. ♦

## From the right

### The War on Drugs: Bipartisanship at its worst

By Jeremy Davis  
 Staff Columnist

Stereotypes, lies and finger pointing dominate the information given to the public regarding drug prohibition in the United States. Here are a few examples:

Drugs cause crime. Wrong, black markets cause crime. Marijuana usage leads to harder drugs. Wrong, there is not one study to back up that statement. Marijuana is more dangerous than alcohol and tobacco. Wrong, alcohol and tobacco lead to thousands of deaths a year; marijuana has never been proven to kill anybody. Drug abuse is mostly an inner-city problem. Wrong, most drug use is among middle to upper income white suburbia.

All Republicans want to make prohibition laws tougher. Wrong, there numerous prominent Republicans and conservatives who favor decriminalization like Gov. Johnson of New Mexico, Gov. Pataki of New York, columnist William F. Buckley, Jr. and editor of the *National Review*, Rich Lowry to name a few.

All Democrats want to ease restrictions on drug usage and end racial profiling in law enforcement. Wrong, Clinton took the arrest numbers of the Reagan-Bush years and doubled them. The number of African-Americans in prison for drug charges increased dramatically during the Clinton administration, according to a study by the Justice Policy Institute. No president has been tougher on drug users than Bill Clinton. Let's face it - the War on Drugs has been a bipartisan domestic policy nightmare from day one. Woodrow Wilson presided over the beginning of drug and alcohol prohibition, Franklin Roosevelt made marijuana illegal in 1937, Richard Nixon ignored his advisers who wanted him to end marijuana prohibition, Ronald Reagan turned up the heat in the 1980s and told us to "Just Say No" and Bill Clinton won first place for abuses of law enforcement.

Every president since Wilson is guilty. We should forget blame, scrap the current laws and begin an honest dialogue to come up with a strategy to fight drug abuse that is fact-based and effective.

Government studies from the 1972 commission on marijuana, the American Medical Association, the National Academy of Sciences and the Department of Health and Human Services prove marijuana is no worse than alcohol and tobacco and most users never use any other drug. For some reason the Office of National Drug Control Policy and the Drug Enforcement Administration never got the message. To get marijuana out of the hands of teenagers put it behind the counter at Mapco and tax it. When was the last time you saw a 13-year-old buy a case of beer with a fake ID? It doesn't happen because people are watching them. Drug dealers don't card and will sell to anybody who's got the money.

Hard drug addiction is a disease that should be treated like a disease. Alcoholics get treatment programs and heroin addicts get locked up with huge guys named Tiny who are experts in murder and thievery. Is that fair?

Illegal narcotics should be produced and regulated by government and administered to addicts at licensed treatment clinics. That would be easily affordable if the government ends criminal penalties for drug users. Decriminalizing just marijuana would produce up to \$26 billion for the American economy through industrial hemp production, taxes and lower law enforcement costs.

In this nation of freedom, a person can have all his property seized by the government including his bank accounts without a warrant and without ever being charged with a crime. This victim must then prove he obtained his property through legitimate businesses. This is liberty since slavery. No freedom-loving American can honestly say the War on Drugs has been good for society. Inner-city crime rates would drop violently if the drug trade is destroyed.

When the government restricts supply, demand goes up. When supply goes down and demand goes up, prices skyrocket. When prices go up people jump into the business. The more people there are in the drug trade the tougher the competition gets and the more violent our cities become.

President Bush has made some promising statements concerning the drug war, but whether or not he actually does anything has yet to be determined. He has said he wants to reduce penalties in some areas and move towards treatment as opposed to prison in others. The war on terrorism may push those proposals to the back burner or it might provide the perfect cover. We'll have to wait and see.

All Bush has to worry about is Pat Robertson and Jerry Falwell. The Republicans don't need those twits and Bush knows it. I'm optimistic about the end of the drug war. I hope I'm not disappointed. ♦



who said there are no good [bars] on campus?

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**ATTENTION**  
 African-American Students!

Are you interested in pursuing a career in:  
 Law  
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 Medicine  
 Pharmacy  
 Veterinary Medicine?

Funds are available through the Tennessee Pre-Law and Pre-Health Fellowship Program to provide support for eligible African-American students who are Tennessee residents and plan to pursue a career in law or health-related professions.

Eligible freshmen and sophomores may qualify for eight hours of free tuition in the summer (the associates program). Juniors and seniors are eligible for special all-expense paid eight-week seminars (the scholars program).

Applications Deadline:

For associates and pre-health scholars, January 31, 2002  
 For pre-law scholars, February 28, 2002

There will be an informational meeting about this program on Tuesday, November 13, 2001 at 3:30pm in Peck Hall room 211 and Wednesday, November 14, 2001 at 4:30pm also in Peck Hall room 211.

For applications and Further Information,  
 Contact:  
 Dr. Tyson King Meadows  
 Department of Political Science  
 Peck Hall 250  
 904-8232



# OPINIONS

## Editorial

### Anthrax scare shows campus readiness

Monday's mail scare has opened many eyes on the MTSU campus.

First of all, it illuminated the fact that, even in Murfreesboro, Tenn., we are not so far removed from national events. Members of the community, staff and even the editorial board said as recently as Sunday that these kinds of things would not happen here.

We don't know what exactly we are dealing with yet, but, regardless of the result, we applaud the university's preparedness for dealing with such a situation.

After anthrax mailings began, the university issued a homefront security notice that told staff and students about precautions when opening mail.

On Monday, the university proved it was capable of more than words.

When the call came to the Murfreesboro Fire Department, the post office was almost immediately evacuated. Shortly after, the first floor of the Keathley University Center was evacuated. University officials and MFD firefighters did an excellent job of keeping those evacuated as well as passers-by calm. The hazardous material suits could easily cause some people to panic if reassurance is not given.

However, the MFD hazardous materials team, while they did a good job overall, tore one of the biohazard bags used to contain certain materials. A *Sidelines* photographer took a picture of a large tear with a mailbag clearly showing through the hole.

Sometimes it seems as if MTSU is not equipped to deal with even the trivialities of campus life. It's harder to get the campus safety officer on the phone than it is to get mayors (really).

However, when an event requiring both swift action and careful calculation occurred, the university showed without doubt that they are prepared to deal with troubling and potentially chaotic incidents. ♦

## Corrections

In the Nov. 1 edition of *Sidelines*, part of the Older Wiser Learners was spelled incorrectly in the article "Next week to recognize non-traditional students."

In the editorial Nov. 5, we published the rough draft instead of the final copy. This omitted key facts concerning the honors college, facts addressed today in John Paul Montgomery's letter.

*Sidelines* apologizes for these errors.

# SIDELINES

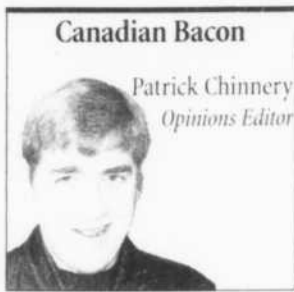
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*Sidelines* is the editorially-independent, non-profit student newspaper of Middle Tennessee State University and is published Monday, Wednesday and Thursday during the fall and spring semesters and every Wednesday during June and July. The opinions expressed herein are those of the individual writers and not necessarily of *Sidelines* or MTSU.

## Death knoll silenced for student opinions



Canadian Bacon  
Patrick Chinnery  
Opinions Editor

Three weeks ago, I threw down a gauntlet, and dared someone to pick it up. Now, I've picked it up myself.

On Oct. 16, I ran a column that stated, in essence, that the need for a campus opinion section must be critically examined. My basic argument was that while everyone has the right to express their opinion, it was a waste of space to do it in a college newspaper, because most people on campus are already staunchly entrenched in their views.

I am happy to tell you today that I was wrong.

The *Sidelines* opinion section is needed to highlight the diverse opinions of our staff, and give all campus opinions a chance to be heard. The opinion

page also gives individuals the chance to express their individuality from the staff's majority opinion, as was evident by the running of Angela White's column "Staff misrepresented Monday," that followed the consensus that supported bombings of Afghanistan. Without an opinion section, this would not have been possible.

Speaking through a letter to the editor, Keith "The Sofa King" Vaughn summed it up quite nicely: "...students need an outlet. We need our opinions expressed. You are our voice."

It is a great responsibility to speak for our campus, as diverse as that campus is. While students contained within white skin outnumber those aren't, the minds of our campus aren't as simple as loaf of Wonder Bread with a couple of slices of pumpernickel thrown in for good measure. I respect most of our student body for looking beyond typical barriers of learning when forming personal opinions.

Indeed, opinions should never be formed based on the color of one's skin, or social background or religious views. Rather, individuals should form them logically, with reason as the highest authority.

Two of *Sidelines*' best columnists are White and Matthew C. Martin. They write clear, direct columns that are well supported with facts. Most important, they construct their arguments from square one with reason. These two columnists also provide excellent examples in that they represent two opposing sides of the political and social spectrum. While they do not agree on most issues, they demonstrate the effectiveness of logic to either side of a debate.

One of the problems with the opinion section that I expressed in my earlier column was the difficulty in overcoming the prejudicial views that most people bring with them when reading an opinion piece. Before the first word of the column is read, their minds are closed to any

possible argument that the opposition may present in an argument.

I'm reminded of a bumper sticker I saw on campus last week: "Minds are like parachutes - they function only when open."

My perceived problem was that if people were already entrenched in their views, no words would move them to consider other sides. If they won't consider other sides, what's the point of wasting words?

I forgot an important fact, however. I was focused on the vocal cries of the decisive, overlooking the group of people squatting solidly in the middle of the road that can, and should, be swayed to one side or another. A mind without an opinion is a dangerous thing indeed.

Of course, a more dangerous thing is the mind that does not use and cannot understand logic. This type of student lashes out at what he cannot comprehend - the use of reason. I will call attention to one

cowardly student who sent an anonymous letter to me regarding Martin. (S) He wrote, "I can not begin to understand Mr. Martin's warped view of the world...I suggest that *Sidelines* find a new columnist before someone gets upset."

Do you hear the siren? Uh-oh, make way, here comes the whaaa-ambulance. What this poster-child of ignorance couldn't wrap his/her mind around was that though Martin presented an opposing viewpoint, he could still employ logic to support his claim.

It is for the benefit of that anonymous student (so he may one day use his mind as he would use a parachute), for the benefit of the individual (to express one's own views) and for the benefit of our campus community (which is a better place to live when people think for themselves) that *Sidelines* keeps its opinion section.

As long as I am on this staff, I will defend its right to exist. ♦

## Another damn article about parking



Bathroom Stall Graffiti  
Nick Fowler  
Staff Columnist

Everyone wants to tell me what to write in my column. I ignore them because I think everyone is dumb.

Last semester a kid tells me to write about how bad the dormitories are. I told him I would write about how dumb he is because he actually thinks I care what he thinks. Furthermore, the university knows the dorms suck, and he, the dumb kid, will continue paying to live in the dorm even if they suck because they know the kids are dumb.

So this semester my English professor is hounding me to write about parking. Well, I am not the house band. I do not take requests.

Professor, allow me to make an enumerated list of reasons not to write a column about parking at MTSU.

1. I do not care whether you, or anyone else, can park. Always with the, "I can't park; I had to walk so far..." Whine, whine, whine. Bitch, bitch, bitch. All I want from you are lectures about books by dead people.

2. No one reads *Sidelines*. I'm not sure if all the students can read if they have read *Sidelines*, they've probably read 400 articles about parking. We do like to write about parking at *Sidelines*.

3. The university does-

n't care. MTSU seems fine with the students walking. Halfway through the semester so many people dropout or skip classes that there is plenty of parking. Maybe we shouldn't let the dumb kids park since they drop out anyway.

4. Parking Services is a shady operation. They run their whole "service" out of a doublewide trailer. I think some rednecks just parked their house in the lot and started giving tickets. They sure don't do anything else.

5. Your parking pass does not endow you with the right to park. It allows you the privilege of not being ticketed and towed. I liken Parking Services to the Mafia. The Mafia often has local businesses pay for protection, that is protection from the Mafia. We pay parking services, and

they don't ticket us. We could have their trailer towed in retaliation.

6. Parking is a complex problem with complex solutions. After hours of brainstorming and research, finally during a moment of brilliance, I developed a three-part plan of action.

Build more places to park.

Build more places to park.

Build more places to park.

Such a plan is difficult to comprehend. It's like relativity, for it boggles the mind. It could take years of planning and the nation's best scientists and engineers. It would be the Manhattan Project of parking. We cannot expect the university to bother with such an extravagant undertaking as this.

7. I'm far too preoccupied with more important matters than parking. Why was I born? How am I going to cope with consciousness and the suffering that goes with it for the rest of my life? Why do I have an insatiable desire to eat, breathe, and sleep? Will I have to go to war? Why are you asking me about parking?

Parking just isn't that important. Why aren't you concerned with more important things? When you get old do you stop asking important questions and start asking more trivial questions like, "Why can't I get a good parking spot?"

So, parking sucks. I'll put that on the list of things that suck right after people who tell me what to write my column about. ♦

## Letters to the Editor

### Honors college working toward solutions

To the Editor:

Thank you for editorializing the fact that the honors college needs more upper-division courses. I couldn't agree with you more! For the 27-year history of honors at MTSU, Drs. McCash, Messier and I have sought to increase our upper-division course offerings. The problem is obviously not new or unique to most honors programs and colleges. We welcome the support of interested students, faculty and department chairs. Without the support of these folks, we will never advance the honors curriculum to its full potential. Acknowledging the problem is the first step in solving it.

But things are not as bad as they seem. The honors college has provided some very attractive solutions to some of the problems you mention in your editorial. Did you know that students in the honors college can co-write their own upper-division courses with their favorite professors for up to nine hours of upper-division credit? That means that professors and honors students can design special enrichment requirements in non-honors courses for honors credit. This is a built-in solution for high-achieving honors students whose home departments offer no honors upper-division courses.

Another very attractive solution to the scarcity of upper-division honors courses in some academic departments is our wide variety of honors interdisciplinary courses that can meet the eight hour upper-division requirement. The honors college guidelines do not require that these eight hours have to be taken in the student's major. We offer three upper-division interdisciplinary courses that offer upper-division credit in both the English department and the honors college. The honors college emphasis on interdisciplinary study offers a wide variety of enriched learning possibilities outside the limits of departmental majors. The honors interdisciplinary experience is another way of completing the upper-division college requirement while enjoying a rich variety of learning experiences.

Your editorial mentions that the honors college curriculum lacks variety at the freshman and sophomore level, particularly in the English department. If you look more closely at the titles of the English 2330 sections, you will see that these courses range from literature and the paranormal, counter culture and literature and the environment to Irish literature. I also want to assure you that the English 1020 classes will be as different and unique as the English faculty who teach them.

So, be of good cheer. Things are not perfect, I will admit, but we are moving toward our goals. In the meantime, the honors college invites your full participation. Let's build together a diversity of choices. We invite your help in developing a curriculum that will finally push us over the top. Your criticism is most welcome. Our Honors College Building will mean little if we can't afford to strengthen our commitment to students and a developing curriculum.

J. P. Montgomery  
Dean, College of University Honors

### Both sides confused in abortion debate

To the Editor:

As a political science major, I find myself moved to respond to the Political Upheaval page run Nov. 1. Since the article was about abortion, I feel it is only fair to identify myself as a non-aligned, pro-choice advocate. Nevertheless, my support for legal abortion does not mean I "refuse to recognize [fetuses] as human" as suggested by Jeremy Davis. On the contrary, I personally believe a fetus is just as human as a newborn. However, while Angela White may have a point about control, she failed to address a few, more logical points that should be heard. Let us deal with reality, shall we:

1. Abortion exists.

2. Scientists cannot agree on when or even whether, a fetus is alive.

3. It is not the place of the government to enforce morality.

4. If an anti-abortion law is created, what punishment should we establish for women who violate it? This is where most people who want to criminalize abortion get into trouble. Given points 2 and 3, there is room for argument over whether abortion is murder, and punishable as such. However, this question is rendered moot by the one that logically must follow, namely:

5. How do we enforce an anti-abortion law on American women who can afford to go abroad and have their abortion performed legally in another country? The incredibly simple answer to this is, "We don't, because we can't." Since this is the case, any law against abortion would be discriminatory by its very nature.

6. Are we willing to pay, monetarily and as a society, for increased enrollment in welfare as middle-class women are forced into poverty by having children they cannot support? Since contraceptives also do not want birth control to be readily available, the criminalization of abortion will result in a massive increase in welfare enrollment. This would lead to a massive increase in the general level of taxation, but more importantly, the number of unwanted children would increase dramatically. It should be noted that unwanted children are much more likely to be abused. Even if we could afford the monetary cost of eliminating abortion, do we really want to be responsible for creating an underclass of unwanted, unwanted children?

7. It will not go away if we make it illegal. Abortion used to be illegal in this country and, as anyone who was alive at that time can tell you, it still thrived in the back alleys and basements of unscrupulous people. People who gleefully profited off the misery and desperation of others. People with no regard for the women they killed in their "practices."

These are just some of the reasons it is only sensible to keep abortion legal. On a more direct note, Davis should be aware of the fact that the modern Republican Party bears no resemblance to the party of the same name in the 1800's. It is definitely a matter of "same name, no relation." However, I do not expect him to admit that since misinformation on this subject helps his party skate around its blatant attempts at the creation of an American theocracy.

Toni Hall



## Cashmere that rocks



Photo provided

### Local band looks to change face of music, radio

By Erika Pryor  
Staff Writer

Everyone loves that warm cozy feeling that cashmere leaves you with on a winter's day.

Well, get ready for some hard-hitting cashmere. Cashmere Love Crash is one of the new, cutting-edge bands in the 'Boro.

This group not only offers a hypnotic sound, but also a musical presence worthy of greatness.

MTSU student Bo Boswell (vocalist), Derek Myer (drummer), Jeremy Mason (guitarist) and Cheyenne Hill (bassist) make up Cashmere Love Crash. When asked how they came up with the name, Boswell said, "We were hanging out saw the word cashmere, then we just added two other words that we liked and the rest is history."

CLC started in 1996 with Boswell and Myer. Not too long after these two had been together, Mason was added to the group, and around a year ago, Hill came along. When CLC finally came together they set out on a mission. The mission is to influence others the way they were influenced. This makes one wonder, what brought all of this on?

According to the group, they are not big fans of what they hear on the radio now as far as their musical genre is concerned.

"We want to open people up to a new sound, like the Beatles did," Boswell said.

CLC is definitely one of the innovators for a new age of music. Being experimentalists,

they do things differently in order to set themselves apart from what is being heard now.

"We are not just in a band to be in a band. We want to make good music. We like what we like, and we like making music," Boswell said.

"We want to open people up to a new sound, like the Beatles did."

— Bo Boswell, vocalist

CLC was influenced by a variety of artists and the different musical stylings of rock, funk and light rock, but the best way to describe them is classic rock with a modern sound.

"We don't sound like our influences," Hill said.

Cashmere Love Crash consists of three men and one woman. When asked about the only female, the guys said it was weird at first, but they soon saw that this young woman had a talent and feel for the bass like no other.

"I had never played with a girl before, but she has an incredible feel for bass. She adds more of a passion to our sound," Boswell said.

Hill seems to enjoy being the woman of the group. She says it is nice because the guys treat her like she's one of the guys.

"They don't treat me like 'the



Photo provided

Cashmere Love Crash will be performing at Springwater in Nashville Nov. 12. They also are anticipating the release of their upcoming album.

girl.' They treat me like they treat each other, and I am really glad about that. They are like my brothers."

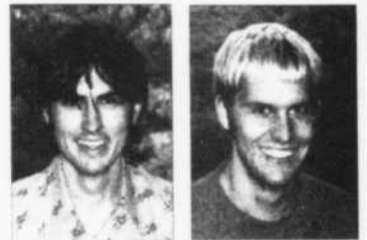
With the combined stylings of the group, Hill feels there is a new feel to the songs, yet Boswell feels it is the "more fluid touch" that women have and that her style has taken the group in a different direction.

"If I could stay with these guys for the next 20 years, I'd be happy," Hill said.

This group said they are always open to new things, and Hill feels that these new things make them better.

"New changes are a good challenge," she said.

When asked exactly how to describe the groups sound, there was really not a specific set of words one could think of, but Hill said, "it's just rock and roll."



Boswell



Myers



Mason



Hill

CLC is currently working on an album. Log on to [www.cashmerelovecash.com](http://www.cashmerelovecash.com) for updates on the album and upcoming performances. ♦

### Movie Review:

## Traveling down Long

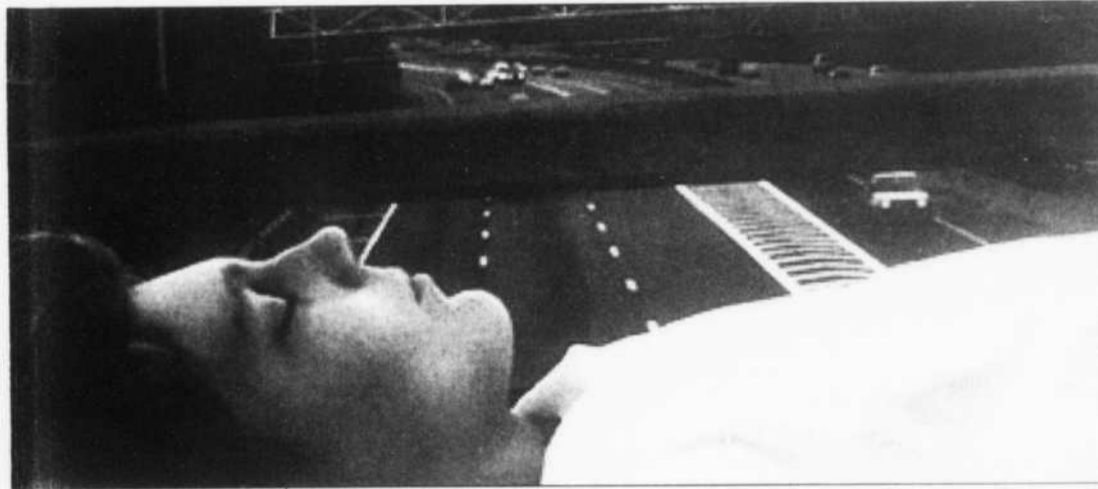


Photo provided

L.I.E. tackles controversial and taboo subject matter, such as incest and homosexuality.

By Zachary Hansen  
Staff Writer

"There are the lanes going east, the lanes going west and the lanes going straight to hell."

This line from the new film L.I.E. is used to describe the Long Island Expressway, the setting for the action in this daring and controversial movie. Tackling numerous difficult subjects, such as incest, homosexuality, pedophilia and juvenile delinquency, it is a flawed, but still highly accomplished piece best described as a hybrid between *Kids* and *Happiness*.

The main characters are a group of teen-agers with filthy

mouths and a penchant for robbing homes. The central boy actually comes from a good home and turns out to be much smarter than would normally be expected of this clan of street urchins. He just happens to have fallen in with the wrong crowd, and although this decision leads to much trouble and confusion, the events actually lead to his coming of age, albeit in an unconventional way.

This boy, Howie, is brought into all of this when he and his young gigolo friend rob the house of Big John, an ex-military officer and pillar of the community who happens to have an underground liking for

young boys. The boys steal two of his prized guns, which they play with on the street in broad daylight. When Big John discovers the guns are missing, he approaches Howie and an unlikely friendship develops.

To work off the price of the recently sold guns, Big John shows Howie one of his private home videos and implies that the stolen property could be paid off in this manner. Howie refuses the offer but is not scared off by Big John, who eventually becomes more of a father figure than Howie's actual dad, who unbeknownst to him has gotten caught up in an embezzlement scandal. During

their encounters, we learn to see Big John as not a monster but as a human being with a problem he can't help. When told he should be ashamed of his pedophilia, he responds, "I am. I always am."

Howie and Big John continue to meet, but it is never uncomfortable between the two. They speak French together, and Howie reads his poetry to Big John. They are able to be honest with each another, and despite his dark secret, Big John is still able to function as an effective role model. The fact that there are no inhibitions is appealing to Howie, as his equally corrupt father's whole life is a lie.

I liked how the whole film worked together as a whole. It was shot in an interesting fashion but was never so flashy that it distracted from the story, the most important part of the film. It didn't hold back at all, dealing with the topics in a frank way rather than dodging around potentially uncomfortable moments. The acting was also dead-on, and it is rare to see child performances that are not overly dramatic or cute. Something was missing that kept it from being an exceptional film, but I admire it for what it did right and for being brave in dealing with taboo topics. ♦

## Author covers music biz in 'A&R'

By Tom Mularz  
Daily Illini (U. Illinois)

(U-WIRE) CHAMPAIGN, Ill. — Bill Flanagan has a strange aspiration. Senior vice president of VH-1 and a seasoned rock journalist, Flanagan's job has him crashing at Sting's place, partying with Bono and authoring best-selling books in his free time. Yet, talking with him from his Manhattan office, one can hear a certain desperation in his voice as he confesses to his true ambition: "I just want to be 16 again and listening to 'Maggie May.'"

Flanagan's new novel *A&R* is the story of Jim Cantone, a 30-year-old record executive at fictional WorldWide Records who,

like Flanagan himself, has made a career out of his affection for vinyl. Cantone finds, through the course of his stay at WorldWide, that the business is a lot less Jim Croce than Julius Caesar: backs are stabbed, musicians are rehabbed and by the last page one can almost hear the bell toll for rock 'n' roll's last gasp.

While Flanagan agrees the real-life music business can seem equally vicious at times, he also maintains that there is still something that sets it apart from other corporate pirate ships.

"The funny thing is, businessmen in the music business may actually be a little less cut-throat than in other businesses.

That's not to say they can't still be Captain Hooks. The eccentric thing about the rock business is that people go into it because they love music. You're not going to find that in the cell phone business or the shoe business. Almost everyone goes into it because of a love for music. The guys who become the really aggressive ones are the ones who detach their personal feelings for music from the business side of it. But deep within the tiny heart of even the coldest executive, there's still a part of him that can recite every word of 'Yakkety-Yak.'"

While music has become as Wall Street as anything else, Flanagan is confident that the people it attracts will keep it

from ever settling into its wingtips.

In *A&R*, even the highest of executives are a motley crowd of hard-drinkers and hustlers, all sharing one thing: the inability to kick their high school rock fix. "Everyone wants to be Keith Richards when they're 16," says Flanagan, "but by the time they're 18 they've put it away as little league stuff. But people who love music enough to follow it into their twenties will always find something to do in music—whether as a roadie, or in radio, or at a record company. Rock 'n' roll is kind of a loving but unfaithful wife: it'll break your heart, but it'll still get you

See Flanagan, 5

## INSIDE THE WORLD OF ENTERTAINMENT



By Shawn Whitsell

### 'E.T.' gets a digital makeover

Steven Spielberg has decided to give his 1982 classic *E.T.* a second run, much like George Lucas did with *Star Wars*. *E.T.: the Extra-Terrestrial* will include never before seen footage, altered scenes and better special effects.

One of the subtle modifications that was made was digitally matching the alien's words to his lips for the famous "E.T. phone home" line. Another modification is made during the Halloween sequence, where Elliot's mom forbids him to go trick-or-treating dressed as a terrorist. Instead, she forbids him from going dressed as a hippie.

Universal Studios executives are planning to release both the original and the re-mastered movies on DVD in March.

### HBO prepares for 'Sex and the City' book

The women of HBO's *Sex and the City* will soon return for the show's fourth season. However, they won't be alone. This time around, the show will have a companion — a book.

The book, *The Joy of Sex and the City* will feature episode synopses, interviews with the actors and behind-the-scenes columnists. The book will be written by sex columnist Amy Sohn. In the spirit of Carrie Bradshaw, the book's cover may come packaged in a shoebox.

### Erick Sermon injured in accident

Rumor has it that rapper/producer Erick Sermon, of EPMD fame, jumped out of a building window in a suicide attempt. This is a rumor Sermon and a spokesperson from his record label, J Records, both deny. There was another rumor that Sermon was thrown from the window. However, Sermon insists he was injured in a car accident after leaving a video shoot.

The rapper has suffered several broken bones and a broken jaws that requires him to have his mouth wired for two weeks. According to his spokesperson, Sermon is in good spirits and is looking forward to hitting the road in six weeks to promote his latest album, *Music*, which hit stores Oct. 30. ♦





## Flanagan: Senior vice president for VHI covers music business in new novel 'A&R'

Continued from 4

get you by somehow."

Rock 'n' roll has been getting people by for a half-century now, and Flanagan chalks it up to a "great accident of history and technology." "Everything fed into it," Flanagan says, his voice suddenly excited. "In the sixties and into the seventies: the draft, the pill — you can look at the parallels between rock music and the Civil Rights movement: rock 'n' roll was black and white coming together."

Flanagan credits this entanglement with history and sociology for transforming rock from a music genre into nothing less than a generational ideology.

But in this era of saccharine pop and TRL target markets, is rock, as a character in *A&R* prophesizes, "no longer the creator of the universe?"

In his diagnosis of the current state of rock and its potential future, Flanagan the music exec turns to Flanagan the novelist, drawing comparison between the varying pulse rates of the two art forms. Like rock 'n' roll, Flanagan says, "The novel was first seen as a sort of scandalous art-form. You look back to Defoe, Robinson Crusoe, people were saying 'This is nothing but a pack of lies! Some guy just made all this stuff up!' The novel had to slide into a disreputable slot at first. But with the technology of its time — the mass-printing press — it becomes more widespread and accepted. In the 19th century the novel is kicking ass. Victor Hugo is the Bob Dylan of his day. People are lining up on the docks to get the new Dickens, crying about little Nell dying. Mark Twain's doing his speaking tours. The novel is it. The novel is kicking ass."

"You come into the 20th century, you start getting tabloids, radio, movies; you don't need the novel as much anymore. But even as a kid in the '60s, I remember watching Dick Cavett when Norman Mailer and Gore Vidal and Truman Capote would be the guests. These guys were celebrities. They'd go to a party and it'd be in the papers. It was a big, big

thing. Today, you're not going to see Martin Amis getting into a fistfight with Don DeLillo at some party. He's not going to be showing up on Conan O'Brien. There are still great novels being written. There's still a place for the novel, but it's not at the center of everything. But you can look back at what happened as it came into the 20th century: you had Joyce and Hemingway saying 'Even though this may not be at the center, we're going to keep going deeper into it, finding new ways to write the novel.'"

Such introspection and experimentation has saved rock in the past, and will, Flanagan believes, keep it going. Flanagan is confident that great rock music will continue to be played; what he fears is how it will be heard. In *A&R*, one WorldWide executive prophesizes a fatal change in technology slouching toward the record industry. The executive's nerves jangle at the inevitable impact of new media technologies on the business. He is not quite ready to throw his CDs in the attic, yet perceives a potentially significant change on the horizon:

"What might become dangerous is when people are getting everything — news, music, movies — through one source. If there's a convergence of all technology there has to also be a convergence of means for regulating all these technologies. One thing about the record industry is it still thrives on sort of arcane ways of doing business."

While such arcane business practices — along with the threats, manipulations and personal insults that fill WorldWide's 9-to-5 — create grand entertainment in the novel, Flanagan explains that any restructuring of the music industry's procedures could have drastic consequences for executives and listeners alike.

"The reason [record companies] can support so many different artists is because of the way the contracts are set up: they only need a few big acts to make up for all the others. If we start regulating music the way we regulate, say, the publishing of a novel, there's going to be much more emphasis on the bottom-line."

Flanagan worries about the

sort of artists who will find themselves on the wrong side of this bottom-line. The fictional musicians of *A&R*'s WorldWide Records span from glossy gangstas and power ballad pretty boys to that musical dinosaur, the earnest singer-songwriter, but Jim Cantone struggles with the fate of one musician in particular, the aging Paul Slocum. Slocum, whose early records were savored by a teen-aged Cantone, continues to create great music outside the record company radar, and Cantone feels a moral obligation to champion Slocum's career against musicians who possess far less talent, but far more Gap-friendly faces. The fictional Slocum is the kind of musician whose real-life counterparts inspired Flanagan's 1986 book, *Written in my Soul*, a collection of Flanagan's conversations with "rock's greatest songwriters": Joni Mitchell, Lou Reed, Tom Waits, Neil Young — not a

Tiffany or Britney among them. Likewise, the Flanagan-created shows *VHI Legends* and, particularly, *VHI Storytellers* spotlight the singer-songwriters whose artistry requires no studio manipulation or digital gimmicky, just a guitar and a voice.

Yet, when Cantone proposes Slocum to his WorldWide bosses, he receives the negative reaction that Flanagan fears will meet many such musicians, as record companies sharpen their focus on profits.

With increasingly limited room for error, Flanagan warns, "The record companies aren't going to carry a Bruce Springsteen or Billy Joel through their first few albums to nurture a great musician. Someone like Randy Newman, who's not a huge moneymaker but who makes great music, might not be given the same chance anymore."

As for those record execs who foresee their doom coming in the shape of Napster and its

spin-offs, Flanagan theorizes, "the worry [of the music business] shouldn't be about people getting music for free, because somebody will eventually come up with ways to bill people for it."

However, if that's the way that the music gets from the artist to the public, the record companies will be in trouble. Flanagan's tone changes suddenly. He is not, after all, a distribution expert or marketing man. He is in the music business for the music, and while he can ramble off the potential market damages of online distribution or standardized media regulations, one can tell he'd rather be talking about something else.

"So rock 'n' roll is alive, and will be alive as long as this generation, as long as anybody wants it. But its moment of being the center of youth culture is passed. Hey, that's fine. I like muttonchops, too, but you can't hold on to everything." ♦

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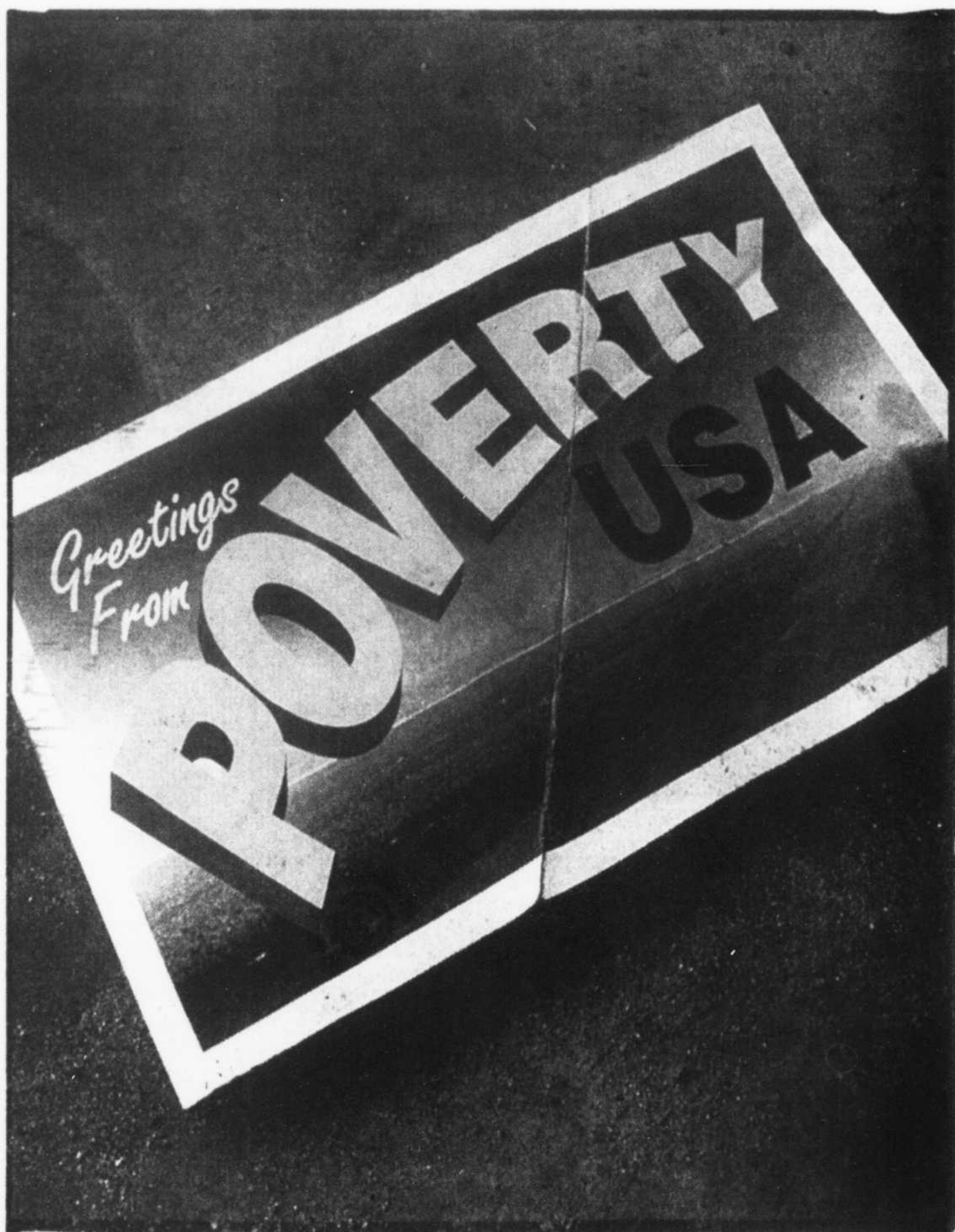
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Pressbox



J.P. Plant  
Staff Writer

## BCS not effective in crowning winner

In the fourth year of the Bowl Championship Series, the same old remarks surface to the forefront of the water cooler discussions - Why don't they implement a playoff system? How do computers determine who goes to the championship game? Why does the *Seattle Times* have a say and not *Sidelines*? Well, we know the answer to the last question. As for the other two, money and a bunch of computer nerds (no offense) can shed more light than me.

As true with any issue, there are two conflicting sides, and the BS, excuse me, the BCS is no exception - it has 15. To spare your time, I'll touch on just a few.

The idea of a championship game was a noble one. To this point, nobility has won with the Miami Hurricanes holding the only legitimate reason to call foul after being left out of the championship last year despite beating Florida State who went to the Orange Bowl. Up until this past week, the cries from Miami were louder than the winds in Hurricane Michelle. However, with Miami leap-frogging Oklahoma to No. 2 all seems right with the world.

Now there is a legitimate No. 1 and No. 2 until Oklahoma defeats Nebraska in the Big XII Championship game leaving each with only one loss.

Where do we go now? Miami would likely move up to No. 1, assuming they take care of business in Blacksburg against a struggling Virginia Tech team Dec. 1, leaving the computers to fight over NU and OU and leaving one of the two out of the Rose Bowl.

Now there is a dark hoarse candidate lying in the wakes. Tennessee, who jumped to the No. 4 position could find their way to Pasadena Jan. 3. However, the Vols will need a little divine intervention to obtain such a lofty goal.

The month of November poses no legitimate threats for Tennessee. Memphis, Kentucky and Vanderbilt are not what you would call high-risk games. That leaves the Vols with their make-up game at Florida Dec 1. A win there and a win in the Southeastern Conference championship game would send strong signals to the BCS computers in favor of UT for that second spot in the Rose Bowl. Did I mention the game was at The Swamp?

Therefore, that leads me back to the debate of NU and OU. If NU wins the Big XII Championship game, my point is practically moot and a waste of time. Thus you see the other side of the BCS.

The solution to determine college football's champion will always be a debatable issue. Nevertheless, that's what makes the sport such an intriguing and passionate sport to follow. ♦

Call from the Pressbox appears every Wednesday.

## MT ends season with Sun Belt tournament loss



Megan McGregor and Danielle LaDuke run for the ball.

### Staff Reports

The Middle Tennessee soccer team lost 3-1 to Florida International Wednesday eliminating them in the first round of the Sun Belt Conference Tournament in Miami, Fla.

FIU's Janessa Taddei suffered a busted nose in the 13th minute of the match, colliding with an MT player in the mid-field. Taddei did not return to the match.

The Panthers scored first in the 26th minute when Erika Jaderblom laced a direct kick from about 45 yards out, sailing past a crowd of players in front of Blue Raider goalie Emily Shrum and into the back of the net.

The Blue Raiders tied the score at 1 in the 27th minute when Lindsey Bopp sent a cor-

ner kick into the box and Lisa Langrish headed the ball into the net. MT had a chance to go ahead when Emily Carter headed a Laura Miguez cross in the 34th minute, but Carter's shot sailed high.

The Panthers' Charissa Gingerich assisted Carmen Lopez who hit a 30-yard shot to give FIU the lead in the 35th minute.

The second half began with Carter suffering a blow to the head after a scramble in front of the net on a corner kick. She came out of the game a few minutes later and did not return.

FIU scored its final goal in the 57th minute when Sasja Odenyo scored on an assist from Ifeoma Dieke.

The Blue Raiders missed a chance to score in the second

half when a Langrish header sailed wide.

The Panthers outshot MT 14-8 in the match, including 9-4 in the second half.

The Blue Raiders lost in the first round of the Sun Belt Tournament for the second year in a row.

Danielle LaDuke, Lisa Langrish and Sheri Robbins were all named second team All-Sun Belt, and LaDuke was named Freshman of the Year at a pre-tournament banquet Oct. 30 by the Sun Belt Conference on the Florida International University campus.

Robbins started every game in her MT career. She has been a member of a Blue Raider defense that has allowed just 25 goals in 18 matches this season.

See Soccer, 8

## Kruse grows into star player

By Randall Thomason  
Staff Writer

Manon Kruse, Middle Tennessee women's tennis player, has come a long way in one year. Having grown up in Hamm, Germany, Kruse packed her bags and moved to the United States to play tennis at MT in 2000.

"I was very scared," Kruse said of arriving in Murfreesboro. "I didn't know anybody."

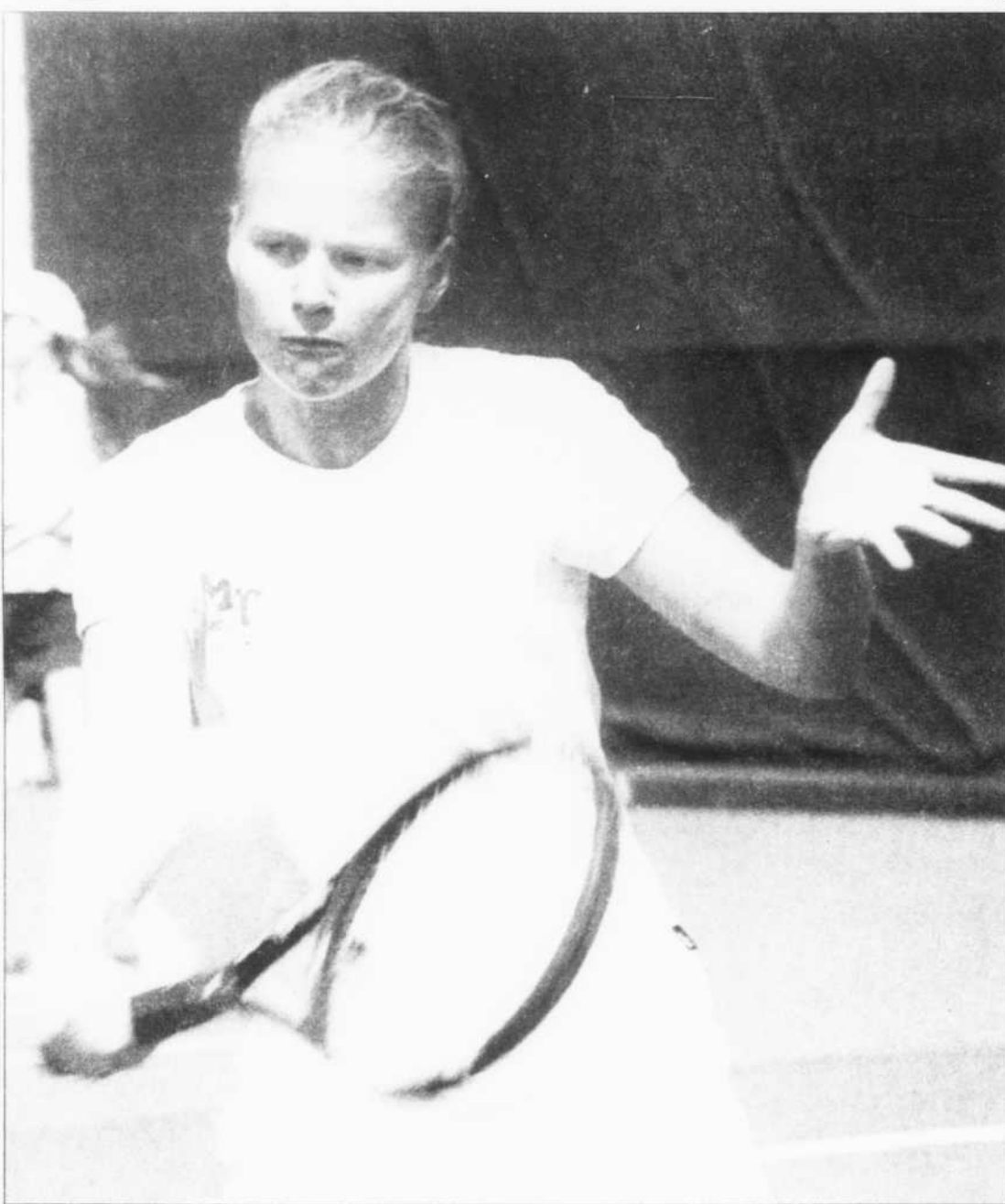
Kruse admittedly did not play well her freshman season. She was in a new land, spoke little English, missed her family and battled an ankle injury. The biggest adjustment for Kruse was being away from her family.

"I missed my family a lot last year." After a year in the United States, however, Kruse has become much more comfortable. "I still miss my family, but I can handle it better now," she said.

Kruse's opponents wish she had never adjusted to life in America. Her tennis has blossomed into some of the best the nation has to offer this year. Her singles record of 9-2 includes victories over the No. 17, No. 29, No. 51 and No. 84 ranked players in the NCAA. MT women's tennis coach Randy Holden is thrilled to have Kruse.

"She is more athletic than all of her opponents," he said. "She has one of the best forehands in college tennis. She's 90 percent there to becoming an All-American."

Kruse entered the UNC-Wilmington Invitational earlier this fall as the top-seeded player



Manon Kruse backhands the ball over the net. She finished the regular season at 9-2.

in the field. This ranking caused some slight discomfort for her. "I didn't think I would win; I felt a little pressure being the No. 1 seed." Kruse delivered under pres-

sure, winning the singles championship at Wilmington.

She followed that by claiming another singles championship at the prestigious Furman Invitational, vaulting her name into the elite of college tennis.

The business administration major also is a terror in doubles competition, a format of play Kruse says she enjoys more than singles. She and partner Stacy Vardell have posted an 11-2 record, ranking eighth nationally. Vardell's play complements that of Kruse. "Her returns are huge," Kruse said.

They are just outstanding. I like to volley at the net, so after her returns, all I have to do is finish the points."

Kruse boasts an all-around game that has few weaknesses. She says her backhand could use some work, but she strives to improve all facets of her game.

This constant work, she hopes, will help her accomplish the goals she has laid out for herself.

"I want to play in the NCAA tournament; I want the team to play in the NCAA tournament."

Kruse also says she aims to become an All-American, a feat that would require a top 16 finish in the NCAA championships.

Despite Kruse's remarkable success, she expresses no desire to play professionally. "It would cost a lot. I don't want my parents to have to pay that, and that would put so much pressure on me."

Kruse is content right where she is, consistently winning for MT. ♦

## Blue Raider Notebook



By Shane Marquardt  
Staff Writer

It's big-game hunting time for the Middle Tennessee football program as it takes on Louisiana State University this weekend in Baton Rouge.

The Sun Belt Conference co-champions will meet their third Southeastern Conference opponent of the year when they face the Tigers, but nothing could prepare them for the hostility awaiting them in Death Valley.

**Blue Collar Workers:** Provided plenty of offensive protection in allowing quarterback Wes Counts to complete 10 of 15 passes, and the tandem running backs to collect 218 yards on the ground. But Burkus Award semifinalist Trev Faulk and the LSU defense are not quite as giving as the Arkansas State Indians, establishing the run game in Death Valley will be imperative with 91,000-plus Tiger fans expressing themselves throughout the evening.

**Big D:** The defense will have to face a deadly receiver/quarterback combination this Saturday. LSU wide receiver Josh Reed collected SEC Offensive Player of the Week and an SEC record in receiving with 19 catches for 293 yards in a win over Alabama. Tiger quarterback Rohan Davey is nearly as big as anyone MT has on the defensive line, but this makes him a big target for the Blue Raiders if they duplicate the pressure applied last weekend against the Indians.

**All American Watch:** Wide receiver Kendall Newson has 41 straight games with a reception and needs one touchdown to own the MT record for career touchdowns at 22. Running back Dwone Hicks has been getting the big scores for the Blue Raiders despite deferring the bulk of the rushing touches to backfield mate Reshard Lee. With the depletion in depth at the running back position, it will be imperative that the coaches keep the running backs' legs fresh. Tigers are known to pounce on weakened prey. ♦

## Sun Belt Conference Standings

	W-L	Pct.	Pts.	Opp.		W-L	Pct.	Pts.	Opp.	H	A	Streak
#Middle Tennessee	5-1	.833	248	152		7-2	.778	356	242	4-0	3-2	W2
North Texas	3-1	.750	108	60		3-5	.375	147	186	2-1	1-3	W3
Louisiana-Lafayette	2-2	.500	100	101		3-5	.375	171	243	2-2	1-3	W2
New Mexico State	2-2	.500	132	100		3-6	.333	209	284	1-2	2-4	L2
Arkansas State	2-2	.500	66	150		2-6	.250	131	285	2-2	0-4	L1
Louisiana-Monroe	1-4	.200	89	145		1-7	.125	110	258	1-3	0-4	L3
Idaho	1-4	.200	207	242		1-8	.111	259	412	1-3	0-5	W1





## Soccer: MT players honored for efforts this regular season

Continued from 6

the second lowest in school history.

LaDuke tied the single-season goals record in last Friday's 2-1 overtime win at South Alabama. She leads the Blue Raiders in scoring this season with 25 points and has five

game-winning goals.

Langrish is tied for third on the team in scoring with 16 points, netting 8 goals in her first season as a Blue Raider.

Three other Blue Raiders were named to the Sun Belt Commissioner's Honor Roll. This honors students with a 3.5 GPA or higher for the last ac-

ademic year. Those named were Jessica Busey, Shrum and Robbins.

Five MT players received recognition as members of the Academic Honor Roll, signifying a 3.0 GPA or better. They are Megan Holsten, Rachael Sulkers, Megan McGregor, Bopp and Carter. ♦

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# Volleyball loses 2 at Southwest Missouri State tournament

By Erich Heinlein  
Staff Writer

In the last half of the Southwest Missouri State Tournament, the Lady Raider volleyball team (9-20) lost to

Wichita State 3-2 and host Southwest Missouri State in straight sets Sunday.

Shakeitha Deckard made the all-tournament team. In the three matches, Deckard had 45 kills and 33 digs.

The Lady Raiders lost the first game but stepped up, winning games two and three before losing four and five. The high spot for the Lady Raiders appeared to be game three as they hit for a .372 attack percentage and only committed three attack errors.

However, this quickly changed as the Lady Raiders hit a -.062 by committing 8 errors and producing 6 kills.

In the fifth game, the Lady Raiders had a .000 attack percentage with 5 kills and 5 errors.

"Our serving in games four and five cost us the match," said Lady Raiders head coach Lisa

Kissee. "Wichita's outsiders stepped it up in games four and five whereas we shut ourselves down on the outside."

In this match, Erin Hillstrom recorded yet another double-double with 10 kills and 11 digs. Two other Lady Raiders also managed to produce double-doubles. Deckard had 16 kills and 13 digs, and Katie Thiesen had 12 kills and 10 digs. Jennifer Hignite led the team in hitting percentage, (.352) while also producing 8 kills and 17 attacks.

In the second game, Hillstrom led the Lady Raiders with 10 kills and 15 digs. This was Hillstrom's fourth double-

double of the weekend.

"Although we lost in three, we actually competed better against Wichita State," Kissee said. "Our transition offense was pretty weak and Southwest Missouri's was pretty strong, especially on the outside."

The Lady Raiders have their last home game of the season Saturday against Florida International. This game will be in preparation for the Sun Belt Conference Tournament, which is Nov. 14-17. They will close their season in the Alabama Tournament against Wake Forest. ♦

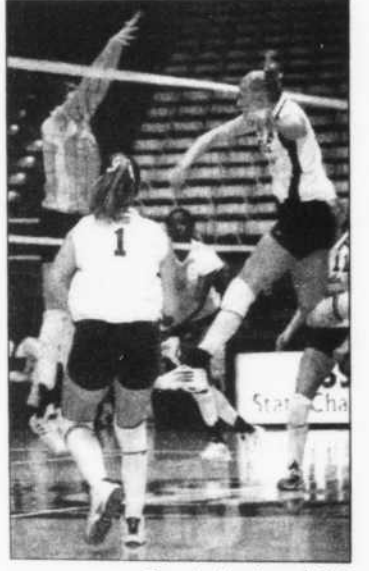


Photo by Amy Jones | Staff  
Thiesen spikes the ball.

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