



SIDELINES



Volume 74, No. 45

MIDDLE TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY

Murfreesboro, TN

Republicans criticize Clinton administration for 'lax' security

William C. Mann
Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Clinton administration has displayed "lax attitudes toward national security," the Senate Intelligence Committee chairman said Sunday, citing reports Chinese stole U.S. technology to produce a better nuclear bomb.

The committee already is investigating commercial technology transfers that Sen. Richard Shelby and other GOP leaders contend could help the Chinese upgrade their missile forces.

The new allegations "will certainly" mean more hearings, said Shelby, who criticized the administration for "lax attitudes toward national security."

"We have been on top of this lax

security for a number of years. We've been pushing, we've been prodding the administration to do more, to tighten up security," Shelby said on NBC's "Meet the Press."

"I think they are beginning to, but ... they waited a long time."

Senate Majority Leader Trent Lott predicted Congress would be "very aggressive" in dealing with the administration.

"I think Congress is going to have to toughen up in dealing with this administration, particularly when it comes to China and the violations that have occurred there," he said on "Fox News Sunday."

The New York Times and Newsweek magazine reported over the weekend that China had obtained from Energy Department nuclear laboratories knowledge of America's top-secret W-88 miniaturized warhead.

Reiterating the administration position, White House national security spokesman P.J. Crowley said Sunday in a telephone interview that an interagency assessment to determine "what damage, if any" was done started in 1996 and that the appropriate committees of Congress have been kept "updated throughout."

"Meanwhile, once we knew the scope of the problem we have instituted a series of very strong measures to improve security and counterintelligence at DOE labs," Crowley said.

Republicans contend the administration allows dangerous transactions so as not to disturb always-touchy relations with one of the largest U.S. trading partners.

Lott, R-Miss., said the case is

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Prep courses to help prepare incoming students for ACTs

Staff Reports

MTSU is offering exam preparation courses to help students prepare for the college entrance exams they need to pass in order to enter their fields of study.

Professor Harly Anton will instruct the prep courses.

Haley has a great deal of experience at teaching students to prepare for these exams and has earned himself an "excellent" rating from his students.

"People fail tests because of anxiety. The reason for this anxiety is lack of knowledge and understanding about the test. These

courses teach participants how the test works and relieve their anxiety," said Anton.

The GMAT Preparation Course, the Pre-Professional Skills Tests and the National Teacher Examination Review Course have already been given, but the Super ACT Preparation Course and the GRE Preparation Course will be offered in the near future.

The Super ACT Preparation Course is designed for students who have scored 23 to 26 on the ACT.

The course's objective is to prepare those students for scholarship-level scores.

The course will be held Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays (March

29 to April 7) from 4 to 6:30 p.m. in Peck Hall 227. The fee for this course will be \$195. All interested students should register as soon as possible because seating is limited to twelve.

The GRE Preparation Course is designed to give students practice with simple tests that stimulate the most recent version of the Graduate Record Exam.

This course will be held March 27 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. and March 28 from 12 to 6 p.m. in Peck Hall 200. The fee for this course is \$295.

To register, or for more information, call the MTSU Division of Continuing Studies at (615) 898-2462. ■

Celebrating heritage



Staff photo by Hiawatha Walker

People of all ages turned out Saturday to celebrate their Native American heritage at the powwow held at the Tennessee Livestock Center. For more photos of the powwow, please see page 8.

Housing searches for new resident assistants

Chris Crockett
Staff Reporter

As we near the end of the school year, campus housing is beginning its search for new resident assistants for the next semester.

At the end of each spring semester, turnover is quite common for resident assistant positions. It is not unusual for there to be anywhere from twenty to thirty positions left available.

According to Don Fox, coordinator for area two housing, a high turnover at the end of the spring semester is common for any number of reasons: graduation, students moving off campus or the need for a higher paying job.

In an effort to get more applications, housing has been advertising campus wide for those interested in the resident assistant position.

It is hoped that this effort will yield more applicants than in previous years with enough applicants to provide for positions that may be opened up at

the end of the fall semester.

Those who are interested in applying for a resident assistant position can pick up an application at Keathley University Center room 303.

All applications must be filled out and turned in with a resume by March 15.

After the applications are received, those who are being considered for the positions must complete what is known as a carousel process where they are tested for their aptitude for the position.

Then applicants will go on to be interviewed and those accepted for a resident assistant position will be notified to report for orientation before the school year begins this fall.

Requirements to be a resident assistant include having at least a 2.5 grade point average, the completion of thirty credit hours as of the end of this semester and an aptitude for leadership skills. Students who are accepted for the RA position are also required to take a class next semester that emphasizes leadership and problem solving skills. ■

Lecture focuses on discrimination against African-Americans in TV advertising

Noel Amell
Staff Reporter

Advertising's role in solidifying and perpetuating racial and ethnic stereotypes will be the topic of discussion Tuesday for the African-American Lecture Series.

Teresa Mastin, of the journalism department, will lecture about stereotypes of African-American in the advertising industry and how these stereotypes have evolved in the American psyche overtime.

According to Mastin, these negative stereotypes have evolved from the European philosophy of Locke, who believed that Africans are men but not people.

They had the physical characteristics of man, but were not considered to be a person, and the result was that this country was built on that philosophy which also justified slavery: According to this philosophy, Africans have less intellect and they don't experience pain like other people.

The negative stereotypes of African-Americans manifest themselves into advertising, Mastin said. An example is that African-American children are only shown in the foreground when the advertisement deals with either musical or athletic subjects, and if the advertisement has to do with anything else then the children are put in the background.

"To me this really devastating, because education is so important and it's the answer

to part of the problem that we have," she said.

Another example that stereotypes manifest itself into advertising is McDonald's commercial that hints to the viewer that

Another conclusion to this study that is even more shocking is that African-Americans have tragically accepted the stereotype of being inferior to their white counterpart.

African-Americans tend to not be successful in academics. The commercial shows a group of children looking at their report cards.

All the white children are happy because they got good grades, and the one child whose grades are not that good happens to be African-American. At the end of the commercial, they all go to McDonald's to celebrate.

"I don't think it's a malicious action, but the end result is still the same," she said.

Mastin will also go over some studies that evidence show that there are still stereotypes in American advertising.

Researchers of one study wanted to find out if the stereotypes toward African-American still exist and the end result was that people still have these stereotypes embedded into their psyche.

Another conclusion to this study that is even more shocking is that African-Americans have tragically accepted the stereotype of being inferior to their white counterpart, Mastin said.

But other research has found that there is no difference physically and emotionally from black and white people. People's IQs are different across the board, but if you stress and focus on education, people will do just as well.

"What is it that you can do to a whole people to make them feel that they are inferior?" asked Mastin.

Hopefully, people will start thinking about these negative stereotypes.

If people will start thinking about those negative stereotypes, then this will be the first process in breaking down the stereotypes in the business of advertising.

"I don't like to talk about in terms of racism. Yet, it does promote an ideology of racism, but it's not malicious, I think that is very important," she said.

The installment of the weekly lecture series will be held at 3:30 p.m. on March 9 in BAS S316. ■

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SPORTS

The teams who get a shot at the basketball national championship were announced Sunday. See page 10.

SPRING BREAK

Still stuck about what to do next wee? We've come up with some cheap, local alternatives for the undecided student. See page 8.

WEATHER FORECAST



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WEDNESDAY
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ON CAMPUS



NATIONAL NEWS



WORLD NEWS

LOOKING AHEAD

MARCH 8
The Raider Assistance Project will meet in the KUC 322 at 4:30 p.m. All interested in community service are encouraged to attend.

MARCH 9, 10
MTSU Placement and Student Employment Center will have a career placement orientation meeting. The event will be at 2 p.m. in KUC 316. Senior and Graduate Students can learn about placement services, resume expert, campus interviews and more. For information contact Martha Turner at 898-2500.

The Business Education and Marketing Education and Office Management will have a Technology Presentations by Clark Ford at 3 p.m. till 5 p.m. in the BAS room 314.

MARCH 10
The Tennessee Right to Life Group on campus will have an organizational meeting from 6 p.m. till 7 p.m. in the KUC 312. For more information contact Kevin Fisher at 336-2680.

The National Society of Black Engineers will have an interest meeting in the KUC room 312 from 1 p.m. till 5 p.m.

MARCH 23
The Placement Center will have the Nashville Area College to Career Fair at 11 a.m. till 6 p.m. at the I-24 Expo in Smyrna. Free passes and rosters of employers are available beginning March 8. Attendance limited to seniors, graduate students and alumni registered with the Placement Center. For more information call Martha Turner at 898-2500.

ON GOING
Applications for 1999-2000 Student Ambassadors are available in the Alumni Relations office at the Alumni Center. Students must have a GPA of 2.5 and able to work the entire Fall '99 and Spring '00. The deadline for applications is March 26 at 4:30 p.m. for more information call 898-2922.

Presbyterian Student Fellowship will host dinner and discussion on Wed at 6:30 p.m. located at the

Fellowship House on 615 N Tennessee Blvd following the study there will be wallyball at 9 p.m. at the Rec Center. For more information call Rich Zeigler at 893-1787 or Andrew Lee at 867-7370.

Raider Victory Fellowship will have weekly meetings and Bible sessions on Tuesday at 7:30 p.m. at Corlew Hall room 719. They will meet on Wednesdays at 7 p.m. at Cummings Hall lobby and at 8 p.m. at Felder Hall room 208. Contact Ricky Walters at 317-4541.

Dragon's Guard School of Sword Fighting and Reenactment teaches swordfighting techniques and swordplay. The school meets for practice at 7 p.m. at Middle Tennessee Christian School gymnasium on Tuesdays and Fridays. For more information contact Hunter Jones at 896-4596 or e-mail at shadowh@bellsouth.net

MTSU Fencing Club will have practices every Monday at 8:30 p.m. till 10:30 p.m. in the Aerobics Room located in the Rec Center. The practices are geared to students of all skill levels. Contact Michael "Hunter" Jones at 896-4596 or e-mail at shadowh@bellsouth.net.

The Kingwood Heights Church of Christ College Class will host monthly devotions every second Thursday at 6:30. Kingwood Heights Church is located at 115 East MTCS Road. Contact Chuck Mullins at 898-1086 or Alan Welken at 890-0940 for more information.

The Student Pagan Organization will have meetings Monday at 8 p.m. The meetings will take place on the 2nd floor of the KUC in the lounge area. For more information contact John Bryan at 898-3734.

The MTSU women's rugby team will have practices on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 5:30 till 7:30 p.m. The practices will be held at the Rec Center or the intramural fields if the weather is permitting. Contact Shannon Bustillos at 867-3592 or e-mail at sib2a@mtsu.edu.

Raider Victory Fellowship will hold Sunday services at 10 a.m. in the Murphy Center. Contact Ricky Walters at 907-4079 for more information.

Lambda Organization meetings will be on Tuesdays at 7 p.m. in room 5316 of the Business Aerospace building. For more information go to www.mtsu.edu/~mtLambda.

Campus Crusade for Christ will meet on Thursdays at 7:30 p.m. in KUC room 322. Those interested may contact Courtney Rushlow at 849-7899 for more information.

The Tennis Club will have meetings every Saturday at 12 noon at the MTSU tennis courts. Players of all skill levels are welcome. Contact Carrie Hupp at 896-7164 for more information.

The Ultimate Freesbie Club will meet in the fields located across the street from the Rec Center. They will meet every Thursday at 8 p.m. For more information contact Eric Taylor at 898-3217.

The Raider Coordinating Council of Organizations is presenting two awards at the 1999 SGA Awards Banquet. Every registered MTSU student organization is eligible. Applications for the Outstanding Student Organization and the Unsung Hero Award are available in KUC 306. Applications and letters of recommendation are due by March 22. For more information contact Office of Student Organization at 904-8418.

The June Anderson Women's Center is having a support group for sexual abuse meeting on March 11, 25 and April 1, 8, 15. The meetings will be from 3 p.m. till 3:50 p.m. in the CKNB room 109. For more information call Mary Glantz at 898-5725.

The June Anderson Women's Center is having a support group for women to talk about problems with body and eating. The meetings are on Tuesdays March 9, 23, 30 and April 6, 13. The meetings will be in CKNB room 109 at 3 p.m. till 3:50 p.m. For more information call Mary Glantz at 898-5725.

Applications are now being accepted for 1999-2000 MTSU Student Ambassadors. Students can get an application beginning March 8 at the Alumni Center. Application deadline is March 26, 1999 4:30 p.m. For more information call 898-2922.

Bush pushes front-runner strategy; will run unless he hears 'big yawn'

Austin, TX (AP)—George W. Bush surrounded himself Sunday with a diverse group of high-profile Republicans to formally open the flirtation stage of his 2000 presidential campaign, furthering an unconventional strategy mapped out months ago to make him the GOP front-runner.

Dropping nearly all pretense of indecision, the Texas governor unveiled his presidential exploratory committee by suggesting he will seek the White House unless "there is a huge yawn" from voters and donors when he starts traveling outside Texas in June.

"The one thing that would change my mind is if we got out there and just heard a loud thud," Bush said in a news conference attended by dozens of media organizations from around the world.

His 10-member exploratory committee includes three women, one of them black, one Hispanic man and one black man. Former Secretary of State George Shultz, GOP chairman Haley Barbour, Rep. J.C. Watts Jr. of Oklahoma and five other congressional Republicans give a Washington flavor to the group.

Gas prices rise for first time since September

Camarillo, CA (AP)—Gasoline prices jumped about half a cent, the first price increase since September, thanks to a rise in crude oil prices and a slight tightening of supply, an industry analyst said Sunday.

The weighted average, including all grades and taxes, was \$1.0028 per gallon Friday, up 0.48 cent from two weeks earlier, according to the Lundberg Survey of 10,000 gas stations nationwide.

"If this is a price recovery after about a year and a half of price cutting, then it is so far a trail one," analyst Tribby Lundberg said.

West Coast prices increased after the Feb. 23 explosion at a Tosco Corp. oil refinery in Martinez, Calif., which killed four people and sent gas buyers chasing for alternative supplies, she said.

She warned that the tightening of gas supplies might create glut conditions prior to the spring driving season.

Self-service prices were 94.16 cents for regular, \$1.0517 for mid-grade and \$1.1362 for premium.

North Alabama store for who-knows-what drawing national attention

Scottsboro, AL (AP)—So the airline lost your luggage, which contained your brand-new camera, some jewelry for your wife and some souvenirs for the kids.

Consider it a donation to tourism in north Alabama, where a Scottsboro store that resells lost baggage items is becoming bargain-hunters' destination and drawing national attention.

The Unclaimed Baggage Center offers anything from designer clothing to sporting goods, and adds about 7,000 new items a day — 2 million a year.

"It's like a big garage sale to me," said Terry Wright of Chattanooga, Tenn., as he looked at the sporting goods section on his first trip to the store.

Last year, more than 500,000 shoppers flocked to the 30,000-square-foot Unclaimed Baggage. Store officials said the visitors hailed from 41 countries and all but one state.

Kosovo rebel commanders weigh peace deal

Pristina, YUGOSLAVIA (AP)—Ethnic Albanian rebel commanders met Sunday to consider the peace plan for Kosovo, but — contrary to Clinton Administration declarations — it appeared the deal would not be signed before later in the week.

As promised, leaders of the Kosovo Liberation Army gathered in the hills of the Drenica region, the nerve center of the rebel movement, to vote on a plan for broad autonomy but not the independence they have fought for in a year of bitter ethnic war.

Representatives of William Walker, the U.S. chief of international monitors in Kosovo, attended the rebel meeting held at an undisclosed location, said an American source, who requested anonymity.

The source said rebels were expected to approve the deal, and that they and ethnic Albanian politicians would likely sign around March 12.

Former Sen. Bob Dole, who visited the region at President Clinton's request, declared in London on Saturday that the ethnic Albanians "promised" to sign the deal Sunday.

Indian hosts of slain U.S. activists vow revenge

Cubara, COLUMBIA (AP)—Indian tribal leaders say they have no doubt leftist rebels were responsible for the slayings of three Americans in Colombia and are promising to exact revenge.

An outraged U'wa Indian leader, Luis Eduardo Caballero, did not specify how revenge would be carried out by his tribe, whose members are not known to carry weapons. The American activists were on a mission to help the U'wa organize schools on its reservation.

"We are going to identify and directly punish" those responsible, Caballero said Saturday during an interview with The Associated Press just outside the tribe's northeastern Colombia reservation.

Colombia's anti-kidnapping czar, Jose Alfredo Escobar, also blamed Colombia's oldest and largest leftist rebel group — the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia, or FARC — for the killings of Indian activists Ingrid Washinawatok and Lahe'ena'e Gay and environmentalist Terence Freitas.

Governing rightist party favored in El Salvador election

San Salvador, EL SALVADOR (AP)—An ex-philosophy professor and two former guerrilla chiefs were seeking El Salvador's presidency Sunday following a campaign that seemed to help soothe a land still mending from the wounds of civil war.

Far ahead in pre-election polls was Francisco Flores, candidate of the ruling rightist National Republican Alliance party.

A former parliament speaker and onetime student of an Indian guru, Flores has softened the often violent rhetoric of Salvadoran politics — while taking advantage of a costly media campaign.

Challenging him were former guerrilla leaders Francisco Guardado of the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front, and Ruben Zamora of the Democratic Center Union. Four other candidates were also on the ballot. If no candidate wins 50 percent of the vote, a runoff between the top two vote recipients will be held later this month or in early April.

SECURITY continued from page 1

"just another example of where the administration apparently is more interested in engagement (with China) than they are what's happening in that engagement."

"The administration continues to resist really getting into what caused the problem and solving the problem," Lott said.

"China is getting to be more and more of a problem, both in their human rights conduct and the way we deal with it, but also a continuation of their efforts to get technology improperly and then use it improperly."

The Energy Department, in charge of U.S. civilian and military nuclear programs, admits security has been a problem. But the agency says the administration has created a counterintelligence office to solve it.

Edward Curran, director of counterintelligence, said in a statement it was unclear how much the Chinese weapons programs may have been helped by unauthorized disclosures of sensitive information.

Theft from U.S. nuclear labs will be the apparent focus of an upcoming report from a second congressional committee, Newsweek says in its March 15 edition, on newsstands Monday.

Rep. Christopher Cox, R-Calif., chairman of a special committee on military and commercial deals with China, is releasing a 700-page report as early as this month.

In a preliminary study released last month, the committee reported China aggressively has been pursuing U.S. military information for more than 20 years.

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FAFSA now available for 1999-2000 academic year

Staff Reports

The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) for the 1999-2000 academic year is available outside of room 212 in the Cope Administration Building or in the Financial Aid Office (temporarily located in Todd Library). The FAFSA is required to determine eligibility for Pell, TSAC, SEOG, Perkins, Federal Work-Study and Stafford Loans. Perkins, SEOG and Federal Work-Study will be awarded based on the date the application was processed from the department of Education. The financial aid office is

scheduled to begin sending award letters, which will show eligibility for loans, grants and work-study, on April 25.

The Fall 1999 fee payment deadline will be August 12. Students who have completed their Student Aid Report and loan applications on file by May 15, 1999 will receive priority for student loan processing. Students may also receive refunds checks as early as the first day of class if they have direct deposit. Direct deposit forms are available in the schedule books.

Students interested in applying for university scholarships are required to apply before the March 15 deadline. ■

George Jones recovering

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP)—Country singer George Jones was making remarkable progress Sunday after a car wreck left him "at death's door" because of a deep cut in his liver, his doctor said.

The 67-year-old singer remained in critical condition in intensive care at Vanderbilt University Medical Center.

"He was at death's door when he came in," said Dr. Virginia Eddy, a trauma surgeon. "So it's remarkable that he's alive at this point."

Jones was driving home in his Lexus when he crashed into a bridge at about 1:30 p.m. Saturday. It took emergency workers about two hours to free him from the car.

In addition to the liver injury, his right lung was punctured.

"He is obviously a fighter," Eddy said. "It's really remarkable. I've certainly seen people much younger than him in a whole lot more trouble at this point in time."

A ventilator was helping Jones breathe, and he was sedated by pain medication. Bleeding from the liver — the most serious problem — had stopped.

In the next few days, doctors will try to wean Jones from the ventilator, then start feeding him through a tube in his stomach, Eddy said.

If he continues making progress, he could be allowed to go home in as little as two weeks. Mrs. Jones said her husband wasn't ready to die.

"The good Lord has a reason, he's not going to take George yet," she said. "George has got a lot of singing to do." ■

Candidates for Spring 1999 SGA Elections

Write-in forms will be available at the polls.

President (vote for 1)

Kyle Heckman (Student Party)
Andrae Crismon
Bobby Toy (College Party)
Rob Croisdale, Jr.

John Marshall (College Party)

Business (vote for 4)

Chelle Bradburn (College Party)
Russ Henderson (College Party)
Jason S. Charles (College Party)
Julia Graves (College Party)
Tru Luong (Student Party)

Education (vote for 5)

Dustin Rawls (College Party)

Liberal Arts (vote for 3)

Kenny R. Wilson (Student Party)
Josh Pounders (College Party)

Mass Communications (vote for 4)

Brian Gillespie (College Party)

Undeclared (vote for 3)

David Dodd (College Party)

Graduate Studies (vote for 3)

Speaker of the Senate (vote for 1)

Andrew "Debo" Margrave
Aaron Tallent (Student Party)
Larry D. West (Independent)
Megan Smith (College Party)

Speaker of the House (vote for 1)

Kevin Travis (College Party)

Election Commissioner (vote for 1)

Katie Martin (Student Party)
Jennifer Sykora (College Party)

Senate Seats

Basic & Applied Science (vote for 5)

Chad Frey (College Party)
Sue-z Spencer (Independent)

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SPRING BREAK

Have fun on a small budget in the 'Boro

Staff Reports

Not everybody has the luxury of going on a trip (or even going home) for spring break. For those stuck in Murfreesboro all week with no classes to attend, here are a few suggestions of how to put a little fun in your break, even if you have little time and/or little money.

■ For those living in or around Cannon County/Woodbury, visit the top of Short Mountain. It offers a wonderful view of the surrounding area and a great place to watch the sunset.

■ Read, play or talk to a kid. Call Lori White at 893-5437 or 890-2582 to volunteer with the Boys and Girls Club here in Murfreesboro.

■ Call, email or write AND MAIL letters to that friend or relative you've lost touch with.

■ Get some friends together and visit the Kid's Castle playground on Old Fort Parkway. Be a kid again!

■ Go to a comfy spot alone and really think about your life. Use the time to focus on yourself and put things into perspective.

■ Go clubbin' in Nashville.
■ Do some community service.
■ Go to the movies.
■ Go shopping with the money that you saved from not going anywhere.

■ Learn a little about the history of Murfreesboro. Visit Cannonsburgh Village (see the world's largest cedar bucket), Fortress Rosecrans or the Oaklands Historic House Museum. Get more

information about these and other sites by visiting the Rutherford County Chamber of Commerce's web site at www.rutherfordcounty.org/chamber/sites.htm

■ Walk down East Main Street toward the Square and admire the homes as you pass (you know you can't get a good look at them when you are just driving by)!

■ Visit a restaurant or bar you've never been to before. A good list is available at nashville.citysearch.com

■ Have a picnic at Bicentennial Mall in Nashville.

■ Go fishing at Percy Priest Lake.

■ Drive to Fall Creek Falls State Park and spend the day enjoying nature.

■ Visit the Stones River National Battleground or walk the Greenway.

■ Visit the Jack Daniels Distillery in Lynchburg.

■ Go mountain biking. Some good local choices include Hamilton Creek in Nashville, Fairview near Franklin, Franklin State Forest and Sewanee.

■ Drive to Chattanooga and visit the Aquarium.

■ With no class to worry about, spring break is an excellent time to relieve stress by going out to a club or bar. You can stay out all night without the worry or sitting through class dead tired or with a hangover the next day.

■ Sleep.



Photo provided

African-American college students from across the United States and Canada will convene in Atlanta in April for the annual FREAKNIK festival.

Gettin' freaky at FREAKNIK

Shimeka Boyd
Staff Reporter

The countdown has begun for one of the largest African American college parties ever! This year, FREAKNIK will take place April 16-18.

Although it doesn't take place during MTSU's spring break, now is the time to start planning for the trip to Atlanta, Ga., to mix, mingle and meet with other African American college students from all over the United States and Canada.

Ladies, it's time to start making those hair appointments. Men, it's time to start

looking for the bomb'est rent-a-car you can find and then figure out how you can pull it off as your own. And for everyone that's going this year: do not forget to book a hotel room or you will be sleeping in somebody's rent-a-car.

FREAKNIK started in the 1980s by the D.C. Metro Club, a group of students at Morehouse College.

It began as a small gathering in one of the city's parks and years later spread over to Piedmont Park, the main park in the city.

Since then, word of the event spread and today it draws students from as far away as Canada.

Although there weren't as many people there last year as previous years, I still had a great time. There were so many good looking, half-naked men walking around just smiling.

This is an event where if you decide to wear clothes or not (I hope you do!), you're still going to have a good time.

Yes, I know that some of those folks should have on some clothes, but I guarantee you will get over the disgust when you turn your head and see something you like.

Go and show some support for FREAKNIK because rumor has it that it won't be around for long. ■

Pike Fights Championship



7:00 Thursday March 11, 1999

Come and see

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The Student Publications Committee is now taking applications for



SIDELINES
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Fall Editor

MIDLANDER
'99-'00 Editor

COLLAGE
'99-'00 Editor

**Deadline for
Applications:**

**4:00 pm
Mar. 26, 1999**

Qualified candidates should:

- Be an MTSU student registered for coursework at the time of application.
- Have a 2.0 cumulative GPA at the time of application.
- Have worked on staff at least two semesters. Comparable media experience applies.
- Provide three letters of recommendation, a current transcript and no more than five examples of their work, professionally submitted.

Editors receive a full tuition scholarship and a salary during their tenure. Applications may be picked up from the Student Publications Office, JUB 306, 8am-4:30pm, Mon-Fri.

Greeks host spring formal both near and far

Amanda Virgillito
Staff Reporter

Many fraternities and sororities are leaving campus this semester. That is, they're going to their formals.

Spring is a popular time for Greeks to dress their best and celebrate. Food, fun and friends serve as a popular theme among formals this semester.

Travel plans for fraternities this spring range nationwide. North, south, east or west, you will probably be able to find some of MTSU's Greeks roaming around.

Beta Theta Pi fraternity plans to visit New Orleans over Spring Break. The Oak Alley Plantation will host the formal. This is especially fitting because the plantation was built in 1839, the same year the fraternity was founded. This famous building was also the set for the film "Interview With the Vampire."

The formal will feature a five-course meal and a harp player as the couples sit out on the veranda. President Kevin Travis says many of the brothers and their dates plan to roam Bourbon Street and possibly take some voodoo and graveyard tours as recreation.

Another fraternity also has spring break formal plans. Sigma Alpha Epsilon is flying all the way to Boston for their celebration. President Steven Kennard says the formal will take place in the hotel they choose to stay in. Possible plans include a Celtics game.

Pi Kappa Alpha chose a different type of formal this year. It took place in January in Paoli Peaks, Ind. The brothers skied, went horseback riding and enjoyed themselves in the snowy setting. Their formal was at French Lick Springs resort, an early 1900s theme hotel. One of the brothers decided to greet the guests with a warm welcome. He convinced the guard to let him out on the front

balcony and waved the American flag as visitors entered the resort. This vacation also proved to be exciting for President Randy Quaid. He proposed to his girlfriend on the trip and is now happily engaged.

Although Sigma Nu's formal took place last fall in Atlanta, they still have big plans for the spring. The fraternity will host its annual Alumni Banquet this April in Nashville. This gives the active members a chance to visit with the alumni. Future formal plans possibly include Mardi Gras next spring, according to President Tommy Sheehan.

Although rules restrict sororities from traveling beyond a fifty-mile radius, the girls have big plans of their own.

This year commemorates Delta Zeta's 30-year anniversary of being on MTSU's campus. To celebrate, members will invite charter members and recent alumni to attend the formal, which will be at the Maxwell House in Nashville this April.

Chi Omega's formal was a big surprise to sisters and their dates. "Destination Unknown" occurred at the end of February at the Crown Plaza in Nashville. The girls boarded a bus, rode to the secret destination and arrived to dinner and a live '70s band.

Alpha Omicron Pi also decided to get creative this year. The theme for their formal is "Famous Couples," and sisters and their dates will dress up like their favorite well-known couple. The formal will take place somewhere in Murfreesboro on April 23. Awards will be given out for "best dressed couple" and "most active member," according to President Kristen Lovett.

After careful planning, many of MTSU's fraternities and sororities will spend spring enjoying each other and having a great time at their formals. ■

Campus organizations offer alternative spring breaks

Chris Crockett
Staff Reporter

There are many student organizations offering MTSU students a chance to participate in exciting and productive spring break activities.

The Office of Student Organizations and Community Services is sponsoring an alternative spring break trip to Franklin, NC. Students will be able to participate in community service work such as light construction work or donating time to work with elderly citizens. Those who are interested may contact the Office of Student Organizations and Community Services at 904-8418 or go to Keathley University Center 306 to receive an application.

Alpha Omega is offering a trip to Oneda, Ky. Those who participate will do construction work on a boarding school in the area and will work with the students of the school. Those who are interested in more information are encouraged to contact Aaron Coe at 890-6977.

The Wesley Foundation campus ministry is offering a trip to Honduras, although there are no longer any seats available. Students on the trip will have the chance to help construct the second floor of a school being built. In addition, work will be done to help repair homes damaged by hurricanes.

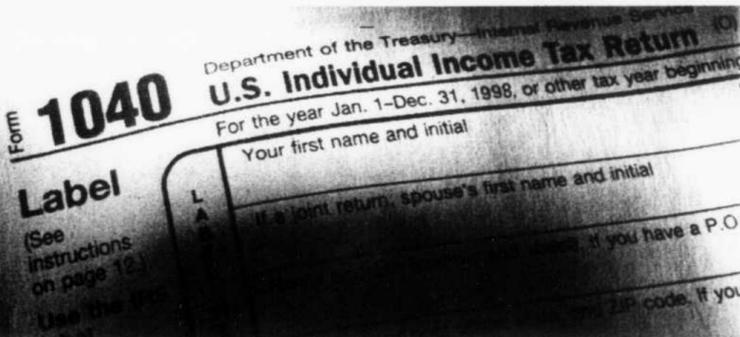
The Baptist Student Union will be taking a group to Birmingham, Ala., to do repairs on houses for lower-income families in the community. ■



Photos provided

The Wesley Foundation campus ministry is one of several campus organizations offering MTSU students the opportunity to do community service-type mission trips during spring break. The Wesley Foundation will visit Honduras this year.

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The Stults Memorial Scholarship Committee is now taking applications for the

Douglas E. Stults Memorial Scholarship

\$1200

Application Deadline:
4 p.m., March 26, 1999

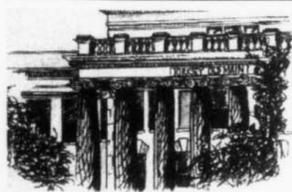
To Qualify A Candidate Must:

- have a minimum 2.7 cumulative grade point average (must be exact or better)
- be at least a second-year undergraduate student with a minimum of 24 credit hours
- have some media experience (on or off campus work applies, in any print or broadcast medium)

To Apply:

- submit an application
- a 1,000-2,000 word essay on "The Future of Privacy in Contemporary Society"
- submit a copy of your transcript
- submit three to five samples of your work, six copies of each (short tapes of broadcasts are accepted. Clips must be professionally presented.)

For more information, contact Jenny Crouch at 898-2815 or come by James Union Building, Room 308. Three finalists will be selected from the field of applicants and will be interviewed at a date to be announced. You will be notified if you are to be interviewed.



OPINIONS

"Were it left for me to decide whether we should have a government without newspapers, or newspapers without a government, I should not hesitate a moment to prefer the latter."

—Thomas Jefferson

Murfreesboro, TN

6 ■ SIDELINES

Editorial

Hold off on those Spring Break excesses

In less than a week, campus will be deserted as everyone leaves to enjoy their Spring Break.

It doesn't matter where you spend your break — on the beach in Florida, at home with Mom and Dad or lounging in your apartment in Murfreesboro — be safe.

True, the whole idea behind Spring Break is just to relax and have fun, but don't go wild and throw caution completely to the wind.

Spring Break won't be any fun if you spend it in an emergency room or regretting what you did the night before.

Just like you will be sure to take sunscreen if you plan to spend a day on the beach, you should be prepared to practice safe sex if there is any chance you will be sexually active on your Spring Break trip.

Often hand-in-hand with unprotected sex is heavy amounts of alcohol. Drinking too much can lead to nights you want to forget, extreme headaches the next morning and being less cautious than normal.

Unprotected sex and heavy drinking. The combination sounds like a call to MTV's "Loveline" waiting to happen, or at least an episode of the oh-so-respectable "Jenny Jones Show."

Studies show that college drinking — especially binge drinking by college students —

is at an all-time high, a fact highlighted in recent years by several high-profile deaths at universities across the country.

But drinking picks up even more than normal when Spring Break rolls around. If you want to drink, don't drink until you're not safe to drive or be alone without a designated sober friend.

Another scary fact is that the Tennessee state legislature is considering making an HIV test mandatory for all couples before they can marry, and releasing the results to both partners. They won't forbid people with bad results to marry, but that could make a person think twice before saying "do."

What a terrible wedding present for your future spouse — a sexually-transmitted disease picked up on a college Spring Break trip. ■

URHA is voice of campus students

The URHA Source

Commentary by Justin McLeod

URHA WHO?

Do you know who URHA is? We're betting you don't. Considering our near-complete obscurity to the general population of MTSU, we thought it was high time that we diversified our communication by writing a column in Sidelines.

So, who is URHA? URHA stands for United Residence Hall Association. We are the second largest student organization on campus with around 3,400 members. If you live on campus and you are a student, then you are a member.

The URHA Council is comprised of six Executive Board members and eight area representatives. Bobby Jones heads the Executive Board as President, Justin McLeod is the vice-president and National Communications Coordinator, Nic Perry is the secretary, Courtney Maxwell is the treasurer, the SGA representative is Davina Woodard, and the advisor is David Holtzman.

Each area of housing has their own government. They preside over activities, rules and policies, and improvements in their area. Each area vice-president then goes to URHA meetings once a week to discuss what their area is doing and what campus-wide programs, rules, or improvements they would like to see done in housing.

What does URHA do? We provide a forum for

students living on campus to voice their concerns about the community in which they live.

If you have problems, you can come to URHA. If you have an idea for programming, come to URHA. If you want to see improvements with living in on-campus housing, see URHA. If you're out of shape, go to YMCA.

We are the voice of every resident on living campus. We are your government.

Where is URHA? Our office is located in the Abernathy lobby in the back room. Our phone number is 898-2074. We meet on Thursdays at 6:30 p.m. in the KUC room 305. Anyone is welcome to attend the meetings.

WANT TO WIN \$50?

We need a logo. URHA is holding a contest to find a logo for our organization.

The winner of the contest will win \$50. No strings attached. If you are a good artist and you think you can win, submit a logo.

The only guidelines for our logo are that it must incorporate the name, URHA, and nothing is in bad taste. Use your imagination. We want you to be creative. All applicants must bring the logo to the URHA office.

Just slip it under the door. Please include your name and phone number with the design. All designs must be in by April 1st. If you have any questions, call 898-2074.

BLUE RAIDER RECOGNITION AWARDS

The Blue Raider Recognition Awards is a banquet that will be held during the month of April. The awards recognizes the students and housing staff that have gone above and beyond the call of duty for devotion, encouragement, and development of on-campus residents.

Awards that will be included are Best RA, Best Desk Assistant, Best Computer Lab Assistant, Best Overall Area, Most Improved Area, Area Community Service Award, Best Housing Tutor, Best Area Government Advisor, Outstanding Student, Area Government/URHA Officer Appreciation Award, and Blue Raider Recognition Award.

If you know someone in your area who deserves an award, then fill out a nomination and give it to your area government representative. Nomination forms can be found through your local area government. If you have any questions, give us a call.

FREE CONCERT

Rich McCready will be performing an acoustic set on Wednesday beginning at 6:15 p.m. in the Deere/Nicks Courtyard.

McCready is an accomplished singer/songwriter who was signed to a record label in 1996. In 1996, McCready was named a CMT Rising Star.

He also received the First Americans In The Arts Award for achievement in entertainment in 1997 and had a top 40 hit with "Hangin' On." Other singles include "Thinkin' Strait," "When Hell Freezes Over," and "That Just About Covers It."

There will be an open-mic after the show. If you would like to perform please call Dustin at 898-3008. If it rains the set will be performed in the Family Housing Center.

CONTRIBUTIONS

If you would like to contribute to this column, please bring your letter to the URHA office. If no one is in, then slip it under the door on the right. We want to hear your ideas, complaint, proposals and opinions. ■

From the Mailbox



Pagans, like all other religious groups, have the right to religious freedom

To the editor:

I am a paganist. I dislike confrontations of any kind, but when my religion is attacked, my blood boils and I become quite frustrated — not angry, mind you, just frustrated.

It's not easy being Pagan in this Christian-saturated culture. I did not become a Pagan because it is popular, I chose this path because it is what I have always believed.

Now what, might you ask, is a Pagan? The word "pagan" comes from the Latin "paganus" which means "country dweller." During the early days of Christianity as an organized religion, only the rich, the ruling classes and those who lived in the cities had been exposed to or accepted Christianity. Those who still followed the old ways lived in the country and were therefore pagans.

Sidelines ran an article in the March 1 issue concerning a group of parents who were so opposed to the exposure of their children to anything remotely Pagan that they sued their school district. The parents claimed their religious freedom was imposed upon, but what about the religious freedom of Pagans?

Disregarding the issue of religious freedom, it is difficult to see what is Pagan and what is not. Some of the relationships are easy to see. The game "Magic: The Gathering" is obvious in its Pagan references, but it is just that — a game. I would assume that most kids old enough to play that game know the differences between fantasy and reality.

The study of other religions might be construed as remotely Pagan because anything non-Christian is loosely termed Pagan. However, if the approach to other religions is archaeological and sociological in nature, no offense should be taken because it is purely academic and not intended to promote any particular religion.

The two complaints that confused me most were the ones pertaining to the celebration of Earth Day and the study of owl pellets in science class. As for Earth Day, what offense could be taken at addressing environmental issues and promoting good environmental practices such as recycling. As for the study of owl pellets, the regurgitated non-digestible portions of what an owl eats, I see absolutely no connection to anything remotely Pagan.

The items mentioned above do not scratch the surface of what it means to be Pagan. In fact, many common things have Pagan origins: the Christmas tree, the three wise men who visited Jesus were astrologers, the Easter egg, Shakespeare and the names given to the days of the week. To eliminate Pagan influence would be to eliminate more than half of Western culture. In fact, one of the great ironies falls in that Catholic parents had such a militant disliking of anything remotely Pagan when much of the ritual of Mass has Pagan origins.

People fear what they do not understand. Opposing curriculum that broadens students' horizons is to promote ignorance and intolerance.

For more information on Paganism and religious tolerance, contact the Student Pagan Organization at mtsuspo@yahoo.com or John Bryan at 898-3734.

Jessica Scarbrough
president, Student Pagan Organization

Al Gore's high production volume chemical testing program goes too far

To the editor:

I sadly admit that I have always been a supporter of Al Gore, mainly because of his concern for the environment, but now he's gone too far. For those of you who haven't yet heard of Gore's high production volume (HPV) chemical testing program, I would advise you to check it out before you decide to throw a vote Gore's way at election time.

Gore's program will poison and kill millions of rabbits, birds, fish, and other helpless animals with thousands of chemicals, many already known to be hazardous, such as rat poison, lead, and turpentine.

The notorious lethal dose test — in which animals are force-fed or forced to inhale toxic chemicals until half of them die — is one of the main tests that will be used. Why does Gore demand these actions? Because the Environmental Protection Agency says they don't already have enough data on these chemicals. How

much brain power does it require to know that rat poison is unsafe?

There are tests available which do not require the use of animals. An internationally accepted non-animal test is available to replace the genetic toxicity procedure in which chemicals are injected into animals' stomachs.

This test alone would save thousands of animals. And think about this: animal tests can keep highly toxic materials in the marketplace because, even though a chemical may kill a rabbit, manufacturers will always be able to accurately claim that the results aren't applicable to humans. Either way, animal tests could delay government regulation of dangerous chemicals for years.

Gore's plan has no provisions for projects that have a real chance at protecting the environment. Says Mary Beth Sweetland, the director of research and investigations for PETA (People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals), "The HPV program simply does nothing for the earth, puts people at risk, and burns the skin off bunnies." (source: PETA's website)

We need to let Al Gore know that poisoning animals in tests that will not benefit to the public is a national outrage. Please write to this "green" candidate and let him know that he must put a stop to this horrific program.

Thank you,
Serena Matthews
PETA member

Need for \$15 increase in student activity fee not proven by SGA

To whom it may concern:

It seems that every year our Student Government Association tries to get the student activity fee increased from \$5 to \$20. I don't think this increase is necessary.

College costs are high enough without intentionally raising fees that we can control. One look in the current catalog or class schedule booklet will show you what I am talking about.

SGA is not really showing why this increase is necessary. I have heard that it would go to student programming such as concerts. You know as well as I do that all 18,000 students do not attend every concert. Even those students that go still pay to attend! Also, the increase does not guarantee that more singers will be attracted to MTSU.

Remember when certain officials at MTSU were trying to attract the Oilers (Titans) to play their first season here? That failed. MTSU students are not here to attend athletic events or concerts; they are here because they want to further their education.

Vote no for the SGA activity fee increase!
Karen Lynette Bennett

Student supports Kyle Heckman's run for SGA president

To the editor:

I would like to say a few words on behalf of Student Government Association presidential candidate Kyle Heckman. In the past two-and-a-half years, I have worked closely with Kyle on many different projects. This has given me the opportunity to notice many noteworthy qualities about Kyle.

Kyle has shown himself a strong advocate of students' rights and a proven leader. Kyle's experience with SGA is great. He has written numerous pieces of legislation and serves on several committees, including the university rules committee, the general studies committee and the disciplinary committee.

The decisions and findings of these committees strongly impact the students at MTSU. Kyle does not take these committee positions lightly; he carefully weighs each and every decision to make certain that the students are the No. 1 priority at all times.

Kyle also has a direct hand in advising, drafting and revising much of the sponsored legislation. Finally, Kyle, as chief of staff, has served as a sort of "second president." Any time that the SGA president was unable to attend a meeting or in some way unable to represent the student body, Kyle stepped in and confidently and successfully represented the students and their interests.

SGA is not the only activity in which Kyle succeeds. Kyle, an honor student, excels in the classroom. Kyle's high marks led him to join Phi Sigma Pi, a co-

educational national honor fraternity. During his tenure in Phi Sigma Pi, Kyle has served in many leadership positions. As public relations chairman of Phi Sigma Pi, Kyle successfully organized and delivered the first-ever Southern Authors Forum. The lecture was so popular that it will return in mid-April.

During the last year, Kyle has served as president of the MTSU chapter Phi Sigma Pi. With Kyle as president, the fraternity has flourished, growing into one of the strongest chapters in the nation. Kyle led Phi Sigma Pi to its second consecutive win in the non-Greek division of the Homecoming festivities.

Kyle Heckman's strong leadership abilities and his sincere desire to help MTSU students make him the best candidate for the SGA presidency.

Sherry E. Brown
junior English major

Student encourages others to meet Aaron Tallent, support his election campaign

To the editor:

The upcoming SGA elections have generated little, if any, real enthusiasm on campus. The vast majority of student don't have a clue as to who is running for what. Many just don't care.

After one debate and a few flyers tacked on the walls, students are expected to make an educated choice as to who will be their voice in campus affairs. They must decide who will fight for them on a wide range of issues, ranging from parking to feminine products in the women's restrooms. Experience and dedication must be considered.

Aaron Tallent, the Student Party candidate for speaker of the senate, has proven himself repeatedly as a model senator. He has invested three years of hard work in the SGA. In that time, he has sponsored more legislation for change than any of his respective colleagues. Senator Tallent has demonstrated a blue-collar work ethic and his attendance record — a problem with some in the SGA — is spotless.

I urge students to meet with Aaron and decide for themselves whether he is the man for the job. When you vote on Monday and Tuesday, don't just pick a name. Vote for the people you know you can trust with responsibility.

Ryan McGehee, senator for the College of Liberal Arts

Right to Life president challenges "pro-murderers" to debate on campus

Recently the Tennessee Right to Life announced we will be having a meeting on March 10 at KUC 312. Like all other organizations here on campus, we printed up our fliers and posted them all over campus, including areas by the Women's Studies department and the JAWC (since this is an issue which greatly affects us all, especially women) I would've thought this was a good idea.

Within an hour, they were gone.

Thinking this must've been a mistake, or maybe the wind somehow blew it off. (Even though both sites are indoors) I replaced them with new one. A poster say me posting it, we exchanged "hellos" and I left for class. I forgot a book so I returned to the sight within minutes and know what! The replacement fliers were gone!!

Now it all made sense.

You see, groups like Feminist Majority pro-choice groups, even departments like Women's Studies here at MTSU aren't really concerned with women's issues. Yeah, sure, they give lips service to several issues, but they don't really want to discuss these issues.

Why? What is it they are afraid of? Truth? I thought that's our purpose here at MTSU, and in life in general. Remember the slogans "Knowledge is Power" and "A Mind is a Terrible Thing To Waste"?

I believe that, and I'm sure the students here at MTSU would agree. Just present the information and let the students determine your opinion. That's my view.

Well, pro choicers (pro-murderers) like the before mentioned groups don't want you to view this information. They don't want you hearing 1.4 million children lost their lives last year. They cringe when they

See LETTERS, page 7

Sidelines welcomes letters to the editor.

All letters must be signed and include a phone number for verification. E-mail letters to stupubs@frank.mtsu.edu, mail them to 904-8487 or fax them to 904-8487. Letters will be printed on a first received, first printed basis. Sidelines reserves the right to edit for style and grammar. **Deadline for letters is Monday at 5:30 p.m. for the Thursday paper and Thursday at 5:30 p.m. for the Monday paper.**

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ADVERTISING: 898-2533
FAX: 904-8487

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Jenny Tenpenny Crouch

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Spring Break won't be any fun if you spend it in an emergency room or regretting what you did the night before.

Just like you will be sure to take sunscreen if you plan to spend a day on the beach, you should be prepared to practice safe sex if there is any chance you will be sexually active on your Spring Break trip.

Often hand-in-hand with unprotected sex is heavy amounts of alcohol. Drinking too much can lead to headaches the next morning and being less cautious than normal.

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The URHA Source

Commentary by Justin McLeod

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Now what, might you ask, is a Pagan? The word "pagan" comes from the Latin "paganus," which means "country dweller." During the early days of Christianity, as an organized religion, only the rich, the ruling classes, and those who lived in the cities had been exposed to accepted Christianity. Those who still followed the old ways lived in the country and were therefore pagans.

Sidelines ran an article in the March issue concerning a group of parents who were so opposed by the exposure of their children to mythological characters that they sued their school district. The parents claimed their religious freedom was opposed upon, but what about the religious freedom of Paganism?

Disregarding the issue of religious freedom, it is difficult to see what is Pagan and what is not. Some of the relationships are easy to see. The game "Magic: The Gathering" is obvious in its Pagan references, but it is just that — a game. I would assume that most kids old enough to play that game know the difference between fantasy and reality.

The study of other religions might be considered as remotely Pagan because anything non-Christian is loosely termed Pagan. However, if the approach to other religions is archeological and sociological in nature, no offense should be taken because it is purely academic and not intended to promote any particular religion.

The two complaints that confused me most were the ones pertaining to the celebration of Earth Day and the study of owl pellets in science class. As for Earth Day, what offense could be taken at celebrating environmental issues and promoting environmentally sound practices such as recycling? As for the study of owl pellets in science class, I see absolutely no connection to anything remotely Pagan.

The items mentioned above do not scratch the surface of what it means to be Pagan. In fact, many common things have Pagan origins: the Christmas tree, the three wise men who visited Jesus were astrologers, the Easter egg, Shakespeare and the names given to the days of the week. To eliminate Pagan influence would be to eliminate more than half of Western culture. In fact, one of the great ironies falls in that Catholic parents had such a militant disliking of anything remotely Pagan when much of the ritual of Mass has Pagan origins.

People fear what they do not understand. Opposing curriculum that broadens students' horizons is to promote ignorance and intolerance.

For more information on Paganism and religious tolerance, contact the Student Pagan Organization at mtsuspo@yahoo.com or John Bryan at 898-3734. Jessica Seabrook is president, Student Pagan Organization.

Al Gore's high production volume chemical testing program goes too far

To the editor:
I sadly admit that I have always been a supporter of Al Gore, mainly because of his concern for the environment, but now he's gone too far. For those of you who haven't yet heard of Gore's high production volume (HPV) chemical testing program, I would advise you to check it out before you decide to throw a vote Gore's way at election time.

Gore's program will poison and kill millions of rabbits, birds, fish, and other helpless animals with thousands of chemicals, many already known to be hazardous, such as rat poison, lead, and turpentine.

The notorious lethal dose test — in which animals are force-fed or forced to inhale toxic chemicals until half of them die — is one of the main tests that will be used. Why does Gore demand these actions? Because the Environmental Protection Agency says they don't already have enough data on these chemicals. How

hazardous? Gore is trying to voice their concerns about the community they live in.

If you have problems, you can come to URHA. If you have a complaint, you can come to URHA. If you want to voice your concerns, you can come to URHA. If you want to voice your concerns, you can come to URHA.

We are the only organization that represents the interests of all students living on campus.

URHA is the voice of campus students. We represent the interests of all students living on campus. We are the only organization that represents the interests of all students living on campus.

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Awards that will be included are: Best RA, Best Desk Assistant, Best Computer Lab Assistant, Best Overall Area, Most Improved Area, Best Community Service Award, Best Honors Tutor, Best Area Government Advisor, Best Honors Student, Area Government/URHA Officer Appreciation Award, and Blue Rider Recognition Award.

If you know someone in your area who deserves an award, then fill out a nomination form and give it to your area government representative. Nomination forms can be found through your local area government. If you have any questions, give us a call!

FREE CONCERT

Rich McCready will be performing an acoustic set on Wednesday, beginning at 6:15 p.m. in the Deere/Nicks Courtyard.

McCready is an accomplished singer/songwriter who was signed to a record label in 1996. In 1996, McCready was named a CMT Rising Star.

He also received the First Americans In The Arts Award for achievement in entertainment in 1997 and had a top 40 hit with "Hangin' On." Other singles include "Thinkin' Strutt," "When Hell Freezes Over," and "That Just About Covers It."

There will be an open mic after the show. If you would like to perform please call Duane at 898-3008. If it rains the set will be performed in the Family Housing Center.

CONTRIBUTIONS

If you would like to contribute to this column, please bring your letter to the URHA office. If no one is in, then slip it under the door on the right. We want to hear your ideas, complaints, proposals and opinions. ■



educational national honor fraternity. During his tenure in Phi Sigma Pi, Kyle has served in many leadership positions. As Phi Sigma Pi relations chairman of Phi Sigma Pi, Kyle successfully organized and delivered the first-ever Southern Authors Forum. The lecture was so popular that it will return in mid-April.

During the last year, Kyle has served as president of the MTSU chapter Phi Sigma Pi. With Kyle as president, the fraternity has flourished, growing into one of the strongest chapters in the nation. Kyle led Phi Sigma Pi to its second consecutive win in the non-Greek division of the Homecoming festivities.

Kyle Heckman's strong leadership abilities and his sincere desire to help MTSU students make him the best candidate for the SGA presidency.

Sherry E. Brown
junior English major

Student encourages others to meet Aaron Tallent, support his election campaign

To the editor:
The upcoming SGA elections have generated a lot of, if any, real enthusiasm on campus. The vast majority of student don't have a clue as to who is running for what. Many just don't care.

After one debate and a few flyers tacked on the walls, students are expected to make an educated choice as to who will be their voice in campus affairs. They must decide who will fight for them on a wide range of issues, ranging from parking to feminine products in the women's restrooms. Experience and dedication must be considered.

Aaron Tallent, the Student Party candidate for speaker of the senate, has proven himself repeatedly as a model senator. He has invested three years of hard work in the SGA. In that time, he has sponsored more legislation for change than any of his respective colleagues. Senator Tallent has demonstrated a blue-collar work ethic and his attendance record — a problem with some in the SGA — is spotless.

I urge students to meet and talk with Aaron and decide for themselves whether he is the man for the job. When you vote on Monday and Tuesday, don't just pick a name. Vote for the people you know you can trust with responsibility.

Ryan McGhee, senator for the College of Liberal Arts

Right to Life president challenges "pro-murderers" to debate on campus

Recently the Tennessee Right to Life announced we will be having a meeting on March 10 at KUC 312. Like all other organizations here on campus, we printed up our fliers and posted them all over campus, including areas within the Women's Studies department and the JAWC (since this is an issue which greatly affects us all, especially women). I would've thought this was a good idea.

Within an hour, they were gone. Thinking this must've been a mistake, or maybe the wind somehow blew it off. (Even though both sites are indoors) I replaced them with new ones. A pro-choice say me posting it, we exchanged "hellos" and I left for class. I forgot a book so I returned to the sight within minutes and know what! The replacement fliers were gone!

Now it all made sense. You see, groups like Feminist Majority and pro-choice groups, even departments like Women's Studies here at MTSU aren't really concerned with women's issues. Yeah, sure, they give lip service to several issues, but they don't really want to discuss those issues.

Why? What is it if they are afraid of? Truth? I thought that's our purpose here at MTSU, and in life in general. Remember the slogan "Knowledge is Power" and "A Mind is a Terrible Thing to Waste"?

I believe that, and I'm sure the students here at MTSU would agree. Just present the information and let the students determine your opinion. That's my view.

Well, pro-choice (pro-murderers) like the before mentioned groups don't want you to view this information. They don't want you hearing 1.4 million children lost their lives last year. They cringe when they

LETTERS
continued from page 6

worry you'll learn that 98 percent of those abortions were due not to rape, incest, or life of mothers at stake; but due to reckless behavior and immaturity.

They don't want you to learn this, fellow students, because the Feminist Majority, pro-choicers and Lambda do not want you deciding your own opinions based on all the facts: Abortion is wrong! We at the Tennessee Right to Life Group wish simply to present our information to you, the students of MTSU. Life is precious and beautiful. Just like the saying "you only live once" you can only die once as well.

Therefore, such a decision should not be taken lightly without all the available information (do you hear this Fem. Majority? Lambda? Pro Choice?) Somewhere, here on this campus, women are facing this decision, "do I preserve this child's only opportunity at life or do I end it due to the fact I made a boo-boo?"

Well, don't despair. Some of us still believe on presenting you with all the available information and any assistance you may need. Unlike those radical pseudo groups, we are available any time to present all the information.

Fem. Majority, here's my offer: Anytime, anywhere, in a formal setting, sponsored by any group or dept. on campus, I formally and officially challenge you to a debate, held on campus. Let's present all the information for the students. Whether its with a moderator or a mutually agreed upon panel, let's let the students here at MTSU decide for themselves.

Or is your argument against life so weak, so morally bankrupt, so intellectually inconsistent you can't possibly articulate it? It this it? Are you so afraid there is absolutely no basis for your argument, that you're afraid of people truly deciding for themselves?

We're willing to present "just the facts." Fem. Majority, are you listening?

Kevin Fisher
Right to Life Group president

Student Party not responsible for Greek Row

To the Editor:
Election time is here again. It's time for candidates to stand up and tell the students exactly what they want to hear. This campaign is

definitely no exception to that rule. Normally, I would sit back and watch the candidates make huge claims and promises and I would not say much at all.

However, after reading a letter sent out by one of the candidates and after reading a very large ad in Thursday's edition of the Sidelines, I can no longer hold back.

The American public, by now, should be used to being lied to and given empty promises by presidential candidates. And the students of this university should know the same, however, the students should not be completely snowballed with the information given by presidential candidate Kyle Heckman and the Student Party.

In an ad that ran in Thursday's Sidelines, the Student Party, which apparently leads the SGA, claims to have single handedly created not only 1,000 new parking spaces, but also the new apartments on campus and Greek Row. These claims were made in the ad and also in a letter that was sent out to all the organizations on campus.

The Student Party had nothing to do with Greek Row construction.

The plans for Greek row were approved before anyone in the Student Party was involved in the Student Government!

The Student Party was only formed last year, they could not have been involved in plans that were made four of five years ago. They know this, but they don't want to be caught in a lie.

The letter also claims that they were responsible for creating 1,000 parking spaces. I don't think that any parking spaces were actually built. In fact there were pre-existing spaces that were reopened, but the SGA was not involved with that and especially not the Student Party.

The last major claim the letter and ad makes is that they were responsible for the construction of the new apartment style housing on campus. That has absolutely nothing to do with the Student Party. That housing project has been in the making for years, long before the Student Party was around.

I realize that what I have said is somewhat unsupported so far. So to emphasize the fact that what I have said is true, I must explain where I received this information. For the last three years everything that the student government has printed, typed, stapled, faxed or

been involved in, I have seen.

I have been heavily involved in the behind-the-scenes operations of the SGA longer than the Student Party has been in organization. And much longer than their candidate for president. The information I have given is factual, not something that I have made up or worded in a certain way. My intentions are not to mislead anyone, unlike the Student Party.

Kyle Heckman claims that he has been "working in the office everyday." That is a blatant lie! I am the full-time student worker in the office and I rarely saw Kyle until these last few weeks. And you can ask anyone that works in the office and they'll give you the same answer.

I ask the students this: Would you want a president that has the underlying intention to lie to and mislead student?

The current president has had the same intentions all year and look at the incredible job he's doing. The average student doesn't know his name.

He is hardly ever in the office to talk to students and he has slowly begun to destroy the largest organization on campus to achieve his personal goals.

Let us not make the same mistake twice. Should we elect a president that is exactly like the

last. No, it is time for change, it is time to take back the student government from these people. I urge you to vote and exercise your right to be a part of your organization.

Jerome Hruska
SGA head student worker

get the keys friends don't let friends drive drunk

Sidelines is looking for reporters and columnists. If you want to learn about MTSU while getting some writing experience, give us a call. For more information, stop by JUB 310.

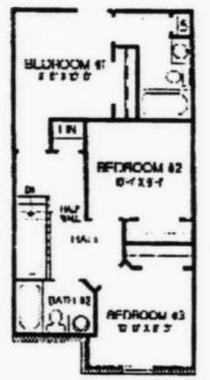
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Networking Bonanza! Job Opportunities!

Tuesday, March 23, 1999
11a.m. - 6p.m.
I-24 EXPO

Free tickets and rosters of employers will be available in the MTSU Placement Center beginning March 8.

Attendance is limited to seniors, graduate students and alumni registered with the Placement Center.

Presented by Nashville Area Colleges and Universities and The Nashville Area Chamber of Commerce

WANT THE SGA TO SOLVE YOUR PROBLEMS???????

THEN VOTE FOR THE

STUDENT PARTY OF MTSU

The Student Party is dedicated to ensuring that every student on this campus is represented by the SGA. Last year, the Student Party committed to redefining the way the SGA worked— basing the future of the SGA on Communication, Cooperation, and Student Rights.

AND IT WORKED!!!

Last year, in an SGA led by the Student Party, the campus:

- Added approximately 1000 parking spaces
- Voided over \$250,000 in parking tickets
- Began constructing Nine New Apartment Complexes (first student housing in 25 years!)
- Began constructing a Greek Row on Campus
- Renovated food services
- Changed Woodmore Cafeteria to a Student Hang-out Center
- And much more!!

WHAT'S IN STORE FOR THE STUDENT PARTY NEXT?

- Better Student Parking
- Provide A Safer Campus
- Improving Our Education
- Making Learning Easier
- Campus Beautification
- Student Input In Housing
- Refine Campus Services

SO VOTE FOR THE STUDENT PARTY!!

FEATURES

8 ■ SIDELINES

Murfreesboro, TN

Sensitivities raise issues for professors

Kim North Shine
Knight-Ridder News Services

Free thought and self-expression have long been associated with college campuses, but some educators are struggling to balance freedom of speech with a person's expectation not to be offended in the classroom.

Professors especially are minding their words for a student will take exception, complain and bring on disciplinary, if not legal, action.

"They are worried and rightly so. It's a delicate balance between what some people may consider a hostile environment in the classroom and academic freedom," said Iris Molotsky, spokeswoman for the 44,000-member American Association of University Professors. "We have to be much more aware and make sure the students we're teaching are comfortable."

A Macomb Community College student said she found English professor John Bonnell's classroom so comfortable she filed a complaint against him in November. On Feb. 3, the college suspended the 59-year-old professor indefinitely.

The student, whose identity is being withheld by the school, said Bonnell regularly used foul language. She said that was offensive, unprofessional and verging on sexual harassment.

Bonnell, whose suspension sparked a protest by students who called him a great teacher, said he was simply teaching literature, the English language and their origins in the style he has for 32 years.

Only one of his 300 students last year complained, he noted. The words are always germane to the subject, he said.

"I never attack a student personally. I never single out a person or small groups. I don't call them words to suggest they're deficient in intelligence," he said, adding he doesn't use "what I call the vernacular and they call vulgar" unless it relates to what he's teaching.

Bonnell's dispute joins dozens of other collegiate free speech debates around the country. Many have resulted in litigation.

In a recent case in San Bernardino, Calif., a professor was fired for using sexually explicit language. He sued, and the court reinstated him.

"It's a little bit discouraging when students and teachers can't work these things out, or the administration can't discuss these things in a civil way.

You'd think campuses would have developed machinery for discussing these issues by now," said Gerald Graff, an English and education professor at the University of Illinois. In 1991, he helped found Teachers for a Democratic Culture.

"They should open up a discussion on what are the limits in regards to use of expletives and whatever."

He added, "It's legitimate to be concerned if a professor comes in and uses offensive language."

Joan Birtin, executive director of the National Coalition on Censorship, said freedom of speech means running the risk of offending.

"The First Amendment does protect the right to say things people don't like; that's what it's all about," Birtin said. "I don't want to say there isn't classroom speech that couldn't

and shouldn't be regulated, but the critical rule is the institution can't be trying to suppress unpopular or controversial ideas."

Some institutions have speech codes. Some of those codes have not withstood constitutional challenges.

At Macomb Community College, offensive speech is addressed in a sexual-harassment policy that lists remarks and actions to avoid.

"The only question I would raise about this case is what's the justification for using the language," Birtin said.

That's what Jim O'Connor of the Cuss Control Academy, in Chicago, wonders. He finds no fault with the expression of ideas as long as it's not peppered with obscenities. He teaches courses on curbing cursing.

"I think it's inappropriate, but I don't think it should become a legal situation," he said. "In an academic environment I would think they'd be making a stronger attempt to use proper English and words that communicate more clearly."

One problem, he said, may be that some professors try to play cool. "They're trying to come down to the level of the students, and I think it's a mistake. If they're talking like a college kid they're not going to get that much respect."

Molotsky of the professors association said schools should act early instead of reacting to complaints.

"There has to be some kind of due process procedure in place that will ensure that students and professors are heard equally," she said. "We have to do this because the college has to be a forum for the free circulation of ideas." ■



Left: Lee "Wind Dancer" Lawrence of Alabama was one of the featured performers at Saturday's powwow at MTSU's Livestock Center. He is of Cherokee and Creek ancestry.



'Pow'erful Experience

Staff photos by Hiawatha Walker

The event was sponsored by the MTSU chapter of the Native American Heritage Society with the assistance of the Middle Tennessee Anthropology Society. Thousands of people, including representatives from several Native American nations, attended the festival. Participants included drummers, singers, flautists, dancers of many styles, storytellers, bow exhibitionists, historians, and wide variety of crafts and vendors.



"Friendly Ghosts" —remembering the best movie moments of the past year

In "My Antonia," Willa Cather writes, "Some memories are realities, and are better than anything that can ever happen to one again." As a fully-devoted film connoisseur, many of the memories I treasure, the ones I honor as "real," are the ones made for me on the silver screen. I see over two-hundred films a year (many of them dreadful), so it is with relish that I horde the movie moments that I feel better off having experienced. Most of the time, I have no choice. They are what I call "friendly ghosts." They are the scenes, characters, images, and other cinematic moments that I am obliged to let haunt me. These are the "ghosts" from the past twelve months that have stayed with me...

-- Kenneth Branagh's frantic search for echinacea in "Celebrity"...

-- In "The Thin Red Line," after enduring the grim trial of battle, soldiers capture a crocodile and experience an odd absence of accomplishment...

-- The opening of "Antz," which places a Woody Allen-voiced insect just where you'd expect him to be -- a psychiatrist's couch...

-- A young Native American scatters his father's ashes over a waterfall in "Smoke Signals"...

-- The Dude (Jeff Bridges) and Walter (John Goodman) unsuccessfully scatter their

friend's ashes from a beach-side cliff in "The Big Lebowski"...

-- The made-up Virgin Queen (Cate Blanchett), her freeze consumed, emerges from her quarters in "Elizabeth"...

-- Geoffrey Rush's monomaniacal perseverance in "Les Miserables," pathetic befuddlement in "Shakespeare in Love," and cold-hearted machinations in "Elizabeth"...

-- Leonardo DiCaprio's self-mocking performance in "Celebrity"...

-- Ben Affleck's DiCaprio-mocking performance in "Shakespeare in Love"...

-- In "Hombres Armados," an old man (Federico Luppi) reaches El Circulo de Cielo (The Circle of Heaven), feeling he has accomplished nothing. His ragamuffin companions look upon him, wanting him to feel the transformation they have undergone because of him...

-- In "A Simple Plan," Bill Paxton dreams of upward mobility. In the confines of a parked car, Billy Bob Thornton confesses that, to him, just plain normalcy would be wealth...

-- Sixpence None the Richer's sweet, romantic lullaby, "Kiss Me," and Kevin Pollak's deadpan high-cleaning dad -- the only highlights of the otherwise awful "She's All That"...

-- An irate Walter confronts an indifferent teenage car thief in "The Big Lebowski"...

-- Giovanni Ribisi recalls a childhood memory, his mother's return home from work, in "Saving Private Ryan"...

-- A young boy (Giorgio Cantarini) emerges from hiding and treads lightly through the courtyard of an empty concentration camp in "Life is Beautiful"...

-- Actors with shining performances in mediocre films: Regina King in "Enemy of the State," Jon Voight in "Varsity Blues," Lauren Ambrose in "Can't Hardly Wait," Lisa Kudrow in "The Opposite of Sex," and Ian McKellen in "Apt Pupil"...

-- In "The Thin Red Line," the voice-overs float above the action like disembodied spirits...

-- Bill Murray's Herman Blume sinks to the bottom of his pool and offers a casual stare to a gawking swimmer in "Rushmore"...

-- In "Office Space," three computer geeks drag an uncooperative printer into a field and commence a "Goodfellas"-style beat-down to the thundering strains of hardcore "gangsta" rap...

-- In "Saving Private Ryan," the grunts gather around the medic (Ribisi), the most tender-hearted soldier among them,

and watch their most innocent member die. During a climactic battle, a weak-willed corporal (Jeremy Davies) suffers a nervous breakdown and collapses on some steps. A seemingly-oblivious Nazi soldier nonchalantly passes him by...

-- Inertia: swerving from revelation to revelation, the mystery swiftly unravels in "Suicide Kings"...

-- Subliminal clue or red herring?: In "The Spanish Prisoner," mild-mannered Campbell Scott walks stage left and pauses. On a wall in the background is a drawing of a man seemingly in drawing at Scott's back. The poster reads, "Someone Talked"...

-- A contrite child cries, "I'm sorry," after inadvertently causing the death of his best friend's mother in "Simon Birch"...

-- The final, triumphant embrace of "Life is Beautiful"...

-- A paranoid genius discovers the "magic spiral," evidence of a divine order, in every mundane object in "Pi"...

-- Unlikely lovers (George Clooney and Jennifer Lopez) share a drink. Their voices drift on as director Steven Soderbergh brands freeze-frames onto the screen (and onto the viewer's brain): "Out of Sight"...

-- Every scene in "Out of Sight" with Steve Zahn... or Don Cheadle...

-- The opening shot of the re-released "Touch of Evil," as Orson Welles' camera smoothly travels a lengthy path through the seedy streets of a Mexican border town...

-- Joaquin Phoenix's brilliant meltdown in "Return to Paradise"...

-- Death (Brad Pitt) tastes peanut butter for the first time in "Meet Joe Black"...

-- Steve Buscemi offers a tipsy toast in "The Wedding Singer"...

-- Mandy Patinkin and Kathryn Grody as Andrew and Harriet, two American tourists providing both comic relief and social commentary in "Hombres Armados"...

-- Children dance during the Exodus in "The Prince of Egypt"...

-- Let the backlash begin: Vince Vaughn does Anthony Perkins one better with a creepy giggle, a mixture of psychosis and childish delight...

-- In "Sonatine," a Japanese tour guide (of sorts) offers drinks and ice cream to a bus-load of Yakuza...

-- Milton by way of Malick, the fall of Paradise succinctly portrayed in the image of a

"The Movie Guy"



Jared Wilson
Staff Reporter

dying bird in "The Thin Red Line"...

-- In "Touch of Evil," derelicts whisper through the walls to Janet Leigh, "Do you like the mary jane?"...

-- Max (Jason Schwartzman) harasses an unwanted guest (Luke Wilson) in "Rushmore"...

-- The wonderful Stephen Root, playing a wimpy timebomb ticking, guards his stapler and incoherently mumbles throughout Office Space"...

-- A naked old man (Michael O'Sullivan) races throughout the Irish hills on a motorcycle...

-- The horrifying realism in the first thirty minutes of "Saving Private Ryan"...

-- Academy be darned: The entire 104 minutes of "The Truman Show." ■

Cynic: focusing on originality

CD Review

David Robinson
Staff Reporter

For those of you who have been paying attention to my reviews, you will remember that I have made several references to Cynic, and even though they have only one album which came out in 1995, I feel inclined to review it since they are one of my favorite bands, and a huge influence on my musical life.

Putting together metal and jazz fusion, Cynic has created one of the most original sounds I have ever heard. With guitar lines so technical they seem almost impossible, it takes several listenings to take in everything that's going on.

I've had the album, entitled 'Focus', for several years, listened to it countless times, and I hear something different every time I listen to it. There are so many parts going on at once, it is very hard to take it all in with just one listen. Each part is like a piece to a giant puzzle, and on of the challenges of listening to this album is to try and separate the pieces. In my opinion, that is the best way to hear all that 'Focus' offers.

The lineup includes Jason Gobel on guitar and guitar synth, Paul Masdival on

vocals and guitar, Sean Reinert on acoustic and electronic drums and keyboards, and Shawn Malone on bass and chapman stick.

One of the main high points of this masterpiece is the band's continued ability to take the listener by surprise. Almost every song includes a breakdown from insane loudness and technicality, to a smooth jazzy interlude, creating an impossible-to-imitate atmospheric mood.

Upon a first listen to 'Focus', one may be turned off by guest vocalist Tony Teegarden's frantic and raging vocals, but they are well balanced by Masdival's synthetic-sounding drones.

I have to say that 'Focus' is one of my favorite albums of all time. Every song creates a different mood, and I never tire of listening to it. Not only that, but it has been a major influence on many musicians,



including myself. Unfortunately, it is a bit hard to find. Anyone interested in obtaining a copy may contact me at cain213@usit.net. I'm all about sharing the wealth. ■

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SPORTS

Crowned Duke of NCAA tourney

KA takes Greek b-ball title



Michael Edwards
Sports Editor

It's now time for the pretenders to put up or shut up. The NCAA tournament will start Thursday with the south and the west half tipping off first.

In the south, Auburn Tigers take the first seed, and they play the power house Winthrop in their first game. The Tigers will have to get past UCLA, Syracuse, Ohio St., and Murray St to make it to the region championship in Knoxville. The Bruins of UCLA have two starters injured to begin the tournament including point guard Baron Davis who injured a leg, but will be able to play against Detroit. The bottom half of that bracket features Indiana, St. John's, Louisville, Maryland and Cinderella herself in the form of Valparaiso. The Terapins are the two seed, but will have to beat St. John's to get to Auburn in the final eight. Maryland will be beaten by St. John's, and the Red Storm will get the chance to play and lose to Auburn in the final eight.

In the west, UCONN takes the top spot, while the Stanford Cardinal is the second seed. This could be the toughest bracket with teams such as Minnesota, Florida, North Carolina, Arkansas, Iowa, and New Mexico filling the bracket. This bracket could go anyway. I would choose Arkansas out of the west, but I don't see two SEC teams playing each other in the Final Four. It would not,



however, surprise me to see UNC upset the overrated UCONN Huskies. UCONN will beat but have problems with New Mexico in the second round. UNC or Arkansas will take the west region championship and go to the final four.

If the UT Vols wouldn't choke it could make the final four an all-sec Final Four. Unfortunately, Duke is in the same bracket as the Vols. Miami takes the two seed and has to get through Texas, Cincinnati, and Temple to get to Duke in the region championship. Duke once again is by far in the

easiest bracket. Miami is a very good basketball team and deserves to be the two seed, but Cincinnati is the worst three seed in the tournament. That seed could have been filled by several other teams in the field of 64. Arkansas is one. Duke and UT will play in the sweet 16, and Cincinnati will lose to Miami in the same round. Duke is just too deep and too tough for Miami to handle. Miami's starting five is excellent, especially the inside play of Tim James and Mario Bland. Tim James has a great chance to win the Naismith Award for America's best college player.

Michigan St. is the top seed in the midwest, and Utah and Rick Majerus take the second seed. Utah is the best team in the region and will meet Duke in the Final Four. Ole Miss, Michigan St, Villanova, Ole Miss and Rhode Island are the top teams in the top half of the midwest. Michigan St will meet Utah in the region finals, but they will lose. Utah is going to have to go through Kansas, Kentucky, Miami (OH), and Washington. The winner of the Kentucky-Utah game will go to the Final Four out of this region. It's unfortunate that Kentucky got punished for being in the

best conference top to bottom in all of the country. Because of that Kentucky will have to play Utah, who they can beat in the final eight. Michigan St is good, but their record is a bit watered down since they are in the Big Ten.

The final four will consist of Duke, Auburn, Arkansas, and Utah. Duke will finally win their third National title of the decade when they beat the Arkansas Razorbacks. This will avenge the Blue Devils loss to the Razorbacks in the 1994 NCAA Championship game. We all remember the shot by Scotty Thurman. ■

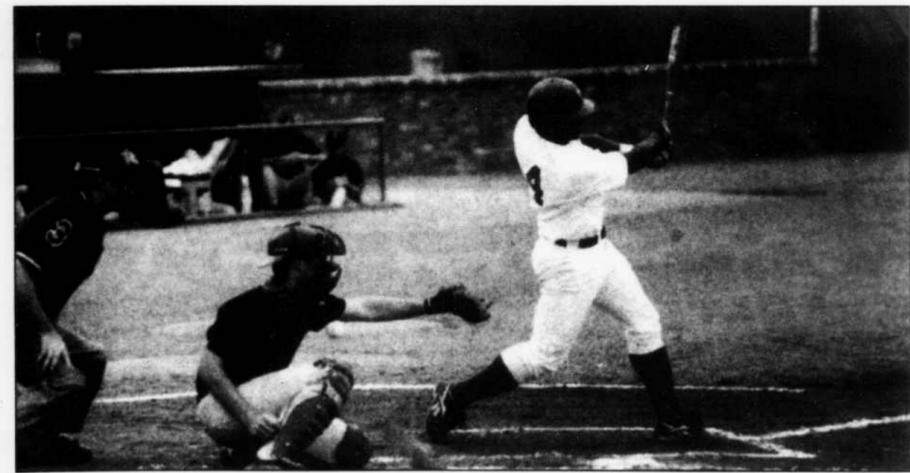


Photo provided

MTSU played Southwest Missouri State over the weekend and came up empty during a three game series here at MTSU.

MTSU struggles against SW Missouri

Noelle Ball
Staff Reporter

On top of the cold rain that invaded Murfreesboro Friday, the Blue Raider baseball team had some tough obstacles to overcome. The Raiders lost two battles as the rain continued and the Bears from Southwest Missouri defeated them 16-7.

Friday afternoon's game was more of a home run contest than a baseball game. A total of nine home runs were knocked out of the stadium, four by Middle and five by Southwest. The Bears dominated the offensive game from the start with a 2-run homer early in the first inning by the Bears left fielder, Matt Cepicky.

The Bears held the Raiders scoreless until the third inning when Justin Links scored on an error by the second basemen, and Blue Raider 3rd baseman,

Josh Pride, knocked a grounder straight into left field sending Jason Conchin home.

Jeff Parsons pitched the first three innings for the Raiders giving up seven runs, including a 2-run homer by Cepicky and a 3-run homer by Mike Collier. Steven Kines took the mound in the fourth and gave up two runs until he came out in the middle of the sixth. Brett Allen pitched until the end of the eighth when Kyle Sparkman came in to finish the game.

Southwest hit five home runs during the game including the 3-run homer by Collier, a 2-run homer by Cepicky following the one he hit in the first inning, a 1-run homer by Brian Fues in the top of the sixth, and another 2-run homer by Jon Hale in the seventh.

MTSU answered in the fourth when Blue Raider right fielder, Justin Links, drilled one straight over center field —

his first home run of the year. In the seventh inning pinch hitter, Brian Wright, sent the ball flying over the left field fence bringing in two runs for Middle, also his first home run of the season. In the eighth inning the Bears brought in a substitute pitcher, Brandon Doctor, who gave up a home run to the lead off batter for Middle, Wayne Chinapan. To end the game, Tjerk Smeets drove one deep over the center fielder.

MTSU rallied several times just never enough to take the lead.

They will travel to Memphis during the middle of the week to face the Tigers. On March 19 at 1 p.m. the Blue Raiders will play at home against Wisconsin. Show your support for the Blue Raiders by coming out to Reese Smith Field and cheering them on. Remember, students get in free with an I.D.!! ■

Yankees reign again

Josh Ezzell
Staff Reporter

Spring is near, and with that comes the beginning of baseball season. Teams have made changes in hope of winning the World Series, especially in the AL East, which promises to be one of the most competitive divisions.

Baltimore signed many players, including: Cather Charles Johnson; OF Albert Belle, 1B Will Clark; 2B Delino DeShields; Right Handed Pitchers Mike Timlin, Heathcliff Slocumb and Ricky Bones.

Belle, Clark and Johnson will start for the Orioles. The rest of the lineup features old faces such as Cal Ripken Jr. at third, Brady Anderson in CF, B.J. Surhoff in LF, and Mike Bordick at SS.

The pitching staff features starters Mike Mussina, Scott Erickson, Juan Guzman, Scott Kamienicki and Sidney Ponson. Heathcliff Slocumb and Arthur Rhodes will set up Mike Timlin.

Baltimore went out and signed many big name players, which should make it very competitive. If the Orioles stay healthy, and the newly acquired free agents live up to expectations, Baltimore could win the Wild Card.

Boston signed 1B/DH Jose Offerman; RHP's Mark Portugal, Pat Rapp, Brad Clontz; LHP's Mark Guthrie; DH Bob Hamelin.

Offerman will replace Mo Vaughn at first base, while the newly acquired pitchers should also make an impact. Returning for Boston are Nomar Garciapara, catcher

Scott Hattsburg, centerfielder Darren Lewis, rightfielder Damon Buford and third baseman John Valentin.

Trot Nixon and Troy O'Leary will battle for leftfield; and Lou Merloni, Jeff Frye and Donnie Sadler will battle for second.

The pitching staff will be strong with Pedro Martinez, Tim Wakefield, Bret Saberhagen, Mark Portugal and Pat Rapp returning. Derek Love and Mark Guthrie will set up Tom Gordon.

The Red Sox have some talent, but still desperately need a power hitter to replace Mo Vaughn. Frank Thomas is a possibility, but not a probability. Expect Boston to have a mediocre season.

New York made the biggest move in baseball when they traded David Wells, Homer Bush and Graeme Lloyd to Toronto for Roger Clemens.

First baseman Tino Martinez, 2B Chuck Knoblauch, SS Derek Jeter, 3B Scott Brosius and catchers Joe Girardi and Jorge Pasada make up the infield.

The outfield will also be strong, with Paul O'Neill and Bernie Williams starting in rightfield and centerfield. Darryl Strawberry, Chad Curtis, Shane Spencer and Ricky Ledee will share leftfield.

Roger Clemens will join David Cone, Orlando Hernandez, Hideki Irabu; and left hander Andy Petite in the starting rotation.

The Yankees might be even better than last year, if that is possible. Expect New York to repeat as World Series Champions.

Tampa Bay also made some moves; signing Jose Canseco;

RHP's Bobby Witt and Steve Ontiveros; LHP's Norm Charlton and Steve Cook and C Joe Oliver.

The pitching staff includes LHP Wilson Alvarez; RHP's Rolando Arrojo, Bobby Witt, and Terrell Wade and Estaban Yan, who will set up Roberto Hernandez.

The infield consists of Fred McGriff, Miguel Cairo at 2B; Kevin Stocker at SS and Wade Boggs at third.

The outfield is not quite set. Jose Canseco and Paul Sorrento will battle for leftfield, while Bubba Trammell will play CF and Rich Butler will occupy rightfield.

The Devil Rays are only in their second season, which means they still have some holes to fill. Expect Tampa Bay to be in the cellar the entire year.

Toronto acquired LHP David Wells; Graeme Lloyd and 2B Homer Bush in the Roger Clemens trade. The Blue Jays also acquired 2B Joey Cora; 3B Willie Greene; RHP's Pat Hentgen, Joey Hamilton, Kelvin Escobar and Chric Carpenter.

The outfield consists of CF Jose Cruz Jr.; LF Shannon Stewart and RF Shawn Green.

1B Carlos Delgado and SS Alex Gonzalez are the only definites in the infield. Everything else is up for grabs.

Toronto simply has too many questions to be considered a contender. Expect Toronto to finish fourth in the AL East.

My Prediction: New York will win the division, Baltimore will finish second, Boston will come in third, Toronto will settle in at fourth and Tampa Bay will end up in the cellar. ■

Casey Humphreys
Staff Reporter

Elbows, trash talk and basketballs were all flying through the air in Greek intramural action Wednesday night. There were several big games, including the night's main event: the meeting between preseason favorite Beta Theta Pi and undefeated Kappa Alpha. KA held off a late rally to upset the men of Beta 49-41. It was Beta's first loss of the season.

This was a tough week for all the top Greek teams. Both Beta and Kappa Alpha had a difficult games prior to their clash. Beta managed to slip by a tough Kappa Sigma team while KA shellacked Sigma Alpha Epsilon behind the dominating play of Galen Todd. Both Beta and KA were ready to play in the nightcap because they knew it would be for the regular season championship.

Beta, with their baby blue shirts, scored first as Abe Scraggins muscled his way inside for a deuce. However, KA answered back on their ensuing possession and went on a run to lead at the half 23-13.

In the second half, however, Beta stormed back. Sparked by the tough defense of sophomore Kyle Weatherly and the offense of both Brent Ausbrooks and Scraggins, the boys in blue pulled within 38-34. On the next possession, the 6'8" Todd called for the ball and managed to draw Beta Ryan Freeze's fifth foul. After, showing his disagreement with the call, and being slapped with a technical foul, Todd nailed both his freethrows and the two points were added for the technical. With the freethrows KA had doubled their lead to 42-34 with 1:44 left in the game. Beta was forced to foul and the final tally ended up 49-41. ■

The Hook-Up

Commentary by Josh Ezzell/ Staff Reporter

Stone Cold Steve Austin walks out on main event

Oh you didn't know? Your ass better call somebody and tell 'em to read The Hook Up. As you probably already know it's time to review last weeks Raw is War. So, without further adieu, ladies and gentlemen, let's get ready to rumble!!!

Raw began with Mr. McMahon addressing the teddy bear incident. Apparently, the boss thought that Kane was at fault, and as a result Kane was fired. Orderlies were outside of the ring waiting for Kane, but Chyna was there to save the day. Chyna was able to talk the boss into keeping Kane, but first "The Big Red Machine" had to prove himself by defeating "Stone Cold" Steve Austin. The bottom line was this: If he won then he got to stay- if not him and Chyna were fired. Wait, there's more!

Mankind still has the referee bug, so Mr. McMahon made him and "Mr. Socko" a deal. McMahon agreed to let Mankind be the second ref in Wrestlemania's main event on one condition: McMahon had to defeat The Undertaker. Now let's get to the action

The first match was a three way Intercontinental Title match between Val Venis, Ken Shamrock and Goldust. In a strange turn of events, "The Big Valbowski" wasn't the ladies man- Goldust was! That's right, Goldust made out with Ryan Shamrock, and as a result lost the match by count out. Shamrock saw this and gave chase to Goldust, which

resulted in him being counted out.

As Venis was leaving the ring he was attacked by BA Billy Gunn, who was upset about being unable to participate in the match due to an injury.

Another Gunn was present on Monday; of course I'm talking about Bart Gunn. Apparently he's had some problems with Jim Ross, who has been out for a while. Well, these two got into it, and Gunn ended up losing out. Jim Ross wasn't the only one making his return- Dr. Death was also in attendance. He followed Ross's orders and "whooped Gunn's ass."

Are you ready? For the thousands reading the article, ladies and gentlemen, let's get ready to Suck It!! Yep, the DX duo of Triple H and X-Pac were in action against the tag team champs Owen Hart and Jeff Jarrett. DX dominated the match, but thanks to Shane McMahon DX didn't win the belts. Most people were disappointed because the pre-match stipulation was not exercised. This stipulation stated that Debra must take off her clothes if DX won the belts.

Thanks to Ivory this disappointment did not last very long. As Debra was leaving Ivory pulled off her robe; exposing Debra's bra and pannies to the world.

Sable, the other sexy blonde, was also in action. She was supposed to talk about her current ongoings, but she ended up delivering a Sable-bomb to Luna. As you're reading this you're probably thinking so what? Well, Tori is the one who helped her deliver it. Tori, the

same girl Sable has recently been insulting. Who knows what's going on here.

We do know that The Rock is the champ, and the champ defended his belt against The Road Dogg. The Road Dogg put on a good show, but in the end The Rock laid the smack down and retained the belt.

After the match Al Snow and Hardcore Holly made their way to the ring with hopes of getting a piece of The Road Dogg. James obliged, and the battle raged onto the streets of Cleveland.

In the prelude to the main event Mankind battle The Undertaker. Both men fought hard, but in the end the Boss Man had the last laugh. The Undertaker took it upon himself to harass Vince McMahon, and the Boss Man took it upon himself to whack The Undertaker with his billy club. The bottom line is this: Mankind is gonna be the second special guest referee in Wrestlemania's main event. And now, for the main event.

The main event pitted Stone Cold against Kane. It seemed like neither man would take control of the match- that is until Paul Wight interfered. Wight ended up hurting Kane more than he helped him. He tried to hit Austin with a superkick, but he missed and hit Kane. Austin responded by flipping Wight a bird, calling him an SOB and leaving the ring. Neither man won the match, which means Chyna and Kane are still in The Corporation.

Wanna know what happens next week? I've got two words for you: Read "Sidelines." ■

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Vols tackle Delaware in NCAA East Regional

KNOXVILLE (AP) — Tennessee's men's basketball team won't have to travel far for its first-round NCAA tournament game.

The Vols (20-8), whose late-season flurry included a six-game win streak and nationally-televised win over Kentucky, are seeded fourth in the East Regional.

Tennessee meets 13th-seeded Delaware at Charlotte, N.C., on Friday.

"It's close to home, so I hope we will get a lot of fans there," Tennessee coach Jerry Green said Sunday. "It's a short distance and we've got lots of friends over there."

"I'm excited. There are 310 or so teams that start the season and most aren't in the tournament. I hope we represent Tennessee well," Green said.

After last Friday's loss to Mississippi State in the Southeastern Conference tournament, the Vols were expecting to be seeded fifth or sixth.

"I didn't think we'd get a fourth seed," guard Brandon Wharton said. "I thought it might be a sixth seed. I guess it's to our advantage. Maybe the TV game with Kentucky showed that we are capable of making a run in the tournament."

The Vols enter the tournament with their first 20-win season in 13 years. Tennessee made the NCAA tournament for the first time since 1989, but lost in the first round to Illinois State.

Forward Rashard Lee feels the Vols can fare better this

year. He said Tennessee isn't dwelling on the Mississippi State loss and is eager to open tournament play.

"Everybody's hungry," Lee said. "It's single elimination, so we know we have to be ready. We have to move forward. That loss is in the past. We're just focusing on the NCAA and doing our best there."

The Vols' experience in last year's tournament, though short-lived, was a good learning experience.

"We made the mistake of looking past the first game," Wharton said. "We know we have to take it one game at a time. It's all about who comes to play. We're more experienced now and we know what to expect."

A victory would pit Tennessee against the winner of the Wisconsin-Southwest Missouri State game. If the Vols win twice, they most likely would meet No. 1 East seed Duke.

"I won't even comment on that," Wharton said with a smile. "I think it was a mistake last year when we talked about playing Arizona if we won the first game."

The Tennessee coaching staff hasn't had time to accumulate information on Delaware, but Green expects a tough challenge.

"They've been a good team this year," he said. "We really don't know anything about them. We'll assign someone to do the scouting and we'll call people on their schedule to get more information. We'll find out everything and be ready."



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