

WEDNESDAY
MARCH 14, 2001

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Partly Cloudy

FILM

Don't call me shorty

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STUDENT SURVEY

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ONLINE

How often do you go to raves?

INSIDE: Library shouldn't need renovations after only two years

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An editorially independent newspaper

SIDELINES

Middle Tennessee State University

MURFREESBORO, TENNESSEE

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Photo by Jason Cox | Staff

These students are using one study room in the University Library that will be eliminated this summer to make room for the curriculum library.

Study rooms to be sacrificed for curriculum library move

By Jason Cox
Staff Writer

Part of the University Library currently used as a study area will be renovated to house the curriculum library.

The curriculum library, which consists of materials for grade-school teachers, will be moved to the third floor of the new library

from its current location in the Todd Building. The Todd Building will be renovated to accommodate the art department and graduate teaching assistants' offices.

The new library was not initially built large enough to hold the curriculum library, said Donald Craig, dean of the University library.

"Now that Todd is being renovated ... the decision was made to move that unit back into the new library," Craig said.

Craig emphasized that new group study areas will be built to replace the ones that will be lost to the curriculum section.

Craig said plans for construction have not been finalized yet, but renovation will probably

begin in June and end in early fall.

Patty Miller of Campus Planning said the projected cost of \$430,000 will come from funds left over from the initial library construction. The project is an effort on the part of the university to make maximum use of available resources and to make the curriculum library available for additional hours. ♦

Rave Craze: Part II of III

Ecstasy's popularity grows, dealers feed on new culture

By R. Colin Fly
Staff Writer

Ecstasy and rave parties go hand in hand.

Most drugs follow a similar path into the region, according to both the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation and the Metropolitan Nashville Police Department.

"Drugs generally move across the United States from west to east," said Jason Wilkerson, special agent in the drug division of the TBI. "Meth(amphetamine) moved from California to the Tennessee area in about three years."

However, ecstasy took a slightly different path.

"Ecstasy moved into Florida and moved straight up the East Coast," Wilkerson said.

Ecstasy, or MDMA (methylenedioxymethamphetamine), is a "psychoactive drug possessing stimulant and hallucinogenic properties," according to the Drug Enforcement Administration.

A report by the National Institute of Drug Abuse as well as an article in the scientific journal of the



Photo Provided

Ecstasy testing is a hot topic in rave culture. DanceSafe has struck deals with local law enforcement in more than 20 cities to allow users to test pills at rave parties. Nashville is not one of these cities.

See Rave, 3

Honors College looks to expand recently acquired memorial library

By Amanda Maynard
Staff Writer

Empty book shelves in Felder Hall will soon hold a plethora of classic literature from Mark Twain to Shakespeare as the Honors College relocates an expanded Michael Martinelli Memorial Library.

The library contains books donated to MTSU by Martinelli's mother after his death in a tragic car accident in April of 1996.

"Michael was a non-traditional student. He had a great sense of humor," recalled John Paul Montgomery, dean of the Honors College. "We took the library and dedicated it to him."

The Honors College is relocating the library and is currently in the process of collecting book donations from faculty and staff to expand the library.

The library will become a study haven for honors students in Felder Hall.

"It is meant to be a well-rounded library," said Logan Bishop, president of the Honors Residential Society. "A place where we can go to look up things and study."

Montgomery is asking that faculty, as well as students, donate classic works of literature to help in the expansion. The library has currently received 70-100 book donations ranging from a collection of Mark Twain to some thrillers.

"It's beautiful," Montgomery said about the existing library and the future of the whole program.

Felder Hall will not be the final home for the Michael Martinelli Library. The library will be housed in the proposed Honors College building.

Only months after the announcement that Paul and Lee Martin gave a \$2 million gift to MTSU for the Honors College, work is underway to raise a matching \$2 million. The college has until Dec. 31 to produce the money for the new building.

MTSU's honors program has steadily grown since it began almost 30 years ago, and the students have decided to give something back to the community.

The new Honors College building will be a gift to the MTSU community from the graduating class of 2001.

"It's the second largest gift in the entire history of MTSU," Montgomery said. "We are already receiving gifts from faculty and friends."

Construction plans for the building are still in the works, but plans for the Martinelli Library are right on schedule.

The Martinelli Library will officially move to Felder April 25 and the Honors Residential Society will hold a ceremony at 3 p.m. in the library.

"It's books," Montgomery said. "Great books and free books."

Donations for the library will be accepted through March 23. All donations may be dropped off in Felder Hall or contact Montgomery at 898-2152. ♦



Photo by Matthew H. Starling | Chief Photographer

Lougan Bishop, president of the Honors Residential Society, takes a load of donated books over to Wood-Felder Hall Friday. The books will be added to the living and learning residential center's memorial library.

Students question Ethernet security

By Patrick Chinnery
Staff Writer

It's 10 o'clock - do you know how secure your computer files are?

Computers connected to the Web via ResNet's Ethernet - namely students' personal computers - may be vulnerable to viruses and hackers.

ResNet is the branch of the Office of Information Technology that provides Internet connections to computers on campus. It provides both Ethernet access to on-campus computers that are network ready and traditional dial-up access to computers with modems.

The Ethernet provides a constant connection to the MTSU ResNet, which allows any student with a network card to connect to the Internet at any time.

This system is quickly becoming an essential part of many students' lives. But is the newly-installed Ethernet system secure enough for students to fearlessly use?

"I've never had any problems with the Ethernet," Lyon Hall resident Andrea Harmon said. She said she has never had a virus

See Network, 2

Protect your computer online

- Get a virus protection program, such as Norton Antivirus or McAfee, and run virus scans every time you sign offline.

- Get a personal firewall for your computer, such as Zone Alarm or Black Ice. These devices are free and will prevent anyone from gaining access to your files.

- Disable file sharing.

- Don't use file-sharing programs such as Napster or Scour.

- Don't open any e-mail attachments from someone you don't know.

POLITICAL UPHEAVAL

By Jeremy Davis - Political Columnist

President Bush's tax cut plan jumps first hurdle

President Bush's \$1.6 trillion tax cut proposal passed the House of Representatives Thursday with no alteration. This puts the proposal in the hands of the evenly split Senate.

Only 10 Democrats voted in favor of the tax cut. The other Democrats raised serious objections to the tax cut and claimed the bipartisanship in Congress was over. Democratic leaders are furious because the Republican leadership forced the proposal through the House without any debate or compromise.

Republicans are not fazed by the Democrats' rage but say the compromising will come in the Senate. President Bush has already signaled he would be willing to see some adjustments in the bill if necessary to see that it gets passed.

One area for compromise may come from the rate cuts for the top percent of taxpayers. Bush's proposal would reduce the 39 percent tax bracket to 33 percent. There has been talk of lowering it to only 35 percent. Another compromise may come in the estate tax and the possible addition of cuts in capital gains taxes.

Senate Democrats also want to introduce a trigger in the tax plan that would activate the tax cuts only when the surpluses materialize. Republican leader Trent Lott of Mississippi countered with a slightly different take on a trigger. Lott's plan would set up a specific time for review and modification of the tax cut in a few years.

Whatever happens, both sides agree that President Bush will get a tax cut. They just don't know what it will look like yet.

Schwarzenegger decides not to run for California governor

Actor Arnold Schwarzenegger has decided not to challenge California Governor Gray Davis in 2002 after much talk and speculation that he would run for the office with the Republican Party.

California Republicans have already made shirts that read "T2 in '02." This leaves the Republicans with no clear choice to challenge Davis next year.

Democrats took Schwarzenegger seriously because of his popularity and his keen knowledge of politics. He may not have political experience, but Schwarzenegger does have a degree in business. Schwarzenegger has been compared to Ronald Reagan, who the Democrats didn't take seriously in

the 1960s because he was just an actor. Reagan proved his political power by winning the governorship by more than a million votes. Minnesota Governor Jesse Ventura has also been a source of comparison for Schwarzenegger because of his tough guy image and political prowess.

Schwarzenegger did not rule out running in 2006. If Governor Davis wins next year, he will not be able to run in 2006 because of term limits.

Bush makes first trip to Florida since election

President Bush spoke at an air force base Monday in Panama City in the Florida panhandle. This is the first time since the election that Bush has traveled to Florida.

Bush was there to promote his tax cut plan during his tour of the country the past few days. Bush has traveled to states that have Democratic senators that he wants to pressure into voting in favor of his proposal. Last week he visited North and South Dakota and Louisiana.

Only a few protesters showed up to the rally. Bush said the country wanted to move on, but there are still some people in Florida who will never forget the election controversy that engulfed their state last November.

New reports show Gore lost 6000 votes because of "Butterfly Ballot"

A review of the controversial butterfly ballots in Palm Beach County, Fla. revealed that former Vice President Al Gore lost up to 6,600 votes because of the confusing ballot.

The Palm Beach Post reported that the design of the ballot hurt both candidates but the net gain for Gore would have given him the state and the presidency.

Republican Governor of Montana Marc Racicot said the report was nothing more than mere speculation and we will never know what the true intent of a voter is if they punched two different people for election.

The newspaper counted ballots that had two marks for president. Many voters voted for both Gore and either Pat Buchanan or David McReynolds whose names were next to Gore on the ballot.

Florida Governor Jeb Bush has called for reform of Florida's election process but changes may not occur in time for the 2002 election.

Commentary

Blame parents, not guns

The recent school shooting outside San Diego has raised the debate on gun control once again, but gun control advocates surprisingly are losing ground.

Liberal Democrats have been in favor of gun control for many years, but recently their voices have been pretty quiet on the issue. The lack of public support on the issue during the presidential campaign and in the past few months can be attributed to the fact that Al Gore lost many rural and southern states on account of the Democratic Party's stance on gun control.

The Democrats might have won Tennessee and Arkansas if the National Rifle Association had not been so vocal in those areas. The problem is that gun control advocates are not nearly as strong or as organized as the NRA is. When it comes to money and manpower, the NRA can beat just about anyone on their turf.

But the question still exists. Are parents to blame or guns? Gun control advocates say these tragedies would not have happened if guns were not so available in our society. That may be true, but I think we all know that guns will never be banned in this country no matter what happens.

The blame cannot be placed in any one category. The stimuli that cause a child to resort to violence are so varied that there cannot be one lone problem. However, the highest level of responsibility must lie with the parents.

If parents spent a little more time with their children these things may not happen. Parents must take the brunt of responsibility for their child's actions. I think the parents should be charged with accessory to murder for allowing the child access to deadly weapons.

Banning handguns will not reduce crime in this country. That would just take guns out of the hands of law-abiding citizens who use guns responsibly for protection. I do think there needs to be better enforcement of current gun laws, and new laws need to be written to make the parents liable for the actions of their children.

I also believe there needs to be a greater emphasis on character education in schools so children will understand what is expected of them and what the consequences for crime is in their community. Hopefully, this will become a reality when President Bush's education plan passes through Congress.

One thing that's not in Bush's education plan that needs to be is the idea of educating children about the media. Children are barraged every day with media messages they can't understand. There needs to be a way to teach kids early on about the methods of the media and how it affects their opinions and attitudes.

The obvious trend here is education. Censorship and restriction cannot come close to the power of a good teacher and responsible parenting. ♦

Network: Individual computers on network susceptible to viruses, hackers

Continued from 1

infect her system, and she's never felt the need to run a virus scan.

However, last month a Schardt Hall student lost all the school papers and mp3 files he had stored on his hard drive. The

student can't understand how a virus infected his computer when he was not using the Internet.

Josh Threet, a graduate assistant who manages the Lyon Hall computer lab as an OIT employee, provided an explanation.

"There is nothing really that the network can do to protect individual computers," Threet said. "All they can do is provide the pipe [to the Internet]."

It also means that if the student is not careful, any computer on the network can gain access to

his or her computer using Internet Protocol, or IP, addresses.

Using a firewall - a security mechanism which prevents outside users from logging into a computer - is one way to stop tampering.

Threet said there's nothing MTSU can do to keep others out of your computer. He added that while viruses are not a problem for the MTSU servers, they can infect personal computers on campus.

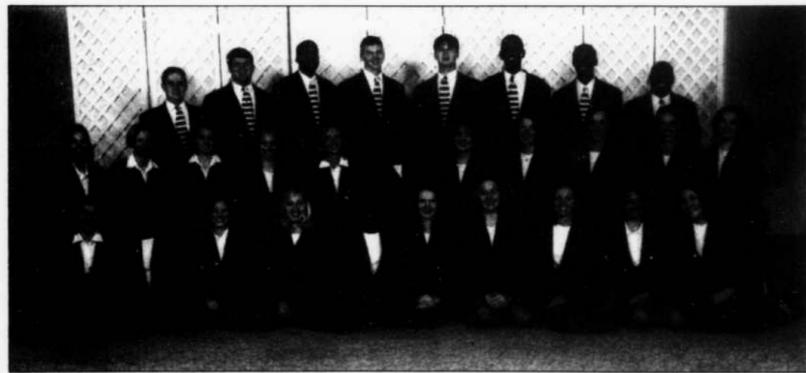
"Frank (the main server) has

massive virus protection on it," Threet explained. "There's not much of a chance that it will be infected with a virus."

"The best thing anyone can do is [to] get a hold of a good virus scanner and use it." ♦



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up to
\$1200

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To qualify a candidate must:

- have a minimum of 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 1,100 - 2,000 word essay on: "The effects of the internet on the dissemination of news"
- 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.)

Applications will be available in the JUB Room 306. Three finalists will be selected from the field of applicants and will be interviewed. Interviews will be held at the April 20, 2 p.m. You will be notified if you are to be interviewed.

OPINIONS

From the staff Library shouldn't need renovations after only 2 years

Campus Planning is currently making plans to renovate our wonderful, new library.

Improving our facilities is all well and good, but why are they making renovations to a building that is only two years old? This makes no sense.

Campus Planning knew renovations would have to be done to provide room for the curriculum library when they first started building the university library. If they knew this, why didn't they just plan to include room for it while the library was being built?

The good thing is that the money will come from money that was left over from the initial library construction budget. So fellow students, we won't be reaching into our pockets for this one.

Another thing we want to know is how this will affect the students. Will we have limited access to the library because of the renovation? The library already has very limited hours to begin with and now we're not going to be able to access the entire building. This is very inconvenient for the students.

While we're on the subject of the library, let's talk about some other things our big beautiful library is missing. Okay, why can you only access Microsoft Word on the second floor, which is always full. What's up with that?

Secondly, why is the parking lot on one side and the door on the other? For a library as big as it is, there should be several entrances.

Now, we're not trying to come down too hard on Campus Planning and whoever else played a role in planning the construction and renovation of the library, but we think these things need to be taken care of from the start.

We always have a lot of renovation going on on campus, so we need to cut down on it as much as possible because even though we like our campus becoming more beautiful, we hate having to adjust to 50 renovations sites. ◆

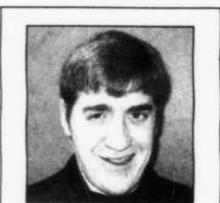
CANADIAN BACON

TSSAA gives back to community

The Tennessee Secondary School Athletic Association has brought many great things to this university, and I, for one, am sick and tired of students on this campus complaining about it.

The gentleman who tried to warn us of incoming parking problems was way off base. Lack of parking on campus? Never. To see those seeds of discontent is pure blasphemy, and should have been punished with far more severe actions than revoking of e-mail privileges (which were later returned, anyway).

I myself park on campus, and to be perfectly honest, I have had no problem getting parking spot around my dorm. In fact, since this TSSAA business started, I've had the least problems I've ever had in finding a close parking space. It's almost



Patrick Chinnery
Staff Columnist

as if my fellow Schardtites have given up on trying to reach their rooms just because of several hundred feet of Day-Glo orange pylons stand in their way.

The tournaments on campus this week have provided our university with many opportunities. For example, it has been an excellent week to show off our beautiful new library and accompanying courtyard. The high-schoolers visiting campus can take a tour of our

state-of-the-art portables and well-groomed gravel parking lots. If only we had a strip club on campus, we could sign these young scholar-athletes in no time.

Back to the parking, I think it's great that the university has decided to showcase the generous, selfless nature of itself and its students by giving away so many hundreds of unnecessary spots. \$4 a car, times several hundred cars a day, times two weeks of rigorous competition adds up to thousands of dollars that our luxuriously-living university effectively gave away.

We had no need for that money, anyway. The bathrooms in Schardt Hall never overflow, creating a Caspian Sea-sized lake over the drains. And certainly our university has enough money if they can afford to repaint the hall-

ways of Peck (though, I do have to ask, where's the chalk?).

Let's revisit the orange barricades of justice. Not only do they deter so many students from trying to access the on-campus parking by my dorm, they also provide the opportunity to witness the splendors of modern design that are Monohan and Lyon Halls. With traffic slyly cut down to one lane, drivers have no choice but to glance to the left and right, to keep their minds from falling asleep on the long trek to the spotlight.

I know when I want to impress that special someone, I take a leisurely drive along Tennessee Boulevard to point out the aged metal staircases and insect-hospitable dumpster.

The various buses that are parked in the blocked

off lane of traffic are also a big asset, if you can look past the questionable legality of the churlish exhaust fumes. The names of the different counties on the sides of the buses show how geographically diverse MTSU can be. UT Knoxville can't boast that students from around the state hold their championship events on their campus.

It is an honor and a privilege to be able to grovel before the almighty TSSAA gods, and beg for their presence and blessing each year. We as students can only hope and pray that they will continue to bless us with their bountiful gifts each year. Let us join hands with the MTSU administration, and embrace high school athletics as if they were our very own. We may never have this chance again. ◆

CRANIAL SMORGASBORD

Clone on the Rage

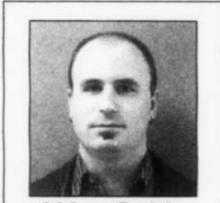
In Italy, an international group of scientists is about to attempt the first cloning of a human being.

Unfortunately, there seems to be a sizable group of people who oppose the cloning of any human tissues, much less cloning an entire human being. From what I've seen, the objections seem based on either religious grounds or what science fiction author Isaac Asimov termed, "the Frankenstein complex."

Maybe I'm just biased because I'm a biology minor, but when I think of cloning, I think of all the medical limitations that can be overcome with this new technology.

Organ cloning can eliminate the scarcity of matching donors. It can also improve the length and quality of human life.

Personally, I'd like to keep a spare Wes, sans



Wes Cobb
Staff Columnist

brain (some would say that is already the case) on hand in case I got hit by a flaming school bus full of dynamite and hydrochloric acid.

As for cloning a full human, couples unable to procreate the old fashioned way could have children who have the genetic makeup of the parents.

The arguments against cloning seem to be based on the purely abstract ethical sense that it's "just wrong."

On CNN.com, a bishop

was quoted equating cloning with the invention of the atomic bomb.

With all seriousness, that has to be one of the most flaming, hot, weak analogies I have heard.

Perhaps these people fear some maniac dictator will get possession of the technology and create an army of clone warriors hell-bent on the destruction of life, liberty and the pursuit of free beer.

My personal theory is that cloning has the potential to eventually change humanity in a fundamental way that would challenge the belief systems and worldviews of many of its opponents.

This is an issue that needs more space than this column can allow.

Cloning is science aimed at the good of humanity. Our knowledge of it should be advanced to its limits. ◆

Dear Annie Playful Banter?

Dear Annie,

I have been in a relationship with this guy for a few months. When we first started dating we would playfully banter with each other. I thought this was a lot of fun at first. But lately, his jokes have become more hurtful towards me. His remarks are very cutting even though he says, "I'm just kiddin' . . . can't you take a joke?" Do you think I am over-reacting? - Paranoid

Dear Paranoid,

No, I don't think you're over-reacting. Jokes are supposed to be funny not hurtful.

No one likes to be the brunt of someone's jokes. It's not that you lack a sense of humor, he's lacking sensitivity. Tell him his cutting hurt your feelings. Even though he may be "just kidding," it's not nice! If you can't say something nice don't say anything at all. Trite but true.

Email your questions or concerns to
DearMtsuAnnie@aol.com.

SIDELINES

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Letters to the Editor

Mail your comments to Box 42, drop them off at JUB 310 or e-mail them to stupubs@mtsu.edu. Letters may be edited for length, grammar or content.

SGA candidates should market themselves efficiently

To the Editor:

I read the article about low voter turnout, and the idea that it is our laziness and lack of responsibility that prompted the turnout. To me, as student/resident of MTSU, I feel the low turnout was a result of candidates not coming out and showing the people what the candidates did in November. I feel SGA is important to the educational structure and the people as a whole. However, they are going to have to prove to us as students that they will work

for us.

Resolved issues will bring students to the voting booths, not just simple candidates. Action on the part of the candidate brings re-action in terms of response from the people/residents. Having issues on the board is not enough, but taking issues that are important to the students and resolving them provide the necessary turnout. The process by which students vote for a candidate is based on what he or she has done for them as students. When it comes to the SGA, most students either don't know or don't care.

In my opinion as a student, however, it does matter who believes in the

process of election of representatives.

I feel my president hasn't informed me about the resolved issues or how to go about resolving the current ones. They just keep on building with no end. Show me facts. Show me enthusiasm, and I will show you voters who will follow. To be a leader you must prove you can lead, and not skirt around the issues that are unresolved or unknown.

It is the SGA's responsibility to market these candidates and have them talk to the students in each area. To be a representative you have to represent your people.

Justin Brodrick

SGA most promote itself more

To the Editor,

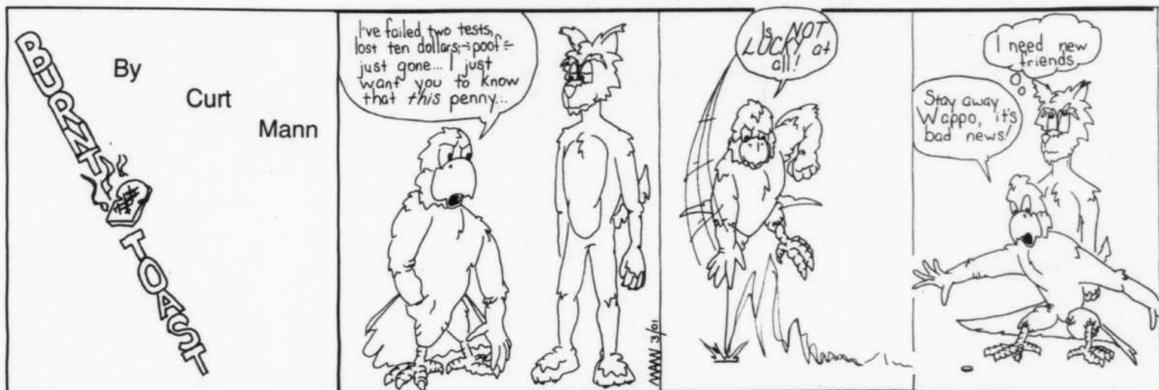
I recently read an article that stated the disappointment in the low student turnout to the SGA elections. It stated that year after year, staff members promote strong student involvement with the SGA, only to be faced with a decreasing number of students who vote. As a student, I believe the SGA is a vital part of MTSU. It provides a forum where concerned students can voice their ideas in hopes of finding the means necessary to improve campus life. However, I feel it is the responsibility of the candidates to promote

strong student involvement.

If you look around campus, you see the signs and banners of the people who are seeking office. But, do you ever see the people behind the name? Why aren't these candidates holding public meetings with the students of MTSU?

I feel that to increase the voter turnout, these candidates need to be more socially visible to the constituents. The key to having a strong student body is familiarity. Unless this is accomplished, the ratio of the voter turnout will sadly continue to decrease.

Sincerely,
Nathan Paul



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

The Two Minute Drill



J.P. Plant
Assistant Sports Editor

Lady Raiders lace up for NIT



Photo by Kristy Dalrymple | Staff
Kelly Chastain (31) and Christy Davenport (44) fight for the ball in the win over New Orleans earlier this season.

By Colleen Cox
Staff Writer

The Lady Raider basketball team got their due -- the chance to dance.

With the toughest schedule in the Sun Belt Conference, Middle Tennessee earned a postseason appearance in the Women's National Invitational Tournament tonight.

Middle joins three other Sun Belt teams in the 32-team WNIT -- North Texas, who the Lady Raiders lost against last week in the Sun Belt Conference Tournament, Florida International and Western Kentucky.

"The fact that we got four teams in the NIT gives us six teams in post season play from our conference," Lady Raider head coach Stephany Smith commented. "It's like I have said all along about how strong this conference is."

Middle Tennessee (17-12) will face the Indiana Hoosiers (19-10, 9-7 Big Ten) in the first round tonight. The Hoosiers defeated the Lady Raiders last season 81-68 in the Insite.com Bowl Basketball Classic. The

only other meeting between the two schools was in 1987.

The Lady Raiders are making their ninth post season appearance in school history. This will be their second appearance in the WNIT. In 1998, Middle Tennessee lost to Memphis in the first round.

Indiana is making their seventh post season appearance and fourth in the WNIT. The Hoosiers made it to the semifinals in 1998 before losing to Penn State.

Both the Lady Raiders and Hoosiers were eliminated in the quarterfinal round of their conference tournaments.

Smith said on several occasions that she felt her team should be in the post season. Two weeks before the end of the season, senior Kelly Chastain guaranteed the Lady Raiders would make the WNIT. She and her teammates did their part and the committee reward them.

Indiana felt that a chance at the NCAA. "This was one of our toughest losses of the season," Jill Chapman said after their loss in the quarterfinals. "We played hard and still hope

to have a chance at making the NCAA tournament."

The Hoosiers will have to settle for a match up with the Lady Raiders.

Chapman leads the Indiana Hoosiers with 15.4 points per game and 7.4 rebounds per game. She is shooting .561 percent from the field. Guard Heather Cassidy is averaging 11.2 points per game.

The Lady Raiders are led by junior forwards Jamie Thomatis and Joanne Aluka. Thomatis is shooting .534 percent while averaging 21 points and 7.5 rebounds per game. Aluka averages 11.8 points and 6.5 rebounds per game and shoots .554 percent.

Indiana is being out rebounded by three boards a game while Middle Tennessee is out rebounding opponents by almost two boards a game. Middle shoots .455 percent from the field as opposed to .427 for the Lady Hoosiers. Indiana is averaging 69.6 points per game to 73.9 by Middle.

Should the Lady Raiders win tonight's game, they would face Western Kentucky. Tonight's game begins at 6 p.m. ♦

Blue Raiders win in 12

Right fielder Marshall Nisbett mowed down Tennessee Tech's Mike Fessler trying to score in the top of the 12th inning to preserve a tie ballgame. The junior then preceded to drive in the winning run in the bottom half of the inning to give the Blue Raiders a dramatic 10-9 win over former Ohio Valley Conference foe.

The game had been back and forth with Tech pushing across a run in the top of the first, ending senior Kris Lammers's streak of consecutive scoreless innings at 20.

Middle bounced back in the third with a sophomore Justin Simms homer over the right field wall scoring senior Josh Renick and Nisbett along with himself.

But the tide quickly changed as Tech put a four spot in the top half of the fourth, taking a 5-3 lead and knocking out Lammers at the conclusion of the inning.

The Blue Raiders came right back with six runs in the bottom half of the inning with the big blow coming from senior Scott Goodman's two run homer giving the Blue Raiders a 9-5 lead. Junior Kyle Sparkman relieved Lammers starting the top of the fifth with a one-two-three inning.

Sparkman, however, gave up three runs in the sixth giving way to former Tech player, junior Jason Kuhn to stop the bleeding for Middle. The three runs from edged the eagles to within one run at 9-8.

Tech was able to push across another run in the top of the eighth to tie it at nine. The eighth stayed at nine until the bottom of the 12th when Nisbett drove in the winning run, giving the Blue Raiders (11-1) their fifth straight victory.

Renick and freshman center fielder Chuck Akers led the Blue Raider offensive attack with seven hits, three runs scored and a run-batted-in.

Senior Kevin Davis picks up his first win of the season, while Tech's David Grisby is charged with the loss.

The Blue Raiders will finish up their pre-Sun Belt Conference schedule with a pair of games against David Lipscomb before kicking off the conference portion of their schedule with a three-game series against Arkansas State this weekend.

Women blazed by UAB

The Lady Raider tennis team came up short against another tough team. Ranked 71st, the University of Alabama at Birmingham' women's tennis team is playing as if they were ranked 21st. UAB has now won their first 12 matches of the season after they took care of MTSU, 6-1.

Carien Venter extended her winning streak to seven on the year, but was the only Lady Raider to break into the win column.

The Lady Raiders fall to 6-9 on the season and return to action Saturday at noon at the Buck Boulden Tennis Center to face interstate rival Murray State. ♦

Nick's Picks:

Your guide on the Road to the Final Four

See how you stack up against our own Nick Hefley as he gives his picks for the NCAA Sweet 16 out of the East and West regions. Look in tomorrow's issue as Nick gives his picks on who will survive from the South and Midwest.

By Nick Hefley
Staff Writer

The road to Minneapolis esota this year looks like it will be a very tough one for most teams involved. Duke showed its dominance, even without center Carlos Boozer, in winning the ACC Tournament. However, it looks as if they will have to march through SEC Champion Kentucky if they want to get to the Final Four. This would be an intriguing match up because it would be a rematch of the 1992 semifinals in which Christian Laettner's turnaround jumper with seconds left sealed the deal for the Devils.

Also, Lefty Driesell brings Georgia St. into the tourney and Georgia faces a possible match up with Maryland, a team Driesell took to the big dance many times during his long career.

Here are the matches and predictions through the Sweet 16. Games start Thursday at 11 a.m.

Have fun watching all the games and be sure to look in next week's paper for the Sweet 16 picks all the way through the Final Four. ♦

Nick's Picks

West

Round 1

#1 Stanford (28-2) vs. #16 UNC-Greensboro (19-11)

The Cardinals could play 8th graders against these guys and win.

Pick: Stanford

#8 Georgia Tech (17-12) vs. #9 St. Joseph's (25-6)

This will be one of the best games in the first round to watch.

Pick: Georgia Tech

#5 Cincinnati (23-9) vs. #12 Brigham Young (24-8)

The Cougars and Bearcats will face-off in a catfight.

Pick: Brigham Young

#4 Indiana (21-12) vs. #13 Kent State (23-9)

No more Bobby Knight equals no more first round losses.

Pick: Indiana

#6 Wisconsin (18-10) vs. #11 Georgia State (28-4)

Wisconsin is all defense while Georgia State is all offense.

Pick: Georgia State

#3 Maryland (21-10) vs. #14 George Mason (18-11)

Maryland is one of the hottest teams in the country and George Mason just isn't.

Pick: Maryland

#7 Arkansas (20-10) vs. #10 Georgetown (23-7)

Arkansas normally has a great run every March, not this time.

Pick: Georgetown

#2 Iowa State (25-5) vs. #15 Hampton (24-6)

The Iowa State guards are just too much for most teams to handle.

Pick: Iowa State

Round 2

#1 Stanford vs. #8 Georgia Tech

The first of what could be a number of showdowns between the ACC and Pac-10.

Pick: Stanford

#12 BYU vs. #4 Indiana

Indiana's size and shot blocking ability is just too much.

Pick: Indiana

#11 Georgia St. vs. #3 Maryland

Lefty Driesell looks for revenge against his former team.

Pick: Maryland

#10 Georgetown vs. #2 Iowa State

Both teams have been slumping as of late, but the Hoyas are a little better.

Pick: Georgetown

East

Round 1

#1 Duke (29-4) vs. #16 Monmouth (21-9)

Come on, do I even need to explain this.

Pick: Duke

#8 Georgia (16-14) vs. #9 Missouri (19-12)

Georgia almost has a .500 season and is an eight seed?

Pick: Missouri

#5 Ohio State (20-10) vs. #12 Utah State (27-5)

The Buckeyes haven't done too much this season and Utah State will look to capitalize.

Pick: Utah State

#4 UCLA (21-8) vs. #13 Hofstra (26-4)

The nation's longest winning streak will come to a halt here.

Pick: UCLA

#6 USC (21-9) vs. #11 Oklahoma State (20-9)

Could the fallen Cowboy teammates help them to a win?

Pick: Oklahoma State

#3 Boston College (26-4) vs. #14 Southern Utah (25-5)

BC is on a big-time roll after winning the Big East Championship.

Pick: Boston College

#7 Iowa (22-11) vs. #10 Creighton (24-7)

Creighton looks to take over the role of Gonzaga as a spoiler team.

Pick: Creighton

#2 Kentucky (22-9) vs. #15 Holy Cross (22-7)

Could divine intervention play a role here, I don't think so.

Pick: Kentucky

Round 2

#1 Duke vs. #9 Missouri

The Blue Devils are really strong this year and Missouri won't be able to hang.

Pick: Duke

#12 Utah State vs. #4 UCLA

The Bruins will end the Cinderella dreams of their fellow West Coast team.

Pick: UCLA

#11 Oklahoma State vs. #3 Boston College

Boston College is on too much of a roll now and Oklahoma State is already in their rearview.

Pick: BC

#10 Creighton vs. #2 Kentucky

This should be a very interesting game, both teams shoot really well.

Pick: Kentucky



7 Day Sportscast

WEDNESDAY

■ **Baseball**
Blue Raiders vs. David Lipscomb
Murfreesboro, Tenn., 3 p.m.

■ **Golf**
Florida State Classic
Tallahassee, Fla., All day

■ **Women's Basketball**
Lady Raiders at Indiana
Bloomington, Ind., 6 p.m.

FRIDAY

■ **Baseball**
Blue Raiders at Arkansas St.
Jonesboro, Ark., 7 p.m.

■ **Softball**
Winthrop Ringor
Tournament Rock Hill, S.C.
TBA

SATURDAY

■ **Baseball**
Blue Raiders at Arkansas St.
Jonesboro, Ark., 2 p.m.

■ **Women's Tennis**
Lady Raiders vs. Murray St.
Murfreesboro, Tenn., noon

■ **Softball**
Winthrop Ringor
Tournament Rock Hill, S.C.
TBA

SUNDAY

■ **Baseball**
Blue Raiders at Arkansas St.
Jonesboro, Ark., 1 p.m.

■ **Women's Tennis**
Lady Raiders vs. Troy St.
Murfreesboro, Tenn., 11 a.m.

■ **Men's Tennis**
Blue Raiders vs. Troy St.
Murfreesboro, Tenn., TBA

■ **Softball**
Winthrop Ringor Tournament
Rock Hill, S.C. TBA

MONDAY

■ **Baseball**
Blue Raiders vs. UAB
Murfreesboro, Tenn., 7 p.m.




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For under \$20, see Roni Size and Reprazent live in Atlanta March 21 and 22.

Roni Size: Live in Atlanta

Continued from 8

the new album.

"The important thing for us is to always be as creative as we can be, and to make our shit just hit as hard as [we] can," he said.

"Vocals are a really important part of the song structure [on *In the Mode*] and that element of hip-hop has brought it together. Everyone is just really excited."

According to Krust, Reprazent's tour promises "lots of energy, like you've never seen before. You'll leave feeling like your whole world has been tipped upside down."

Krust says that recreating the sound from the album is no problem for them live.

"We've been playing together for so long now. We just naturally fill in each other's gaps," said Krust. "Our sets are usually about 60 percent planned and 40 percent improv, so it's always different."

The new album is just the beginning for Krust and the rest of Reprazent this year.

The Full Cycle DJ's (Size, Suv, Krust, and Die) will be releasing a collection mixed by Suv with tracks from Comanche, Surge, D-Product and others artists later this year.

Krust will be returning to the studio to lay down some tracks for a solo Comanche release and continue to work on a follow up to his 1999 effort *Coded Language*.

A new Reprazent record is almost completed as well.

The trip to Atlanta might be the best chance for a while to see this amazing group perform live.

I saw them in Atlanta on their last U.S. tour, and it ranks as one of the best shows I've ever had the privilege of attending.

Who needs drunken muscle heads and bleached out blondes on spring break when you can get your groove on for under \$20?

As DJ Krust said, "Everyone gets down hardcore the same wherever [Reprazent] plays, no matter if it's Egypt, Japan or the

Clutch: Surviving the music industry

Continued from 8

ly have it in me. We just do this for our own entertainment. I mean if we're not impressing ourselves it leads to boredom. It's a hard question to answer. It just sort of happens.

B: You put out your last album, *Jam Room*, independently. What made you go back to Atlantic Records?

N: Two reasons. One, so we could get on the radio because we need as many people to hear our music as possible, and RiverRoad Records isn't gonna do that. We can sell some records on the Internet and make some money, but that's it. I mean, we don't have any delusions like 'this is the year of Clutch.' Maybe it is. Who knows? It frees us up to do touring with tour support. We've been with labels before and it's just not our golden ring. It's more of a business agreement between them and us.

B: Kind of like a bank?

N: Exactly. And if they drop us, we don't owe them any money.

B: Why did you change the name of the album from *Slow Hole to China* to *Pure Rock Fury*?

N: We had a song called "Slow Hole to China" and some kick ass album art, and the final product looked like a theme record or a concept record, which it wasn't. People have looked at our records in the past as thematic, but that would have been pushing the issue this time around. So we decide to go with an anti-theme, no brainer album art. It is what it is.

B: To me, the sound of this album blended the sound of the last

two albums. Was the songwriting process different?

N: *Elephant Riders* was different in that we were working closely with Jack Douglas the producer, where he arranged the songs with us. When you bring in a foreign element, it can be a really good thing or it can be shitty. We're a little antsy about that. One of us usually comes up with a riff, we list them, tape them, then go back and make it smoother. Usually, at the last minute I come up with the final words for it.

B: So your lyrics come last?

N: There's been some songs where we tried to do both at the same time.

B: How did you guys go about rounding up the guests on the album?

N: They're all people we've worked with in the past. Wino is one of the best guitar players, I think, out there right now. Two guys from Sixty-Watt Shaman, Joe and Dan, we've known for a long time and toured with them. Leslie West liked our last record, and we co-wrote one of the songs with him. That was the first time we've ever done that. It was a learning experience. It's good listening to other people's stuff and ideas.

B: Why did you include a live version of "Spacegrass" on the album?

N: Sonically, it sounded good. We've always talked about doing a live record, but haven't been able to capture our live sound. We recorded that whole set, and we just put it out there. At the end, there's a little bit of "Prison Planet."

B: Yeah, it sounds awesome.

N: That's why we did it. So people know we have that.

B: I read in your bio that you don't like writing about emotions or stuff like that. That you like telling yarns. What inspired "I have the body of John Wilkes Booth?"

N: I remember specifically the idea behind that. We tracked the entire song, and I had to come up with the lyrics that day. I was freak-ing out, and the Washington city paper had a front page article that read "Where is the body of John Wilkes Booth?" It was about [the fact that] they didn't really know where his corpse was. I thought that title was ridiculous enough where you could write an entire song around that.

B: Ever thought about writing short stories?

N: I have, but that's a lot harder.

B: What's in the immediate future?

N: We're going to go home in five days for about three weeks. Then we were going to go to Europe, but that won't happen till the end of the summer. We'll be busy all the way through the fall pretty much.

B: What do you think about George W.?

N: I'm not crazy about him any more or less than I was about Clinton. It's sort of like two heads on the same beast. That's why I'm registered to any party. Last time I voted for Nader. I knew he wasn't going to win, but I wanted him to get that extra percentage so he could get some extra cash next time. Oh well. ♦

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24 HOUR INFORMATION

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15 Minutes: Faking reality on screen

Continued from 8

entertained rather than to be educated.

These news agencies, like *15 Minutes'* fictitious Top Story, search for such sensationalism to keep their ratings high and wallets fat. The more real and first hand, the better.

Like Kelsey Grammer's jour-

nalist character claims, "If it bleeds, it leads."

The public, all the while, blindly follows and never bothers to question what it sees on TV.

American TV gives *15 Minutes'* psychos their false perspective of the world, which is the same perspective that bil-

ions of people voluntarily, and

with no protest, witness each day.

15 Minutes never manages to become "the first great movie of 2001" as it was advertised. However, it is a modestly entertaining film with suspense that has an important message. It adds more reality to its story than any film or television show. ♦

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