

MIDDLE TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY SIDELINES

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SGA elections end today

Students cast 750 votes yesterday, polls remain open today until 6:30

By Heather Hybarger / staff

The polls closed yesterday in the Student Government Association (SGA) elections with over 750 student votes cast.

Polls open at 8 a.m. in all three voting locations. The polls close at 4:30 p.m. at Peck Hall, 6 p.m. in the KUC Lounge and 6:30 p.m. at the Rec Center.

"The Peck Hall and KUC voting locations had about average turnout for the first day of elections," said Election Commissioner Ginger Sullivan. "I think the Rec Center location was lower because it was the first day that location had been open."

Only 46 votes were counted at the Rec Center location.

Today is the last day the polls will be open.

Students will be able to vote for candidates for SGA President, Speaker of the Senate, Speaker of the House, Election Commissioner and College Senators.

In case of a tie a run-off election will be held Tuesday, April 23. The Peck Hall and KUC Lounge polling locations will be open for the run-off election.

This is the first election in which students are chosen by college and not classification. Students voted last spring to change the SGA Constitution so that senators could be elected through college.

The process was complete this spring when the Electoral Act Revision Committee included the change in Comprehensive Electoral Act of 1996. ●



Brian G. Miller / staff

SGA presidential candidate Chad White greets potential voters outside Todd Library Wednesday.

Aerospace student wins \$30,000 scholarship

By Todd R. Cruse / staff

Jodi Osborne, a 27-year-old graduate student in aerospace, has been selected to receive a scholarship that will help propel her into her new career.

Osborne, a 1992 graduate of MTSU's aerospace program, has returned to MTSU to work on her master's degree in aerospace.

The scholarship, which is from Women in Aviation and Northwest

Aerospace Training Corporation (NATCO), allowed her the option of receiving Federal Aviation Administration training on the aircraft of her choice. Osborne was awarded the scholarship on the basis of her grades, personal essay and flight time.

The scholarship is intended to provide a woman with the necessary money for training as a commercial pilot. According to Ron Ferrara, chair of the Aerospace Department, the scholarship is worth at least \$30,000 in simulator time.

Given the choice of any aircraft, Osborne chose the Boeing 747-400, one of the largest passenger airliners in the world, capable of carrying 420 passengers.

"They announced the winner at the Women in Aviation Conference," Osborne said. "I couldn't believe they selected me out of all the aerospace majors in the whole country. This is an opportunity of a lifetime."

One hour in a 747 flight simulator costs around \$800. With the scholarship, Osborne will spend two weeks in ground school, followed by three to four weeks in a state-of-the-art 747 simulator in Minnesota this summer.

"They announced the winner at the Women in Aviation Conference. I couldn't believe they selected me out of all the aerospace majors in the whole country. This is an opportunity of a lifetime."

**Jodi Osborne
Aerospace student**

Currently, 97 percent of commercial pilots are men. The majority of commercial pilots receive their training through the military, and, until recently, women have been excluded from that duty, Ferrara said. Women have also been deterred by financial reasons.

Osborne is currently a commercial pilot with multi-engine and instrument ratings. Upon her completion of training with NATCO, she will be

certified as an airline transport pilot with a type rating in the 747-400.

Osborne has also been the assistant coordinator of the Smyrna Airshow. As a member of Women in Aviation, she has made numerous speaking engagements at elementary and high schools. ●

Writers conference promotes literacy

By Christina Ginn / staff

The first Young Author's Conference will meet this Saturday to promote literacy in children through reading and writing, according to Bobbie Solley, one of two coordinators of this event and assistant professor of elementary and special education.

The conference will be attended by Rutherford County students in grades first to sixth.

"Each school, public and private, in Rutherford County from Murfreesboro City Schools, were invited to send 20 students from each school to the

conference," Solley said.

The participants will listen to three authors read a book that they have written. Ray Butrum, a local children's author and Rutherford County teacher, will be reading his book, "I Saw a Slimball Wiggle." Jan Robinson, a statewide representative for the conference and former MTSU student, will be reading, "The Story of Warple," a children's book she wrote. Fran Manushkin, a New York City resident who has written many picture books and adolescent novels, will be reading her book, "Latkeys and

Applesauce."

Nancy Cruze, the other coordinator and an assistant professor of elementary and special education, recruited these authors by word of mouth through Rutherford County teachers and from Scholastic Publishing Company.

The authors will also speak on the importance for children to read and write.

After they have listened to the authors, the children will split up into

Please see WRITERS on page 2

Collage releases spring issue

By Ryan M. Werner / staff

Collage, Student Publication's creative arts magazine, released its 46th edition on April 8.

Collage accepts submissions from MTSU students and faculty in the categories of poetry, short fiction, essays, interviews, photography, painting, sculpture, drawings and pottery.

Melissa Hoover, spring 1996 Collage assistant editor and art director, said she is very pleased with the quality of the publication.

"We worked closely with the printer in improving the reproduction quality of the artwork and photography," Hoover said. "I think the overall quality of the content is wonderful. We're very happy with this issue."

Hoover has been chosen as Collage editor for Fall 1996.

"I'm very proud of this issue," said Jenny Crouch, director of Student Publications. "The staff has done an excellent job. The design of the publication as well as the selections chosen for the presentation are good representations of the materials submitted."

"I encourage people to look for deadlines and submit their work. Complaints that the magazine is not representative of the best work available from students and faculty can only be resolved if more people

submit their work."

In 1992, Collage was awarded the classification of All American by Associated Collegiate Press with five merits of distinction.

MTSU student Sue Mullin was awarded the 1995-96 Herbert L. Hughes Award for Short Fiction from the International English Honor Society for a short fiction work titled "Sustenance," which was published in the spring 1993

Collage. Mullin's story has also been published in Sigma Tau Delta's publication, The Rectangle.

Mullin, a senior majoring in English and Journalism, has two stories in the Spring 1996 Collage.

"Collage is important because it's there to allow

students to validate themselves as emerging artists," Mullin said. "It's a highly competitive publication among the nation's colleges."

Collage has been distributed across campus in the KUC lobby, JUB lobby, Todd Library, Art Barn, John Bragg Mass Communication Building, Cope Administration Building, Saunders Fine Arts Building and Peck Hall.

Deadlines for submissions for the next Collage will be posted in the Fall on bulletin boards and advertised in Sidelines.

For more information about submissions, contact Melissa Hoover in JUB, Room 306 or call 898-5927. ●

"Collage is important because it's there to allow students to validate themselves as emerging artists,"

**Sue Mullin
English/Journalism
student**



Brian G. Miller / staff

Buckle up, quickly

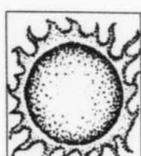
Kevin Wilson and Alpha Sigma Phi brothers compete in The Great Seatbelt Relay Wednesday afternoon in the KUC Courtyard. The contest was part of Alcohol Awareness Week.

FEATURES

Peer educators teach responsible decision making **Page 6**

WEATHER

THUR
scattered
t-storms
High: 79
Low: 60



FRI
scattered
t-storms
High: 81
Low: 64



SAT
scattered
t-storms
High: 74
Low: 63



SPORTS

Tennis teams claim OVC regular season titles **Page 7**

WRITERS

continued from page 1

groups to share their own personal stories that they have written over the past couple of months.

MTSU students are welcome to come by and listen. Cruze asks only that MTSU students be considerate of the children. ●

Special Olympics held on campus this Friday

By Todd R. Cruze / staff

The fifth annual Rutherford County Special Olympics begins Friday with opening ceremonies in Johnny "Red" Floyd stadium.

The Special Olympics is a competition for disabled individuals that allows them to compete and have a chance to

win. The competition is open for people diagnosed with mental disabilities from ages 8 to 21.

The opening ceremonies will begin at 9:15 a.m. Friday with welcoming speeches from Murfreesboro Mayor Joe B. Jackson and Robert LaLance, vice president for Student

Affairs.

Law enforcement officials from Rutherford County and MTSU will run a relay lap around the track in Horace Jones Field and pass off the torch that has been run across Rutherford County in honor of this event.

The Olympics will consist of

track and field events designed for individuals with mental and physical disabilities.

"A number of businesses and organizations throughout Rutherford County as well as a number of campus organizations will participate and make this happen," said John Harris, director of

Disabled Student Services.

Students interested in volunteering for the Olympics are encouraged to show up at the stadium anytime Friday.

"You can never be enough volunteers," Harris said. "Even if they come and cheer, it is a job, and a part of Special Olympics." ●



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RADIOACTIVE FLOWERS
AGGY COLOURED KARMA
MYSTIC MEDITATIONS
STEVE FISTER BAND
BOZAC

FRIDAY 4/19: L A GUNS
CRADLE OF THORNS
SOUL SHAKER

SATURDAY 4/20: MUD BROTHERS
BONEPONY

THURSDAY 4/25: VELCRO PYGMIES

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**For more information, contact
Brooks Nunnally at 904-0502**

CAMPUS CAPSULE

THURSDAY, APRIL 18

Student Alumni Association will hold a membership drive and cook-out at 5 p.m. behind the Alumni Center Building. For more information contact the Alumni Relations Office at 898-2922.

SATURDAY, APRIL 20

National Association of Environmental Professionals will hold the Earth's 5K Race in front of MTSU's Alumni Gym. Registration begins at 8:30 a.m. Registration is \$8 before April 13 and \$10 the day of the race. All registrants will receive a T-shirt and there will be drawings for door prizes. For more information contact Kathy Maurer at 896-4393.

7th Annual Wool Gathering will be held 10 a.m.-4 p.m. at Misty Hollow Farm located between Murfreesboro and Manchester. Sheep shearing, spinning, weaving, dyeing, and knitting demonstrations will be offered. Hold a baby lamb. Great Pyrenees puppies fleece and pelts for sale. Black sheep Romney breeding stock for sale. Lunch available. \$1 parking. Take I-24 to exit 97 and follow the signs. Call 615-394-2487 for more information.

SUNDAY, APRIL 21

SLC Productions will be sponsoring a concert at 7 p.m. in Tucker Theatre. The bands are Cotton Appleseed, Bittersweet Irony and Canvas with selected pieces from Mike Palmer and The Blue Moves Modern Dance Company. It is a free concert, however donations will be accepted. If there is anybody who wants to be involved, contact us by

phone (896-9897) or e-mail (jhenry@frank.mtsu.edu). More info on <http://www.mtsu.edu/~jhenry>.
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 24

Hiroki Sugihara will speak on *Visa for Life*, the book written by the widow of the late Japanese Consul Chiune Sugihara at 3 p.m. in room 100, James Union Building. The Japan Center of Tennessee will co-sponsor this event with the Holocaust Committee. For more information please contact The Japan Center of Tennessee at 898-2229.

The City Council of Cannonsburgh invites you to attend Cannonsburgh's Tennessee Bicentennial Celebration and Rededication. The pioneer village that brings to life the early southern lifestyles, hosts old time artisans and good cooks to bring skills and finished products for demonstration, display and trade or sale at Pioneer Day, Saturday April 27 from 10 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Booth space is free. Call Mrs. Giblin at 893-0214 (8-4-30 Mon.-Fri.).

Members from Today's Choice will be speaking Monday, April 29 at 7 p.m. in KUC 323. Abortion will be talked about and personal testimonies will be given of those who have had abortions.

The Native American Heritage Society will hold a general meeting May 2 from 5-6:30 p.m. in KUC Room 322.

The Toshiba Philharmonic Orchestra from Tokyo, Japan will be performing at the War Memorial Auditorium in Nashville on May 3 at 8 p.m. If interested in tickets, please call The Japan Center of Tennessee

at 898-2229 or Toshiba America at 615-444-8501 extension 0.

The MTSU Women's Choral is recruiting new members. All MTSU Women who enjoy singing are encouraged to join. Members are not required to be music majors, in fact, women from all majors are welcome. No formal audition is required. WC meets on T/R from 1:40-2:55 in SFA 117 for 1 hour credit. To register sing-up for Chorús 0370-01, call number 03122. For more information call 2487.

ONGOING EVENTS

If you are interested in international relations and current affairs, and want to develop leadership, negotiation and debate skills, get involved in **MTSU's Model United Nations!** For more information, contact Tony Mathews at 223-8884 or Dr. Anne Sloan in the Political Science Department.

ENT on MTSU's Channel 8. Movies, Music and More. Monday and Wednesday night at 8:30 p.m. Questions or comments: entch8@frank.mtsu.edu.

Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA) meets every Wednesday at 8:30 p.m. in Dance Studio B. Everyone (athletes and non-athletes) welcome. Come for fun, fellowship, and Bible Study.

Women's Clinic in the Academic Nursing Center offers the following gender specific assessments for \$15 initial and \$10 follow-up: breast exam, pap smear stool for occult blood, urine check, pregnancy test, blood chemistry profile, tests for infections if

indicated and follow-up reporting and counseling. **Blood Chemistry Profiles** available the first Wednesday of every month from 8-10 a.m. at \$10 for the 18 component blood chemistry profile and \$10 for PSA (prostate cancer test). The clinic also offers free blood pressure screenings every Wednesday from 1-4 p.m. For an appointment call 898-5950.

Raiders for Christ will hold a devotional on Mondays at 7 p.m. in the Middle Tennessee Christian Student Center.

The MTSU Christian Faculty and Staff Fellowship will meet every 2nd and 4th Wednesday in KUC Room 312. Interested Faculty and Staff are invited to attend any of these meetings. For further information contact Kim Sokoya at 898-2352 or ksokoya@frank.mtsu.edu.

The MTSU College Democrats will hold weekly meetings in room 313 of the KUC at 5:00 p.m. Come and find out what we are all about.

Codependents Anonymous (Coda) will meet Thursday's from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. at St. Marks United Methodist Church, Room 109 under the red handrail. Coda is a fellowship of men and women whose common problem is an inability to maintain functional relationships. The only requirement for membership is a desire for healthy and fulfilling relationships with others and ourselves.

ADCOA will meet Tuesday from 6 to 7 p.m. at St. Marks Methodist Church, 1403 E. Main St., Room 109. ADCOA is a 12-step support group for people raised in an alcoholic or

other dysfunctional family. **Lambda**, an organization for gay, lesbian and bisexual students, faculty, non-students, and their supporters, will meet every Tuesday in the Mass Comm building, room 103, at 6:30 p.m. For further information write to MTSU Box 624 or call 780-2293.

Lambda will be hosting a "Movie Night" every Thursday at 7 p.m. in Mass Comm Room 103. For more information call the Lambda Hotline at 780-2293.

Intervarsity Christian Fellowship will hold its weekly meetings on Tuesdays at 8 p.m. and Campus Prayer meetings on Wednesday at 9 p.m., in KUC room 312. All campus ministries and all individuals are invited to attend.

Seniors and Graduate Students: create your resume with Resume Expert Plus Software and register with the Placement Center in one easy step! Contact Placement and Student Employment Center KUC 328, 898-2500.

Wesley Foundation will be hosting an hour-long ongoing study group on Human Sexuality in the Christian Faith, Mondays at 5:30 p.m. at the Wesley Foundation.

Wesley Singers rehearsals will be held Wednesdays at 7:30 p.m. at the Wesley Foundation. Anyone who loves to sing is welcome.

MTSU students who need speech testing or speech therapy services should call the **MTSU Speech Clinic**, 898-2661, for an appointment.

Anyone interested in being a

tutor or getting tutored, please contact Tanisha Harris of the **NAACP (Educational Committee)** at 898-4056.

MTSU Equestrian Team will hold regular meetings every Monday night at 7:00 p.m. in the TLC Sales Arena. Everyone is welcome!

Inroads Nashville, Inc. plans to recruit Sophomore and Junior Minority Students in marketing, computer information systems and business administration. With a GPA of 2.9 or better, successful recruits will have the opportunity to do internships with such firms as IBM, Price-Waterhouse and Northern Telecom. Those interested should immediately call Prof. B. Fayissa at 898-2385 or see him in KOM 322G.

Canterbury Episcopal Campus Ministry meets Tuesdays at 7 p.m. for dinner and fellowship at St. Paul's Church, 315 E. Main St. and Thursdays for lunch in the KUC Grill. All are welcome. Contact Andrew Wright at 893-3780 for more information.

MTSU Raidersharks- Scuba Club will hold meetings on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of every month at 8 p.m. in the MTSU Pool. It is open to anyone interested in scuba diving or associated activities. All students are welcome. For more information call Tim or Jude at 895-6249.

Phi Sigma Pi will hold their weekly meetings on Mondays at 7 p.m. in the Stark Ag Building Room 125. Contact an officer if you can not attend.

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Political nitwits should stay out of late-abortion decision

By Mark T. Gibson

Clinton's veto of the ban on partial birth abortions last week has stirred strong feelings on both sides of the abortion issue. What many fail to understand is that neither the ban nor Clinton's veto was particularly related to abortion rights or the restriction thereof.

I hope that I'm never in the position where the only viable option for my wife would be to remove a doomed fetus from her, but if that ever becomes necessary I want the decision made by a doctor and my wife - not Jesse Helms.

Contrary to propaganda, partial birth abortion is a rarely-performed procedure done in instances of dire medical emergency where: a) the fetus is damaged and probably non-viable, and b) no other method (such as a Caesarean section) exists to save the life of the mother. To illustrate its rareness, in this country of 250 million people only a few hundred are performed a year.

Clinton has been vilified by many, including Todd Whitney, president of the Raider Victory Fellowship. What Todd does not want you to know is that Congress has no business passing such a law. What other surgical procedures are banned by the supreme legislative body of our country? Since when are lawyers competent to design emergency medical procedures? Consider:

This Congress recently passed a law which it knew was unconstitutional and which it arrogantly refused to believe was unenforceable because collectively, they did not have the guts to tell their constituents the truth or the wisdom to write it properly.

Despite the fact that no one is burning flags, they tried to pass an un-American anti flag-burning amendment because they were terrified of appearing pro flag-burning.

They cannot or will not pass a budget for 1996; they will not or cannot truthfully address the problems with Social Security or Medicaid because of the politically unpopular decisions that would entail.

They consistently refuse to reform the IRS, agreeing with the IRS last summer that revenue collections would suffer if the IRS obeyed the Constitutional requirements of burden of proof.

Despite the hoopla over the so-called "Taxpayer Bill of Rights," they don't want you to know that most of what they 'passed' into law was ordered by the Supreme Court already, and the truly important revisions (including burden of proof rules) were gutted before the bill came up for a vote.

This Congress has set new records for internecine squabbling. Do you trust them to tell your physician what surgical procedures she may perform? I don't trust Ted Kennedy to drive a car (even with ugly campaign volunteers).

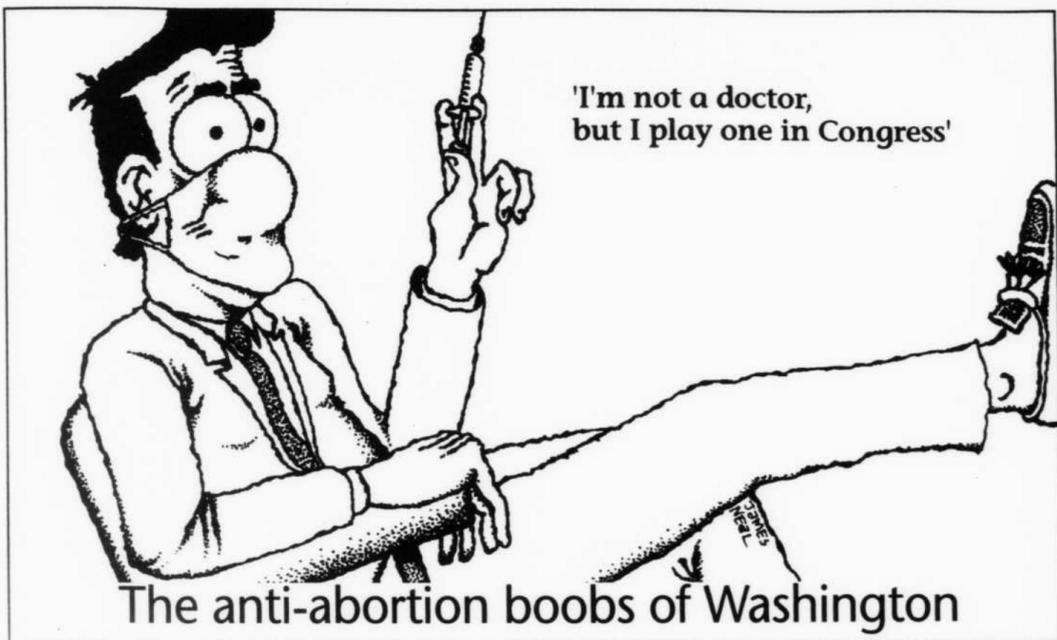
The overwhelming majority of physicians are ethical and honest people. If such a person is convinced that the only way to save someone's life is a partial birth abortion, why would we give a Congressman like Alfonse "I Don't Recall, Senator" D'Amato final right of approval?

For me, if the choice were between my wife's death and a partial birth abortion, then the abortion would be performed if I had to do it myself. I respect the principles that motivate Todd and his friends, but in the real world such principles are no substitute for my wife's life. And neither Todd nor his co-believers are medically competent to make that decision. Neither am I, for that matter. That's why God called some to be physicians - to make those decisions.

Consider me inhuman if you wish, but the few hours or days a doomed, brain-damaged fetus may "live" before its inevitable death is not worth my wife's life.

I prefer to keep such weighty decisions in the hands of the AMA, state physician-regulation agencies and my own conscience rather than in those of a bunch of weak-sister political hacks.

Mr. Gibson is a junior who studies psychology.



'I'm not a doctor, but I play one in Congress'

The anti-abortion boobs of Washington

Letters to the Editor

Music Department students express views on resignations

To the Editor,

After reading the article printed on the front page of *Sidelines* last Thursday, April 11, regarding the Music Department, we feel compelled to respond.

We are, and have been for quite some time, disgusted with the embarrassing situation which has been drawn out over the past few semesters. For all students and faculty not involved with the Music Department, we feel you should know that the recent resignation of our chair and band personnel has brought to an end a frustrating and embarrassing, but quiet civil war within the walls of Wright Music Building.

We feel that it is necessary to correct some blatant lies which the interviewees in the aforementioned article attempted to pass as truth:

Megaw remarked that he "understands the institution (MTSU) needs to retain its image, but I resent it being done at the expense of individuals." Perhaps he is trying to "retain" his image at the expense of the Music Department. What Mr. Megaw forgets is that he is not directly involved with the Music Department as a whole (incidentally, we have never seen any of our other instructors socialize with him or Pat Root), yet he insists that he resigned "because the desire for excellence is lacking in the department."

EXCREMENT! How unfortunate it is that now you will never know how excellent our department truly is, Mr. Megaw! Indeed, we have never seen Megaw or Root at recitals or concerts other than the

ones they directed. Furthermore, doesn't an "excellent" conductor usually demonstrate a certain proficiency at an instrument? We have seen our excellent choral director, Dr. Raphael Bundage, perform on the piano in non-choral recitals.

Perhaps the Band Department should come up and visit the Piano Department sometime (and take notes if you do!). All that we do strive to excel. On a given day during the lunch hour you will find the practice rooms full. The Piano Department provides numerous accompanists for students, and consequently, there is never a General Recital that does not include a piano major on the program. As for our faculty, their desire to excel is above and beyond their duty to their salaries or egos. It is their duty to the entire Music Department to maintain standards of excellence which the faithless, apathetic, and self-serving band directors have been destroying. This semester alone Dr. Perkins and Dr. Harb presented a public recital of piano duets (where were you, Root and Megaw?), Mr. Bills as a feature artist with the Stones River Chamber Players (where were you?); and Mr. Landry performed in numerous jazz concerts (where were you?).

Furthermore, the reason that *Sidelines* has never reported any unprofessional and immature behavior within the Piano Department is because there has not been any to report. The faculty and students of the Piano Department treat each other with respect and support in order to provide an

environment for the students which lends itself to attaining excellence. Mr. Megaw and Mrs. Root, you have failed to provide this environment for your students, and in this respect you have failed as teachers.

If the sliver of the Music Department to which you apparently are content to limit yourselves seems to lack a desire for excellence, it is because of your own lack of desire to excel in the job for which you were hired to do: TEACH. It pains us to see the band program settling for so unambitious and lazy a faculty when there are other faculty members (and we have only pointed out a few) who are truly paradigmatic. To do so is to be inconsistent. We hope that the persons responsible for hiring these failures realizes their mistake and will not make it again. **Our department deserves better.**

TEACHERS (future band directors included): It is your responsibility to serve as role models for us students and, in doing so, inspire us to excel. If you behave in an unprofessional manner or fail to aspire for excellence, you are not accomplishing your jobs.

STUDENTS: It is your responsibility to practice diligently and complain when your teachers are not performing their jobs. (We are disconcerted that there has not been more uproar over the recent events in our wonderful department - do not give in to the siren call of apathy.)

Sincerely,

Allison Riley and
Oliver Henderson
Sophomores, Piano Majors

SGA Election Continues

When to VOTE!

Today

Where to Vote!

Peck Hall 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
KUC Lounge 8:00a.m. - 6:00 p.m.
Rec Center 8:00 a.m. - 6:30 p.m.

LETTERS POLICY

Sidelines encourages comments from readers. Letters to the editor should not exceed 300 words. Authors who want more than 300 words to express themselves should contact the editor. *Sidelines* keeps its pages open to all viewpoints and all members of the MTSU community. Authors should include their name, address, major, classification and phone number for identification purposes. (Phone numbers will not be published.) *Sidelines* reserves the right to edit for length, grammar, style and libel. Send letters to Box 42, MTSU, Murfreesboro, TN 37132 or drop them off at the *Sidelines* office in JUB Room 310. Letters can also be sent via e-mail to the editor at: m_c_008c@frank.mtsu.edu.

SIDELINES

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Decision for late-term abortion in hands of women, doctors

To the Editor,

I would like to respond to Todd Whitney's Letter to the Editor (April 15) in which he encouraged our school's students to write our congressmen in support of the bill which will ban late term abortions. I don't "support" abortion, either, and I believe that the women's community should work to eliminate the need for abortion. However, I have next to no tolerance for a young man who suggests that this decision should be imposed upon women by a legislative body which is 90 percent non-woman.

Like pregnancy in general, this type of abortion is not pretty. But it is actually the least "horrendous" of all, because it is only performed when the fetus is severely deformed or when childbirth seriously threatens a woman's health or life. Under this bill, a doctor can still be

prosecuted for using this procedure to save the woman's life. He must then prove to a judge that there was no other way to keep her from dying. This makes real the possibility that a doctor, afraid of the two years in prison that a "guilty" decision could incur, may neglect the risk to a woman's life in those crucial last weeks or minutes of pregnancy.

You won't have to worry about this, Mr. Whitney, but since I plan to have children at some point in my life, I am severely frightened by having my right to life put into the hands of your vicious little Congress. I will not allow you or them to condemn me to die with my feet in the stirrups. That would be a "sickening" sight, as well, wouldn't it?

This is not about the sanctity of human life, because if so, you'd be just as concerned about the life of the childbearer. This is about

imposing a decision which you have no right to impose. This is not about having an abortion or not having one; it is about who decides. If a woman believes abortion is wrong, she will not have one, and she will try to help other women in similar situations. We can make decisions for ourselves - we are not barbarian witches whose sole desire in life is to kill our children, you know. We are women who own bodies which are constantly under the attack of people who do not care what is best for us or our children. We do not need your paternalism, nor do they.

And as far as your encouragement to "get involved," believe me, I am involved. I am more involved in this issue than you will ever be. After all, we're talking about my life and my children.

Mary Cummins

Junior, English/Political Science

Christians and non-Christians contribute to our problems

To the Editor,

I am writing in response to Scott Link's editorial in the April 11 issue of *Sidelines*. Mr. Link suggested in his editorial that Americans are ruled by Christian moral beliefs because the Constitution was based on Christian morals. Mr. Link also stated that Americans recent moral collapse was directly "linked" to non-Christians who have no moral code.

I hope Mr. Link's ego has been sufficiently elevated since his beliefs were the basis for which all Americans are governed.

America does have problems, but they are caused by all Americans not just non-Christians. Christians should stop assessing blame for America's problems and unite everyone to combat them. We need to stop trying to feel superior to everyone else and start searching for

solutions.

Derek Ramey
MTSU employee

P.S. These Christian men who wrote the constitution also owned slaves. I hope we don't follow this example of Christianity's superior moral code.

Letters to the Editor

Theatre Dept. production gets 'BRAVO!!!!'

To the Editor,

I write this letter for several reasons. First and foremost, I wish to congratulate the actors and actresses who performed in "Jesus Christ Superstar." BRAVO!!!! The one thing that would have made the show even better would be a better sound system in Tucker Theatre. For me it just emphasizes the fact that this university spends way too much money on athletics at the expense of other departments and upgrades that are needed. Instead of expanding the collection of books in our library, improving parking, or for that matter spending money on things that enhance a person's education (which athletics doesn't believe what many people don't believe) like upgrading and renovating Tucker Theatre. Our theatre majors deserve the opportunity to perform in a theatre where their words and songs can be heard. Despite the archaic sound system, the theatre did an exceptional job with Andrew Lloyd Weber's work. I think that he would be very pleased.

The next reason that I am writing is to add my two cents worth to the creationism/homosexuality debate that has been ongoing. I am a devout Christian (Episcopalian if it matters) and believe a great deal in the awesome and unboundless power of God. That is why I am shocked by many of the letters presented by many people. Any Christian who believes in the fundamental teaching of the Christian faith should realize that God is boundless and that nothing is beyond His power. Since nothing is beyond God's power (including sending His son to die on the cross) why can't God use creation and evolution or speak from heterosexuals as well as homosexuals and bisexuals. Many of the arguments that have been presented in the past couple of weeks put limits on a God who has no limits. If you believe that God can't use creation and evolution or can't speak through a homosexual (or condone what he/she does) then you need to reread your Bible and realize that God is unboundless, limitless, omnipotent (all powerful) and omniscient (all seeing). Don't limit what God can and can't do.

The last reason that I am writing is to let people know that I am running for College of Liberal Arts senator. I'm not on

the ballot (because my petition was late) and therefore am running as a write-in candidate (which means that you will have to take pencil in hand and actually write in my name. I am also running as an independent (in case you want someone other than Raider Party people). I would greatly appreciate your vote and support.

Respectfully,

Menzo Faassen
Junior, Social Work Major

'Superstar' play makes mockery of Christianity

To the Editor,

Leonard Malton, movie critic for the show Sneak Previews once observed that Hollywood often portrays Christians and Jews as stupid people or monsters. Well, the same goes for Broadway. Recently I went to see the play "Jesus Christ Superstar." I had heard both good and bad things about this "Rockdrama." I went for two reasons. 1) I'd always heard and read things about it and 2) it was free with an MTSU ID. (By the way, I

think it's ironic that the production happened to start around Easter. Was this planned?) First I had always heard things and read about this over the years. When I was 12, I read about the play in a book produced by Encyclopaedia Britannica. The account given by this book which was called a "Yearbook" talked about this play called "Jesus Christ Superstar" produced by Andrew Lloyd Weber. Later in my life when I was around 23, I saw a show on the Trinity Broadcast Network hosted by Jeff Reinholt. Jeff starred in the original stage production of "Jesus Christ Superstar." During the show (the name of it escapes me now) Jeff related his conversion to Christianity and his experience prior to it. Jeff was a member of the rock band Black Sabbath. He briefly talked about it, but what kept me drawn to the show was his experience during and after "Superstar." He told about his drug abuse, his rebellious nature toward Christianity, and how his wife, a devote Catholic, helped him become a Christian. Jeff related how each member of the

original stage production had something tragic happen to them. He said the theatre where the original production was performed was never used again until he told about his conversion-testimony for the first time to a large crowd. He also stated Andrew Lloyd Weber wouldn't have anything to do with him now that he had become a Christian. Interesting, I thought to myself, so when the opportunity came for me to see the production I went to check it out. Needless to say, I'm glad I got to see it free of charge. I didn't lose any money. I wasn't really offended, rather I was disturbed. Some may say, "Oh, Eddy. It's just a play." (Well, Vietnam was just a "police action.") From a humanist stand point consider this, think about someone you really love and want to be like. Suppose someone was to write something fictional about them that made a mockery of them, know how I feel now? I mean Jesus wasn't a white, skinny, flower child who had anger outbursts. He was a Jewish carpenter from Nazareth, a town where it was customary to

have a beard and long hair. My image of Jesus is a stocky, medium-sized man with dark skin, a beard and wavy hair. However, that doesn't matter, race is secondary. I was disturbed about the way he was portrayed, then I considered the time period it was written. It was written about the time I was born or shortly after (1969). Other plays such as the psychedelic "Hair" or the nude musical "Oh, Calcutta!" were produced during this time, late 60s - early 70s. However, that doesn't excuse the mockery this play represents toward Christianity. Jesus was a compassionate, loving man. He died and resides in heaven. Those who are Christians know he is God. For further info and the real Jesus contact me or read the New Testament — part of the Holy Bible. I'm interested what would be the response to "Mohammed — The Magician?" I guess the writer would be treated like Salmon Rushdie. They would have to go into exile.

Eddy D. Dyer
Senior, Social Work

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Dr. Judson solves your problems

Judson attacks the club scene

Dr. Father Judson,

I have been frequenting many bars in my college town and have begun to observe a problem that has to be stopped. The bands playing in bars are way to freaking loud!!! How on earth can a person carry on a conversation with another person while yet another person is banging "Brown Eyed Girl" on an acoustic guitar turned up well past 11. What gives, Doc? Please tell me if it is just me that feels this way.

Busted Ears

Dear Busted Ears,

You are not alone. I have received several letters regarding the noise level at bars. Read on....

Dr. Judson,

Why does every band out there have to try and be Spinal Tap? Isn't it enough that these saps charge us three bucks to go and listen to them butcher old classic rock tunes that weren't that good to begin with?

Artie Fufkin

Dr. Judson,

Who the heck do bar bands think they are playing to? A bunch of drunk frat boys with armadillos in their trousers?

Bobbi Fleckman

Dr. Judson,

I have noticed a lot of people leaving bars, taking two steps outside, and then having their heads explode into tiny little pieces in sync with the bass line to "Brown Eyed Girl." Is this some kind of new bar promotion, or is the music too loud?

David S. Hubbins

Dear Readers,

As you can see, we have had an abundance of letters regarding the noise level in bars. Please do not send me any more letters about the noise level in bars. I don't really care about the noise level in bars because I never have to worry about going to bars. Why should I? If your first name was Father would you go hang out in bars? Well, okay, would you go hang out in bars for any other reason than to forget your first name was Father? I didn't think so.

Dr. Father Judson

* Dr. Judson is neither a licensed therapist nor a barfly, and his hearing is just fine. *Sidelines* assumes no responsibility for those following his advice, nor those listening to acoustic versions of "Brown Eyed Girl." We feel you should know better than to do either one and you get what you deserve. Dr. Judson may be reached at Box 42. ●

Peer educators light up campus, enlighten students

Student group teaches fun and responsibility aren't mutually exclusive

By Joey Butler / staff

Hundreds of tiny lights line Tennessee Boulevard, make a hard right turn at Bell and head for Todd Library, illuminating the campus. The lights are pretty to look at, but they represent something not quite so pretty.

You see, each flickering candle symbolizes a life snuffed out by an alcohol-related automobile accident.

The luminary lighting that occurred Wednesday night was organized by a new group on campus, Students Helping and Reaching out to Each other (SHARE) in honor of Alcohol Awareness Week. Seven undergraduate students comprise the group, whose focus is providing other students with one-on-one education from a peer rather than a faculty level, and to help other campus organizations design creative programs. The programs center around serious issues like drug and alcohol use, sex and date rape. Some of the campus organizations SHARE aids include residence halls and Greek organizations. They are also assisting with Customs and New Student Week in the fall.

"There is a lot needed on this campus activity-wise," says SHARE member Kristi Fox, a junior graphic communications major. "We want to give students something fun to do."

The SHARE members are part of the new Peer Education program. Dr. Cathy Crooks, the program's director, is excited about the group, which became an official student organization in January.

The group was started by Crooks and Associate Dean of Students Gail Stephens.

"It was a much needed program. We were fortunate to have found a department willing to fund it," Crooks says.

The funding department in question is University Housing, which SHARE works closely with anyway, organizing residence hall functions.

The seven members were chosen by Crooks and her graduate assistant, Susannah McLendon, based on their



Brian G. Miller / staff

Misty Roberts and Amy King carry some of the candles used in the luminary lighting Wednesday evening. The lighting was held in conjunction with Alcohol Awareness Week.

leadership and interpersonal skills. Then they undergo a 16-hour training program sponsored by BACCHUS, the national collegiate organization that promotes responsible decision-making among students.

They were picked from a group of 35 applicants. "I was really surprised at the number of applicants, considering this is a new program," Crooks says.

But there are a lot of students on the campus that want to be involved in improving MTSU and these are just seven of them.

"We get education here, we feel that we should give something back as well," says sophomore SHARE member Susan Hawkins.

Both students and director feel peer educators have a definite advantage over faculty members.

"Students want to hear about health-related issues from peers, not from an older faculty member," Crooks says.

Eric Keener, a junior accounting major and SHARE member, agrees.

"When a teacher or advisor talks to a student about something like drinking, it usually goes in one ear and out the other because it seems like a lecture," Keener says. "We don't want to come across as preachy, we just want to encourage people that they should prioritize, put their studies, families and friends first."

Keener speaks from experience. He attended UT, spent more of his time partying than studying and when his trust fund dried up, had nothing to show for it. Now that he's back in school, he feels like he's been given a second chance.

"If I can tell people there's more to school than bar-hopping every night, then I'll feel some atonement," Keener says.

All members emphasize the fact that they are not counselors. They provide students with someone to talk to about serious matters that they might not feel comfortable talking to an older faculty member about.

"We've been extensively trained

and people should trust us," says sophomore community and public health major Casie Sykes. "We respect confidentiality."

Although they want to educate students about health-related issues, the SHARE members don't want people to think they're telling them what they can and cannot do.

"We are not here to bash organizations or preach to people about partying," Keener says. "We just want to educate people."

They may not come across as preachy, but the members are a little hesitant to discuss one of their less popular activities. Apparently, they work with faculty members and design programs to put on in the event of a faculty member being unable to have class, so the class doesn't have to be canceled. While they are aware that students may not appreciate this, they know that faculty members do.

Crooks is excited about the group's future. She anticipates increasing the membership to between 12 and 15 members, but wants to keep it a small number. The current members will also have an opportunity to participate in the selection process next semester.

Anyone interested in either talking to or becoming a peer educator should contact Crooks at 5453. ●

"We get education here, we feel that we should give something back as well."

Susan Hawkins
Sophomore SHARE member

Cheesed-off Canadians fight for their Camembert

Associated Press

The Camembert crisis? The Parmesan purge? From Toronto's Little Italy to the cheese-loving bastions of French-speaking Quebec, Canadians are heaping scorn on a Health Department proposal to ban some pungent, unpasteurized cheeses.

"They have to get their heads X-rayed," Marco Abdi, owner of an Italian restaurant in Calgary, said of the Health Ministry regulators.

At Parliament, critics of the proposed ban organized a "taste-in" Wednesday and invited Health Minister David Dingwall.

Government scientists have been

working discreetly for six years on tougher disease regulations, but their proposals came to public attention only this week after the Health Department formally gave notice of a proposed new safety measure.

To reduce the possibility of disease, it would require that cheese either be made from pasteurized milk or be subjected to intense heat-processing, then stored at low temperatures for two months.

Raw-milk cheeses such as camembert and brie, not to mention the much-imported Parmesan, might not meet the new standards.

"Does the health minister have

nothing else to do ... ?" Pauline Picard of the separatist Bloc Quebecois demanded Monday.

In Quebec, radio call-in lines hummed with complaints over a perceived federal slap at the province's love for distinctive, raw-milk cheeses.

It wasn't surprising that Quebec — led by a separatist government — assailed the federal bureaucracy. But the health minister also incurred the wrath of Italian-descended colleagues in his own Liberal Party.

"We have been eating Parmesan for hundreds of years," said Labor Minister Alfonso Gagliano. "I've eaten a lot of Parmesan, and I've never been

sick."

Dingwall said some of his critics' arguments were "full of holes." He promised a 75-day consultation period before a final decision is made, allowing the dairy industry, grocers, restaurant owners and others to comment on Health Department evidence that unpasteurized cheese poses a health risk.

One reader of the Toronto-based *Globe and Mail* wrote: "I'm so glad (Dingwall) has decided to let trivial issues like tobacco, drugs and alcohol fall by the wayside and concentrate on what is really threatening the health of the citizens of this country — cheese." ●

ENTERTAINMENT EXTRA!

TODAY

THE BORO (895-4800) Soul Satisfaction rocks the joint at 10 p.m. for \$4.

BUNGANUT PIG (893-7860) Crosstown Traffic perform at 8 p.m. No cover.

CACTUS JACK'S (890-8280) Mending Fences displays its talent.

KUC THEATER (Student Programming 2551) Last showing of "Heat" Shows are at 6:30 and 10 p.m.

MAINSTREET (890-7820) NuStock rocks the joint inside and out. Performing live are Radio Active Flowers Gutter Junkies, Aggy Coloured Karma, Mystic Meditations, Bozac and Steve Fister. Show starts at 8 p.m. for \$5.

SQUEEZER'S (896-8175) presents A Million Worlds.

FRIDAY

THE BORO welcomes Red Stone and

Fearless Freap.

BUNGANUT PIG presents Ricky Ray and Friends at 9 p.m.

CACTUS JACK'S parties with The Holdouts.

MAINSTREET rocks with the LA Guns, Cradle of Thorns and Soul Shaker. Show starts at 8 p.m. for \$7.

MUSIC ON THE KNOLL hosts the Battle For the Knoll. Bands performing include Tuck, Aggy Coloured Karma, Still Stanley, Thicket Grove, Secret Commonwealth, Action Figure, Simeon's Logic and Three Fold Cord. Show begins at 3 p.m.

SQUEEZER'S gets indecent with Naked Sam.

SATURDAY

THE BORO rocks with Junkbox. BUNGANUT PIG presents Warren Brothers Band at 9 p.m.

CACTUS JACK'S holds up the Holdouts for one more night. MAINSTREET Get wild with Bone

Pony and Mud Brothers.

ANDREA GRIMELLI will be in concert at 8 p.m. The cost is \$6 for students, \$8 for adults. Free to all MTSU students and faculty with ID. SQUEEZER'S hosts a panty raid with Doctor Gonzo.

SUNDAY

MUSIC DEPARTMENT Kim Allen will be giving her Senior Soprano Recital at 3 p.m. At 8 p.m., Brett Bryant will be performing his Graduate Composition Recital. Both performances are in the Music Hall of the Wright Music Building. SQUEEZER'S presents Big Vessel.

MONDAY

THE BORO tba. BUNGANUT PIG hosts Lisa 8 p.m. JONATHAN'S presents Disco Retro Night this and every Monday night. SQUEEZER'S presents Alex Ogburn.

TUESDAY

THE BORO welcomes the music of Don Clark.

BUNGANUT PIG hosts Lisa at 8 p.m. KUC THEATER presents Jack Lemon, Walter Matthau, Ann-Margaret and Sophia Loren in "Grumpier Old Men."

MTSU BAND CONCERT starts at 8 p.m. in the Music Hall of the Wright Music Building

SQUEEZER'S presents Junkbox.

WEDNESDAY

THE BORO presents Highwater. BUNGANUT PIG welcomes the Warren Brothers. Everything gets started at 8 p.m.

CACTUS JACK'S spotlights you! It's Karaoke Night with David Lovell.

KUC THEATER continues its run "Grumpier Old Men" at 6:30 & 9 p.m. for \$2.

SQUEEZER'S presents Aggy Coloured Karma. ●

Raider baseball blows away Cumberland, UK

Staff Reports

The Blue Raider baseball team used a six-run outing in the second inning and a two-run effort in both the fourth and sixth innings to secure an 11-2 victory over the Kentucky Wildcats at Lexington on Tuesday.

Steven Lay pitched seven innings to pick up the victory for the Blue Raiders (24-18, 11-8 OVC). Lay worked seven innings, allowing only four hits and one earned run while striking out seven and walking two. Joe Dalton and George Oleksik pitched perfect seventh and eighth innings in relief.

Kentucky got on the board first, when an error by outfielder Jeremy Owens allowed a Wildcat run to score, giving them an early 1-0 lead.

Shane Shoemaker drew a one out walk in the second inning, and was followed by Andrew Thompson grabbing a free pass as well, putting runners at first and second with just one out.

With two out in the inning, Owens redeemed himself for his first inning error by whacking a three-run homer to give the Blue Raiders a 3-1 lead.

A identical pattern the Raiders' next three runs of the second inning. Ty Curley and Chris Snyder walked back-to-back, then Snyder by another three-run bomb, this one delivered by Ryan Dillard.

In all, six runs on just two hits in the top of the second for the Blue Raiders.

The Blue Raiders got two more runs in the fourth when Jon Case

walked, followed by a third Blue Raider home run, this one off the bat of Owens's bat for the second time in the game. Kentucky added a run in the fifth to thin the lead to 8-2, but the Raiders then took two more runs off a Doug Barner single, the four-year starter's only hit of the game, to stretch the lead to 10-2.

The Raiders added a final run in the ninth off a Will Fraley home run, the fourth Raider bomb of the game, to secure the 11-2 victory over the Wildcats.

Monday night, Jamie Hill (2-3) struck out 11 batters in pitching a complete game shutout to help the Blue Raiders to a 10-0 victory over Cumberland University in a makeup game Smith Field. It was Hill's first shutout of the season and the team's third of the year.

Both teams were scoreless, until the bottom of the third when Owens singled to center field with one out. Hendrix then grounded out to third to advance all the way to third. Snyder's single to right scored Owens for the first run of the game. A single by Dillard and an error by Cumberland's first baseman allowed Snyder to advance all the way to third. Snellgrove reached on an error by the Bulldogs' third baseman advancing Dillard to third and scoring Snyder. Barner grounded out to third to end the inning, but the damage had already been done as MTSU now led 2-0.

The score remained there until the bottom of the fourth. Lyons singled and stole second with one out.

Thompson then singled to left to advance Lyons to third before Owens' single to left advanced Thompson to second and drove in Lyons for the third Blue Raider run of the game. Hendrix came up next with a single to right field to score Thompson and advance Owens to third.

After Snyder singled to right to score Owens and send Hendrix to second, Cumberland changed pitchers. The new pitcher couldn't stop MTSU however, as Dillard tripled to left center to drive in Hendrix and Snyder. Snellgrove singled to score Dillard before the inning ended with the Raiders on top 8-0.

With one out in the bottom of the eighth, Snyder reached on an error and advanced to second on Beddies' single to center. Snellgrove then singled to right to load the bases for Fraley, pinch hitting for Barner. All three base runners headed for home on Fraley's double, but Snellgrove was called out at the plate. The two runs were all the Raiders could put on the board in the inning, but they were enough to give MTSU a more than comfortable 10-0 lead that would become the final score.

Dillard had a big game offensively for MTSU, going 3-for-3 with two RBIs. Snyder had two hits, drove in two runs and scored three more.

The Raiders will be at home this weekend for a showdown with second place Austin Peay, in a doubleheader on Saturday beginning at 2 p.m. and a single game on Sunday at that same time.

Peay will be playing the Saturday



Brian G. Miller/staff

The Raiders will be at home this weekend for a pivotal three-game series with Austin Peay. MTSU, at 11-4 in Ohio Valley Conference play, holds a slim one-game lead over the Governors.

doubleheader minus head coach Gary McClure, who was suspended by the OVC Tuesday for using profanity in a April 10 game against Vanderbilt when questioning an umpires' call.

McClure also violated NCAA and OVC tobacco policies.

This weekend's games will be at Reese Smith Field, and admission is free to students with a valid I.D. ●

Middle Tennessee finishes one stroke short of first at Xavier golf tournament

By Rob Nunley / staff

The Blue Raider golf team came within an eyelash of the big prize Monday at Cincinnati's O'Bannon Creek Golf Club.

Coach Johnny Moore's MTSU team finished the one-day, 36-hole Xavier University Invitational with a combined team score of 598, one stroke above the winning score.

"We played well," Moore said. "Any time you get that close to the lead you've got to be happy. I would like to have won it, but we came close enough."

Middle finished the Invitational third, three strokes ahead of fourth-place Purdue, and only one stroke

behind a share of the win, which was tied for by Youngstown State and Akron.

The tournament was played in a "shotgun" format, with different teams starting at different places on the course. According to Moore, this style of tournament puts less pressure on the players because they do not know how other teams are doing while they are playing.

The Raiders shot a 298 for the first round, led by David Reed's one-over 71. As the day went on, however, falling temperatures and increasing winds made play gradually more difficult.

"We thought if we shot 300 in the second round we could win it," Moore

"Any time you get that close to the lead you've got to be happy. I would like to have won it, but we came close enough."

Johnny Moore
MTSU golf coach

said. "The players and I both agreed that's the score it would take with the course playing so much harder because of the weather."

Moore's team got the 300 for the second round, but unfortunately it was one stroke too many to take home the win.

Reed's 147 (71, 76) was the low score for MTSU, and Reed finished the day tied for sixth place among the individual leaders. Brian Higgins (72, 76-148) finished tied for tenth.

Other Raider's scores were: David Head (77, 74-151); Maine Brock (78, 74-152); and Steve Ressler (85, 82-157).

The Xavier Invitational was the Raiders' final tune-up before the OVC championship. Among the other

teams at Xavier were Eastern Kentucky and Morehead State. Middle finished five strokes ahead of EKVU, and 14 ahead of Morehead.

"Neither one of them really played very well," Moore said. "I know Eastern came straight out of another tournament, so they had played about four days in a row. They both can play better."

"Murray State's the team in the OVC I'm really worried about," Moore added. "They've beaten us both times we've played them this spring. I'd say they're going to be the team to beat at the OVC championship."

The championship tournament will be held April 22-24 at Nashville's Springhouse Golf Club. ●

MTSU tennis teams capture OVC regular season titles

Lady Raiders earn top seed in tourney with 8-1 victory over Tennessee Tech

By Joel Frey / staff

So much for the showdown. The Lady Raider tennis team jumped on Tennessee Tech early Tuesday afternoon, sweeping all three doubles matches, and never looked back in the 8-1 triumph.

With the win, Coach David Thornton's squad captured the OVC regular season title with an undefeated mark of 8-0 and earned the top seed in this weekend's conference tournament at Centennial Park in Nashville.

"It feels real good," Thornton said. "We played extremely well today, totally within ourselves. We did not get lucky."

A key to the MTSU win was the team's torrid start of the match in doubles play.

The number one team of Jennifer Bryans/Alex Toelle easily defeated Tech's Ezra Bayburt/Marieta Volkova 8-1. Kelley Bacich and Michelle Wilson also won convincingly at number two over Diana Pous and Mona Kronheim, 8-2.

Amy King and Malinda Ryan rounded out the Lady Raider sweep and kept their undefeated OVC streak alive with a hard fought 8-6 win over Ozge Arslan/Niki Keenan.

"Our doubles play is something we

have worked on hard on all season long and now it is really paying off," Thornton said. "All three of our teams took the court confidently yesterday and that was critical."

With a commanding 3-0 lead in hand, Middle refused to let the Lady Eaglettes into the match.

Singles wins by Bryans, Toelle, Wilson, King and Ryan at numbers two, three, four, five and six, respectively provided the easy margin of victory for MTSU.

After struggling in the first set of her match, Bryans regained her composure, coming back to defeat Volkova 1-6, 6-3, 7-5. It was Volkova's first OVC loss in two years.

Wilson, playing in her final regular season match for the Lady Raiders had a much easier time than her teammate.

Playing with confidence, the Lady Raider senior from Athens, Tenn. overwhelmed Kronheim 6-1, 6-1.

Thornton said another factor to his team's success in OVC play this year was their tough non-conference schedule.

"Although we had some tough losses earlier in the year, those matches helped build the character of the team as well as giving us confidence within the OVC."

The Lady Raiders finished the regular season with a 13-10 record overall.

OVC tournament action begins this Sunday, the 21st, and ends on Monday in Nashville. ●



Brian G. Miller/staff

Lady Raider Michelle Wilson returns a backhand in her match against Tennessee Tech on Tuesday. The senior from Athens, Tenn., will finish her MTSU career this weekend at the OVC tournament in Nashville.

Raiders move up to 26th in nation in latest ITA poll; play TSU in first round

By Joel Frey / staff

The men's tennis team concluded regular season play on Tuesday with respective 6-1 and 7-0 OVC victories over Tennessee Tech and Tennessee State.

With the wins, MTSU captured the regular season conference crown and earned the top seed in the OVC tournament which is set to begin Friday at Centennial Park in Nashville.

The latest Intercollegiate Tennis Association poll has been released and the Blue Raiders moved up to two places to number 26 in the nation.

Despite recent wins over Cal-Irvine and Tennessee, the ITA had both these schools ranked ahead of the Blue Raiders.

UCI came in at 22 with the Vols ranked were one ahead of them at 21.

The Blue Raider win over UT, however, was not configured in the latest poll.

The ITA will release one more poll before the NCAA Regional tournaments. The seedings for the regionals will be based on the final poll and MTSU figures to move up further in those rankings.

Coach Dale Short said the ITA's computer sometimes has a mind of its own.

"The computer is a tricky system," Short said. "We don't need to worry about it at this point, though. It is important for us to stay focused both mentally and physically as we ready

Please see Tennis on page 9

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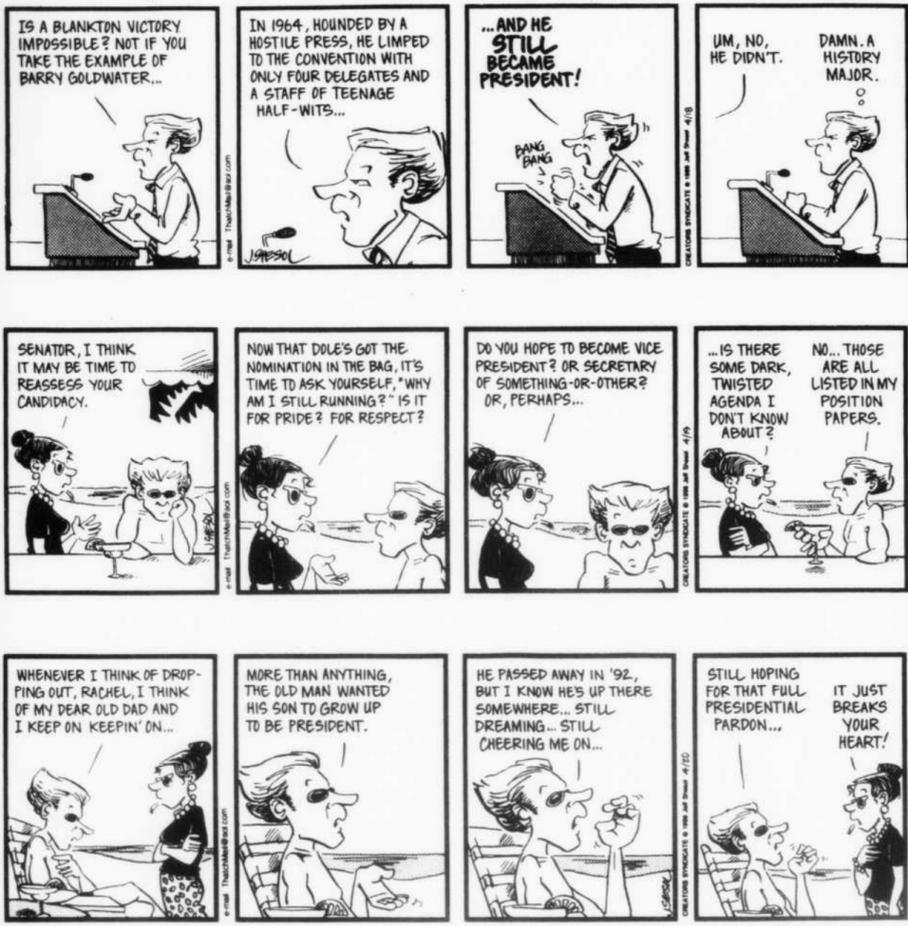
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THATCH by Jeff Shesol



Softball sweeps Tennessee State

Staff Reports
The Lady Raider softball team swept a doubleheader over Tennessee State, 10-0, 3-0, Tuesday afternoon in Nashville. In game one, the Lady Raiders scored two runs in the first inning, one in the second, two in the fourth and five in the fifth. The game was called after the fifth inning due to the 10-run mercy rule. Kelly Johnson was

impressive on the mound in the opener, allowing only three hits on her way to the victory, which improved her record to 13-11. The second game of the doubleheader saw another outstanding pitching performance, this time from freshman Kim Blair. Blair also allowed only three hits during the Lady Raiders 3-0 victory. The Raiders had nine hits in the second game, and scored two runs in the third inning. MTSU added another run in

the fourth to seal the victory, which improved Blair's record to 8-13 on the season. Blair and Pierrecia Lyons were the big performers at the plate in game two, with each Lady Raider recording three hits. MTSU's performance Tuesday improved their overall record to 22-24, while their Ohio Valley Conference record improved to 15-9. TSU's OVC record dropped to 2-15, while their overall record slipped to 2-35. ●

Lady Raider hoops schedule announced; foes to include NCAA runner-up Georgia

Staff Reports
The Lady Raider basketball team, fresh off an appearance in the NCAA tournament, will have an opportunity to relive that experience next year. Five 1996 NCAA tourney teams dot the MTSU schedule, highlighted by a visit to Murfreesboro by tournament runner-up Georgia on December 1. Ole Miss, Memphis, Hawaii and Austin Peay are the other four tournament teams that will meet the Lady Raiders next season. All-in-all, four 20-plus

game winners and two 18-game winners are on the docket. Non-conference teams on the 1997 schedule had a combined 1996 record of 162-117 (.581). "We try to schedule teams that will improve us," said head coach Lewis Bivens. "One of the main reasons why we got an at-large bid last year, according to the NCAA tournament selection committee, was because of scheduling." "We may have gone a little overboard this season," quipped Bivens. "We have given our fans a chance to see

some outstanding basketball with home games against Memphis and Georgia. We have a natural rival in East Tennessee coming to go with an increasingly difficult OVC schedule which now includes Eastern Illinois. "We open on the road at Ole Miss and have to travel to Tennessee-Chattanooga and Southern Illinois in December, two difficult places to play before our trip to Hawaii for three games against stiff competition. We certainly did not make things easy for ourselves, but it should be exciting." ●

TENNIS: TSU first round OVC match

Continued from page 7
ourselves for the post-season." The Blue Raiders turned in workmanlike performances on Tuesday. There was some excitement, however, in junior Fred Niemeyer's match against TSU's Mark Hickman. Hickman used a strong serve in capturing the first set

against the 1994 Blue Raider All-American. Niemeyer, however, composed himself and closed out Hickman easily in sets two and three, winning the match 3-6, 6-0, 6-1. Short's squad (21-4, 7-0) has not lost an OVC match since 1992 and closed out the 1996 campaign with 12 straight wins.

The Raiders will open the conference Championship tournament Friday morning at 8:30 against Tennessee State, with the winner to face the winner of the match between Morehead and Tennessee Tech at 1 p.m. Middle Tennessee is heavily favored to capture their sixth consecutive conference title this weekend. ●

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