



Blue Raiders travel to Radford for showdown

In Sports, page 6



An exhibit of life

In Features, page 4

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ONLINE

How many hours will you take if the Tennessee Board of Regents decides to eliminate the full-time cutoff?

In Opinions, page 3

INSIDE: Warning: Operating stove requires a brain

Middle Tennessee State University

An editorially independent newspaper

SIDELINES

MURFREESBORO, TENNESSEE

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Remedial, developmental classes in jeopardy

'Defining our Future' plan may cut funding at request of legislature

By Amanda Maynard
Staff Writer

The fate of MTSU's remedial and developmental classes will be in jeopardy if the Tennessee Board of Regents' proposal to cut them is approved.

In August, the Tennessee leg-

islature asked the TBR to come up with suggestions on how to cut spending for higher education. They developed the "Defining our Future" program to analyze current and future budget reductions.

Among six other recommendations, cutting back remedial

and developmental classes in all TBR four-year institutions was suggested to eliminate spending.

Remedial classes are designed to help students on an eighth or ninth grade writing or math level; developmental classes function as a refresher course for students who have taken time off from school.

Both programs are facing reduction in the coming weeks.

The TBR has suggested three crucial changes, including a requirement that remedial and developmental programs move students into college level courses faster. This would reduce graduation time and costs to the state and students.

The second change involves a reduction in credit hours awarded for any remedial or developmental course to a maximum of three. Currently, some

courses receive four to five credit hours per course.

The final change will be a reduction in the state and student costs for the programs courses at universities to community college levels. All three changes are designed to reduce state and student spending.

Currently, MTSU has a 25 percent graduation rate of students who enroll in remedial classes and approximately 43

percent of new freshmen are enrolled in developmental studies courses.

"Cutting back these courses would diminish 42 to 44 percent of freshmen," said Carol Bader, chair of developmental studies. "That would affect not only the developmental studies courses but the other college-level courses at MTSU."

See TBR, 2

Indecent exposure 'not a big problem' on MTSU campus

By Renee Stephens
Contributor

According to MTSU Public Safety media log, three cases of indecent exposure have been reported on campus thus far this semester.

Lt. Darrell Collins, Public Safety supervisor and detective, said in two of the three reported incidents, the perpetrator was identified as an MTSU student. However, he added, the cases are not related.

Indecent exposure is a misdemeanor charge that carries a fine from \$50 to \$500, Collins said.

Although indecent exposure "is not a big problem" on the MTSU campus, Collins said the greatest challenge surrounding the charge is getting victims of the crime to prosecute offenders in such cases.

"Victims quit (and) often don't press charges," he said.

According to the campus media log, the first reported incident of indecent exposure this semester occurred Oct. 30 in the Peck Hall computer lab, where a male perpetrator allegedly was viewing pornography and masturbating. A female observed the male then reported the incident to a lab aide, who notified authorities.

Although no charges were filed, Collins said, "All incidents are reported to the dean's office and they may take a course of action."

The second incident happened around 9:50 p.m. Nov. 8 in the Deere Hall laundry room, where a male perpetrator allegedly exposed himself to a female before fleeing the scene. However, the perpetrator never was identified.

The third case occurred Nov. 17. According to the crime log,

See Exposed, 2

WMTS drops moniker



Photo by Steve Cross | Staff

Tom Servo, a disc jockey for 88.3 WMTS, speaks to an audience of unseen listeners during his show titled 'This Island Earth.' The station's nearly 100 active DJs gathered Monday and voted to drop the station's moniker, 'The Ultimate.' WMTS officially will make the change in fall 2002. 'The Ultimate' tied for second place with 'The Noise.' Other submissions included 'The Monkey,' 'The Freak' and more.

Student-run radio soon won't be 'The Ultimate'

By Lindsey Turner
News Editor

MTSU's student radio, 88.3 WMTS, voted Monday to shed its adopted moniker — "The Ultimate" — come fall of 2002.

"It was decided that the station would need no name and that the call letters, WMTS, would be sufficient identification," according to a

press release issued by the station.

WMTS' nearly 100 active disc jockeys gathered Monday night to vote for their favorite name submission. The choices included "The Ultimate," WMTS with no moniker, "The Monkey," "The Modulation," "The Bottom," "The Freak," "The Noise," "The Frequency" and "The Record."

"It was the biggest collection of DJs voting" this semester, said James Palmer, music director for the station.

WMTS with no moniker came in first and "The Ultimate" and "The Noise" tied for second, Palmer said.

"The Ultimate" officially was adopted on Labor Day of this year, according to the release.

"The Ultimate" came about from the hip-hop department," Station Manager Nyronn Bryant said. DJs began referring to hip-hop segments as "The

Ultimate hip-hop," he said, and eventually the name caught on for the entire station.

The idea behind a moniker was to bring more recognition to the station's programs, he said.

Palmer said "The Ultimate" will be phased out throughout the coming year, and that 88.3 WMTS will be the official name of the station in fall of 2002. For more information about 88.3 WMTS, visit its Web site at www.mtsu.edu/wmts or call 898-2636. ♦

A false alarm

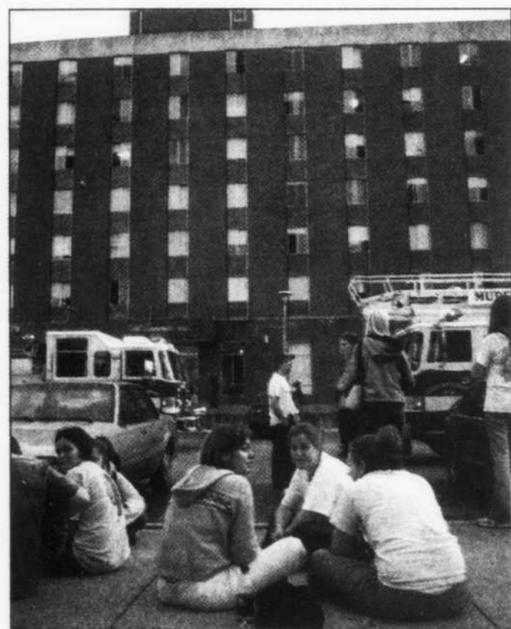


Photo by Matthew H. Starling | Photo Editor

Students were evacuated from Cummings Hall yesterday afternoon due to a fire alarm.

Staff Reports

A smoldering hot dog in Cummings Hall yesterday afternoon brought four Murfreesboro City Fire Department trucks to campus and evacuated the dorm.

According to firefighter John Fisher, MTSU Public Safety was alerted when a smoke detector in a sixth-floor kitchen went off

because a hot dog was left unattended, boiling on the kitchen stove. Public Safety notified MFD of the alarm.

Upon hearing the fire alarm, students evacuated the building.

After waiting outside for less than an hour, students and staff were allowed back into the building.

It is unclear who was responsible for the alarm. ♦

Dance company celebrates unity, diversity

By Amanda Virgillito
Contributor

Each semester the MTSU Performing Arts Company presents a show full of diversity, and the members of MPAC come together week after week because they are unified in one area: dance.

That was the inspiration for this semester's show theme, "United We Dance," said Angela Armstrong, sponsor of MPAC.

"Our theme this semester was chosen to show the unity in our company despite the differences of our dancers, both cultural and in their dance training," she said.

Many of the company members found solace by continuing to dance after the tragic events of Sept. 11, Armstrong said. Dancing is a means of releasing emotion and choreographers often create pieces to work through a personal issue they

may have.

"[MPAC] is a place to go to relieve stress," said Lori Hollandsworth, a junior majoring in international relations. "It's a way to express all the emotions we're feeling. We're a family."

Christy Rose, a graduate of MTSU, finds it therapeutic to dance.

"It is cathartic for us in times when people can lose hope to celebrate happiness and com-

munity," she said.

The members of MPAC not only want to show their unity within the company, but also their patriotism.

"United We Dance" will be performed at Tucker Theatre Friday and Saturday at 7 p.m. Admission is \$3 for students and faculty with valid MTSU ID and \$5 for the general public. Children ages six and younger are admitted free. ♦

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CRIME LOG

Compiled By Scott Laming - Staff Writer

The following is a partial list of incidents responded to by the MTSU Police Department between Nov. 17 and Nov. 27. This log was compiled from actual police reports.

Saturday, Nov. 17, 1:30 a.m.

MTSU Police responded to a fire call at the Sigma Alpha Epsilon house on Greek Row. Upon arrival, witnesses said someone had set fire to the remnants of a parade float. MTSU Police and the Murfreesboro Fire Department put out the

fire. Police are investigating the matter.

Saturday, Nov. 17, 6:29 p.m.

At the ROTC parking lot, a victim was assaulted by passengers in three vehicles driving the wrong way on Cherokee, a truck and a car drove past and assaulted the victim with paintballs from a slingshot.

Sunday, Nov. 18, 2:44 a.m.

Police arrested Amy Sellers

of Manchester, Tenn., after she had been driving erratically and ran off the roadway. Sellers was charged with a first offense DUI.

Thursday, Nov. 22, 2:34 a.m.

Kevin Litchford of Murfreesboro was arrested for DUI after police saw him cross the center line and drive erratically. The officer stopped the driver and smelled alcohol in the car. After failing a field sobriety test, police put him under arrest.

Tuesday, Nov. 27, 7:54 p.m.

A resident in Cummings Hall notified MTSU Police that there was a strong smell of marijuana on the fifth floor. Police immediately investigated the room and found and seized a homemade water bong.

Tuesday, Nov. 27, 11:43 p.m.

John Ross of Paris, Tenn., and Bennett Finck of Chattanooga were charged with underage consumption of alcohol after a fight call was made to

MTSU Police by a delivery driver for Domino's Pizza. Police began searching for the suspects and found them in their room in Corlew Hall. Both suspects had been drinking and both were under 21.

To report an emergency or crime, contact MTSU Public Safety at extension 2424 from any campus phone or dial 898-2424 from off campus.

To contact Crime Stoppers, dial 893-7867.

Up 'Til Dawn to raise money next week

Staff Reports

Up 'Til Dawn, a campus-wide fund-raiser for St. Jude's Children's Hospital, will be selling balloons, baked goods and taking donations throughout next week.

The committee will be stationed on the bottom floor of the Keathley University Center.

A team interest meeting is scheduled for Tuesday in KUC, Room 322, at 4 p.m. for anyone interested in organizing a team.

For more information, call 904-8270. ♦

Exposed: Victims encouraged to follow up, press charges

Continued from 1

some students were watching movies in Gracy Hall when a male made sexual and explicit advances toward a female.

"The perpetrator was known by the female in this case," Collins noted, adding that no charges were filed in this instance.

Although there are a number

of reasons why perpetrators of such offenses are not often prosecuted, Collins said he encourages victims of such crimes to follow through with prosecution - especially victims of indecent exposure.

"We need to ID the individual [committing the crime] and deter him from becoming worse than he already is," Collins explained, "(because) he may go

into a different crime mode from that point and do something even worse to someone else."

Law enforcement officials, including members of MTSU's Public Safety, "will do our best to be advocates for the victim, but the person who is accused of crime does have a constitutional right to face their accuser in a court of law."

Consequently, Collins observed, those who press charges cannot do so anonymously and may have to face the offender in court.

"I would encourage victims to follow up and press charges in these cases," he said, "but we can't make them do it." ♦

TBR: Board to vote on proposal at end of next week

Continued from 1

The TBR also has suggested replacing remedial classes with computer labs and tutorials. In order for a student who may need remedial classes to enroll at a four-year college, he/she would have to pay extra for a tutorial or computer lab program.

"Cutting these courses would have a significant impact

on MTSU because a large percentage of students take remedial classes," President Sidney McPhee said.

"It would affect enrollment, the amount of credits to graduate and eligibility to be part of the university."

The chairs from every committee at the TBR developed the proposal Nov. 16 after assessing the budget funding for higher education. The proposal then

was reviewed by all members of the TBR and will be voted on either Dec. 6 or 7.

The amount of money that could be saved by cutting back on remedial and developmental programs has yet to be calculated.

"We haven't invested the time to decide," said Mary Morgan, TBR director of communications and committee member. "But once the board

takes action in December, we will do some cost analysis."

If the board votes for removal or cutbacks of the remedial and developmental studies programs, the proposal then will become TBR policy. Consequently, the decision will go into effect next year.

For more information on the TBR proposal, visit www.tbr.state.tn.us or contact Carol Bader at 898-2568. ♦

Estrich: Gender inequalities remain

By Melissa Kummer

The Daily Cougar (U. Houston)

(U-WIRE) HOUSTON - More than three decades after the feminist movement began, women still have not achieved equality with men at the highest levels of power, author and law professor Susan Estrich said Tuesday at Rice University.

Estrich is a law professor at the University of Southern California who has made many landmarks for women.

She was the first woman to serve as president of the Harvard Law Review and became the first woman to head a national presidential campaign, that of Michael Dukakis during the 1988 election.

Her speech focused on the issues of discrimination, motherhood and ambition for women.

"Whether it's in academics, a law firm or corporate America, there is an unconscious discrimination," she said.

The equality that many people believe in is only present at the bottom of the corporate world, Estrich said. For example, although 50 percent of students in law schools are female, the vast majority of them are never offered partnership positions with a major firm.

"I looked around one day and realized that all of the men I knew were running the world," Estrich said. "Even the good feminist I am, I thought things were better."

She pointed out that only three Fortune 500 companies are run by women. This is the same number as 20 years ago, she said.

"Even the women that make it into that top little group earn

less than the men do," she said.

Estrich, a mother of two, said trying to balance a family and a job is a difficult task with no real solution.

At age 35, she gave up a tenured position at Harvard University to have a family.

"We talk family values. We preach family values," she said, "but the reality of the corporate world is that it has not adjusted to the reality of children."

Parental roles played an important part in the ambitions of her generation of women, Estrich said. Their ambition was to break away from living the same lives their mothers did.

While this ambition has led to a more educated and financially successful female generation, Estrich said the very idea of ambition is seen as a complimentary character only for men, while women are much

more likely to be referred to negatively as being "too ambitious."

Estrich said she believes many women still forgo or hide having children to avoid the potential complications and stereotypes that accompany mixing a family with a professional life.

"Unless we come together, men and women, there won't be any good choices," she said.

While numbers indicate there is still a strong inequality between the sexes, the women who came "crashing" into schools 25 years ago have helped to pave the way for what could be a better life, she said.

"We would not be where we are today without the courage of those before us," Estrich said. "We now have an obligation to open the door for those after us." ♦

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OPINIONS

Murfreesboro, Tenn.

Thursday, November 29, 2001

SIDELINES ♦ 3

Editorial

Warning: Operating stove requires a brain

In today's news section, an item appeared detailing yesterday's happening outside Cummings Hall. According to the firefighters on the scene, the cause of the ruckus was a smoldering hot dog that filled the sixth floor hallway with smoke.

Kids, this is pathetic. A hot dog? A chimpanzee knows how to cook a hot dog. Most children old enough to reach the stove know enough to turn it off when something starts smoking. It's not rocket science.

We all should be counting our blessings that Mr. Oscar Meyer wasn't cooking something as complicated as Kraft Easy-Mac or Quaker Instant Grits. There's no telling how many floors would have been affected by the preparation of these gourmet dishes.

Perhaps the event transpired because an idiot chose to leave the hot dog cooking unattended. What a brainchild. Because of him (we can only assume an event of this magnitude would be the result of a male student), both campus and Murfreesboro city resources were wasted to "save" students from kosher smoke inhalation.

Yesterday was not the first time this semester a false alarm has been sounded from Cummings Hall. According to a gathering of students waiting outside to enter the building, this was the fifth time this semester the residents of that hall have been inconvenienced by false alarms. Most of those occurred in the wee hours of the morning, between midnight and 3:30 a.m.

It's a good thing no one was sleeping or anything.

We wish to say to the culprits behind the false alarms: grow up, learn responsibility and watch the stove. College is a place for big boys and girls, and kitchen safety isn't exactly something requiring a higher-level degree. If you can't handle things, perhaps you should go back to grammar school. ♦

Correction

In yesterday's *Sidelines*, Hedy Weinberg's name was omitted from the photo caption on the front page. *Sidelines* apologizes for the omission.

Yesterday's *Sidelines* incorrectly stated that there are job opportunities for students with MTSU Crime Stoppers. *Sidelines* regrets the error.

Clarification

A quote in *Sidelines* yesterday said students will be served with rewards for tips to MTSU Crime Stoppers that lead to arrests. In fact, students are eligible for a cash reward if their tip leads to an arrest.

SIDELINES

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A call to arms for the restroom revolution

Banging on My Drum



Cody De Vos
Staff Columnist

I stood in front of the violated candy machine and wondered if smashing its window and scrawling anarchist rhetoric on the remains really was the best way to express an opinion.

I have begun to accept vandalism as an unavoidable part of campus life. I can't go to the bathroom without reading "Jesus loves you," "Al Gore sucks" or "Nirvana rules" somewhere. Oftentimes, one

message is rebutted by another, and an inane argument breaks out right there on the wall.

College is all about education and self-expression, after all. And one can do a lot of educating and expressing with a pocketknife while using the bathroom.

But why? To my knowledge, nobody has ever found religion or changed political alliance because they were moved by graffiti.

But I still really like graffiti. It can't help it. It gives any place a little character, even if that little character is a phallus wearing a hat. There's plenty of room in a college bathroom for evangelistic messages, philosophical catch

phrases and artistic endeavors. A bathroom stall is as good a public forum as any, and I fault the intellectual and creative elite for not contributing to the debates which run from the air freshener onto the tile over the urinal.

I guess I can't use my column to advocate breaking campus rules and vandalism is expressly forbidden by policy. So I advocate a slight change in campus rules. I want bathroom stalls to be painted white – a clean canvas for the minds and pens of a new millennium. And I want markers of many colors to be provided in each stall.

I think a lot of the problems with the graffiti we

see now is that the vandals/artists lack the proper tools for expression and that clearer arguments could be outlined in an environment that encouraged free thought and creativity.

Imagine instead of an anarchy A drawn by some adolescent glue-sniffer, we find a list of grievances against the American government drafted by a political science major. "God Loves You" could be replaced by the major points of C.S. Lewis' "Mere Christianity," followed by a response by an atheistic philosophy student.

The possibilities are endless. Drawings of naked women could stand alongside elaborate works depicting man's suffering

and redemption at the hands of fate.

Professors should be invited to write critiques of the existing graffiti essays. Better still, they should grade them and write reading recommendations for those interested in a particular vandal's topic of choice.

If this idea is taken to heart by the powers-that-be, we could be in for a Restroom Renaissance. Students could learn something new every time nature called. Childish end arguments stand to be replaced by intelligent discussions of important issues.

Where are my sunglasses? The future has never looked so bright. ♦

Move past childhood demons before it's too late

By Larry Grossman
Guest Columnist

It is so important to make the distinction between telling children that they are stupid and telling them they did a dumb thing.

When I was young, my mother repeatedly called me stupid and didn't pay any attention to me.

I want people to know that my mother's words created a disaster from day one.

Throughout grade school, I had to get attention by being the class clown. I studied hard enough to get by, but I always thought I was "too stupid" to do anything serious with my life. So I had very low self-expectations and set the bar for personal achievement very low so I could easily do well.

After that, I did go to college, and I did quite well considering that I was "stupid." However, I spent most of my time drinking and using illegal drugs.

Over an approximate 10-year period, I got involved with every drug that you can imagine and maybe a few that you would never consider. I was "too stupid" to know any better. My self-esteem

was so low I was thrilled to be accepted by a group of people, even if it was a bunch of fellow drug addicts.

However, by 1980, I realized I was doing more and more drugs and getting less and less high. Like a house of cards, my world collapsed.

Drugs and alcohol, for that matter, were like credit cards. You could play now, but eventually the bill would come due, and no matter how hard you resisted, the bill had to be paid.

The "bill" came in the form of being ostracized by others. The "bill" came in the form of physical and mental distress. And, ultimately, the "bill" came in the form of the ever-present feeling of simply not being "good enough" to be liked and accepted by those who didn't use drugs.

I never was arrested, although I came close a few times. It still amazes me how unaware the cops seemed to be in those days.

I never overdosed, although I came close a few times. It still amazes me how incredibly short-sighted I seemed to be in those days by continuing to abuse drugs after they almost killed me.

Fortunately, all of this happened before AIDS came on the scene.

And I never went to drug rehab, although I came close a few times. It still amazes me how incredibly terrified I was about getting up in bunch of strangers and saying "Hi my name is Larry. I am a drug addict. I feel this way or that."

I wasn't going to share my feelings with anybody, let alone a bunch of reformed addicts. They might call me "stupid."

So, I joined the Navy in 1980 to "straighten out." And it worked, sort of. I gave up all the illegal drugs and alcohol, and I haven't touched them since then. Unfortunately, I started to have wild mood swings. In 1982, I was discharged from the Navy with the diagnosis of bipolar disorder.

At that time, I didn't understand the illness so I thought that it had something to do with my being "stupid."

I didn't know then that most people with bipolar disorder have above-average intelligence.

In the late 1980s, I took an IQ test for reasons that I can't remember. I found the test to be relatively easy.

While I was flipping through the pages of Cosmo

By Sean Persaud
The Daily Free Press
(Boston U.)

(U-WIRE) – ABC's broadcast of the Victoria's Secret fashion show two weeks ago got me thinking. Well, not immediately. At first, it left me stuttering and incoherent, but after a while, I was able to form complete sentences again. And that's when I started thinking deeply – about lingerie.

What is so fascinating about lingerie? It's completely impractical and rather uncomfortable. Or so I've heard. Yet, the answer was so obvious I didn't think about it immediately: The appeal of lingerie lies not in its silky fabric or its lacy, ornamental designs but in its lack of cloth.

People like looking at scantily clad women. Clearly, this was a no-brainer, but for some reason, I couldn't get my mind off of it. So I decided to do some research. Yes, hard work, but I am dedicated to my craft.

I have long been fascinated by the fact that scantily clad women grace

not only the pages of men's magazines, but also those of women's. My theory has been, for some time, that all women are lesbians, but I decided to get to the heart of the matter, so I asked a few female friends some hard-hitting social questions.

Me: I'm looking at the most recent issue of *Cosmopolitan*, which a friend bought for me. I have to ask, what's with all the chicks in this chick magazine?

Chick 1: It's a complex relationship we have with our own bodies. Women get their sense of beauty from these magazines and these chicks, perfect women are just society's portrayal of beauty. Society is on one hand urging us to become this image while simultaneously degrading our own self-esteem.

It's a psychological thing – a perpetuation of female stereotypes intended to tell females what the ideal body should be. It's unfair.

Me: I agree. Hey, what are you doing later?

Chick 1: Sean, you couldn't pay me enough

money. And by the way, you shouldn't use the word "chick" in your column.

Now all I had was a lot of big words and what I had deciphered to be a theory completely unrelated to lesbianism. I needed a second opinion. So I turned to another female friend of mine, who informed that I not use the word "chick" in this column because of the possibility of receiving numerous angry letters from feminists (I will now be using the word "womyn" with a Y, to make you feminists happy.)

Me: I'm flipping through the most recent issue of *Cosmopolitan*, which I found on the ground somewhere. I noticed that it's chock-full of half-naked women. What's up with that?

Womyn 2: It's a complex relationship we have with each other. See, women aren't really out to impress men. We're trying to impress other women. It's a sick competition, but these magazines teach us how to be better than everyone. We compare ourselves to other women, and we whore ourselves

out to products in order to compete with each other for the attention of men. Oh, and Sean, I hope you're not going to use "womyn" with a Y, either. That's totally lame.

Curses! My lesbian theory had been refuted outright. I was still confused though, so I called up the girl I had a crush on in high school.

Me: I've just been flipping through this issue of *Cosmopolitan* that I, uh, won in a raffle. I could use a woman's opinion on this. This magazine treats women like eye candy and it disgusts me. What gives?

Her: Who is this? Listen, if you call again, I'm calling the cops.

I do loathe getting cops involved, so I hung up immediately. No matter – I had everything I needed. But going over the facts, I realized that they didn't make sense. Girls hate each other, so they try to impress each other? They dislike being sold processed beauty, but they buy it anyway? They have their self-esteem trampled by pictures of allegedly perfect women in magazines, yet they turn to these

magazines to make it all better?

My curiosity had clearly gotten the better of me. I was now more confused than at any other point in my research. And maybe it's the fumes from the numerous perfume samples in this magazine that I attained solely for my research purposes, but after finding all of this out, I have to say I almost feel sorry for girls. And I feel almost, because it seems that every other week I read something complaining about the lack of quality men on this campus. Hey, "beauty magazines" may be giving you hell, but don't take it out on us. There are plenty of great guys here. And as soon as I see any, I will tell them this:

"It is time for the other 30 percent of the population to be heard. Come on, all you decent and caring men. Write some letters, complain about the opposite sex. Voice your concerns over their incessant criticisms. That is, as soon as you pull yourself away from the latest issue of *Cosmo* or *Glamour*." ♦

Read Jeremy and Angela's debate of affirmative action at www.mtsusidelines.com.

An exhibit of life

By **Mona Levy**
Staff Writer

On Sept. 22, The Art Institute of Chicago, in collaboration with the Van Gogh Museum in Amsterdam, opened an exhibit titled "Van Gogh and Gauguin: Studio of the South." Featuring more than 150 works of art (mainly paintings) by Vincent van Gogh and Paul Gauguin, the exhibit is the first of its kind to thoroughly compare and contrast the works of these two major artists in a museum setting.

Van Gogh and Gauguin were introduced in 1887 by Theo, van Gogh's brother. Theo, a well-known art dealer in Paris, joined van Gogh in appreciating Gauguin's unique style of Post-Impressionism.

At the time, Gauguin, a lower-class Dutchman, had painted full time for seven years under the frugal financial support of his brother. His early life was filled with hardship and mental illness.

Gauguin, a Frenchman five years van Gogh's senior, had been painting as a professional for five years. Gauguin's style was greatly influenced by Impressionists such as Claude Monet, Camille Pissarro and Pierre Renoir.

While in Paris, the two men formed a unique friendship. As a symbol of their mutual respect, they exchanged paintings: van Gogh's "Two Sunflowers" for Gauguin's "On the Shore of the Lake." Soon after the exchange, both men left Paris, van Gogh headed to

southern France and Gauguin to Brittany.

When van Gogh arrived in the small village of Arles, he rented rooms in a yellow house that would be the subject of later paintings. Van Gogh invited Gauguin to join him at the house and help form "The Studio of the South."

This studio was a dream come true for van Gogh. He aspired to create a new kind of learning atmosphere for young painters. He painted many canvases in preparation for Gauguin's arrival, including the four different versions of "Sunflowers." The two men wrote frequently to each other, discussing their grand plans for the studio and ideas for future experimentation.

Upon Gauguin's arrival to the house Oct. 23, 1888, the men worked relentlessly on their art, often simultaneously painting the same subject in order to explore their different ideas on style. The next two months in Arles were spent in an artistic frenzy with van Gogh and Gauguin debating over art styles, techniques, supplies and other artists. These debates fueled each man's desire to improve his art while providing constructive criticism that led to experimentation and new techniques.

Within two months, the debates became heated arguments. The bad weather in Arles and lack of personal space inside the house proved to be too much for Gauguin. When their arguments climaxed in late December, Gauguin announced



Photo provided
Vincent van Gogh's "Sunflowers" series was painted in 1888 in Arles, in the hopes of pleasing Paul Gauguin during their stay at the "Yellow House." Van Gogh has been using sunflowers as a subject for painting since 1886. The painting shown on the left is one of the series.



Photos Provided
Vincent van Gogh's "The Starry Night" (right) was painted in June 1889 and is considered his greatest work. It can be found at the New York Museum of Modern Art.

"...at the end of my life, I hope to pass away, looking back with love and tender regret, and thinking, 'Oh, the pictures I might have made!'"



his plans to return to Paris. Van Gogh, completely dismayed that his dream was crumbling, threatened Gauguin with a razor, then turned it on himself. After mutilating his ear and presenting the remains to a local prostitute, van Gogh returned to the yellow house to discover that Gauguin had fled to Paris.

The two men never saw each other again.

This confrontation, which is surely one of the most dramatic in the history of art, signaled the beginning of the end for van Gogh. After spending months in an asylum and suffering from syphilis, van Gogh killed himself with a gunshot to the chest. Gauguin lived 13 more years, but unfortunately, he became known as van Gogh's disciple rather than his contemporary.

The collaboration of the two artists is thoroughly chronicled in "Van Gogh and Gauguin: Studio of the South." Beginning with early works from both artists, including van Gogh's "The Potato Eaters" and

Gauguin's "Self Portrait at the Easel," the exhibit explores both artists' growth and distinctly different styles. The months spent at the Studio of the South obviously influenced both artists. This influence is apparent in their portraits of Arlesiennes (Arles women), while van Gogh's desolate palette following the separation is evident in such works as "Cypresses" and "Olive Grove."

Perhaps the most captivating display of the exhibit is in gallery 16 of the Art Institute. Van Gogh's "The Starry Night" is displayed directly adjacent to his "The Starry Night Over the Rhone." Prints of these paintings look like crayon drawings compared to how the paintings actually look. The effect is absolutely breathtaking.

Laura Larson, an MTSU student who traveled to the exhibit in October, said, "It was like a slice of heaven. I was transported into the world of van Gogh and Gauguin. The museum was packed wall to wall but no one

cares. It was exhilarating."

In addition to the Art Institute, Chicago has many sights to offer. A mere two days in the city is plenty of time to see the beautiful architecture, startling skyline and landscaped parks that the city is known for. The Art Institute is located downtown within walking distance to Navy Pier, Buckingham Fountain and the picturesque riverfront. Be sure to dress warmly; it's called the Windy City for a reason.

Also be sure to set aside enough time to explore the rest of the Art Institute. The museum displays more than 300,000 works of art, including modern art, photography, African art, Asian art, textiles and contemporary art. Thirty-three paintings by Claude Monet, the famous French Impressionist, are displayed. "Charing Cross Bridge" is among those paintings, as well as one of his studies of "Water Lilies." Several works by Pablo Picasso, Andy Warhol and Edgar Degas can be found,

along with famous paintings such as Grant Wood's "American Gothic" and Georges Seurat's "A Sunday on La Grande Jatte."

Ticket prices are \$20 every day except Tuesday, when the admission price drops to \$10. For an extra \$6, a 40-minute audio tour is available. Tickets are available at the museum, but it is strongly encouraged to purchase your tickets in advance. Advance tickets are sold by phone (312-930-4040) or online at www.artic.edu/aic. All student tickets are sold out.

This exhibit is truly a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity and will only be in America until Jan. 13, 2002. After leaving Chicago, the exhibit will cross the Atlantic Ocean to be displayed in Amsterdam's Van Gogh Museum, from Feb. 9 to June 6, 2002. So, if you can't make it to Amsterdam next year, be sure to see this exhibit. There are only two months left. ♦

Professors expose controversy in print

By **Alicia Pickett**
Staff Writer

From dead bodies selling hit songs to the impact of music on society, two MTSU professors bust the mold of the music world and answer some of the industry's tip-of-the-tongue questions in one book.

"I believe in (your) right to burn the flag, but I can think of a lot of better ways to protest," co-author Larry L. Burris states.

Dramatic and too risqué for some mainstream audiences, *Controversies of the Music Industry*, written by Burris and Richard Barnett, comes across as the perfect college, coffee-table, argumentative material yet.

"The goal of the book is to demonstrate to (high school and) college students that there are several sides to an issue," Barnett says.

Barnett, a professor in the recording industry department, and Burris, the dean of Mass Communication, seem to have a good grasp on what college students want to hear.

Even while corresponding to the two respected professors, controversy arose; one said the idea for the book came from the other, while the "other one" said it came from Greenwood Press. Controversial ... so the theme goes.

In one single section, *Controversies* explores why Desert Storm and Vietnam are so different in lyrical memorabilia.

"It was a very clean war," Burris says when describing Desert Storm's format at face value.

In this book, opinions right or wrong are investigated. One such opinion of the authors is that Desert Storm did not intrigue the United States as much as Vietnam did, therefore epic songs could not be written.

"Because the public did not see dead bodies, (the public) did not have controversies (like in Vietnam)," Burris adds.

"It's hard to rhyme 'smart bomb' into a lyric, into a song," Burris states when referring to the bland atmosphere of Desert Storm. "There were no good songs."

Chaos and fearfulness grasped a hurting nation in the Vietnam era. Guitars and opinions were scattered, and political protests were rationalized because of the brutal pictures that America saw. The "We Are The World Scene" was in high demand in the music industry, but not in Desert Storm, not even now. "People are tired of (benefit concerts)," Burris says.

The controversial issue of wars bulking music executives' pockets is one of 12 taboo chapters in *Controversies*.

"If watching *Rambo* is going to make you more violent, then watching *Seinfeld* ought to make you more funny," Burris states.

Another hot topic in *Controversies* for coffee bar discussions is the impact of music

and its relation to a person's actions.

"Music is not going to make a normal person do bad things," Burris says.

Burris, who has published numerous works dealing with First Amendment cases, dove right into *Controversies*. Co-author Barnett, who toured across the United States and Canada as a music director before coming to MTSU, handled the mechanical and creative sides to *Controversies*. By citing real-life examples, including specific court cases and quotes, *Controversies* allows readers to become a part of the actual controversy themselves.

Chapters ranging from "From Hendrix to Cobain" to "Satanic Messages, the Promotion of Evil and Rock Music" are just waiting to be explored by potential college enthusiasts.

"Being an actor, knowing why people act the way they do would be a great help; I would read (this) book to help me better understand why people do what they do," theater major Cade Kuher comments in expectation for the new book.

"The most interesting chapter in the book is the one about radio and payola. It presents a theory that ties Ronald Reagan to a (payola) scandal," Barnett says.

The book presents 12 chapters of insightful issues and new perspectives in 288 pages just waiting to be debated. ♦



Reality meets technology

By **Stephanie Saujon**
Staff Writer

A.I.: *Artificial Intelligence* is perhaps Steven Spielberg's most ambitious film yet. In attempting to mix fantasy with reality, Spielberg incorporates the most innovative special effects ever, and it looks completely real. From the opening scene, every shot is believable, yet unbelievable all at the same time.

The movie is based on a science fiction short story published in 1969 by Brian Aldiss titled "Super-Toys Last All Summer Long." Director Stanley Kubrick, who had recently released the sci-fi movie *2001: A Space Odyssey*, read the story and began to form an idea for a movie with a similar plot. The film was a side project for Kubrick for many years when, in 1982, he saw Spielberg's *E.T.: the Extra-Terrestrial*. Kubrick approached Spielberg with his idea, and they began discussing doing the movie together.

The movie was postponed for years, but some progress had been made on production when Kubrick died in 1998, just after filming *Dies With Shame*.

Kubrick's death left Spielberg with some pretty big shoes to

fill, though.

Many aspects of the film are distinctively Kubrick. The opening scene, for example, takes place in a sterile-looking boardroom where a scientist, played by William Hurt, is presenting a case for a new kind of artificial intelligence—a child robot. This robot, or "mecha," would be programmed to love his or her owner just like a real parent. In this scene, the audience is introduced to a futuristic robot in the form of a normal-looking young woman. The effects used on her are unbelievable. Your mouth will drop.

The first child robot, David, is played with precision by Haley Joel Osment. His human parents, Henry and Monica Swinton (Sam Robards and Frances O'Connor), recently made the decision to cryogenically freeze their biological son, Martin, until a cure could be found for his disease. David, the lovable mecha, is only meant to be a replacement.

The first half of the movie centers on David and the Swintons. When Martin is cured (much sooner than expected), David is left feeling like an outcast. After all, he's not really a normal boy. He's a computer. He just looks real.

The family considers getting

rid of the mecha, but they know he will be physically destroyed if they turn him in. O'Connor, as Monica, gives a touching performance when she abandons David in the woods in order to save him from being recycled.

Alone in the woods, David begins a long journey to somehow find the Swintons and make them love and accept him as a normal boy. Along the way, he encounters other mechas, like Gigolo Joe (Jude Law). Gigolo Joe is a "love mech" programmed to please the ladies. The character is slick. Though he is somewhat underused, Law gives an outstanding performance.

At this point in the film, Spielberg's influence is shown with full force. Somehow, the boy mecha gets the idea that he must find a "Blue Fairy" in order to be returned to his family. Spielberg's attempt to incorporate a fairy tale theme into the last part of the movie is extremely weak. The forced allusion to Pinocchio is inconsistent throughout the movie and leaves the viewer wondering how in the world Spielberg could have let himself sink into such sappy storytelling. The movie seems to want to end sev-

See A.I., 5

A.I.: Spielberg attempts new twist for fantasy film

Continued from 1
viewer back for more unnecessary sappiness. Also, at a 145 minutes, the film is too long. If Spielberg had cut the last 30 minutes from the movie, it

would be perfect. Although A.I. is not quite a masterpiece, it is a considerable attempt at one. The effects are truly amazing and sometimes kind of creepy. The overall question that the

movie presents is admirable, but Spielberg did not allow himself to answer it. Actually, it seems like he just forgot the question entirely and made the end into some kind of weird and disturbing fairy tale.

A.I. is one film that must be seen on the big screen and will be playing at the KUC Theater on Thursday at 7 and 9:30 p.m., and Friday and Saturday at 6 p.m. Admission is \$2. ♦

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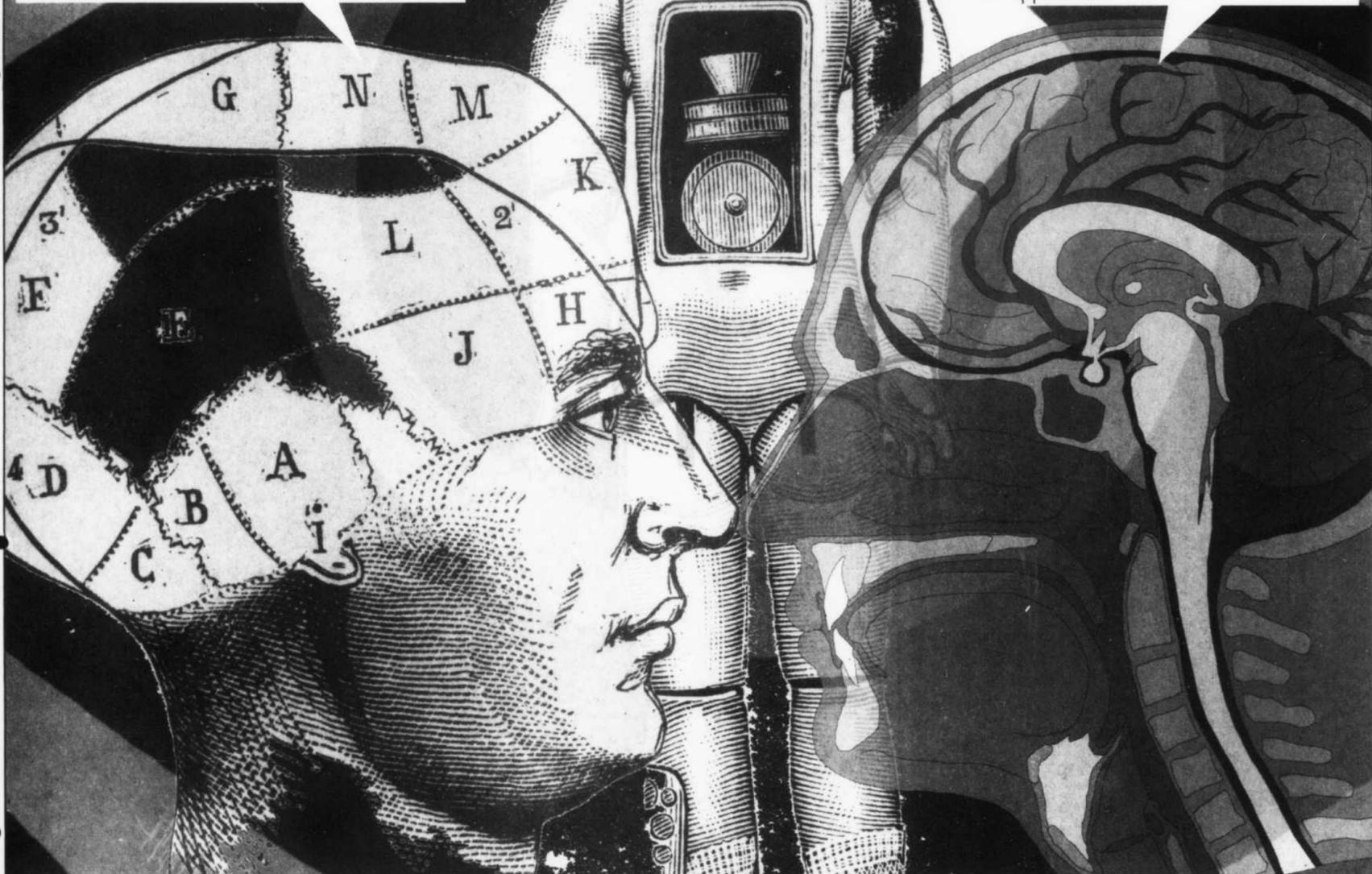
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Lady Raiders take on Ole Miss at Murphy Center

By Erich Heinlein
Staff Writer

Middle Tennessee women's basketball coach Stephany Smith will get a taste of the past Saturday when the Lady Raiders take on Ole Miss.

Ole Miss was the first opponent of Smith's coaching stint at MT. However, she does not necessarily see this as a great motivator.

"This had nothing to do with it," Smith said.

"The thing that motivates us

is the last two years Ole Miss has given us the hat."

MT has not beaten the Lady Rebels since 1995, and Ole Miss leads the series 13-2. The Lady Rebels also are coming off a win over another Sun Belt Conference opponent, Arkansas State, 101-57.

Ole Miss is 37-10 all-time against Sun Belt Conference opponents.

Ole Miss' major strength is in its backcourt with seniors Von Kirk and Sharikka Wright.

"We are going to maintain

pressure on the basketball because they have two great guards in seniors Von Kirk and Sharikka Wright, but now we are not going to press," Smith said. "Senior Von Kirk really especially hurt us last year with a lot of three-pointers."

Smith is concerned that she has not found a definite rotation.

"I will probably not determine a rotation until January, and for the meantime, we are going to play hit or miss," Smith said.

Other Lady Raiders are itching to take this game as well.

been here, we've never beaten an SEC team, and a win against Ole Miss would be nice," senior forward Joanne Aluka said.

This is the second SEC team the Lady Raiders have played this season, having lost to Georgia 76-72 in overtime.

"I was hoping that by playing 16th ranked Georgia would increase our confidence, but we lost to Cincinnati, and we didn't play at the level that we should have," Smith said.

So far this season, Jamie Thomatis leads the Lady Raiders with 17.8 points per game, a 61.9 field goal percentage and 41.7 percent from the three-point line.

Patrice Holmes is scoring 11.3 points per game while grabbing 5.5 rebounds per game.

Aluka is averaging 8.8 points and 6.3 rebounds per game.

The game is Saturday at 2 p.m. in Murphy Center. ♦

Blue Raiders travel to Radford for showdown

By Amy Jones
Staff Writer

After a close 65-59 loss to Belmont Nov. 26 at Municipal Auditorium in Nashville, the Middle Tennessee men's basketball team is set to travel to Radford, Va. Saturday to take on Radford University in a non-conference showdown.

The Blue Raiders are currently experiencing an almost perfect start to the 2001-02 season with a 3-1 record after the loss to Belmont. This notes the first 3-0 start for MT since the 1994-95 season when the Blue Raiders went 4-0 to start the season.

"I thought we battled and played hard tonight, especially in the second half," head coach

Randy Weil said. "We tried to get the ball inside, but Belmont really jams it up there and draw fouls. They just didn't give us anything inside. We got a lot of open shots early, but we just couldn't get them to fall."

RU has started the season with a 2-3 record and plays in the Big South Conference. Only one of those wins has been at home with an 85-72 win over University of North Carolina-Wilmington Monday.

The Highlanders average 79 points per game while their opponents sit at 71.2 points per game.

RU holds a .512 average in field goal attempts and a .470 average in three-point field goals. They also average 9.4 three-point field goals per

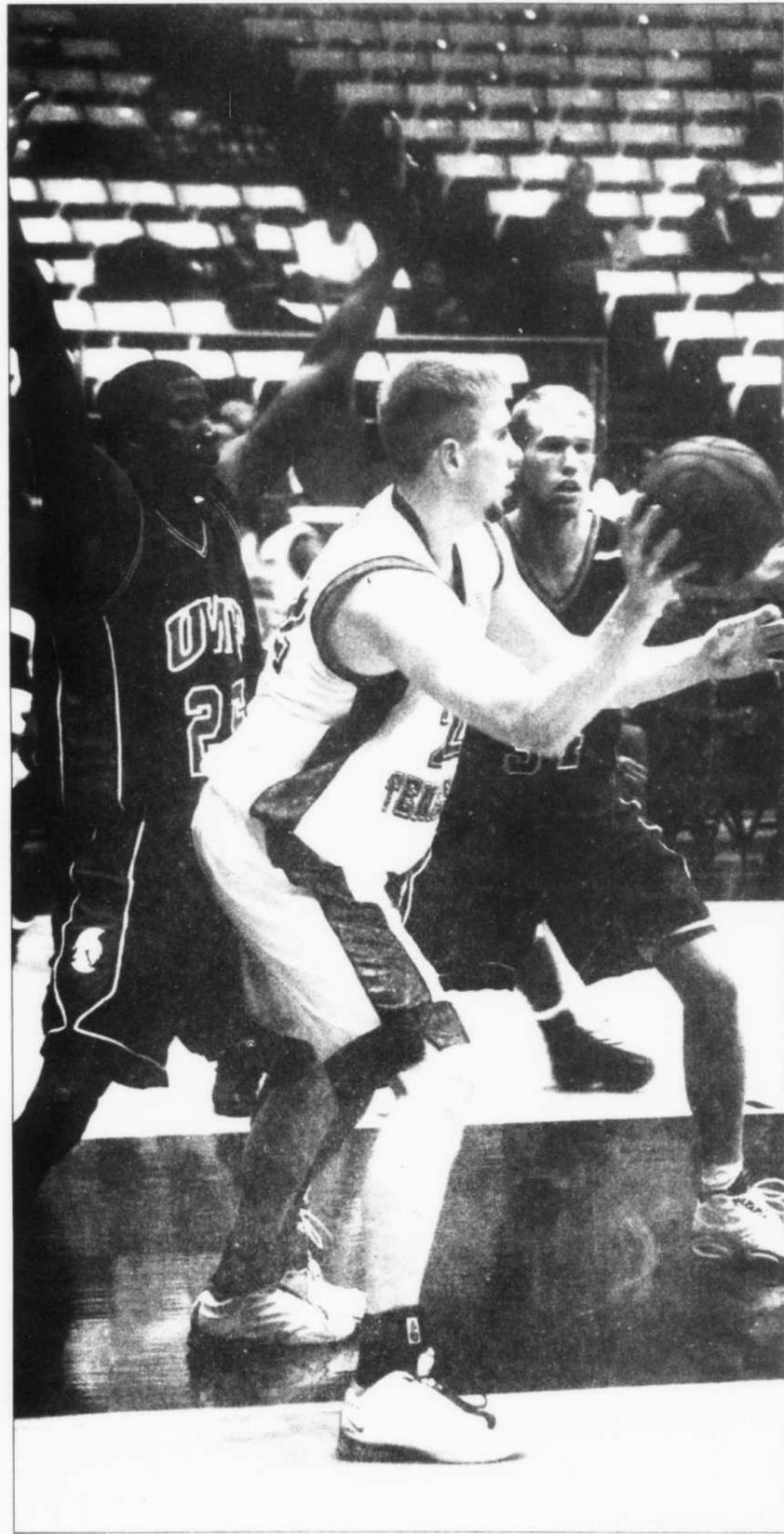
game.

Leading the Blue Raiders in scoring is 6-foot-8-inch forward William Pippen. Pippen has 54 points this season and averages 13.5 points per game. He also had a game scoring high against UNC-Greensboro with 25 points and 6 boards. Pippen has shot into double digits two out of the four games.

Close behind Pippen is freshman guard Tommy Gunn with 50 points and a .500 shooting percent average.

After three games and an exhibition match-up, MT leads its opponents in scoring 81 to 63.5 per game. The Blue Raiders hold a .364 average in field goal attempts and a .653 in three-point field goals.

Tip-off is set for 4 p.m. ♦



Photos by Amy Jones | Staff

(Above) Lee Nosse blocks the IUPUI defender during a Nov. 21 game. (Left) Iiro Tennngren prepares to pass the ball during a game last week.

Lady Raiders beat former OVC opponent

Free-throw shooting secures victory for MT
Staff Reports

The Middle Tennessee women's basketball team held on in the second-half run to win 78-69 over Austin Peay Tuesday night.

The Lady Raiders started the game with a 21-5 run, holding the Lady Governors scoreless for the first 7:16 of the opening half.

MT led by as much as 19 points in the first half. APSU scored 10 of the final 12 points in the half to cut the lead to 33-22 at halftime.

Brooke Armistead had 14 points on 5-of-7 shooting in the first half for the Lady Governors. Keisha McClinic had 8 points at the half for MT

including a pair of three-pointers.

The Lady Raiders pushed the lead to 16 points with five minutes to play in the game. The Lady Governors then began to foul putting the Lady Raiders at the free-throw line. APSU managed a late run, but MT held on for the victory, making 16-of-21 free throws in the last 4:19 of the game.

Armistead finished with 39 points, 25 coming in the second half.

Jamie Thomatis, Joanne Aluka and McClinic finished with 13 points apiece for the Lady Raiders.

Jessica Ezell added 13 for the Lady Governors. Kelly Chavez had 10 points.

The Lady Raiders play Ole Miss Saturday at Murphy Center. Game time is 2 p.m. ♦

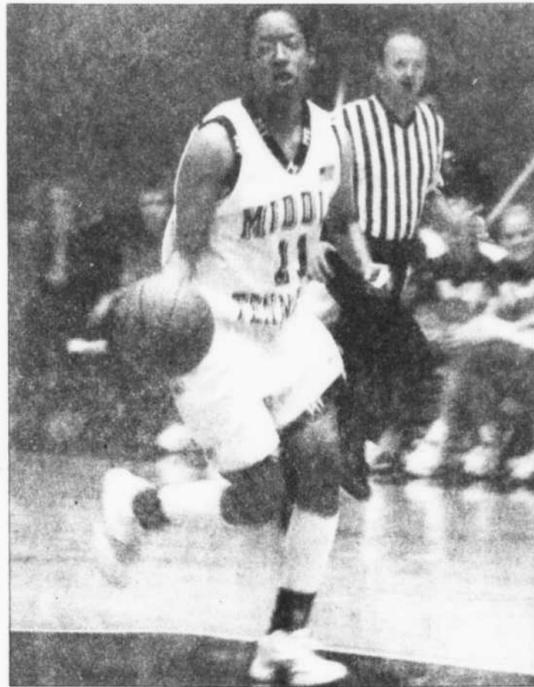


Photo by Amy Jones | Staff

Jessica McClure brings the ball up court against Life.

Seniors go to bowl game in Hawaii

Bradley and Newson invited to Hula Bowl

By Colleen Cox
Sports Editor

Two Middle Tennessee senior football players received invitations to play in the 2002 Hula Bowl.

Defensive back Jykine Bradley and receiver Kendall Newson will play in the annual bowl game. The Hula Bowl allows some of the nations' top senior players to showcase their talent for NFL scouts. For Bradley and Newson this is a chance to compete against more recognized players and help their draft status.

Bradley served as a defensive leader for MT. He led the team with 4 interceptions, broke up 18 passes and finished fourth on the team in tackles with 54.

Bradley led the Sun Belt Conference in pass break-ups. He currently stands second in the Sun Belt in interceptions and in the top 10 in forced fumbles.

Newson holds several receiving records at MT. He holds the record for receiving yards, receptions, 100-yard games and consecutive games with a reception (43). Newson finished this season with 65 receptions for 796 yards and 7 touchdowns. He currently ranks second in the Sun Belt in receptions per game and receiving yards per game and is in the top 10 in scoring.

The game is Feb. 2 at War Memorial Stadium in Maui, Hawaii. It will be televised nationally by ESPN at 7 p.m. ♦

New Orleans Bowl chooses Colorado State

Staff Reports

On Tuesday, the New Orleans Bowl invited Colorado State University to play North Texas at the Louisiana Superdome Dec. 18.

CSU accepted the invitation during a news conference yesterday afternoon at the McGraw Athletic Center in Fort Collins.

CSU (6-5) will make its third consecutive bowl appearance and sixth in the last eight seasons. The Rams have more bowl

appearances in the last eight years than any other team in the Mountain West Conference. North Texas (5-5) put

together five consecutive victories and clinched the Sun Belt Conference regular season title with a 50-27 victory over Idaho Nov. 17.

The New Orleans Bowl will be televised on ESPN2. ♦



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Male roommate wanted: to share 1330 sq.ft. 2 br, 2 bath apt. 3 min. from MTSU. Completely furnished. Must be neat, quiet, and non-smoker. Christian preferred. \$400/mo. Includes all utilities. No deposit or Application fee. Move in immediately! Call Jesse at 615-867-9332, please leave message.

Roommate needed...will give a discount on first month's rent. Lease lasts till the end of July. A four bedroom four bath apartment. Call 848-7195 or 519-8916 and ask for "Andi", short for Andrea. Need a female roommate.

Sublease at Sterling University Gables. 4br/2bath, furnished, paid utilities, washer/dryer, larger of units, computer lab and free internet in each room, Game room, weight room, pool, hot tub. Plus dec. rent is paid with no deposit! Rent \$380 per month. Call Nickey ASAP at 631-5195

Roommate Wanted to share two bedroom apartment with washer/dryer. Only 5 minutes from campus. \$265/month plus half utilities. Must be female, quiet, and neat. Must be a non-smoker. Only need bedroom furniture. No pets. If interested, please contact Jill at 896-6329

Female Roommate needed: To sublease at University Courtyard Apartments. For Spring Semester.

\$395 per month includes everything, completely furnished, no deposit or application fee. Call Jennifer at 615-907-2162, leave message.

For Rent

Sublease for December, Sterling University Apartments, Paid Utilities, paid month of December, no deposit fee. 4 bedroom, 2 bathroom, big living room and kitchen. Pool and weight room access. \$345/month. Contact Fallon Franklin @ 214-929-6626 or 615-494-8720. email: Fal_barbie@att.net. Moving back to Texas and in dire need!!

Walk to Class and Don't mess with parking! 1 BR, 1 Bath apartment available immediately. Located across from Murphy Center on N. Tennesse!!! cheap rent, great yard; above garageapartment means no nooise complaints! Call Melissa @ 907-4133 to have a look.

Sublease Starting in December. Sterling University Gables Apts. 4 bedroom, big living room + kitchen \$345 a month. Moving back home to Texas and in dire need! cell 214-929-6626 or hm. 615-494-8720

Looking for someone to take over lease at Sterling University Gables for spring semester. Apartment is the larger of the 4br units. Apartment will be available to in after December 14. Rent will be paid for December. No deposit required. All basic utilities and Ethernet access in the bdrm included in rent. Rent is \$380/month. Call Tony! Please leave a message. 893-4685

Female Sublease Needed for Spring. Apartment at The Woods at Greenland. Rent is \$415, includes all utilities, internet, and satellite w/HBO. Fully furnished, private bath, washer/dryer in room. Free tanning and workout room. Walking distance to school. If interested, call Ellen at 867-8342.

Tired of dealing with roommates? Need more privacy? Take over rent of a graduating Senior at Venture Point Apartments on Mercury Blvd. 1 Bedroom, 1 Bathroom \$395/month includes water. Call Angela at 494-9976

Services

FREE INFORMATION is available through the MTSU Placement Office, KUC Room 328. Come by and receive your complimentary copies or catalogs, pamphlets, and guides to learn how to write a resume and cover letter from various samples, gather information about a particular company, and help with interview preparation. Video tapes are also available for you to view in the Career Library.

Policies

Sidelines will be responsible only for the first incorrect insertion of any classified advertisement. No refunds will be made for partial cancellations. Sidelines reserves the right to refuse any advertisement it deems objectionable for any reason. Classifieds will only be accepted on a prepaid basis. Ads may be placed in the Student Publications Office in James Union Building room 306, or faxed to 904-8487. For more information call 904-8154 or 898-2815. Ads are not accepted over the phone. ****Ads are free to registered MTSU student for non-commercial use only. All other ads must be paid for.****

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PARKING LOT CLOSING FOR SPECIAL EVENT DECEMBER 4



On Tuesday, December 4, 2001, the parking lot located at the intersection of Blue Raider Drive and Baird Lane (across from Project HELP) will be closed from 12:00 noon to 9:30 p.m. for all vehicles due to a special event for the opening of the new Center for Dyslexia.

All vehicles that are parked in this lot after 12:00 noon will be towed at the owner's expense.

Suggested areas for student parking are the designated Green Permit Parking area close to Development House and St. Mark's UM Church (located off Main Street), the gravel lot located close to the Recreation Center, and the Tennessee Livestock Center off Greenland Drive.

The Raider Xpress operates from 7:30 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. Mon. - Thurs., and from 7:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. on Friday to transport students, faculty, staff, and visitors throughout the campus.

For questions, please contact Parking and Transportation Services at 898-2850. Your cooperation regarding this lot closing is appreciated.

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Parking Notice

Due to special concerns raised by residents of the campus community, Parking & Transportation Services will be extending department hours for patrolling the campus beginning with the Spring, 2002 semester.

Special Notice regarding Reserved Parking Spaces

Reserved parking spaces on campus are clearly designated either with signage or pavement markings. Unless otherwise noted, most reserved parking areas are reserved 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Some reserved parking areas on campus include:

- Persons with disabilities - reserved 24 hours a day
- Womack Lane Apartments parking area - reserved 24 hours a day
- Scarlett Commons - Reserved 24 hours a day
- Greek Row - reserved 24 hours a day
- Housing Staff - reserved 24 hours a day
- Maintenance Spaces - reserved 24 hours a day
- Health Services - reserved 24 hours a day
- Library staff - reserved from 6:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m., daily

Vehicles that do not have the appropriate permit or validation sticker to park in a reserved parking area will be ticketed accordingly.

All Traffic and Parking Regulations are enforced 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Please become familiar with these regulations, as outlined in the Regulations Brochure. Please contact our office.

Have you ever wondered what it's like being Santa Claus?



Here's your chance to find out.

The SGA Senate is sponsoring a

Toy Drive

for the Salvation Army

Donations of new, unwrapped toys can be taken to the SGA office, KUC 208, between now and December 7.



Please help a child have Merry Christmas