



Partly Cloudy



This week's poll question online at www.mtsusidelines.com

"Have you ever driven drunk?"

Saying no to sex in a just-do-it world

In Living, 6



Middle Tennessee State University

SIDELINES

The university's editorially independent student newspaper

Volume 79 No. 35

Blue Raiders lose again



Photo by Jamie Lorange | Chief Photographer

Will Martin, full safety, chases after North Texas running back Roy Bishop. The Blue Raiders lost the game 33-28. MTSU's record is now 2-6. For complete game coverage see Sports, page eight.

Senior wins Nashville Scene poetry contest

By Julia Reynolds
Staff Writer

MTSU senior Pablo Tanguay has been awarded the first-place prize for poetry in the *Nashville Scene's* annual fiction and poetry competition.

Tanguay's poem "Holsters" was selected for top honors from more than 500 entries. Tanguay received the award and the \$500 cash prize at a ceremony at the Southern Festival of Books in Nashville on Oct. 11.

Tanguay wrote the poem as part of class work for Gaylor Brewer's poetry writing class last year.

"She's alone, with tattooed holsters on her hips."

—Pablo Tanguay
from his poem 'Holsters'

contest one of the most important in the region. This is the third year of the contest, and for the first time, rules have been enacted to ensure that only new authors may compete.

"The goal of the contest is to introduce Nashville to new writers," explained contest organizer Margeret Renkl.

Tanguay's has had two other poems published in *Collage*, MTSU's literary magazine.

Tanguay is a senior majoring in English and plans to graduate in December. Tanguay plans to pursue a master's degree after graduation.

Originally from San

Francisco, he spent his first two years of college at Columbia University in New York City.

Tanguay worked around the country at such diverse jobs as a labor organizer, political campaign worker and restaurant manager before enrolling at MTSU in 2001 to finish his English degree.

In 2002, he was recognized by the English department when he was selected to receive the 2002 Peck Award. The award is given to several accomplished and deserving English undergraduates and graduates each year and includes a substantial scholarship.

"His work has caught the eye of many of his professors," Hibbard said. "We're very pleased and proud of him." Tanguay credits the influence of his professors for his success at MTSU.

"I've been lucky enough to have really good teachers who have allowed me to be creative and roam," Tanguay said. "I would encourage students at MTSU who are interested in writing to use the resources we have on the staff in the English department."

You can read more about this year's *Nashville Scene* fiction and poetry contest at www.nashvillescene.com.

"I wrote it in an afternoon," Tanguay said. "Then I revised it over a month with input from the class."

The poetry writing class is one of several popular writing courses offered by the MTSU English department and playingwriting.

"One of the goals of the department is to support student writers," said Allen Hibbard, director of the English department graduate studies program. "These students are designed to give students a sense of community and to help them get expert advice."

In the *Nashville Scene* issue announcing the winners, poetry judge Diann Blakely wrote: "Holsters" stands out above the rest of this year's poems not because of what some might call its 'transgressive' subject matter but because of its witty awareness of the darker truths and endless curiosity of the human heart.

"These are rendered — i.e., presented dramatically — rather than told to us in any obvious fashion; and the poem has enormous ambition of scope, subtly perceptible through its stream-of-consciousness moves, ever turning back on themselves like the sea in the background, like thought itself."

The *Nashville Scene's* readership of about 150,000 and the large cash prizes make its fiction

Up 'Till Dawn program recruits students

Annual program offers fundraiser for St. Jude Children's Hospital

By Liz Karlson
Staff Writer

Next week, MTSU's Up 'Till Dawn program will sponsor Up 'Till Dawn on the Lawn, an event focused on recruiting students for the annual fund-raising campaign for St. Jude Children's Hospital.

The event will be held on Oct. 29 from noon to 4 p.m. on the Keathley University Center Knoll and will offer a carnival atmosphere. Face painting, a football throw, a cakewalk and other activities will be offered free to students; however, donations are happily accepted.

St. Jude Children's Hospital,

which requires more than \$1 million a day to operate, is located in Memphis and offers children around the world free treatment for life-threatening illnesses, mainly in the areas of cancer.

"Their main goal for Up 'Till Dawn is to raise money, but also to teach students more about St. Jude's and to help build a community on campus and reach out to others," said David Lee, linguistics chair for UTD.

"It's a really good chance to reach out to your community as well as other communities and help out kids with catastrophic diseases," Lee said.

To participate in UTD, each

student is required to be a part of a team of six people, which can be made up of anyone, including student organizations, campus ministry groups or friends. Each team must raise \$550 by Feb. 25, 2004, and must register no later than Jan. 26, 2004. Common ways to raise money include bake sales, letter-writing campaigns and step shows.

The main program for UTD is a 12-hour event held next March, in which all the teams that raised money will be rewarded with a variety of entertainment, such as local bands, patient speeches, team spirit games, comedians and more. "This is a 12-hour event, and we will fill all 12 hours," Nesbit said.

Last year, the UTD program

recruited more than 50 teams and raised over \$55,000 for the children's hospital.

"The parents of these children often stay up all night, whether it is worrying or sitting up with a sick child ... This event is symbolic of their fight," Nesbit said. This is why the program is named "Up 'Till Dawn."

Actor Danny Thomas founded St. Jude Children's Hospital in 1962.

He came up with the idea for the hospital because he was tired of seeing children dying so young with mysterious illnesses.

"He was famous for quoting 'No child should ever die in the dawn of life,'" Nesbit said.

For more information about joining UTD, go to KUC, Room 306, or call 904-8270.

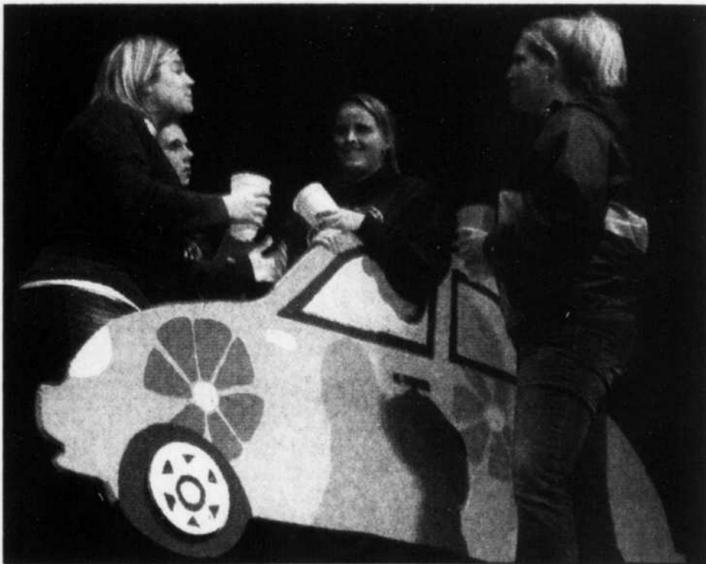


Photo by Steve Cross | Staff Photographer

Members of sorority Kappa Delta performs a skit portraying a group of girls drinking and driving and getting stopped by the police as part of alcohol awareness week at Tucker Theater on Wednesday.

Panel discusses students driving under influence

College students spend \$20 billion per year on alcohol

By Tiffany Brown
Staff Writer

As part of Alcohol Awareness Week, a panel discussion featuring three experts provided information about driving under the influence offenses last Wednesday.

Kappa Delta sorority and the Division of Student Affairs sponsored the event, which was held in Tucker Theater.

The panel consisted of MTSU Public Safety Officer Sean Garrison, Rutherford County general sessions court Judge Ben Hall MacFarlin Jr. and attorney Steve Waldron. John Dickerson, assistant director of judicial affairs, moderated the panel.

The speakers each discussed how DUIs relate to their professions and gave tips to students.

16,000 people die in alcohol-related accidents, Garrison said.

College students in the U.S. spend \$20 billion per year on alcohol, Dickerson said.

A girl was killed just off campus in a DUI last year, Dickerson said.

A driver 21 years of age and older with a blood alcohol content measurement .08 and over is considered guilty of DUI, Dickerson said. A driver under the age of 21 is guilty of a DUI if his BAC is .02 and over.

An 18- to 20-year-old convicted of a DUI will receive a \$250 fine and lose his license for at least one year, Garrison said.

A person arrested for a DUI is taken to committee before the magistrate. The person is then kept in the drunk tank for four to five hours, Waldron said.

"The drunk tank is kind of like the trunk of your uncle's Cadillac," Waldron said.

The person then pays the bondman 10 percent of the bond fee, he is then assigned a court date and a lawyer, he said.

"The reality is that very few folks will wiggle off the hook," Waldron said. "Because when you hire a lawyer, it is basically hiring the guy who can beg the best because DUI cases are primarily plea bargaining."

Rutherford County is the toughest county in Tennessee to have get a DUI, and a DUI never comes off the record, he said.

A DUI has strict penalties, MacFarlin said. The minimum penalties for a first offense are 48 hours in jail and a \$350 fine. Driving privileges are also taken away for one year, with a few exceptions for a restricted

See DUI, 2

Philharmonic plays Halloween concert

Staff Reports

Get ready for a night of frights with the Murfreesboro Philharmonic Symphony Orchestra as they perform "Halloween's Greatest Hits" tonight at 7:30 p.m.

Concert-goers are encouraged to dress up like monsters, composer, cartoon characters, animals, musical instruments or other characters. Kids can also start their Halloween early with treats after the concert.

Selections will include "Night on Bald Mountain" by

Modest Mussorgsky, "Witches' Ride" from "Hansel and Gretel" by Engelbert Humperdink, "Danse Macbre" by Camille Saint-Saens, "Sorcerer's Apprentice" by Paul Dukas, "Rhapsody on a Theme of Paganini" by Sergey Rachmaninoff and "March to the Scaffold" by Hector Berlioz.

Guest artist will be pianist Yung-Chi Wang, who has performed with the London Symphony, the Boston Symphony and the Taiwan National Symphony. She has studied at many fine classical

music institutions, such as the Royal Academy of Music in London and the San Francisco Conservatory.

Conducted by Laurence Harvin, the Murfreesboro Philharmonic has a season of five concerts, plus a youth concert and a July Fourth concert. The Murfreesboro Philharmonic is supported in part by the Tennessee Arts Commission.

For more information about the symphony, contact the office at 898-1862 or visit the Web site at www.mborophil.com. ◆

DUI: Offense stays on record forever

Continued from 1

license, which allows one to drive to school, work and rehab on a very strict schedule, he said.

The maximum for a DUI first offense is \$1,500 and 11 months, 29 days in jail. One loses his drivers license, and the DUI is on your record forever, it cannot be expunged or wiped off, MacFarlin said.

The minimum penalty for a second offense is 45 days in jail, and a \$600 to \$3,500 fine, alcohol rehabilitation, and the loss driving privileges for two years, he said.

The minimum penalty for a third offense is a \$1,100 to \$10,000 fine, the loss of driving privileges for 3 to 10 years, and 120 days in jail. DUI is a felony after the third offense, MacFarlin said.

It is the ultimate in stupidity to be rude to a police officer because of the enormous discretion he has, Waldron said.

You should be smart when dealing with someone that has that much discretion and authority, MacFarlin said.

In regards to the admission of a field test to check BAC, MacFarlin said that one can say no to a test and they can still give it, but it will not necessarily be admissible in court.

However, if one refuses the test you will lose your license for one year, Waldron said. If one takes the test and it comes

back .20 or over, one will serve seven straight days in jail, if it is the first offense, he added.

"If you refuse the field sobriety test, whether you are guilty or not, I am taking you to jail," Garrison said.

Officers are now using the blood test more because it picks up legal and illegal drugs in addition to alcohol. A prescription that impairs you is not an excuse, MacFarlin said.

MTSU police only use the blood test, Dickerson said. They also have video cameras in their vehicles.

There is an open container law in Tennessee and in Murfreesboro. The state law prohibits an open container in the car if you are driving. The Murfreesboro City law prohibits having an open container in the car at all.

The open container law for the state is a 'Class C' violation, which will be a minimum fine of \$50 and 30 days in jail.

With an arrest, the police can search the vehicle, Dickerson said. Murfreesboro City police cars also have cameras.

There is also such a thing as DUI by allowing, which is when someone gets a DUI in someone else's car, usually when the owner is in the car, but it can technically occur when they are not. If they are found guilty, you are guilty. The penalties are exactly the same, MacFarlin said.

"If someone in your car gets

into a wreck, you can be taken to civil court and that costs lots of money," Dickerson said.

One can be convicted of a DUI without driving. If the driver is in possession of the vehicle, if he has possession of the keys or access to them, that violates the statute, Waldron said.

For example, if it is winter-time and the driver starts the car to keep warm, even if they aren't going anywhere, they are guilty of a DUI, he said.

If one is found guilty of a DUI, car insurance will double at a minimum. One would be lucky if it only doubles, MacFarlin said.

Public intoxication is creating a public nuisance or disturbing others. The fine can be paid like a speeding ticket, he said.

"My grandma used to say, nothing good happens after midnight. If you are out driving after this time, you are just looking for trouble," MacFarlin said. He estimated that 20 percent to 30 percent of the people on the road at this time have been drinking.

"Students are the victims and the perpetrators. You have the knowledge to make smart decisions," Dickerson said.

Anyone in need of alcoholism testing or counseling can contact Guidance Services at 898-2670, or go online to www.ulifeline.org. ◆

Business college gets new scholarship

By Leah Massey
Staff Writer

A new scholarship for business majors will be established thanks to a \$200,000 donation to the MTSU endowment fund.

Mary E. Hodge left the \$200,000 bequest to MTSU in memory of her son, Charles E. Hodge II, who received both his undergraduate and graduate degrees from MTSU.

Charles Hodge graduated with a bachelor of science degree in 1970 and received his masters of business administration degree in 1976. Her son Charles died of cystic fibrosis.

Mary Hodge taught elementary school in both Davidson and Rutherford counties. The donation was officially presented to the university earlier this month by Hodge's estate. She passed away on March 5 of this year.

Vice President for development and university relations Joe Bales said that a bequest is when a provision is made in a will that money will be left to a specific person or group of people. The \$200,000 bequest will help business students pay their way through college for generations to come.

Qualifications for the scholarship are still being considered

by officials according to Bales. It is hoped that students will be able to apply and begin receiving funds from the endowment by fall of 2004. The dean of the college will decide when to start giving out scholarships from the fund.

Bales isn't sure how much the scholarship would pay out to the student, but he did say the scholarship will be paid out annually.

Hodge stipulated that the scholarships should be granted to students in the Jennings A. Jones Business College.

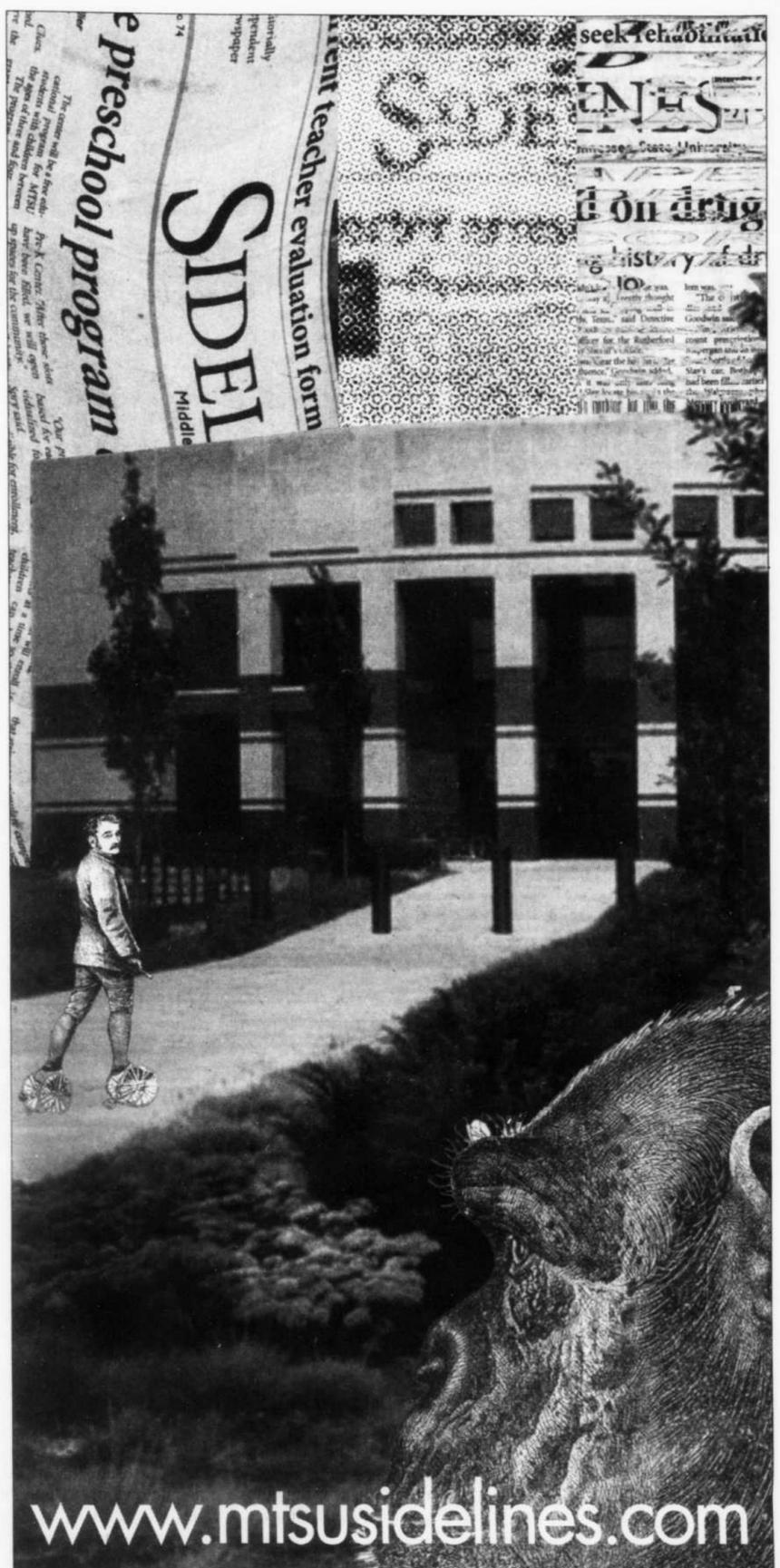
By placing the \$200,000 in an endowment fund it will remain intact and the gathered interest will be used to pay out the scholarship money instead of the \$200,000 itself.

"The MTSU Foundation maintains the \$200,000 as an endowment," Bales explained. "The scholarships will be paid out using only the interest."

This allows the scholarship to become a permanent one for the business college.

Hodge also left a bequest aiding the Wesley Foundation.

A list of scholarships for the business college can be found at <http://mtsu32.mtsu.edu:11030/advising/scholarships.htm>. ◆



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Student fools international newspapers

By Michele DeCamp
Technician

(U-WIRE) RALEIGH, N.C. - On the surface, it is hard to tell that the story labeled "Study: Fellatio may significantly decrease the risk of breast cancer in women," isn't real. The original Web version has the CNN.com banner along the top of the page, the stock CNN medical graphic along the right side of the article and credits North Carolina State University with the study.

But when readers scan the page, names like "Dr. B.J. Sooner" and "Dr. Herbert Shafteer" start to stand out as unusual.

However, nothing discredits it more than the fact that Brandon Williamson, a junior at N.C. State in materials science, is the one that wrote it.

"I was sitting in the Wolves Den and [the idea for the story] just sparked in my mind as a joke. It didn't have anything to do with our conversation or anything, it was just something that popped in my head. I ran it by a couple of people, and they thought it would be pretty

funny," Williamson said. He didn't realize that when he went to the school's honors lounge and wrote it that his "joke" would become an international news story.

"I sent it to 10 people that I thought might find it funny. And a couple of days later I put a thread about it on the Wolf Web. That's all I did to tell anyone about it. I assumed that it was just going to be one of those things that would be left there and no one would ever see it," Williamson said.

And for a while, nothing did happen. Two weeks went by, and NCSU was preparing for fall break. However, on Oct. 9, Williamson found an unusually large amount of e-mails in his NCSU e-mail account about the fellatio story, and he also started to receive some phone calls from the media.

"On Thursday evening I talked to a guy from Wired News, an online news site, and he just asked me some questions. There were other people who reprinted it as a real story. I got an e-mail that a Chilean newspaper had reprinted it, and I got another e-mail with an

actual picture of a Croatian newspaper that had printed it up as a real article, saying that it was from CNN," Williamson said.

Williamson wonders if Croatian or Chilean readers will take the story seriously.

"The thing was that what gave the article away originally were the names that I chose. I figured that people who read that would be like 'ha -- it's a joke,' and the fact that I URL wasn't a CNN URL. I think what happened was that they got e-mailed a copy of the article, and if it didn't have the URL with it or if the names were lost in translation, then they might not have picked up on it. I would hope that people would ask questions and not just accept what they read," Williamson said.

Once NCSU's fall break was over, Williamson started to receive a different kind of e-mail from David Drooz, the school's associate general counsel.

"CNN went through David Drooz. They weren't happy, and they called it an intellectual properties infringement. And

the way it works, they would pull up litigation on the school [since the article was on the NCSU Web page]. The Associated Press said the same thing," Williamson said. Williamson then adapted the article based on the different complaints. He altered the CNN logo and eliminated all the references to the Associated Press. The original article was supposed to be an "AP" story and it included the line "Copyright © 2003 The Associated Press. All rights reserved" at the bottom of the story. He had copied a CNN online Web page and just inserted his own article in the appropriate place, so his original spoof piece was authentic except for its content.

The article has now been stripped of any connection to real media organizations.

Williamson was asked by Drooz to remove the NCSU references as well.

"N.C. State got mad that it said the research was done there. I kind of wanted to know who had a problem with it," Williamson says.

While the article is still circulating, the author's life is start-

ing to become normal again.

"I think a lot of the hype has died down so far. I've only had really two that were negative. One was that maybe you should think about how it would affect people who have had breast cancer during their lives. The rest of them were people telling me it was great, that all their friends liked it. It was kind of neat," Williamson said.

"I don't think it's going to be a problem anymore. People are still reading it, and I'm looking to do some more little articles. I've done them a service and all this stuff. It wasn't my intention to fool anyone, and it's not real, but guys still play it off like it is," he said.

The article spread through e-mail forwards, and Williamson regularly receives e-mails and AOL IM messages from fans of the article. He even gets to see how far the story has gone.

One person messaged him and told him that a group of Hooters waitresses were discussing whether or not it was real in one of the restaurant's

New York locations.

Wired News also told him that ResNet, the school's residential network internet service, had recorded 667,000 hits to his Web site on Thursday, Oct. 9, alone.

Another person contacted him and told him that the article had become quite popular in many northern schools such as Boston College and New York University.

While Williamson has enjoyed the unexpected fame, he also feels that he has learned a few lessons through his spoof experience.

"It really showed me how ugly money can be and how easy it is for big corporations to throw their weight around. It really disenchanted me because I didn't really have any visions of how this works. I did think they would be able to take a joke, and I was really surprised that they would go so far as to sue the school if I didn't take it down. It put CNN in a bad light in my book because I didn't think they would be as concerned about someone making a parody of a news story," Williamson says. ♦

'Under God' under fire

By Nell McGarity
U-WIRE

(U-WIRE) WASHINGTON - The pledge of allegiance case, which will be heard by the Supreme Court without conservative Justice Antonin Scalia next year, will bring forth not only questions of the constitutionality of the phrase "under God" in the pledge, but also the issue of legal standing.

The case, brought forth by atheist Michael Newdow, argues that his right as a parent is being infringed upon when his 9-year-old daughter is forced to accept others' religious beliefs by reciting the pledge every day in school.

Reviewed by the 9th Circuit, the San Francisco-based liberal federal appeals court ruled that the public schools' reciting the pledge's phrase "under God" was unconstitutional. However, the 9th Circuit's decisions are often overruled by the more conservative Supreme Court.

Acting as his own lawyer, Newdow faces two key questions before the court: whether he had legal standing at the time the case was filed and whether or not the school policy that says teachers are "required to lead willing students" in the pledge is constitutional.

"The father is asserting that he is entitled to the upbringing of his daughter and what she is exposed to at school," said Steve Wermiel, Professor of Constitutional Law at American University. "The pledge is preventing him from shaping her religious beliefs but that may not survive the question of standing."

"They may throw out the case based on this alone without saying anything about the law," he said.

Newdow has recently gained legal custody of his daughter. However, there are reports that his daughter does not object to the pledge at all.

"The problem is whether the father, at the time of filing, actually was an injured party because at the time of the filing he [his daughter's] custody. But he isn't asserting [his daughter's] rights, he's raising his own," said Wermiel.

While the first issue of standing may end the case without comment on the school board's policy, the courts framing of the second point reframes the argument in terms of "willing students."

"While the 9th Circuit ruling had a plausible basis, by emphasizing the school board policy, the court skewed the issue. Part of the Supreme Court's rationale is to protect the center and focus on willing students because the only objection reserves to Mr. Newdow," said Case Western Reserve law Professor Jonathan Entin.

Adding another layer to the case, Justice Antonin Scalia has recused himself from hearing the case, offering no explanation, as is custom with the court. This absence opens up the possibility of a 4-4 split, which would allow the 9th Circuit ruling to stand.

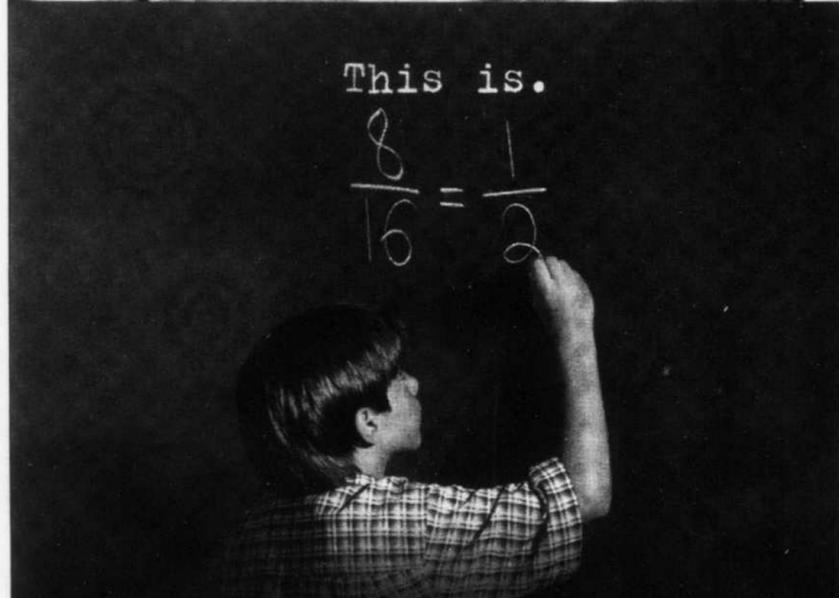
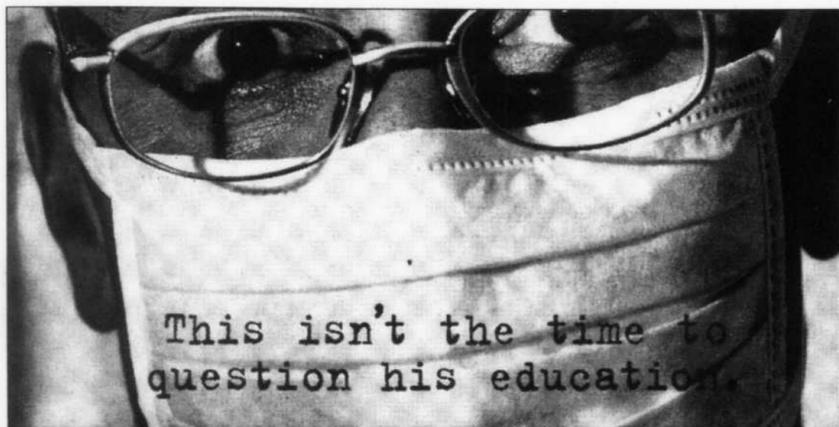
"I really don't think he needed to recuse himself. I guess we don't want justices to comment on pending cases, but there is nothing that Justice Scalia said that would come as a surprise to anyone based on his work and other speeches on church-state related issues," said Wermiel.

Entin agreed. "He made a comment off the bench, but justices, in opinions, often indicate their feelings on things. His comments were probably ill advised, but had he made them in an opinion he might have had to recuse himself," he said.

Newdow had filed papers on September 9 with the court asking Scalia to remove himself citing that he violated the code of conduct for United States judges that states, "Judges should avoid public comment on the merits of a pending or impending action." This came from comments Scalia made at a January Religious Freedom Day rally in Fredericksburg, VA.

"I think in this case we must ask what impact it will have on our civic life if it ends in a 4-4 tie. Meaning, is there a greater harm that Justice Scalia may have bias than if we had a definite answer. Some may say yes, but I think the question needs to be asked," said Wermiel.

The case, Elk Ridge Unified School District v. Newdow, will be heard early next year. ♦



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From the Editorial Board Abortion restrictions respect rights of all

Last Tuesday, the Senate passed a ban on partial birth abortions, which is the most far reaching limits on abortion since the 1973 *Roe v. Wade* decision.

The term "partial birth abortion" is widely disputed because it is not a formal medical term. The bill defines it as delivery of a fetus wherein the entire head of the fetus is outside of the mother for the purpose of performing an act that the person knows will kill the fetus.

Women today have many options to prevent or abort a pregnancy earlier in the development so there is no reason to wait until the child is almost fully developed to decide not to complete the pregnancy.

Birth control, morning-after pills and first-trimester abortions are all perfectly legal options for a mother who doesn't feel, for whatever reason, that pregnancy is not an option. If the mother hasn't taken these options early on, it is just too late now.

Partial birth abortions are inhumane and degrading to the fetus. The procedure is to partially deliver the child and then sever the spinal cord at the back of the neck.

We feel that because the baby has been delivered, the baby is automatically given the same rights as any other human being. To end the baby's life at this point would be murder, plain and simple.

However, there are exceptions to any rule and if the mother's life is in jeopardy, a partial birth abortion should be available. If a cesarean section cannot be performed, this type of abortion could be used in an emergency. To just ban it completely doesn't take into account emergency situations.

We don't want this legislation to lead the way for a ban on abortions all together. To choose to abort is the legal right of all women as long as it is done in a responsible and respectful manner. Excessive abortions or partial birth abortions indicate that the mother has full knowledge of her actions and has chosen to ignore her responsibilities as a woman. ♦

Better uses for money than anti-pot ads

Speaking of Which



David Cotton
Staff Columnist

I remember when public service announcements were innocent. They provided useful advice on what to do if your house was on fire or if you fell off a boat. It was good, practical information offered politely without any attempt to frighten, shock or intimidate.

These days the public service announcement has taken a dark turn toward the absurd with the Office of National Drug Control Policy's anti-marijuana campaign, a supposedly youth-oriented campaign that has come to dominate the agency's agenda. For more than a year, we have been treated to a series of ads that ran the gamut from the speculative, the ridiculous, to the downright dishonest. These ads are expensive and cost the taxpayers at least \$2 billion.

Here are a few highlights in case you missed them.

There's the one that ran during the Super Bowl that somehow linked marijuana and pregnancy. Depending on the couple, that may be an advantage.

There is the one that shows two boys in a den apparently smoking, who find a gun that then goes off. This may have been an attempt to squeeze two topics into one commercial, since it is a more effective gun control statement than anti-marijuana statement.

There is a disturbing one where some kids at a fast food drive-thru hit a little girl on her bike with their car. What profound statement accompanies such gruesome imagery? Marijuana can slow your reaction time. That's true, but so could the food, the radio, cell phones and idiotic banter.

The most realistic one goes for a more subdued approach. In it, a boy complains of his older stoner brother whose only addiction affliction is being a coach potato.

In a country where sitting around watching TV is viewed as a God-given right, this spot doesn't so much denounce marijuana as raise the question of why it is illegal in the first place.

The most insidious one was a shameless lie that attempted to blame terrorism on marijuana. This kind of ridiculous statement questions not just the effectiveness of the government to speak to the nation's youth but its moral ability to do so as well. While it would take some time for a dollar spent on North American produced marijuana to reach al-Qaeda, it is common knowledge that American dollars spent every day on oil and gas, have a direct route.

If we are to be concerned with drugs supporting terrorism, we might note that the United States, by scattering the Taliban and empowering Afghan warlords, has reinvigorated the opium trade. It is a problem the U.S. government has, perhaps prudently, chosen to ignore at this time. If any

drug profits fund terrorism, these would be the ones.

Unless people have stopped getting hooked on heroin and crack, marijuana — which has yet to record its first overdose — hardly seems worth all the attention. So why all the heavy-handed tactics on such a soft target?

Throughout the country, various states have proposed legislature limiting the prohibition of marijuana, most concerning the medical use issue. These ads sensationalize the issue in an attempt to discourage intelligent debate and to interfere in a state's legislative process.

Now it's nothing new that the federal government is willing to strong-arm states into compliance.

However, there is something more sinister about a governmental agency using taxpayers' money and questionable material simply to provide for and justify its own existence.

A study conducted for the National Institute on Drug Abuse showed the ads to have no effect on

youth drug use. Even after admitting the lack of results, the head of the Office of National Drug Control Policy, John Walters, still requested \$1.8 billion more from Congress to continue the campaign.

There is certainly an argument to be made that any money spent on this type of advertising is a waste, but I don't necessarily have a problem with the government offering a little helpful advice now and then. Just make sure the info is practical, not politically tainted and, most importantly, honest.

Don't destroy the ad's credibility with groundless claims. Instead, present the very real and serious dangers out there. If you're ever on fire, remember to stop, drop and roll.

Now there's a public service announcement you can use. ♦

David Cotton is a senior English major and can be reached via e-mail at dpc2b@mtsu.edu.

WHAT A SCHMUCK!!

Sidelines'
occasional
watch for
muttonheads.



Just when you thought it was safe to shop at your neighborhood grocery store, now come ... the talking carts.

The last thing anyone would ever accuse us of is being luddites. We've been begging for months for new G5s and most of us have cell phones. But this time, technology has gone too far.

Technology developed by IBM and showcased at their Industry Solutions Lab in Hawking, N.Y., includes a shopping cart that speaks to its driver, informing them in a creepy, pseudo-human voice nearby items that are on sale or that might interest them.

The voice box is designed to work with stores' discount cards, like the Kroger Plus card or Food Lion MVP card. The customer swipes the card next to the speaker on the cart, and away it goes. The shopper's purchasing history is instantly accessible, and the cart starts yakking away about items that it thinks the customer would be interested in, in addition to regular store sales.

Picture these unfortunate scenarios:

A little girl, sent into the store for a gallon of milk, walks by the family planning section when

her speaker declares, "Water-based lubricant is on sale today. Would you like to purchase some today?"

Wanting to help her mom by buying sale items, Susie grabs a box and goes through the checkout line. Mom's going to have a real fun time explaining why her 6-year-old is buying lube.

A man who believes smart cards are an invasion of privacy doesn't swipe his. His cart is programmed to announce all store specials in this instance. Halfway down the frozen foods aisle, the man goes berserk from listening to the prattling, and rips the box off the cart and smashes it against the floor. Who, other than store management, could blame him?

Friends, your groceries are your business. When this technology rolls out next year or the year after, be wary. There's no telling what you're going to hear. ♦

Original story by the Associated Press, via www.billingsgazette.com, posted Oct. 23.

Vigilante whistleblower exposes flaws



Wendy Caldwell
Staff Columnist

In a bizarre test of the nation's airport and airline security, 20-year-old college student Nathaniel Heatwole hid several banned items on airplanes. Included among the items he hid were box cutters, the same weapon 19 hijackers used in the Sept. 11, 2001 attacks.

Heatwole, who attends Guilford College in Greensboro, N.C., claimed he placed the items on the planes in an "act of civil disobedience with the aim of improving public safety for the air-traveling public," according to an e-mail Heatwole sent stating what he had done.

Heatwole told authorities he followed the normal security procedures at airports in Baltimore, Md., and Raleigh-Durham, N.C., before placing the items on two Southwest Airlines flights five weeks before they were found, according to an Associated Press report.

However, what Heatwole's experiment uncovered is no surprise. It would be foolish to think that airport security is flawless. What he has done, if anything, is shown to the authorities what most everyone else already knew: If someone really aims to get something on an airplane, he or she will

find a way.

In that respect, one must certainly, to an extent, respect what Heatwole has done. Knowing he would most likely be punished for his actions, he risked his freedom (at least, to an extent) in hopes of changing a flawed system.

While bringing box cutters onto airplanes and hiding them in the restrooms may not seem like the best way to make air travel safer, the implications it has on the security of air travel will almost certainly warrant a revised system. The real issue here is what will happen to Heatwole.

On one hand, he has arguably done a decent service to the United States and its air travelers. If his experiment leads to a safer, more-secure way to travel via aircraft, as he intended, then it would seem foolish to punish him because the way in which he pointed out the flaws was, to say the least, unconventional. Besides, how else could he have pointed out the flaws in airport security without actually breaching it?

However, not punishing Heatwole could prove more detrimental to airport security. If he goes unpunished, it would set a legal precedent that anyone can take anything on board an airplane so long as they can get it aboard, because they could simply claim to be "testing the system."

This "civil disobedience," as Heatwole called it, could prove useful in

this one instance, but it should not become common practice for those wishing to prove the government and its agencies wrong.

While I do respect what Heatwole has done, he himself knew the possible consequences of his actions and stated he would be willing to accept them. Heatwole isn't really leaving authorities and courts with many options. They can punish him and no doubt face public scrutiny, or they can let him go and risk more security breaches.

If he is punished, he will become a sort of living martyr-type figure for airport security. He will probably be respected, and public outcry of his imprisonment will likely lead to protests outside of courtrooms and airports across the country. They could even let him out early. It's not like there's a big risk of him doing it again.

Of course, the obvious solution would be to do more thorough searches at airports. Whether they like it or not, Heatwole has made a point. If he must be punished, and he probably will be if for no other reason than to avoid sending the wrong message to would-be hijackers and the like, then federal agents cannot turn a blind eye to those who should have stopped him in Baltimore and Raleigh-Durham. ♦

Wendy Caldwell is a junior mathematics major and can be reached via e-mail at visa717@aol.com.

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Sidelines welcomes letters to the editor from all readers. E-mail letters to slopinio@mtsu.edu and include your name and a phone number for verification.

Sidelines will not publish anonymous letters. We reserve the right to edit for grammar, length and content.

Since you're not going to class anyway, why not write a letter to the editor?

It's much easier than walking to Mass Comm.

Just send 'em on over to slopinio@mtsu.edu.

Letter to the Editor

Religion alone does not a moral man make

To the editor:

I will not make swift judgement about university president Sidney McPhee's innocence or guilt, but I will say we are living in a time that emphasizes the idea that true character must stand the fire in order to provide leadership to those under it. From Kobe Bryant to McPhee (not comparing the actions of either one as the same as the other), we see disappointment in the eyes of the public that such a tragedy would occur. Why? Because we look up to them, and as a result, we generalize that they will always do what is "morally acceptable."

So when a question of moral standards comes up, we are in disbelief or shock that such an event can occur. In regards to the student who spoke about McPhee and how he appeared to be a Christian man, we must learn to look past what we perceive to find the true character of a leader.

I'm not disqualifying McPhee's validity of religion or character, but I am saying that assumption of character does lead to merely an appearance and not the true substance of the inner human soul. Please learn to look past hints of Christianity and evaluate an individual's character based upon what the individual does when he or she is alone.

Jesse Waterman,
Sophomore
Recording Industry

Saying "No" to Sex in a Just-Do-It world

By Stacie Wacaster
Staff Writer

An MTSU senior looks back at his past choices with deep regret.

"Not waiting was one of the biggest mistakes of my life," he says with a sigh. "[Having sex] added a lot of stress, responsibility and guilt to my life. I'm waiting until marriage now."

Not only is this a true story, but it's also a very common one.

Society may want individuals to believe that sex is no big deal, but many are becoming disillusioned with an overly-sexualized American culture, and increasingly aware of the hazards of living a sexually-active lifestyle.

There is an alternative to this lifestyle, but with the "just do it" mentality portrayed in television shows, movies, songs and other media, abstinence is often scorned.

Rebecca Roth, an MTSU health education instructor, promotes abstinence-based sex education and defines abstinence as "not participating in any activity that puts you at risk for pregnancy or a sexually transmitted infection."

Factually speaking, abstinence is the only method of birth control and protection from sexually transmitted diseases that is 100 percent effective.

According to the American Social Health Association, there are currently more than 20 widespread STDs, infecting an average of more than 15 million individuals each year, two-thirds of whom are 25 years or younger.

They also report that nearly half of all pregnancies in the United States are unintended, and as a result, abortion rates remain steady.

Roth shares her perspective on the importance of increasing awareness about the negative effects of sex outside marriage.

"You have to look at the choice and the consequences," she says. "The choice is absolutely yours, [but] you can't control the consequences."

As the anonymous senior reveals, those consequences aren't always physical. Having sex outside marriage comes with its emotional and mental scars as well. Wounds from those scars often ache for years afterwards.

Roth says abstinence provides emotional freedom, which makes for healthier, more stable relationships, and will create more trust-

ing marital relationships down the road.

She also says that the key to enjoying healthy, non-sexual relationships is self-esteem.

"You have to value your body," she says. "Students often have sex not because they're madly in love, but because they want to feel loved, wanted and needed. Or they're afraid to lose their partner if they don't give in."

Lack of self-esteem can also cloud one's understanding of the difference between love and sex.

"Students get confused about what intimacy is," Roth says. "Intimacy doesn't have to mean sexual intercourse."

Therein lies one of the biggest misconceptions regarding the subject of love and sex. This misconception is the equating of sex with love and seeing the two as interchangeable, when they are often very different.

Freshman aerospace major Andrew Corum made his decision to wait on sex until marriage, based out of love and respect for his future wife – as well as respect for any girlfriends he may have in the meantime.

"It's not just about respecting yourself," he says. "It's about respecting the person you love."

Freshman Catherine Whitson agrees, making a point to state the often-underplayed significance of sex.

"To me, it's not mine to give away," she says. "It's a gift for my husband only. It's something you can only give away once. I want to give it away in pure love, not because of want or anything else."

These "extreme" abstinent students aren't as unusual or as radical as some believe. Roth says that from her personal teaching experience, when one person voices his or her decision to abstain, other students quickly begin to feel comfortable stating their commitment as well.

"Everybody just assumes everybody is sexually active," she says. "There's a lot of peer pressure."

But not everyone is doing it.

True Love Waits, an international campaign that challenges teenagers and college students to remain sexually abstinent until marriage, was launched ten years ago and has since reached more than a million young people who have made the commitment to remain sexually pure until marriage.

Locally, the Pregnancy Support Center's abstinence program, called Asitia, has reached more than 16,000 teenagers, 60 percent of whom have made the commitment to stay abstinent until marriage.

These numbers represent a growing determination and widespread movement to preserve the sanctity of the marriage commitment. ♦



Sex, sighs and birth control

Weighing the options

By Laura Beth Jackson
Staff Writer

Forty pounds and a bad case of acne.

That's what women got with the first birth control pills in the 1960s. The massive doses of estrogen contained in the pills were capable of turning Cinderella into a stepsister in a matter of weeks.

Today more than 10 kinds of birth control exist, from patches to pills to shots to inserts.

With varying virtues of convenience and protection with each method, it's important for users to know something about them and what is the healthiest option.

"We preach abstinence first," Dr. Pat Spangler, a physician at MTSU's Health Services Department, says. "We try to educate students as much as we can."

Birth control pills are still widely used. They are simply a combination of the hormones estrogen and progesterin that trick the body into acting as though it is pregnant. The ovary does not release an egg, so there is no ovulation. After a woman uses the pill for several months, she will generally experience lighter periods as well. According to information available at campus health services, birth control pills are approximately 97 percent effective.

A common difficulty with the pill include ineffectiveness that results from users forgetting to take it. Long term effects can include infertility and lowered resistance to sexually transmitted diseases.



Tammy Burro, director of the abstinence program at the Pregnancy Support Center in Murfreesboro, says that the pill is just easy to forget about.

"At the Pregnancy Support Center we see individuals who use birth control and still get pregnant," she says. "A big reason is attributed to inconsistency of use."

Spangler says that if a woman does consistently use a pill for an extended period of time, it is healthy to take a break so that the woman can remain fertile if and when she wants to have children.

"If a woman has been using birth control for six, eight or 10 years, I suggest that every five years they come off of it,"

Spangler says. "Come off of it for two or three months and let themselves ovulate."

Condoms are a non-medicated form of birth control for both men and women. The female condom is a wearable pouch that acts as a physical barrier to sperm going to the uterus. Male condoms prevent the ejection of sperm into the vagina. Also according to health services, condoms are 88 percent effective.

New forms of birth control that are more convenient and have fewer side effects are also on the market.

Hormone patches, shots and a vaginal insert called the Nuva

See Options, 7



Photo by Jamie Lorange | Chief Photographer

Subway at Woodmore Cybercafe is one of the dining facilities on campus.

Where's my food? Where's my right?

By Maryam Kassaei and Wendy Caldwell
Staff Writers

Dining services on campus have a captive customer base and therefore virtually no competition. But do they cater to the needs of students?

The cost of food on campus is a major concern for students.

Kimberly Davis, a senior in the College of Education and Behavioral Science believes chain-brand food is higher priced on campus than off campus.

In fact, the Bistro sells a Chick Fil-A eight pack of chicken nuggets for \$2.69. The same can be purchased at the Chick Fil-A on Old Fort Parkway for \$2.49.

Regardless, Davis says paying a bit more is worth it.

"I think it's more convenient because it's hard

to drive off-campus and find a place to eat," Davis says.

However, Davis often brings her own food from home to avoid the high cost of eating on campus.

According to Paul Stuart, director of Aramark at MTSU, a university chooses its campus dining service by sending a "request for proposals," every five years, to interested vendors within National Food Services industry. They then choose the company with the best bid.

Aramark has won the bid at MTSU ten times in a row, resulting in a fifty-year span of providing dining services on campus.

One attempt of Aramark to help students avoid the high cost of on-campus food is by providing microwaves.

See Dining, 7

Dining: Some find food choices on campus limited

Continued from 6

MTSU's dining service claims there are microwaves available to students. However, there is only one dining hall microwave on the entire campus.

The Keathley University Center cafeteria is the only dining hall where a microwave is available to all students. There are two microwaves in James Union Building's dining hall, but both of them are owned by Subway. A third belongs to Burger King at CyberCafe.

"They [Subway] will warm your food if you ask them to," Stuart says.

The same is true of the microwave at Burger King. Most of the time, however, the Subway line is very long and workers are already busy trying to serve their own customers.

Jennifer Partin, a senior in the College of Education and Behavioral Science, says she uses the microwave at the KUC and usually has to stand in line.

However, a dining service worker at the KUC grill disagrees with Partin's observation.

"The lines are usually short," says Linda Cos, "I've never seen lines, maybe one or two people."

Nonetheless, why aren't there more microwaves on campus for students to use?

"Students have stolen six to eight microwaves," Stuart says. "For example, the microwave that was in place for this semester at the James Union Building cafeteria has now disappeared."

According to public safety's 2002 annual report, burglary has been the most prevalent crime on campus for three years in a row. However, these burglaries never resulted in limiting the students' resources.

Stuart claims that energy conservation is another reason for the limited numbers of microwaves on campus.

In 2003, students have the same utilities in dining halls as they had thirty-four years ago.

"In 1969, we had four dining halls for about 8,000 students. Now we have the same four places for 21,000 [students]," Stuart points out.

He claims that since microwaves need a lot of electric power and the power provided for dining halls is not enough for present needs, adding microwaves to dining halls will cause a circuit overload.



Photo by Micah Miller | Staff Photographer

Steve Lin works at the sushi bar at the KUC.

Still, there are televisions and computers in dining halls. These also use electricity.

Stuart counters that not just any kind of microwave is allowed in dining halls.

"The microwaves we buy for dining halls have to be programmable, commercial-use microwave and NFS [National Food Services] approved," Stuart says.

"None of the Wal-Mart microwaves, for example, meet NFS standards," Stuart says. "We are trying to buy more microwaves, but we can't buy [just] any kind available."

Joe Hugh, the director of purchasing at MTSU,

claims he has never noticed the lack of microwaves on campus. He promises to further consider the situation if more microwaves are needed.

Another solution offered to help students better afford food on campus is to provide meal memberships and selling different meal tickets.

Students can choose between six different meal plans priced in a range of \$592.65 to \$1,174.33 per semester.

According to the admissions office, all freshmen who live on campus must purchase a meal plan.

"MTSU has ranked in the bottom third of the nation for its meal plan cost," Stuart says.

He acknowledges there are some criticisms about the usefulness of the plan.

Stuart believes that the meal plan is really a bargain, but it doesn't fit the new style of students' lives that requires fast, small meals in the least distance from students' classes.

On the other hand, if one buys a meal ticket but can't eat a variety of foods due to religious restrictions, then no meal plan is acceptable or ideal.

"Jewish students who observe the Jewish dietary laws of Kashrut [to keep kosher] are unable to eat in the campus dining halls ... this is also of Muslim students who follow the dietary laws of Halal," SJ Port writes in the Sept. 24 issue of the *Massachusetts Daily Collegian*.

Some universities add an amount of money - usually around \$200 - to the basic meal plan fee to accommodate Kosher or Halal options.

"We have neither Kosher nor Halal options for our [Jewish or Muslim] students, but if they bring a letter from their Rabbi or Imam, they can be exempted from meal plan," says Gerald Ewen, operation manager with MTSU's dining services.

While they may be exempt from paying for dining services they can't use, these students still need to eat.

Meal plans don't work for all students, even if they are not respecting religious dietary rules, simply because of the differences that exist between what one likes and what is being offered, and also how much one pays and how much he or she can eat.

All concerns regarding food services on campus should be discussed with Aramark and the Student Government Association officers. ♦

Campus Calendar

Monday, Oct. 27
Recreation Center Brown Bag Event
Keathley University Center Theater, noon
For information, call 898-2104.

Honors Lecture Series
Peck Hall Room 109A, 3 p.m.
"Death Penalty"
Speaker: Bill Schulman
For information, call 898-2152.

Tuesday, Oct. 28
Greek Life Halloween Party for Children
Cummings Hall, 7 p.m.
For information, call 898-5996.

Promotion and Tenure Reception
James Union Building, Tennessee Room, 3 p.m.
For information, call 898-5941.

"Society For Success Lecture"
Business and Aerospace Building, State Farm Room, 6 p.m.
For information, call 898-2551.

"The Dating Game"
Tucker Theater, 8:30 p.m.
For information, call 893-1683.

GRE Workshop
Hosted by Psi Chi and the Psychology Club
Peck Hall, Room 105, 5 p.m.
For information, call 587-1154.

Thursday, Oct. 30
Recreation Center Brown Bag Event
Keathley University Center Theater, noon
For information, call 898-2104.

Saturday, Nov. 1
Tailgating Event
MTSU Ham Radio Club JUB parking lot, 7 a.m.
Meet and greet other amateur radio operators. Buy and sell equipment.
For information, e-mail alw3f@mtsu.edu.

Oct. 27-Nov. 1
KUC Presents
28 Days Later
Monday-Thursday 7 p.m. and 9:30 p. Friday and Saturday 6 p.m.

Dear Emily,

Dear Emily is *Sidelines'* new advice columnist and she's ready to answer your questions about relationships, college woes and moral dilemmas.

Dear Emily is published every other Monday.
So hurry and get your letters in.

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Middle Tennessee State University
Murfreesboro, TN 37132

Options: Birth control available

Continued from 6

Ring are becoming more frequently used. They prevent pregnancy up to 98 percent of the time, the time.

"The Nuva Ring allows for a low dosage of estrogen and progestin to enter the body," Spangler says. "That way there are fewer effects, especially hormonal effects, in women. A lot of women have changed to that."

The Nuva Ring and hormone patches are similar. Both the ring and the patch supply low doses of hormones to the body through the skin to inhibit ovulation. The ring or the patch can be used for a course of three weeks and discontinued on the fourth week to let a period occur.

Depo Provera injections are another option for women. The shots contain long acting progestin. A woman has to receive the shots from a physician only once every three months. For individuals who easily lose track of when to take pills, Depo Provera can save some strife. Spangler says that users of any type of birth control should be aware that no form of contraception is a guarantee against a STD or pregnancy.

"The male condom is the best method [to protect] against STDs," he says. "But sometimes they break and don't provide protection. Or you have sexual diseases on the skin that can be spread through any skin contact in the pubic area or the thighs. Nothing can prevent that."

"Some diseases carry no symptoms," he adds. "You could come in here and be tested for a STD

with no symptoms and it would be positive. Or for diseases like HIV you could be negative today and positive tomorrow. It's really hard to tell."

Spangler recommends that individuals get tested for STDs each time they change sexual partners, and even do periodic testing for HIV and AIDS, which can show up in an individual even weeks to months after intercourse with an infected person.

"If you have any questions, ask a physician," Spangler says. "Be educated, limit the number of sexual contacts you have."

But with the many physical health responsibilities involved in sexual relations, Burro notes that there is also the emotional side. There are many possible ways to escape pregnancy or sexual disease, but sex is also an emotional act that can bind or break the hearts of those involved, contraceptives or no.

"You can talk about pregnancy and STD's all day long," Burro says. "And people can get around these. But you can't get away from the emotional consequences."

For more information on birth control and sexual health concerns go by the Health Services Department or call them at 898-2988. The Department offers private consultation and a wide range of tests and birth control methods.

The Pregnancy Support Center is located at 745 S. Church St. in Murfreesboro and can be reached at 893-0228. They offer free pregnancy tests and counseling services. ♦

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Workshops



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calendar, located in the *Sidelines*
Features section each Monday.

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Campus Events form in the James Union Building, Room 310.



Five Steps to a College Paper

Wed., Oct 29

12:30 -1 pm. OR 1:30 -2 pm

Thurs, Oct 30

3:30 -4 pm OR 5:30 -6 pm



Learn how to prepare a paper step by step.
Focus on the topic, how to conduct research,
how to organize results, and how to organize
a draft and perfect a final paper.

Call 898-5989 to reserve a place
at a session of your choice.

SPORTS

MT netters split two road games over weekend

By David Hunter
Asst. Sports Editor

The Lady Raider volleyball team went 1-1 on the road this weekend.

On Friday night, MT swept the University of South Alabama 3-0 (24-30, 28-30, 22-30). Then, the Lady Raiders were defeated by the University of New Orleans 3-1 (26-30, 30-20, 30-16, 20-30) the following night.

On Friday night, the Lady Raiders fell behind in each match. However, led by Karisse Baker's 16 kills, MT came back from behind for the victory. It was their second SBC win of the season.

KeKe Deckard had a double double with 10 kills and 15 digs the most in the match. Libero Kimberly Moeller added 10 digs for the Lady Raiders.

Morgan Flarity had 11 kills for the

Jaguars, and Lacey Stejskal had three block assists.

Summer Pilgrim had nine kills and two block assists. Marie-Anne Grondin also had six digs for USA.

The win improved the Lady Raiders to 9-15, 2-6, while USA fell to 4-17, 1-8.

On Saturday night, MT continued their road trip to New Orleans. This time, MT was on the losing end to the University of New Orleans.

In the first game, the Lady Raiders jumped out to an 8-2 lead. The Privateers fought back to cut the lead to 13-11. Deckard sealed the 30-26 win with five kills.

In the second game, UNO took an early 7-0 lead and never looked back for the 30-20 victory.

The third game had both teams tied 7-7 early. However, UNO's Jennifer Cruz had seven kills during an 11-1 run to make the score 18-8.

Cruz had a total of 10 kills in the 30-16 victory. Cruz had a .447 attack percentage during that game.

The fourth game had both teams tied 10 times and changing the lead six times.

The Lady Raiders had a narrow 19-18 lead, but UNO went on a 6-1 run to make the score 24-20.

MT tried to keep it close but Amanda Meyers ended the game, 30-28, and match with a kill.

UNO was lead by Meyers and Jessica Helgeson each having 11 kills.



Deckard

Christian Zimmer almost had a double-double with nine kills and 23 digs.

Deckard had 17 kills, and Karisse Baker added 16 in the loss.

The loss dropped MT to 9-16, 2-7, while UNO improved to 9-16, 3-6.

The next match for the Lady Raiders is at home inside Alumni Memorial Gym on Tuesday night against Tennessee Tech. Game time is 6 p.m. ♦

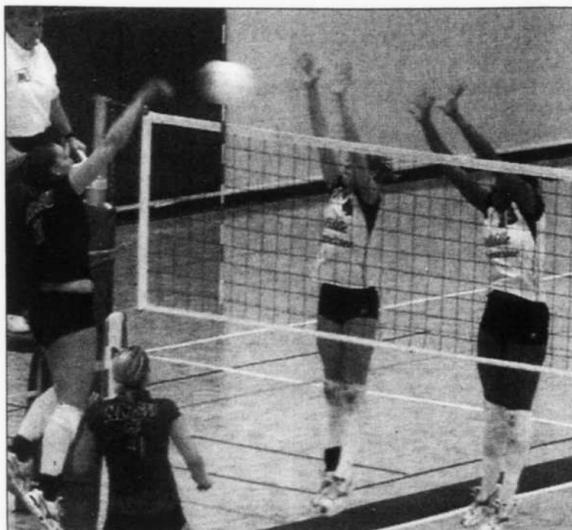


Photo by Micah Miller | Staff Photographer

MT setter Megan Sumrell and middle blocker Karisse Baker attempt to block an NMSU shot on October 19.

Marlins take title beating the Yanks

By Tim Reynolds
Associated Press Writer

MIAMI (AP) — Strangers hugged, horns honked and one-time disbelievers sang "We are the champions" Saturday night after the Florida Marlins beat the New York Yankees 2-0 to win baseball's World Series championship.

The celebrating began after Marlins ace Josh Beckett tagged the Yankees' Jorge Posada for the final out and capped off one of the most stirring comeback seasons in baseball history.

"Elation! It was just so awesome," said Danny Cohen, 35, a real estate broker from Miami Beach. "To beat the Yankees in Yankee Stadium is the best way you can win the World Series."

Tens of thousands spilled into the streets near the Marlins' souvenir store in a Little Havana neighborhood, banging pots and pans.

Police later estimated at least 50,000 people lined a mile-long stretch of a busy road leading to the area. Officials closed traffic in the area to let the fans rejoice.

"This is New Year's Eve and St. Patrick's Day and spring break all rolled into one huge party," said Julia Rodriguez, 22, clad in a Marlins tank top at a Miami Beach bar and drinking Blue Curacao, which has a shade remarkably close to Marlins teal. "I've known all along they would win this."

The Marlins were in last place in the National League East on

June 17 and didn't go over the .500 mark to stay until July 4. A trip to the playoffs seemed beyond improbable, especially considering the franchise hadn't even managed a single winning record since its first championship season in 1997.

The Marlins are scheduled to fly home Sunday afternoon and will be honored with parades and celebrations on Tuesday in both Miami and Fort Lauderdale.

Officials predict more than 100,000 fans could turn out to honor the new champs on Tuesday.

"There's a lot of teams that have been trying to win the World Series for the last 40, 60, 80, 90 years," said Carlos Arantzas, of Miami Beach. "But this year, we're the ones who got it done." ♦

UNT defeats Blue Raiders 33-28



Photo by Jamie Lorange | Chief Photographer

UNT running back Patrick Cobbs breaks a tackle in the Blue Raider secondary Saturday night at Floyd Stadium.

By David Hunter
Asst. Sports Editor

For the third consecutive year, the University of North Texas spoiled Middle Tennessee's conference title hopes with a 33-28 victory Saturday night at Floyd Stadium.

"This is a tough loss, it's tough because we had some guys fight their tails off to give us a chance," Head Coach Andy McCollum said.

The Blue Raiders fell behind early 14-0. NT got on the scoreboard first with a three-yard touchdown run by running back Patrick Cobbs with 1:52 left in the 1st quarter. Cobbs had 32 carries for 133 yards and a touchdown.

After going three and out on their next possession, the Blue Raiders lined up to punt with time running out. However, the punt was fumbled and UNT's James Mitchell recovered it in the endzone to extend their lead to 14-0.

MT got on the score board when quarterback Andrico Hines hit Jarrin Holt for a nine-yard touchdown with 8:36 remaining in the 2nd quarter. Holt had four catches for 26 yards.

"It was a great check by Andrico Hines, and I just basically had to make a play. It didn't work 100 percent like I wanted to, but I just got it and made a play," Holt said.

Unlike the first half, the Blue Raiders began the second half with Hines keeping it from one yard out with 9:21 left in the third quarter to cut the Mean Green lead to six, 20-14.

By the end of the quarter, UNT quarterback Scott Hall used the deep ball to knock out the Blue Raiders.

Hall's first touchdown came

when Joel Nwigwe out jumped MT's Tony Sutton for a 63-yard touchdown pass with no time left in the third quarter. The MT defense stopped Cobbs two-point attempt to keep the score 26-14. Hall was 10 of 13 for 230 yards and two touchdown passes.

The Blue Raiders answered back when Kelvin German got his first career touchdown from a yard out with 10:32 remaining in the final quarter.

However, Hall found Nwigwe deep again this time from 46 yards to make the score 33-21 with 8:16 to go in the game. Nwigwe had three catches for 158 yards and two scores.

On MT's next drive, Hines threw his second interception of the year to Markeith Knowlton. UNT was unable to score any points.

MT cut the lead to five after Hines scored again from one yard out with 1:31 left in the game. Hines was 23 of 33 for 252 yards with one touchdown pass and an interception. Hines ran for 29 yards and two touch-

Conference	Sun Belt Standings		Overall	
	W	L	W	L
North Texas	4	0	5	3
Middle Tenn. St.	2	1	2	6
Utah State	2	1	2	6
La Lafayette	2	2	2	7
Arkansas State	1	1	3	5
New Mexico State	1	3	2	6
Louisiana Monroe	1	3	1	7
Idaho	1	3	1	8

downs. The Blue Raiders tried an on-side kick, but it went out of bounds. The Mean Green ran out the clock to seal the victory.

Kerry Wright had a career high in catches hauling 10 for 144 yards.

The loss is the first in conference this season for the Blue Raiders, and their record is now

2-6, 2-1. While the Mean Green improve to 5-3, 4-0, and has the inside track to clinch a third straight SBC title. The win was UNT's 15th in a row in the SBC, second longest conference winning streak in the nation.

Next Saturday, the Blue Raiders will travel to Utah State University for a 4 p.m. kickoff. ♦



Photo by James Harris | Staff Photographer

MT running back Eugene Gross is tackled by a horde of Mean Green defenders.

NBA ready to begin season play

By Jonathan Long
Staff Columnist

On Tuesday, the NBA starts regular season play, which means every team in the league has their eyes on the title. Unless you've been hanging out with Osama Bin Laden, then you know the league has changed a lot since Tim Duncan and the Spurs hoisted the trophy last year.

The Lakers acquired future hall of fame members Gary Payton and Karl Malone for the price of a pack of Ramen noodles and a Coke. Not even a Coke but a Sam's Choice cola. Star shooting guard Kobe Bryant rejoined the team this past week in the midst of dealing with his ongoing rape charge.

Though it will probably take about three games for Kobe to be Kobe, the Lakers are the favorite to win the championship well, if not the favorite, at least my pick.

The Lakers were not the only team to retool their personnel this offseason. The Dallas Mavericks one of the highest scoring teams last year added scorers Antawn Jamison and Antonio Walker along with Danny Fortson, though they lost Raef LaFrentz and Nick Van Exel.

Dallas did all they could do to combat the Lakers (offseason moves), but didn't get a key inside player to combat the size in the west. Fortson has been one of the league's best rebounders, but is only 6-foot-8 and 260 pounds. Walker who is likely to start at power forward, might add some inside help on defense, but often thinks he is playing three-point shootout against himself on offense.

Speaking of offense, the Minnesota Timberwolves finally realized that Wally Szczerbiak wasn't enough to compliment Kevin Garnett and signed several key players. KG the "street MVP," now has Latrell Sprewell, Sam Cassell and Michael Olowokandi to help carry the load. Add Troy Hudson, who stepped out of center stage last year against the Lakers, and the Wolves are not only set to win their first playoff series this year, but poised to make a run for the title.

In the east, the defending conference champs and only team that has a chance to win a title, the New Jersey Nets, won the Alonzo Mourning contest. Mourning has recovered from a kidney disorder that sidelined him for the past couple of seasons. He made the right choice going to New Jersey, he won't be asked to produce much because of the young nucleus of talent, and he will almost automatically get the All-Star fan vote because of the lack of centers in the East; smart thinking, Alonzo.

See NBA, 10

MT offensive line must protect quarterback

Commentary by Jerry Wilkinson
Sports Editor

The Blue Raiders hosted the Mean Green Saturday night at Floyd Stadium. MT lost to the Mean Green 33-28.

It seemed that every first half effort by the MT offense was total confusion. Even if there were open receivers downfield quarterback Andrico Hines was too busy trying to not get tackled for a loss.

Hines was sacked three times in the first half alone. The tackles are going to have to step up and protect the quarterback. Hines was constantly on the run with pressure from the defensive line, especially off the tackles.

The pocket closed in way too early for Hines, leaving him scrambling and most of the time tackled just off the line. MT only had three first downs in the first quarter compared to seven UNT first downs.

"We know that they have been having a good year all season," said coach Andy McCollum said. "We couldn't get anything going, a couple of good drives and then we would have to give the ball up again."

If the offensive line doesn't give the quarterback time to get set in the pocket, the possibilities

of making good pass plays diminish greatly. However, MT wide receiver Kerry Wright had his fourth 100-yard game against North Texas. Wright finished the night with a career high 10 catches for 144 yards.

The Blue Raiders went into the locker room at the half with the Mean Green leading 20-7.

The first series of the second half gave Raider fans a better look at the MT offense. The Blue Raiders finished the series with 12 plays and 78 yards, which was capped off by a MT touchdown to bring the Blue Raiders to within six points.

The Blue Raiders put up a good fight in the second half only to fall short and lose the ball game, which could have decided the Sun Belt Championship.

There is the possibility that North Texas could lose some of their remaining conference games, but with matchups against the University of Louisiana-Monroe, Arkansas State and New Mexico State, the Blue Raiders can only hope that the Mean Green will come up short in the upcoming weeks.

The Blue Raiders could win the rest of their conference games and come out with the conference championship, but UNT would have to lose two of their conference games for that to happen. ♦



Photo by Jamie Lorange | Chief Photographer

MT quarterback Andrico Hines scrambles from a UNT defender in Saturday's game.

CLASSIFIEDS

Sales

For sale Mountain Bike: Rocky Mountain Vapor. In good condition. \$350 obo. Call 867-7341. If not there, leave a message.

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1991 Buick Skylark and 1985 Buick Centry. Both need minor electric work, but have good engines. \$700 for both obo. Call 615-400-4031.

1989 Buick Reatta-Red, 2 dr., 2 seater, V6 engine, leather seats, touch-screen console, runs beautifully. \$2,500. Call Michael @662-9319 or email May2c@mtsu.edu.

1993 Nissan Maxima, 117 k miles, leather, 5 speed, sunroof. Runs great; needs cosmetic work. \$3,500 obo. 615-217-2661.

1993 Honda Civic runs great, 4 dr., AC, manual transmission. Clean car. \$2,100. Call 895-0075.

Casio CTK 1000 keyboard with cushioned bench, stand, cover, and AC cord. Paid \$450 new, asking \$200. Call 890-8276 or hcpcatty@yahoo.com.

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KAWASAKI NINJA 2000, 250 cc, green, 8 k miles, new parts, \$1750 obo. Ask for Tyler

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Career

Are you interested in earning your PhD? Would you like to have your own personal research mentor? Would you like to receive funding while conducting research? Are you interested in preparation for graduate studies? If you answered yes to the above questions, please contact the MTSU McNair Scholars Program. The McNair Program is located in Middlet 103. Our staff would like to tell you more about our distinguished program. Information may also be found at <http://www.mtsu.edu/~mcnair/>

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Business opportunity: Independent Representatives needed to market local phone service, a \$400 billion dollar industry, set your own hours, decide how much you want to make, be your own boss. Call Justin @ 904-2498.

Meet Mark!! Call Lisa @ 898-4623 to see Mark's "remarkable" beauty, skin care and accessories catalog or to host a **\$\$\$** party of your own. Make **\$\$\$** and have fun at the same time, great for sororities and other groups.

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Help Wanted

This year, MTSU will be hosting its first ever International Conference on Cultural Diversity. The conference will be held October 29-31, 2003 at the Sheraton Nashville Downtown Nashville. If interested please email me at erb2c@mtsu.edu or call 615-867-7407.

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Business Opportunity: Independent Representatives needed to market local phone service, a \$400 billion dollar industry, set your own hours, decide how much you want to make, be your own boss. Call Justine @904-2498.

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ARTISTS / ART STUDENTS
A graphic design student is planning to publish a 2005 art calendar featuring artwork of MTSU students and middle Tennessee artists. If you would like for your artwork to be included in the calendar, call John at (615)832-4702 or email at jdcunningham@bellsouth.net.

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3 Roommates needed to take lease over at Sterling Gables. \$335/ month. Pool view! Call 497-0968.

\$330/ month all utilities included. 1 BR in a 4 BR 2 BA @ Sterling University. \$0 deposit! Tanning, workout gym & shuttle bus provided! Move in December! Great roommates! Call 731-697-9978.

Roommate needed by end of October for large brick 2 BR house. Central heat/air, close to MTSU, ONLY ONE NEIGHBORHOOD-musicians welcome. \$325/mo. \$325 deposit+ 1/2 utilities. Call Jacob 849-3219.

3 Roommates needed to take lease over at Sterling Gables. \$335/month. Pool view! Call 497-0968.

Room for rent in Murfreesboro. \$330/month + 1/3 utilities. Avail. 11/1/03. Call 653-3982.

1 Female Roommate needed for a 4-bedroom house. Currently there are 3 girls. Close to campus. \$275/month + 1/4 utilities. \$300 security deposit. Call Amy (423) 504-4090, alw2w@mtsu.edu.

Female roommate needed for house in Cason Lane area. \$250/mo and share of utilities. Call Courtney 867-9250.

Roommate needed to share 2 bedroom apt. on Ewing Blvd., within walking distance to campus. Rent is \$350 + utilities. W/D, dishwasher, personal bathroom included in apt. Roommate needed soon so call today. Call Rick at (615) 896-7321.

Roommate wanted. \$247.50 per month, water paid, other utilities shared. 15 min. walk from campus. Call Brian at 895-7792.

Pets

Free kittens to good home. One male, one female. Six months old. Beautiful and super sweet. De-wormed, female spayed. Call 867-9409.

FREE CATS! 2 indoor cats free to good home. Take one or both! One is a beautiful multicolor fat cat. Other is frisky white cat with orange and black spots. Please call by end of Sept. 587-1154.

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1 BR apt. for rent, \$450 per month, \$450 deposit. Call Jim 202-3050.

3 BD IBA for rent; washer/dryer hookup. \$700 per month, \$700 deposit. 745 E. Vine Street. Call Jim 202-3050.

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3 BR, 2 BA house, washer/dryer hookups, dishwasher, excellent condition, walk or bike to MTSU, \$800 per month. Also, 1 acre house lot and barn available or rent separate. \$150. 895-0075.

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Wanted A.S.A.P! A roommate to share a 4 BR 2 BA furnished apt. @ Sterling University Gables. \$330 a month. If you sign up by Oct. 33, \$50, by Oct. 15th, \$25. Male or female. Call 931-398-0881.

Needed: Room or apt. for rent close to campus. \$300-\$350 by October 20th. Email courtney@cam3a@mtsu.edu.

General Chemistry tutor

needed Sunday nights. \$10/hr. Usually 1-2 hrs. Call 703-530-sometimes more. Call 703-753-0248 or email arc3a@mtsu.edu.

Lost and Found

Found a key chain door lock/ unlock button in the grass on the corner of the Agribusiness building. If you can prove it's yours, please call 615-896-5409.

Watch found on grass beside library. If you can describe it, it's yours. Call 848-3555.

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Wanted: Modern Rock band is seeking 2nd guitar player and vocalist to complete our group. Our influences: Nickleback, Creed, Trapt, Fuel, etc. Looking for talented musicians interested in playing originals. Must have great talent, pro gear, and a positive attitude. No drugs, slackers, or non-dedicated people! Contact Paul (615) 494-8663, musicman4life68@yahoo.com

ATTENTION BANDS! Want to play Betastock 2003? Beta Theta Pi is hosting this rock concert charity event to benefit the MTSU Day Care. We are looking for 4-5 bands to play this event on October 30, 2003. For more information, contact Paul at: 494-8663, musicman4life68@yahoo.com

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Blue Raider waits patiently on playing time

By Colby Sledge
Staff Writer

Last year, Sarah Linder played in all 21 matches, started every game but one and scored nine points.

This year, Linder comes off the bench, has started only one game, and has yet to score.

Most players would get frustrated. Many players would complain. Some might even quit altogether.

Not Sarah Linder. "It's different. It's easier to play in the game when you start in it rather than just jumping into it, but it's all right," she said when talking about her role on the team this year. "As long as I play, it doesn't matter when I come in."

Linder's quiet selflessness is even more impressive considering her past accomplishments.

Linder came to Murfreesboro from Niceville, Fla., a small beach town located directly across from Destin on the Choctawhatchee Bay. Niceville is perhaps best known to Floridians for its annual Boggy Bayou Mullet Festival, which includes a beauty pageant full of young ladies anxious to be named the next "Miss Mullet."

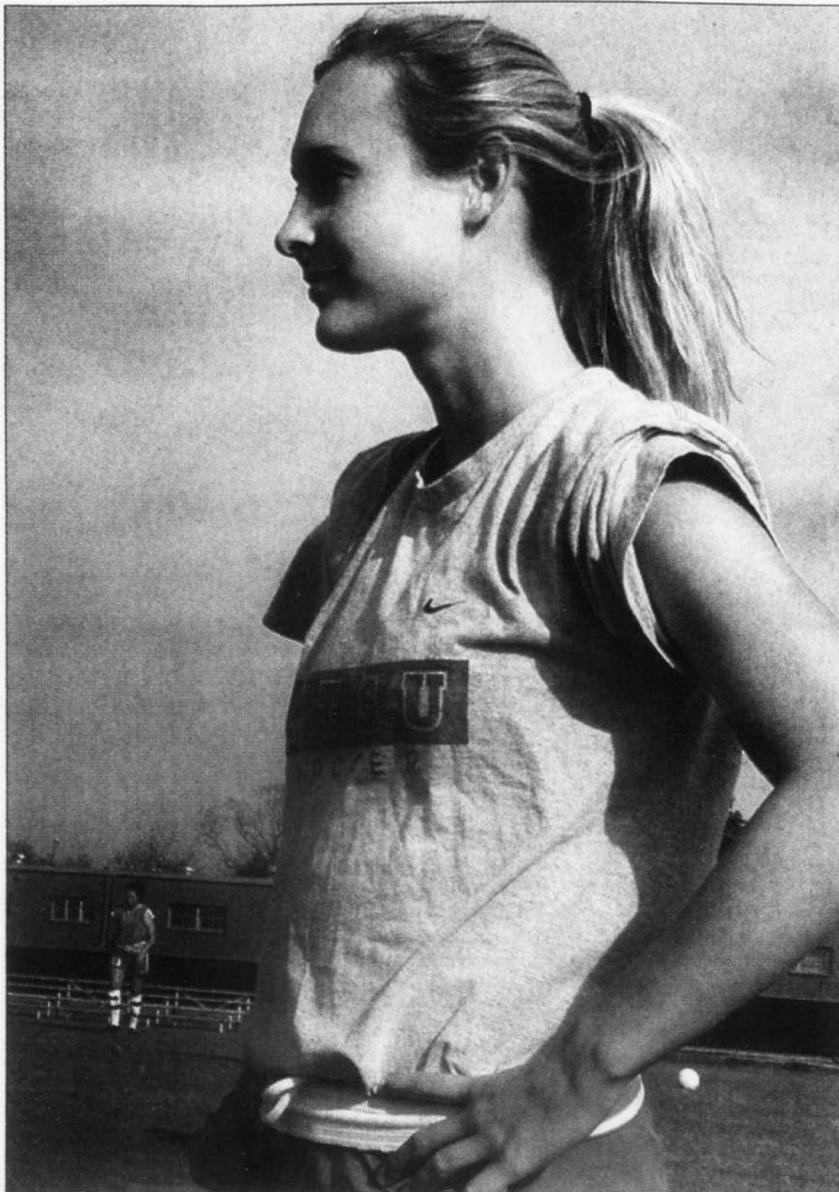
By the way, the mullet is a fish, not a hairstyle.

Linder played varsity soccer all four years at Niceville High School, leading the Eagles to a 32-2 record as an upperclassman. Her squad won two district championships, made three regional playoff appearances and advanced to the regional semifinals in her senior year. Linder also received several awards in her senior season, including the Fellowship of Christian Athletes' "Beyond the Goal" award, while being voted All-Area and team MVP.

Understandably, she was more attached to her high school team than her club teams.

"Everyone else, when they talk about their high school, they say that it was basically a joke, but I was on a good high school team. We had a good region and it was a really big deal to win district," she said. "We had a talented team and most of the players are still playing college soccer."

Linder came to MT in 2001, starting 12 of her 17



MT midfielder Sarah Linder looks on at her teammates during practice.

Photo by Micah Miller | Staff Photographer

matches. Her first collegiate goal came in a 9-0 rout of Lipscomb University, but it would prove to be her only score of the season.

She got off to a quick start last year, however, scoring the team's first goal of the season in a 4-1 victory over Lipscomb, exactly one year after her first goal against the Bisons.

Eight matches later, she had the best game of her collegiate career, scoring two goals and an assist in a 9-1

Blue Raider rout of Stetson University. Although she didn't score again for the rest of the season, she still finished fourth on the team in points.

This year, despite her decreased playing time, Linder has still played in 13 of the team's 16 games going into Sunday's match against Samford University. In her career at MT, she has played in 51 of 56 matches, missing two contests because of injury.

Perhaps the greatest challenge for Linder this season is the difficulty of jumping into the middle of the match.

"You have to adjust to the intensity of the game, because everyone else is into it and used to it, and you're cold coming off the bench," she said.

Middle Tennessee head coach Aston Rhoden agreed, while adding that the increase in team speed this year has had an effect on several players.

"Sarah doesn't have to work on her speed she's one of the two or three fastest players on the team," he said. "The main difference between now and then is that the team's speed of thought is faster, the speed of action with the ball under control is faster, and several returning players have had to make those adjustments."

Rhoden has seen improvements in Linder's game from last year and hopes she will continue to grow into her midfield position.

"She's more aware of the responsibilities of her position," Rhoden said. "As an outside midfielder, you have a lot of offensive and defensive responsibility. Now it's just a matter of making sure she does the fundamental things well."

Linder has also taken a more simplified approach to this season.

"I guess a goal for myself would be just to play as best I can when I'm in. I would like to contribute to the scoring sometime this year, but I don't know if that's going to happen," she said, shyly laughing. "I just want to play as hard as I can when I'm in, because if I do that then that will help the team win."

Because helping the team win is Sarah Linder's number one goal—regardless of how she does it. ♦

NBA: Preseason Preview

Continued from 8

You can't talk about the NBA without saying the name LeBron James. King James is deemed to be the best thing to hit the NBA since baggy shorts (note: with John Stockton's retirement, "short-shorts" have now been eradicated from the league). James hasn't played in a regular season game for the Cleveland Cavaliers and already has a \$90 million Nike shoe contract, an endorsement deal with Sprite, and more Sportscenter highlights than there are members of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Inc. on our campus.

While LeBron is getting the hype, Carmello Anthony is outplaying him in the preseason. Fresh off of a NCAA title with the Syracuse Orangemen, Mello is out to prove should have been the first taken in the draft. Denver who drafted him with the third overall pick, hopes that their new jerseys plus their new phenom player and equal a new phenomenon-winning. ♦

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UP 'TIL DAWN

**ON THE LAWN
KNOLL**

**OCTOBER 29TH
10:00AM 'TIL 2:00PM**

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