



MT soccer shines on Senior Day

In Sports, page 10



Superb acting, action sets 'Castle' apart

In Flash, page 7

How much alcohol do you consume in the average month?

INSIDE: Wording of SGA referendum is confusing

In Opinions, page 5

Middle Tennessee State University

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SIDELINES

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Campus Briefs

Free thinkers meet tonight

The first meeting of the Campus Freethought Alliance will be held tonight at 6:30 in the Business and Aerospace Building, Room S113.

According to CFA's Web site, the group is "dedicated to the promotion and enhancement of freethought, skepticism, secularism, non-theism and humanism, and to the international consolidation of campus resources for that end."

The meeting is free and open to the public. For more information, visit CFA's Web site at www.campus-freethought.org.

Nursing Career Day Nov. 5

The Placement and Student Employment Center will be conducting its annual Nurses/Health Career Day Nov. 5.

It will be in the Tennessee Room of the James Union Building from 10:30 a.m. until 1 p.m.

Representatives from approximately 40 health organizations and schools will be present to discuss health occupations with students.

Among the representatives are the Emory University School of Nursing, Summit Medical Center, NHC Health Care, the U.S. Army Medical Department, and Metro Nashville General Hospital.

For more information, call 898-2500.

Aerospace to host UAA

The MTSU aerospace department will host the University Aviation Association Fall Education Conference today through Saturday at the Sheraton Music City Hotel in Nashville.

The theme for the conference is Technology for the Future. Various aspects of the conference will discuss infrastructure, cockpits and safety concerns following the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks.

Keynote speakers will be aviation experts Greg Feith and John W. Olcott, and country music singer Suzy Bogguss will sing the national anthem and "God Bless America" tomorrow.

The University Aviation Association is a professional organization that represents all non-engineering/technology levels in collegiate aviation education.

For more information about the conference, call 898-2788.

Lecture to focus on war

David Dye, chair of the University of Memphis' anthropology department, will deliver a multimedia lecture titled "Warfare and Iconography in the Late Prehistoric Southeastern United States" from 1:30 to 3 p.m. today in Dining Room C of the James Union Building.

Dye's lecture is sponsored jointly by the MTSU anthropology department and the MT Anthropology Society and is part of the "Anthropologica: Anthropology in Action Lecture Series."

The lecture is free and open to the public. ♦

Early detection essential

Experts, survivors urge testing for breast cancer

By Victoria Cumbow
Staff Writer

Though Breast Cancer Awareness Month is nearing a close, women are encouraged to be aware of the deadly disease year-round.

"With breast cancer, early detection is the best way," said Registered Nurse Yvonne Montgomery, who works with Health Services and the June

Anderson Women's Center. "Routinely, a mammogram costs around \$75, but most insurances cover that."

The American Cancer Society recommends that women over 40 have annual mammograms.

Barbara Haskew, provost and vice president for Academic Affairs, recently won her own battle with breast cancer.

"Early detection is the only

way," Haskew said. "I found mine. The early tests that were done didn't even show it."

Haskew suffered from a rare kind of cancer - lobular. It is difficult to detect on mammograms and only felt by touch.

"There are so many causes of breast cancer," Haskew said. "High fat diets, drinking and smoking all attribute to it. There are no signs for breast cancer. That is why it is so important to detect it early."

One in every eight women will develop a form of breast cancer during her lifetime. The

See Awareness, 2

How can women get low-cost or free mammograms?

Throughout October, many mammography facilities offer special programs, including extended hours. Many facilities are also willing to offer services at a lower fee. For the names of FDA-accredited local mammography facilities, call the National Cancer Institute's Cancer Information Service at (800) 4-CANCER. The Center for Disease Control's Breast and Cervical Cancer Early Detection Program also provides screenings for medically underserved women. For program contacts, call the CDC at (888) 842-6355 or visit CDC's Web site at <http://www.cdc.gov/cancer>. The YWCA's ENCOREplus program provides low-cost or free services throughout the United States. For information, call (800) 95EPLUS. ♦

Peering into the paranormal



Photo by Matthew H. Starling | Photo Editor

Peter Jordon, paranormal investigator, presented "UFOs: A multimedia expose of alien abductions, crop circles and cattle mutilations" Monday night in Tucker Theatre. JORDON, a member of his experiences with investigations into the unusual reality of UFOlogy. A member of the American Society of Psychical Research in New York, he is a field investigator for the Psychical Research Foundation at Duke University and a Research Consultant in Psychology for the Mutual UFO network. His presentation was sponsored by MTSU Ideas and Issues.

Campus encouraged to make a difference

By LaQuanda Partee
Staff Writer

Members of the MTSU Student Government Association and other local volunteers will participate in the 2001 national Make a Difference Day volunteer project Saturday.

This is the first time MTSU's SGA will participate in the event, thanks to the recent passage of a referendum that

approved it as an annual SGA-sponsored event on campus.

Now in its 11th year as a national event, Make a Difference Day - which is a day of helping others - is sponsored nationally by USA Weekend Magazine in partnership with The Points of Light Foundation and is traditionally celebrated on the fourth Saturday of October.

This year the university's SGA will sponsor the first of

what will be an annual "Make a Difference at MTSU Week," which began Monday and will conclude Friday.

The SGA week of community service will include a campus clean-up, a faculty and staff appreciation reception, a coat and clothes drive and other events to benefit MTSU and the Murfreesboro community.

"This is the first year MTSU

See SGA, 2

Task force to study drinking habits

By Lisa Poepsel
Contributor

Members of a new task force hope to promote the safe use of alcohol throughout the MTSU community.

Robert Glenn, vice president for Student Affairs, said he hopes to have the Alcohol Task Force in place by late November. Dennis Kramer, professor of psychology, will serve as chair of the committee, along with help from Debra Sells, dean of Academic Support and director of Housing and Residential Life.

Faculty, students and administrators will work together through a process of research, program design and execution, Glenn said. The plan is to identify drinking patterns on the campus of MTSU.

"We will be social norming," said Glenn, who hopes to change student perceptions that everyone in college is a binge drinker.

"The situation on our campus is no worse or better than other our size," he said.

A recent increase in attention to alcohol-related incidents on college campuses has caused the media and college administrators to take notice.

In a report titled "Excessive Drinking on American College Campuses," Sen. Joseph Biden calling for a review of all policies, programs and alcohol-related marketing. Biden encourages administrators to examine campus life and the university community.

Biden said he feels specific groups or events should not be targeted, but education and awareness should grow campuswide.

Federal mandates regarding alcohol regulations are the near future for all universities.

"We wanted to look at things and get ahead instead of having to make extreme adjustments," Glenn said.

Sells, co-chair of the task force, also will act as a liaison between on-campus residents and task-force programs.

"Alcohol use is an issue of the whole community," she said. "We need to look at the whole picture on and off campus. The Alcohol Task Force will promote safe alcohol use with the help of parents, faculty, students and administrators."

Sells said resident assistants will be ready to play a key role in alcohol education and awareness to students with guidance from the task force.

"RAs are trained in confronting and addressing a variety of issues, and [they] know how to take care of matters in a respectful and reasonable way," she said. Both Glenn and Sells said they hope to make progress with the new task force in a timely manner.

See Alcohol, 2

Police investigate suspicious package

By Lindsey Turner
News Editor

Just days after MTSU officials issued a mail security notice, a suspicious package was reported to Public Safety.

According to Lt. James Fanguy, a student received an unexpected package yesterday from a business in New Jersey - the epicenter of recent anthrax-contaminated mail.

Having never heard of the company, the student searched the Internet for its Web site but could not locate one. He then contacted his family to see if they had sent a package, but they hadn't. He alerted campus police, who confiscated the unopened package, double bagged it and took it for investigation.

"We took necessary precautions, handled it with gloves and we're actual to dispose of it," Fanguy said.

The actual police report had not been filed as of press time, but Fanguy was hesitant to dismiss the incident as minor.

"I wouldn't necessarily call it a hoax," he said, pointing out that it was a concerned citizen in need of police assistance.

MTSU's Division of Finance and Administration issued a notice last week encouraging all members of the university community to be wary when opening mail.

See Security, 2

Cheers To The Last 90 Years Homecoming 2001

Sunday, October 28

Kickball Kickoff at Recreation Center
2:00 pm,
Intramural Fields

Monday, October 29

Carnival on the Knoll

Wednesday, October 31

Woodstock: □A Celebration of Music□
7:00 pm, Wright Music Hall

Thursday, November 1

Unity Party
7:00 pm, James Union Building, Tennessee Room

Friday, November 2

All events at Murphy Center

Swap Day
5:00 pm

Homecoming Cookoff
5:30 pm

Raider Rally
6:00 pm, followed immediately by Fight Song

Saturday, November 3

Parade
9:00 am

Homecoming Tailgating
11:00 am - 1:45 pm

MTSU vs. Arkansas State
2:00 pm

Two D.C. postal workers latest anthrax victims

By David Espo
AP Special Correspondent

WASHINGTON (AP) — Two postal workers at a site that handles mail for the Capitol died Monday, apparently from anthrax, officials said, and two more remained hospitalized with the life-threatening disease as the nation's bioterrorist casualty count mounted.

Health officials expressed concern about as many as nine other area people who have exhibited symptoms consistent with the disease. The officials issued an urgent appeal for hundreds more postal workers at the facility to undergo testing.

"Anyone who was working in that back postal area during the last 11 days, you must today immediately come here ... to receive prophylactic medication and to be evaluated," said Dr. Ivan Walks, a Washington, D.C., health official. About 2,000 employees work at the Brentwood facility, and many had already submitted to tests or lined up to comply.

Shortly after he spoke, Surgeon General David Satcher said it was "highly probable" that the two postal workers who died over the weekend had succumbed to anthrax.

The disclosures came as Congress struggled to return to normal after the discovery of an anthrax-laced letter last week in the office of Senate Majority Leader Tom Daschle. The Capitol itself was re-opened after weekend testing, with the House and Senate expected to meet yesterday.

The sprawling office buildings on both sides of Capitol Hill remained closed for additional testing, and officials said at least some of those structures would remain shut down until today at the earliest. Two sources, speaking on condition of anonymity, said House leaders were trying to arrange for alternative office space for lawmakers and staff unable to return to work.

"The Capitol, of course, has been safe, and we have ample reason to believe that within the next few days we'll be able to open up the other buildings as well," said Daschle, D-S.D.

Nearly six weeks after the terrorist airliner attacks that killed thousands in New York and Washington, the Environmental Protection Agency said it would use money from the federal Superfund program to help decontaminate the American Media Inc. headquarters building in Boca Raton, Fla. One employee of the tabloid publishing firm died of the disease more than two weeks ago, and a co-worker is hospitalized undergoing treatment.

In New Jersey, the FBI sought the source of at least three anthrax-tainted letters that went through a mail facility in the Trenton area. The three included the letter delivered to Daschle's office, as well as one sent to NBC News anchorman Tom Brokaw and another one that turned up at *The New York Post*.

Nearly three weeks into the nation's bioterrorism scare, the roster of anthrax victims stood at:

- One confirmed death of inhalation anthrax, the Florida tabloid employee and two other fatal cases in which the disease is believed involved.

- Three other cases of inhalation anthrax, the two postal workers hospitalized in suburban Virginia and a newspaper mailroom employee in Florida;

- Six confirmed cases of the less dangerous skin form of the disease, including two who worked at the postal facilities in the Trenton, N.J., area. The other victims have connections to the national news media, including NBC, ABC, CBS and *The New York Post*.

- Twenty-eight confirmed cases of anthrax exposure in the Capitol complex following the delivery of the letter to Daschle's office. They include two Capitol police officers; two

aides to Sen. Russ Feingold, D-Wis.; and the balance employed by Daschle.

Beyond that, investigators seemed to be discovering a trail of anthrax spores in Washington — from the city's Brentwood mail facility, to a Capitol Hill central mail processing site about a mile from the Capitol and from there to the House and Senate central mailrooms.

There, anthrax has been found on two mail-processing machines — one of them known to have handled the letter that was sent to Daschle. Authorities have not yet announced finding any other tainted letter — meaning they haven't yet accounted for the presence of spores in the facility that handles mail for House members.

No mail has been delivered to any congressional office since the letter to Daschle was opened a week ago.

Congressional officials have been far less forthcoming with information than local officials in Washington, where Walks stepped before microphones to announce a dramatic increase in the number of known and suspected cases of inhalation anthrax, a disease last seen in the United States in 1978.

Authorities had disclosed over the weekend that Leroy Richmond, a 57-year-old worker at the Brentwood postal facility in Washington, was diagnosed with the inhalation form of anthrax.

In addition, Walks said a second Brentwood employee, whose identity he did not disclose, had been diagnosed as suffering from the same illness and is undergoing treatment at the same hospital in suburban Virginia as Richmond. Beyond that, he said, the two other employees from the same facility had died of symptoms that raised suspicions of anthrax. He did not identify them.

Inhalation anthrax can look like the flu, health officials emphasize and is curable only if antibiotics are begun early. ♦

Awareness: Cancer can be detected, treated

Continued from 1

risk of the disease becomes greater with age. However, it has been detected in younger women as well.

"It is very important for women to be involved in their health," Haskew said. "If you feel a lump, argue that it's there. It's your responsibility to be

safe." Haskew was forced to take time off due to her chemotherapy. She went through two surgeries and chemo treatments.

The chemotherapy suppressed her immune system, preventing her from working with others for several weeks.

Haskew said there are many women on faculty and staff that

are breast cancer survivors, just as she is. She said the support she has received has been wonderful, and she is now an admirer of courage for all survivors.

To find out more information about breast cancer detection, contact Health Services at 898-2988. ♦

Alcohol: Force will begin work next month

Continued from 1

"The two biggest challenges are logistics and the task of changing the culture of an institution," Sells said. "I'm glad to be involved with creating change that is good for the uni-

versity." Gene Fitch, dean of Student Life, will be researching statistical information on alcohol usage among MTSU students.

"We want to create programs that benefit our students," he said.

The task force is projected to meet twice a month beginning the end of November. For more information on other task forces around the nation, visit www.iaf.org. ♦

Security: Officials advise exercising caution

Continued from 1

Though officials say the risk of anthrax or other bioterrorist action on campus is slim, they encourage everyone, both on and off campus, to exercise caution when dealing with mail.

"We should use common sense when dealing with any situation," the notice says.

The notice lists several characteristics to be wary of, including lopsided or bulky mail, strange odors, badly typed or written addresses, excessive postage or mail from a foreign country, no return address, excessive wrapping, tape or string, addressed to title only or incorrect title, oily stains, dis-

coloration or crystallization on wrapper, a return address that is different from the postmark, mail that is addressed "personal" or "private," endorsed "fragile — handle with care" or "rush — do not delay" or protruding wires or aluminum foil.

If someone receives a suspicious letter or package, the notice advises to remain calm, call Public Safety at campus extension 2424 and stay in the area with the envelope or package until further instructions from emergency personnel.

Also, it is advised to not move or open the package, and to isolate the area around it. All those who have touched the package, including postal work-

ers, should wash their hands with soap and water.

"If an opened package or envelope contains a suspicious foreign substance," the notice advises, "do not try to clean up the spilled contents. Cover the spilled contents cautiously so as not to push it around or into the air." Isolate the area and make a list of all people who came in contact with the package. The notice asks the university community to be aware of surroundings and report any suspicious activity or packages to Public Safety.

To view the notice in its entirety, visit www.mtsu.edu and click the Homefront Security Notice link. ♦

SGA: All campus organizations can help

Continued from 1

is involved, and we need to be aware of the needs of the campus and the community," said Amanda Newman, senator for undeclared majors.

Newman said all campus organizations are encouraged to participate in the largest day of community service effort in the nation.

In addition to the campus community's efforts to help others during this event, millions of Americans across the country are expected to spend Saturday doing volunteer proj-

ects to improve their communities and help neighbors in need as part of the national event.

During last year's Make a Difference Day, 2.2 million volunteers participated, accomplishing thousands of projects and benefiting an estimated 25 million people.

This year, event sponsors have asked everyone to participate Saturday to honor the victims of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks on our nation and pay tribute to the hundreds of rescuers and heroes who truly made a difference.

The event co-sponsors have

established the Make a Difference Day Scholarship Fund in partnership with the Citizens' Scholarship Foundation of America to provide financial support for post-secondary education to spouses and children of those killed or permanently disabled in the terrorist attacks.

MTSU students, faculty and staff interested in participating in the remainder of the week's activities are asked to sign up in the SGA office in the Keathley University Center, Room 208 or call the SGA at 898-2464. ♦



From the left

POLITICAL UPHEAVAL
Briefs Compiled By Jeremy Davis - Staff

From the right

International court protects humanity

By Angela White
Online Editor

Millions of people are victims of genocide, crimes against humanity and war crimes. Torture, apartheid, slavery, mass rape and trafficking – as well as forced pregnancy, abortion and sterilization – go unpunished by national courts. Often a country is unwilling to prosecute top officials, or the court system is unable to handle the task. Consequently, fundamental human rights continue to be violated with no recourse.

This is where the International Criminal Court comes in. Eighty percent of more than 150 countries adopted the Rome Statute July 17, 1998. The Rome Statute will be activated when it is ratified by 60 countries. More than 40 countries, excluding the United States, have ratified the statute so far. The ICC will be activated by the end of 2002.

The ICC will be a "permanent independent judicial body created by the international community of states to prosecute the gravest possible crimes under international law," according to Amnesty International. The ICC will try individuals, not countries.

Our government, however, is concerned that participating in such a treaty could make them accountable to the international community for the crimes it commits. Although he too did not approve of U.S. vulnerability, Clinton signed the ICC in order to keep us in negotiations. Bush is now looking for a way to unsign the statute. Meanwhile, the U.S. House of Representatives passed the American Service Members Protection Act of 2001 on May 10 as an amendment to the Foreign Relations Authorization Act of 2001. Jesse Helms unsuccessfully introduced a similar bill in the Senate May 9, then submitted it again Sept. 26 as an amendment to the Department of Defense Authorization Bill. It is expected to be introduced yet again in the future. The House version "cut[s] off U.S. military assistance to any non-NATO country that ratified the ICC treaty ... prohibit[s] U.S. troops from serving in any U.N. peacekeeping forces unless the U.N. Security Council gives American soldiers immunity from ICC jurisdiction ... [and] authorize[s] the president to use military force to free U.S. or allied service members held by the court," according to *The Washington Post*. The attitudes of Bush, Helms and their robotic following reflect the supremacist attitude of the United States. As leaders of the world's only standing superpower, our government seems intent to alienate our allies with our separatism.

The ICC's power will actually be quite limited. For instance, it defines a crime of humanity as a "widespread or systematic attack ... directed against a civilian population ... committed to a State or organizational policy." So while bin Laden's terrorist organization could be held accountable for the U.S. attacks, our government could not be held accountable for our attacks on the Afghan population, as our attacks are not "directed against a civilian population," but against military bases. As the "relatively few" innocent people we inadvertently kill along the way are not specifically targeted, they do not count as victims of a crime against humanity, at least by the ICC's definition.

The ICC also provides civil liberties guaranteed by the U.S. Constitution. Suspects are innocent until proven guilty, must be proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt, cannot be compelled to incriminate themselves, are entitled to both an attorney and a translator and have the right to appeal. In addition, the prosecution bears the burden of proof and must put forth any mitigating evidence in its possession.

Article III of the U.S. Constitution does not "give the Supreme Court highest jurisdiction of American citizens," as Jeremy Davis states in his column. U.S. citizens who commit crimes in other countries are tried and punished by those countries, even if their legal systems are not similar to ours. U.S. citizen Michael Fay was canded in Singapore for a vandalism conviction in 1994. The United States steps in when a citizen is held in a country where human rights abuses of prisoners are rampant. But many countries, including many of the countries who support the ICC, use their legislative power against our citizens without interference.

Furthermore, the ICC only will try cases the United States is unwilling to try. As long as our government holds our own accountable for their actions, the ICC will not touch us.

If the ICC existed today, we would have an avenue with which to try bin Laden and his supporters once we capture them. We wouldn't have to resort to the undemocratic decision to seek and destroy someone who has yet to be found guilty. Civilians would not be killed in an act of war.

But apparently we do not need to try bin Laden, for as Bush states, "We know he is guilty. Turn him over." Tried, convicted and sentenced. ♦

Political Briefs

U.S. jets press attacks on Taliban positions near front lines

QALAI DASHT, Afghanistan (AP) – U.S. jets pounded Taliban positions Monday near front lines outside the Afghan capital and a key northern city in hopes that the Afghan opposition can advance on major cities.

Opposition forces pointed and shouted at U.S. strikes at the front lines outside Kabul and welcomed what they said was a night of fierce air attacks at the Taliban-held northern city of Mazar-e-Sharif.

It was unclear, however, whether the poorly armed and poorly trained opposition would be able to make significant gains – something they have been unable to accomplish since the air campaign began Oct 7.

As the U.S.-led military campaign pushed into its third week, a refugee crisis was building at Pakistan's sealed border with Afghanistan.

An Afghan man died of wounds suffered when border guards opened fire to quell up to 15,000 trapped Afghan civilians pushing and pleading for entry.

Bombing in the same area Sunday marked the most substantial U.S. strikes to date against Taliban positions defending Kabul from the northern alliance forces, stalled for years 12 to 25 miles north of the city.

President gives CIA new powers, money to hunt down terrorists

WASHINGTON (AP) – As the U.S. military pursues its mission to hunt down Osama bin Laden and his al-Qaida network, the CIA has been given new powers and money to wage its own war against America's most wanted terrorist suspect.

Starting the third week of air strikes in Afghanistan, U.S. fighter and ground attack jets set out Monday from the aircraft carrier Theodore Roosevelt, the centerpiece of one of four Navy battle groups in the Arabian Sea off Pakistan.

Warplanes bombed Taliban positions Sunday near a front line north of the Afghan capital, Kabul, marking what could be the start of a more forceful campaign to help rebel forces fighting the regime that harbors bin Laden.

Meanwhile, the Pentagon released the names of two members of the Army's elite Ranger regiment killed over the weekend as part of the first publicly acknowledged covert mission in the anti-terrorism effort.

President Bush signed an order last month directing the CIA to destroy bin Laden and his communications, security apparatus and infrastructure in retaliation for the Sept. 11 World Trade Center and Pentagon attacks, a senior administration official said Sunday.

Bush also added more than \$1 billion to the spy agency's war on terrorism, most of it for the new covert action.

The CIA has been in southern Afghanistan, trying to win over ethnic Pashtun leaders not solidly behind the Taliban, officials have said.

It also has operated an unmanned Predator spy vehicle outfitted with missiles, defense officials indicated last week. It is the first time the United States has used the armed, remote-controlled drone in a military campaign, they said. ♦

International court unconstitutional

By Jeremy Davis
Staff Columnist

The proposal for the International Criminal Court has received lackluster support in the United States and for good reason: It is unconstitutional.

At a 1998 conference in Rome, members of the international community got together to set the framework for an international court that would serve as a permanent body to hold trials for war crimes and violations of human rights. Then President Clinton signed the resolution Dec. 31, 2000, although he said it was seriously flawed. The House of Representatives also saw it as flawed and passed a bill to protect American servicemen from ever having to be held accountable to such a court. Senator Jesse Helms, R-N.C., has introduced similar legislation that is still pending.

The problem with the ICC is that it would discredit the American legal system and provide no deterrence to human rights violations or war crimes.

The ICC violates the Fifth and Sixth Amendments to the Constitution by subjecting the accused to no trial by an impartial jury of his peers, allowing double jeopardy, forcing the accused to act as a witness against himself and depriving the accused of the right to confront the witnesses against him and bring witnesses in his defense.

According to the 1957 Supreme Court case *Reid vs. Covert*, the Constitution holds precedent over international treaties. Therefore, the United States cannot enter into any treaty that violates the Constitution, which is why Clinton wanted the United Nations Security Council to have veto power over the ICC.

Critics of that request say it is a ploy to get U.S. government officials and military personnel out of any responsibility for their actions during a conflict.

The ICC's purpose is to bring people to justice when the state government they are in fails to do so. Who decides if a government fails to bring adequate justice? The ICC does. This gives the ICC the power to invalidate any ruling by U.S. courts and thus violating Article III of the Constitution, which gives the Supreme Court highest jurisdiction of U.S. citizens.

Also, the ICC does not have the power to arrest people or gather evidence. This power is delegated to the nations that ratify the treaty. I don't think Osama bin Laden and the Taliban are going to show up in court and hand over needed documents and evidence for their conviction.

The ICC also opposes the death penalty. So people who commit acts of genocide can go to the ICC and get free room and board for the rest of their lives at the taxpayers' expense to avoid being killed by a military foe or an angry mob of their own people.

Is that justice? Advocates of the ICC say it would be like the Nuremberg trials held for Nazi war criminals after World War II. This isn't remotely true. Nuremberg was a victor's trial when the accused were already defeated and in custody. The evidence was readily available, and the plaintiff nations shared a common vision for the outcome and future of the defeated nations. The ICC will enjoy none of those advantages.

Proponents of the ICC hold that the mere presence of the court will serve as a deterrent to war crimes and human rights violations. Alfred P. Rubin, professor of international law at Tufts University, said there is "no evidence that war crimes tribunals reduce threats to international peace and security." He said making war less atrocious makes it more likely and that war crimes tribunals seem "to be aimed at making lawyers the guardians of a violent society, in which war is all right as long as it is played by the rules to which the concerned lawyers agree."

The United States should not ratify this treaty. With President Bush in office, the chances of passage are virtually zero. Bush would never agree to a treaty where he and his generals could be prosecuted for the deaths of a relatively few accidental Afghan civilians when bin Laden murdered more than 5,000 Americans with the Taliban's support.

The civilized world can punish those who commit crimes against humanity. We do it the same way we always have: cruise missiles and bullets.

If we have criminals in our custody when the war is over, we will punish them the same way we punished the Nazis – with a nice, sturdy rope. ♦

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- Have some media experience (on or off campus work applies, in any print or broadcast medium)

To Apply:

- Submit an application
- Write a 1,000 - 2,000 word essay on: "What is the value and longevity of virtual reality television?"
- Submit a copy of your transcript
- Submit three to five samples of your work, six copies of each (short tapes of broadcasts are accepted. Clips must be professionally presented.)

Applications will be available in the JUB Room 306. Three finalists will be selected from the field of applicants and will be interviewed. Interviews will be held at the December 7th 1 p.m. You will be notified if you are to be interviewed.

SIGN-UP YOUR SPIRIT TEAM!

\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$

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Editorial

Wording of SGA referendum confusing

The Student Government Association, in a benevolent attempt to increase student influence on university policy, may have only made things worse.

If you have voted on WebMT on the referendum (and we're sure you've been a good little Raider and voted ... right?), you might have been a little confused by the wording on the question concerning attendance policies.

The question reads, "Should MTSU professors penalize a student's final grade based upon attendance in that class?" You can vote for or against this question.

The first referendum question, listed above the attendance question on WebMT, is "Should MTSU eliminate the plus and minus grading scale?"

This leads to confusion because the questions would affect policy differently; one would be eliminating policy and the other would be adding it, even though both would be eliminating policy.

Speaking of which, by the way the question reads, one would think that MTSU professors, at this time, do not have the authority to penalize a student's grade based on their attendance.

They do. Some departments and colleges within the university have official policies on attendance; other professors set their own.

Your choices on the referendum are "for" and "against." This is an overcomplicated way to say it. What's wrong with yes or no? This would make it a straightforward question, rather than bureaucratic junk.

"For" and "against" are not in the typical college student's jargon when responding to a question.

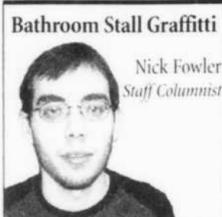
"Hey, you want to go to Harvey Washbangers and get wasted? For or against?"

The SGA displayed good intentions by offering a referendum to gauge student input on important topics. However, the road to Hades is paved with good intentions.

Interestingly, all roads to Tennessee Tech are paved with the same ...

We don't want this referendum to turn out like another Florida, but can we really put much faith in the results of a referendum that is not clearly worded? ♦

Cyborg-Lenin not to be trusted



Nick Fowler
Staff Columnist

Sergei Khrushchev, son of former Soviet Premier Nikita Khrushchev, came to MTSU last week and gave a great lecture. I have honestly not had a day that exciting since spring break '84. I'm sure *Sidelines* ran a story on the event, but I thought a more personal account of the day would be in order.

So Khrushchev is giving his little speech, and everyone is about to nod off because his thick Russian accent is very soothing. Out of nowhere, he

screams, "The streets will run red with the blood of the capitalists," with a thick Russian accent that was quite intimidating.

The west wall of the Tennessee Room falls in while an 8-foot robot comes walking through. Its head is none other than V. I. Lenin wearing a stylish red cap - red for communism I'm sure. The Russians finally built the fabled Cyborg-Lenin.

I'm quick on the uptake, so I knew the revolution had finally begun. Naturally, I wanted to show Cyborg-Lenin and Khrushchev that I was on their side. I unsheathed my knife and drove it into the neck of the old lady sitting next to me.

Worry not, my hippie friend. She was of capital-

ism. I smeared her blood on my face as if it were war paint. I stood on my chair and roared, "Revolution!"

Meanwhile, Khrushchev is looking rather horrified by my actions. "What are you doing, you dumb Yankee?" he asked in an accented Russian accent.

Cyborg-Lenin was staring at the body of the old lady. Tears were running down his face. Lenin is such a softy.

I realized that the revolution had not started. Khrushchev was simply quoting a revolutionary as part of the presentation.

Boy, was my face red.

Cyborg-Lenin is freaking out at this point. "I brought toys for the boys and girls," he said while wiping his tears. He had a sack of toys at his side. It

seems the red cap was a Santa hat, not a communist hat.

Khrushchev said to me in a thick Russian accent, which was rather fatherly now, "Come with us boy. You will help us give these toys to the orphans to atone for your sins."

We went to the orphanage. Cyborg-Lenin made me hand out all the toys to the hundreds of little orphans. They were so cute and so happy. I had never felt so good.

Then, Cyborg-Lenin and Khrushchev started laughing with thick Russian accents that were very frightening. The toys exploded in the hands of the children.

Orphan guts were everywhere. I started puking in the corner because, ladies, I'm a sensitive man

of the 21st century. "What does this mean?" I asked my Russian comrades.

They didn't answer me. They just kept laughing.

Well, I'll tell you what it means. It means you should go to campus events like the Khrushchev lecture. You might learn something. You might even be entertained. When an event like the Khrushchev lecture takes place that is both educational and entertaining, we call that education.

You see, the Khrushchev lecture was entertaining because Cyborg-Lenin told me a great joke. I would tell it right now, but it involves a lot of physical comedy. The lecture was educational because I learned not to trust Russians when orphans are involved. ♦

A renewed case for tax reform



Jason Cox
Asst. News Editor

The masses called out for cuts in the state's exorbitant spending. They got them.

If you previously enjoyed visiting certain state parks, too bad. They're closed.

High school students will no longer be able to attend Governor's Schools to learn more about their passion. Some of these students will never fully discover their gifts because their school cannot provide them the advanced challenges they must have to grow.

As you read this, the Tennessee Board of Regents is meeting to consider more cuts to its system, including developmental studies and agri-

cultural courses.

People are starting to discover that the state budget shortfall is real. The budget is entirely reliant on consumer spending, and the downward trend in that spending has only been worsened by the events of Sept. 11.

It is estimated that this fiscal year's budget will be \$300 million short of expectations.

Bear in mind that this \$300 million is not from the full budget; this is from the "bare bones" budget passed in July that caused the aforementioned cuts.

The situation has gotten so bad that all but the staunchest anti-income tax legislators have either said they support an income tax or are undecided on the issue. In the undecided column falls state Sen. Jo Ann Graves, D-Gallatin, whose re-election campaign literally consisted of placing ads in local newspapers accusing her opponent of supporting an income tax. Interestingly,

her opponent placed ads in these same publications accusing Graves of doing the exact same thing.

Perhaps they're closet income tax supporters. At this time last year, it was more dangerous to be an income tax supporter than to be openly homosexual, and, in the buckle of the Bible Belt, that's saying something.

In good times, we want to be independent of our government. In bad times, we trust our government. Just look at the way public trust of the government has skyrocketed since Sept. 11.

Like it or not, this state needs an income tax. Now.

However budget problems such as the ones this state has don't happen overnight. It takes several years for such a decline to occur, and our governor should be spat upon for waiting until he was re-elected to bring it up.

In July, I called a column called "Unruly mob triumphs over reason"

about the state budget problems.

Our Web site received an anonymous comment concerning that column. Of course, we know that all of the best comments come from people who aren't willing to share their name, but I digress.

This person said, "Why do you want an income tax? I know why. It's because you don't want an increase in your tuition. You don't want more of your money leaving your pocket."

Good point.

The truth is that we are still getting a bargain as far as what we pay for our education. However, if the cuts continue, the subsequent increases in tuition will be met with significant cuts in services. In short, paying a lot more for a lot less.

I hope that students clamoring for an income tax are willing to pay their share once they graduate, just as the people of Tennessee would be paying

theirs very soon if a tax passes.

Maybe the growing sentiment toward an income tax is only temporary, a state reacting to circumstances that they have never experienced. Maybe people really don't care that Tennessee is, on the average, uneducated and uninformed (only 25 percent of the state's population has a bachelor's degree).

Tennessee is ranked near the bottom of the list for per-student spending on education. It is to the point that the oft-repeated phrase "thank God for Mississippi" (ranked last) should be the official philosophy of our education system.

Governor Sundquist and the state legislature has successfully backed themselves into a corner. What was a slight budget problem has become a budget crisis. Tax reform rather than later. ♦

Homecoming queen campaigns won't be missed



Philip Denton
Staff Columnist

Homecoming is drawing nearer and nearer. That, of course, means one thing: We will soon choose a homecoming queen.

It has been driving me crazy to see the queen campaigns on the sidewalks and every possible place to hang a piece a

paper. I will only be able to walk the campus in peace when the madness is over.

Sorority sisters keep hanging more and more banners and writing more on the sidewalks late at night. It seems to me that they are doing all the hard work for the queen hopefuls. I, personally, would admire a candidate more if I saw her writing on sidewalks or hanging posters everywhere.

I have seen the sorority sisters on countless nights campaigning hard for their hopeful, but I have yet to see one of the candidates

doing hard work.

What exactly do we know about the candidates? I don't know about everyone else, but all I know about them is their name and a picture. Is that really what the homecoming queen should symbolize?

I believe we should know more details before making such a decision. Things like why she wishes to be our queen, how good a student she is and how dedicated she is to the school.

Is that not what really makes a homecoming

queen? We are judging primarily on the beauty she possesses on the outside without knowing anything that lies within.

I, for one, am sick of the thought of having a homecoming queen. It is a custom that I have yet to understand the meaning of.

It doesn't really have a purpose other than to take up time during a football game. I don't see any kind of school spirit shown by this festivity. It's basically a group of girls screaming, "Look at me!"

This week brings an end

to the race for homecoming queen. I will be happy to see it go. It will be a blessing to walk the sidewalks of college and not see a "Vote For Me" sign in chalk.

I will now be able to stare at the walls and not see that girl I don't even know yelling at me for her vote. I will finally be at peace.

For the winner of this Homecoming bout, I ask you to remember the little people that helped you get where you are. If it weren't for them, you would not be where you are right now. ♦

Vegetarians need more food choices

Callie Elizabeth Butler
Guest Columnist

The term "starving college student" takes on a whole new meaning when you prefer animal-free eating.

By animal-free, I mean all animal products - meat, eggs, dairy, gelatin, whey and any other product packed with horse bones, chicken fat and other animal-derived ingredients.

Searching through cafeterias only to find vegetables in butter, veggie burgers containing cheese or eggs and pizza covered in thick layers of meat and cheese can leave the vegetarian college student huddling in the old

dorm room with a glass of soy milk and peanut butter on wheat, which can become rather unappetizing after the second or third day of consumption.

I've noticed that the general assumption among college campuses is that if a salad bar is available, the "veggie people" are covered. There is also a common assumption that all vegetarians consume dairy products, munch on breads with milk derivatives and eat eggs.

Both of these misconceptions are having a very negative impact on many students on college campuses nationwide.

First, salad, though quite tasty, becomes rather

boring after a time. Vegetarians enjoy variety, too.

Secondly, vegetarianism often goes beyond just saying "no, thanks" when a tray of steak comes your way.

Many vegetarians choose to abstain from eating any foods that contain animal-related ingredients. Such foods can include butter, ice cream, Jell-O, various breads and cereals and other such things.

The lack of food for many vegetarian students can, and often does, result in poor nutrition, which leads to poor academic performance and health problems. In other words, no student can perform

well without the proper foods to fuel the body. An educational institution truly concerned about the well-being of its students should be offering a bit more, don't you think?

With the growing vegetarian population, this situation needs to change. Other food options besides a salad bar should be in place for vegetarians who need a meal between classes.

Cooking vegetables in vegetable oil or water instead of butter, purchasing dairy-free and egg-free veggie burgers and offering cheese-free pizza are just a few of the simple steps that could be taken to make on-campus dining a more edi-

ble for the "veggie people."

These few changes would certainly boost the number of meal plans offered as well as benefit the student population. These changes also are much healthier and would benefit non-vegetarian students.

The amount of cholesterol and fat in foods would be dramatically reduced when products like butter, margarine or beef stock.

By taking the proper steps to accommodate various dietary needs, a campus can improve the health and well-being of its student population. Why not start now? ♦

SIDELINES

P.O. BOX 42
Murfreesboro, TN 37132
Editorial: 898-2337
Advertising: 898-2533
Fax: 904-8487
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Food drops poor substitute for aid groups



Atypical Woman

Angela White
Online Editor

The United Nations estimates that 7.5 million Afghans, one-third of the population, will need food aid this winter. It predicts that it will need to spend \$584 million to prevent starvation. The United States has dropped 713,000 single-day servings of food by air as of Monday morning. It has also pledged \$320 million in aid.

One could say the United States is doing its part to help Afghans. Problems arise, however, due to the military strikes. The U.N.'s World Food Program suspended its shipments of food and supplies into Afghanistan 15 hours after the first strikes and began shipping by truck again Oct. 11.

The United Nations desperately needed to operate during that lost time, as 52,000 tons of wheat must be shipped monthly in order to prevent mass starvation in the winter. It takes a 42-truck convey to carry 1,000 tons of food.

Truck drivers are edgy about making the trip across the border, having to deal with limited

fuel, landmines, Taliban taxes and looters. As though that weren't enough, they also have to face our military's constant "blunders."

According to human rights group WorkingForChange.com, four U.N. workers were the first reported killed, even though they gave their address to U.N. officials to pass on to our military to avoid being attacked.

Two Red Cross buildings in Kabul with big red crosses on their roofs were destroyed because, according to U.S. government officials, there were "military vehicles" near the building. They were actually Red Cross transport trucks.

Four civilians were reportedly killed in a Kabul residential neighborhood.

And between 100 and 200 civilians in Karam perished due to our repeated attacks.

Countless stories of tragic deaths have been told by survivors who managed to cross the border. Human rights organizations estimate that thousands have died so far.

Now that the military can "fire at will" and is using more destructive weapons, that number is sure to increase with greater speed.

Humanitarian organizations have unsuccessfully called for a temporary halt to the bombings so they can deliver food more efficiently. They have even con-

templated using highly inefficient air drops themselves as difficulties with ground delivery continue to mount.

Meanwhile, approximately 15,000 refugees attempting to escape the bombs have flooded the Afghanistan/Pakistan border alone, according to *The New York Times*.

Pakistan closed its border again Saturday after opening it to allow 3,000 Afghan refugees to enter. Many are risking their lives to cross illegally. Pakistani soldiers regularly fight off refugees with guns and sticks.

Our military is supplementing its destruction with food. Packets holding 2,200 calories of vegetarian delight (including Pop-Tarts) are being dropped far from bomb targets in non-Taliban controlled areas.

The military claims it is being careful not to drop the food near any known mine fields.

That's easier said than done. In 2000, there were approxi-

mately 88 recorded mine/unexploded ordnance deaths per month in Afghanistan, according to the Human Rights Watch. The United Nations estimates 10 million landmines are located in the country.

"These newcomers do not know where the mines are. The Taliban are hiding among them," Arhad, an Afghan refugee who made it to Iran, told the United Kingdom's *The Daily Telegraph*.

Not even our omniscient military knows where all the unmapped landmines are. Starving refugees, driven from cities with established relief operations, could be tempted to their deaths by our "generosity."

In an effort to win over the Afghans' trust, we put an American flag on each pouch, along with a message identifying the contents as "a gift from the United States of America."

Would you eat something given to you by the people you think are trying to blow you up?

We can't have credibility as a humanitarian nation when we're terrifying poor, starving, innocent people and preventing them from getting the help they so desperately need.

We're not a humanitarian nation. Our government isn't doing this because it's full of people with "bleeding hearts." This is a tactical, political move. We want to convince Arab nations to stand by us, which they wouldn't do if we looked like cold-blooded killers of innocent Muslims. We need Afghans to believe we are fighting not them, but for them.

"The oppressed people of Afghanistan will know the generosity of America and our Allies," Bush said.

What we want Afghans to see as generosity they instead rightfully see as hypocrisy.

Not surprisingly, the air drops have done little to help the truly hungry. Many of the packets are sold in markets. Northern Alliance soldiers also have been spotted eating the food.

The Nobel-Prize winning Doctors Without Borders called the bread-and-bombs approach counterproductive.

"Such action does not answer the needs of the Afghan people and is likely to undermine attempts to deliver substantial aid to the most vulnerable," the group said Monday.

"What sense is there in shooting with one hand and distributing medicines with the other?"

Will Day of Care International told the United Kingdom's *The Guardian*, "Air drops make great TV, but they often represent a failure to respond to a food crisis."

Another concern of humanitarian organizations is combining military and humanitarian actions.

The military food drops associate humanitarian efforts with the bombings, causing harassment of private aid organizations by the Taliban and distrust from the Afghan citizens they are trying to help.

Aid drops cannot replace aid workers. People are needed to supply water, administer medicine and vaccinations and set up shelters for the 1.5 estimated refugees expected to flee their homeland due to the attacks.

Air dropping supplies simply puts a Band-Aid on a gaping wound.

If the United States truly wants to help, it could take *USA Today's* suggestion and drop off Special Forces troops to "carve out safe havens near where the refugees are fleeing," fly planes in at low altitudes and distribute the food themselves.

But, of course, saving innocent lives wouldn't be worth the risk to our military forces, now would it? ♦

Think Angela needs to be air dropped into Afghanistan? E-mail slopinio@mtsu.edu

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BICYCLING ON CAMPUS

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- **Bike Racks.** Bike racks are located throughout campus providing cyclists with a convenient place to secure their bikes. Bicycles should be locked to a bike rack using a U-bolt lock and cable combination.
- **Be cautious when bicycling at night.** When riding at night, have operational front and rear lights on your bicycle.
- **Check your bike.** Check your wheels before every ride, after every fall, or after transporting your bicycle to insure that they are properly fastened and secure. Make sure that your tires are properly inflated.
- **Secure your bike!** Always secure your bike, even if you are gone for a few minutes. Use a U-bolt lock, securing both wheels and frame to bike racks.
- **Record your bike serial number.** Record your bike serial number, and keep it in a safe place together with a photograph of the bike and your sales receipt. Also, please register your bike with MTSU Public Safety; call 898-2424 for details.
- **By following these TIPS, the MTSU campus will be a safer place for everyone!**
- **Wear a helmet!** Studies have shown that using a bicycle helmet can reduce head injuries by up to 85%. Select a helmet that fits snugly and comfortably.
- **Go with the flow of Traffic. Stay on the right side.** A bicyclist must obey the same traffic laws as motor vehicles. Stop signs and stop lights, road marks and road signs are for a cyclist as well as a motor vehicle operator. Always use hand signals. Do not weave from lane to lane or tailgate or hitch rides on moving vehicles.

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SUPERB ACTING, ACTION SET 'CASTLE' APART



Movie Review

By Ken Campbell

Massachusetts Daily Collegian

(U-WIRE) AMHERST, Mass. — *The Last Castle* is the product of a tryst between *The Shawshank Redemption* and *A Few Good Men*. The battle of wills that forms the tension for *Castle* is straight from these two parents — what happens when roles are reversed, and the better man isn't where he should be?

Robert Redford plays general-turned-prisoner Eugene Irwin, a three-star hero whose one mistake cost the lives of eight American soldiers. Sentenced to a maximum security stockade, Irwin meets the warden, Colonel Winter.

Winter, played to the hilt by James Gandolfini, respects and admires the general. He even has a copy of Irwin's book. But when Irwin accidentally insults him, it sets forth a contest of egos that draws a line in the sand.

Irwin adjusts slowly to prison life, and we watch as the hapless inmate Aguilar (Clifton Collins Jr.) tries to salute the general. Schooled by the warden that saluting is not allowed between prisoners, Aguilar is forced to stand at attention and salute through a rainy night. When the punishment goes on longer than allowed, Irwin interferes, earning him a rebuke from Winter and his adjutant,

Captain Peretz (Steve Burton).

Irwin's punishment for stopping Peretz from hitting Aguilar is to move a pile of rocks all day. The rocks were part of the prison's original wall, which Winter (who is obsessed with history) is forcing the prisoners to rebuild.

Irwin, like Redford, is 64, and many inmates — like prison bookie Yates and tough guy Beupre (played by Mark Ruffalo and Brian Goodman, respectively) — bet that he isn't going to make it.

In a completely unsurprising move, Irwin does finish the punishment. He distributes the cigarettes he won in the bet to the general inmate population,

earning him their trust. He uses this trust to build a sense of pride among the prisoners. The old wall, he says, is theirs, not Winter's.

Rebuilding it becomes a way of building up their confidence, and when Winter realizes this, he decides to destroy it.

Aguilar takes a rubber bullet to the head, which kills him. His death is no accident. Winter ordered the head shot, something he's done in the past, the inmates tell Irwin.

Irwin gets sucked into the inmates' rage over Winter's harsh policies.

Irwin decides that Winter needs to go and cites regulations that say if a warden loses

control of his facility, he will be dismissed.

What follows is unclear. The film never shows the preparations for the uprising, just the plan laid out on a chessboard. Although Irwin tells his troops, and the audience, exactly what he's planning, the audience has no idea how they are going to pull it off.

When it does happen, it's a tour de force that can only be truly appreciated on the big screen. The battle between the guards, who have the best in non-lethal weapons, and the prisoners, who use medieval tactics and a trebuchet, is really, really, well ... cool.

The use of non-lethal

weapons and phalanxes means that while the fight rages on, it's not a bloody one. The screen doesn't need to be filled with blood to make it seem like a battle is going on.

The movie, while seemingly unoriginal — is entertaining, and that makes up for a lot. Plus, it's got three great performances by some of Hollywood's best actors: Redford, Gandolfini and Delroy Lindo (as General Wheeler).

The story is an excellent balance of drama and occasional instances of comedy. And it also has a trebuchet, a type of catapult, which is just fun to say. Say it with me now. Trev-boo-shay. Wasn't that fun? ♦

O.A.R. grows from word of mouth, live shows



Photo provided

O.A.R.'s word-of-mouth popularity has taken off across the country.

By Lauren Ann Donia
Daily Orange (Syracuse U.)

(U-WIRE) SYRACUSE, N.Y. — "My 20 thrown down in my fist of rage, and the man to my left just folded down. Johnny doubled up with a royal flush, I had three jacks and a pair of nines ..."

I had only been at Faegan's on Sunday for about three minutes when this familiar song came on. Everyone who goes to the bars on Marshall Street has heard it — *That was a Crazy Game of Poker*, by O.A.R., or *Of A Revolution*. Hearing it this Sunday was a little different though. I happened to be standing with the O.A.R. drummer and saxophone player when it came on in the bar.

I asked them if it was weird to hear themselves while ordering beer. Jerry DePizzo, the sax player, said it was actually the first time it had ever happened. DePizzo and drummer Chris Culos exchanged glances and laughed.

"I say 'of' / you say 'a' / I say 'revolution' and you say 'jah.'" *Poker* filtered through the hazy bar for about eight-and-a-half minutes. In that time, the

members of O.A.R. grabbed their drinks and found a table.

Once we sat down, the teasing began. The tour manager, Joel Forman, turned to Culos and made a comment somewhat like "Hey, don't you play drums? Can you figure this beat out?" Multiple comments were made about "Why aren't we being recognized?" And, of course, there was some general teasing of DePizzo — as the recording of the song was pre-sax playing. The band members joked about how good they sounded before they added DePizzo to the group.

The song eventually ended and was replaced with the Counting Crows. As their 15, or eight-and-a-half, minutes of anonymous fame came to a close, the band members, road manager and merchandise manager began to have more normal bar conversations. They discussed good shots and what the bar scene was like at Ohio State University, where the four had attended.

It was an interesting transition. About two hours earlier, O.A.R. had played to a sold-out crowd at Lost Horizon at 5863 Thompson Rd. in Syracuse.

Rewind.

Upon arriving at the venue Sunday, I called Forman's cell phone and he informed me that I could do an impromptu interview.

Forman escorted me to the pizza bus where I met DePizzo and Culos. We talked for a while about the history of the band, interspersed with watching the Yankees vs. A's game.

Evolution of O.A.R.

While certain members of the band go as far back as the early '80s together (Culos met lead singer and rhythm guitarist Marc Roberge in kindergarten), the band as an entity has existed since the high school years of Culos, Roberge, bass guitarist Benj Gershman and lead guitarist Richard On.

It was during high school that the band started recording and began what is referred to as their "grassroots method" of music management.

"We recorded our first CD in high school," Culos explained. "Marc and I went to Ohio State first ... (the other band members) came after, so we didn't have a band to promote the CD. We had sales reps we gave 10 to 20 CDs to, to play at parties and sell to as many people as possible."

DePizzo compared the word-of-mouth method to Napster listeners swapping their musical favorites online.

Once the other two band members arrived at Ohio State (during following semesters) and DePizzo joined the group, O.A.R. began touring.

Despite spending weekends away, Culos and DePizzo said they didn't think they missed out on any aspect of the typical "college experience."

"We would hang out with our friends at school during the week — school was a priority," Culos said.

Several members of the band graduated in spring of this year, while others have chosen to defer the end of their college

See O.A.R., 8

INSIDE THE WORLD OF ENTERTAINMENT



By Shawn Whitsell

Kravitz releases new album

Multi-platinum rocker Lenny Kravitz will release his sixth studio album, not including *The Greatest Hits*, *Lenny*, Oct. 30. The album will feature 12 original songs written, arranged, produced and performed by Kravitz that were recorded in his own Roxie Studios (named after his late mother, Roxie Rover of *The Jeffersons* fame). The album's first single, "Dig In," has already hit airwaves, and the video is scheduled to debut on TLR the day of the album's release. Fans of Kravitz will be pleased to know that he plans to tour next year.



Michael Jackson to appear in 'Men in Black 2'

Director Barry Sonnenfeld recruited Michael Jackson to appear in the upcoming *Men In Black* sequel starring Will Smith and Tommy Lee Jones. The are no reports on what role the King of Pop will play, but it has been confirmed that Jackson won't play an alien. Acting is nothing new to the singer, who has made appearances in *The Wiz*, *Captain EO* and *Moonwalker*. Jackson's latest album, *Invincible*, is due out Oct. 30.



'Nsync's Lance Bass to star in 'On the Line'

'Nsync's Lance Bass and Joey Fatone will star in the upcoming Miramax film *On the Line*. In the film, Bass plays a shy guy who is afraid to ask a girl for her number when he sees her on the Chicago "L" train. The girl gets away but friends (one played by Fatone) encourage him to look for her so he begins combing the city. Bass, who also makes a cameo in *Zoolander*, admits he has caught the acting bug and looks forward to balancing his new acting career with his obligations as a member of 'Nsync. *On the Line* hits theaters Friday.



'From Hell' takes No. 1 at the box office

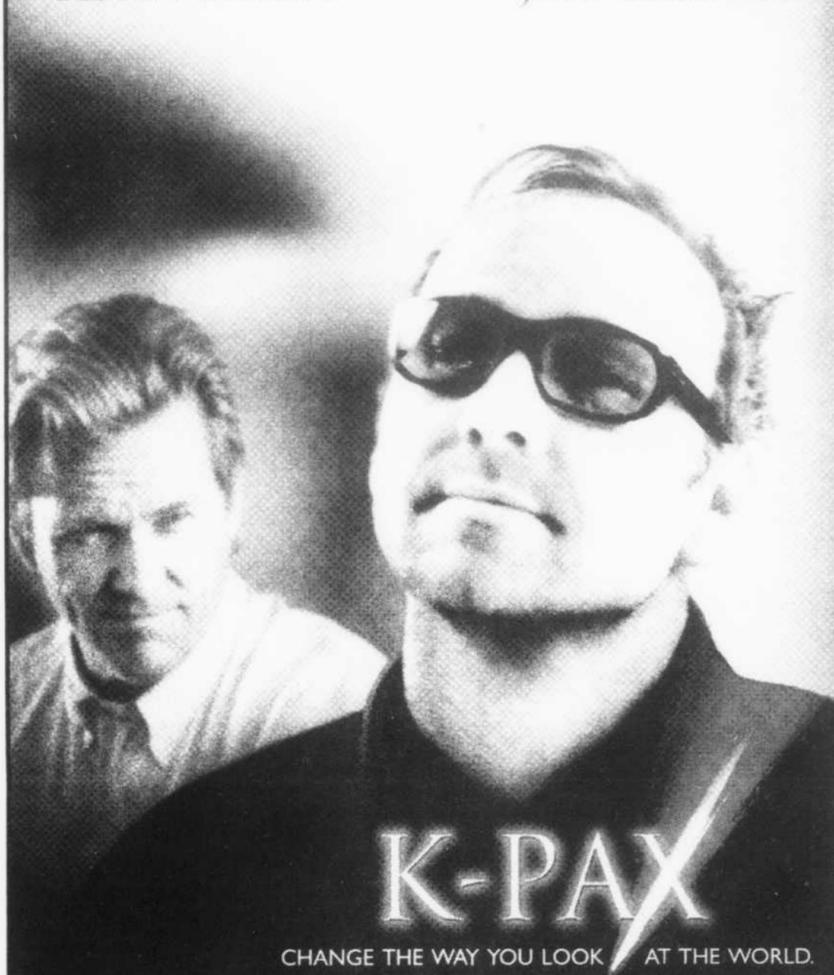
The latest Hugh Brothers film, *From Hell* starring Johnny Depp and Heather Graham, took the No. 1 slot in the box office this weekend, earning an estimated \$11.6 million. Although *From Hell* took the honorary number slot, beating out Drew Barrymore's *Riding in Cars with Boys* and Robert Redford's *The Last Castle*, the film made about \$5 million less than projected. In the dark, grimy film, Depp plays Inspector Frederick Abberline, who is investigating the mysterious deaths of prostitutes in London. ♦



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CD Review

Hailing the Death Cab



By Julie Fitzgerald
 Staff Writer

Falling in love with a band is no trivial commitment for those with a discriminating palate or profound passion for music. Death Cab For Cutie is here to save emo from the shallow, teeny-bopper image, with their third full-length LP entitled



Photobooth. The artists in Death Cab have challenged the concept of emo with their mature melodies. Their music alone speaks their emotions, yet when combined with intense lyrics that disclose more than the average artist would be willing, a recognizable force in today's indie scene develops.

Intense is an understatement when describing the experience of listening to Death Cab's music. Gibbard, Death Cab's lead singer/songwriter, uses skillful language, description and passion combined with an ambiguous undertone of sarcasm in his lyrical compositions. Often combining contemporary balladic reverberations with climaxes into core solos and instrumental fervor, Death Cab's profound sound is one that it is quite their own.

As a reaction to his alcoholic father's death, after having been abandoned by him as a child, Gibbard moans in the song "Styrofoam Plates," "I

won't join in the procession that's speaking their peace, using five dollar words, while praising his integrity. Just 'cause he's gone, it doesn't change the fact: He was a bastard in life, thus a bastard in death."

Defying the fabled theory of the sophomore jinx with their album, *We Have the Facts and We're Voting Yes*, Death Cab For Cutie proved their worth. Strongly recommended as a prerequisite to *Photobooth*, *We Have the Facts* is a rougher cut that exemplifies their raw talent and provides for a better understanding of the band's musical motivations.

As with any band, Death Cab For Cutie is not for everyone.

If you fear the misanthropic mind-set, stay away from Death Cab, for sayings such as, "I think I'm finally drunk enough to drive you home now," and "I will hold a candle up to you, to singe your skin," are not uncommon in their songs. ♦



Death Cab is currently on a U.S. tour with fellow band, The Prom.

O.A.R.: Almost famous band jams the crowd

Continued from 7

careers. The band is currently headlining a tour — that has included such openers as Virginia Coalition, John Mayer and Llama — to promote their CD *Risen*.

The CD, released during the first week of February 2001, debuted at No. 11 on the Billboard Top Internet Sales Chart and No. 66 on the Billboard Top New Artists Chart.

It is a product of Everfine Records, the management group started by Dave Roberge, brother of O.A.R.'s lead singer, to produce the band's CD.

DePizzo said having its own label helps the band.

"We're able to do what we

mented that I thought they sounded like a mix of Phish and Sublime, Culos said it was taken as a compliment as both bands were influential.

The band has "jam band"-



Drummer Chris Culos performs at Swindlefish, a bar near Ohio University.

quality musical breaks where members just play. They have a sax player who at times adds a bluesy feel and other times makes them sound like a ska band. There is often a beat laid that mimics that of reggae.

The eclectic mix of sounds is not a surprise — as, in addition to the aforementioned bands, there have been many other influences.

Among those mentioned were the Dave Matthews Band, assorted bands of the hip-hop and jazz genres and even Genesis.

Culos described a period of time during elementary school when he watched a Genesis video with Roberge every day.

This brings us to the present — or at least two days ago, when O.A.R. made their first Syracuse appearance with Llama as the opener.

O.A.R. took the stage in front of a packed house and performed a long list of songs that



O.A.R. rocks at Palmerfest at Ohio University.

included a couple of covers — most notably Bob Marley's "Stir it Up," which was seemingly appropriate as Roberge donned a Marley T-shirt, and a variation of Pearl Jam's "Black" complete with a jazzy saxophone

and reggaesque undertones created by the drums and bass.

Most of the songs performed included "jams" lasting anywhere from two to about 15 minutes. At times, members of Llama would join O.A.R. on stage as guest musicians.

Overall, O.A.R. plays well to a crowd that was very willing to dance and sing along. There were a number of crowd pleasers, including "About an Hour Ago," "Night Shift," "Hey Girl" and the obvious "That was a Crazy Game of Poker."

After the show, the band members break down their own equipment, while stopping to meet fans and sign autographs.

It takes an hour, but eventually the stage is cleared and the guys reconvene on the bus. Upon my entrance, I note that they are watching CNN and eventually they begin arguing,



Marc Roberge sings his venue at The Pavilion, a heart in Mt. Adams, located in Cincinnati.

partly joking, about who ate the last Hot Pocket.

They ask me where they can go and I suggest Senior Sunday at Faegan's, as they are only out of college themselves.

This brings me back to the beginning of the article, although now it is much more ironic.

Because they are such a young band, they aren't getting ahead of themselves. They break down their own sets and they go out and drink afterward. Yet, when they do go out, they hear their own music but are not recognized.

Needless to say, after spending an evening that could be described as a third-rate version of *Almost Famous*, the thing that impressed me the most was not the natural talent of the people I met, but their relaxed state of mind, even in the face of impending fame. ♦



Benj Gershman jams at an O.A.R. concert.

want to do as far as touring and records," he said.

Additionally, the band does not need to give up a portion of their profits as they would with a major record label.

A Family Affair

Roberge's brother is not the only family member to get involved with the venture.

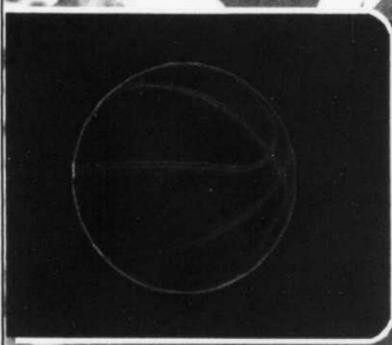
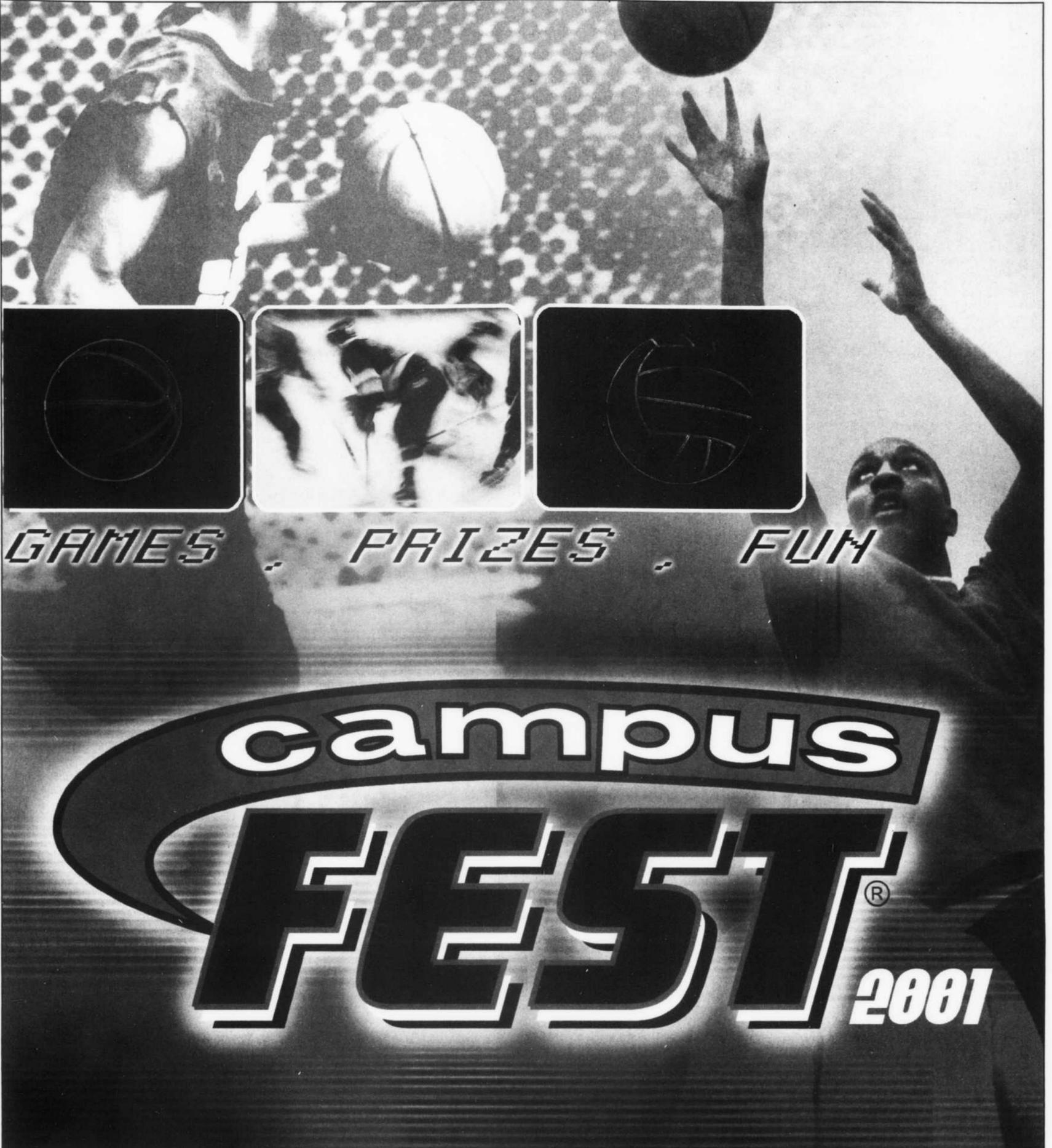
"We consult our parents on everything," Culos said. He went on to explain that his father — a veteran of the music industry — is referred to as "the guru" and contacted regarding music issues. He added that Roberge's father is a lawyer and is consulted when advice is needed.

However, despite the independent name, the band doesn't necessarily fit the profile of the typical "indie band."

The attraction may be in the unique sound. When I com-

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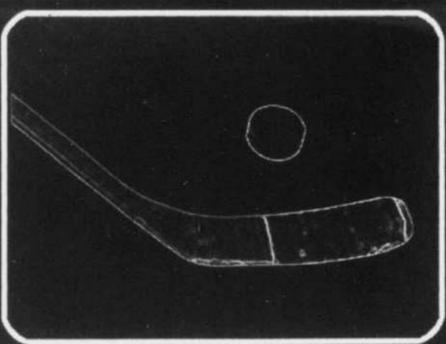
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Call from the Pressbox



Colleen Cox Sports Editor

MT needs help to win Sun Belt

The Middle Tennessee football team faces a must-win situation when it plays New Mexico State at Floyd Stadium Saturday.

The Blue Raiders put themselves in this situation by losing to North Texas 24-21 Oct. 13. NT was playing in only its second Sun Belt Conference game and had lost to the Sun Belt's worst team, Louisiana-Monroe, the week before.

MT came into the game undefeated and looking set for the New Orleans Bowl, but MT's offense struggled against the conference's best defense. The offense put up only 294 yards and one first-half touchdown in the loss.

The defense spotted NT 21 points in the first half before holding the Mean Green offense to just three second-half points.

NT's win over MT shook up the SBC standings majorly. MT is no longer a lock to play in the New Orleans Bowl Dec. 18.

The conference can now conceivably be won by any of four teams - MT, NMSU, NT or Arkansas State.

The Blue Raiders, unlike most of the other Sun Belt teams, have played the majority of their conference schedule already. MT has only two SBC games left, and both of those games will be played at home. The Blue Raiders have won eight straight home games.

NMSU enters the match-up with MT undefeated in the Sun Belt Conference. The Aggies beat ULM and Idaho in their only two conference games this season. NMSU used a seven-play, 64-yard drive to beat IU 46-39 in the final seconds of the game Oct. 13. This came one week after the MT-IU shootout at Floyd Stadium.

The Aggies are probably the toughest team in the Sun Belt right now. They enjoyed a bye week Saturday.

NT has rebounded since losing to ULM. After shocking the Blue Raiders, a 45-0 beating handed ASU a 45-0 beating Saturday. If North Texas continues to stay hot, it could be the team to play in New Orleans.

ASU has played only two conference games. With the loss to NT, ASU virtually dropped out of contention for first place in the Sun Belt Conference. The only way ASU could possibly win is if it won the rest of its games.

The Blue Raiders showdown with the Aggies this week is crucial. However, there is the chance that MT could win this game along with its other Sun Belt game and still miss out on going to New Orleans Dec. 18.

Should NT win the rest of its conference games, MT would stay at home. Assuming both teams win out, MT and NT would finish with one loss apiece. The head-to-head match-up would serve as the tiebreaker, and NT would obviously win out.

MT will out to win the Sun Belt Conference. The only other "contender" was supposed to be IU. IU is 0-7.

NT and NMSU didn't get any respect. Now they are the two teams fighting with MT for the Sun Belt title.

MT fans need to not only root for the Blue Raiders to beat NMSU this week, but also pull for any conference team NT plays.

This is the only way MT can capture the Sun Belt championship and play in New Orleans. ♦

Call from the Pressbox appears every Wednesday. You can contact Colleen Cox at slsports@mtsu.edu or 898-2816.

MT loses second road game

Blue Raiders fall apart in second half at Ole Miss

By Michael Edwards Staff Writer

Saturday afternoon at the University of Mississippi, the Middle Tennessee football team stumbled for the second straight week.

MT was down only 17-10 with a little more than 11 minutes remaining in the third quarter but managed to lose 45-17.

"At halftime, our kids felt like we were going to win this football game," head coach Andy McCollum said. "We just got beat by a very good football team."

Early in the third quarter, Dwone Hicks busted loose for

the longest MT run of the day, but he re-aggravated his hamstring which was injured against North Texas a week earlier. The play featured

Hicks running down the far sideline, with one man to run past. After pulling up lame, he stepped out of bounds and never returned.

"We told him that if he felt any tinge not to push it, just to pull up," McCollum said.

Hicks finished the game with nine carries for 79 yards in only 35 minutes.

Reshard Lee picked up where

Hicks left off. The Georgia native rushed for 84 yards on 12 carries, running at will against the Ole Miss defense.

The Rebels were giving up more than 200 yards per game on the ground entering the game, while the Blue Raiders managed 199 yards on 30 attempts.

"We felt like we could run the ball," McCollum said. "The guys up front did a great job."

Looking at the first quarter stats, it's hard to tell whether Ole Miss beat MT or MT beat themselves. On the first offensive play for MT after an Ole Miss touchdown, Hicks received an option pitch from

quarterback Wes Counts and

scattered 15 yards to the MT 44-yard line, but a holding penalty negated 10 of those yards.

After a Counts completion to carry the ball 44 yards inside the MT 10. This set up the Ole Miss field goal.

"We had opportunities early, we just put ourselves in holes," McCollum said. "Maybe they were all good calls."

In the first quarter alone, the Blue Raiders tallied 55 yards in penalties, nearly 20 more than Ole Miss acquired the entire game.

After a long stalemate, the MT offense was unable to

mount a push.

The Blue Raiders finally scored after a 66-yard drive, which was capped off by a Jason Johnson pass to Kendall Nelson. This cut the Rebel lead to three with time running down in the second quarter. Ole Miss answered with a long drive, and finished the half with just a 10 point lead during their homecoming game.

Following a Brian Kelly field goal for MT, the Raiders trailed by only seven, but that's when the flood gates opened. The defense wore down, as Ole Miss dominated in time of possession in both halves of the game.

Johnston finished the day 11-of-25 for 115 yards and a touchdown.

Conference play resumes as MT hosts New Mexico State on Saturday. ♦

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Conference play resumes as MT hosts New Mexico State on Saturday. ♦

Soccer wins in overtime

By Steven Finley Staff Writer

The Middle Tennessee soccer team barely squeezed by Appalachian State in a 4-3 victory last Wednesday.

The win was eerily similar to the previous loss to North Texas in which MT scored three late goals to tie the contest in the final 20 minutes before falling in the overtime that followed.

This time the Blue Raiders played the role of the shocked and frustrated victors. After grabbing a 3-0 lead late in the game, they caved in and allowed three goals in the span of eight minutes.

"We did not play well today as a team. We did some positive things, but the overall effort was not good," MT head coach Scott Ginn said. "You have to give it for hanging in there and not giving up. They played hard the whole game."

MT opened the match as the dominant team. They assaulted the Lady Mountaineers with 10 shots in each half and attacked with an aggressive and physical style that resulted in 12 first-half fouls.

Forward Laura Miguez opened the match's scoring when she took an assist from Megan McGregor and beat Mountaineer goalkeeper Breland Meany.

The goal was Miguez's fourth of the season and gave the Blue Raiders an early 1-0 lead that stood until halftime.

McGregor contributed her second assist when she fed Emily Carter five minutes into the second half. Carter's goal was her fifth and doubled the lead to 2-0.

MT then seemingly put the nail in the coffin in the 71st minute when Lindsey Bost scored unassisted on a shot from 25 yards out to give the Blue Raiders a three-goal lead.

However, four minutes later, the Blue Raider defense col-

lapsed and allowed three consecutive goals, letting ASU tie the game at 3-3.

Jennifer Rudy, Kristin Goldsmith and Jennifer Donald each scored a goal in a span of eight minutes, shocking MT players and fans alike.

It looked as if the Blue Raiders would be facing a second consecutive overtime until the Mountaineers gave them a gift when they scored on their own goalkeeper in the 79th minute.

MT buckled down and held ASU scoreless for the final 12 minutes to pick up the ugly 4-3 victory.

"For some reason, we don't play well in the first half, but we usually come back and play good enough to tie or win in the second half, but that half was horrible," Ginn said.

After the match, MT headed straight into preparations for the upcoming match with Western Kentucky.

"There is no guarantee that we will go and beat Western Kentucky," Ginn said. "We are going to have to get our mindset by Friday or we're going to be in trouble."

The Friday contest with WKU proved to be a hard-fought contest, which the Blue Raiders lost 1-0.

MT was unable to capitalize on any of several quality scoring chances, the best of which was on Miguez's attack of the net in the 20th minute.

Lady Topper goalie Amy Uhlman tackled Miguez in the box and prevented the goal to preserve the scoreless tie.

WKU's Kelly Frericks logged the game's only goal in the 69th minute when she beat MT goalkeeper Emily Shrum from 10 yards out.

The Blue Raiders had a few more chances late in the match but were unable to convert. The 1-0 score withstood until the end, and MT fell back to .500 again.

The Blue Raiders, 7-7 overall



Emily Carter heads the ball while avoiding a defender.

and 2-4 in the Sun Belt season and have risen above the label they and been given and drastically hate: mediocre. ♦

finish the season off with a fury so they can succeed in the post-

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Volleyball wins one, loses one

By Erich Heinlein Staff Writer

Middle Tennessee beat conference foe South Alabama 3-1 Friday and lost to another conference foe, New Orleans, 3-2 Saturday to drop their record to 6-13 and 2-7 in the Sun Belt Conference.

In the first game of the South Alabama match, MT scored the first two points on a USA attack error followed by a Katie Thiesen kill on an assist from Goldie Bilyeu. USA then scored the next two points, eventually tying the game to at 4.

MT then ran away with the rest of the match, leading by as much as 10 (17-7), and USA got as close as five, (25-20). The Lady Raiders ran away with the game, taking it 30-23.

In the second game, MT took the first four points, the first three of which were kills by Erin Hillstrom and Thiesen. Bilyeu got the assist on all four of these points.

As the game progressed, the Lady Raiders' lead continued to climb, and they led by as much as 15 (27-12) and as little as six (12-6). The Lady Raiders won the second game 30-15.

The third game was almost an exact repeat of the first when MT took the first two points, both of which were a result of Karisse Baker kills. Bilyeu assisted on both of these kills. Just like the first game, the game eventually hit a 4-4 tie.

However, after the 4-4 tie, neither team took a lead of more than two points, until USA took the lead at 16-19 on a kill. USA outscored MT 12-8 the rest of the way and won the game 31-24.

The fourth game stayed close with neither team grabbing a lead of more than two until MT took the lead 13-10 on a Hillstrom service ace. After MT took a five-point lead at 15-10, MT never looked back and went on to win the game 30-22.

A big reason for this win was a lineup change made by Lady Raiders head coach Lisa Kissee. Instead of running the 6-2 that they had been running all season, Kissee decided to switch to a 5-1, giving more of the setting responsibilities on Bilyeu rather than Lady Raider co-captain Kelly Quinn. This put Quinn in a more defensive position. As a result of this, Bilyeu contributed 55 assists.

"I was put into this game on defense and passing. It has been fun learning my new role this week, but also difficult," Quinn said.

Stars that shone for the Lady Raiders were Shakeitha Deckard with 23 kills and

See Volleyball, 11

Blue Raider Notebook



By Shane Marquardt Staff Writer

Two weeks and two losses have passed since the Middle Tennessee football team last played at home. It returns to challenge Sun Belt Conference opponent New Mexico State in a game that has become quite critical.

The last time the Blue Raiders played in Floyd Stadium they were undefeated and left with a Division I-A record in total points scored. MT appears to have burnt their offensive gas in the process. It must

look to replenish before facing the Aggies, who are undefeated, in Sun Belt play.

The Ground Forces:

The Blue Raider defense hasn't produced a 100-yard rusher since Dwone Hicks lit up the scoreboard against Idaho. Since then, Hicks has been hampered with a hamstring injury, and MT has collected two losses and only one touchdown from the ground attack. Any chance at taking the Sun Belt Conference championship will depend on the running backs dominating the game against the Aggies.

Big D:

The Blue Raider defense kept the Ole Miss offense in check as long as it could, but for the second straight week it received little help from their offensive team.

But trouble was forthcoming for the MT defense when it asked their secondary to do the majority of the tackling, and it finally succumbed to the Rebel's offense in the fourth quarter. The Blue Raiders will need production from the first line of defense when hosting an Aggie offensive that has faced the likes of Texas, Kansas State and Oregon State.

All-American Watch:

Wide receiver Kendall Newton has been carrying the staggering MT offense, providing the few touchdowns the team has been able to collect in the past two weeks. Running back Dwone Hicks has been injured and hasn't seen the end zone in two weeks. It will take a combined effort from the All-American candidates to get the Blue Raider offense back on track. ♦

Blue Raider Notebook appears every Wednesday during football season.

Volleyball: Raiders fall to New Orleans

Continued from 10

11 digs. MT scored the first two points of the first game against UNO, the first on a kill by Hillstrom, the second as a result of an UNO attack error. The rest of the game featured six ties and four lead changes.

Neither team led by more than two until MT took a 22-19 lead on an UNO attack error. MT then played even with UNO or the rest of the game to take the game 30-26.

In the second game, MT scored the first point on a Thiesen block. The second game featured four ties and three lead changes.

The biggest lead of the game

was five, when MT trailed 11-6 on a Deckard attack error. UNO took the second game 30-27 as a result of another Deckard attack error.

The third game stayed even until UNO ran up eight out of 10 points to take the lead 27-20. They won the third game 30-22 on a Deckard attack error.

The fourth game started off with UNO in the attack error, in which MT responded with a Bilyeu kill.

It appeared that MT was going to run away with the second set when they took a commanding 6-2 lead, however, UNO refused to go away, though they could not get within closer than two. UNO got within two during several stages of

the match but could not get over the hump as MT prevailed in the fourth set, 30-28.

In the deciding set, UNO won 11 out of the first 14 points, and the Lady Raiders never recovered. They lost the set 15-7 on a Hillstrom attack error.

Leading the Lady Raider attack was Deckard, who contributed 31 kills and 21 digs. Thiesen added 16 kills and 37 attacks. Hillstrom continued with her steady performance, contributing her third double-double in a row with 11 kills and 13 digs.

Bilyeu set her own career record for the assist match in a row with 64 assists. ♦

Deckard is player of week

MT Media Relations

Freshman Shakeithia Deckard earned Sun Belt Conference Player of the Week by helping the Middle Tennessee volleyball team earn a split decision in two Sun Belt Conference matches this weekend and having one of the best

nights in the league this season.

The Nacogdoches, Texas, native had a 23-kill, 9-dig night against South Alabama and followed that up



Deckard

with a 31-kill, 21-dig night against New Orleans. Deckard's 31 kills was the second-highest total in the Sun Belt Conference this season.

For the week, Deckard hit .348 and averaged 6 kills and 3.33 digs per game. She also chipped in with 4.0 blocks. ♦

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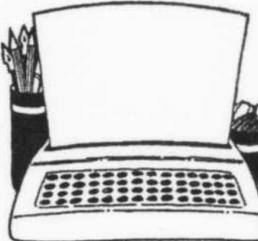
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Kruse remains undefeated

Staff Reports

The Middle Tennessee women's tennis team reached the finals of the June Stewart Invitational at Vanderbilt University Saturday.

Manon Kruse, who is 9-0 in fall tournaments, defeated her fourth straight ranked opponent, handing Penn State's No. 84th ranked Rebecca Ho a 6-3, 6-2 loss Friday morning in flight one. She then beat Clemson's Alix Lacelarie 7-6, 6-4 in semifinal action Saturday. Kruse advances to play 17th ranked Sarah Riske of

Vanderbilt. Kruse is looking for her third tournament title.

Carlen Venter also advanced to the semifinals with a 6-4, 6-2 win over Aleya Ignatieva of Mississippi. She lost her semifinal match to Sarah Witten from Kentucky 4-6, 2-6.

In other singles action, Stacy Varnell beat Femke de Boer of the University of Alabama-Birmingham 6-0, 6-1 in the semifinals of the consolation bracket. Tanja Buccheim won 6-2, 6-2 in the consolation bracket of flight six.

Verena Preiss lost to Penn State's Maaria Husain 4-6, 1-6

Saturday. Emily Vest dropped her match 1-6, 1-6.

In doubles action, Kruse and Varnell beat Marshall's Jessica Johnson and Anna Mitina 8-6 in flight one action Friday. The duo then lost their first match of the fall season, dropping a match 4-8 to Kentucky's Witten and Carolina Mayorga. Venter and Preiss defeated Purdue's Shawn Zuccarini and Maria Walgenburg 8-2 in flight two Friday. Buccheim and Vest fell to Kentucky's Jill Buckley and Sarah Trefethen. ♦

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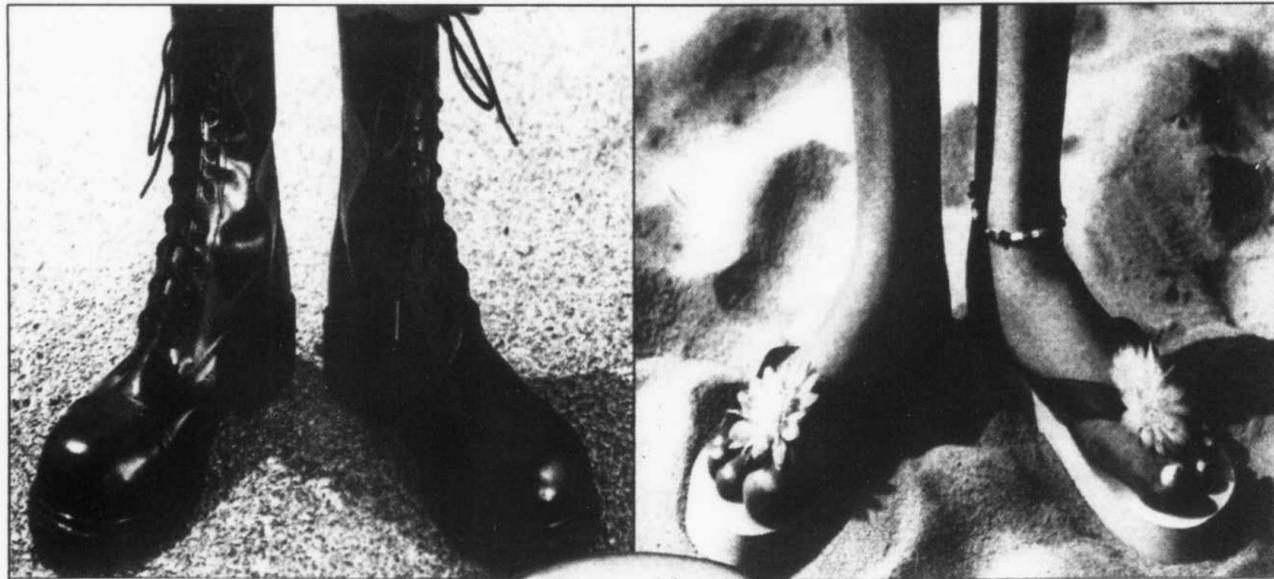
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