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Middle Tennessee State University

SIDELINES

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SGA drops impeachment



Senators and investigative committee members Colin Fly (from left), Jenny Rowan and Jason Stoneback present their findings to the Senate. The committee concluded that charges against Marshall were meritless.

Committee finds significant flaws, lack of protocol in constitution

By Jason Cox
News Editor

The Student Government Association Investigative Committee charged with the responsibility of investigating SGA President John Marshall has determined that charges against him have "no merit."

In the Senate's meeting Wednesday, the committee presented its findings in a slide show presentation that outlined specific allegations against Marshall made in SGA Bill 7-01-F, a resolution to investigate several alleged misdeeds committed by Marshall.

The committee's findings make the possible impeachment of Marshall "a dead issue" according to committee Chairperson Jason Stoneback.

The committee repeatedly pointed to a lack of specific rules concerning allocation of funds in the SGA Constitution and recommended working toward rewriting the constitution to include such rules.

"There are a lot of holes in procedure and policy that have to be addressed after the fact," Stoneback said.

Marshall was accused of violating four sections of the SGA Constitution, including spending SGA funds without following university procedures, failure to submit an adequate and accurate budget, dishonesty and failing to uphold the constitution.

Marshall had not included rollover funds from the previous year's budget in

the SGA's 2001-2002 budget. However, the committee found, rollover funds had not been included in previous budgets and the constitution does not require the president to include the funds.

Mass Communication Senator and committee member Colin Fly later said Marshall had announced the amount of the rollover funds from the 2000-2001 budget in SGA proceedings earlier in the year and that the money was accounted for.

Marshall also was charged with exceeding the allocation for costs related to attending the Tennessee State Intercollegiate Legislature last fall. The Senate approved \$4,000 for lodging, meals, registration and other costs, but the actual cost totalled more than \$6,800.

In the course of the investigation, the committee found that Marshall had authorized an additional hotel room at the Sheraton Inn in Nashville to accommodate an extra attendee. Gene Fitch,

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Marshall

Impeachment Charges

The charges against John Marshall centered around the following section of the SGA Constitution.

Article 2, Section 1: Honesty. All members of the SGA shall uphold the most stringent level of honesty with their colleagues, the administration, the general public and the students.

Article 4, Section 10: Oath of office. All elected officers of the SGA shall take and subscribe to the oath of office, which, in part, requires members to uphold the SGA Constitution.

Article 8, Section 1: During the first four weeks of the fall semester, the president of the SGA shall submit to the Senate for approval a budget setting forth a general outline of proposed expenditures and anticipated income from all sources for the forthcoming school year.

Article 8, Section 2: No money shall be expended from the treasury except in accordance with the procedures established by MTSU.

Marshall was charged with failing to outline the 2001-2002 SGA budget and spending SGA funds without the approval of the Senate.

The committee found that Marshall had not violated any specific portion of the SGA Constitution and therefore ended proceedings against him.

School funding to be discussed in legislature

By Charlene Callier
Flash! Editor

Tennessee lawmakers and MTSU students both started their new sessions last week, but the coincidence has meaning beyond the timing.

As students started classes, legislators opened the second year of the 102nd General Assembly by rushing through ceremony in both chambers' first official sessions so they could get down to business in committee hearings and backroom negotiations.

The backroom work was ironing out new legislative districts based on the 2000 census. The committee hearings included getting some bad financial news.

Comptroller John Morgan told the House Finance Committee that tax revenues this year are lower than they were last year. He said the state Funding Board determined last month that annual revenues will be down approximately \$300 million. Coupled with the legislature's use last year of non-recurring tobacco settlement funds to balance the budget, the state will be in a half-billion-dollar deficit.

"And that's not just lower growth," Morgan said. "That's several hundred million dollars less revenue that simply won't be available to continue last year's spending levels. Just to spend the same amount, there will have to be that much new revenue."

Last year's spending cuts already have dipped into the state's university budgets, leading to a 15 percent tuition increase.

"We don't have enough to meet state needs, especially in higher education," said Sen. Larry Trail, D-Murfreesboro. "We will have to find a way of raising revenue."

Rep. John Hood, D-Murfreesboro, agreed.

"There are going to be major cuts or we'll have to find another source of revenue," he said.

"The budget is the big issue," affirmed Sen. Steve Cohen, D-Memphis, the legislature's prime proponent of a state lottery, who added, "We need more conservative spending."

Even so, the list of needs is long. Cohen cited TennCare, education, police and capital development building projects

See Legislature, 2

EYESORE OF THE WEEK



Photo by Amy Jones | Chief Photographer

This door, in the back of the James Union Building, was vandalized at the end of last semester. However, don't fear: the door has since been repaired with tape.

"Eyesore of the Week" is a new feature that will examine the inadequacies of our campus in hopes of drawing attention to flaws that need to be addressed. If you have seen any "eyesores" around campus, please let us know by calling 904-8357.

Police settle into off-campus location

By Scott Laming
Staff Writer

After 18 years of serving MTSU from its home location, Campus Police and Public Safety headquarters has moved off campus.

The Campus Police headquarters is located at the old University Church of Christ building, at 1412 East Main St. The new facility will include more office space, better accessibility for students and a training room for officers and students.

"The training room will be used for law enforcement seminars, DARE programs and the university's nationally known rape defense class, which just this semester became available



Photo by Amy Jones | Chief Photographer

The former church is now home to the MTSU Police.

to women as one credit for their Jack Drugmand said. The new HPERS requirements," Chief location also will open up class-

room space for criminal justice majors, allowing students to learn and train beside police officers.

The new location is currently under construction, and with electricity and flooring still needing to be put in, the move will still take a few weeks to be finished.

"As the university has grown, so have our services and the need for additional space. It will be a big improvement. Our officers are really excited," Drugmand said.

The phone number for Campus Police and the Department of Public Safety will remain 898-2424.

The new facility will be completed by the end of the month. ♦

News coverage, security issues topic of lecture

Staff Reports

William K. Marimow, editor of the *Baltimore Sun*, will address various aspects of covering news amidst national security concerns today at 4:30 p.m. in lecture hall 103 of the John Bragg Mass Communication Building.

Marimow has worked at the *Sun* as editor, managing editor, associate managing editor and metro editor. He won a Pulitzer Prize for investigative reporting in 1985 and for public service in 1978 while working at the *Philadelphia Inquirer*. He is a graduate of Trinity College.

"We are so lucky to have someone of Bill Marimow's stature on the MTSU campus," said journalism professor Sharon Fitzgerald, who is helping coordinate the event. "He's a journalistic legend, and I can't wait to hear what he has to say. The *Baltimore Sun* has become one of America's premier newspapers, and I think a lot of it has to do with Bill Marimow's leadership."

The lecture, sponsored by the John Seigenthaler Chair of Excellence in First Amendment Studies, is free and open to the public. For more information, call Fitzgerald at 890-8578. ♦

SGA: Stoneback: 'No procedure' to follow for purchases

Continued from 1

who serves as adviser to the SGA, said at the meeting that Marshall called him about the extra room and that he did not authorize it.

However, there is no protocol in the constitution that requires the SGA president to get authorization from either the Senate or the faculty adviser before allocating emergency funds.

"There's no procedure on the books for how to deal with this," Stoneback said.

Marshall was accused of not following university procedure by authorizing several purchases in 2000 and 2001 that exceeded \$1,499.99. University policy states that purchases over this amount must be sent out to bid.

The committee concluded that Marshall had limited knowledge of the purchases and that other SGA staff members had accepted responsibility for the purchases.

Marshall also had not included performance scholarships for SGA officers in the budget, but university policy states that these funds were not available for reallocation and therefore do not have to be represented in the budget.

Marshall, who did not attend Wednesday's meeting, said the committee "did an excellent job of making sure no stone was left unturned."

"Hopefully now the Senate can ... look to some other issues concerning the student body," Marshall said.



Photo by Lindsey Turner | Managing Editor

Basic and Applied Sciences Senator Jason Searles asks the committee a question.

"[The committee] put a lot of hard work into [the investigation], and I support the determination they made to the Senate," said Susan Wilson, speaker of the Senate and co-sponsor of Bill 7-01-E. "I don't feel that this has been an unsuccessful process at all."

"This wasn't brought to the attention of the student body to bring down the name of John ... It was to correct the procedural problems the SGA has," Wilson said.

"I do feel ... that John continuously wants control of the budget and won't let us spend money without his signature," Wilson said. "These are things that we told him to correct, and when they weren't cleared up, this is what it had to come to."

Wilson pointed out that Marshall had assisted in the rewriting of the constitution last year and said he "knew what he needed to do and didn't initially do that."

Other business at the meet-

ing included the resignation of Chris Montaque, a senator from the College of Education and Behavioral Sciences. Montaque, who was also a member of the investigative committee, cited job obligations and the birth of his daughter over the winter break as the reasons for his resignation.

The Senate also came up with a list of New Year's resolutions, including rewriting the constitution and restoring unity to the SGA. ♦

Sidelines is looking for reporters, columnists and photographers.

To apply, come by the James Union Building, Room 310, or call 898-2336.

Legislature: Redistricting a hot topic in the House

Continued from 1

as priority items on the legislature's funding agenda.

Trail said MTSU has proven to be a jewel in Tennessee higher education, doing a better job managing than most schools and turning out a higher caliber of students in the region. According to Trail, these are some of the reasons that MTSU is growing, and why its resources need to grow, too — someday, if not now.

"I know we have to fund higher education, I'm just not sure whether or not it will be this year," Trail said.

The Tennessee Board of Regents is putting that issue at the top of its legislative initiatives this session.

"One of the things on the legislative agenda is asking for full funding of higher education," said Mary Morgan, TBR's director of communications.

"I think that the initial battle will be what it's been the last three sessions — revenue and budget," said David Gregory,

TBR vice chancellor for administration and facility development. "It's critical that we try to attain an adequate level of funding for the schools."

Gregory, who is TBR's legislative liaison, believes there are a number of senators and representatives in leadership positions who are dedicated to solving the problem.

"I am optimistic because I feel that the senators and representatives will be dedicated until the job is done," Gregory said.

The state's funding problems have been brewing for years — ever since Gov. Don Sundquist decided there was a funding crisis and proposed a state income tax, an idea that has yet to attract enough legislative support.

"(I) fear that the legislature will stick their heads in the sand and either beg, borrow or steal any money they can find so they won't have to deal with the underlying revenue issue," said John Vile, chairman of the MTSU political science depart-

ment. Vile said the problem is that the tax base is not growing at the same rate as the needs of the state and that the legislature has not addressed that problem.

Among TBR's initiatives, Morgan said, is funding for maintenance and new construction. She said TBR also hopes to get second-year funding of the Geier Decree, the recent resolution of a 30-year-old desegregation lawsuit.

In addition, TBR wants to propose to the legislature a conversion of Nashville State Technical Institute to community college status. She said it meets all of the requirements but just hasn't been converted to a community college.

Between the opening legislative session Tuesday and another on Thursday, legislators negotiated the final details of three redistricting maps for the two Tennessee chambers and the nine-district U.S. House map for Tennessee.

Tennessee House Republicans objected to the

original proposal for their chamber, which would have thrown 14 Republican incumbents into several neighboring districts represented by Republican colleagues. However, a compromise led to acceptance Thursday.

The Tennessee Senate district map was less controversial. Sen. Trail noted that the most significant change was in his own Rutherford County district. Because of growth throughout the past decade, it now has too many voters for one district, so it will be split in two.

"The Senate took care of its members and the House took care of business," Trail said before Thursday's House compromise, referring to Democratic efforts in the lower chamber to increase their control by gerrymandering some Republicans out of a district.

The Tennessee House currently has 57 Democrats to 42 Republicans. Democrats also control the Senate, 18-15. ♦

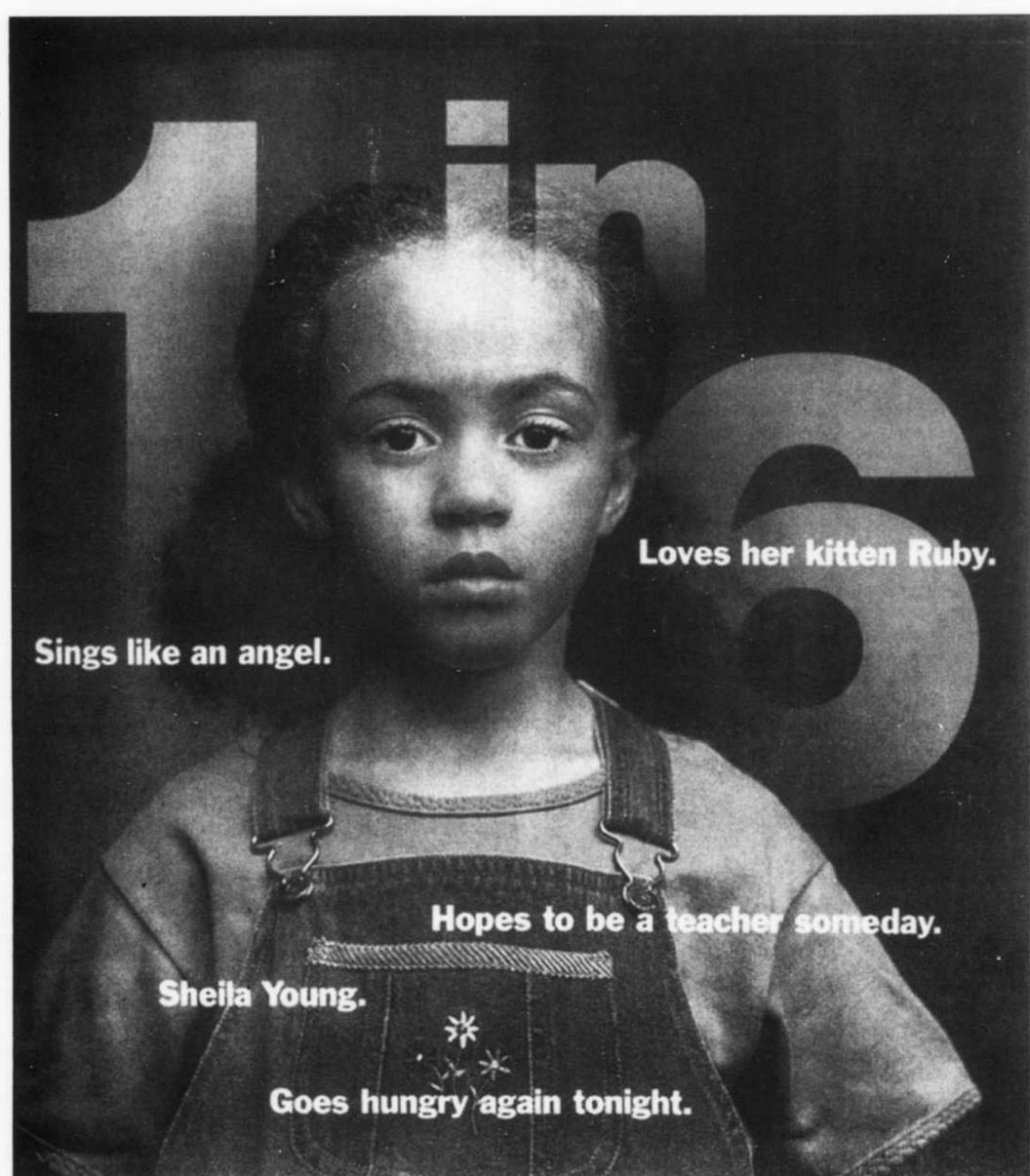
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OPINIONS

Murfreesboro, Tenn.

Monday, January 14, 2001

SIDELINES ♦ 3

Editorial

Collegiate hopefuls benefit from lottery

When looking for solutions to the state's higher education funding problems, Tennessee could take a few cues from its neighbor Georgia.

In just 10 years, Georgia's lottery has helped send more than 600,000 students to state colleges and universities. Its HOPE scholarship program allows high school students with at least a B average to attend any state school by paying their tuition for the duration of their attendance.

The funds may be used at eligible public and private colleges and universities and public technical colleges for tuition, fees and book allowances. Money also is available for tuition assistance for undergraduate students and paraprofessionals who aspire to be teachers and to teachers who seek advanced degrees in areas of need.

Because Georgia's lottery system is arranged specifically to benefit only education, college students aren't the only ones who benefit from a lottery earmarked for education. Some of the lottery funds are funneled into the Georgia pre-kindergarten program for all 4-year-olds, and some of the money is spent on "capital outlay projects," including computer and other technological upgrades for schools, technical institutes, colleges and universities in the state.

With the money derived from a lottery, the quality of a Tennessee education - from kindergarten to grad school - would rise. With proper funding, elementary and secondary schools could keep up with technological advances and afford to hire quality teachers and churn out educated students.

A lottery would encourage intelligent people to go to college by paying for the education so they actually could afford to obtain a degree and go into the workforce as an informed, skilled worker. Tennessee's universities would benefit by attracting the brightest students, instead of losing them to out-of-state schools.

A referendum concerning a state lottery will be on the ballot in November and could help seal the fate of the state's universities. With a state lottery, Tennessee's students won't have to rely on an apathetic legislature to determine their already uncertain futures. ♦

From the Opinions Editor Embracing tradition for tradition's sake



Last week, we all had scheduling problems. And when I say "we all," I mean me and everyone I talked to.

My problems all stemmed from my decision to change one of my minors to economics. Being a junior, I was behind the game and needed to catch up fast.

Checking www.mtsureview.com, I found the names of the best economics professors and mapped out my plan. ECON 2410 and 2420 here I come.

I hit a snag when I noticed all my needed classes were closed. But a quick phone call to the economics department erased my worries. After speaking with a professor, I was given permission to enroll in an honors economics 2420 class.

On the first day of classes, I was sitting in biology when I was handed a pink note, informing me my pres-

ence was requested in the honors college office.

Away I went. I was promptly informed that I had been dropped from my honors economics class because I put the class over the 20-student limit.

When I tried to protest later that day to the dean of the honors college, I was told that to allow me to enroll in the class would break 28 years of honors college tradition. Furthermore, the dean stated that he would be going back on his word by letting me in.

I respect a man who keeps his word. That takes courage. And I don't blame him for not letting me enroll. But preserving tradition for tradition's sake is pure folly.

Since the honors college was founded, university enrollment has grown by 100 percent. It stands to reason that the antiquated cap on honors classes should have grown as well.

As the college does not as yet have the funds to maintain more classes, raising the number of students allowed per class is the only feasible solution. ♦

Let's give credit where credit is due

By Austin Jackson
Staff Columnist

So here we are, one year into President Bush's first term, and the report card is in: three straight months of 80 percent plus approval ratings and no signs that the Bush juggernaut is slowing.

Of course, a sizeable portion of this popularity has blossomed from the predictable rally 'round the flag effect that all presidents enjoy in times of national crisis, but Bush's ability to sustain these astronomical approval ratings is a result of a different type of phenomenon.

What people see in Bush is something this nation has not experienced since his father left office in 1992 - a president being

a leader, not a poll-driven, egomaniac that this nation was forced to endure for eight long years.

In this conservative's not-so-humble opinion, Bush should give Slick Willy a ring and thank him for being such an incredibly easy act to follow.

While Clinton introduced new lows to the Oval Office (not to mention innovative uses for a fine Cohiba), Bush has brought respect and dignity back to 1600 Pennsylvania Ave.

Clinton's greatest first-year achievements include his embarrassing policy concerning gays in the military, an impotent strategy in Somalia and Haiti, a doomed, socialist health-care plan and taking credit for an improving

Reaganomic economy.

I find it to be one of the greatest political ironies in recent history that the legacy-obsessed Clinton will find his name spoken in the same breath with the likes of Grant, Harding and Nixon.

Bush, with his \$1.35 trillion tax cut and signing into law the most innovative education plan in recent history, all the while waging a successful campaign against terrorism, almost certainly has assured his place as one of modern times' most dynamic figures.

When history looks back on the Clinton legacy, he will be seen as the corrupt little weed overshadowed between the two Bushes.

And now the liberal

counter-offensive has begun.

The previously dormant leftist editorialists have now finally found the moxi to jumpstart their usual hypocritical Bush bashing.

In his recent column in *The Nation*, Robert Scheer gives a preview of the desperate attempt the left is making to link the recently failed Enron corporation and President Bush. Scheer makes the outlandish statement, "Enron is Whitewater in spades."

"This isn't just some rinky-dink land investment like the one dredged up by right-wing enemies to haunt the Clinton White House - but rather it has the makings of the greatest presidential scandal since the Teapot Dome..."

The greatest infraction that Bush could be accountable for, if any, is quasi association.

In no way has Bush personally profited from Enron. His predecessor, meanwhile, stood to profit from the Whitewater land deal.

Although Bush doesn't have the oratory skills of Reagan or the charisma of Clinton, he has shown a quality much more profound and valuable to the nation: innovative, conservative policy with a no apology approach.

So as Bush policy continues to be implemented over the next seven years, the ignorance-blinded left will continue to deny Bush credit he will most assuredly deserve. ♦

Kindergarten is for suckers

By Jeff Reguilon
The California Aggie (U. California-Davis)

(U-WIRE) - In 1989, Robert Fulghum published a collection of several short essays, including "All I Need To Know I Learned In Kindergarten," to the delight of gaudily embroidered sweatshirt-donning soccer moms everywhere. Unsure of the subject matter, I began reading it under the assumption that the essay would rail against the uselessness of post-Play-Doh education. Instead, I found a sappy list of life guidelines supposedly learned in the first year of school. Although I appreciate the notion that all the knowledge one needs to live a full and healthy life can be ascertained in one place, for me, that place was not kindergarten. No, all I need to know I learned from *Monsters of Rap*.

If only I had Razor and Tie's

compilation of late 1980s/early 1990s rap earlier in my life, I could have bypassed years of social ineptitude, self-loathing and time wasted in school.

You might think the *Monsters of Rap* CD only serves the purpose of getting your friends' butts to wiggle a little bit, but you'd be missing the subtle beauty of these songs. Every track and every artist has an important lesson to share.

For example, Sir Mix-a-Lot's track "Baby Got Back" teaches us a lesson in honesty. He begins by taking an unpopular stance and proclaiming, "[he] like[s] big butts and [he] cannot lie." Sir Mix-a-Lot shows that it's important to stand by your convictions even if others may not agree. He continues by promoting self-esteem and emphatically denouncing the unrealistic images fashion magazines depict, declaring "So Cosmo says you're fat/Well I ain't down with that!" Sir Mix-A-Lot tells us

to love others how they are, and as a result, the love we have for ourselves can grow as big as the posters he prefers.

Monsters of Rap also offers us valuable information about females. Yo-Yo's song "You Can't Play With My Yo-Yo" teaches us that, although women are beautiful creatures, we should be respectful toward them and their bodies. She breaks it down when she announces, "check the booty, yo it's kinda soft, but if you touch, yo livin' in a coffin (word to your mother)." Thanks to Yo-Yo, I now know that just because a girl is attractive and dresses provocatively, I do not necessarily have an invitation to grope her.

Another lesson comes from MC Hammer's hit "U Can't Touch This." When Hammer released this single, his success seemed unquestionable. He rose from the inner-city struggle of his youth to a level of wealth that allowed him

to add several yards of unnecessary fine fabric to each pair of his pants. As such, when Hammer talks about work ethic, people listen. In "U Can't Touch This," he reminds us that any level below 100 percent is worthless when he states, "Either work hard or you might as well quit." With pearls of wisdom like this, it is no wonder MC Hammer is a televangelist now. "And that's word because you know..."

The lessons learned from *Monsters of Rap* are far more valuable than anything I could have learned in the year I spent in kindergarten urinating in my overalls and making fun of the kids who didn't know how to read yet. Perhaps my time spent there might have been more valuable had my teacher spent less time worrying about my paste-eating habits and more time teaching us the messages of Tone Loc, Onyx and Vanilla Ice. ♦

Don't let new DUI law affect you

By Jeremy Ethridge
Staff Columnist

You might have seen the series of ad campaigns the Tennessee highway patrol launched this year on almost every television channel you can think of, designed to discourage drinking and driving. "You drink and drive - you loose" is the slogan, and a steeper consequence is the plan.

Before this campaign was started, you might have heard someone say he has three or four DUI convictions under their belt.

Thanks to the Sundquist administration's efforts to reduce the amount of alcohol-related accidents in Tennessee, just about the only place that you could hear someone say that these days is from behind bars.

According to the new laws, a first time DUI offender can be required to serve anywhere from 48 hours to 11 months and 29 days in jail, and they will lose their license for one year.

The courts also will order them to attend a DUI and/or drug offender education program and make restitution for any injuries and/or personal losses.

This probably sounds the same to you as it does to me. I personally view it with a great deal of separation. After all, I use my head for more than a hat rack, and I wouldn't drink and drive.

Well, what exactly is a DUI? A DUI is defined by the state of Tennessee as being in an operable vehicle while under the influence of any intoxicant such as alcohol, narcotics or any drug producing central nervous system effects - including prescription drugs.

When you are stopped, you may be

asked to submit to a blood alcohol test.

If you are found to have blood alcohol content greater than .10 percent, you will be charged with a DUI.

If you are found to have a blood alcohol level less than .10 percent but the officer still believes you are too intoxicated to drive, the officer can charge you with driving while intoxicated.

This leaves the law open for interpretation.

If an officer suspects you are under the influence of any mind-altering substance, you will be escorted to the police station, tested for illegal substances abuse and prosecuted accordingly.

Laws were passed earlier this year that give police officers the right to place a person operating a motor vehicle under arrest based on as little evidence as the officer found necessary.

Since your car will be towed at your expense and you will be required to pay court costs upon facing the judge, this will turn out to be an expensive adventure. Not to even mention trying to find a way to work and/or school with no driver's license.

What is the answer then?

Well, that should be obvious. Don't drink and drive.

Get into the habit of using designated drivers; it's more than just a good idea.

If people can get into the habit of this, the death rates, number of car seizures and the amount of money paid by citizens on drinking and driving convictions will decrease, not to mention offenders would not be allowed to continue driving.

So, drive safe this semester and choose not to become part of these unfortunate statistics. ♦

WHAT A SCHMUCK

Sidelines' occasional watch for foolhardy statements.

Perhaps you've heard of CNN's promiscuity. Its bungling incompetence is enough to get its ad department mentioned here in "What a Schmuck."

An ad that ran on CNN Jan. 5-6 flashed the words "provocative" and "super-smart" before a zipper sound is heard, a picture of news anchor Paula Zahn appears and the narrator proclaims, "[and] oh, yeah, just a little sexy."

What were they thinking? Clearly this is another example of how television news is becoming more and more of a sideshow. CNN, oh how you've fallen. I thought FOX News was supposed to be the sensationalistic channel.

Not that we disagree that Ms. Zahn is attractive. She's mighty fine, especially for a 40-something. But news flash to the promotions department - if we want sex appeal, we file through bootlegged photos of MTSU's dance team. We don't pray for a world crisis so I can spend hours lusting after an anchor-person.

CNN tried to cover its blunder by saying the ad was never approved by top management and that it was, in fact, designed and edited by a woman.

Like that makes a difference. We don't care if it was done by a highly-trained chimp, it should never have made it on air. Get a clue, CNN. If you want more respect and higher ratings, keep your integrity. Let other channels fall by the wayside. ♦



SIDELINES

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FEATURES

4 ♦ SIDELINES

Monday, January 14, 2002

Murfreesboro, Tenn.

RIM program draws diversity from great distances

By **Brandon Bruun**
Contributor

Like yesterday, you remember your first step into the John Bragg Mass Communication building.

Its towering ceilings are eclipsed by a maze of hallways. Doors open to prospective classrooms filled with new technologies and endless possibilities. But today you enter the building a different way; you're a student. Something else is on your mind.

Hiding behind computer monitors, you sit in the MIDI lab. Class is about to begin. You're not thinking about the test next week or the lab work due Thursday. You look around the classroom, beyond the costly equipment, and you see your classmates. Many are people who normally wouldn't be interested in attending a university in Tennessee were it not for the recording industry program.

"It pretty much felt like home," said Jared Dragoun, a RIM major and native of Bakersfield, Calif.

Dragoun is just one of the many students to happen upon MTSU's top-notch recording program.

"I was looking through a college handbook at all the recording schools and became interested in the Nashville area," he said.

Anticipating graduation this May, Dragoun has plans to stay around Franklin and Nashville after arrangements to get married this summer.

Student organizations such as the Society of Motion Picture and Television Engineers, the Association of Recording Management Students, the Student Songwriters Association, the Urban Music Society and the Christian Music Society give students the chance to share similar interests within the department.

The Audio Engineering Society is one organization that stretches beyond the nation's borders.

"I was always interested in recording while in Korea," senior Juyoung Yim explained. "I used AES's Web site to identify accredited colleges

around the world in Japan, Canada, Germany and the United States. I felt closer to American culture and MTSU was one of the colleges listed."

Getting advice from friends in the States, Yim chose MTSU based on recommendations and the price.

"I am most interested in sound for film and would like to get some experience here in the U.S. after I graduate," she said, smiling. Although she already has a bachelor's degree, the Seoul native is in her third semester with the program.

Although many students choose to stay in the Nashville area after they graduate, others have plans outside Tennessee.

Senior Aaron Sefton transferred after attending Kansas State for two years.

"I wanted to do more with music production and MT is geared more toward the aspect of the industry I'm most interested in," Sefton explained. "As part of my entrepreneurship minor, I came up with an idea for a project where I could possibly start a non-profit organization using music recording as a means of reaching out to inner-city kids. I felt it would teach them problem solving, working in groups

and allow for creativity."

Sefton said he also is interested in producing for other projects.

Sam Bickinson of Gulfport, Miss., anticipates working with BMI after graduation and then attending law school at UCLA.

"I have and will continue to recommend this school to others," Bickinson exclaimed.

"Between the professors, coursework requirements, internships and NARM conventions, you leave MT knowing the business."

Sometimes word-of-mouth travels even farther.

Senior Tak Kudo first heard of MTSU after his mother talked with a Belmont graduate who was teaching English in Japan. Kudo spent some time in high school as well as a small private college in Utah before making the move to Murfreesboro.

Kudo would like to stay in the United States after graduation as long as he is allowed to.

"It just depends on the laws with green cards and citizenship," he said, "but I would like to get as much experience here as possible."

In addition, Kudo explained that once one works in the United States, one can work anywhere else because the recording market is the strongest in America. As for the program, Kudo is

pleased.

"I was surprised at the quality of the studios and equipment for the price you pay in tuition," he said. Beyond MTSU, Kudo talks of how living in American culture has changed him.

"Where in Japan you might be afraid of being too unique and having people gossip about you," he said, "I see the American culture as being more individual and friendly. Japan is more formal."

Like other students interested in music, Kudo plays bass in a band known as Neo. The Nagoya, Japan native said that, although he wishes there were more classes with hands-on studio time, he would recommend the program to others with similar interests.

Because of the growing popularity of the RIM program, there are questions being raised about limiting the number of students accepted, and many students already are experiencing the side effects of the program's growing popularity.

With a student body of 20,073 students, MTSU has created a distinctly diverse community of learning. Recording industry majors make up 1,516 of the student body, almost half of the entire College of Mass Communication. Within the entire university, there are 1,728 out-of-state students and 270 international students.

Dragoun wishes some of the equipment would be in better working order for the classes.

"I figured out that each class is costing me \$20 per day (with out-of-state tuition) and I don't want to keep troubleshooting when I could be learning."

In addition, Sefton said he wishes there could be more one-on-one time with the equipment but feels very fortunate to have had some great teachers.

Sefton said he feels he probably could get a recording industry job without the degree, but emphasizes that part of being at MT is that he has to actively learn.

"You have to make an effort!" he exclaimed.

Because of the RIM programs ability to attract diverse students, such as Sefton and Kudo, it continues to expand and gain recognition. ♦



Feminism finds literary outlet

By **Rebecca Parker**
Staff Writer

Abuse, adoption and women of the Bible are only a few things *Scribbling Mob* portrays to its readers.

The campus-based literary magazine deals with feminism through art, poetry and prose. Beginning with its disclaimer in the beginning and continuing all the way through the descriptions of the staff in the end, *Scribbling Mob* embarks the reader on a graphic, witty and energetic journey into the minds and experiences of MTSU's women and men.

"I absolutely love it," said sophomore and reader Bailey McMeans. "I really enjoy all the poetry and artwork. I think it's written on a much deeper level than most literature found on campus."

Callie Elizabeth Butler, editor of the *Mob*, said the publication offers a different perspective.

"It really gives a feminist voice to MTSU's campus," she said. Butler has worked on staff for two semesters now, and was assistant editor before she became editor.

Scribbling Mob was created three years ago as a class project by Christi Underwood with help from Elizabeth Ferguson, Butler said. Underwood decided she wanted to make a publication, so she went to the Women's Studies sponsor and developed a literary magazine.

"Our goal is to offer a feminist publication that exemplifies all facets of feminism," Butler said. "It's a colorful publication that expresses different people's views of feminism, ranging from conservative to radical."

McMeans said the publication doesn't bash men.

"It's a celebration of women," she said.

The magazine comes out once every semester and is accepts submissions from all students. The editorial staff consists of seven people. Elyce Rae Helford, the chair for Women's Studies, is faculty advisor.

The deadline for this semester's submissions has yet to be decided, but most likely will be in late February or early March, Butler said.

"We hope readers will be exposed to other's ideologies and thinking, and gain an understanding of what feminism is," Butler said, "and of course we want them to be entertained."

McMeans said she feels the magazine is all about expression.

"I think they are trying to express themselves as women," she said. "It's hard to be a woman."

Butler said she hopes *Scribbling Mob* will make readers feel empowered and enlightened.

"We just hope we can represent voices on campus and give a greater understanding of this kind of thinking," she said. ♦

Rebound Relationships

Dear Annie,

Ok, I've got a question. I like this girl. She seems cool and all, but she just broke up with her boyfriend. They've been together for a couple of years. We met each other a couple of months after they broke up. She is so beautiful and such an angel, but I'm afraid that I might be just a rebound guy for her. All my friends call me her "rebound guy." But what does this mean? Is that a bad thing? Do you think we have a future together? Should I give her some time? I really don't want to because I like her and I want to be with her. We have had such fun together these past two months.

Another thing that bothers me is that she still talks to her ex-boyfriend. They didn't really end on bad terms. Supposedly, their lives were just going in different directions - whatever that means. Do you think our relationship has a chance? - Rebound guy

Dear Rebound guy,

Every relationship is a risk. I could tell you I know of rebound relationships that lasted - even turned into marriage. I could also tell you of ones that never had a chance from the start. My point: you go for the goal, and you either get it or you don't. What do you have to lose?

Just because you go from one relationship to another doesn't mean you keep rebounding. Rebound relationships usually happen when someone is hurting from a past relationship and they're looking to replace that hole in their heart.

Talk to your girl. Tell her your concerns. The response could be comforting and may help to clear your uneasy "rebound guy" feelings. Communication and honesty are important in any relationship.

I don't know this girl's present emotional state. You said in her past relationship their lives just went in different directions. Is she hurting? Has she moved on? I don't know and it isn't an easy thing to figure out.

I would just follow her lead. Don't add any pressure. I wouldn't necessarily take a time-out in the relationship. Instead, give your heart some time and take the relationship slowly. Just have fun. Dribble the ball for a while!

Please e-mail your questions to DearMtsuAnnie@aol.com.



Painting by Hans Schmitt-Matzen

The painting "Denial" is one of the various pieces of eccentric artwork on display at the Juried Student Art Show in the Art Barn Gallery through Friday. Glass and metal sculptures are also part of the exhibit.

CAMPUS EVENTS

Compiled by Leslie Fike
Features Editor

Monday, Jan. 14

Scuba diving classes will be held at the Recreation Center on Thursdays from 6 to 10 p.m. beginning Jan. 17 through March 7. Students can enroll for \$110, MTSU faculty and staff for \$140 and guests for \$150. Register at the Rec Center, or call 898-2104 for more information.



The Juried Student Art Show will be on exhibit in the Art Barn Gallery through Friday. The gallery is open from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. For more information, call 898-5653.



The survival-themed Honors Lecture Series will be held in Peck Hall, Room 109A from 3 to 3:50 p.m. Andy Womack, former senator, will be speaking on state funding in higher education. The event is free and open to the public. For more information, call 898-2152.



MTSU Films presents "A.I." in the Keathley University Center Theater. Showtimes are 7 and 9:30 p.m., Monday through Thursday, and 6 p.m. Friday and Saturday. For more information, call 898-2551.

Wednesday, Jan. 16

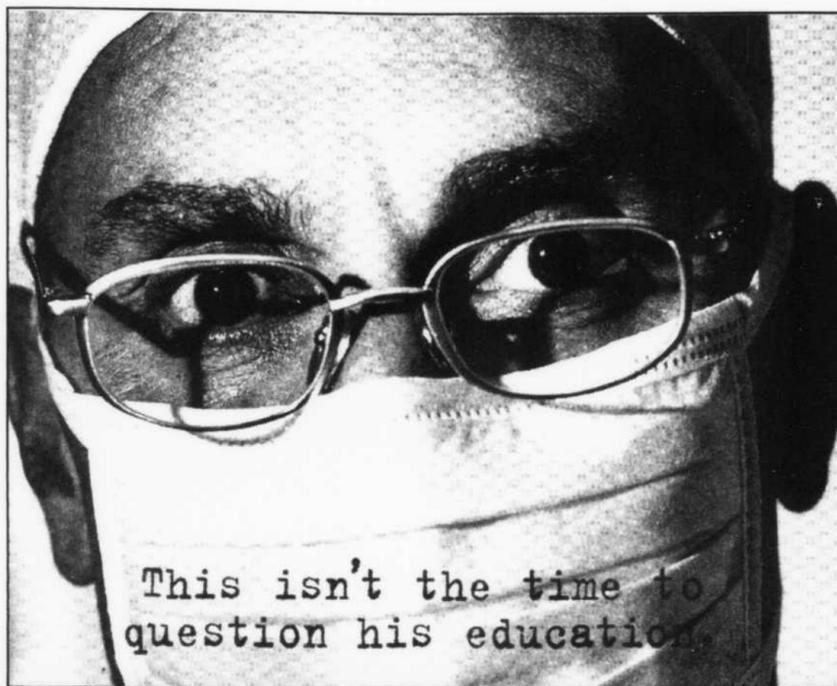
The International Student Coffee Hour will be in the Hazelwood Dining Room of the James Union Building at 4 p.m. For more information, contact Jan Walker at 898-2238.

Monday, Jan. 21

Martin Luther King Day
No classes

Thursday, Jan. 31

There will be a free legal clinic at the June Anderson Women's Center from 7 to 9 p.m. For more information, call 898-2193.



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Sports Briefs

Compiled by Justin Ward
Staff Writer

Softball begins practice for 2002

The Middle Tennessee softball team began practice last week in preparation for the 2002 season.

All but two of the players from last year's school record 41-win team are back for this year's season. Connelley returns three veteran pitchers - Jennifer Martinez, Stacy Preator and Amanda Kendall.

Connelley wants to focus on improving the .261 team batting average of 2001 and strengthen the offense to increase the overall prowess of MT softball.

Two freshmen, Leah Grothaus and Danielle DeCamino have been added to the team. Connelley also brought in junior college transfer Megan Cherinka from Sierra Junior College.

Lady Raider softball opens 2002 at the Mardi Gras Classic in Monroe, La. Feb. 15-17.

Thomatis honored by 'Daily News Journal'

Jamie Thomatis led MT to a 5-3 record in December. She averaged 19.5 points per game and recorded 3 double-doubles to earn the honor of being the *Daily News Journal* MTSU Athlete of the Month.

Thomatis leads the Lady Raiders in scoring at 18.1 points per game.

She averages 5.9 rebounds per game and is second on the teams in steals with 32. She's shooting a Sun Belt best 54.9 percent from the field, and is shooting 83 percent at the free-throw line.

Thomatis has scored 1,734 career points and is ranked fifth in scoring in Lady Raider history.

MT baseball hosts annual luncheon

The MT baseball team will host its annual Groundhog Day luncheon Friday, Feb. 1 at 11:30 a.m. in the Tennessee Room of the James Union Building.

The Blue Raiders are sponsoring it as a kickoff for the upcoming season.

Coordinators of the event say that it gets bigger every year. They hope this will be a good kickoff to the 2002 season.

The meal includes ham hocks, white beans, tomato salad, green onions, corn bread, chocolate cake and ice cream.

Tickets for BRAA members are \$8, \$10 for non-members and \$12 if purchased the same day of the event.

Reservations may be made by calling 898-2210. The last day to reserve a seat is Monday, Jan. 28.

Dewon Brazelton receives honors

Former Blue Raider pitcher Dewon Brazelton has been named the Tennessee Amateur Athlete of the Year by the Tennessee Sports Hall of Fame.

In 2001, Brazelton was named Sun Belt Pitcher of the Year and Sun Belt Athlete of the Year.

He also was named first team All-American by several organizations, was a finalist for the Dick Hower Award, given annually to the top collegiate player in the country by the National Collegiate Baseball Writers Association, and is a finalist for the prestigious Golden Spikes Award, given by *USA Baseball*.

After going 13-2 for the Blue Raiders in 2001 with a 1.42 ERA and a school record 154 strikeouts, Brazelton was the third pick in the Major League Baseball Draft in June. He signed with the Tampa Bay Devil Rays Aug. 25. ♦

Hicks to remain Blue Raider in 2002

By Colleen Cox
Sports Editor

The Middle Tennessee football team received a huge boost for the 2002 season Friday as tailback Dwone Hicks announced he would remain a Blue Raider and forgo the 2002 NFL draft.

"We've signed our best recruit, our number one guy," head coach Andy McCollum said.

The decision to stay was not an easy one for Hicks, who said he changed his mind 50-60 times. Hicks said he thought about this decision throughout the season, consulting his family, coaches and NFL scouts before making his decision.

"The great thing is Dwone



Photo by Rebecca Pickering | Staff

Hicks announces his decision to stay at MT next year.

did it the right way," McCollum said. "He studied his options, he sat down with his family and this team."

NFL scouts projected Hicks wouldn't be drafted until the fourth round. Therefore, Hicks said he decided that staying

another year at MT wouldn't hurt his draft status.

"I have a lot of areas that I can improve in, and I have a lot of goals I still want to help this program reach," Hicks said.

Hicks ranked No. 2 in the nation in scoring in the 2001 season improving on his No. 3 finish in 2000. He also ended the season at No. 25 rushing after finishing 15th in 2000.

The Sun Belt Conference Offensive Player of the Year ran for 1,143 yards and helped lead the Blue Raiders to a co-Sun Belt championship and an 8-3 overall record.

"I am very excited about next season and helping the Blue Raiders win another Sun Belt title," Hicks said.

McCollum, who was

unaware of Hicks' decision until about 30 minutes before the press conference, showed excitement and relief at the decision.

"I believe we will have the nation's top running back at Middle Tennessee next year and I am talking Doak Walker and Heisman. He's that good," McCollum said.

Sports Illustrated named Hicks a darkhorse candidate for the Heisman Trophy in the 2001 season, and *CollegeFootballNews.com* named him one of the "Ten Players You Have to See." This is just some of the national recognition Hicks has received.

In all, 31 underclassmen

See Hicks, 8

MT tops Cajuns after triple OT loss

By Justin Ward
Staff Writer

After a triple overtime loss against New Mexico State University Thursday, the Blue Raiders pulled out a 69-64 win Saturday night over the University of Louisiana-Lafayette Ragin' Cajuns at the Murphy Center.

Senior center Lee Nosse is back this season after sitting out last season with a stress fracture in his right hip.

He led the way for the Blue Raiders (7-8, 2-3) against the Ragin' Cajuns (8-7, 2-2), scoring a season-high 25 points and grabbing 9 rebounds. This is his ninth straight game to score in double figures.

"Not having Lee really makes a difference," Blue Raider head coach Randy Wiel said. "Lee's leading the league in almost every category. If you watch rebounding, he's in the top three. In field goal percentage, he's in the top two. In three-point shooting, he's the only big man that's on top in the Sun Belt Conference. He's proving me right. He's playing the way I knew he could play."

The first half was back and forth the whole time, with turnovers dominating the scoring. The Ragin' Cajuns had 11 turnovers in the first half compared to only 6 in the second half. Sophomore Tommy Gunn led the way for the Blue Raiders in three-pointers for the first half making 3-of-5 threes. MT pulled ahead at the half with a

score of 39-33.

With 8:38 left in the second half and the score still close at 52-50, Gunn got ejected from the game for a flagrant foul. He head butted a Ragin' Cajun player. Brad Boyd and Darryl Robins of UL-Lafayette received technical fouls for their involvement in the incident. Gunn was the second highest scorer for the Blue Raiders with 15 points before he was ejected from the game.

"There was some dirty play going on during the game," Gunn said. "I warned the refs about dirty play that was going on on both sides. But, I just lost my cool, and I ended up throwing a little cheap shot. They caught me with the shot."

—Tommy Gunn,
MT Guard

Nosse and junior William Pippin stepped up to lead the Blue Raiders to victory. Pippin scored his second double-figure game in a row with 13 points. Pippin also scored the 3 final free throws in the last few seconds of the game to seal the win for the Blue Raiders.

Saturday night had a different ending than the triple overtime loss against New Mexico State (10-6, 4-1) Thursday night. This is only the second time in Blue Raider history that they've gone into a triple overtime, and only once have they gone beyond that with 4 overtimes against Tennessee Tech in 2000.

See Overtime, 8

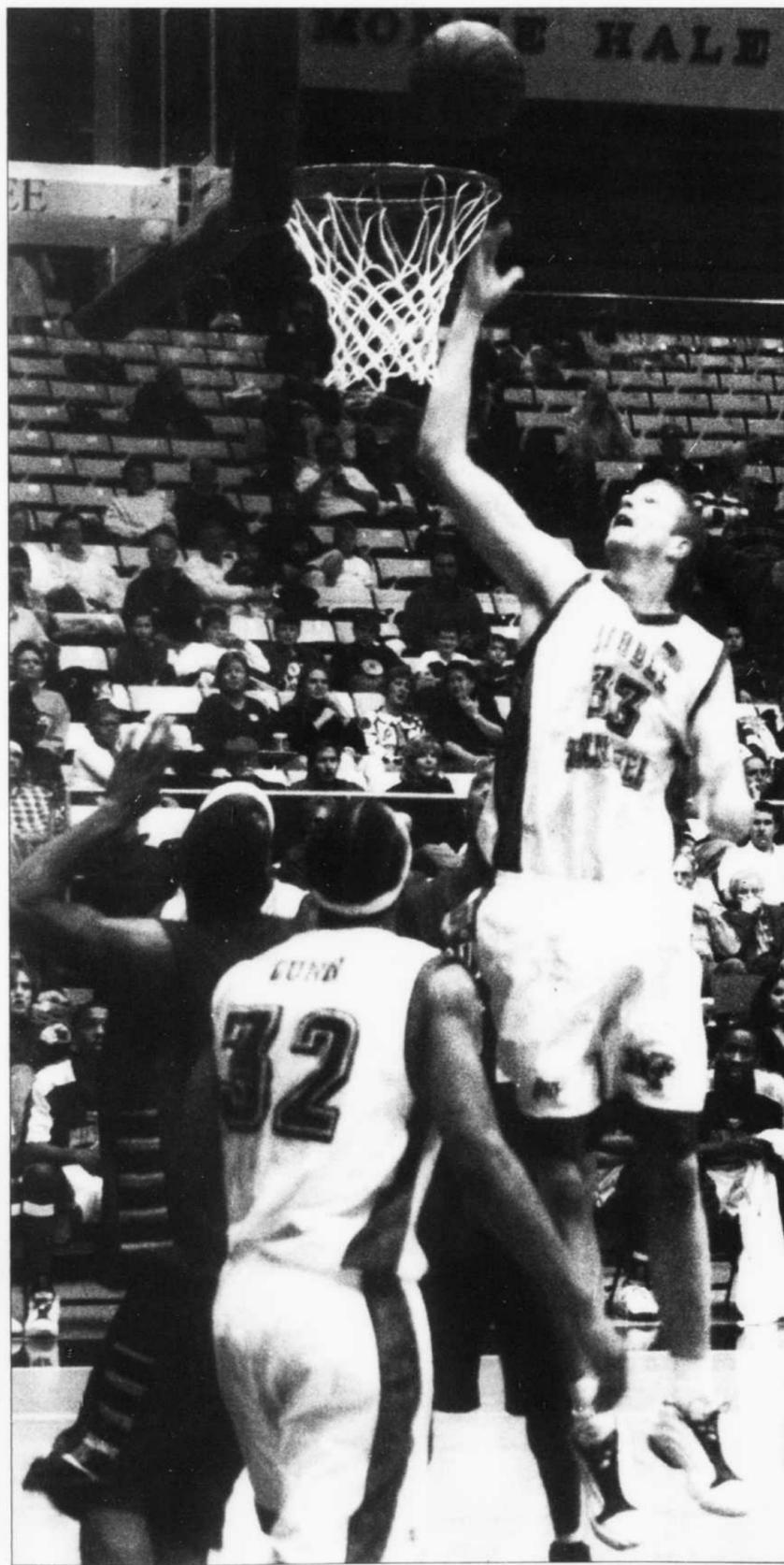


Photo by Amy Jones | Chief Photographer

After losing in triple overtime to NMSU Thursday (left), the Blue Raiders came back to defeat the Ragin' Cajuns of Louisiana-Lafayette Saturday (above).



Photo by Wesley R. Bush | Staff

Lady Raiders pick up Sun Belt win on the road

By David Hunter
Staff Writer

The Middle Tennessee women's basketball team finished its most recent road trip with a key victory that put them back in Sun Belt Conference title contention.

The Lady Raiders (9-7, 2-2) broke a two game conference losing streak and evened up their conference record with a 75-63 victory over Louisiana-Lafayette (5-11, 1-5) Saturday.

Jennifer Justice had a career-high 19 points to lead MT to the win.

"I like to run the floor and make easy layups," Justice said.

Justice started off the game scoring 10 of MT's first 12 points in the game. She went 7-for-10 from the field and 5-for-6 from the foul line.

"I told Jennifer that this was the player we recruited," said head coach Stephany Smith. "She is finally coming out and showing what she can do."

The Lady Raiders jumped out to an 18-point lead in the first half shooting 55 percent from the field. MT led 41-23 at halftime. In the second half, UL-Lafayette cut the lead to 10 points with 2:17 left in the game. Patrice Holmes hit a three-pointer with 1:45 remaining to put the game away for MT.

"Even when they cut it to 10, I was confident we could mix it up and get the win," Smith said. "What I was most concerned with was our defensive aware-

ness throughout the game."

The Lady Raiders finished the game shooting 47 percent. Nine different players scored for MT.

The Lady Raiders were not as fortunate against New Mexico State University Thursday night with an 88-67 loss. The Lady Aggies broke a school record with 13 three-pointers in the contest, 9 coming in the second half. Jenia Dimitrova hit 6 in the game for the Lady Aggies.

"New Mexico State leads the

conference in three point shooting," Smith said. "It was a key part of our game plan to stop their perimeter shooting and obviously we didn't get it done."

Senior Jamie Thomatis led the Lady Raiders with 19 points. Mia Parviainen tied a career high with 15 points in the game.

MT hosts Western Kentucky Thursday in Sun Belt action. Tip-off is 7 p.m. ♦

MT football staff to coach in Swamp

Staff Reports

Two Middle Tennessee football coaches accepted positions on Ron Zook's University of Florida staff Thursday.

Offensive coordinator Larry Fedora will serve as the Gators' running back coach and offensive line coach Joe Wickline will now coach the offensive line of the Gators.

"It says a lot about our program here at Middle Tennessee when a team that annually competes for a national championship is coming after your coaches," head coach Andy McCollum said. "Last year we sent two coaches to the pros and now we are putting two at one of the top college programs in the country."

Last season Miles Aldridge left MT to join the Buffalo Bills and Mike Woodford joined the New Orleans Saints. In McCollum's years as head coach of MT, eight coaches have left for either the professional, college or high school ranks. Three graduate assistants also have moved into the coaching ranks during McCollum's reign.

Fedora served as offensive coordinator for the Blue Raiders the past three seasons. He led the offense to a No. 5 national ranking in total offense this season.

"I have mixed emotions about leaving Middle Tennessee," Fedora said. "Andy (McCollum) gave me an opportunity and I came here because I believed in him. We made this a better place, but everything accomplished was because of Andy McCollum. He took the chance on me, which is the only reason I have the opportunity I do now."

Wickline played at Florida from 1977-80 and served as an

assistant coach there from 1982-83. He boasts the Sun Belt Conference's best offensive line. His offensive line has allowed Dwone Hicks to have back-to-back 1,000 yard rushing seasons.

"In 21 years of coaching, I have never had a decision as difficult as this one in terms of relationships, people and the setting I have worked in the past three years," Wickline said. "Andy gave me an opportunity when I did not have a job and I am very fortunate to have been around him during this foundation, but the best is yet to come for Middle Tennessee."

Four of the Gators' nine assistants have ties to MT. Other than Fedora and Wickline, Woodford currently is coaching the secondary at Florida and Gator offensive coordinator Ed

Zaubrecher played for the Blue Raiders from 1969-72. ♦



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Overtime: Raiders fail to pull out win

Continued from 6

"I thought we had that game Thursday," Nosse said after Saturday's game. "I thought we had it in the bag actually. Things happen in basketball. Things go up and down. Tonight we did get the win."

Gunn set a career high Thursday night with 27 points and equaled his career-best

rebounds with 8. He also set a personal best with free throws making 9-of-10. Nosse backed up Gunn with 19 points and a career-high 15 rebounds.

Freshman Charles Anderson scored in double figures for the third time in the last four games with 13 points Thursday night. He's averaged 9.8 points in the past five games.

The Blue Raiders also shot

87.1 percent (27-31) from the free-throw line, a season best.

Western Kentucky heads down to the Murphy Center Wednesday to face the Blue Raiders. Tip-off is 7 p.m. ♦

MT flies high at Kentucky invitational

By Erich Heinlein
Staff Writer

The Middle Tennessee track and field team was flying high at the Wildcat Invitational at

Kentucky University, as Rob Jordan won the high jump at 5'09.25 and Letitia Eady finished in second in the triple jump at 40'03.25.

Jordan also finished sixth in the long jump at 23'03.25. Chris Koger recorded a third-place finish in the high jump.

On the track, Jasper Demps finished second in the 60-meter hurdles at 8 seconds. Mardy Scales finished second in the 60-meter dash at 6.7 seconds. Tennessee All-American Leonard Scott finished first in

the 60-meter dash.

On the women's side, in addition to Eady's second-place finish in the triple jump, Kiki Deckard finished third in the long jump at 18'10.5.

Kim Freeman placed fourth in both the triple and long jumps. Jennifer Boyd finished in fifth place in the pole vault for the Lady Raiders. The 4X400 relay team finished second.

The Blue Raiders next meet is Saturday at 11:30 a.m. when they will host the Blue Raider Invitational. ♦

Hicks: Tailback to stay at MTSU

Continued from 6

declared for the 2002 NFL draft. Friday was the last day underclassmen could declare for the draft. Florida quarterback and this year's Heisman runner-up

Rex Grossman also announced his choice to remain a Gator Friday.

The Blue Raiders will begin preparation for the 2002 season when they start spring practice Feb. 28. ♦

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Steve Belmonte, Childreach sponsor, CEO and President of Ramada hotels, on a visit to hurricane-ravaged San Juan in the Dominican Republic.

"Just look at these kids. How can you not help?"

"In the poorest villages throughout the world, families live in conditions that are difficult to imagine. And it's always the kids who suffer most."

Childreach (formerly Foster Parents Plan) is an amazing child sponsorship organization that helps needy children overseas to overcome the most punishing poverty and not only survive, but grow and thrive.

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To find out more about Childreach, call 1-800-556-7918 or mail the attached coupon. Because if you really want to help, Childreach really helps."

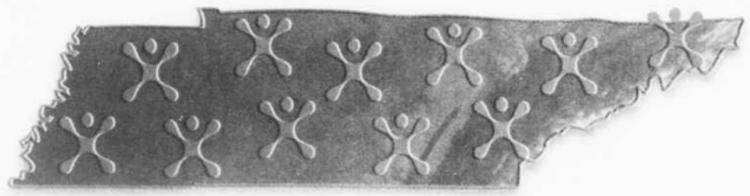


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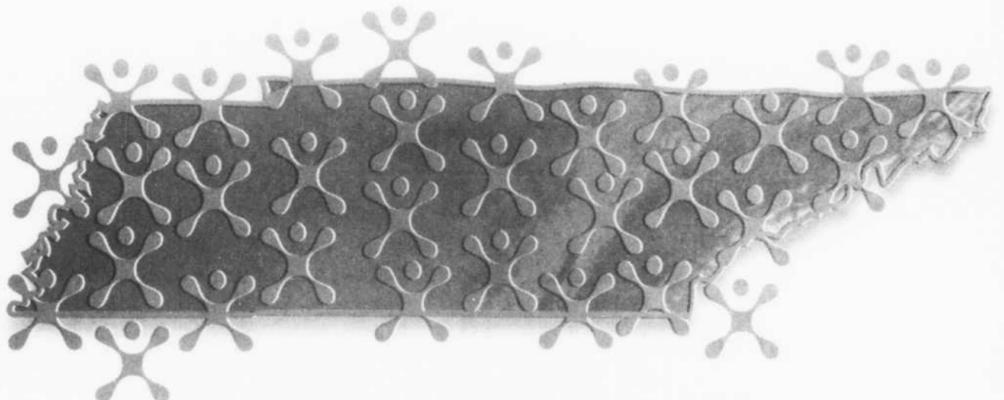
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