

SIDELINES

Thursday
October 20, 1994

Vol. 70 No. 24

16 Pages

Middle Tennessee State University's Community Newspaper

Murfreesboro, TN 37132

IN BRIEF



WORLD

Russia's political intrigues shake Kremlin

MOSCOW (AP) — President Boris Yeltsin, in an effort to stanch the flow of rumors, denied today that the Russian prime minister and foreign minister were about to be sacked.

Who's in and who's out and who's about to be out have become the grist of Moscow's rumor mill, signaling a high-level Kremlin power struggle.

Yeltsin responded angrily to the reports, which could undermine the government's authority. "These rumors are absolutely unfounded," he told the Interfax news agency. "I fully trust Chernomyrdin and Kozyrev."



NATIONAL

Texas residents continue to battle flood waters

CONROE, Texas (AP) — Hundreds of National Guardsmen drove boats and big trucks through filthy, waist-deep floodwater Wednesday to help people driven from their homes.

As the rain stopped, people here piled into dump trucks 20 at a time or used boats to travel through water 3 feet deep to retrieve what few undamaged belongings were left in their homes.

"You see that white building sticking out of the water? I live right across the street," said Neva Goff, 59, choking on a truck's diesel exhaust as it left her at the end of her street. "Everything we've got is lost and gone."



STATE & LOCAL

Former health official slams TennCare

NASHVILLE (AP) — TennCare violates a cardinal rule of medicine—do no harm, former Health and Human Services Secretary Louis Sullivan said Wednesday.

Sullivan criticized TennCare during a symposium on the program's impact on black Tennesseans.

Gov. Ned McWherter should prove to needy Tennesseans that they are better off under TennCare than they were under the Medicaid program it replaced, Sullivan said.

"That's an accountability issue. Any time you have a program change of this magnitude, you need to do that," he said.

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Art barn deemed a fire hazard

◆ Building could burn down in under six minutes

KRYS SPAIN
Staff Writer

A fire could burn down the Art Barn in six minutes due to the inherent structure of the building, according to fire marshal reports.

"There are plenty of exits in the building," MTSU Safety Officer Terry Logan said. "It is of extreme importance that in the event of a fire, the building is immediately evacuated, because it would be hard to fight a fire in the barn."

The Barn was built in 1927, originally used as a dairy facility, and renovated for classrooms in the 1960s. It is of ordinary wood-frame construction and met all codes when it was built.

The Barn has a manual fire alarm system, but needs an automatic one. Smoke detectors would greatly reduce the risk of injury by fire.

In 1992, Logan found several hazards in the Art Barn. The fire- and smoke-barrier construction, which is meant to prevent the spread of fire, is inadequate or non-existent,

which could cause a fire to spread rapidly.

The interior stairways were not designed to prevent the vertical spread of fire and

Nothing can be done about these problems other than rebuilding, Logan said, but the wood construction would produce enough smoke to warn students to get out in time.

smoke, as is now required by the National Fire Code.

This situation would allow a fire on the ground floor to rapidly spread to the second floor and loft. People could then become

trapped in the unprotected stairways as a result of the rapid spread of smoke and flame.

In addition, the interior finish of the building is bare wood, and the structural support members for the roof are in violation of the National Fire Code. The unprotected bare wood is potential fuel for a fire.

Nothing can be done about these problems other than rebuilding, Logan said, but the wood construction would produce enough smoke to warn students to get out in time.

Logan made four recommendations for improvements in 1992. The Art Barn has an excellent safety record. Three out of the four recommendations have been implemented and the fourth is now under way.

The recommendations were to relocate hazardous areas, to install hard-wired smoke detectors with battery back-up, to develop written emergency-action and fire-prevention plans, and to replace all Class A fire

PLEASE SEE **ART BARN**, PAGE 5

Third student life candidate interviewed

GENA J. WELLMANN
Staff Writer

Dr. Gail Stephens, currently the associate dean of students at MTSU, named her "drive and personal need to succeed" as her strongest qualification for the position of dean of student life.

Stephens earned her B.S. in home economics from the University of Tennessee and her doctorate in higher education administration from the University of Tennessee-Martin.

She has also served in student affairs positions as a hall director and assistant director of housing at UT-Martin, and as the assistant dean of students at MTSU.

Stephens' current duties include

PLEASE SEE **CANDIDATE**, PAGE 2



CHARLES HOGUE/Photo Editor

TURN, TURN, TURN: Roy Adams (L) and Mike Butler roll out a spool of cable while working on the infrastructure project Wednesday in front of the KUC.

Regents chancellor hints at MTSU funding increase

GENA J. WELLMANN, Staff Writer and
LISA MARIE POMFRET, News Editor

MTSU could receive more than \$5.8 million if fully funded by the Tennessee General Assembly, according to Dr. Charles Smith, Tennessee Board of Regents chancellor.

Smith, who visited here Monday on a 46-campus tour, said that under the new formula enacted by the legislature two weeks ago, MTSU should be allotted \$4.5 million designated specifically for faculty pay increases, \$1.2 million more to refurbish and update library resources, \$160,000 more for classroom equipment and more funds to be used elsewhere.

The problem with the old funding formula, Smith said, was that the legislatures who voted it into law had no confidence in it.

Full funding for the formula has not occurred for the past five years, Smith said, but the new formula will restore credibility for the plan and full funding should occur.

Smith also explained that the higher education building formula is a separate entity headed by a building commission which is supervised by TBR.

The commission travels to all 46 TBR institutions every two years to inspect buildings and report on their conditions and to make recommendations on the status of their usefulness.

During Smith's tenure as chancellor at the University of Tennessee-Martin, a building which housed the ROTC program at Martin was found to be unsafe and subsequently was destroyed and replaced.

When asked by *Sidelines* why the Art Barn,

PLEASE SEE **CHANCELLOR**, PAGE 5



DR. CHARLES R. SMITH

CANDIDATE (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

advising the Student Government Association (SGA) and organizing Sexual Assault Awareness Week, as well as alcohol and drug education, student organizations, leadership programming and new-student orientation.

"I am replacing a very different person who had served [as the Dean of Student Life]. [Dr. Paul Cantrell and I] have very different outlooks," Stephens said.

She also said new departments have been added to the position and that a "particular [new] dean might have a much broader vision than might previously have been expected."

Stephens, if selected as dean of student life, plans to lead SGA into a sense of broader "diversity." She said she believes SGA needs to achieve a wider vision of active members—racially, culturally and ethnically, as well as with a broad range of opinions.

"They [students] need a real voice," Stephens said. "[where] they're not just standing out there screaming to the skies in the middle."

Stephens also feels that SGA needs to be more involved in the local community itself, not just on the MTSU campus.

The most critical issues pertaining to the dean of student life position, Stephens said, are two things: Are we producing a "product" [student] that everyone should be pleased with? and the typical generation gap.

A problem seen between administration and students, she said, is a student lack of desire for advice.

She said, "They don't want us to tell them what to do, and then when they hit a wall, they come back and say 'why didn't you tell us?'"

She said this is a problem both students and administration need to improve on.

Local attitude toward MTSU is another area in which Stephens said she would like to create a more positive view.

"[We need] to start building traditions at MTSU ... make the university a place to be proud of."

Stephens also said there is a "... battle with UT ... we have to start pride in our own community with MTSU and the Blue Raiders."

Stephens said her experiences in other student affairs positions have adequately prepared her for the dean of student life position.

"I have had the chance to try on a lot of caps," she said, adding that she has been fortunate to have been given freedom to go in her own direction with these positions, and opportunities to learn how people think and act.

All of these things, she said, "prepare me to move onto the next level."

Stephens said her favorite part of her current job is the "interaction with students."

"I have been here long enough to have gotten to know everyone, but not long enough to have forgotten what everyone else is about," she said. □

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CAMPUS CAPSULE

Today

Women's Political Action Group will meet at 4 p.m. in the KUC Lounge. All are welcome. Contact Janice at 890-0915.

A vegetarian discussion panel will be held at 7 p.m. in the lobby of McHenry Hall. Contact the Student Coalition for Animal Rights at 898-0457.

International Students Association meets every Thursday at 5 p.m. in KUC 316. Contact Kaysone Panyanouvong at 893-4457.

Sigma Phi Epsilon and the Muscular Dystrophy Association (MDA) are sponsoring "Battle of the Boro" at 527 Mainstreet. Seven bands will perform starting at 8 p.m. Proceeds benefit MDA. Tickets are \$6.00.

Friday

The American Statistical Association will hold a meeting at 3 p.m. in Jones Hall, room 238. Dr. George Reed of the School of Preventive Medicine at Vanderbilt will talk about "Statistics and Large Databases: Housecleaning Before the Guests Arrive." The event is free and open to the public. For more information contact Dennis Walsh at ext. 2224.

Upcoming & Ongoing

Student Coalition for Animal Rights meets every Thursday at 7 p.m. Contact Kellie at 898-0457.

Speech testing or speech therapy services are available to MTSU students. Students should call the MTSU Speech Clinic, 898-2661, for an appointment.

The MTSU Symphony invites interested students to rehearsals Tuesdays and Thursdays from 5 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. Contact the Symphony office at 898-2484 or go to the Wright Music Building, room 264.

The June Anderson Women's Center has support groups for women meeting throughout the semester. All groups are free to students. Contact Mary Glantz at 898-5725 to sign up. Space is limited.

A Christian gathering for singing and sharing will be held every Wednesday in the KUC Courtyard at 9:30 p.m. Everyone is welcome.

National Collegiate Alcohol Awareness Week will be held Monday, Oct. 17 thru Friday, Oct. 21.

The Psi Chi Psychology Club will meet on Tuesday, October 25 from 4-5:30 p.m. in Peck Hall 208. Dr. Tom Tang will speak on the subject of hypnosis. Contact Pat at 2581.

MTSU Lambda Association is a local support group for bisexual, gay, and lesbian students, faculty, and community members. Meetings every Tuesday at 6:30 p.m. in Mass Comm. room 149. Call hotline at 780-2293.

Phillips Bookstore will be giving away a \$50 gift certificate at every home football game. Everett Shawn Adkins and Beverly J. Beasley missed their chance—don't you miss yours. You must be at the game to win.

Fellowship of Christian Athletes meets Wednesday nights at 8:30 p.m. in KUC room 315. Everyone welcome. Contact Greg Logan at ext. 3081.

The Vegetarian/Bhakti-Yoga Club meets every Monday at 4 p.m. in KUC room 316. Weather permitting, on the Knoll. Contact Jonathan Maxwell at ext. 3801 for more information.

The Wesley Foundation will perform "Smoke on the Mountain" Nov. 2-6. Tickets are \$5 for the public, \$3 for students, and \$10 on Nov. 5, which is a dinner performance. For more information contact the Wesley Foundation at 893-0469.

International Programs and Services is sponsoring a Study Abroad Fair Oct. 25 from 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. on the first and second floors of KUC. Contact the IPSO office at ext. 2238 for more information.

OWLS, the MTSU organization of adult students, will hold a brown bag discussion concerning child care needs Oct. 27 from 12:15 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. in KUC room 322. Representatives from various campus groups will be featured.

Church of God in Christ Campus Ministries (COGIC ROC) meets every Thursday in the KUC. Contact Kevin Johnson at 895-5968 for more information.

DEADLINES FOR CAMPUS CAPSULE SUBMISSIONS:

MONDAY EDITION:
5 P.M. FRIDAY
THURSDAY EDITION:
5 P.M. TUESDAY

All submissions must be brought by or sent to the *Sidelines* office in writing. Phone-in submissions will not be accepted. *Sidelines* reserves the right not to publish any listing for any reason. *Sidelines* is not responsible for inaccurate information.

MTSU awarded Metrology grant

JANET SINGER
Staff Writer

The engineering technology program received a metrology grant for \$71,720 from Brown & Sharpe, a company that produces and sells metrology equipment, in order to upgrade their technology program.

Metrology, the science of measurement, is especially important for engineering majors who must have inspection and gauging classes for their field of study.

The grant is being used to buy new equipment, including the MicroVal personal CMM, Leitz measuring microscopes,

the MicroVal Pfx personal flexible gage, a desktop and a direct computer control coordinate measuring machine.

This state-of-the-art equipment will be used by local industries as well as the university.

"We will support local industries who need measurements by letting them use our equipment," said Dr. Ron McBride, the industrial studies professor who applied for the grant.

"As an employee of TRW who uses similar coordinate measuring devices to the ones bought with the grant, I can see that being familiar with the capabilities of the

equipment will really help me in the real world," said Drew Angel, senior engineering technology major.

Brown & Sharpe decides how well the equipment would be used in three areas: manufacturing or design engineering research, formal classroom education programs and extension education programs for manufacturing personnel.

"MTSU is located in a good geographic area, and we have participated in partnerships with GE Super Abrasives and others," McBride said.

Industrial Studies will begin using the new equipment next month. □

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**-Patrick Doyle
Director,
MTSU recycling
program**

College of Education adds continuous evaluation to program

CAROL IRWIN
Staff Writer

Education majors in the Teacher Education Program are now under a policy of continuous evaluation.

The teacher education faculty at Middle Tennessee State University are committed to maintaining quality programs for the professional and personal development of students.

"The education program is accredited under the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education," College of Education Dean Robert Eaker said.

"The accreditation standards require some form of continuous evaluation. This

policy fulfills part of that requirement."

Instructors for required courses in the approved teacher education program at MTSU may question a student's suitability to enter or remain in the program by filing a teacher education continuous evaluation form.

The continuous evaluation form will be used if there is evidence of inability to perform the professional competencies of ethical conduct, professional attitudes and behaviors, or essential mental or physical functions of a teacher.

Forms submitted will be reviewed by the Teacher Education Continuous Evaluation Committee, consisting of select leaders in the field of education. Other university support services

personnel may be involved in the process depending on the nature of the deficiency.

The Continuous Evaluation Committee will make recommendations to the Admission to Teacher Education Committee, whose decision will determine the course of action to be taken.

Action taken may include remediation in or termination from the program. The student may appeal an unfavorable decision to the dean of the College of Education.

Senior education major Alicia Martin said, "We are in a position to influence thousands of young minds in our careers. If we don't have ourselves in order, what kind of influence would we be?" □

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Buntin Group looking for ad seminar participants

ESTHER CAMPI
Staff Writer

Aspiring copywriters and art directors who want to get a "foot in the door" with a prestigious advertising agency or just take advantage of the experience of professional advertisers can find that opportunity at a free workshop being offered by the Buntin Group of Nashville in Spring semester 1995.

The purpose of the workshop is to identify creative people and teach them how to produce effective print ads and radio and television commercials.

LaDonna McDaniel of the Buntin Group said the workshop "can either help you get your first job in advertising or a better job in advertising," and is not restricted to people already in the field. The Buntin Group is seeking out anyone who has a creative style.

"You could be an accountant or a teacher, even," McDaniel said.

There is only one prerequisite for the class: talent to be demonstrated by submitting a "homework" assignment that presents an effective ad campaign. Interested candidates will be asked to choose a product and create three print ads with headlines, visual and body copy and a "tag line" for the product.

Twelve people will be

chosen for the class based on the submissions, due Nov. 10 hiring a creative team for the agency," Fechtor said.

While the workshop may produce recruits for the company, Fechtor's main purpose is to discover talented people and give them an opportunity to meet experienced advertisers.

"I kind of grew up in this business with mentors," Fechtor said. "It's important for people in my position to train [other] people to do it."

Fechtor said he is also concerned with keeping the talent in Nashville.

"A lot of times the best talent is going to Chicago and New York," he said, "and I want [aspiring advertisers] to know there's a place for them here."

Fechtor said college students can especially benefit from the class, since no prior experience is necessary.

"I think it's a really good opportunity, especially if you're into [the creative side of advertising]," said Jeanette Gipson, secretary of the advertising club. "This is the start you need."

Homework assignments should be submitted by Nov. 11 to Buntin Advertising, 1001 Hawkins Street, Nashville, TN 37203, to the attention of Stephen Fechtor. □

Smoking areas to remain at MTSU

KRIS WETZEL
Staff Writer

Under state law, MTSU's smoking areas will remain, according to MTSU Safety Officer Terry Logan of Environmental Health and Safety Services.

According to state law, any state-owned smoke-free building must have a designated indoor smoking area. MTSU satisfies these requirements by providing smoking areas in all the ground-floor bathrooms and the KUC Grill.

"The ground-floor bathrooms are consistent," Logan said. "Everyone knows where they are, and the exhaust fans help vent the smoke out of the building."

The smoking-area law came into effect in March 1990, replacing a policy that left

smoking areas up to the individual establishment. Because MTSU is state property, the university is not at liberty to make all campus buildings 100 percent smoke-free unless further legislative action is taken.

Logan said he believes it to be the responsibility of professors to report any student found smoking in a non-smoking area. Student disciplinary action would follow the offense.

Employees may smoke in their offices after obtaining written permission from their department head. Any violating professor would be processed through employee disciplinary action.

In a random sampling of 10 students, five students qualified themselves as smokers.

All 10 students agreed there should be restricted areas for

smoking, but only two smokers and four non-smokers agreed there should be stricter smoking laws on campus.

Seven students said they believe that secondhand smoke presents a significant health risk to non-smokers.

"I don't think they should be able to smoke in the bathrooms," Meg Hartfield, physical education major, said. "You can't breathe in there."

Jan Howell, a sophomore biology major, said, "I'm a smoker, but I want to respect the rights of the non-smoker. I support stricter areas for smokers."

Logan recounted that the complaints he receives over the smoking areas are evenly split between smokers and non-smokers, but he predicted that the campus would go smoke-free if the state law were changed. □



CHARLES HOGUE/Photo Editor

SMOKE GETS IN YOUR EYES: Two MTSU students take a smoke break in the KUC Grill.



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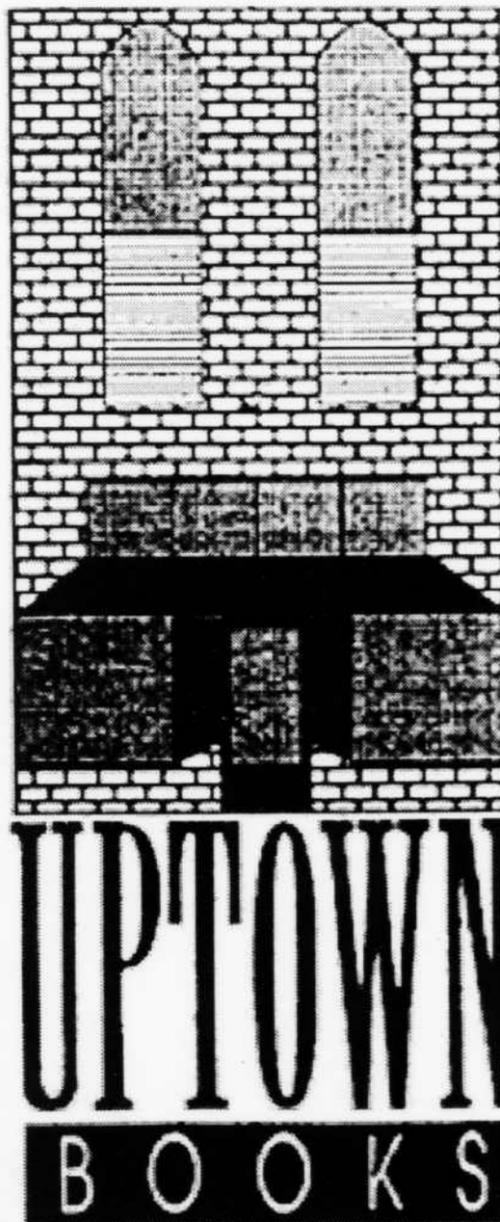
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ART BARN (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

extinguishers in the building with Class A-B-C fire extinguishers. Every recommendation was followed immediately except the installation of smoke detectors, which was postponed due to campus-wide budget cuts.

Corrections are being made to improve the Barn. The smoke detectors will be installed in a few weeks.

"In light of corrections made and new construction planned, any risk or hazard to use the Art Barn is minimal," Logan said.

"We need another building, one that is more up to date," said Steve Piazza, senior graphics design major. "We need a building that can incorporate graphic design, since we are visual arts, instead of putting us in the Saunders Music Hall."

The Art Barn is scheduled to be replaced in two to five years. Planning money should be appropriated within the next two years, according to the Master Plan.

The Fire Department has a full tactical plan for everything to do during a fire, Logan said. They have planned which routes they will take, which trucks they will use, which hydrant will be used, and they have relocated their equipment to a station closer to the campus.

Several students were unaware of any hazards at the Barn. The students who did know felt there could be a danger.

"I only take one class here, and it has a door that leads outside," post-graduate student Susan Traughber said. "I think that the first floor has sufficient exits."

Most students have been well instructed on safety and what to do in case of a fire. Many classes depend on using different materials and equipment, such as paint and torches, that could be a hazard if not properly handled.

Smoking has been prohibited in the Art Barn, to decrease the risk of fire from cigarettes.

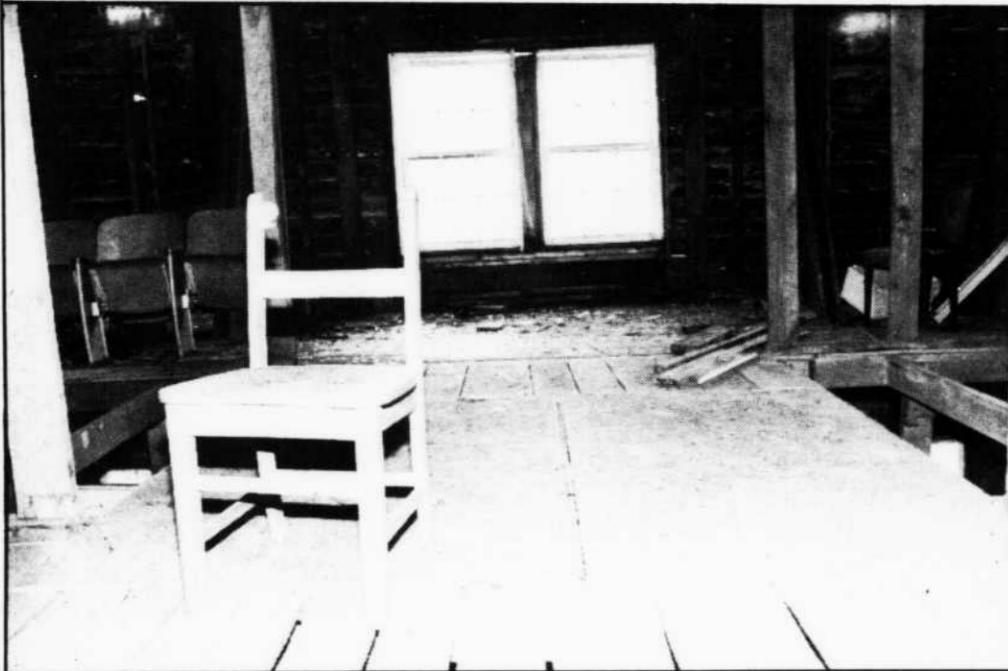
The classes are generally small, ranging 10 to 15 students per class, in order that students can be better supervised when using dangerous equipment.

Professor James Gibson of the art department said, "I have worked here since 1970, and I was much more concerned about danger when we did welding in the foundry. Classes are small, so it is much safer with 10 to 15 students than with 20 students. Every spark-making aspect has been moved [from the foundry] to another building."

Gibson added, "What bothers me the most is when students work late at night or weekends by themselves. If something happens, they aren't permitted to work with flame-making elements.

"If you are teaching good craftsmanship, you are teaching safe work habits," Gibson said.

Logan said, "Everyone in every building should always be conscious of the location of exits and should know what to do in case of a fire." □



SHERRI LAROSE/Chief Photographer

TOP FLOOR of the Art Barn, which is used for storage.

CHANCELLOR

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

declared unsafe four years ago, should be used as classroom and office space for the entire art department when funds were available for new construction, Smith said he had no knowledge of a report but would look into the matter.

Dorothy Harrison, director of MTSU Public Relations, said, "[It will be] several years before [the university completes] a new art building."

A new art building for MTSU is not scheduled for construction until after the completion of the Campus Recreation center, a new library, the renovation of Todd Library and a Business/Aerospace building, according to the MTSU Master Plan.

In his previous post as commissioner for K-12 education, Smith visited every school system in Tennessee and vowed to do the same as chancellor for higher education, a position he assumed in January 1994.

Smith said he was especially interested in the optimistic view of students and faculty at the university.

"The campus [community] has a strong sense of optimism," Smith said. "It seems the potential is unlimited and opportunities simply abound.

"[MTSU] offers a wide diversity of programs. ... I know this campus probably better than any other in the system," said Smith, whose grandparents lived in Murfreesboro during his childhood.

Although Smith said he was impressed with "the system" at MTSU, he also admitted that "We are not anywhere near where we should be."

Smith said his purpose for the tour was to talk to real people in real situations.

"I have learned more on this tour than I ever could have learned sitting in an office in Nashville," Smith said. □

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In Our Opinion

By the *Sidelines*
Editorial Staff

Problem, solution lies with the people

Yesterday I was watching television with my friend Jay. Suddenly and without warning, a political advertisement viciously attacked us. For 30 seconds we were bombarded by a negative campaign ad that never even mentioned the candidate it was intended to promote.

I called it "a piece of crap." Jay said, "that's just politics." I used to argue with him about that, but not anymore. How can I? It seems like politicians are only focused on the latest poll numbers and how they can spin things their way. And when that rare candidate comes along who doesn't fit into the mold, the media pounces on him like rabid dogs and declares him "unelectable" (Paul Tsongas, Pat Buchanan, Jerry Brown). That usually is a self-fulfilling prophecy.

Jay and I have a running argument. He refuses to vote, claiming that "all politicians are full of it." I, on the other hand, typically swell with patriotic pride, extolling the right guaranteed to us by our Founding Fathers that the governors would be elected by the governed.

Now I'm starting to lose hope. I'd like to be able to blame it on the politicians, but I can't. I believe the blame lies squarely with the people. The reason candidates produce such mindless, tabloid, substantively lacking ads is because people respond to them. Run them on "A Current Affair" or "Inside Edition" and they'll work, plain and simple.

The Founding Fathers never expected that Americans would produce such a poorly qualified electorate as we have today. They were men of intellect and wisdom. They valued knowledge and excellence. And they tried to ensure that the voting citizens would be informed and responsible by establishing voting requirements such as land ownership and literacy tests. Unfortunately, however, those requirements have since been struck down.

Now consider the average American. He watches six hours of TV a day. He is lucky if he reads two books a year. He might know what he thinks about issues, but he doesn't really know why. Meanwhile, our society continues to disintegrate, and America goes down the tubes.

America has some serious problems which by themselves seem pretty hopeless. Combine that with a bloated, corrupt government that seemingly displays contempt for the people at every turn, and I seriously doubt if America has what it takes to turn things around.

Don't get the wrong impression; I'm still proud to call myself an American.

But that pride is really for where we came from—not for where we are going.

Todd Meyers
Editor in Chief

SIDELINES

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In defense of the Second Amendment

All right, folks. It is time, once again, to defend another amendment of the Bill of Rights. While liberals so vehemently defend the rights of the First Amendment, they also vehemently attack the rights of the Second Amendment. For some reason, their arbitrary sense of justice has gained popularity, and our natural entitlement to protect our lives and property is threatened.

The second amendment of the United States' Bill of Rights reads as follows:

"A well regulated militia, being necessary to the security of a free state, the right of the people to keep and bear arms, shall not be infringed."

As intelligible as it is, this guarantee of liberty has been manipulated in a fashion that not only violates the Constitution, but also renders the people it is designed to protect vulnerable to those who respect no laws—natural or legislated.

The opening phrase, "A well regulated militia..."

is not an invitation to governmental restrictions upon personal ownership of firearms. This preamble is merely an abridged rationale for the necessity of documenting a God-given right. "A well regulated militia" is an organized system of collective defense.

"Well regulated" in this sense is not a hindrance to keeping and bearing arms, it is simply a clause guaranteeing the rights of the states to arrange their citizens into uniform and legal armed forces.

The "well regulated" clause is not a contradiction to the essence of the Second Amendment which is stated as, "...the right of the people to keep and bear arms shall not be infringed." "...shall not be infringed."

How can a statute of liberty be stated any clearer? An infringement is a violation of or an act against a rule. Restrictions of the purchase of weapons is an infringement of the Second Amendment. Legal restraints placed upon the

PLEASE SEE **SECOND AMENDMENT**, PAGE 8

The Conservative Philosopher

CHRISTINA BASIEL
Staff Writer



Overexposure will kill conservative cause

FROM THE LEFT



MICHAEL GRANTHAM
Staff Writer

Last Tuesday night on Rush Limbaugh's television show, he discussed his "conquering of the media" by mentioning an offer made by the predominately liberal *New York Times* to have him sell their paper in commercial ads.

Limbaugh made a strong point that he is not selling out and that it is very telling when liberals need a conservative to sell their paper.

He added that he reads it on a regular basis and wants it to be successful so that the flawed liberal agenda does not go unnoticed and is plain for all to see and judge.

When I think of "conquering

the media," I envision in my mind a person with a certain amount of power that comes from credibility. After all, credibility IS power in any media form.

Limbaugh is a very credible speaker, using his power to influence or draw in a diverse group of people into often-heated social debates.

Yes, I too listen to Limbaugh. But more than that, I learn from his opposing viewpoint on how to best argue against it. My credibility as a writer is in understanding the opposition, a characteristic often lost in the rhetoric of most conservative arguments.

From this understanding, credibility becomes power as a force in influencing social debate or societal change. The best leaders will justly wield this power only through understanding those it will affect the most.

I agree with Limbaugh and take his desire a step further when I say we should also proliferate the conservative print so that its

flaws get noticed and are likewise seen and judged.

Too bad this didn't happen 50 years ago. Perhaps then we would have read statements from our conservative campus writers saying, "So, where are all the niggers? Maybe they're down in Georgia eating watermelons and picking Mr. Johnson's cotton like good niggers do."

This would have surely destroyed anyone's credibility and hopes of becoming anything that dealt with media or public offices in the future.

This statement does nothing to bring African-Americans into a social debate on what part they have to play in shaping the society we have today. It also does nothing for those who would have said it, other than to take away any power they had by destroying their credibility.

In a similar fashion, a recent plea from the *Sidelines* editor exhibits a low understanding of the power of print media, PLEASE SEE **CONSERVATIVES**, PAGE 8

Letters to the Editor

Readers sound off on the woman they most love to hate—Christina Basiel

To the Editor:

This letter is in response to Christina Basiel's editorial "Homosexual Parents Poor Role Models" in the Sept. 29 *Sidelines*.

It is a shame that, when allowed the privilege to practice journalism via writing for *Sidelines*, Ms. Basiel should do such a poor job. Her article is disjointed, poorly thought out, and based, in part, on untruths.

In her article, she distinguishes between the "unnatural" practices of gays and lesbians and "normal interhuman relationships" (by the way, where did you get that tortured phrase?). It seems to me that humanity is a part of nature and, thus, cannot be considered unnatural. For that matter, nothing humans do can logically be considered unnatural. Moreover, there are many examples among infra-human species of same-sex pairs engaging in sexual activity. Therefore, it is hardly surprising that such behavior is also found among homopians.

Another criticism of your editorial is the manner in which you shamelessly (or maybe you're just ignorant of the facts) include blatantly false information. Whatever happened to getting the facts in journalism? The following are just a few examples.

First, you seem to identify homosexuality with homosexual sex. (Maybe you have a fixation of some sort.) Homosexuals do many things other than have sex, just as heterosexuals do many things other than have sex. Using your brand of illogic, the corollary would be that all heterosexuals do is have sex (heterosexual, of course). Moreover, this having sex would be, according to your logic, that which essentially defines them. I think that the great majority of heterosexuals would not agree that all they do is have sex. Also, the majority of heterosexuals would disagree that who they are essentially is defined solely by their sexual behavior.

Second, you state that the sexual orientation of the parent influences the sexual orientation of the child. Here, you imply that if homosexual couples raise children, those children might be influenced to become homosexual. Well, Ms. Basiel, how does your powerful intellect explain how the parents of all my gay/lesbian friends and acquaintances are heterosexual? That's right, homosexuals are a product of heterosexual relationships; that is, "normal interhuman relationships." As a matter of fact, the vast majority of children raised by gay men and lesbians grow up to be heterosexual, not homosexual.

Third, you seem to believe that a person's sexual orientation is a matter of choice. Did you choose to be a heterosexual? (I'm guessing that's your orientation). Do you have homosexual urges that you choose not to act on? I would guess not. You see, if homosexuality is a choice, then heterosexuality is a choice, also. The obvious is that very little choice is involved in either.

Finally, what I find equally shocking is your seeming acceptance of the cruelty some children inflict upon the children of gay and lesbian relationships. You state, "Whether this is right or wrong is irrelevant to the fact that it does happen. (By the way, I know what you are trying to say, but the sentence, as written, makes no sense). I find it strange that you can claim to take the moral high road on the issue of those "unnatural" homosexual acts yet be so cavalier and heartless about the suffering of little children. I guess you believe they deserve it because their parents are faggots.

Anthony Nehluli
MTSU Box 5564

To the Editor,

After reading the article "Homosexual Parents Poor Role Models," by Christina Basiel in the Sept. 29 issue, I find that her arguments lack factual representation and are nothing more than an attack on the homosexual community. In this article Ms. Basiel talks about homosexual couples and how they influence their children in ways which cause psychological damage. Aside from attacking homosexual parents in other ways, she also attacks the homosexual community as a whole using words such as "perverted." This article simply states an opinion that is not supported by anything other than Ms. Basiel's own homophobic ideas. To sum up this article, I would have to call it an unfaithful attack using homosexual parenting as a cover for its gay-bashing content.

One of Ms. Basiel's main arguments is that homosexual parents' behavior can cause a heterosexual child to consider homosexuality as a possible lifestyle. I have to strongly disagree with this idea. All of my homosexual friends and myself are products of heterosexual parent families. If parents had the ability to influence a child's behavior, in this way, then we would be heterosexual instead of homosexual. I think further

investigation would prove that this is true of most homosexuals.

Ms. Basiel's next argument is that in order to have a child there must be a male and a female. In other words a male and a female capable of reproduction. She states that: "This is a facet of life which clearly discriminates against homosexuals." This seems to bring up another question that Ms. Basiel does not address. Does this not also discriminate against heterosexual parents who are sterile? In this case the male and female are incapable of having children. Is it all right for them to adopt or try artificial insemination because they are sterile? I would say yes.

In Ms. Basiel's attack on homosexual parents, she calls homosexual acts "perverted" and deviant from the norm. This is an outrageous remark that doesn't make any new point except to attack the homosexual community as a whole. In response to homosexuality being perverted and deviant from the norm, I would like to know what "norm" she is referring to. The only one I could distinguish from her article was that of a homophobic nature. In a recent court case in Virginia, Judge Sam Coleman III ruled that a 24-year-old lesbian mother named Sharon Bottoms was a suitable mother. I'm quite certain that he considered his decision neither perverted nor deviant.

Finally Ms. Basiel says that parents who have children and admit that they are homosexuals are bad parents and are teaching their children bad morals. She says that the disruption of the family unit is bad for the child. This also brings to mind another question. Is divorce only destructive to children in which parents separate because one admits to being homosexual? Is it not just as destructive to children whose heterosexual parents divorce for other reasons?

In conclusion, I have to reiterate that Ms. Basiel's article was nothing more than homophobic nonsense. The truth of the matter is that some people were not meant to be parents. However this doesn't differentiate between heterosexual parents and homosexual parents. It is true of anyone who can not fulfill the necessities of parenthood. If two people of the same sex love each other and their child or children and are able to care for them, then they are suitable parents.

Jason Fowler
MTSU Box 8485

Reader attacks Christian right, defends President Clinton

To the Editor:

President Clinton is a Scripture-quoting Southern Baptist, and the Christian right hates him. They despise him even though he and all his family have been baptized and have confessed the belief that Jesus died on the cross for their sins. Many preachers across the South have denounced him from their pulpits even as he consistently invites religious leaders to break bread at the White House. Why do they dislike him using scripture in his speeches and going to church as often as his job permits? Because, they claim, he passes laws and acts in ways that are against God.

I have another theory. I believe preachers denounce Clinton because he represents a growing schism in the faith of Americans as a whole. For some pesky reason, churchgoers have been disagreeing with their pastors, ministers and bishops more and more lately. The Catholic church in America cannot seem to tell its members not to use birth control any longer; there are groups fighting the pope's ban on women and married couples as priests in the Church. The Abortion debate has torn many a clergy today, over such nuances as "if the mother's life is in danger, if she was raped, if the child will die horribly..." and the great 'A' has also turned other churches into virtual Right-to-Life combat headquarters. Still other churches fail to address modern concerns at all, and faced with an ever-aging membership, are willing to overlook the member who believes in the Bible and Savior wholeheartedly, yet chooses not to vote with the church.

This last church member is the kind who helped elect Clinton. Their numbers are growing, and it is making the bigwigs of certain groups very antsy. Because the fact remains the a large number of Christians are becoming tolerant to not only the multitudes of ideas one can see on cable 24 hours a day, they are voting consistently that those multitudes of ideas should be accepted and looked over. They don't believe that just because they are Christian that everyone else should be, or risk eternal fire and brimstone. The trend seems to be "live and let live." If I remember my Scripture correctly, a certain young Jewish man with a record for public disturbance had a lot to say about tolerance of ideas.

Elizabeth Ferguson
MTSU Box 522

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Alcoholism, abuse touch student's life

KRYS SPAIN
Staff Writer

This week is National Collegiate Alcohol Awareness Week. On Monday, a presentation entitled "What every college woman should know" was scheduled. The purpose was to discuss problems with alcohol, sexual assault and other topics important to women. Not one person bothered to show up, except a *Sidelines* reporter. Me.

The speaker, Dr. Gloria Hamilton, gave a lot of interesting information and took time out of her busy schedule to speak to only three people: Pam Ahrens, who organized it, Rodney Bennett, assistant dean of students, and me.

As I remember, the same sort of thing happened a couple of weeks ago, during Sexual Assault Awareness Week.

Many people are putting on ribbons and writing on the board in the KUC Grill lobby. This really got me thinking about how great my life is now.

I dated and eventually married (when I was nearly 18) an alcoholic. He was controlling and moody. I was submissive and did whatever he wished. I was pregnant, and he wanted me to quit school, so I quit high school the beginning of my senior year. I can't think of one night that he stayed sober, except when he was in jail. All our money went to alcohol and drugs, because I thought I had no choice. He worked for his father but lost his job once because he stole his father's truck and ran it into a ditch when he was drunk and stoned. We lived with his parents awhile and my mom awhile. At the end of the marriage, we had an apartment for a month. He never paid rent, very seldom bought food, and pawned my wedding rings and other things we had of value. Either his parents or my mom bought things we needed—diapers, etc. Every weekend he had a party at the apartment. There went his paycheck. I didn't have a job then, but when I did work, he'd use my money too.

He never stayed home; he went out and did who knows what, he cheated on me, lied to me and manipulated me. One night he came home really late and got enraged because his dinner wasn't ready. So he yelled at me and I talked back to him. He pulled out a sawed-off .22, loaded it in front of me, cocked it back and put it right between my eyes.

I hope I am never that scared again.

Stupid me; I didn't leave him until two weeks later. I stopped taking his bulls—t after a year and a half, after he took the rent money out of my purse and got wasted on it; he said I gave it away and then he beat me up.

My son was 6 or 7 months old when we split up. Leaving him was very hard, even though he knew how to manipulate and "get to" me. Unlike some women in this situation, I had a tremendous amount of help from my mom and many good friends.

I started dating someone, not long after I left my husband. Lanny, the guy I started dating, was a wonderful help. He helped me get away from my ex-husband and realize that I could have more for my son, Jimmy, and myself.

My mom and Lanny are the main reasons I am going to make something of my life. Mom helped me by watching Jimmy and being my "cab," as well as so many other things there isn't enough paper to list them. I went back to high school and graduated the day after my 20th birthday, in spring of 1992, and started college that fall.

Lanny doesn't drink, smoke or do drugs. He showed me that I could be treated well, and he spoiled me. I didn't drink the entire time we were together. My life is so much better now that I am divorced. I finally get to be happy and do things for myself and my son.

I am not condemning drinking, but alcoholism is a disease. I drink occasionally, but my life doesn't revolve around a substance. My son doesn't need to be around alcoholism or drugs. My life is my son, Jimmy! □

SECOND AMENDMENT (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6)

Amendment are essentially illegal.

Unfortunately, public passions are often swayed by the occasional abuses of rights. Rights convey responsibility. When a minority neglects their responsibility, that minority loses their rights. As for the majority of responsible Americans who obey the laws and respect their society, gun control legislation punishes them more than it punishes our country's criminal element.

Criminals are branded as such because they do not obey the rules of civilization. The Second Amendment guarantees law-abiding citizens the ability to protect themselves from those whom the law cannot control. Washington D.C., the "murder capital" of our country, has the strongest "anti-gun" laws of any city in the United States. So you tell me. Have the laws restricting gun possession in Washington D.C. helped or hindered its inhabitants in protecting their lives?

Entire countries which ban the sale and possession of weapons have also experienced gun-related crimes. England, which prides itself on holding its citizens unarmed and defenseless, experiences gun-related deaths regularly. Guess who has the guns? The bad guys. Bans on firearms only hurt the good guys, folks.

Besides, not all crimes, more specifically murders, are perpetrated with the assistance of firearms. Murders are committed with knives, ropes, clubs, automobiles, bare hands, and the list goes on. People have actually been smothered to death with

pillows. Does this mean that we should ban pillows? To quote an often-ridiculed truth, I state, "Guns don't kill people; people kill people." The focus of curtailing violent crimes should not be on guns, but rather on the people who commit the crimes.

Our forefathers were not fools. They understood the need of the people to protect themselves. Those who are stronger and possess malice in their hearts will always be a threat to those who are weaker and respect the sanctity of life. This fact was evident 200 years ago, it is evident today, and it will be forever evident.

Of course we don't want to live in fear, but fear exists for good reason. We are all subject to harm, and thus we all deserve and need the ability to protect ourselves.

The writers of the Constitution saw our right to keep and bear arms only second in order of importance to our right to the freedom of our minds. What good is any freedom if we are not here to enjoy it?

The Second Amendment is not outdated. Besides, the Bill of Rights is not a list of rights granted by government, it is a list of rights granted by God. If you are wary of guns, don't own one; that is your right. However, it also is the right of every law-abiding adult American to make, for himself, the decision of whether or not to own a gun. That is freedom, folks. If we are to be free, we must defend the entire Constitution—not just the portions we intend to exercise personally. □

CONSERVATIVES (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6)

destroying the conservative's credibility with such a statement.

Equating the term liberal with pot-smoking homosexuals does not draw anyone into a debate other than those with equal credibility and choice of words, both of which it seems the staff is more comfortable dealing with, rather than intelligent and original views on more important issues.

On a deeper level, it expresses the conservatives' fear that by intelligently understanding a minority (racial, religious or sexual) they will have to integrate that experience into their perception of world politics as a whole.

By doing so they risk having to sacrifice the simplicity and superficiality of their philosophy to a more complex and creative way of looking at the

world through the experience of humanity as one whole person.

When we risk credibility in a childish manner, we lose power of influence to such things as bigotry. This strengthens barriers to greater social benefits and only draws in others who are willing to sling the mud to help build the wall.

Standing on our own credibility is a lot harder than destroying someone else's. What gives one more power is reserving it as potential for meaningful and original thoughts rather than to give it away to bigoted words.

If Rush Limbaugh can sell a liberal paper, the least we can do to pedal our free publication is make it more readable and void of powerless statements. □



THE TOP 10

Albums

1. **R.E.M.**
Monster (Warner Bros.)
2. **Boyz II Men**
II (Motown)
3. **Eric Clapton**
From the Cradle (Duck/Reprise)
4. **Smashing Pumpkins**
Pisces Iscariot (Virgin)
5. **Offspring**
Offspring (Epitaph)
6. **Anita Baker**
Rhythm of Love (Elektra)
7. **Soundtrack**
The Lion King (Walt Disney)
8. **Green Day**
Dookie (Reprise/Warner Bros.)
9. **Luther Vandross**
Songs (Epic)
10. **Mary Chapin Carpenter**
Stones in the Road (Columbia)

Television

1. **Home Improvement**
ABC, Tuesday, 8 p.m.
2. **Grace Under Fire**
ABC, Tuesday, 8:30 p.m.
3. **Seinfeld**
NBC, Thursday, 8 p.m.
4. **ER**
NBC, Thursday, 9 p.m.
5. **Movie: Someone She Knows**
NBC, Monday, 8 p.m.
6. **Roseanne**
ABC, Wednesday, 8 p.m.
7. **The 28th Annual CMA Awards**
CBS, Wednesday, 8 p.m.
8. **Frasier**
NBC, Tuesday, 8 p.m.
9. **60 Minutes**
CBS, Sunday 6 p.m.
10. **Ellen**
ABC, Wednesday, 8:30

Movies

1. **The Specialist**
(Warner Bros.) \$14.3 million
2. **The River Wild**
(Universal) \$20.3 million
3. **Only You**
(TriStar) \$5.7 million
4. **Forrest Gump**
(Paramount) \$275 million
5. **Jason's Lyric**
(Gramercy) \$11.3 million
6. **Timecop**
(Universal) \$36.2 million
7. **Quiz Show**
(Hollywood) \$12.6 million
8. **The Shawshank Redemption**
(Columbia) \$3.9 million
9. **Ed Wood**
(Touchstone) \$2.3 million
10. **Terminal Velocity**
(Hollywood) \$13.1 million

SPREADING THE MESSAGE: Carman demonstrates Christ hanging from the cross during Monday night's concert.

The lights go dim, the crowd starts screaming and Carman runs onto the stage.

Carman, a Contemporary Christian singer, drew in crowds of enormous proportions with his free concert Monday night at Murphy Center. You might have thought you were at an indoor baseball game (if it were still being played). There were vendors walking up and down the aisles, but they weren't selling food; they were selling 8-by-10 glossies of Carman and hearts that would glow in the dark if you shook them.

Once Carman hit the stage, you felt like you had been transferred into the Land of the Believers. There were people who spent most of the concert with their eyes closed and their hands raised in the air. If that's how you want to spend a concert, that's your own thing; I spent my time at the concert with a camera glued to my face, so I can't really criticize.

There was every age present, from 1 to 100, and from where I sat, everyone enjoyed the concert.

Before the concert, the crowd was doing "the wave" and stomping "We

CARMAN



Photos & Text

By:

SUNNY L. BEASLEY

Assistant Features Editor



Bringing His Message To Murphy Center

will rock you." When the lights went down and Carman's keyboard player came out, the crowd welcomed him as if he were Carman, and when Carman did hit the stage, I didn't hear that much screaming at the Aerosmith concert.

He surprised me when he had a bunch of well-built guys come out on stage with flags. For a few minutes I thought he had a color guard. After they started to dance and do all sorts of acrobatic moves, I realized that they were his dancers.

The spectacular lights, and the message that was given, made up for the small number of songs.

How he has managed to keep his tour going

without charging admission is beyond this writer's comprehension.

On the seats were leaflets that he wanted you to sign. These have been collected across the country, and the names have been added to a petition that currently has 700,000 names on it. This petition, once it has 1 million names on it, will be delivered to Congress in an attempt to add a new amendment to the Constitution for voluntary prayer in schools. (GOOD LUCK!!!)

Carman had a 15-minute explanation of how the American society has deteriorated since 1962. According to him, instances of abuse, rape, violent crimes, teen

violence and assorted crimes in general have "skyrocketed since the removal of prayer from schools."

The crowd was open to the words, and they were amazingly calm and orderly. When he told them to sit, they sat. Most high school teachers would love to have classes that acted as well as they did!

Though the concert was not widely advertised, the turnout was beyond expectation. The seats at Murphy Center, which are hard to fill even at basketball games, were almost completely filled. Since he was "in the round," it was easier for everyone to see him. The security was tight, and no one was allowed within 10 feet of the stage.

His charming way and soothing voice made for an enjoyable concert. The lights and dancers were great. (Especially the dancers! Not bad looking!)

I'll have to say, after going to this concert, I now believe the statistics that say that there are 50 million believers in Christ running around. And Monday night, most of them tried to sardine themselves into Murphy Center. □

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Don't Miss It!

WITH OR WITHOUT SUCCESS WHAT IT TAKES TO BE Doc Holliday

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Actor Dennis Quaid seems to have a laid-back "If it happens, it happens" attitude about things. He doesn't concern himself with box-office success. He debunks the theory that two actors can't be married, have a kid and be happy. And he doesn't take himself or his career as seriously as he once used to.

"It's a good life," says Quaid, reflecting a moment during a recent interview at a Los Angeles hotel. "I feel like I have more fun with acting than I did when I began. I give everything I've got, but when I do work, I'm not as serious about it all. I just have fun."

An example of Quaid's giving it all for a role was for his most recent film, *Wyatt Earp*, where he played gunslinger Doc Holliday. For Lawrence Kasdan's Western epic, which was released earlier this summer.

Quaid didn't mosey into the Old West.

Rather, he spent three months jogging, dieting and losing more than 40 pounds in order to give Holliday the pale, haunted look of a man dying a slow, painful death from tuberculosis.

Though he transformed himself into Holliday under the supervision of a doctor and a nutritionist, Quaid was a bit of a crank on the set while shooting *Earp*. "I apologized to everyone in advance," says the now-fit Quaid, only half-joking.

"I was really Mr. Mood Swing. Between every take I'd have to rest. I didn't see myself as Doc Holliday (initially) because I was in pretty good shape, and Doc was a frail man. There was this one picture of him where you could just about see his skull. So, I just thought it was necessary. An audience believes what it sees and hears."

The moment Kasdan called cut on Quaid's final scene, Quaid returned to his normal eating habits. In fact, he had a banana cream pie on the spot. And, Quaid jokes, he didn't get sick. So, now that the film is out, was it worth the self-torture?

Quaid pauses, then responds, "I definitely think it was. The thing about film is that you just don't get a chance to go back and do it again. I wanted to do everything I could while I was there. There were times when I was in the middle of it that I asked myself, 'Is this worth it?' But it was."

Many critics believed that Quaid's performance was worth it, also. The film, a vast, three-hour-and-20-minute telling of the life of lawman Earp (Kevin Costner) and his unlikely friendship with the outlaw Holliday, enjoyed only a mild box-office success before fading from screens. For all its scope and star power (the cast also included Gene Hackman, JoBeth Williams and

Michael Madsen), it was Quaid whose performance was as interesting as his appearance was frightening, who stood out.

Quaid had always been fascinated by Holliday and was eager to step into the boots of Kirk Douglas, who many, including Quaid, consider to have created the definitive Holliday in *Gunfight at the O.K. Corral*. He viewed Holliday as a cross between a free spirit and the Angel of Death.

"Doc had a fatalistic point of view. He only expected to live about six months after they told him he had tuberculosis," notes the actor. "He surprised himself by living another 14 years. It was amazing. He must have had quite a constitution to do that."

He drank two quarts of whiskey a day just to kill the pain."

As Earp joins Quaid's other recent films, *Undercover Blues* and *Flesh and Bone*, in video stores, Quaid once again is faced with a film that

didn't become the blockbuster that many had anticipated.

If there's one knock on Quaid, it's that his films don't seem to attract the audience to turn major profits. The underrated comedy *Blues* cast Quaid and Kathleen Turner as retired spies who temporarily give up the peace of raising their little baby daughter in order to save the world, while *Flesh and Bone* was a dark thriller in which Quaid starred with his real-life wife, Meg Ryan. A box-office disappointment, Quaid, and most of the handful of people who saw it during its brief run, loved it.

Other examples? *The Right Stuff*, *Dreamscape*, *Jaws 3-D*, *Innerspace*, *Everybody's All-American*, *The Big Easy*, *Great Balls of Fire* and *Wilden Napalm*, to name just a few. Most were quality films, and some feature extraordinary Quaid performances, but none could be called bona fide hits.

Does Quaid worry about being in a hit?

"I don't ever see it as essential," he says.

That said, he's about to begin a big-budget epic called *Dragonheart*.

"It's about a knight and a dragon, set in a medieval town," explains the actor. "Sean Connery is in it, too. We'll film it in Slovakia."

After that, he's not sure, though he may team again in the future with Ryan, who shared the screen with him in *Innerspace*, *D.O.A.* and *Flesh and Bone*, and with whom he and their son Jack live in Montana.

"I'd love to work with Meg again, absolutely," he notes, "but we're not actively looking for something. But if something came along, fine, we'd do it."

After all, Quaid isn't worrying about tomorrow. He's too busy enjoying today. □



BATTLE OF THE BANDS

High school marching bands are coming to see who's the best of the best

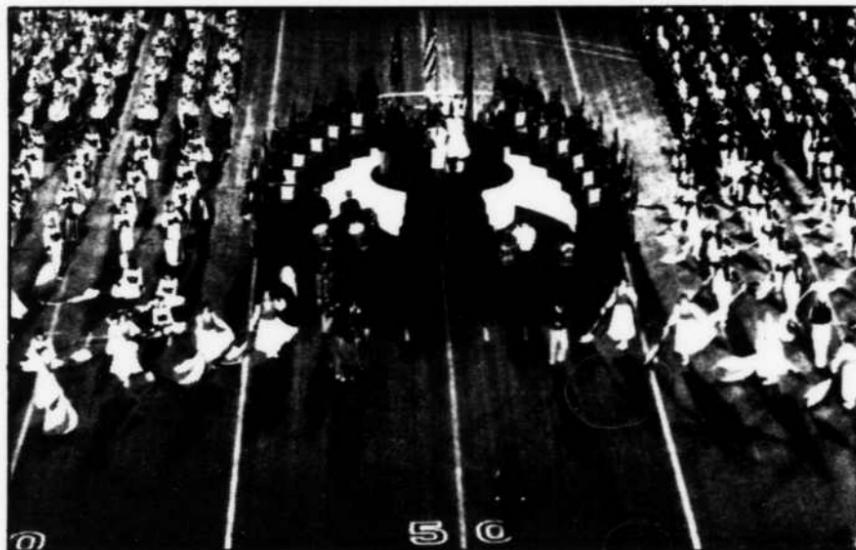
By **SUNNY L. BEASLEY**
Assistant Features Editor

The MTSU Band of Blue will host the annual "Contest of Champions" on Saturday. This contest has been an annual event since 1962, when founders Joseph Smith and Horace Beasley were directors here. For those of you who enjoy marching bands but have never seen a band competition, this is a great experience. Bands from different states come to compete and show their stuff in hopes of winning the title of "Grand Champion."

The contest is limited to 28 bands who must either send in a resume or have attended the contest before. Those who are

selected to attend are adjudicated by some of the best directors in the country and can have clinics with various outstanding composers. There is no entry fee for the band boosters who attend, and the bands can see the U.S. Marine Band in concert. This may sound boring to some of you out there. Speaking from personal experience, band competitions are great fun and an opportunity to hear some good music.

So when you hear loud music coming from the stadium Saturday, that'll be your signal to come out and support the Band of Blue and hear some of the best marching bands around. You'll find it well worth the money and time. □



File photo

AND THE WINNER IS... The grand finale of the Contest of Champions is the awards ceremony when the best of the best step up to receive their honors.

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Blue Raiders hope to continue winning ways with trip to improved SEMO

SCOTT STEWART
Sports Editor

Saturday's OVC game between MTSU and the Southeast Missouri State Indians in Cape Girardeau is key to each team's hopes of challenging for the conference championship.

SEMO has won four games in a row for the first time since 1955, and is currently in third place in the OVC with a record of 3-1.

"There's a lot of improved football teams in the OVC this season, but

there's no doubt in my mind that Southeast Missouri is the most improved of the lot," MTSU coach Boots Donnelly said. "And I'm not sure but what they are currently playing the best football of anybody in the league."

The Indians are led by running back Kelvin "Earthquake" Anderson, who had 132 yards rushing on 24 carries last week against Southern Illinois. Last week's performance put Anderson over 3,000 career yards and made him the leading rusher in SEMO history.

MTSU comes into the game ranked 20th in the Sports Network Division I-AA poll, second in the OVC at 4-1, and riding a two-game winning streak in which they outscored their opponents 101-13.

The Blue Raiders are led by senior quarterback Kelly Holcomb, whose 5,842 yards of total offense has him on the verge

of becoming MTSU's all-time total offense leader.

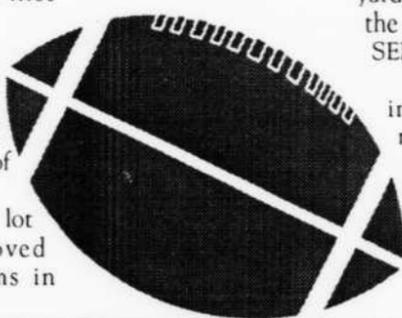
Donnelly said he believes running the ball is key to his team's chances at the Indians' home field in Cape Girardeau, Mo.

"We have not come off the ball on offense over the past three weeks with the enthusiasm we should

have," Donnelly said.

"Consequently, we haven't been able to run the ball like we should. SEMO doesn't give up much to the run anyway, so we're going to have to make some solid improvement there."

Game time Saturday is 2 p.m. □



BLUE RAIDER FOOTBALL



CHARLES HOGUE/Photo Editor

BENCHWORK- MTSU linebacker Nathaniel Claybrooks gets taped up as he prepares to return to action. The Blue Raiders return to action Saturday afternoon against Southeast Missouri State. The winner of the game remains within striking distance of OVC leader Eastern Kentucky.

Lady Raiders sweep UT-Chattanooga 3-0; consistency proves key to victory

JESSICA CLAYBORN
Assistant Sports Editor

The Lady Raider volleyball team (4-16, 1-8 OVC) defeated UT-Chattanooga Tuesday night in three straight games (15-10, 15-12, 16-14).

"For the first time this season, we proved we were able to come back," said Lady Raider coach Diane Cummings. "At first we were finishing games strong, then we were beginning them strong—this time we finally figured it out."

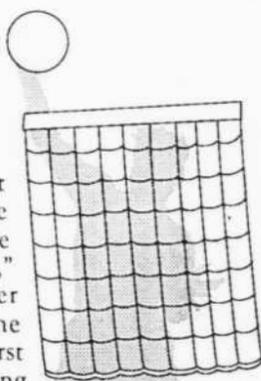
Senior outside hitter Angie Raffo led the team with 17 kills and 10 digs. Sophomore setter Nidza Castillo had four kills and 10 digs, and freshman outside hitter Tara

Miller had 11 kills and 4 digs.

"Our girls did an outstanding job last night, especially Raffo," Cummings said. "I think this win does a lot for our morale. In the third game, we were down 7-0 at one point before we came back to win. We weren't able to do that earlier in the semester."

The Lady Raiders have two more tests in back-to-back home games. They will face Southeast Missouri Friday at 7 p.m. and UT-Martin at 11:30 a.m. Saturday.

"It's a win for us to build on and move ahead," Cummings said. □



LADY RAIDER VOLLEYBALL

OVC STANDINGS

Team	OVC	Overall
Eastern Ky.	4-0	5-2
MTSU	4-1	4-2
SEMO	3-1	5-2
Murray St.	3-2	4-3
Tennessee St.	2-2	3-4
UT-Martin	1-3	3-3
Austin Peay	1-3	2-4
Tennessee Tech	1-3	3-4
Morehead St.	0-4	0-6

SATURDAY

Eastern Ky. at Tenn Tech	1 p.m.
MTSU at SEMO	2 p.m.
Morehead St. at Austin Peay	2 p.m.
UT-Martin at TSU	6 p.m.

Sports Network Division I-AA Poll

1. Marshall (7-0-0)
2. Montana (6-0-0)
3. Youngstown St. (6-0-1)
4. Idaho (6-0-0)
5. Troy St. (5-1-0)
6. Grambling St. (6-0-0)
7. Boston Univ. (5-1-0)
8. Northern Iowa (4-2-0)
9. Eastern Ky. (5-2-0)
10. McNeese St. (4-2-0)
11. Central Fla. (5-2-0)
12. James Madison (5-1-0)
13. Pennsylvania (4-0-0)
14. William & Mary (4-1-0)
15. North Texas (4-2-0)
16. Western Ky. (5-2-0)
17. Boise St. (6-1-0)
18. S. F. Austin (3-2-1)
19. Alcorn St. (5-2-1)
20. MTSU (4-2-0)
21. Hofstra (6-0-0)
22. Southern (4-2-0)
23. Western Carolina (4-3-0)
24. Appalachian St. (4-2-0)
25. New Hampshire (5-1-0)



SCOTT NEELY/Photographer

LET ME THROUGH - Jody Hensley gets help from Dace Shuck (facing front) as he moves the pile in MTSU's championship rugby match with Vanderbilt, which Vandy won 33-10.

RUGBY TEAM PLAYS FOR REGIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP



SCOTT NEELY/Photographer

COME-N-GET IT - Sean Carrol of the MTSU rugby team runs the ball against Vanderbilt in the Southeast regional rugby championship Sunday. The Moosemen lost 33-10 after having defeated UT and Ole Miss to earn the berth in Sunday's game.

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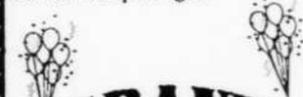
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ON THE LINE STUDENT STANDINGS

Here are the standings for the students' line as of week six. The names are listed in order first to last. Any tie scores are listed in alphabetical order. The standings are based on number of wins. There are six weeks left. Good luck!

William Wood	70-24
Daniel Afghani	65-29
Robin Lindsay	65-29
Paul Christensen	64-30
Emeri Gordon	64-30
Carter Henson	64-30
Corey Staggs	64-30
Forrest Moegle	63-31
Keith Bennett	62-32
Greg Meyer	62-32
Daniel Pigue	62-32
Lee Eaton	61-33
Monica Gordon	60-34
Brian Gray	58-36
Ryan Gray	57-21
Bonnie Davis	55-39
Randi Staggs	52-26
Rodney Smith	50-30
Chalihan Pratik	49-31
Earvin Johnson	46-48
Christina Frazer	47-17
Jeff Neal	45-17
Tonya Cheatham	43-21
Ricky Clardy	39-25
Felicity Pyle	36-12

Pete Hopkins	34-14
Daniel Bates	31-17
Michael Hatten	31-17
Rhonda Hall	21-11
Briyan Smith	21-11
Chris Gray	20-10
Brian Early	19-13
Chris Goggin	19-13
Alyssa Storey	19-13
Chris Maxwell	12-4
Gerald Webb	12-4
Shane Shoemake	11-5
Victor Sims	11-5
Tim Stone	11-5
Russ Drinkall	10-6
Clay Snellgrove	10-6
Gopi Achanta	9-5
Sheree Brooks	9-7
Christy Cannon	9-7
Donna Minten	8-8
Craig Reavis	8-8
Keith Bingham	7-9
Billy Stanton	7-9
Jamie Walker	6-10

ON THE LINE-HALFTIME

ON THE LINE	TONY ARNOLD Sports Advisor	SCOTT STEWART Sports Editor	JESSICA CLAYBORN Asst. Sports Editor	ANDREW BUTLER Sports Writer	SCOTTY LEAMON Sports Writer
MTSU VS SEMO	MTSU 28-24 SE-MO Kippy touchdowns	MTSU 35-30 Scalp the Indians	MTSU 21-7 I'm ready for Tech	MTSU 24-21 SE-MO wins coming in	SEMO 24-17 Road trip too much for MTSU
TSU VS UT Martin	TSU 21-17 I took the president's car	Pacers 28-24 UT Martin takes Tigers by tail	Pacers 7-6 Win streak at two	TSU 21-17 Tigers out race the Pacers	Pacers 14-10 Vol fans jump over to Pacers
Georgia VS Kentucky	Dawgs 35-10 Everyone's at b-ball practice	Dawgs 42-14 Even Ga. can't lose this game	Dawgs Don't mess up again	Dawgs 35-6 Ray Goff hits the bricks in Dec.	Dawgs 27-21 Kentucky couldn't beat Morehead
Vandy VS So. Carolina	Vandy 24-17 Vandy headed up in the polls	Vandy 24-13 I will regret this pick	Gamecocks 14-3 Back to normal	Gamecocks 24-21 Same old Commodores	Vandy 22-15 Gerry learns to use a "J"
Alabama VS Ole Miss	Bama 17-14 Unimpressive, but still undefeated	Bama 17-10 Just enough to win again	Bama 21-20 Auburn is coming	Bama 49-3 Undefeated and underrated	Bama 16-6 Tide wins ugly
Washington St VS Arizona St.	Wash. St. 28-14 Ariz. St. needs Mr. October back	Wash. St. 9-6 I'll be asleep	Wash. St. 34-16 Toss-up	Wash. St. 21-7 PAC 10 sucks	Wash. St. 28-14 Cougars rip A. State
Kansas St. VS Colorado	Bufs 35-14 K. State cost me dearly last week	K. State 28-24 Yes, this will happen	Bufs 25-9 Nebraska's coming	Bufs 50-7 New Big 8 powerhouse	Bufs 31-30 K. State makes move to big 3
Oklahoma VS Kansas	OU 31-7 Sooner than Later	OU 35-14 What is a Jayhawk	OU 20-11 Big 8 barely big 3 anymore	OU 14-13 When's Switzer coming back	OU 21-17 Sooners headed out of big 3
Michigan VS Illinois	Mich. 21-10 No Hail Mary this time	Mich. 24-12 Michigan has bad case of overrated	Mich. 23-6 Big 10 slaughter	Mich. 14-24 Big 10 sucks too!	Illinois 17-16 Next up Penn State
Purdue VS Ohio St.	Ohio St. 21-17 Buckeye Shmuckeye	Purdue 24-17 I just like the name Boilermakers	Ohio St. 14-12 Photo finish	Ohio St. 21-14 Refer to box above	Ohio St. 30-21 Buckeyes boil Boilermakers

Line race tightens

Tony Arnold went an uncharacteristic 3-7 last week in On The Line, trimming his lead to only one game and keeping the race within five games.

"Don't get excited, everyone," Arnold said. "I just did this to help everyone out. I was pulling away and I realized it wasn't fair. I decided to make it close."

Sports editor Scott Stewart was unconvinced.

"Tony, your problem is you just can't accept defeat," Stewart said. "I knew for a fact you weren't going to do well. After that crack you made about the Bowdens last week, I personally called Terry and told them to kick Florida's butt—for your sake, of course."

"Forget about kicking Florida's butt," Jessica Clayborn said. "Who could've guessed Vandy was going to kick Georgia's butt like that? If I had picked that game, I'd be tied for first."

"Instead you're tied with me for second," Scotty Leamon said. "but after next week, that will no longer be the case. Look out Tony, here I come!"

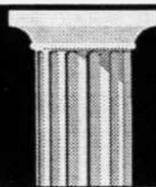
"Scotty, don't get your hopes up," Stewart said. "Y'all are laughing 'cause I'm in the cellar, but I'm starting to make my move. I've made up a couple of games on Tony."

"Everybody has made up a couple of games on Tony this week," Clayborn said.

"Don't forget about me," Andrew Butler said. "Like the tortoise, I'm slowly but surely making it to the finish line."

"Good, I can leap-frog over you to first place," Stewart said.

"Everybody keeps talking about first place, but I'm here to tell you—this is my game," Arnold said. "I may not be sports editor anymore, but this is still my game. It will always be my game—no matter where I am." □



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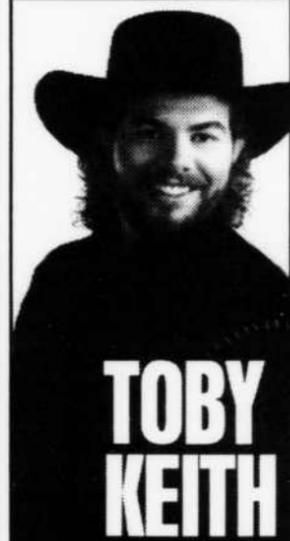
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