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prepare to
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for the
soul**

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What do you think is an appropriate punishment for Andrea Yates?

INSIDE: Texas mother killed her kids, deserves harsh treatment

In Opinions, page 4

An editorially independent newspaper

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Middle Tennessee State University

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Campus Briefs

July 4 celebration to be held on campus

Dyslexia Center Opens

The officials of MTSU and the local community toured the new Dyslexia Center June 18. The new center is located on the corner of Baird Lane and Elrod Street and occupies 4,275 square feet of program space. The center is the only one of its kind that serves residents of the state without charging a fee. The center's construction was made possible from a \$1 million grant from the Christy-Houston Foundation. The center will house classrooms, observation rooms, waiting areas and office space.

Red Cross expands hours

The American Red Cross, located at 836 Commercial Court in Murfreesboro, will expand its hours of operation starting July 7. It will be open every Saturday from 8 a.m. until noon. In the months of June, July and August, the Red Cross donors have the opportunity to register for the drawings of the Titans tickets. To donate blood, donors must be healthy and at least 17 years old, weigh at least 110 pounds and must have not given whole blood in the last 56 days.

Foundation picks president

Bill Jones, executive vice president for Calvary Bank in Murfreesboro, has been elected as the new president for the MTSU Foundation. He plans to raise money for the Honors College and build a partnership between MTSU and the community. Jones has served on the Foundation board for three years. The MTSU Foundation is separate from the university and was created in 1961 by MTSU alumni to help provide private support for the university. It is a non-profit organization and is governed by the Foundation Board of Trustees.

Ferrell leaves MTSU

Lt. Col. Mark Ferrell left MTSU June 15 to go to Senior Service College at Maxwell Air Force Base. He will be working as an Army Exchange Student Officer. He has served as chair of the military science department for two years and as a professor of the department. Ferrell will be promoted to the rank of colonel while working at Senior Service College.

Mask entertains students

Doug Berky, a mask and movement specialist will entertain students during the annual Governor's School for the Arts on June 27. Berky will combine mime and circus, masks, drama, and storytelling as he entertains over 230 high school students attending the summer program. He is a Franklin resident and will also perform in Leiper's Fork, Franklin, and Winchester. Berky said that he has been performing for 25 years and that he enjoys his work.

Charlene Callier
News Editor

Grab the lawn chairs, blankets and picnic baskets and enjoy "Celebration under the Stars" July 4 at MTSU Intramural Field sponsored by Murfreesboro Parks and Recreation Department.

The event is free and open to the public and will include residents from the area as they take part in children's games and activities, musical performances and fireworks.

"This year's Fourth of July extravaganza on the MTSU campus will likely be the biggest and best that Rutherford County residents have yet to take in," said Marlane Sewell, program co-ordinator for the



Photo Provided

The Tennessee Philharmonic performs at last year's celebration.

Murfreesboro Parks and Recreation Department.

Concessions will be 5:30 p.m., and the activities will

be from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

The theme for this year's children's activities will be "Circus Fun on the 4th," sponsored by the MPRD staff.

sponsored by the MPRD staff.

According to Beth McDaniel, assistant coordinator for MPRD, this year's children's

activities will include face painting, balloon animals and clowns, a bean bag toss, decorate-a-visor and a patriotic craft project.

State Rep. John Hood is the master of ceremony and will open the event with formal remarks at 7:45 p.m.

The Tennessee Philharmonic Symphony will perform a variety of tunes, including songs from *Riverdance*.

Tchaikovsky's "1812 Overture" will start the fireworks show with "America," "America the Beautiful" and "The Battle Hymn of the Republic," following the opening song.

"The company that does the pyrotechnics show always presents an excellent display," Sewell

See Celebration, 2

Miss MTSU places fourth in Miss Tennessee

Miss Blue Raider also makes top ten

Staff Reports

Sophomore Ashley Brooks, 20, placed fourth Saturday in the Miss Tennessee pageant held in Jackson, Tenn.

Brooks, a native of Medon, Tenn., is an MTSU student



Brooks

majoring in piano performance. She was crowned Miss MTSU in February.

Brooks received a \$6,000 scholarship for winning fourth.

Her platform for the Miss Tennessee event was "Using Music to Build Self-Esteem in Children," which was taken from her experience working with Music For Esteem which is based in First United Methodist Church in Jackson, Tenn.

Music For Esteem is a program designed to help disad-

vantaged children in an after school program by teaching them music, arts and drama from a biblical standpoint.

"I chose something that was dear to me," Brooks said in April. "It's something that I do for my self-fulfillment, and it will teach other people something about the process of learning music and self-discipline that taps into people's behavior and learning style."

Her expectations are to become a professional accompanist while she continues to teach piano at home, with some opportunity to travel.

"Music is competitive, so you must always have a plan B," Brooks said.

Her hobbies include singing, tennis and cooking new recipes.

Brooks won the local and state title of the Miss Black and Gold Pageant, in addition to winning the talent competition in the regional.

She said her experience in the Miss Black and Gold Pageant helped prepare her for the Miss Tennessee pageant.

Five other students joined Brooks in pursuit of the Miss Tennessee Crown.

This year's contestants from MTSU were: Leah Leonard, Miss Blue Raider; Courtney Blanding, Miss Nashville; Christina Lam, Miss Lexington; Stephanie Plemons, Miss Volunteer; and Mandy Smith, Miss Tennessee Valley.

Leonard was one of the 10



Ashley Brooks, Miss MTSU receives her crown

New bill will push budget through July

Legislation meant as backup plan

By Karen Miller
Associated Press Writer

Legislation has been filed to keep state government operating through the month of July if lawmakers can't balance the state budget before the new fiscal year begins on Sunday.

The chairmen of the Senate and House finance committees

said Tuesday they hope the bill won't be necessary but it would be irresponsible not to have it in place.

Some budget negotiators are hoping a new income tax plan presented Tuesday will be their salvation, but they're only four days from the end of the fiscal year.

"I don't want to come down to Saturday at midnight with no provisions for keeping the doors open," said Sen. Douglas Henry, D-Nashville and long-time chairman of the Senate

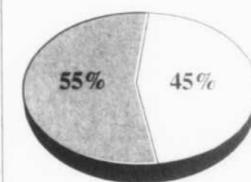
Finance Committee.

There will be no effort to move the bill until it becomes clear that lawmakers won't meet that deadline, said Rep. Matt Kisber, chairman of the House Finance Committee and co-chairman of the budget negotiating committee.

It appears the deadline to move the continuation budget is Thursday.

Kisber said legislative leaders and officials in Gov. Don Sundquist's administration

Should the State Have an Income Tax to Fix the Budget Crisis?



Last week, Sidelines Online asked readers if the state needed an income tax to fix its budget problems.

Of those who responded, 55 percent said "Yes," the state needs an income tax; 45 percent said "No," the state does not need an income tax.

This is not a scientific survey.

Graphic by Kimbra E. Dixon, News Designer

Celebration: Fireworks to grace university for July 4

Continued from 1

said. "It gets bigger and better each year."

"I'm really looking forward to this year's show."

"It's a wonderful program and it's for the whole family," said Jacqueline Hoskins, case manager assistant for the Department of Human Services.

Hoskins works part time as a program assistant for the Murfreesboro Parks and Recreation Department and has participated in activities that include keeping people in the safe zone by patrolling the perimeter and face painting, as well as other children activities for the last three years.

"It's family oriented but also fun for the teens," said Stacy

Hoskins, a sophomore at Riverdale High School. "The games were fun last year. They had an obstacle course and a sand building contest."

"If you sit in a certain spot when the fireworks go off, it seems like its right over you."

The event is sponsored by several organizations, including The Daily News Journal, MTSU, Musicians Union Trust

Fund, the City of Murfreesboro, Union Planters Bank, Rutherford County Government, Rutherford County Chamber of Commerce, the Alvin C. York Veterans Affairs Medical Center, Wal-Mart, Kroger and Heritage Farms Dairy.

For more information, contact Marlane Sewell or Randy Holden at 890-5333. ♦

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Budget: New bill meant as contingency plan

Continued from 1

decided upon a monthlong continuation budget, rather than a week or two, to make it easier on employees and on the state's contractors.

Finance Commissioner Warren Neel says that because of the state's accounting system, it could continue collecting enough revenue to pay state employees through July 15.

After that, the state would

have to dip into its \$150 million rainy day fund, he said.

He said the objective would be to continue operating the same as today, but, if the impasse drags on, there would have to be cuts in services simply to keep up with legislative and court mandates, contracts and inflation.

On an annualized basis, the state now has about \$1 million more per day in obligations than in revenue that it is collect-

ing, Neel said.

"I'm still very hopeful we will resolve it this week, but if there's an overhang of a few days, we'll be prepared," he said.

Kisber said "a continuation budget is the worst possible position to be in."

He said it could affect the cost of contracts, including those with new TennCare managed care organizations that are scheduled to go into effect with the start of the fiscal year.

House Speaker Jimmy Naifeh told members of the budget negotiating committee and lawmakers who were in the audience that if they are forced to approve a continuation measure, "we will not have fulfilled our constitutional responsibilities."

Balancing a budget each year is the only constitutional requirement of lawmakers.

The bill is SB1998. ♦

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From the staff

Yates needs harsh sentence

Last week, Andrea Yates, 36, killed all five of her children by drowning them one by one in a bathtub in their home. The children's ages ranged from 6 months to seven years.

Yates' husband says his wife was suffering from postpartum depression. He said her first spell came after the birth of their fourth child two years ago. She attempted suicide then and was put on medication. She relapsed into depression and began taking medication again when their fifth child was born six months ago. Experts believe she was suffering postpartum psychosis when she drowned her children.

Postpartum depression affects an estimated 75-80 percent of mothers after childbirth, according to experts. Women suffer its severe form, postpartum psychosis, in one or two out of 1,000 births.

Yates has admitted to the murders to police and has said that she killed the children because she believed she was a bad mother and had damaged her children. She has also told police that she had to chase her seven-year-old after he saw her drown his six-month-old sister.

There is a huge controversy surrounding these murders. Should Yates, who lives in Texas, face the death penalty like others charged with capital murder?

While some of us don't believe in capital punishment, we all believe that Yates shouldn't receive any leniency in her punishment.

We understand that Yates was depressed and was not thinking with a clear mind. We understand that she was usually a good person. But she killed her five children, and there's no doubt that she knew exactly what she was doing and what the end results would be.

The woman purposefully murdered her children. That deserves just as harsh a punishment as any murder.

Yates should not be given any sympathy for the loss of her children. She was the one who chose to kill them.

She should be punished - punished severely - for what she did. This is one of those causes when illness is just an excuse for a horrific crime. We need to draw a line somewhere, and this is the place. ♦

Right to own a gun is essential

Out of Leftist Field



I hate guns - with a passion. Until recently, I felt they were unnecessary household appliances, and that families with guns in their homes were asking for tragedy.

Boy, was I wrong. My family owns a small convenience store in Saltillo, Tenn. - an itty-bitty speck on the map

with virtually no law enforcement.

In the middle of May we received information that the town's psychopaths, just released from prison, was planning on conducting a little armed robbery that Monday.

That day, as I sat on pins and needles waiting for the crazy lunatic to waltz in and pull a huge, metal death ray on me, I had an epiphany. Even though guns are vile killing machines, they are needed in certain situations. My family deserved to be able to defend itself from that aggressor (who ended up not attempting

anything), especially since our county police force could do very little to protect us.

It's a terrible way of thinking, but in today's society, it's realistic.

Let's suppose a liberal movement swept across America and, as Joan Allen said in *The Contender*, "every gun [was] removed from every household in America." That would be wonderful. But, again, it's unrealistic and irrational.

Don't think for a minute that the bad guys wouldn't be armed. Criminals would reign freely over the Average Joe, who would either be

so afraid to break the law that he would be virtually helpless, or would break the law to own a gun himself, thus making him an unnecessary criminal.

No, instead we need to recognize the importance of the right to own a gun and work on reducing the harm caused by guns.

I'm talking about cracking down on thorough background checks and waiting periods. It should be more difficult to get a gun than it is to get a driver's license. Gun shows should be monitored strictly so that unauthorized sales are not allowed. Safety courses should be mandatory for

owners and owners-to-be.

Adults should take the responsibility of keeping guns well-hidden from children. They should also act maturely and teach children to respect guns, not think of them as mysterious, fun playthings.

In a perfect world, guns would neither exist nor be needed. But this is far from a perfect world.

Though my liberal, pacifist leanings don't allow me to be really comfortable with guns, my experience tells me that - sad as it may be - guns are here to stay, and the American public deserves to defend itself, responsibly. ♦

Depressed mother deserves pity

Canadian Bacon



Andrea Pia Yates is a woman deserving of our pity, not a hardened criminal who should be destroyed like a rabid animal. Yates is the Texan mother who last week drowned all five of her children in her upstairs bathtub while her husband was at work.

Yates has suffered for years and attempted suicide only two years ago. She has been described by all

accounts - by every neighbor, every relative and every acquaintance - as a loving, caring mother.

What, then, could have driven her to commit such an atrocious act? Her lawyers plan on convincing jurors it was a case of altruistic filicide (child-killing by a parent), caused by a case of postpartum psychosis.

Postpartum psychosis is an ailment affecting roughly one out of every thousand women who have recently given birth. Its milder version, postpartum depression, affects nearly 75 percent of all mothers. Symptoms include irritability, tearfulness, anxiety and the fear of not being able to cope.

Yates, it is to be contended, suffered from so great a psychosis that she

believed her children would be better off dead than in her care. She did not feel that she could handle the pressures of being a new mother again (her youngest child was born in January 2001).

In 1988, a California woman was found not guilty of murder charges because of postpartum psychosis. She was charged with, and admitted to, running over her infant son with the family car.

In 1998, a Colorado woman was also found not guilty of killing her two young children by reason of postpartum psychosis.

"People say that how could a woman do such a thing - she wasn't in her right mind. If you have a postpartum psychosis, the brain chemistry has gone

awry," said Diana Lynn Barnes, a Los Angeles psychologist who specializes in pregnancy and postpartum issues, in a recent article in *The Tennessean*.

In both cases, the women were sentenced to life in psychiatric hospitals. This fate should also be reserved for Yates. In every interview and public statement since the deaths of the children, her husband has pleaded that people pity his wife, not condemn her. Surely, the forgiving wishes of a man who has just lost his five children must be heeded.

Unfortunately for both Mr. and Mrs. Yates, they live in Texas, where the governor recently vetoed a bill that would have prohibited the execution of

mentally handicapped inmates. Known throughout the world as a place where executions are to be expected, this case provides a second chance for both the governor and the Texan public at large to show that they are the compassionate conservatives they loudly proclaim to be.

Yates' execution would not bring her five children back to life, nor would it provide peace of mind for her husband. She is not a threat to society, only to herself. The just punishment for her crimes is commitment to a place where she can get the help she so obviously needs. ♦

Archie was the perfect anti-role model

For Argument's Sake



Archie, you taught us more than you know

As many of you know, Carroll O'Connor, known best for his role as the gruff bigot Archie Bunker on television's *All in the Family*, died last week.

Although I wasn't around when the series was on the air in the 1970s, it is interesting

watching such a progressive show in reruns.

All in the Family was a progressive show in that it addressed hot topics of the time, such as race relations, female empowerment and sexual liberation, that many shows would not have dared touch. The show was controversial at the time, and I suspect such a show might be considered controversial even today.

It also satirized a clash between young and old that was happening in many American households at the time.

Attitudes were changing and many youth were

quite different from their elders. Archie's racist and sexist rants clashed with those of his liberal son-in-law, who Archie dubbed Meathead.

The show also portrayed a unique look at the older generation's bewilderment at the changes in society. In one episode Archie's wife replied to a magazine ad from a couple that was into swinging, thinking they were just looking for friends to socialize with.

The different attitudes caused a lot of tension onscreen, which, with this show, translated into lots of laughter. The fights

between Archie Bunker and his next door neighbor George Jefferson reached such proportions that a spin-off show starring George (you know, *The Jeffersons*) was also a hit.

O'Connor and the CBS staff working on the show conceived a unique character in Archie Bunker. While they did not vilify the character, they also did not want to make him look like the sympathetic favorite on the show.

Archie, in addition to being a bigot, was a genuine buffoon, and the writers made it clear that Archie Bunker was satiriz-

ing many misconceptions held at the time (and held today.) Without *All in the Family*, shows such as *Married With Children*, *Seinfeld* and *The Simpsons* might never have made it to the air.

I think we all know someone that reminds us a little bit of Archie. Hell, I'm related to people like him.

Archie taught us how not to end up, and isn't an anti-role model as much of a gift as a role model?

Thanks for the laughs and lessons, Archie. You'll be greatly missed. ♦

SIDELINES

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INTERESTS

4◆ SIDELINES

Wednesday, June 27, 2001

Murfreesboro, TN

Shape up for a higher quality of life

Health & Fitness



Russell Cliche
Staff Columnist

Being a graduate student in physical education, I'm often asked about health, nutrition and exercise.

I'm always pleased to share what I've been taught or read on my own, but I'm

also stunned by the lack of basic knowledge people have about keeping their bodies strong, flexible and fit.

I guess it's because we are bombarded by advertisements and "experts" telling us about their pill, program or apparatus that will change our lives and it's difficult to tell truth from fiction.

The truth is health and fitness is simple, but it's not easy. The following information can be found in any reputable exercise magazine, textbook or Web site.

Research in fitness has shown that there are four areas we should think of when getting our bodies into shape for a high quality life. When talking of high quality, I mean reducing sickness, injury and discomfort and increasing health, durability and enjoyment. The four categories are cardio-respiratory, muscular strength and endurance, flexibility and nutrition.

We'll look at two this week.

Getting your heart and lungs working more efficiently. (cardio-respiratory)

Just moving the body has become a large task for many people. As a whole, our society is getting bigger. Sixty percent of the population is overweight, with half of those people, unfortunately, being obese. Fortunately, these people will see the fastest and greatest improvement from exercise.

The American Medical Association recently said an individual who walks nine minutes a day (that's every day) will reduce their chances for onset diabetes, high blood pressure and heart disease by half.

So often we deceive ourselves by thinking we need two-hour workouts (Pet peeve — call it exercise, not working out. Fitness is not work!) to get a healthy benefit. If every day is tough, get outside three days a week and move (any movement walk, jog, swim, play Frisbee) for 20 minutes.

Many folks say they don't have time. People working multiple jobs or taking care of children do have a lack of extra time, but they need the strength and fitness more than ever.

We'll spend time fixing, cleaning and maintaining the house and car, (you'll own or rent three to seven homes and five to 10 cars in a lifetime), but somehow we've lost the value of fixing, cleaning or maintaining our own bodies (sorry, just one per customer). Value your health more!

Toning and strengthening your muscles. (muscular strength and endurance)

Muscles need and use calories. The more tone your muscles are, the more calories you'll burn. Muscle tone enhances your safety while going through the paces of every day life. Lifting, pushing, pulling, holding and carrying all revolve around muscular strength.

Resistance bands are an excellent way to begin toning. Rehabilitation centers, as well as hospitals and the American Heart Association, carry them. Pamphlets usually accompany the bands to guide you through the various exercises, but health and fitness magazines can do the same.

Light weights are also a great help in toning, as well as using your body weight as resistance — such as push-ups, pull-ups, squats, calf-raises and crunches.

If you are totally lost, write to me, and I'll get you some helpful information.

Stay fit,

Russell

Next Week

Flexibility and Nutrition
Any questions or
comments on health and
fitness? E-mail at
rjc2e@mtsu.edu



photo provided

Crank Like Frank chills out in the wilderness. The band will be performing at Wall Street this Saturday.

Crank blazes the Boro

By Ryan Noreikas
Contributor

Who's got the dank? It's Crank Like Frank! Murfreesboro's latest jam band is here electrifying the local bar scene. Combining the sounds of rock and roll, country, jazz and blues, CLF toggles the musical spectrum in a very creative fashion.

"It all started when we were freshmen at Brentwood High School," said Matt Cahill. "Joe Marlow (guitar) and Jeff Servais (guitar) were walking down my street and heard me playing my brand new drum set. They asked me if I wanted to form a band. I said sure, we played that night and almost every day since."

Ray Dunham, also a Brentwood student at the time, joined the band as a second drummer.

In the winter of 1998, the band added bassist Dave Harder, a.k.a. "The Dave," from Cincinnati, Ohio, to complete the rhythm section. It's was in Harder's garage that the band first began jamming as a semi-complete band.

"We were playing improvisationally, putting those jams into pieces of those jammers into what became our first official song, "Ambassador," Harder said.

Thus, the band used this improvisational approach to create many of its earlier songs.

The band's first official gig was at Auburn University in Alabama. The players performed at a party under the name Private Gold 34.

"We were to play one set, as there were other bands to go on after us," said Servais. "When we were told we had time for one last song, we decided to play a 35 minute-long 'Mountain Jam' (Allman Brothers). By the time we

finished, the cops were there and said there could be no more music, so the other bands couldn't play. We really ticked those people off."

By spring 2000, the band and its members decided it was time to start playing around Murfreesboro. It was at their first in-town gig at The Boro that they first began using the Crank Like Frank name. CLF played several gigs that spring and summer in bars such as The Boro and Sebastian's. The players were very pleased with their progress, the said, but felt that something was missing from their lineup, a keyboardist.

Nashvillian Bob Marchman was recommended to the players by a mutual friend. Then, in August, Dunham had a pool party at his folks' house in Brentwood. CLF played the party with Marchman, giving him a test-run. He passed with flying colors and was deemed a member that very day, completing that act's lineup.

In the meantime, songwriting continued, with every member adding his own flavor to the mix. Servais and Marlow said they are influenced and mainly by Southern rock and country. Sunbham and Chill said they formed their styles from listening to rock and jazz drummers. Marchman, who is classically trained, said he is influenced by jam bands. And Harder likes any musician with good tone.

"The key to playing good music is good tone," he said.

Playing at bars has been an incredible experience for CLF, but from a business standpoint, the players said they have dealt with several negative situations.

"Basically, we're the new band in town, and we're paying the price that every new band has to pay in

order to go anywhere," Marchman said.

"We don't really care when these situations happen in town, but when we travel to places like Bowling Green, Kentucky and Memphis, Tenn., we hope to at least get reimbursed for gas and lodging expenses," Servais said.

These situations don't phase the band, though, when it comes time to play. CLF is very much about the music, not the money, and it shows at the gigs. A Crank Like Frank show opens up a mental cage, allowing emotions and feelings to fly about. Its music tears down the wall between fantasy and reality, and it all becomes one. Songs like "Ambassador" and "Dark Meadow," often exceeding 20 minutes in length, seem to pick the listener up in a cosmic whirlwind, spinning him or her off into space, then placing him or her back down on Earth with the utmost delicacy.

Not only do CLF's sounds affect the listener, but also the players themselves. "We experience a wide range of emotions on stage. There are times when we feel complete and total energy and times when we feel nothing but disgust," Servais said. The band members are very much affected by their music, they said, which can direct their feelings upward and sometimes very downward. The players, in general, admitted that they scan get pretty upset if they feel they played a bad gig. Of course, they are their own harshest critics. The crowd's response is always very positive. On the other hand, their music can be very uplifting for them.

"When we come to a spot in a song, where everyone in the audience seems to be having a good

time, jumping around and really getting into it, that helps us play better, it helps us play better, it seems," Marchman said.

CLF's crew consists of good friends that have known each other since high school, and friends they met in Murfreesboro. Bob Gilmartin runs their sound, Billy Hardwick is the doorman and Philip Pratt, their No. 1 fan, runs the dance floor.

Recently, CLF has taken a different approach to their songwriting. One of them, usually Marlow, will come up with the basic structure of a song, and present it to other members of the band. From that, each member constructs his own part to form the complete composition.

"Our band's weakest spot is the vocals," Servais said. Most of the members sing, usually Marlow on lead vocals, and the others backing him up.

"None of us have any vocal background at all, we just knew we had to sing. But we've always been inspired by really good vocalists," Dunham said.

Their live sets consist mostly of original songs, while slipping in a familiar cover here and there for the crowd's delight. The bandmates practice about every other day, coming up with song lineups for the next gig, which can be strenuous work for them, they said. But when they hit the stage, all is good. "Basically, what I look forward to most in my life is going onstage and playing our gigs. It's our time to release all of the built-up emotions," Dunham said.

Concertgoers can check out the Crank Like Frank experience June 30 at Wall Street. For more information, check out cranklikefrank.com on the Web. ◆



Middle to host all-star game

By J.P. Plant
Sports Editor

MTSU will host another statewide high school athletic event Saturday.

The 2001 East-West Shrine all-star game is slated for Saturday at Floyd Stadium on MTSU's campus.

The game will be televised by Fox Sports Net and features some of the best players from across the state.

Remote Producer for Fox Sports Net Darren Wooly said the focus of the game is "going to be the action on the field."

Part of the action will feature three players scheduled to attend Middle Tennessee in the fall - Fletcher Williams, from 5A-state champion Red Bank, Willie Mobley from Milan and Michael Chambers from Clarksville Academy.

There will also be four players from 5A-state runner-up

Riverdale and one player from Oakland playing in Saturday's game.

Wooly says the broadcast crew of Bob Rathbun, the play-by-play announcer for the Atlanta Hawks, and former Los Angeles Raider Ethan Horten will feature players with interesting stories, such as the hometown players represented.

College football recruiting guru Scott Alexander, host of "Countdown to Signing Day,"

will roam the sidelines getting player interviews during the broadcast.

The Fox Sports Net crew will arrive in Murfreesboro Friday morning and meet the players at their morning practices held on Horace Jones Field.

"We (Fox Sports Net) just want to get to know the players," Wooly said.

Fox also plans to attend the awards luncheon Saturday morning and the Shriners

parade through the streets of downtown Murfreesboro later that afternoon.

Both teams arrived in Smyrna Sunday at the Tennessee National Guard Training Center for pictures and physicals.

Practices began Monday with the East practicing at Smyrna High School and the West practicing at LaVergne High School.

Other events during the

week included dinner at the Al Menah Shrine Temple in Nashville and a chicken wings eating contest at the Hooters in downtown Nashville.

While the game features the players, all the proceeds will go to the Shriners.

Kickoff is Saturday at 7 p.m. and will be televised to nearly 9 million homes in the Southeast region. ♦

Raiders sign stellar recruiting class

MT rated in top 50

By Clint Beverly
Assistant Sports Editor

Jennifer Justice is the newest edition to the Lady Raider basketball team last week, head coach Stephany Smith announced last week.

Justice, a 5-foot-11-inch forward, will bring with her a year of experience and three years of eligibility after leaving Central Florida Community College in Ocala, Fla. The Aiken, S.C., native graduated from Aiken High School in May 2000.

Justice averaged 15 points and nine rebounds per game her senior season at Aiken High School, after posting 18 points and 10 rebounds per contest during her junior year. She was voted the MVP of the North-South All-Star Carolina's Basketball Classic in 2000.

"She will be here in the fall. She may or may not be eligible," said Jo Jo Freeman, a sports information director for Middle Tennessee athletics said.

This signing will help relieve some of the pressure on seniors Jamie Thomatis and Joanna Aluka, the only returning starters for the Lady Raiders.

Coach Smith also announced two big signees in April. Renee Hall, a 6-foot-2-inch center/forward from Charlotte, N.C., and Jessica Schlueter, a 6-foot-3 center/forward from Bellevue, Neb.

Hall averaged a double-double as a senior at Charlotte Latin High School, scoring 14 points and pulling down 10 rebounds per game. She also averaged two blocks and shot 55 percent from the floor. An All-State selection in North Carolina, she led CLHS to a 48-14 record during her junior and senior years.

Schlueter lead her Bellevue East High School team to the quarterfinals of the Nebraska State Tournament. She averaged 14 points and nine rebounds per game and picked up first team All-Metro honors from the *Omaha World-Herald*. She shot 62 percent from the floor her senior year.



Jamie Thomatis (35) will look to the new recruiting class for help as she and Joanna Aluka are the only returning starters on the front line.

Blue Raider

Team of the Week

Justice, Hall and Schlueter, along with five other signees, have pushed the recruiting class of 2001 into the Top 50 in the nation.

The Lady Raiders have a rough beginning to the season facing University of Georgia, Ole Miss and Xavier, along with three Conference USA teams.

"The early part of the schedule is brutal," Freeman said.

Freeman added that coach Smith feels making a run at the Sun Belt Conference crown and possibly to the NCAA Tournament are "realistic goals."

The Lady Raiders went 17-13 a year ago and advanced to the Women's NIT for the second time in three years. ♦

2001 Lady Raider Basketball Signees

Name	Position	Ht.	Hometown
Jennifer Justice	Forward	5-11	Aiken, S.C.
Renee Hall	Center/Forward	6-2	Charlotte, N.C.
Jessica Schlueter	Center/Forward	6-3	Bellevue, Neb.
Cartia Bailey	Guard	5-8	Fayetteville, Tenn.
Tiffany Fisher	Guard	5-10	Jackson, Tenn.
Ciara Gray	Guard	5-9	LaVergne, Tenn.
Trice Holmes	Guard	5-8	Bishopville, S.C.
Eboni Kirby	Forward	5-10	Tallahassee, Fla.

Quinn storms in Former MT quarterback leads Thunder into Saturday's World Bowl

By R. Colin Fly
Staff Writer

Former MTSU quarterback Jonathan Quinn led the Berlin Thunder to a win with 248 yards passing and four touchdowns in their season finale against Amsterdam.

The win sends Berlin to the World Bowl this Saturday against the Barcelona Dragons.

The game, set in Amsterdam Arena, will be shown live on Fox affiliates and is set for a 11 a.m. CST kickoff.

Berlin clinched their berth

by defeating the Amsterdam Admirals on the road. It was Amsterdam's only loss at home.

Quinn has thrown for nine touchdowns during the last two weeks of the season.

"Jonathan Quinn is the best quarterback in this league and arguably the best this league has ever seen," head coach Peter Vaas said. "We're now looking forward to the challenge of facing the Dragons again, because we have not played well against them this season and have not shown our true potential against them."

Quinn finished the regular season with 167 completions out of 296 attempts for 2,257 yards and 24 touchdowns. He led the league in both yards and touchdowns, while throwing only eight interceptions this season, and was the only quarterback to throw for 300 yards in a game.

The former Blue Raider standout now has tied an NFL Europe record for consecutive games with a touchdown pass at 10. ♦

Sportsline.com contributed in this report.



McCollum named Coach of the Year

Staff Reports

After holding their annual summer meetings, the Tennessee Sports Writers Association voted Middle Tennessee coach Andy McCollum as the 2000 College Football Coach of the Year in Tennessee.

"This is a great honor and one that shows our program at Middle Tennessee is starting to gain the respect it deserves," McCollum said.

After just his second year as head coach at MTSU, McCollum lead the Blue Raiders to a 6-5 record in the program's second year in division 1-A. The Blue Raiders also made moves in national rankings. They finished 16th in total offense, gained 31 spots in total defense from 1999, had a receiver in the top ten, and produced the nation's third leading scorer and 15th leading rusher.

"I appreciate the recognition this award brings, but it belongs to everybody who touches our program. This is a team award," McCollum said.

This was the third time a Middle Tennessee coach has earned the award. The first two times going to former coach Boots Donnelly in 1988 and 1994. ♦

Photo Provided

McCollum won the honor following a 6-5 2000 campaign.

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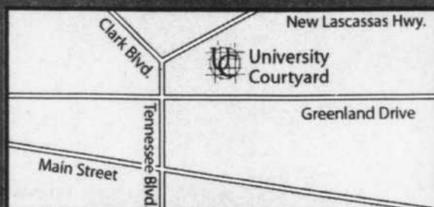
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