MIDDLE TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY

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Tobacco ban's flame burns out

By ALEX MOORMAN Campus News Editor

Dwight's Mini Mart has received a lot of attention due to a tobacco ban that inhibited Dwight Johnson, owner of the mart, from

selling tobacco products Board of Regents in regards but the ban has been lifted and he is now allowed to sell again, Johnson said.

Joe Hugh, assistant vice president of procurement services, said he was approached by the Tennessee

to MTSU being the only university in Tennessee to sell tobacco products.

Hugh said he contacted the Tennessee Business Enterprises, which funds the equipment for Dwight's

Mini Mart, asking if they would be interested in removing tobacco from their store, to which they said

"We sent in the request to [TBE], but they might have been confused about the fact that it wasn't a change in MTSU policy," Hugh said.

TBE is a public/private partnership that provides independent blind businesspeople with vending and other food services to customers across the state. Johnson said that he

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House grants safety

The United States House of Representatives hopes to fund an act to help keep universities safe

By DUSTIN EVANS Staff Writer

The U.S. House of Representatives passed a resolution entitled the "CAMPUS Safety Act," to help colleges and universities prepare for campus emergencies.

The Center to Advance, Monitor, and Preserve University Security Safety Act of 2009 establishes the National Center for Campus Public Safety as a division of the U.S. Department of Justice.

The Center will "serve as a clearinghouse for the identification and dissemination of information, policies, procedures and best practices relevant to campus public safety, including off-campus housing safety, the prevention of violence against persons and property, and emergency response and evacuation procedures," as stated specifically in the current language of the bill.

SAFETY, PAGE 2



Jamey Simmons, a faculty member of MTSU's School of Music, contributes his talent to help keep budget cuts from silencing WMOT.



The Great Barrier Reefs jam at Club 527 Thursday to help keep music at MTSU alive.

WMOT benefit concert brings fans to their feet

By EMMA EGLI

Assistant News Editor

WMTS 88.3 hosted a benefit concert for WMOT 89.5 at Club 527 Thursday to try and raise funds to help keep the station from being canceled due to budget cuts.

Hundreds of students, faculty and members of the MTSU community came to support the cause. More than a dozen jazz artists and bands performed at the benefit concert in an effort to raise money and awareness to help

Some of the acts that performed included The Great

WMOT, PAGE 4

Peck Hall's computer lab shuts down

By BRYCE HARMON Contributing Writer

The public computer lab in Peck Hall's room 326 is closed and will be converted into a classroom for the English department's use this semester.

The closest computer and printing access to the former Peck Hall lab is in Kirksey Old Main's second floor in rooms 204, 252 and 267 and on the third floor, in rooms 350, 351 and 360.

Instead of keeping Peck Hall's computer lab available to the public, the university decided to focus more on the "mega-labs" available to students elsewhere because of the recent budget cuts affecting each school within the university, from mass communication all the way to the political science department.

Tom Strawman, English Department chair, said he did wasn't aware of what the university will do with the computers in the lab.

Student's opinion on the matter range from the lab's closing as an inconvenience to completely indifferent.

"A lot of meat has hit the floor because of these budget cuts and in thin times, things like [the lab being turned into a classroom] just have to happen," said Ty Gang, a senior political science major.

The Walker Library, located across campus from Peck Hall, is open to students Monday through Thursday from 7:30 a.m. to 12:00 am, Fridays from 7:30 a.m. until 5:00 p.m., Saturdays from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and Sundays from 1:00 p.m. to 12:00 a.m. with computer and printing capabilities on all four floors, along with the University Adaptive Technology Computer Lab

"The university made a conscious decision to close the lab and focus on the availability of these more accessible labs located on campus," Strawman said. "Enrolled students are charged a technology access fee within their tuition

To read more, visit us online.



www.mtsusidelines.com



Photo illustration by Alex Blackwelder, photography editor The computer lab in Peck Hall was recently closed down to make room for a classroom.

Poetry Reading inspires Honors College

By GARRETT ASPACHER Contributing Writer

Thirteen students and one poet gathered for a poetry reading in the Paul W. Martin Sr. Honors Building Friday to cap a week devoted to the art of poetry.

The event began with students of Beth Ann Fennelly, assistant professor of English at the University of Mississippi and prize winning poet, from her weeklong class "The Art and Craft of Poetry" reading the poems they wrote during the seminar.

"Poetry is the best method of investigating the human soul," Fennelly said.

The reading concluded with Fennelly's recitation of her own work

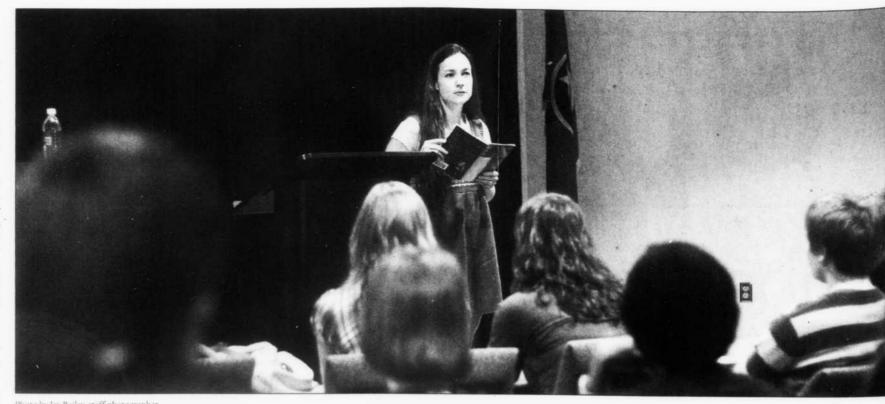
Fennelly said she had gotten to know her 13 students very well over the last five days of the class.

Arlo Hall, a senior English major and seminar participant, said the experience was invaluable.

"The best thing was being able to talk to a real poet, to work with a real poet," Hall said. "That's a rare thing."

During the class, Kela Casiple, a the sophomore liberal studies major and seminar participant, said she was able to read into the variety of cultures and backgrounds that her fellow students had come from based solely upon their poetic writings.

"I liked the variety," Casiple said. "There's a lot



Beth Ann Fennelly reads a poem to her students from her week-long class, "The Art and Craft of Poetry" to help student investigate their "human soul."

of different tones, different places and people that translates into the way that

"Through reading a great poem you can experience Visiting Artist's Seminar,

BETH ANN FENNELLY

things you have never ex-

perienced before," said

Eric Powell, a senior phi-

losophy major and semi-

nar participant. "You can

see the world and hear the

world in a way you haven't

66 Poetry is the best method of investigating the human soul."

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF ENGLISH AT THE UNIVERSITY OF MISSISSIPPI

of knowledge," Powell said. "She's very passionate, and that really comes across in her teaching,

The event ended the

which began Feb. 2

"The Art and Craft of

Poetry" is reserved mostly

for upper-division honors

students. The seminar re-

warded each student with

one full credit hour for at-

The students were able

with Fennelly to create a finished product for the reading.

Fennelly is an accomplished poet with three published books of poetry, including Unmentionables, Tender Hooks and Open

Fennelly read from a variety of her work, including her book of letters, Great with Child. Fennelly currently lives in Oxford, Miss., and works as a professor of English at the University of Mississippi.

The event was coordinated by MTSU's Claudia Barnett, an English professor, and concluded with a book signing by Fennelly. A reception was held after the reading with food and drinks.



Photo by Jay Bailey, staff photographer Taffy O'Neal reads one of her poems. O'Neal is a published author of the young adult novel Stoodie

SAFETY

FROM PAGE 1 "Just a few months ago, MTSU officials responded to security threats on campus and canceled classes," said Congressman Bart Gordon, who is a supporter of the bill, in a press release on Feb. 3. "All schools should be properly prepared to respond to campus emergencies."

The CAMPUS Safety Act was introduced by Congressman Robert C. Scott, the Chairman of the House Judiciary Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism and Homeland Security.

"Over the past few years, we have seen numerous tragedies occur at our colleges and universities, ter will create and publish including the disastrous events that occurred at Virginia Tech and Northern Illinois University," said Rep. Scott in a press release on Jan. 28. "Unfortunately,

"Beth Ann is a great teacher, and she's got a ton

because these events were the first of their kind for the schools, the Administrators were not fully knowledgeable about how to respond."

Center will also develop protocols between the U.S. Departments of Education, Homeland Security, the Attorney General, and designated for educational branches of state and local

Attorney General and Con-

to workshop their ideas

"The bill we passed will make resources available to colleges and universities so that they can be ready The bill said that the and ensure that students are safe in the event of an emergency," Gordon said.

The bill appropriates \$2.8 million in funding and training grants to aid

All schools should be properly prepared to respond to campus emergencies."

BART GORDON

U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

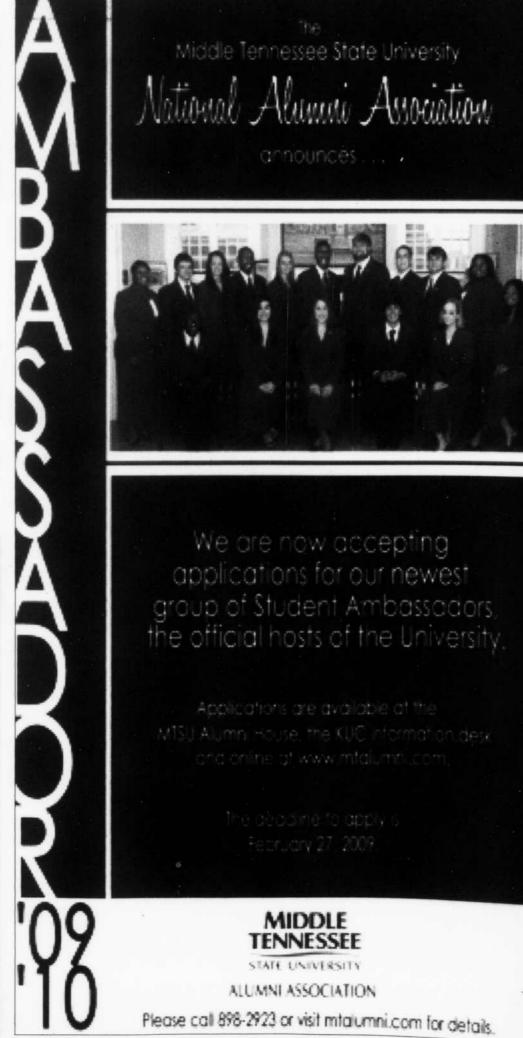
forcement agencies.

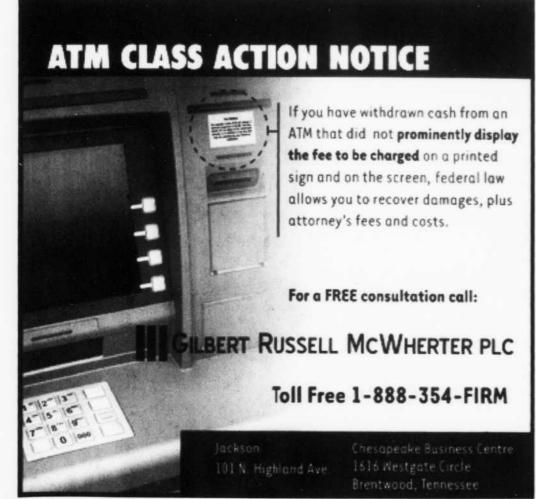
The act said that the Cenmodels to equip universities with threat assessment, coordinate campus safety information, increase prevention response, and report its findings with the

governments and law en- in campus safety agencies across the country.

> The bill states that the funds will be appropriated for each of the fiscal years from 2009 through 2013.

The House of Representatives passed the bill and will be introduced into the







Stephen Smith sings at the final concert performance of MTSU's choral season. Smith, a professor of music is preforming with 140 other singers.

Final note of choral season

MT Choral Society takes its final curtain call for semester in concert that shines light on music enthusiast, Lucy Strickland

By SPENCER MOHEAD Staff Writer

The Middle Tennessee Choral Society and the MTSU Schola Cantorum held their final concert of the season, "Echoes from a Cathedral", at 3 p.m. yesterday in the Wright Music Building's Hinton Hall.

The concert was dedicated to Lucy Strickland, a longtime patron of the Choral Society and member of its advisory board.

Choral Society advisory board member Kay Garrison said between 350 and 370 people attended their final concert of the season to hear the sacred choral works of George Frideric Handel, Johann Sebastian Bach, Charles Gounod, William Mathias and Hubert Parry among others.

"It was excellent," Garrison said. "It was beautiful. "[Raphael] Bundage outdid himself."

Associate professor of voice and soprano Dina Cancryn and Smith performed vocal solos. Jeff Bailey, principal trumpeter of the Nashville Symphony Orchestra, performed Gerard Bales' "Elegy for Trumpet." Former MTSU teacher and organist Polly Brecht, current teacher and pianist Patricia Ward and Bailey accompanied. MT-SU's director of choral activities, Raphael Bundage, conducted the choir.

"I've been looking for-

ward to this concert all year," Bundage said.

The 96 students who comprise the MTSU Concert Chorale to form a choir of 140 voices joined the Choral Society's 44 members.

The pieces performed included Bach's "Piece d'Orgue" and "Jauchzet Gott in allen Landen," Handel's "Sing Unto God" and "Let the Bright Seraphim," Parry's "I Was Glad When They Said Unto Me," Bales' "Elegy for Trumpet," Giaochino Rossini's "Domine Deus," Gounod's "Sanctus," Randall Thompson's "The Last Words of David," Moses Hogan's "Deep River," Mack Wilburg's "Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing," and Beethoven's "Hallelujah."

Dina Cancryn sang solos in "Jauchzet Gott in allen Landen" and "Let the Bright Seraphim."

Cancryn holds a Bachelor of Music degree from the prestigious Eastman School of Music and a Master of Music degree from the Indiana University School of Music. She has been a featured soloist with the Nashville Symphony Orchestra and has been featured in several operas, including Mozart's "Requiem," Handel's "Messiah" and her own musical production, "Portraits: The First Black American Divas of Song and Opera."

Stephen Smith performed the solos in "Domine Deus," "Sanctus" and



Photo by Erin O'Leary, staff photographer Ninety-six students and 44 Choral Society members preformed to commemorate the end of concert season in Hinton Hall yesterday.

"Deep River." Smith holds a Bachelor of Music degree in Vocal Performance and Literature and a Master of Music degree and a performer's certificate in opera from the Eastman School of Music. Smith has been a featured singer in opera houses in Switzerland, Poland, Britain and Portugal. He has been a staff member since 1998.

The Choral Society is scheduled to host their annual Orpheus vocal competition beginning on Feb.

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Scout cookies safe

Recent peanut butter alarm has not affected Girl Scout supply for this year selling season

STAFF REPORT

The two licensed bakers for Girl Scout cookies have not been affected by the recent recall of peanut butter products containing Salmonella.

Neither ABC Interbake nor Little Brownie Bakers receive their peanut butter supply from the Peanut Corporation of America.

All of the ingredients used in making Girl Scout cookies are inspected on a regular basis to ensure they are safe for consumption, said Michelle Tomkins, spokeswoman for the Girl Scouts of USA.

The Girl Scouts of Middle Tennessee use Little Brownie Bakers.

"The Girl Scouts main-

tain the highest of standards for our products and only uses two bakeries to produce our cookies," said Rachel Fox, senior communications manager for Girl Scouts of Middle Tennessee.

Girl Scouts of Middle Tennessee began taking orders for cookies on Dec. 27 and stopped on Jan. 25.

"Our Tagalongs and Do-Si-Dos are two cookies that contain peanut butter and have not been included in the recent recall," Fox said.

Sales will begin on Saturday, Feb. 14 and end on

"Don't worry if you missed your chance. They will begin booth sales throughout Middle Tennessee," Fox said.

Rush Week: Fraternity **Spring Recruitment** Monday, Feb. 9 through Saturday, Feb. 14 More Information: visit http://frank.mtsu. edu/~greeks/

Crossing the Event Horizon: A lecture on the Unified Field Theory Monday, Feb. 9 at 4 p.m. Admission: Free Location: BAS State Farm Room More Information: www. jamiejanover.com

Quantum of Solace Feb. 9-13 Monday-Thursday 7 & 10 p.m. Friday 7p.m. Admission: \$2 Location: KUC Theater

Leadership Recruitment Fair

Learn how to apply for various leadership positions on campus Tuesday, Feb 10 from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. Admission: Free Location: KUC

Going Back to Where I've

A solo performance by **Jacqueline Springfield** Thursday, Feb. 12 at 7 p.m. Admission: Free Location: Boutwell Dramatic Arts building, **Studio Theater**

Twilight Feb. 16-20 Monday-Thursday 7 & 10 Friday 7p.m. Admission: \$2 Location: KUC Theater

CRIME BRIEFS

Feb. 4, 11:18 a.m. Theft

Jones Hall

Victim reported that her purse had been stolen from her office.

Feb. 4, 2:02 p.m. **Medical Assistance**

Kirksey Old Main Officers responded to assist with a female who had fallen and injured herself. The female was transported by ambulance to the emergency room.

Feb. 4, 4:21 p.m. Medical Assistance

Library

Officers were summoned to the library to assist a student who thought she might be having an epileptic attack. An ambulance was called as a precautionary measure, but the student refused transport and was instead taken home by her mother.

Feb. 4, 6:29 p.m. **Drug Possession**

Nicks Hall

Officers assisted Residential Life with a student who was in possession of drug paraphernalia. The student was referred

to Judicial Affairs for disciplinary action.

Feb. 5, 11:45 a.m.

Harassment

Corlew Hall Subject requested to speak

with an officer in reference to phone harassment.

Feb. 5, 4:17 p.m. **Aggravated Assault** Scarlett Commons

Subject requested to speak to an officer in reference to threats being made against

Feb. 6, 12:14 a.m. **Underage Drinking** Greek Row-Kappa Alpha Eric Arnold, Jacqueline Brewer, Emily Bottom, Heather Middlebrooks, Lanna Martin, Michael Dennis, Paige Howard, Bonnie Hix, Ian Yocum, Zachery Brooker, Robert Corlew and Kevin Coffey were all issued a state citation for underage consumption. Cody Campbell was issued a state citation for underage possession of alcohol. John Carter was arrested for disorderly conduct and public intoxica-

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Rutherford County endures labours of depressed economy

By DUSTIN EVANS Staff Writer

The State of Tennessee's Department of Workforce and Labor announced that RutherfordCounty'semployment rate increased, showing the local damages from the economy on the residents of Rutherford County.

The rate increased from 6 percent to 6.7 percent from

"Many have indicated that unless the government intervenes, the nationwide unemployment rate could reach, and probably exceed,

Millions of Americans will lose their jobs, their homes and their health care... millions more will have to put their dreams on hold."

BARACK OBAMA

PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

November to December.

"Close to 1,000 people in Rutherford County lost their jobs in one month alone," said Congressman Bart Gordon in a press release on Feb. 3. "My heart goes out to each of these workers and their fami-

Statistics from Tennessee's Department of Labor and Workforce said that 8,710 people are currently without a job, specifically in Rutherford County.

"Many more people have either stopped looking or are unemployed," said Kinsey Kiriakos, Gordon's communications director, in a press release on Feb. 3.

"In November, the number of unemployed persons in the county was 7,758," said Kiriakos. "These figures stand in stark contrast to the economic situation in December of 2007 when the employment rate was four percent in Rutherford County."

moment in this economic Recovery bill, the next two years are going to be painful for Middle Tennesse-

ans and people across the country."

Kiriakos said that many political economists believe the current economic situation could last for two more years unless "strong action is taken."

the month of 10 percent," Kiriakos said.

Kiriakos also said that Congress is trying to pass a final draft of the Economic Stimulus package and have it ready for the president to

sign before Feb. 16. "If we don't move swiftly to put this plan in motion, our economic crisis could become a national catastrophe," said President Barack Obama in his weekly address on Saturday, Feb. 7.

"Millions of Americans will lose their jobs, [so] their homes and their health care," Obama said. "Millions more will have to put their dreams on hold."

Obama also said that the Stimulus package will provide "immediate tax relief" for the middle class, protect unemployment insurance and health care, and prevent tax increases or

"It is about jobs, jobs, jobs. We must do everything we can to create more jobs in Tennessee and throughout "We are at the defining the country," Gordon said. "I am committed to workcrisis," Gordon said. "If ing in a bipartisan way we don't pass an Economic with my House and Senate colleagues and the president to ensure that the bill is improved."

WMOT FROM PAGE 1

Barrier Reefs, Moe Denham and the MTSU Salsa Band.

"The acts that performed were so great," said Dustin Hargrave, a sophomore recording industry major. "It really brought jazz to a wider audience and proved how important active listeners in the community are."

More than \$4,200 in donations and pledges were raised at the benefit show. WMOT has also raised about \$5,000 with the Nashville Jazz Workshop at a benefit workshop they held two weeks earlier.

Merchandise was sold and the proceeds went to WMOT. A petition addressed to President Sydney McPhee regarding not cutting the station was available attendees to sign.

"I don't know the exact number of people who attended the show, but it was ridiculous," said Alli Scott, a senior music and theatre major and general manager of WMTS. "People just kept coming in, even up until the final act at the end of the night."

The benefit show lasted until 2 a.m. with the MTSU Salsa Band closing up the show.

"It shows real dedication for the hundreds peowho ple stayed to see the final act perform,"

Scott said. "There were just as many people, if not more, at the end as there were at the begin-

Scott said she helped to organize the benefit concert after she learned of the possible loss of the jazz station due to drastic budget cuts being made at MTSU.



Allie Sellick performs at Club 527 in an effort to raise funds to keep WMOT on air despite budget cuts.

More about WMOT inside

MTSU

commu-

nity have

come to

"We are on the Board of

Regents list and the MTSU budget committee's list for elimination," said Greg Hunt, program director of WMOT. "Those are and the two lists you don't want to be on."

Hunt said he

working at WMOT as a student in 1981.

"I got invited to the station because someone voice," Hunt said. "One thing led to another, and they offered me a full-time position."

WMOT concert review Features, 5 Nashville music Don't cut WMOT Opinions, 6

More photos from the concert

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WMOT's aid since the announcement of the station possibly being cut.

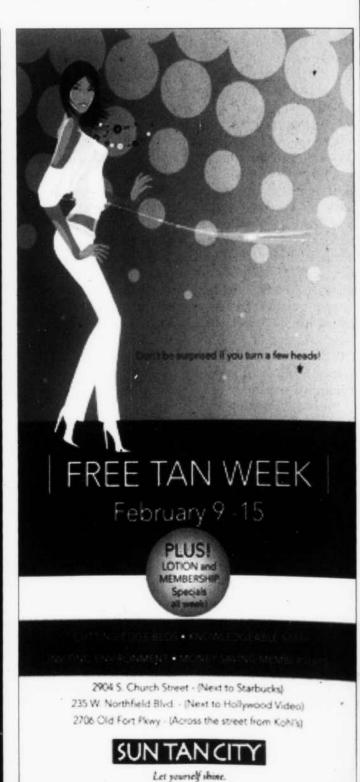
"It's been very heartwarming and very humbling experience," Hunt said. "It's also been a good learning experience for us and especially the comthought I had a good radio munity to learn that something that we all love and support so much could go let [President Sidney away."

Another benefit called Hunt said that various the "All Star Jazz Rally" arts agencies such as the for WMOT is being spon-

sored by the Nashville Jazz Coalition and will be held at Limelight in Nashville on Sunday, Feb. 15.

"I don't think people realized how serious this show was until they actually got there and saw how many people attended," Scott said. "All we can do now is McPhee] know how much we raised and how many people came out to support WMOT."





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FEATURES



DO YOU THINK MT SHOULD CUT WMOT JAZZ FACULTY **RADIO STATION?**

BASED ON VOTES FROM

Musicians aim to 'Save Jazz'

WMOT benefit concert brings out community

By JESSICA PACE Staff Writer

MTSU students, faculty and Murfreesboro residents filled Club 527 Thursday night to listen to music and support WMOT

With the station on the line as a potential victim of budget cuts, the venue was packed with performers and listeners intent on saving the jazz.

Local, nationally-recognized and MTSU talent took the stage as the donation box accumulated tangible support from Murfreesboro throughout the night.

The Great Barrier Reefs and Tony, local island-funk artists who frequent The 'Boro and Liquid Smoke, were the first to perform.

The Reefs were followed by a jam between longterm jazz musicians Moe Denham and Duffy Jackson, both of whom have performed with countless huge names in music.

Denham has played with the likes of Neil Young and Gregg Allman, and Jackson with Ella Fitzgerald and Dizzy Gillespie. Denham, whose music is played regularly on WMOT, says he is disgusted with the idea all of whom of seeing the station go.

"It would be a disaster faculty. for anyone that likes this music," Denham says. "WMOT is one of the the country. It's a terrible loss for Music City and an embarrassment."



Jheria Preston and Nikkira Scales from the MTSU Commerical Music Ensemble sing at the WMOT Benefit Concert to "Save the Jazz."

Jamey Simmons, an assistant jazz studies pro-

Aliquo, Tom Giampietro and Pat Coil, MTSU

Simmons

encouraged the audience to the country." write letters and sign the peonly 24/7 jazz stations in tition on behalf of WMOT, Jazz Combo, MTSU Com-

JUSTIN SEWAK

WMTS DISC JOCKEY

and the great people who fessor at MTSU and jazz made WMOT possible." trumpet player, performed Simmons says, "The stawith Jim Ferguson, Don tion is one of the greatest in just residents of Murfrees-

What is Jazz Fest without

WMOT? It would just be Fest."

WMOT for years of service also among the exemplary performers at the benefit.

Whether they MTSU students, faculty or

boro, everyone at the benefit had thing common: being outraged

over the possible loss of The MTSU Graduate WMOT.

and expressed gratitude to mercial Music Ensemble been listening to the station benefit." WMTS Producthe station during his set. and Lalo Davila and the for years, and complained tion Director Zach Trout-"We'd like to thank MTSU Salsa Band were that it is the only jazz sta-

tion available to them.

Club 527 manager Josh Qualls remarks that, considering WMOT's wide age range of listeners, it would be "pointless to cut it."

Always there to support WMOT, the WMTS staff and disc jockeys all expressed satisfaction with the turnout at the benefit, and as WMTS Business Director Ed Stone said he cannot imagine MTSU without the "cultural facet" that is the jazz station.

WMTS DJ Justin Sewak brought up the futility of Murfreesboro's annual May jazz festival.

"What is JazzFest without WMOT?" Sewak says, "It would just be Fest."

The station raised roughly \$2400 in donations with an additional \$1700 from pledge forms. Donations can still be made through WMOT's web site wmot. org/, and on Feb. 15, the All Star Jazz Rally will take place at Limelight to benefit the station.

WMTS Station Manager Alli Scott said that the station hopes to hear a decision from the Tennessee Board of Regents within three weeks. In the meantime, WMOT staff and supporters can only remain optimistic and take pride in their efforts to save the

"It would be best if WMOT did not go under, but if it does, I can't think Some claimed to have of a better way than this

Movies

2/9 - 2/13 - Quantum of Solace @ KUC Theater - 7 and 10 p.m. - \$2

Music

2/10 - Since Forever w/ Motive @ Club 527 -6:30 p.m.

Blues Jam @ Club 527 9 p.m.

2/11 - Reid & Wright w/ Spanish Candles, Kindergarten Circus, Skunkape @ The End - 9 p.m.

2/12 - Recycled Per- . cussion w/ DJ Pharoah @ JUB Tennessee Room - 7 p.m. - free

SOS @ Graffiti Bar - 10 p.m.

A Family Circus @ Club 527 - 8 p.m.

The Trampskirts w/ Frat Attack, Oliver Fist, Buffalo Clover @ The End - 9 p.m.

2/13 - Ribbon Pigeon w/ Locust Cloud @ Wall Street - 9 p.m.

Dirty Pirate Hookers @ Graffiti Bar – 10 p.m.

Tony Danza Tap Dance Extravaganza w/ The Castle is a Tomb, Alcina @ Club 527 – 8 p.m.

Meemaw w/ Fork Hunts, The Tits, Wes and the Illegals @ The End - 9 p.m.

2/14 - Chain Reaction (A Tribute to Journey) @ Wall Street - 9 p.m.

We Are the States @ The Boro - 8 p.m.

Ronnie Pittman Band @ Graffiti Bar - 10 p.m.

Voodoo Prophet w/ Dead Chain, Error 51, My Broken Self @ Club 527

Leslie w/ The Mercy Birds, Street Corner Champs, Sam Stone @ The End - 9 p.m.

2/15 - PacAKracRs @ Graffiti Bar - 9 p.m.

Rehab w/ Spring Street Slangaz, Street Light All Stars, Inept @ Club 527 - 9 p.m.

Other

2/9 - Joker's Poker @ Graffiti Bar - 7 p.m.

2/10 - Karaoke Contest @ Graffiti Bar – 9 p.m.

2/11 - Live Trivia @ Wall Street - 8 p.m.

Compiled By Malarie Woods

Art professors' work 'Revisited'

Despite cuts, Toddy Gallery continues with exhibitions

By JUSTYNE MCCOY Contributing Writer

The art department's slimmed-down budget did not stop the reception of their new exhibition, Revisited, from being a huge success.

The current budget cuts may have caused some activities and programs to disappear, but the Todd Hall Art Gallery exhibitions will continue.

Gallery Curator Eric Snyder has developed strategies to make the art exhibits possible in spite of a smaller budget.

"We have to focus on bringing in artists who are closer regionally to us and develop new cost-cutting measures," Snyder says. "We also have to find effective ways to promote and advertise our shows."

Revisited is a collection of works from local artists who are very close to the art department at MTSU. It features collective works of four of the departments retired faculty. The artists that have showcased their work are Ollie Flancher, Jim Gibson, Klaus Kallenberger and David LeDoux.

Almost 200 attendees welcomed the retired fac-

ulty back to campus during the Feb. 2 opening reception. They told stories of the Art Barn, the former and long-standing art facility on campus, and current students were enlightened with the artistry and wisdom from the artists. The community was well represented from support-

ment, departart lovers and alumni stopping in to say hello to their

former professors. "Several were so captivated that the reception did not conclude until nearly an hour past its originally slated time," Snyder says.

The artists have put an assortment of art pieces on display, including delicate jewelry, abstract paintings, detailed pencil drawings, sculptures and hand-sewn · MTSU for 38 years and re-

Klaus Kallenberger, best known for his work with precious metals, stones and gems, retired from MTSU in 2002 after 36 years of

service. After his retirement, he says he found himself with a bit of extra time on his hands, so he took on a new path in art. He began creating beautiful quilts made of handsewn pieces in shapes and patterns that "not even your granny would have thought of".

"While I am constantly improving my sewing skills, I love designing quilts I have not seen in shows or in books." Kallenberger says.

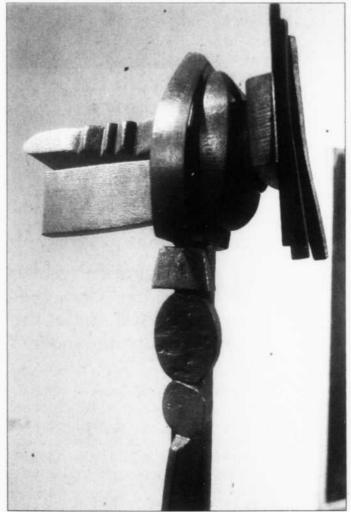
Kallenberger began his first quilt two years ago and is currently working on his 17th quilt. His colorful quilts are not just eye candy. They are great for cuddling up with at

Jim Gibson, a lifetime art enthusiast, uses his interest in the human form and mythology as his inspiration for his works in steel and wood sculptures.

"I have the ideas, desire and energy to work everyday," Gibson says.

David LeDoux taught at tired in 1994. He has studied art across the U.S. and traveled abroad. He refers to himself as a "20th century modern American."

"A painting should be in-



James Gibson's "Inverted Pendulum," a painted wood sculpture, is one of the works on display at the Todd Building's Revisited

ventive, striking and challenging no matter what the media." LeDoux says.

LeDoux's paintings are full of motion and color, allowing each viewer's mind to create their own representation.

Theory holds little interest for me," LeDoux says. "I trust experience,.I have witnessed almost three-quarters of a century and have painted for over 50 years now."

The retired faculty artists contributed a great deal to the Department of Art's program and curriculum and are honored for their hard work at MTSU. Revisited is on exhibit

on the second floor of the Todd Art Building. The exhibit will be on display until Feb. 20. All exhibits are free and open to the public from 8 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. For more information on upcoming events at the Todd Gallery, go www.mtsu.edu/~art/ barngallery/.

Letters Policy

Sidelines welcomes letters to the editor from all readers. Please e-mail letters to slopinio@mtsu.edu and include your name and a phone number for verification. Sidelines will not publish anonymous letters. We reserve the right to edit grammar, length and content.

OPINIONS

Sidelines is the editorially independent, non-profit student-produced newspaper of Middle Tennessee State University. Sidelines publishes Monday and Thursday during the fall and spring semesters and Wednesday during June and July. The opinions expressed herein are those of individual writers and not necessarily Sidelines or MTSU.

FROM THE **EDITORIAL BOARD**

MT should band to span budget gap

Greek bust laudable, but seems arbitrary

past Friday, MTSU police apprehended a dozen individuals on Greek Row at the Kappa Alpha fraternity house, all but one for underage consumption of alcohol.

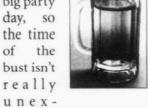
When the news of this shakedown reached our ears at Sidelines, we can't say that we were particularly surprised.

Really? College kids drinking under the age of 21? Say it ain't so.

This will probably have some effect on Rush for the fraternity, but it'll survive.

But why the Kappa Alpha house? It's obvious

that Friday is a big party day, so the time of the bust isn't really



pected. Yet what is unexpected is the choice of the Kappa Alpha house specifically.

Did another fraternity call the police because they were jealous of Kappa Alpha's smashing good time? Or was a passer-by genuinely concerned about the violation of Tennessee law on Greek Row?

One thing is certain, though, the police work was decidedly exceptional, and we're glad to see our police force take the initiative of cracking down on a problem that plagues campuses nationwide, especially on such a voluminous level.

So why didn't the police go house-to-house, checking identifications of all inhabitants as they went? For that matter, why don't the police descend on Greek Row and Scarlett Commons every time there are parties? It would probably curb underage drinking on campus and also reduce the risks of alcohol-related crimes.

But what it wouldn't do is circumvent drinking in general on campus. There's no telling how many dorm rooms, oncampus apartments and other dwellings sport makeshift mini-bars or a more modest bottle of liquor. And aside from having police turn over each and every domicile like prison cells, there's not much that law enforcement officials can do to prevent it from occurring repeatedly.

So what's the solution? As painful as it might be, responsibility. If you're younger than 21, steer clear of alcohol until that glorious day arrives for you. If you are 21 or older, don't let friends who aren't 21 conspicuously consume alcohol, whether it's at your apartment or some

Gov. Phil Bredesen will come before a joint session of the state House and Senate to present the annual State of the State Address in the House Chamber this evening. The white elephant in the room will undoubtedly be the nearly billion dollar budget shortfall, which has threatened funding for every major budget item since last August. To put that figure into perspective, the total budget for the state of Tennessee is just over \$28 billion.

Why should we, as college students, be concerned about this pressing financial issue.

One major budgetary item under scrutiny is higher education. In fact, budget woes forced MTSU administration to cut nearly 10 percent of its state appropriations for fiscal year 2008 - 2009 last semester, reducing appropriations from \$100 million to \$91 million.

These cuts have been calculated, and the reductions in services afforded by the university have been minimal.

One noticeable difference is the diminution of janitorial personnel on campus; in many instances, cleaning services must be requested rather than expected in locations like bathrooms and some classrooms. Students



Hurtt Pride

Matthew Hurtt

can reduce the side effects of a reduction in janitorial services by simply cleaning up after themselves.

President Sidney McPhee, who outlined the adjustments in a presentation last semester, has been very proactive in addressing and absorbing these financial shortcomings. He also unveiled a Web site where concerned individuals can learn

What many Tennesseans do not realize is that the state budget prior to Bredesen taking office in 2003 hovered at \$19 billion. In almost eight years, the state budget has grown by over 50 percent, or by roughly \$1 billion annually. The budget shortfall sets Tennessee back financially by only one fiscal year.

Students across the state organized under the auspices of the Coalition to Save Our Schools, which I joined late last semester to oppose Tennessee Board of Regents Chancellor Manning's proposed "Business Model." The proposal seeks to remove professors from the classroom and fundamentally alter the course of higher education in Tennessee. Many members



Students organized by the CSOS protested Jan. 13 at the Capitol.

tions of these individuals and reality. One cannot practically oppose budget cuts and reductions in services while likewise opposing tuition increases during a budgetary shortfall of nearly \$1 billion. We are naïve to think higher

> education is some sort of sacred cow, exempt from financial scrutiny during this difficult period when every major state department is

facing budget cuts.

I applaud the actions of the CSOS. I think they have shed light on a tremendously important issue not only to college students but also professors and staff, community members and also potential businesses who would seek out an educated work force in Tennessee. The CSOS have energized thousands of college students across Tennessee and attempted to raise awareness for this important issue. I just feel the overall goals of this organization are politically unrealistic.

That being said, I encourage concerned students to visit saveourschoolslive.org to learn more about the movement and their goals. Those who seek to take action should participate in the funeralstyle demonstration at the Capitol this evening preceding the State of the State Address.

Matthew Hurtt is a senior history and political science *major and can be reached at Matt.Hurtt@gmail.com.

There seems to be a disconnect between the expectations of... individuals and reality."

more about the issue. Titled "Positioning the University for the Future," the site allows people to propose solutions and alternatives that could lessen the direct affect of budget cuts

As a conservative, I fundamentally support the concept of fiscal restraint.

of the CSOS are not only opposed to the "Business Model," but they are also opposed to cuts in higher education as a whole. At the same time, many of the same members also oppose tuition increases.

There seems to be a disconnect between the expecta-

Sounds of jazz linger as arts vanish

Before Thursday, I had never listened to WMOT 89.5. I rarely even listen to the radio, really.

Thursday was the day of the benefit concert for the jazz radio station at Club 527. The music was great, but that isn't what truly moved me to listen to the radio station for hours that night after I got home.

There were hundreds of people showing their support for the station, though the spirit in the air made it feel like thousands.

The donation box was chock-full. The list of pe-

tition signatures to keep the station alive long. Some say

that the stamight tion get cut. Some say probably. Some say definitely.

I know it's a hard decision for university officials, I really do. But I see this decision as an opportunity.



From the **Editor**

Michael Stone

Imagine if MTSU took a stand for WMOT. Imagine if President Sidney McPhee drew the line and said "No, I will not let the arts succumb to cuts any more."

66 Imagine if President Sidney McPhee drew the line and said 'No, I will not let the arts succumb to cuts any more."

No one can deny the way not only higher education is moving, but the world in general. It's all about money...money...money. What's going to generate the high-

est profits?

Sidelines is facing problems as well. The paper that is holding the very words you're reading right now may soon be moved strictly online.

A friend of mine who works for MTTV said the station might be cut.

I hear a lot of talk about how departments like philosophy, history and English might be downsized or eliminated altogether.

Yet here we are voting on fee increases for a parking garage at the end of this month.

There's a reason why we

see a new baseball stadium on campus. There's reason the why ground-

breaking ceremony for the new student union building will take place soon. There's a reason why you' don't hear talk of programs in the College of Business



The drummer for the Great Barrier Reefs plays conga and bongo drums at Club 527 for the WMOT 89.5 benefit concert Feb. 5.

getting cut. Money...money...money.

And you know why the arts, like the jazz of WMOT, are put in the attic to rot? Because the people behind them aren't constantly pursuing new ways to generate bigger profits. Artists do what they know best - create beautiful masterpieces.

And as I sit listening to that art on WMOT, I shutter at the thought of where the line will be drawn or if it will be drawn at all.

Don't let WMOT die. Its death will truly symbolize how higher education is no longer about free thought and expression, but about money...money...money.

Michael Stone is a senior journalism major and can be reached at sleditor@mtsu.

COMICS



SPORTS

Yates leads MT to another road victory

Four Blue Raiders score in double figures on Saturday's 89-77 win over Houston Baptist

By ZACH REVES Assistant Sports Editor

Offense was the theme Saturday night when the Blue Raider men's basketball team lit up the scoreboard with an 89-77 win on the road against Houston Baptist.

MT ended the game with four players reaching double figures in scoring including impressive performances by junior forward Desmond Yates and senior guard Demetrius Green. As a team, the Blue Raiders were exceptionally accurate as they shot 52 percent from the floor for the game.

Yates scored a career-high 32 points in the contest on 13-of-18 shooting and added five rebounds. The effort was the highest point total by a Blue Raider in five years since William Pippen scored 32 in 2003.

"I was able to get into a good rhythm early and my teammates did a great job of getting me the ball in scoring position," Yates said. "The biggest thing is

that we got a road win and those are always nice. We have to keep it going offensively."

Yates was joined in the double figures by teammates Green with 22, senior guard Nigel Johnson scoring 13 and senior guard Kevin Kanaskie contributing 10

Green's 22 was his highest of the season and he was a field goal shy of tying his career-high of 24 points. Green proved a threat from long-range as he went 3-for-5 on 3-point field goals. He also collected eight rebounds in the game, half of which were collected on the offensive side of the court.

Johnson also contributed to the winning effort with his game-high five steals and five assists in his 38 minutes of play.

"I'm proud of our team and the effort we gave," said MT head coach Kermit Davis. "We had several guys step up, and it was a very good offensive performance."

The defense, however, did not walk away earning such high praise.

The Houston Baptist Huskies (3-21) shot 46 percent from the field and also had four players reach double figures against the Raiders. The Huskies had 23 points off the bench and outscored MT on points off of turnovers.

"We have to continue to improve our defense with a big conference road game coming up," Yates said.

With this non-conference win, the Blue Raiders move to 15-9 overall on the season and remain at 8-4 in the Sun Belt. MT has fallen behind in the conference as Western Kentucky owns a 2.5 game lead with only six games left in the season.

Next, the Blue Raiders will stay on the road as they travel to Sun Belt rival Troy for a pivotal conference battle. Troy (15-10 overall, 10-3 Sun Belt) currently resides in the slot above MT in the Sun Belt Conference.

A win for the Blue Raiders would put them right back into contention, but a loss would really hurt MT's championship aspirations.



Photo by Alex Blackwelder, photography editor

Junior forward Desmond Yates goes in for a dunk against Lousiana Monroe in the Murphy Center.



File Photos

Blue Raider softball drops first four games of season Youth, inexperience shows right off bat

By ZACH REVES Assistant Sports Editor

The Blue Raider Softball team started the season off on the wrong foot this weekend as they dropped their first four games against Virginia and East Carolina.

On Saturday and Sunday, MT recorded 6-3 and 7-2 losses to Virginia as well as 3-1 and 3-2 losses to East Carolina.

The Blue Raiders welcomed five new starters to their lineup in the season opener against Virginia. One of them was freshman second baseman Tobie Joy, who went 2-for-3 with an RBI and run scored.

Junior pitcher Lindsey Vander Lugt got the start, as she gave up six earned runs on 11 hits. She struck out four and walked none in the 6-3 loss.

Later that day, MT took an early lead against East Carolina, but they could not hold on as they dropped a 3-1 decision. Freshman pitcher Caty Jutson made her debut giving up three runs on six hits, while striking out five in a complete game outing. Sophomore outfielder Kelsey Dortch went 2-for-3 with a run scored

in the loss.

In the second match against Virginia, the Blue Raiders struggled and lost

7-2. MT had 10 hits in the game, but they were unable to plate most of the runners. Jutson found some difficulty in her second outing as she gave up five runs on seven hits.

The Blue Raiders finished the four game set with a close 3-2 extra innings loss to East Carolina. Vander Lugt started the game and gave up only one earned run on four hits. Senior third baseman Martha Davis went 1-for-3 with a home run and two RBI's in the loss.

The softball team will return to action with a doubleheader at home against Memphis on Feb.

'A-Fraud,' steroids inject disappointment in the sport of baseball for fans

I can picture it now - I'm enjoying summertime baseball during the seventh inning stretch as I listen to the crowd sing that famous baseball tune.

"Take him out of the ball game, if he cheats it's a shame! Cause its one, two, three steroids you're through, at the old blame game!"

That's a pretty catchy tune, don't you think?

And it's also completely true to the real theme of Major League Baseball in this day of age. Scandals are everywhere as baseball's current greats are becoming baseball's greatest cheats. Performance-enhancing drugs have cheapened the game, and the MLB and its players are just letting it happen.

The latest debacle revolves around the fan-favorite in New York: Alex Rodriguez.

Just last week, A-Rod was in the news because his former manager Joe Torre made fun of his nickname and called him "A-Fraud," but now a week later, Torre can call him "A-Roid."

According to Sports Illustrated, A-Rod knowingly took steroids during the 2003 baseball season when he was with the Texas Rangers. The same season A-Rod earned his first MVP award and won the American League home-run title with 47 big shots.

In the minds of many, A-Rod was supposed to be the savior of baseball by being the "clean" slugger that already eclipsed 500 home runs on his way to the record. Instead, Rodriguez



Mr. Irrelevant

Zach Reves

stands as an unmasked superhero and another stain people can point to as the MLB continues to lose its innocence.

Frankly, the news hasn't come as a real shock to me or many sports fans I know. And that's what is so scary about the situation. We, the fans, are so jaded by steroids in sports, that it is almost expected that the

great players are cheating.

Mark McGwire, Sammy
Sosa, Roger Clemens, Rafael Palmeiro, Barry Bonds,
Jose Conseco and many
more have taken the national pastime and made a
mockery of it. Sure, not all
of them have been proven
guilty, but they all dragged
the MLB through the mud
as if they were.

And in turn, the MLB has

allowed itself to be disgraced.

What has Commissioner
Bud Selig done in response?
Steroid testing has gone nowhere in baseball. I can almost name the number of players suspended due to steroids on one hand despite claims of steroid users coming out week after week

Also, it's not like A-Rod is alone in the latest batch of finger-pointing either. He was just one of 104

names in a 2003 baseball scientific study that was to determine if steroid testing was necessary. The answer, apparently, was a resounding yes. The result is a resounding failure.

There's a reason why baseball has become synonymous with steroids and cheating while other sports, like football, continue without flinching. Baseball knows the truth, but has done very little about it because it's great for ratings. Home runs are what the people want to see, so turning a blind eye might be beneficial for the league.

In the end, who is getting hurt in all this? A-Rod is still set to make \$28 million this season, the MLB will turn a profit because of their sheer size, and the fans will be forced to watch a tainted product. Even with egg on their face, the league and its "stars" are getting something while the fans experience the short end of the stick.

As sad as it is for me to say, the fans should drop any aspirations of steroid-free baseball from their minds. Steroids are now as integral to baseball as a bat and a glove. It may even get to the point where performance-enhancing drugs are the minimum requirement just to make a big league club.

So, the next time you sing "Take Me Out to the Ball Game," make sure you include an asterisk with a footnote on how real and clean the "old ball game" used to be.

Blue Raiders break records on road

MT track goes to Kentucky for excellent sweep, awards at Rod McCravy Memorial

By CHRIS WELCH Sports Editor

The Blue Raider track team had to go to Lexington to chase down their latest accolades, but it proved no problem for them.

The women fared well in their meet. Junior Sarah Nambawa took first place in the women's triple jump and an NCAA provisional mark of 42-08.00. This marked the second such mark for her this year.

Nambawa also placed sixth in the long jump, outshone by sophomore teammate Kortney Thurman. Thurman jumped for an 18-09.25 mark and a fifth placement overall.

Junior Zamzam Singau finished on top of the 800 meter and the mile. Sangau once again broke her own indoor 800 record with a time of 2:11:03. She ran a 4:50:25 in the mile.

Senior Ashley Comstock finished fifth in 8:07.

also broke records in Lexington. She blew past her lifetime best by 22 seconds in the 3000 meter run. Comstock ran a 10:00:52, good enough for a fifth overall placement.

The men fared just as well. The MT effort was spearheaded by senior Carl Morgan, who won both the men's long and triple jump. His triple jump managed a 50-03.5, almost two feet longer than the closest ranking opponent.

Morgan's winning long jump spanned 24-03.75, flanked by senior teammate Brandon Jones, who finished tenth.

Seven of the men's sprinters finished in the top 10 spots in three of the events.

Freshman Roscoe Payne and junior DeRay Sloss both performed well in the 60 meter hurdles. Sloss is a Sun Belt Conference Performer of the Week and

Senior Greg Franklin finished fourth, senior Samuel Adade finished eighth, and junior Curtis King placed tenth with a 21:60.

Sophomore Festus Chemaoi finished second in the men's mile. Chemaoi ran a 4:06:29, a personal best. He also finished 11th in the 800 meters.

Junior William Songock placed sixth in the 3000 meter with 8:14:15. This is a Blue Raider and personal best for Songock.

"Overall, it was a good meet for us," said Dean Hayes, head coach of the track teams. "We had good performances all around. We've got one more meet next week to get us ready for Sun Belt Championships at Arkansas State which will be a tough battle."

The teams come back to the Murphy Center this Saturday, Feb. 14 to host the Middle Tennessee Valentine Invitational.



MTSU track members sprint towards the finish line in the Murphy Center at the Blue Raider Invitational

Men's tennis fall to Northwestern

Northwestern superior in hard fought match

By CHRIS WELCH Sports Editor

The Blue Raider men's tennis team started Saturday with a clench win. Somewhere along the way, Northwestern surprised them with a streak of victories.

The men fell to Northwestern 4-3 on Saturday after a series of wins in the past weeks at Chattanooga and Tennessee Tech.

bles match by putting up a 1-0 score. After trailing in the first match, senior Robert McKenzie and sophomore John Peers tied the score after winning their match, the second in the set.

Northwestern stopped any MT hope short with their final match win. The doubles game was given to NU with a final score of 2-1.

MT was not caught off guard and immediately took charge of the singles

McKenzie led the way with a win over Northwestern's Tobias Re-Northwestern started garnering a hard fought victory with his loss, 6-4, off by winning the dou- three-set win over Alex- 6-3. ander Thams.

Junior Victor Melo also won his match against Northwestern's Marc Dwyer, giving the Blue Raiders a 3-0 advantage.

The NU Wildcats came from behind for the rest of

It was the only MT win, as singles play, starting with Alex Sanborn's defeat of Morgan Richard. Richard fell in two of his sets against Sanborn 0-6, 6-3, and 6-1.

Junior Alex McCann also lost, falling short in two sets against Eric Spector 6-4, 6-3.

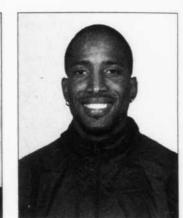
Sophomore Cowden followed McCann in the downward spiitz. Peers followed suit, ral. Cowden sealed NU's

The Blue Raiders will take the next week to prepare for their match against Vanderbilt on Saturday. The match starts at 2 p.m. at the Currey Tennis Center in

SARAH NAMBAWA Class: JR Position: Middle Distance Height: 5-5 Previous School: Ndejje Univ. Hometown: Kampala, Uganda



ZAMZAM SINGAU Class: JR Position: Distance Height: 5-6 Previous School: Kyambog University Hometown: Kampala, Uganda



oto courtesv Blue Raider Athletics CARL MORGAN Class: r-SR Position: Jumps Height: 6-0 Weight: 178 pounds Previous School: John Gray HS [Lindsey Wilson College] Hometown: Georgetown, Grand Cayman

Women lose, take revenge on UALR

Loss at Vandy becomes spark for women's tennis to return to winning

By CHRIS WELCH Sports Editor

The Lady Raider tennis team was no match for the nationally ranked No. 15 Vanderbilt squad on Thursday.

This is the first loss of the season for the women's tennis team, and the 6-1 defeat came at no small price.

The Vanderbilt Commodores took an early control of the match, dominating doubles play with a perfect score. MT freshman Taylor Coffey took her first loss at the hands of Vandy's Heather Steinbauer.

Senior Andrea Herrera fell 6-1, 6-1 to Catherine Newman, while No. 8-ranked Chelsea Preeg came out on the good side of a 6-3, 6-0 win over junior Natalie Araya.

Freshman Marietta Bigus and senior Marlene Chemin both fell to the 15th-ranked Vandy players. Bigus lost in a 6-2, 6-4 match while Chemin lost in a 7-5, 6-3 match.

Vanderbilt players came out on top against every MT player but one: freshman Alex Dachos. Dachos defeated VU's Erica Robertson in a three-set tie breaker 6-4, 6-3, 7-6.

MT would not make the same mistakes against UALR. The women's team stayed home yesterday to host the Trojans and to win five of their six singles matches.

UALR started out the match winning two of the three doubles matches. Junior Anna Djananova and Dachos garnered the only Raiders doubles win.

Singles play seemed to be more of the same at the start, as senior Andrea Herrera lost her match to Anne Weijenborg.

But MT began to close the gap, starting with freshman Taylor Coffey. Coffey defeated Rebecca Van Den Houte 6-2, 7-6.

The other women continued to rally for the victory.

Following Coffey's performance, junior Natalie Araya and senior Marlene Chemin each won their matches.

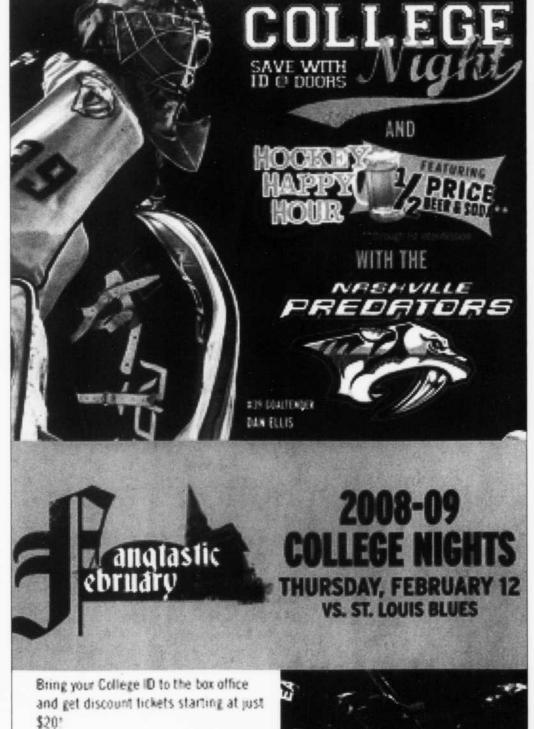
The end of the match was rounded off with freshmen Marietta Bigus and Alex Dachos. Both players came out on top in a tie-breaker.

"We have to find a way to win the doubles point," said Head Coach Alison

"To come out and win the singles like that after losing doubles, I don't care who you are playing, it is unbelievably tough."

"We challenged these guys in the 10-minute break between doubles and singles to come out and fight as if this match was going to come down to your singles match-because ultimately it could."

The Blue Raiders will play again this Saturday, hosting Arkansas State. Matches start at 11 a.m. and will be played at Nashboro Village.



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