



MIDDLE TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY SIDELINES

Volume 58, Number 17

October 28, 1983

News Briefs

WASHINGTON (UPI)—Congress and President Reagan appear to be headed for a new fight over their respective war powers, this time because of the U.S. invasion of Grenada. Democrats in both the House and Senate moved Wednesday to force Reagan to withdraw the troops within 60 days or seek congressional authority to keep them there longer.

LONDON (UPI)—Pilloried in Parliament as President Reagan's "obedient poodle," Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher conferred with Queen Elizabeth amid the constitutional and diplomatic problems raised by the U.S.-led invasion of Grenada. The 14-hour meeting Wednesday night was strictly private.

WASHINGTON (UPI)—Joy turned to ashes when a New Mexico family celebrating the survival of their Marine son in Beirut learned that it was a mistake—he was dead. There was no explanation for the mistakes, and the grim business of notifying families of the more than 200 men killed continued yesterday.

WASHINGTON (UPI)—The Clinch River breeder reactor, killed by the Senate after 13 years of debate and \$1.6 billion in tax dollars, will cost from \$175 million to \$300 million more to terminate, officials said. The Senate voted 56-40 Wednesday to refuse \$1.5 billion to complete the controversial reactor.

WASHINGTON (UPI)—Federal authorities say there are about 35 "serial murderers" operating in the United States and they want to develop a system to track down the multiple killers. The Justice Department said the program will be put together because of increasing concern over missing children and adults.

KNOXVILLE (UPI)—After spending five weeks in the hospital, 12-year-old Pamela Hamilton went home yesterday for a rest between rounds of court-ordered chemotherapy treatment that violates her religious beliefs. Pamela's fourth round of chemotherapy for a rare form of bone cancer is scheduled to begin Nov. 8.

DETROIT (UPI)—Chrysler Corp. reported a record \$100.2 million in profits in the third quarter of 1983—a thousand percent increase over the same period last year. The profits came in the same quarter in which Chrysler paid back \$1.2 billion in federally backed loans.

NEW YORK (UPI)—Tom Lasorda earned the UPI National League Manager of the Year Award, the hard way. The 56-year-old Lasorda took a team that was thought to have no chance in August and led it to the NL West Division title. He was a landslide winner in a balloting of 26 UPI baseball correspondents from each of the major-league cities.

NEW YORK (UPI)—John Denny, who rebounded from arm trouble to pitch the Philadelphia Phillies into the World Series, has been named overwhelming winner of UPI's National League Comeback Player of the Year Award for 1983. Denny, 30, received 25 of a possible 35 votes cast by a panel of UPI baseball writers.

SDX calls for committee change

By **MAT WILLIAMS**
Sidelines Associate Editor

A resolution calling for immediate examination of the selection of members of the Student Publications Committee was hand-delivered to President Sam Ingram yesterday.

MTSU's chapter of the Society of Professional Journalists, Sigma Delta Chi, unanimously approved the resolution Wednesday night. SDX President Phil Williams took the resolution to Ingram yesterday afternoon.

THE ASB AND Faculty

Athletics to receive money from telecast

By **MIKE JONES**
Sidelines Sports Editor

MTSU's athletic department will receive between \$70,000 and \$75,000 as a result of ABC's regional telecast of the Eastern Kentucky vs. Murray State football game Saturday.

The Ohio Valley Conference, of which Eastern, MTSU and Murray are members, divides money received through television games into nine almost-equal shares to be distributed amongst conference schools. There are eight schools in the conference, while one share goes to the OVC office in Nashville.

MURRAY STATE, the team hosting the game and telecast, receives a slightly larger share to help cover expenses.

OVC Commissioner Jim Delaney said yesterday that the total package for the telecast would be between \$660,000 and \$670,000, and that the \$70,000 to \$75,000 amount was a "ballpark figure."

The exact figures as to how much each school will receive will be finalized at the next meeting of the conference presidents.

THE MONEY WILL be a big boost to this year's revenue, Athletic Director Jimmy Earle said.

"It always helps," Earle said of the television money. "This year's revenue helps to project next year's budget. The television money could also be used to help offset any drops we might have the rest of the year."

Senate presidents currently appoint four students and four faculty members to serve on the Student Publications Committee, which elects the editors for *Sidelines*, *Midlander* and *Collage*.

The procedure is wrong and needs restructuring, said Williams, former *Sidelines* editor in chief.

"If Ronald Reagan got to pick which reporters to cover the White House, we would all just be horrified," he said. "It's the same thing here, and if the university community can't see a problem with that, I fear for

our country."

WILLIAMS SAID that the resolution mainly represents an attempt to force some discussion on the issue.

"I think more people care about this than the administration realizes," he said.

When *Sidelines* ran articles and editorials about the situation last spring, Williams added, some political science professors and other faculty members told him that they had not been aware of the procedure for choosing editors of student publications. They told him it was a problem, he

said.

ASB PRESIDENT Mark Ross this semester appointed four students to the committee—an ASB senator, the ASB press secretary, a member of the president's cabinet and homcoming co-director and a former homcoming co-director.

A PORTION of the resolution, which states the procedure violates the First Amendment, follows:

"We [SDX] request that the Committee on Committees be reconvened to hear all interested parties and to develop

a solution to this problem which is a detriment to the free functioning of the press and therefore a detriment to its readers—the students and educators of MTSU."

The resolution outlines other measures to be taken if Ingram does not take action on the matter:

"Should action upon our request not begin within one week of its delivery to the appropriate officials, we will be compelled to ask the state Attorney General to render a decision on the constitutionality of this process."



Photo by Mike Poley
Practical Stylists get down (or at least the bass player does) during the group's Noon Show set Tuesday in the University Center.

Turner raps charge

By **ELIZABETH PORTER**
Sidelines Editor in Chief

Minority students at MTSU will do the best they can with what they have after the Black Student Association's request for student activity fee funding was denied, officers said yesterday.

BSA President John Turner said he does not believe the denial was a racial issue, or that it had anything to do with "favoritism," as alleged in a "Stepping from the Shadow" column printed in *Sidelines* last week.

HOWEVER, HE said that he believes the BSA is at a disadvantage because of priorities designated in the Activity Fee Committee guidelines.

The committee simply ran out of funds after granting requests to other organizations, Dean of Students Paul Cantrell said Monday.

"I don't feel like we'll ever come above the sixth priority, considering all the groups that

come before us, if that's how the funds are to be distributed," Turner said.

ASSOCIATED STUDENT Body projects, loan programs and programs available to the entire student body are given priority in the five categories preceding "projects that are designed and intended to benefit a recognized minority of the student body."

BSA Vice President Michael Coleman said he also believes the guidelines put the organization at a disadvantage.

"It does exactly that," Coleman said, "and we deserve funding."

TURNER SAID HE realizes that he is responsible for some of the problems related to the denial of funds, since he prepared the funding application himself. At that time, Turner said, another person was president and he put that person's name on the application.

That resulted in a break-

Audience, not actors, give theater meaning

By **ELIZABETH PORTER**
Sidelines Editor in Chief

One moment he's a snake oil salesman or a horse and the next he's a consilieri-type front man for a Hollywood producer.

Yes, Peter Phillips admits he likes to take people for a ride—he's an actor. He says that's what audiences want.

IT'S LARGELY the audience's imagination—not merely his acting talent—that makes the theater work,

Phillips, an artist in residence here, told an audience of MTSU maintenance workers Wednesday.

"When that curtain goes up, it's like someone's just punched me in the face," he said. "It's unreal when eleven hundred people are sitting there saying, 'Go ahead, I'm there, go ahead.'"

THE DARTMOUTH graduate's visit to Murfreesboro as a performer with Affiliate Artists, Inc. was

sponsored by Nissan Motor Manufacturing Corp. for the MTSU department of speech and theater and the Murfreesboro Little Theatre.

During his two-week stint here, Phillips each day gave two "Informances," presentations designed to help the public understand what being an actor is all about.

To illustrate the power of imagination, the 33-year-old New Yorker demonstrated his role as Nugget in "Equus" in

which his human physique was transformed into a stomping, snorting, majestic steed—without aid of a masque or costume.

FOR 300 performances, Phillips said, he walked up to a mask on stage, touched it, and "all six-foot-one, 190 pounds of me" became an animal in the audience's minds.

"I never did that, they did it," he exclaimed.

The relationship between a stage actor and his audience is like a deep, empathetic happening between close friends, Phillips said. The actor suggests to the audience what is happening, and the audience creates it in its imagination.

"IT DOESN'T happen on TV or in films or in movies or commercials," he said. "That's what the theater is all about."

While performing is a rewarding experience, Phillips said, getting enough work to make a living as an actor is difficult. The average salary for members of Actor's Equity, the stage actor's guild, is only \$2,500 per year.

Following the informance, Phillips said that the arts deserve more support from businesses like Nissan and from the government.

HE ADDED THAT, for a city of its size, Murfreesboro is unusually rich in opportunities for persons to become involved in the theater through MLT, MTSU and other area troupes.

Phillips will leave Murfreesboro today to return to New York to play a front man

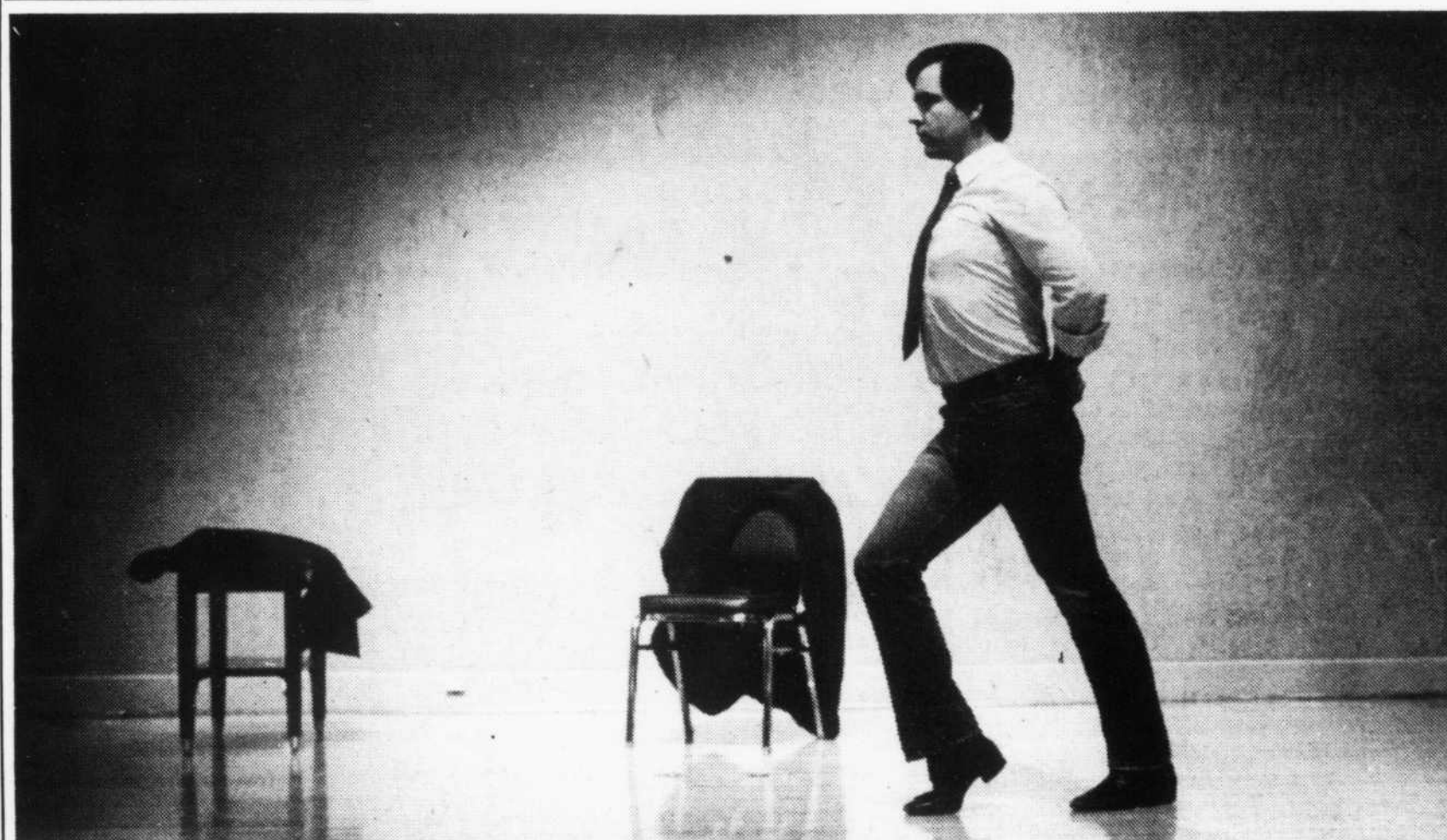


Photo by Mike Poley
Actor Peter Phillips is a horse. In one of his many improvisations during an "informance" Wednesday afternoon on

campus. Phillips is part of the Nissan-sponsored "Artists in Residence" program.

(continued on page 2)

Campus Capsule

A HAYRIDE, sponsored by the BSU, will take place Oct. 29 at 7 p.m. following the Youngstown State game. The \$2 ticket will cover the cost of the hayride and snacks (which include hotdogs, chips, cokes and marshmallows).

THE RETIRED Senior Volunteer Program staff will sponsor a dance on Nov. 19 from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. at Smyrna Country Club. Admission is \$2 for couples, \$1.50 for singles. You must be 18 years or older to attend. Proceeds will fund the annual banquet for retired volunteers.

WHO'S WHO applications are available in Room 304 of the University Center. Applications must be returned by Nov. 11. Juniors, seniors or graduate students with cumulative grade point averages of 2.8 or those who have made outstanding contributions to the university may apply. Nominees are chosen by a selection committee, composed of nine faculty persons and three students.

THE PSI CHI/PSYCHOLOGY Club picnic for all psychology students will be Sunday, Oct. 30, at 2 p.m. Contact the psychology department office for directions.

CAMPUS INTERVIEWS for Duval County Schools in Jacksonville, Fla., will be on Monday, Nov. 7. Teachers are needed for January and August, 1984. Contact the Placement Center for appointments.

A FLIGHT safety seminar will take place on Wednesday, Nov. 2, at 7 p.m. in Room 322 of the University Center. Door prizes and refreshments will be served. The seminar is free and open to the public. William Kerscher and Dr. Lamon Marcum will speak.

THE GUIDANCE and Counseling office and the Minority Affairs office have scheduled a two-part workshop on stress management and study skills for Monday, Oct. 31, through Thursday, Nov. 3, from 3-4 p.m. in Room 305 of the University Center. Those who plan to attend the Monday and Wednesday sessions should sign up for Session A; those who plan to attend the Tuesday and Thursday sessions should sign up for Session B. Contact the Guidance and Counseling Center at 898-2670 or the Minority Affairs office at 898-2987 to register.

THE CALIFORNIA Achievement Test for admission to teacher education will be administered at 4 p.m. on Tuesday, Nov. 8, in the Tennessee Room of the James Union Building. Students taking the test must present valid IDs. There is no charge for the test and pre-registration is not required.

DR. BERYL WEST of the psychology department will conduct a four-week workshop on stress management and test anxiety on Tuesdays and/or Thursdays. Contact Michelle Purdy at 890-3430, or write MTSU Box 7527. The workshop will be free.

Football players receive citations

By **MAT WILLIAMS**
Sidelines Associate Editor
Three MTSU football players were issued citations by Murfreesboro police for consumption of alcohol on public property and littering at Hobgood Elementary School Wednesday night, officials said.

Cited were:
• Mickey Corwin, 21, of Downey, Calif.

• Rick Brito, 21, of Cerritos, Fla.
• Kurt Barnes, 19, of Flintstone, Ga.
CORWIN (quarterback) and Brito (center) are both starters for the Raiders, while Barnes transferred to MTSU last year from the University of Georgia and has been used in a reserve role.
Lt. James Todd and Patrolwoman Anita Davis

issued the citations after spotting the players sitting in their car at the school's parking lot at about 9:30 Wednesday night.
"The three were drinking beer and there were beer cans on the ground," Davis said.
The players must now face a Nov. 10 city court appearance and could be fined a maximum of \$50 each.



Freshmen Martha Skelton and Cindy Hayes, left and center, and Sophomore Paula Arnold, right, all of Felder Hall, get into the spirit of things yesterday with a little bit of pumpkin carving. Monday is officially Halloween, though most folks will be celebrating tomorrow night.

BSA

(continued from page 1)

down in communication when memos about the date of hearings on the matter were mailed out, he added.

"If it was because of our mistakes, that's okay," Turner said.

HE ADDED, HOWEVER, that he found some of the wording in the instructions with the applications vague and misleading. He was told after the meeting that the itemizations on the BSA application were not specific enough.

"Maybe other organizations

who didn't get funding had the same problems," he said. "Either it's our problem, or the other organizations, or the working of the applications."

Psi Chi, the psychology club, was told their application was not specific enough, Cantrell said Monday. Psi Chi spokesmen could not be reached for comment yesterday, however.

While the BSA was established to promote black unity here, Turner said, activities and events sponsored by the group are open to any interested MTSU student.

Phillips

(continued from page 1)

for a Hollywood producer who wants to buy the film rights to Erica Caine's life story on ABC's highly successful daytime soap "All My Children."

Money and exposure are two benefits he expects from the show, Phillips said.

Will he take Erica for a ride?

"I think so," Phillips said, hunching over with an overly-friendly grin. "I feel myself becoming slimmer and slimmer each day I do the role."

Sidelines

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Approval awaited

By LEE ANN REID
Sidelines Staff Writer

Students may eventually be able to say "charge it" when they purchase textbooks at the campus bookstore, if one of four proposals passed by the ASB House Committee Tuesday is approved.

The resolution proposed that the university bookstore's procedures concerning student's use of their parents VISA or MasterCard charge cards be examined, possibly alleviating some of the inconveniences that students encounter with check-writing for books and other supplies.

THE PROPOSAL must now be presented to the full ASB senate, the vice president for academic affairs and the president for their approval.

Three other new pieces of legislation were passed at the Committee's second meeting, though it may be some time before any action is taken on them.

The second resolution passed involved a request for installation of change machines

in three dormitories which have snack and washing machines.

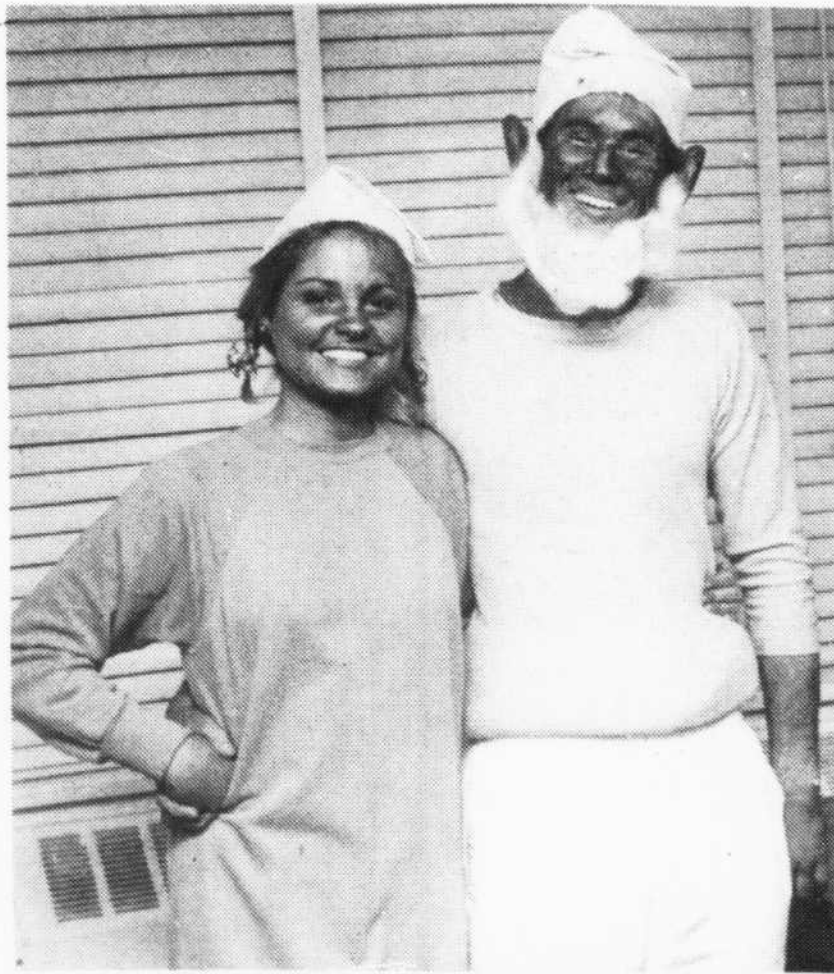
"IT IS DOUBTFUL that this resolution will be acted on," Speaker of the House Geoffrey Herring said during the meeting.

Herring said that some areas on campus did have the machines at one time, but the machines were removed after they were repeatedly broken into.

A bill was also passed to establish and construct a legislative board in the ASB office which would list all current legislation and where it stands.

The last bill passed was an act to establish a committee to monitor the "Ideas for ASB" boxes on campus. The committee would include two representatives each from the house and the senate, who would collect the ideas and review them for possible legislative proposals.

The house committee is made up of representatives from recognized campus organizations.



Costume winners Rita Campbell and Scott Whitehouse "Smurf" around during Wednesday night's first annual Sims Hall Halloween Party. Photo by Cary Chapman

EMT course offered

By ALEATHEA DEERING
Sidelines Staff Writer

MTSU has been selected as the location for the Tennessee Safety Department's \$300,000 three-year emergency vehicle operators' course.

The EVOC pilot program will begin Dec. 12 and run through Dec. 16 for Middle Tennessee area emergency medical technicians.

EMTs MUST complete this course to comply with the state's new certification standards, said Dr. John Schlick, chief instructor and curriculum director.

"Before entering the course, all EMTs must have completed a national defensive driving course," Schlick said.

After the completion of the pilot program, an instructor's course will be conducted here in March, he added.

INSTRUCTORS involved in the first course will travel from the three geographic divisions of the state, as well as from north Tennessee.

"Next summer MTSU will hold a teaching center for EMTs from the Nashville to Chattanooga area, and from the Cookeville to Jackson area," Schlick said.

Other identical centers will be conducted across the state.

The course will consist of classroom and driving instruction, and will be an ongoing program because of increased certification standards.

An unexpected pregnancy is a hard thing to face.

Especially while you're in school.

Finding out about an unwanted pregnancy is a confusing and frightening experience. You probably don't know who you can confide in or where to turn. You're afraid everyone will find out. You're afraid for your future. You need to know you have somewhere to turn to, someone you can trust.

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in the Tennessee Room of the JUB

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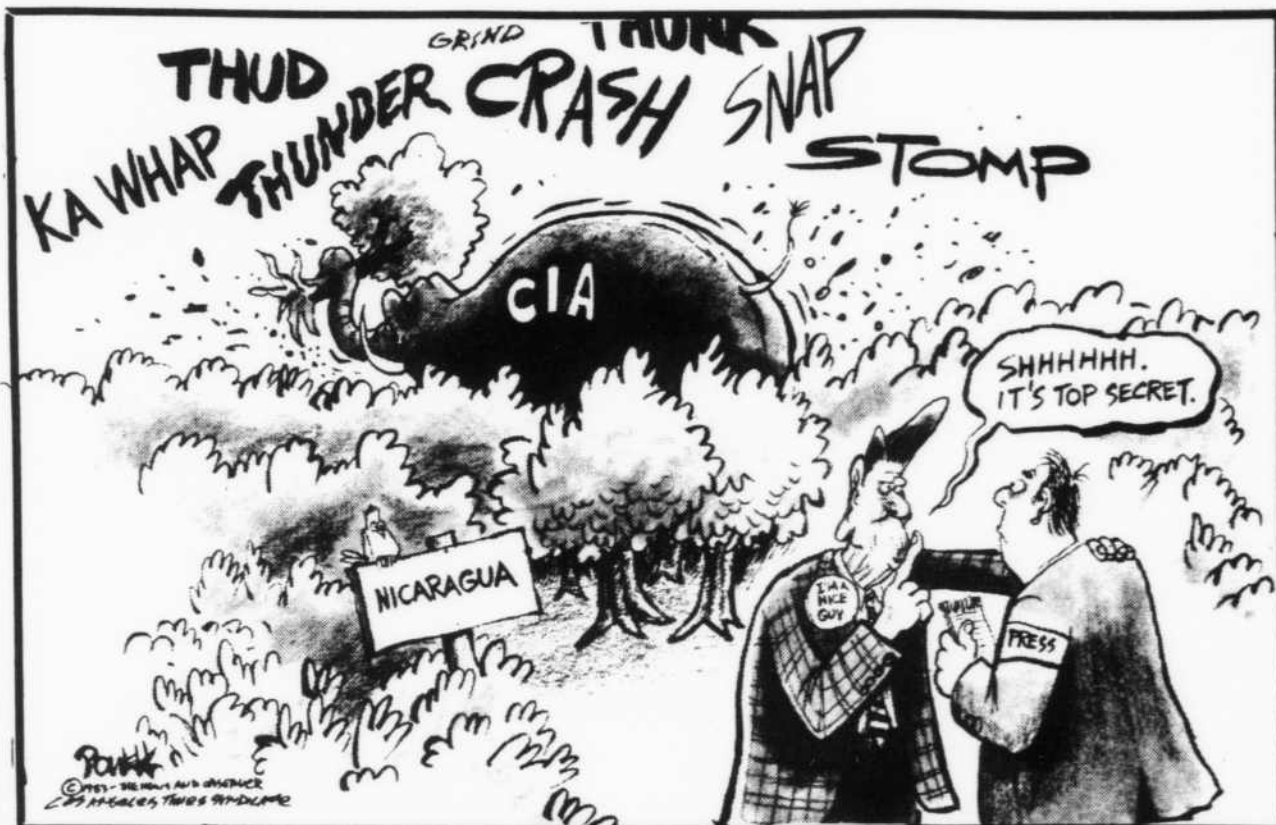
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Elizabeth Porter
Mat Williams
Gina Fann
Lynda Tewell
Mike Poley
Mike Jones
D. Michelle Adkerson
Jan Cook
Robert Ball
Don Meadows

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Sidelines is published every Tuesday and Friday by the students of Middle Tennessee State University. Editorials and columns reflect the opinion of their authors and not of the MTSU administration, faculty or staff.



BSA deserves funds

A decision not to grant the Black Student Association any funds from the student activity fee this semester may not have involved racial prejudice or favoritism, but is regrettable.

The BSA is intended to promote black unity on campus and to aide minority students at this predominantly white institution to understand and appreciate their racial identity.

However, the notion that the BSA can benefit only minority students is antiquated. Programs that enlighten minority students about their own history and culture, such as those sponsored by the BSA, can most certainly assist white students to achieve greater understanding of minority issues.

A conservative atmosphere prevails in the United States that elected Ronald Reagan president and most college students can't remember the social debate and upheaval of the 1960s. Many

of us take our civil rights for granted.

Yet, the fight for equality of minorities—and women as well—so visible in that era, is not over.

While great strides have been made in the civil rights for minorities in this country, there remains a great deal to be done. A lack of communication which perpetuates misunderstanding and hostilities between the races still exists. The Ku Klux Klan still exists.

And at MTSU, priorities that put minority students at the bottom of the list still exist.

Certainly, the ASB, of which every student is a member, deserves its fair share of the student activity fee money. And so do the many other worthy clubs and organizations on this campus.

The Bowling Club and the MTSU Flying Raiders received funds. They certainly deserve them. So does the BSA.

SDX commendable, long time coming

This week's resolution by the campus chapter of the Society of Professional Journalists, Sigma Delta Chi, which calls for immediate evaluation of the selection process for members of the Student Publications Committee, is commendable but has been a long time coming.

The campus chapter of SPJ, SDX should be one of the most vocal opponents of any attempt to infringe upon the freedom of the campus press. Included in the SPJ, SDX Code of Ethics are statements regarding the "inalienable right of people in a free society" to freedom of the press, as well as the "right to speak unpopular opinions and the privilege to agree with the majority."

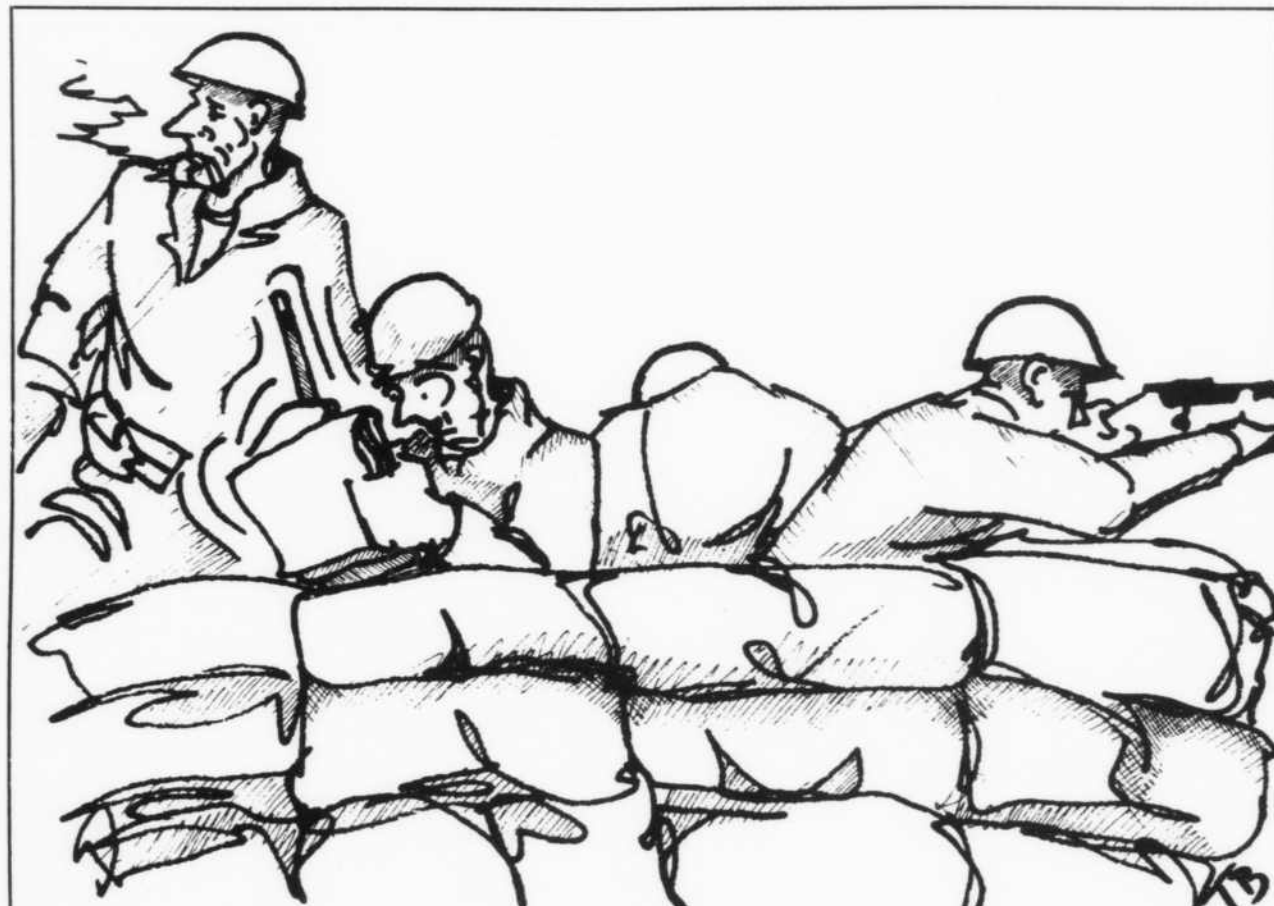
Unfortunately, for the past few years, too many persons have been willing to "agree with the majority" and let what is apparently an extremely disorganized group continue to regulate the student

press.

The members of the Student Publications Committee cannot be held accountable for a lack of forethought in the organization of the group; rather, the blame must lie with those who developed the original plans calling for government-appointed representatives on the committee. Any logical-thinking individual with any familiarity with basic tenets of freedom of the press would have—or should have—noticed some conflict years ago.

Fortunately, the campus chapter of the Society of Professional Journalists, Sigma Delta Chi realized there are conflicts involved in the student government having power to influence the press at MTSU and is willing to do something about it. They are exercising their right to speak unpopular opinions in an effort to change things.

It's about time.



Hello, mudda, hello fadda,
here I am at camp

Intimidation not teaching

By LYNDIA TEWELL

Sidelines Features Editor

"You can attract more flies with honey than vinegar," says an old adage, and I have found this to be true in many areas, especially with education.

Most university students want to learn; that is why they are here. And most people enjoy their classes here, both in their majors as well as in their general classes.

This is no doubt due to the excellence of many teachers employed at MTSU. Most teachers here are more than willing to give a student with problems in a course extra help and assistance. Unfortunately, this is not always the case.

Learning should be a voluntary, enjoyable experience—not something that is shoved down students' throats with threats and acts of intimidation in front of their peers. If a student makes a mistake on an assignment in

one of my classes, he is publically humiliated.

After the assignment is graded, it is taped to the classroom door with personal statements that do not relate to the assignment, written on it in red ink. This university goes to great lengths to keep students' grades private. Hence, the posting of exam grades by social security numbers instead of names. Shouldn't this also apply to regular assignments?

A student also shouldn't be afraid to ask for help if he needs it for some reason. We are all human, and we all make mistakes. Sometimes we need help from others who are more knowledgeable in a certain area than we are.

That is what teachers are there for, as well as student assistants. Intimidation does nothing but establish apathy on the part of students who feel helpless and makes students feel ridiculous for asking

questions designed to help supplement their personal knowledge. Educators would fare much better by providing positive assistance to students rather than trying to force them to learn something.

Classes are assigned to different majors for a reason, and most students understand that they take these classes to help them later in a career. I have yet to enroll in a class that I felt was unnecessary. However, I have had several classes which were taught by opinionated professors who, instead of stimulating interest in the subject being taught, tried to force students to learn material with threats of what will happen if they do not "get it right."

Students are willing to learn, professors. Try to be willing to teach in a constructive manner. Maybe you'll be surprised at how much better they'll respond if treated as humans instead of as letter grades.



This semester and last spring, *Sidelines* has published several articles and editorials concerning the structure of the Student Publications Committee. Those editorials have been critical, specifically, of the ASB President's power to appoint voting members to the committee.

Response to these editorials from our readers has been minimal.

To encourage debate on issues other than who should cheer for whom at football games, or which concert is the best, we ask this question:

Do you think the ASB president should be allowed to appoint the student members who select the editor in chief of this newspaper and make other vital decisions concerning student publications?

From Our Readers

Library security wasted manpower, says Campbell

To the editor:

In my travels to and from the university and around the general campus area, I have come upon a situation that warrants question. Why is there a uniformed guard stationed in the library?

What is this guy supposed to do? Of course, to qualify for the "library security" team, I'm sure one must have to face some of the more difficult and specialized training programs and exercises that our university officials have to offer. Let's face it, this guy never even gets to make a bust.

Hey, why waste our good people like that? It seems that I read somewhere that violent library-related crimes are on the down-swing, anyway. Why not station these highly-trained individuals in the crime-ridden grill and Peck Hall areas where the dregs of society are more likely to

congregate? While we're at it, why not give them guns? God knows that in every lawman's life there comes a time when all he has time to do is shoot first and ask questions later. Let's keep this campus safe for the decent, law-abiding college student.

Dale Campbell
Box 6525

Letter stressed unity of fans, not Greek putdown

To the editor:

We have received several replies to our letter in last week's edition of *Sidelines*, and none of them has dealt with the question at hand. We only requested that Greeks refrain from their "who's who" competition at the ball games.

Certainly we didn't intend to take away from the many contributions that the Greeks make to MTSU. They have plenty to be proud of, and we admire the pride that they

show in their organizations. The point we are trying to make is that game day is not the time to compete with each other. It is a day when we, as MTSU students, should support the Blue Raiders, who are headed for the best season that any of us has seen here. In other words, we need "Section Blue Raider," a combination of all MTSU students and fans.

The Greeks have numerous opportunities to compete against each other and show pride in their individual organizations—parties, intramural sports, homecoming festivities, etc.—but the bottom line at the games should be 100 percent support for the men in blue.

By the way, Mr. Burkard, we feel that you have wrongly accused us of "mockery" since we have been through five seasons and supported the Raiders from the dismal 1-9 season to where they are today.

We rest our case.

Mr. N. S.
Box 8132
Mr. A. W.
Box 1779

GHOST STORIES

History professor recalls a ghostly encounter

By JOHN MCGLONE

Special to Sidelines

Editor's Note: Traveller's Rest, an historic plantation house south of Nashville, is the restored home of Judge John Overton. It is maintained by the Colonial Dames. MTSU history professor John McGlone worked as a tour guide at Traveller's Rest in 1980. This is his true account.



Members of my family once lived at Traveller's Rest. My great grandmother was Lucy Bell Claiborne. Her uncle, Col. Thomas Claiborne, and his family lived at the old home during and after the Civil War.

Her son, Clayton Ramage Barrow, spent his summers there as a youth. It was with these memories that I took a job at Traveller's Rest as tour director in 1980, when I first began my graduate work in history.

IN ADDITION to these family associations, Traveller's

the halls resounded to the footsteps of such famous, infamous and violent characters as Andrew Jackson, Peggy Eaton and Charles Dickinson. During the Civil War, Traveller's Rest figured prominently in the Battle of Nashville, when Confederate general John Bell Hood used the house as his headquarters for two weeks.

Many a soldier—blue and gray—died on the slopes, fields and peach orchards surrounding the house.

WITH THESE various associations in mind, the following incident should be taken with a grain of salt. It may be merely the product of a vivid Irish imagination, or that of an historian anxious to see such happenings. After all, with today's scientific explanations of events, these things simply don't happen. Or do they?

It was late in the afternoon of Christmas Eve, 1980. The gray winter sky was quickly giving way to darkness as I prepared to lock up the house. The last tourist had left for the day and the sweet lady who ran the gift shop, Mrs. Agnes Russell, was also leaving.

secured before exiting. At the final door, a key set the alarm system so that any attempted break-in during the night would activate the alarm bell and call the police.

Naturally, if any door or window was left open, the alarm system would ring loudly. I had completed my rounds, locking all the doors and windows but the last door.

As I turned the key to set and complete the alarm system, I was dismayed to hear a shrill clanging sound pierce the night air. Damn. I must have left a window open or a door ajar. Now I'd have to go back through the whole house before resetting the alarm system.

I WORKED MY way back into the house, up the steep and winding staircases, checking each room, door and window. I finally found one open. After closing and locking it, I worked my way back out of the house, double-checking each room and door on the way, just to be sure.

I reached the exit door, closed and locked it, and set the alarm. Again, the alarm went off. A chill went down my spine. I had checked all the windows and doors and all were closed, but the alarm indicated that something was still open.

By now I was almost an hour late; my wife and daughter were waiting for me to come home and decorate the tree. The home fire and some egg nog began to look better and better as I re-entered Traveller's Rest to find what door or window was preventing my leaving.



Near Nashville is the historical site of Traveller's Rest. Many events in history have taken place here, and some say that the spirits of those who died are still there.

THE HAIR ROSE slightly on my neck as I discovered a different door ajar. Surely I couldn't have missed it the first time, but there it was—open. I quickly closed and locked it and retreated to the exit, checking all doors and windows on the way.

My hand shook slightly as I turned the key to set the alarm. Again it rang. This went on for three hours. Each time I re-entered the house I found a different door or window or lock ajar.

As I walked down a long side hall, the whole area was suddenly filled with a bright light. I froze on the spot and remember noticing what

appeared to be footprints on the corridor floor—large, square-toed boot tracks.

THE LIGHT started to fade as I headed for the side door. A flood light on the grounds had inexplicably lighted by itself and was now fading.

By this time, my rapidly beating heart seemed to be located somewhere in my throat. In between trips to the house, I had tried calling the caretaker and the ladies who managed the house, but to no avail.

I had ruled out calling the police, fearing they would arrive with a straight jacket. I was becoming increasingly angry—whoever or whatever

was causing my difficulty seemed to be toying with me. The feeling was not one of evil intent or maliciousness, as much as game-playing.

MUSTERING MY courage, I stormed into the main hall of the house, slammed the heavy door behind me, and hollered to my tormentor: "Knock it off, damn it! I'm tired and want to go home. It's Christmas Eve!"

My voice and the slamming of the door echoed down the dark halls and throughout the house. I returned to the exit, set the alarm and waited. All was quiet. The circuit was complete and the house secure. Somewhat shaken, I turned and left for home.

These things simply don't happen.

Or do they?

Rest also has strong historical overtones. It was built on the site of a huge Indian burial mound; to this day, any archaeological work on the site invariably disturbs the rest of some ancient warrior.

Later in Tennessee history,

I was alone in the house making my final rounds. In order to secure the house and its valuable antiques from burglary, an elaborate alarm system had been installed.

EACH WINDOW and door needed to be closed and

Ghost of Serena Livingston Croughan still lives at Locust Grove

By LYNDIA TEWELL

Sidelines Features Editor

Locust Grove is a beautiful house in Kentucky, the last home of Gen. George Rogers Clark. But Locust Grove is also known as the home of the ghost of a young woman named Serena Livingston Croughan.

After marrying Clark's nephew, Maj. George Croughan, a hero of the War of 1812, Serena moved to Locust Grove from New York in 1815. But Serena was very unhappy living at Locust Grove—she reportedly said she never felt welcome there—and left her husband in 1825. According to historical records, she traveled to New Orleans first, and then on to San Francisco.

REBECCA SMITH, a teaching assistant with the MTSU history department, was the curator of Locust Grove in 1979. She and others associated with the upkeep of the historical home began to notice unusual incidents that caught their interest.

Joan Miller, a clairvoyant from Lansing, Mich., took a tour of Locust Grove and told several workers in the gift shop that she had talked with a ghost. She wrote a letter to Smith, detailing the unusual

occurrences during her visit.

"First of all, I did not see a ghost," Miller writes. "My clairvoyant ability extends only to automatic writing and a telepathic communication. To trigger this communication, it is necessary only to touch pen to paper or, in the case at Locust Grove, my fingertip to my hand, which I did throughout the walk to the house, during our tour and back to our car."

"How will I know that it will be you?"

"I am a young woman and blond."

"AS WE DROVE up to the house, I sensed something unusual about it, and allowed my friends to walk some distance ahead of me. I crossed over the three stone entry steps onto the property and immediately felt a peculiar sense of anticipation pass through me. I touched my hand and the conversation went as follows:

"Is someone here?" I asked.

"Yes," was the unearthly reply.

"Where are you?"

"At your left."

"Who are you?"

"I WAS THE lady of the house."

"How will I know that?"

"You will see my picture in the house."

"How will I know that it will be you?"

"I am a young woman and blond."

Miller and her friends began their tour and soon reached the dining room where Serena's picture hangs. As she stood listening to the story of the dining room, Miller again spoke mentally to the "lady"

and asked if this were she.

"Yes," she replied.

"You are not blond in this picture," Miller stated.

"THE ARTIST DID not make it look as it really was," she answered. "This picture was a wedding gift to my husband."

Miller then asked Smith about the picture of Serena. The information Smith gave Miller corresponded with the information Miller got from Serena.

"Before we reached Clark's bedroom, I again touched my hand and the words, 'This house is filled with unhappy

memories,' came to my mind," Miller continued. "In Clark's bedroom, we learned about Clark's sad experiences. In the upstairs room with its gallery of pictures, many other unfortunate events were also related, all of which I felt substantiated my communicated words."

SERENA ALSO indicated that though her house had not been happy, a "house to the north of them" had been.

As Miller left the house to look at the grounds, Serena said, "The vibration is so strong that I will be able to remain with you until you leave."

"Walking to the car, I thanked her for speaking to me and she replied, 'It has been a pleasure. I am so pleased to have been recognized,'" Miller wrote.

MILLER SAID she was fascinated with this experience and with Serena's life. Serena was mentioned briefly during Miller's tour at Locust Grove, so she called Smith to find more information about her.

"When I returned home, I sat down a moment to see if I could contact Serena or my 'source' which brings knowledge unknown to me," Miller said. "I have not reached Serena, but I do write

Poor Serena was very unhappy there.

She was never made to feel welcome

that poor Serena was very unhappy there. She was never made to feel welcome. She was so suited to another life that she told her husband she had to return. She is still there [at Locust Grove] as she is so disturbed over the life she had there that [she is unable] to continue on to another life."

THE SAME DAY Miller toured Locust Grove, the housing locust had a problem with the house alarm. When a worker went to turn it off, it was on as if someone had broken in.

"Two doors were open which had been locked the afternoon before," Smith said. "The buzzer did not sound when the light was on as it should have. We called security and tested the alarm and it was not broken. We cannot explain why the alarm did not sound."

"Serena has always gotten bad PR when we give tours," Smith added. "She has not been given a fair representation."

HOWEVER, Susan Wartschlager, a worker at Locust

Grove, appreciated Serena and has done much research into her life.

Once, Wartschlager was walking down an unusually steep flight of stairs at the home, carrying an armful of books. She tripped and felt something grab her skirt. It held her up and kept her from falling.

When she turned to remove her skirt from the rail or whatever held her, it wasn't caught on anything. Wartschlager is convinced Serena caught her and saved her from harm.

Is Locust Grove really haunted or are these incidents mere speculation?

"There really is no question that Serena's presence is there," Smith said. "I was hard to convince, but there is no explanation for some of these things."



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The continuing saga Eyesore getting axed

By MIKE JONES
Sidelines Sports Editor

Once upon a time, long, long, long, long, long, long, long ago, MTSU bought the scoreboard that currently sits at the end of Johnny Red Floyd Stadium and Horace Jones Field.

And once upon a time, not that long ago, MTSU's athletic department decided it was time to get a new scoreboard.

MANY JOKES AND derogatory statements have been made about the old relic, which some believe is powered by a little old man pedaling some sort of pulley-like contraption inside the board.

OVC title within men's grasp; Skinner to be key performer

By ANDY REED
Sidelines Sports Writer

When the MTSU men's cross-country team goes for its first Ohio Valley Conference title this weekend, Jeff Skinner will definitely be a key runner for Coach Dean Hayes.

Skinner, a senior from Nashville, is a favorite to win the title at the OVC Cross-Country Championships tomorrow in Akron.

RIGHT NOW, Skinner, who came to MTSU as a walk on, is on a roll. He's won the last

three races he has entered, taking the Fisk Invitational, the Old Hickory Road Race and the Vanderbilt Invitational.

But, Skinner is not counting out his main competition for this weekend, teammate Robert Willis and William Jordan of Murray State.

"Those two will be pretty good," he said. "I'm hoping I have a little more experience."

COACH HAYES expressed confidence in Skinner.

"Jeff definitely has a chance

to win the title, because he has the ability to force the pace of the race and that would be to his advantage," Hayes said.

"He is really a good competitor and works very hard. Jeff consistently runs good races and it is always nice when he is successful and wins a race, because it's a payoff for his hard work," Hayes noted.

SKINNER, IN TURN, attributes much of his success to Coach Hayes.

"When I came here, he stuck with me. He's given me en-

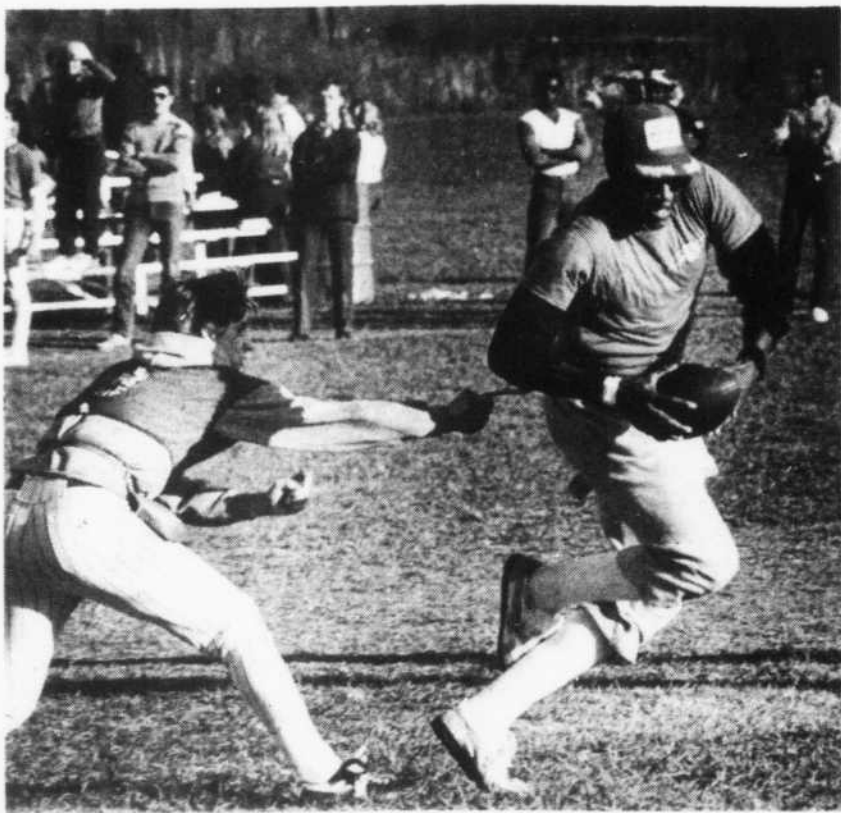


Photo by Mike Poley

A member of the ROTC intramural football team tries to avoid having his flag pulled yesterday by a member of the Roothogs. ROTC lost to the Hogs in the campus intramural championships yesterday, 20-6. A complete rundown of the final week of action will be featured in Tuesday's Sidelines.

couragement. He's never given up on me," the former Overton High School standout said. "He's a good motivator."

(continued on page 8)



Jeff Skinner
A favorite to win OVC title tomorrow

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2. Holy Cross
3. Eastern Kentucky
4. NE Louisiana
5. N. Texas State
6. Jackson State
7. E. Illinois
8. Furman
9. MIDDLE TENNESSEE
10. South Carolina State
11. Nevada Reno
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Sports

Donnelly says Raiders need offensive punch

By MIKE JONES

Sidelines Sports Editor

If MTSU wants to finish 9-1 and have a shot at a post-season playoff bid, things will have to improve for the Blue Raiders.

At least that's what Boots Donnelly said.

MTSU, currently 6-1 and ranked ninth in the nation in NCAA I-AA, opens a three-game, season-ending home stand Saturday when it hosts Youngstown State at 1:30 p.m.

EVEN THOUGH MTSU burst into the top 10 in the nation this week and has the Ohio Valley Conference's top passer in Mickey Corwin and top rusher in Vince Hall, along with being No. 1 in the conference in team offense and defense, there is still room to improve.

"Gosh dog it, if we don't [improve] we're in trouble," Donnelly remarked, adding that the team had a good week of practice. "We cannot continue to play poor offensively, and our defense has got some improving to do also."

Offensively, Donnelly said he would make no changes.

"WE WOULD have made changes if we thought it was just one or two players," Donnelly emphasized. "The last three weeks we have not been able to move the football, but the competition has been better."

Defense was the main reason MTSU slushed to a 31-17 win over Austin Peay last week, capitalizing on Governor turnovers. But Donnelly said it was the lax play of the defense that allowed Peay to score when they shouldn't have.

Improvement will be of the utmost importance to Donnelly and the Blue Raiders this week as they face the 4-3 Penguins, who are coming off a 23-13 loss to Northern Iowa.

YOUNGSTOWN STATE, coached by Bill Narduzzi, failed to take advantage of six Northern Iowa turnovers, and allowed over 200 yards passing.

"The thing that hurt Youngstown State the most was a punt that Northern Iowa returned for a touchdown," Donnelly said. "They're skilled, they've got good personnel and have an ex-

OVC honors Raider stars for top efforts

Two MTSU players were honored by the Ohio Valley Conference this week for their performances in last week's game against Austin Peay, which the Blue Raiders won 31-17.

Defensive tackle Jeff Spencer was named the OVC Defensive Player of the Week, while linebacker Mike Mathis was named OVC Rookie of the Week.

SPENCER, a 6-foot, 215-pound senior from McKeesport, Penn., had nine tackles, one assist and two fumble recoveries against the Governors.

Mathis, a 6-foot-1-inch, 210-pound freshman from Cincinnati had three tackles, six assists, a fumble recovery, an interception and a tackle-for-loss.

This is the second straight week Mathis has been honored with the rookie award.

cellent kicking game.

"Offensively, they may be better than anyone in the conference because they do so much more. Their quarterback can move and they have tough running backs. They have a lot more potent offense without [tailback Paris] Wicks, turning it loose with all the people they have."

YOUNGSTOWN STATE also features one of the top receivers in the OVC in John Goode, who is averaging over five catches per game. Goode has visited the end zone with a football in his arms eight times this season.

"He's as good a receiver as there's ever been in this conference," Donnelly said, adding that no particular Raider would be assigned to cover him for the whole game.

"But we hope we know where no. 42 is at all times," Donnelly said. "The key to the game for us is gonna be controlling their throwing game. We've got to take some of their big plays off of them."

DEFENSIVELY, THE Penguins are as good or a shade better than Eastern and Akron, Donnelly said.

The Raiders are virtually injury-free going into the game, with only defensive ends

(continued on page 8)

Key looking for experience as cross country season nears end

By DON TILLET

Sidelines Staff Writer

Coach James Key's women's cross country squad cannot win an OVC title, but the team is looking for experience as athletes prepare for the indoor track season this spring.

"We're going to go in pretty relaxed and go in as individuals and try to turn in some pretty good times," Key said.

"THIS WILL BE the last race for MTSU as a team, and I hope they can just go out and run some good races."

In the race for the OVC title, Key sees Eastern Kentucky coming in first, Murray State placing second, and possibly Austin Peay finishing third.

Millie Daniels, one of the main runners for Key all year long, will not compete in the championships due to a scheduling conflict, Key said.

DANIELS WILL compete in track this spring, where Key hopes to have a healthy squad. The squad will be anchored by long-jumper Angela Harper, whom Key sees as being even better this year.

"She will be the big team leader. She owns the school record for the long jump, and she was working on her jumping last year and in the off-season," Key said.

The relay team, which was injury-riddled last year, should be healthy this year. Key sees the relay team as "a morale builder for the rest of the squad."

LORI DROPP will be the major competitor for us in the shot-put, Key said.

"She will definitely garner a lot of points for us," the Lady Raider mentor said.

Overall, Key sees the competitors in the championships Saturday gaining invaluable experience in preparing for the indoor season.

"THE EXPERIENCE in racing competitively is a whole different situation. There is no



Photo by Mike Poley

Follow Through

An MTSU basketball player follows through on a free throw in the seemingly dark confines of Murphy Center during practice yesterday. The Blue Raiders open their schedule on Nov. 26 against Georgia at the Wendy's Classic in Bowling Green, Ky.

better trainer for running in a race than running in a race," Key said.

MTSU men's cross country squad travels to Akron

Saturday in search of its first-ever OVC Championship.

Head Coach Dean Hayes, whose track team won both the

(continued on page 8)

Sidelines Sports Editor



MIKE JONES

MTSU faces tough test; Hall gets better with age

The Youngstown State game marks the big cheese, the show time, the must win for the Blue Raiders.

While MTSU has faced some tough competition in the past few weeks, the Penguins, despite their silly name, just might be the toughest. Though the last two games cannot be overlooked, it is generally agreed by most Blue Raider followers that the Penguin game should be the last hurdle to the first-round of the NCAA I-AA playoffs, slated for later this month.

EARLIER IN the week, the possibility that MTSU could face Tennessee State if both continue to win and capture at-large berths in the playoffs was brought up.

True, the game could be one of the hottest tickets in the state, but Head Football Coach Boots Donnelly yesterday did not even want to think about that possibility, adding that Youngstown State is foremost on his mind.

The coach also said that he did not think the rivalry between MTSU and TSU would be renewed in the near future.

"RIGHT NOW there are a lot of reasons, but I don't have time to go into them," Donnelly said. "However, I do not think an MTSU vs. TSU rivalry would be good at this time."

The coach also commented

on the sudden rise of tailback Vince Hall, who is the leading rusher in the conference, as well as the fourth best rusher in the nation, just ahead of Akron's James Black.

Hall has carried the ball 120 times this season already, well ahead of last year's pace. Though he was expected to be MTSU's prime ball carrier, he was not expected to have as many good games as he has had so far.

"IF I HAD my way, he'd carry the ball more," Donnelly said. "Right now, he's not accustomed to carrying it that much and he has to learn to do that."

Donnelly agreed that Hall is definitely one of the premier backs in the conference, and perhaps the best all-around.

"Potentially, he is the best back in the conference—he can run, block and catch the pass."

Hall has been amazing for most of the season coming out of the backfield, and is a definite threat once he gets past opposing linebackers. After watching Hall last year, comparing him to this year, there is a difference.

THE SCOTTSBORO, Ala., native is elusive and quick. He hits holes with grace, and slices through opposing lines with apparent ease. He has matured on the field and is coming into his

(continued on page 8)



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Skinner

(continued from page 7)

Skinner also runs track for the Blue Raiders and is a former record holder in the

Cross country

(continued from page 6)

OVC indoor and outdoor championships last year, says that the key to winning rests in the ability of all five runners to run consistently.

"IF ALL OF OUR guys run well this weekend, I think it may be within our reach. They have to decide to run hard," Hayes said.

Donnelly

(continued from page 6)

William Thomas and Dan Allen ailing. Both will play, Donnelly said.

This week MTSU is nationally:

- Fifth in scoring offense.
- Tied for second in passing defense

MTSU

(continued from page 6)

own.

"When you've got one that's potentially a great one, you push him towards that," Donnelly said. "When they spit the bit out, you know they are just going to be a good one."

Hall's only flaw, Donnelly

10,000 meter run. He said he hopes to wrap up his collegiate career by winning both the indoor and outdoor OVC championships.

Jeff Skinner and Robert Willis are among the favorites to win the individual title, but they face stiff competition from Murray State's William Jordan and Eastern Kentucky's Jay Hodge.

One advantage for the Blue Raiders is that neither Murray nor Eastern Kentucky has won the championship, Hayes said.

The senior accounting major said he hopes to graduate in May and "try to get on with one of the big eight accounting firms in Nashville."

ANOTHER ADVANTAGE is the longer distance, Hayes said.

"The longer distance [10,000 meters] should be to our advantage, but we will just have to wait and see," Hayes said.

Murray State is the favorite to win the title, but should be challenged by both Eastern and MTSU.

- Fourth in scoring offense.
 - 14th in rushing offense
 - 11th in total offense
 - Fourth in total defense
 - Seventh in turnover margin.
- INDIVIDUALS RANKED nationally for MTSU are:
- Quarterback Mickey Cor-

win, who is seventh in the nation in passing efficiency, with a rating of 137.5

- Tailback Vince Hall, who is fourth in the nation in rushing, averaging 113.4 yards per game. Hall is also seventh in the nation in all purpose running.

thinks, is his inability to run with force.

"To be a great back, he has to run with a great deal more force," he said. "When making a routine run, he has to give a lot more effort. Then he has the opportunity to become a great back."

Donnelly compared Hall to Youngstown State's Paris

Wicks, who graduated last year. Wicks was one of the all-time great Penguins with a style similar to Hall's.

"Wicks never went down easily," the coach said. "Vince has not gotten to the point where he does not go down easily. Once he gets there he is going to be a great back."

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Sidelines staff

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Darrell

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