

# THE LINES

## Back in School

New Scholarship offers chance for disadvantaged women

**Absurd Reviews** *Going bald sucks*

## Fight to the Death

Dave Barry does laser tag



Bad Country Music? page 8

# WHAT'S UP WITH THE REC CENTER?

EXPLORING THE DEPTHS OF MTSU'S LATEST DREAMBUILDING

**KENT STATE  
REVISITED:  
WHAT REALLY  
HAPPENED WHEN  
HELL BROKE  
LOOSE IN OHIO**

**A dazed  
EXPLANATION OF  
WHY GOING TO  
SCHOOL ON  
MEMORIAL DAY  
SHOULD BE STOPPED**

**PLUS: WMOT  
KICKS OFF DAYS  
OF SUMMER  
WITH BLUES**



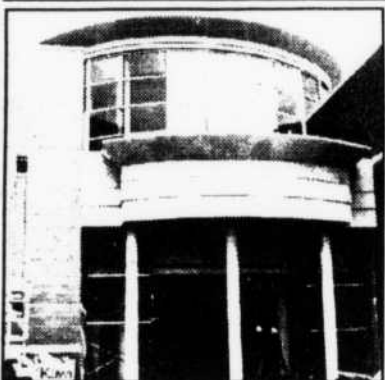


# INSIDELINES

JUNE 7



Shelby Lynne, Kim Carnes and Michael English were among many acts that played at Summer Lights last weekend. For more sights of the fest, see page 8



The Rec Center, Page 5

## Letters Policy

Letters to the editor should be no more than 200 words long, and should contain sender's name, campus box number or e-mail address. *Sidelines* reserves the right to edit

letters for clarity. Send letters to MTSU Box 42 or e-mail to one of the addresses listed in the box at right. Please clearly mark all electronic correspondence "letter to the editor."

## News & Notes

### THEC holds forum, getting a plan

The Tennessee Higher Education Commission is putting together its newest master plan and has traveled across the state holding open forums to get input. The commission's task force on the plan came to MTSU Tuesday where an aggressive outline was revealed.

## Reviews & Events

### Dont spend your money on Montgomery

Joshua Kear finds that the new John Michael Montgomery CD is "nothing special," offering disappointing music very similar to past releases. Page 8

## Viewpoints & Opinions

### The Avenging Angel of Doom

Dave Barry is at it again. This week he delves into the world of laser tag, pondering the importance of de-activating enemy bases and heading for cover. Page 10

## Features

### What's up with the Rec Center?

If you've been wondering what that shiny new building is going to hold then look no further. From gigantic basketball courts to water slides, from raquetball courts to a realistic climbing wall, the new MTSU facility will offer a world of excitement when completed. Brent Andrews explores the center, and lets you know what it has to offer. Page 5

### Remembering Kent State

What really happened 25 years ago in mid-America? Marco Buscaglia finds out. Page 7

## FROM THE EDITOR...



So the dog days of summer are upon us, and once again we head into the steamy-hot realm of a Middle Tennessee summer. Intersession is over, happily, but many of you have more classes to struggle through in session two and beyond while your friends and family are doing what people are supposed to be doing in the summer~hanging out at the pool, partying late into the night and sleeping all day, taking sporadic trips out of Murfreesboro to

see what lies beyond the town gates. Maybe working part-time when it's absolutely necessary. But alas, you're stuck here, less than a mile from the exact geographical center of Tennessee, and instead of taking part in the festivities of summer you are being forced to watch life go on without you from the window of a hot, dusty old room in the KOM. But not to worry, because you are not alone.

Sidelines is going to be right here with you, every step of the way. We'll even hold your hand if you want.

And boy oh boy, are we going to have fun!

We have lots of good things planned for you this summer. We're going to explore the computer network here on campus, sort it out for those of you who, like me, have a less-than-substantial knowledge of computer networks. For those of you who are familiar with the terms MODEM, FRANK, KNUTH and TELNET, we'll have something in this series that will interest you as well. We're going to look at the Internet, network of networks~what it is, what it does, where it came from and how it could benefit you. We'll explore an amazing medium of free speech, the World Wide Web, and tell you about some interesting sites that you might want to visit during your trips into cyberspace~two of which are based right here on the MTSU campus. If you have no idea what I'm talking about, this series will help you get started on the MTSU network with relatively little pain and suffering.

We have lots more lined up for you as well.

In our News and Notes section, News Editor Mark Blevins will be keeping you informed about things going on around campus that you might not hear about anywhere else. If it affects MTSU students and happens on or around campus, or if it's just interesting news, Sidelines is going to bring it to you.

Reviews and Events, adeptly lead by Editor Chris Patterson, will be informing you about music, movies, sports and other things that happen on campus that will be of interest to you. She'll bring you reviews of hot new bands and hot old ones; she'll let you know when there's a hot new "must buy" CD on the shelves of the record stores, and when a band sounds like it is doing nothing more than throwing pots and pans around a steel kitchen. Maybe you'll save some time and money by reading the reviews. If pots and pans is your thing, well, then that works too.

Going along with all these great stories will be the outstanding photojournalism of our photo staff, lead by Don Goins. We'll be bringing you the usual news shots, but along with those we'll be printing a healthy smattering of feature shots as well. You might even see your own face between these pages before it's all said and done.

In our opinions section, we will continue to bring you interesting cartoons and the hilarious ramblings of Dave Barry. We will also provide a forum for those of you who want to make your voice heard, a place to air your gripes and your likes about whatever suits your fancy.

And here we come to our only problem: In order to work, this paper needs you, dear student. We need your writing talents, your photography skills, your opinions and your letters to make this paper the reflection of the MTSU community that it strives to be. These pages are not reserved for our editorial staff, and we are not an exclusive club. We want you to come and work with us, but you have to be willing to make the first move.

So browse on through the pages of this all-new first edition of your summer paper. But before you go, make a note of the telephone numbers and e-mail addresses that you see to the right of this column. Send us a letter; let us know what you think. You can send letters to the editor and other correspondence to us at the e-mail addresses to the right, or you can use snailmail to send them to Box 42, MTSU. But isn't e-mail a lot more fun?

T. But Adams

Brent Andrews  
Editor in Chief

# SIDELINES

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**Sidelines is published every Wednesday by students of Middle Tennessee State University. The opinions expressed herein are those of the author and not necessarily Sidelines.**

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# News & Notes

## THEC HOLDS OPEN FORUM TO DISCUSS MASTER PLAN

Commission addresses direction, strategy of Tennessee education

**Rep. John Bragg says educators must teach public of importance of funding schools**

**MARK BLEVINS**  
Sidelines

The Tennessee Higher Education Commission's (THEC's) Master Plan Task Force held an open forum at MTSU Tuesday to present its outline of the plan and to receive input from attendees.

The master plan's purpose is to provide direction for the present and future of education in Tennessee, and it is a cornerstone THEC's policy.

The open forum was the third of four open forums across the state which will culminate in a draft proposal to THEC at its quarterly Aug. 18 meeting and a final action on the plan at its Nov. 3 meeting.

THEC Executive Director Bryant Millsaps began the meeting by saying that the master plan's relevancy and dynamism have been in question. Millsaps said he asked the task force to move from a five-year plan to a long term strategic plan.

"We have a clear understanding of what our (THEC's) mission is," Millsaps said. "Our mission at the commission is to guide, establish, measure, consider policy."

The master plan is only a plan and does not mean that funding will be allotted for its implementation.

State Rep. John Bragg told the audience that Tennessee is the least taxed state in the union.

"Is that necessarily good?" Bragg asked referring to Tennessee's tax status.

He said that educators play a vital role in articulating why and how education benefits Tennesseans when it comes time for increased educational funding.

"It's going to be a problem to be fiscally sound," Bragg said. Bragg added that Tennessee's budget this year "was spent overnight" and that next year's budget is already spent.

The Task Force's outline was composed of five proposed sections:

■ **Increasing performance in Tennessee higher education.**

Dr. Angelo Volpe,



DON GOINS/Photo Editor

Ray Fox, assistant provost at UT-Chattanooga, explains UT-C's Systems Improvement Project (SIP) for monitoring and improving educational quality in an open forum on THEC's master plan. Educators from around the region attended the Tuesday forum. Fox said SIP is based on industry monitoring methods.

president of Tennessee Tech, chaired this section of the master plan which focuses on:

□ increasing or maintaining already existing quality in the system's components;

□ increasing access to the system for all who have demonstrated the probability of succeeding within it;

□ increasing productivity through having a greater number of those who enter higher education persist to graduation; and

□ increasing efficiency by creating a balance among numbers, quality and investment.

■ **Using information technology to serve Tennessee.**

Homer Fisher, senior

**In Brief** The average ACT across-the-board composite score for MTSU has jumped from 20.8 for the 1993-1994 year to 21.4 for the 1994-1995 year, according to Dean of Admissions and Records Cliff Gillespie. The rise in scores is being attributed to increased admission standards and the increasing scholarship opportunities designed to attract the best

students. The admission standards were increased from an ACT score of 19 to 20 and grade point average from 2.0 to 2.8. "Our admission test scores are indicators of a better prepared freshmen class," Gillespie said.

The Presidential Scholarship program was initiated in the 1992-1993 school year. Applicants must have an ACT score of 28 or higher and a high school GPA of at least 3.5.

**Early count...**

**Summer enrollment up to 7,039**

**MARK BLEVINS**  
Sidelines

An early head count of MTSU summer school students shows enrollment at 7,039, an increase of 2.59 percent from last summer's enrollment of 6,837.

The figures represent the number of students registered and paid by the first day of the second session of summer school.

MTSU receives \$4,058/student a year from the state.

Dean of Admission and Records George Gillespie said the enrollment process has been mostly smooth.

"We've had very, very few complaints," Gillespie said. The only trouble has come from students enrolling late.

Gillespie said the phone registration system, TRAM (Telephone Response at Middle Tennessee), has been a "tremendous asset" for students. The challenge for his office has been to make students aware of new classes added after schedule books are printed.

In the old days, when students registered at Murphy Center, added classes could be posted to the monitors which displayed lists of available classes. There is currently no option on TRAM to access a list of added classes.

Students can call the registration center at 898-5094 to check for added courses.

Assistant Vice President of the Business Office Bob Adams said TRAM has probably not saved the university any money yet because of the cost of the system. TRAM replaced some of the hired help necessary to get students registered. ■

### CAMPUS CAPSULE

**Looking Forward** is a free on-going group for female survivors of rape and sexual abuse. Topics such as safety, relationships, effectiveness of coping skills, and ending isolation will be discussed. The group meets Weds. 3 - 4:30 p.m. To register call Mary Glantz at 5725. Space is limtd. All inquiries are confidential and confidentiality in groups is encouraged. Sponsored by the JAWC.

Board of Regents (TBR), chaired this section of the proposal.

Mays said this section of the plan was aimed at:

□ removal of barriers that have moved to compartmentalize groups;

□ improving education of teachers to ensure teachers are fully prepared and to increase the number of minority teachers;

□ improving longitudinal studies; and

□ improving cooperative planning of programs.

"Ideally, there should be a seamless, unobstructed educational system which flows from kindergarten through postsecondary programs and into

vice president of the University of Tennessee system, chaired this section of the plan and said the state needs to work towards developing and maintaining a state-wide electronic network.

The goals of the network are to serve educational needs by providing more cooperation and communication in successful programs, provide a better means for electronic classrooms and tie graduating students with business opportunities.

■ **Expanding partnerships with kindergarten through grade 12.**

Dr. Nebraska Mays, vice chancellor for academic affairs of the Tennessee

See THEC, page 4



## MTSU has new scholarship for women facing adversity

A new scholarship at MTSU will be designated specifically for a female senior-level student who is trying to pick up the pieces and resume her education following a broken marriage, a failed job, or some other crisis that interrupted her formal schooling.

Marcus and Martha Nickell of Pulaski recently established the Jane Nickell Taylor Scholarship through the MTSU Foundation in honor of their daughter whom they financially helped to get back on her feet. She graduated from MTSU in 1970.

The scholarship recipient must have a 2.75 grade point average and "demonstrate reasonable qualities for success." Nickell asked that the University selection committee include someone who works with non-traditional students.

"We are grateful to Marcus and Martha Nickell for their gift to MTSU," Jim Garner, president of the MTSU Foundation, said.

The scholarship has an endowment of just over \$17,000. Interested parties should contact the Foundation.

## Graduation time baby!!



PHOTO COURTESY OF MTSU DAY CARE LAB

MTSU President James Walker presents Michel 'La Minter her diploma during the May 5 graduation ceremonies at MTSU Day Care Lab.

## THEC

continued from page 3

continuing education and lifelong learning," stated this section of a guide to the master plan.

■ **Expanding partnerships with business, industry, and government.**

Dr. Lee Reidinger, associate vice chancellor for research at UT-Knoxville, chaired this section of the

plan.

Reidinger said:

□ economic development should be a defined goal;

□ the decay of infrastructure of educational equipment should be addressed;

□ THEC should demonstrate relevancy of programs; and

□ that new partnerships with business should be established.

■ **Inter-institutional**

**partnerships and cooperation.**

Dr. Fred Obear, chancellor for academic affairs of TBR, chaired this section of the plan.

This section is aimed at encouraging partnerships and cooperative ventures among higher educational institutions. Distance learning, city/regional consortia and other cooperative ventures will be explored. Joint degree programs and "other special

initiatives" will also be explored.

Other forums were held at East Tennessee State University and UT-Knoxville on Monday, and a forum at UT-Memphis was held later in the day on Tuesday.

Millsaps stressed that a final draft has not been drawn and that the input the Task Force receives from the open forums is important.

"What you're saying to us today is very, very valuable," Millsaps said. He encouraged the 60-75 member audience to continue providing input by writing letters to the commission with suggestions.

THEC's address is Higher Education Commission, Nashville, TN 37243-0830. ■



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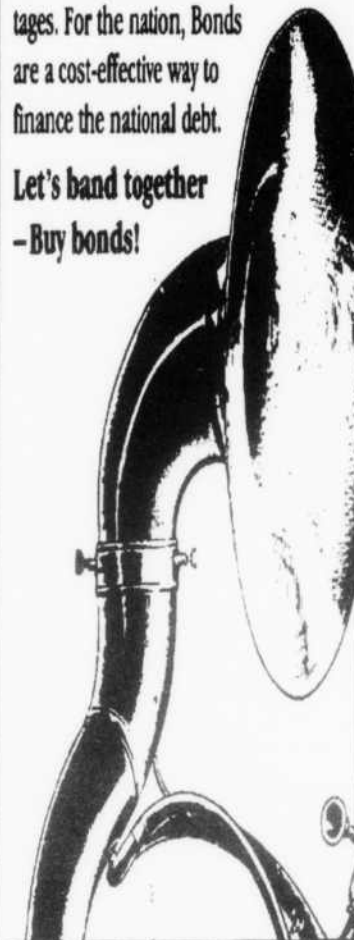
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# FUN, FUN, AND MORE FUN!

## What we can expect to see in MTSU's new, \$20 million Student Recreation Center

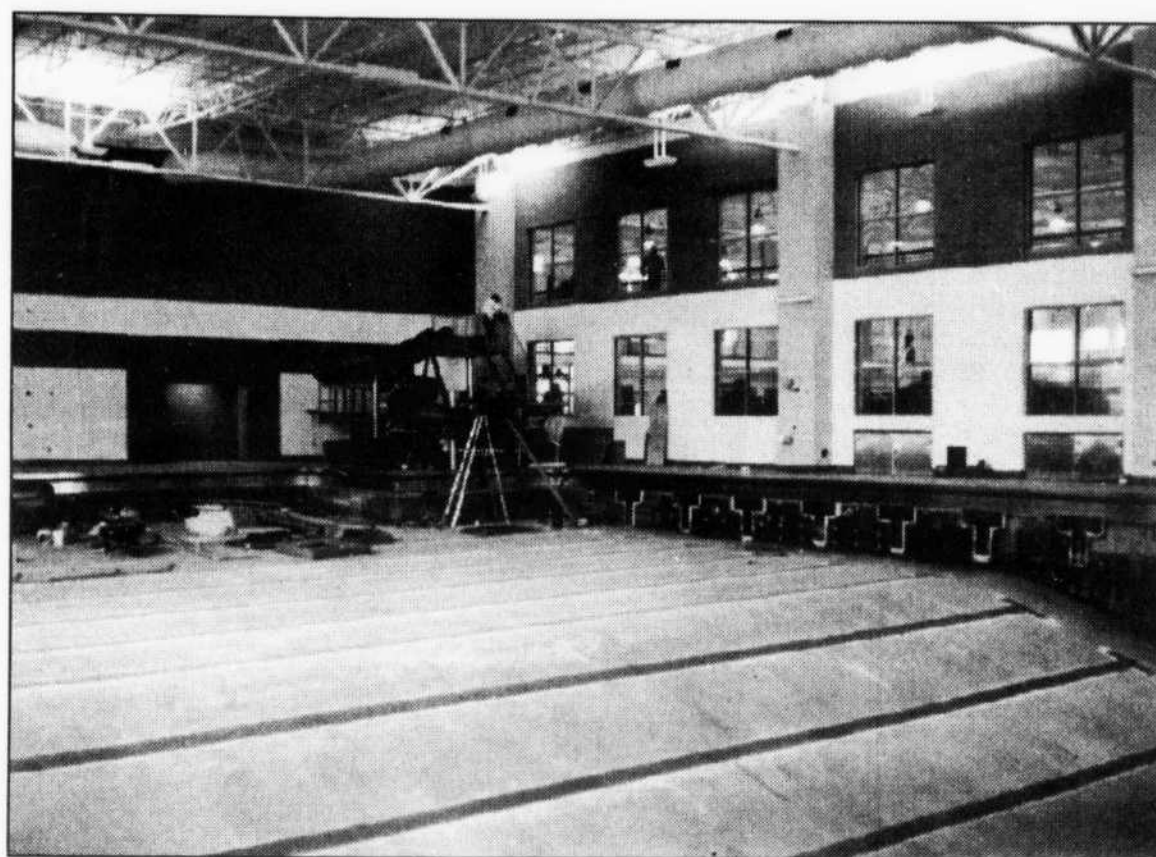
Words and photos by Brent Andrews

I walk into the \$12 million, 120,000 sq. foot Student Recreation Center on a hot day in May, craning my neck to see the ceiling of the 3 story lobby about 40 feet above. The noise of busy construction is all around as workers go about the business of putting the building together: A man goes about hanging doors; another man explains for me, in technical terms, that he is "putting some wood up there," motioning to the ceiling of the entrance where the man's partner is poised precariously atop a tall steel ladder.

Behind me the door shuts and I am in the amazingly open lobby, where floor-to-ceiling windows draw in sunlight from outside. The Rec Center, which is scheduled to open sometime during the Fall, 1995 semester, was designed to use as much natural light as possible, and one thing I notice while in the building is the amount of windows—everywhere you look, a window provides a view of the outside, or peeks into another area of the building. As I notice the climbing wall on the left side of the lobby, Charlie Johnson—assistant director of campus recreation and facilities coordinator for the new center—points proudly to features of the building.

The climbing wall, which will be directly opposite the main desk in the building's towering, glass-lined lobby (kind of a strange place for it, but it works), will be the first thing people notice when they enter the building (after they scan their student I.D.'s to open the turnstall just inside the door—no, you won't have to hassle with registering when you enter the center, just zap your I.D. and you're in, providing your I.D. is current). A realistic looking mountain face, the wall stands 29 feet tall and 28 feet wide. It is nearly complete, and looks like it will provide the challenge to climbers that the current wall at the AMG does not. Some parts of the wall look like they will make climbers twist themselves into painful positions, but Johnson assures me that there will be a campus recreation staff member at the wall at all times to make sure everything is safe.

Next we venture into the



weight room, which, coupled with the "cardiovascular room," will encompass 8,000 square feet of pure physical fitness. One part of the weight room will hold free weights while another area will house nautilus machines, lifting machines and other things to make your muscles pop out and your lungs smile in appreciation. The cardiovascular room—a long, corridor-like space with windows looking into the pool room—will feature walking machines, exercise bikes and other contraptions that make you heart pitter-patter.

"We thought it would be neat to separate [the weight room and the cardiovascular room] because some women are intimidated by weights," Johnson says. "They don't want to go into a weight room where there might be big guys sweating—they might be

screaming, yelling—you know how guys work out. Women are more prone to use cardiovascular equipment rather than the weights."

Near the Control (or main) Desk is a room that will be used for equipment storage, where things like basketballs and racquetballs will be stored until students come to check them out for use; further on, through the

cardiovascular room, is the pool—probably the feature attraction of the center and definitely sized appropriately. The pool is 33 meters wide by 25 yards long (if you can't picture these measurements in your head, just think BIG RECTANGLE), and has a one meter diving board at the deep end (14 feet deep) and a twisting water slide at the other. The pool, like

everything else in the building except the water slide, is accessible to disabled students via a ramp that winds its way into the pool end opposite the water slide. Adjacent to the pool room are spacious locker rooms with showers for men and women (towels can be checked out through the equipment room). Nearly 800 lockers provide plenty of space for students to stash their stuff while they are swimming or using the building's other facilities.

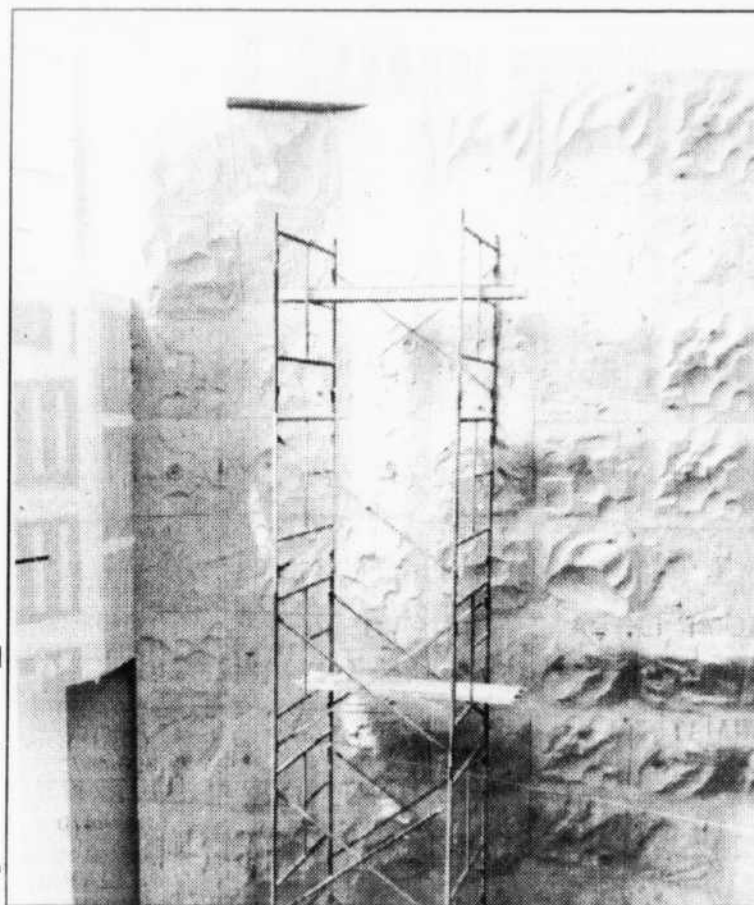
Leaving the pool room

through a door in a wall of windows, we move onto the sun deck, which at the moment is mostly a jumble of scaffolding and construction equipment and mud. The deck, on the Family Housing side of the building, will eventually have a grass area for sunbathing or just hanging out, a place for bands to play and 4 sand volleyball courts. A high brick wall surrounds the deck entirely.

Back inside the building, Johnson leads me upstairs from the lobby and points out the new offices for Campus Recreation, which look spacious as far from the crowded space Campus Rec now occupies in the Alumni Memorial Gymnasium. He then leads me into the building's 4,000 sq. foot aerobic room, which features a bouncy floor that is lots of fun to stand on and probably fun to exercise on as well. Johnson explains that the hardwood floor is put down on a rubber pad, providing the bounce. The room, like most of the others in the building, is lit through a wall of windows by sunshine from outside. Two of the walls in the room will be covered by mirrors before the building opens, but the mirrors are not in place right now.

Moving on, we head toward the gymnasium, which really should be Gymnasium (with a capital "G") because of its immense size. The 1-acre hardwood floor, which took 11 days to install, is as large as 6 basketball courts. There are 12 baskets in the room, and curtains can divide the space into six separate courts as the need arises. Intramural basketball and volleyball will be played here, and some groups will use the courts, but mostly the room is there for students who wander in and check out a basketball for an hour or two.

Suspended around the top of the gym is a 812 foot long track (6.5 times around equals one mile) that looks out above the huge gym and also (of course) has windows looking outside. Johnson explains that these windows were designed to give runners or walkers something to concentrate on as they trot on, and as we walk around the track I can



In the bright, sunlit lobby of the Rec Center, a 29-foot-tall climbing wall soars toward the ceiling. Top: A HUGE swimming pool, complete with water slide, will offer year round swimming, learning opportunities, and exercise.

see CENTER, page 6



**CENTER**

continued from page 5

see how this will work. The floor is concrete right now, but will eventually be spongy so none of you have to bruise your feet while you're getting in shape.

The track also looks into 5 of the building's 6 racquetball courts, and though there are no players in any of the rooms today I can almost hear the thwop! of the balls as they bounce around the rooms below. Another wall of windows looks from the track into the pool room, where workers put the finishing touches on the waterslide.

Children of faculty and students will be welcome in the new facility, Johnson says, as long as they are accompanied by an adult. To use the Rec Center without supervision, children must be at least 16 years old.

"Children are allowed in, but they must be accompanied at all times by an adult. For example, if some-body's coming over and playing basketball, and bringing a five, six year old son...[They] will not be allowed to turn him loose in the facility. You'll either have to play basketball with him or sit on the side with him... The pool might be a little different—your child might be able to swim—he'll be swimming in the pool and you'll be on the side watching, that type of thing," Johnson says.

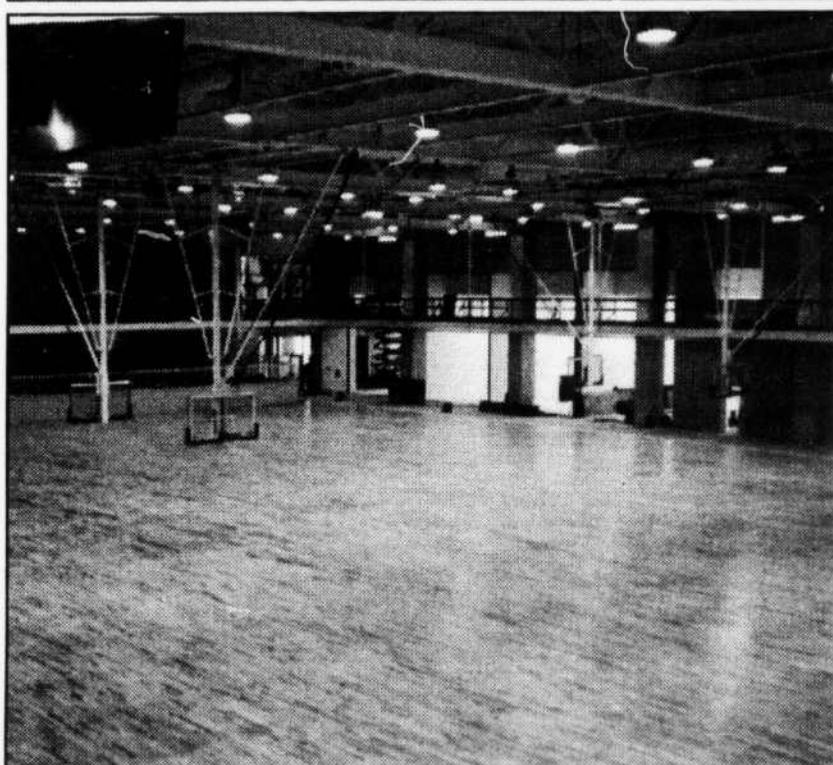
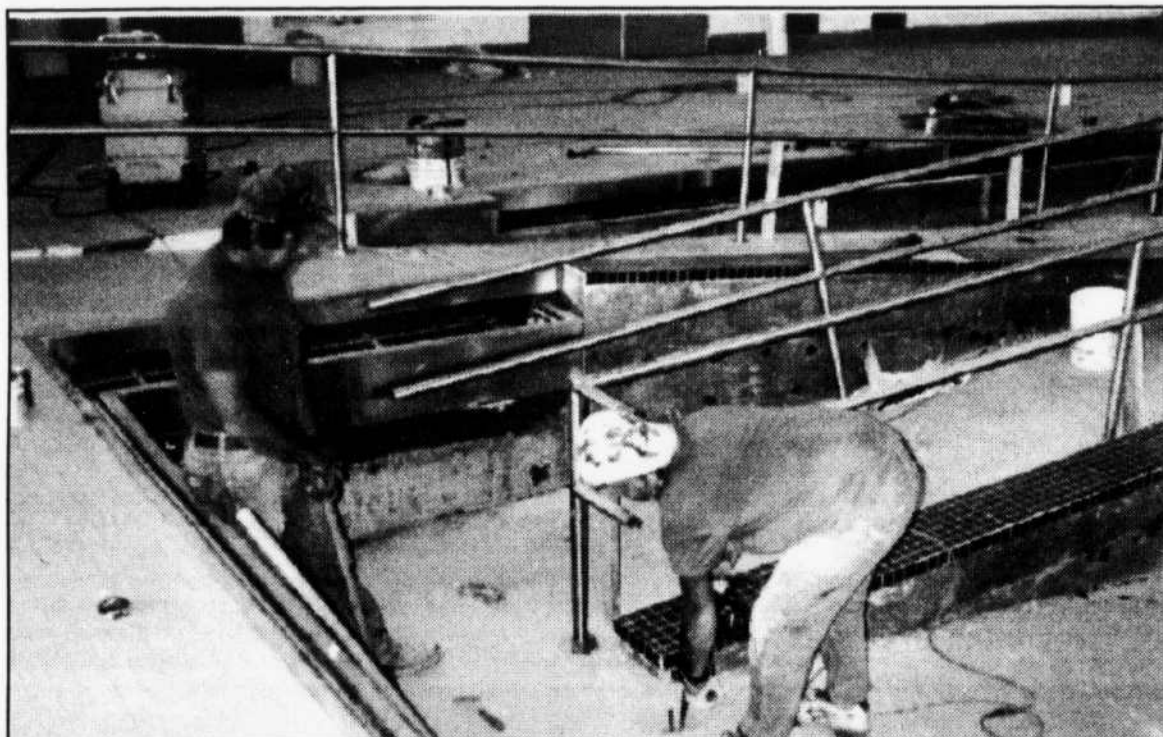
The Rec Center will have snack machines both inside and out, so when you get hungry from all that exercise you don't have to go home to eat. Plus, with all the exercising you'll be doing in this place, you can afford to gobble down a few candy bars.

Johnson says that the new center will improve student life on campus, making the Campus Rec staff more visible and available and making MTSU more attractive to incoming students.

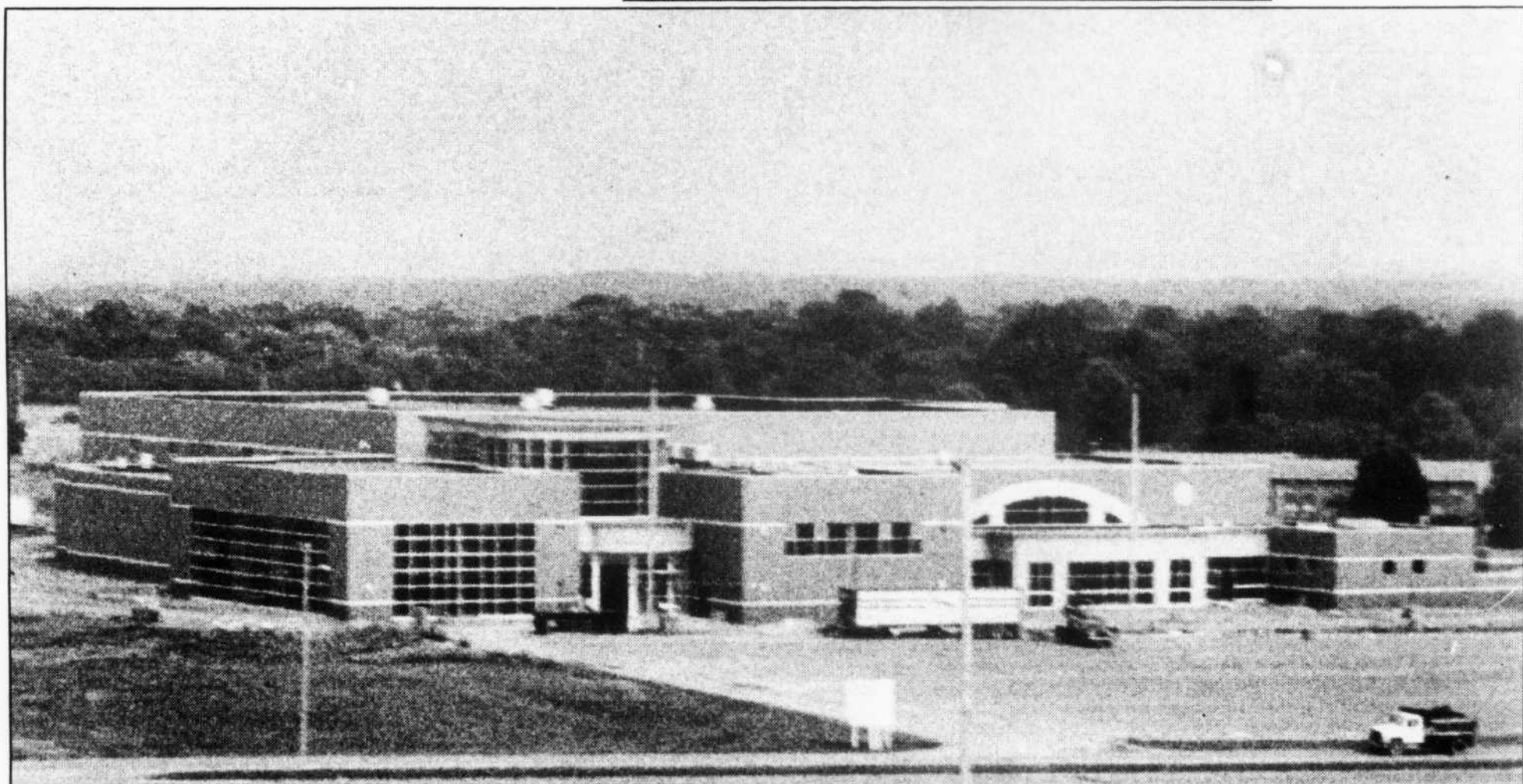
"We're hoping [the center] will improve our participation, we'll have more basketball teams. We'll have the outdoor program as far as kayaking and canoeing, but we'll be able to use the pool more—we'll have roll clinics, and also have time available for somebody to bring their kayak in for practice."

SGA President Shane McFarland, who toured the center in May with other student government representatives, sees the opening of the state-of-the-art facility as an opportunity for students, and a reflection of the MTSU community.

"I think the new recreation center is representative of our community," McFarland said. "It's the best in the state, if not the country. We, the students, paid for it, and we should take advantage of it. The center has been set up to satisfy everyone...It's unreal and ahead of it's time." ■



Above: Chris Murphy and Todd Taggart work on the ramp that will provide access to the pool for disabled students. Left: Six full-sized basketball courts under one roof will provide students with hours of bouncing fun when the Rec Center opens this fall. Below: A view of the \$12 million, 200,000 sq. foot Center.



DON GOINS/Photo Editor

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# Looking back on Kent State shootings

Students who were there remember violent reaction to Viet Nam protests

**MARCO BUSCAGLIA**  
College Press Service

**KENT, Ohio**—The shootings went on for thirteen seconds. Afterward, four students were dead. Nine were injured. One was paralyzed for life.

And 25 years after the May 4 tragedy at Kent State University, many who were students at the time say they can not forget the day that protests against the Vietnam war lead to the first casualties in the war at home.

"Students were honorably resisting the government's actions in Viet Nam, and they were shot and killed," remembers Herbert Shapiro, A University of Cincinnati history professor who protested the war as a faculty member. "They were protesting what they believed was evil. We should learn from them that we need to take a principle stand when there is a great issue at stake."

At the time of the shootings, campuses nationwide had been closed because of student protests. Students were angered by President Richard Nixon's announcement on Thursday, April 30 that American troops would be heading to Vietnam.

"We felt like we were lied to again," says Andy Furlech, a junior at Ohio State University at the time. "They were sending in more people to get killed, and they kept telling us the war was going to be over."

Like many students at Ohio State and other schools across the nation, Kent State students held protests.

The weekend that proceeded the shootings was a tense one in the small Ohio town. On Friday, May 1, students and other protesters rallied in downtown Kent, breaking store windows and setting bonfires. On Saturday, May 2, a group of students gathered to burn down the University's ROTC building. After numerous attempts, the students finally succeeded cheering as the old structure burned to the ground.

This lead Ohio Governor James Rhodes to cut short a campaign trip on Sunday, May 3, and head to the Kent State campus where he met with local, state and federal law officials, as well as the university police. Meanwhile, the National Guard was called in to restore order at Kent State.

At a press conference later that day, Rhodes, who was running in the Republican primary for the U.S. Senate, used the charred remains of the ROTC building as a backdrop to announce several security measures on the Kent State campus.

"We are up against the strongest, well-trained militant revolutionary group

that has ever assembled in America..." Rhodes said. "We are going to do something about it and with them."

After Rhodes finished speaking, Kent Police Chief Roy Thompson told reporters that his department was prepared to use whatever means necessary to control the protesters.

"I'll be right behind the National Guard to give our full support—anything that is necessary," Thompson said. "Like Ohio says, use any force that is necessary, even to the point of shooting. We do not want to get into that, but the law says we can if necessary."

The next day, as students gathered for a noontime protest, the National Guard assembled to disperse the crowd, firing tear gas at the students. After a series of events in which the guardsmen dodged rocks and debris thrown by protesters, the soldiers marched up Blanket hill toward the ROTC building. At 12:24 p.m., as guardsmen were a few feet from rounding the corner at Taylor Hall, which houses the university's journalism and architectural schools, they suddenly stopped, turned on their face, and opened fire on the students below.

Steve Boney, a special education professor at the University of Nebraska, was a sophomore at Kent State when the shootings occurred. Boney was heading home from a psychology class when he saw the protesters.

"All of a sudden I heard shots, and people screaming," Boney remembers. "I thought the National Guard was just firing blanks into the air. But then I saw people on the ground. You could tell they had been shot."

When word of the shootings spread to other campuses, students expressed shock and outrage. "I almost fainted when I heard," says Brenda O'Conner, a senior at the University of Texas in 1970. "It was so tragic and sad. As if our soldiers getting killed wasn't bad enough. Now the government was bringing the war home."

I was horrified by the shootings," says Shapiro. "There's no irony lost in the fact that this kind of incident happened in Kent State, which is in the middle of the American heartland. Since it happened in Ohio, it seemed like it could happen anywhere in the county."

Chuck Lawrence, a professor of sociology at Seattle University, used to protest the war as a student. He says the shootings might have been a shock to some people, but not to him.

"By 1970, protests were everywhere. There weren't many places where you could be neutral or distant in terms of your views on the war," Lawrence says. "Kent State certainly affected some people who had not gotten

involved with the anti-war movement by making them more aware of the power of the government. But these were people who were raised to follow the flag. For the protesters, it was just another example of how the government was not responding to our concerns and how they were bent on aggressively putting down our protests."

William Gordon was a student at the University of

**Of the 13 students shot, only one was less than 70 feet away. The others ranged from 100 to 750 feet away.**

Akron during the shootings and transferred to Kent State the following year. As a student journalist, Gordon covered the incident and covered the subsequent trials, which finally culminated in a book he wrote entitled *Four Dead in Ohio: Was there a conspiracy at Kent State?*

"My interest wasn't piqued by the war or even the shooting as much as it was by the cover-up," says Gordon. "I saw it as a judicial scandal that people weren't

paying attention to. It was one outrage after another."

Gordon said that his research has lead him to question many of the incidents leading to the shootings, including the fire set at the ROTC building two days earlier. "I'm not convinced it was set by the school or the state," says Gordon, adding that police new about the planned arson hours in advance but had no one at the scene until nearly two hours after the fire had been set. "But it certainly did provide the government with a good excuse to boost the National Guard's presence on campus."

While many have speculated that it was Nixon himself that gave the command to shoot, Gordon doubts that is possible. Still, he believes that the Governor of Ohio could have prevented the entire incident.

Rhodes made it clear that he wanted a crackdown at Kent State; he wanted to make an example out of Ohio," says Gordon. "He may not have been there on May 4, and he didn't pull the trigger, but Rhodes is morally responsible for the killings by sending the message that it was okay to kill college students."

Gordon believes that the guardsmen had grown tired of the constant badgering

and decided on their own to fire their weapons. "I don't believe it was a conspiracy, but I do believe it was a spur-of-the-moment order," Gordon says. "The students who were killed were nowhere near the guardsmen when they were shot."

Of the 13 students shot, only one was less than 70 feet away. The others ranged from 100 to 750 feet away. The students who died were Allison Krause, Jeffrey Miller, Sandra Scheuer and William Schroeder.

Gordon says that his theories may be proven by the fact that no guardsmen or students ever served time for any of the activities on May 4, as well as those leading up to the event.

"If a guardsman was convicted, people would have been incredibly angry," Gordon says. "People weren't that upset about the shootings. If anything, they thought the students got what they deserved. These were the most popular murders ever committed in the United States."

A Gallup Poll taken for *Newsweek* in May 1970 found that 58 percent of those polled believed the demonstrators were primarily responsible for the student deaths. Only 11 percent of the public faulted the National Guardsmen. ■

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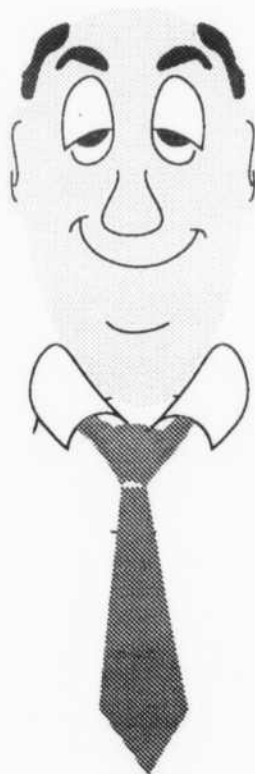
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# Reviews & Events

## In Brief

Circle Jerks, one of the founders and godfathers of the original Southern California punk rock movement, have completed a new album which will be released on Mercury Records. Produced by Niko Bolas, who has worked with Neil Young among others, *Oddities, Abnormalities And Curiosities* will

be in stores this month. Original members Greg Hetson, Keith Clark, Keith Morris and Zander Schloss have regrouped for the recording, which marks their major-label debut. Having released a number of records over the years Circle Jerks are a true punk band in every sense of the word - music, attitude and lifestyle - and this album in no exception as the band continues to make no compromises.



CLIFF KARELL/Staff

## Celebrate the Arts at Summer Lights

The annual celebration of music, art, theater and dance was held in downtown Nashville, June 1-4. Over 200 entertainers, including Kim Carnes, Shelby Lynne, Michael English, the Nashville Ballet Youth Ensemble, and Bone Pony performed in the festivities. Also featured in the festivities were several unique food choices, like "Gator and Taters." The event is held each year to raise funds to sponsor area art programs.

## Reviews of the *Abroad*

### Balding Scores a Zero on His List

JASON YOUNG  
Staff Writer

I guess I first noticed my problem last summer when I went fishing with my step father. The day went just like any other day spent on the lake, except for one thing. Call me over dramatic, but when the sun reached its perch in the mid-day sky, my flesh was burning in a place it should never burn.

I didn't think about my problem anymore until last Saturday. A very good friend of mine was in the hospital at Franklin. As I leaned over the hospital bed to speak sweet words of encouragement into my friend's ear, someone shouted, "WELL JASON, YOU ARE GOING BALD!" Yes friends, now you know the real reason why so many guys wear caps at the beach, on the lake, playing put-put, or doing any other outdoor activity. They don't want a sun burnt scalp that is destined to peel its way into what looks like chronic dandruff.

While researching for this article, I stumbled across ROGAIINE. This is supposedly the miracle drug for those of us with hair that is committing suicide. According to a Walgreens pharmacist, Rogaine is the only FDA approved drug for hair growth. So, what is the catch? If you are already bald, it won't work. If you have a receding hair line, it won't work. If you stop using Rogaine, it won't work. If you don't have fifty bucks a month, it won't work. Other than that it is supposed to work just fine.

I was curious to find out just how bad my balding had become. Lucky for me, I ran into a group of Girl's State participants on the way to the office. When I asked if my bald spot was noticeable, Kristin Byrd, from Clarksville, said, "No, Yeah, Well, maybe just a little." Ms. Byrd was nice enough to re-create my scalp on paper so I could see for myself.

I know that there may be people reading this and

## Events Around TOWN

### Tonight

-Blu Grene at  
527 Mainstreet  
-The Nationals at  
the Boro

### Thursday

-Still Stanley at  
527 Mainstreet  
-Dr. Gonzo at  
the Boro

### Friday

-Second Nature and  
Cuff at 527 Mainstreet  
-Daffney's Opera-tion  
at the Boro

-Mark Kline at  
Comedy on the Square

### Saturday

-Soul Shaker, Charlie's  
Attic and Vodoo Sky at  
527 Mainstreet  
-Janie Gray at  
the Boro

-Mark Kline at  
Comedy on the Square



MARK TUCKER/Special

## John Micheal Montgomery new release mediocre

JOSHUA KEAR  
Staff Writer

It is usually a challenge to try to sum up an entire record in only one word. However, only one word comes to mind when defining John Michael Montgomery's new self-titled album, "safe." Following the commercial success of his first two albums (five million in combined sales), Montgomery has returned with a record that sounds extremely similar in musical direction to his first two releases. Considering the tendency of most fans and certainly country radio to

insist that artists repeat their success ad nauseam, John Micheal's lack of musical growth is not surprising, just disappointing.

The album has already produced two hit singles. The first, "I Can Love You Like That", is the latest in a string of Montgomery's mushy, gushy, big chorus ballads. One listen and the question arises, which pop group will cover this one? The second single is a bluegrass inspired romp entitled "Sold (The Grundy County Auction Incident)." **see CD, page 9**

## WMOT fills summer with jazz and blues

WARREN WAKELAND  
Staff Writer

WMOT-FM 89.5, MTSU's National Public Radio station, is aiming to frame the 100 Days of Summer with jazz and blues.

WMOT kicked off the summer last weekend with the 12th Annual Chicago Blues Festival, featuring a tribute to blues legends Muddy Waters, Willie Dixon and Memphis Slim.

"This is a tribute to a generation of musicians born in 1915 or, in popular parlance, the 'MCMXV Generation,'" said festival coordinator Barry Dolins. "These performers bridge the gap between classic and Chicago blues."

WMOT will broadcast live in its entirety the Playboy Jazz Festival from the Hollywood Bowl in Los Angeles Saturday and Sunday, June 17-18. Featured guests Saturday include Al Jarreau, Boney James, Ernestine Anderson and Diva Los Lobos. **see Blues, page 9**

**see Bald, page 9**



## REVIEWS &amp; EVENTS

## CD

Continued from page 8

Montgomery appears at the top of his form spouting out the fast-faced lyrics of this playful, well-crafted tune. Just out of curiosity, doesn't this song sound remarkably like Diamond Rio during the chorus?

Of the remaining eight tracks only one stands out from the crowd, "Just Like a Rodeo." Not exactly sheer genius lyrically, the song is embedded in a jazz swing which Montgomery's voice surprisingly takes to very naturally. kudos to producer Scott Hendricks for tastefully utilizing horns on this track. The rest of the album

contains the standard John Michael fare, ballads such as the nostalgic "High School Heart" and lulling "Heaven Sent Me You" to the raucous rockers "Cowboy Love," "Holdin' On to Something," and "It's What I Am." While all of these tunes are potential singles, they are unfortunately all fairly mediocre songs. In a town like Nashville where good songs are a dime a dozen, it would seem that an artist of Montgomery's stature (He was listed among *Billboard Magazine's* top five country artists of 1994.) could find a few great songs that would make the album memorable.

Anyone who enjoys country music would be hard pressed to say that John

Michael Montgomery is a poor album. But it is certainly nothing special. Except for die hard John Michael fans, the album is not worth dropping \$15 for. Given enough time the airwaves will be over-saturated with the best songs off of the disc anyway. My recommendation is to play it "safe," save your money. ■

## BALD

Continued from page 8

thinking, "Why the heck is he complaining? At least he still has hair!" Well, to those people I say, you are right, I still have hair. How much longer I have that hair is any body's guess. My hair has a mind of its own, and I think it is schizophrenic. On a scale of zero to ten, I give balding a big fat zero. ■

audience will turn around to see the next act playing on the second stage. There will be maybe 15 seconds of lag time through the whole program."

This is the fourth consecutive year WMOT will broadcast the festival live.

WMOT will also broadcast live in its entirety the Montreux Detroit International Jazz Festival for four days over the Labor Day weekend to wrap up the summer.

I don't know of another radio station in this area that carries this much live music," Lee said. "Our non-commercial status allows us to broadcast the festivals live where other stations can't." ■

## BLUES

Continued from page 8

Sunday's line-up features Grover Washington, Jr., Herbie Hancock, The Brecker Brothers, Geri Allen, Kevin Mahogany and the Dirty Dozen Brass Band.

Broadcast times Saturday are from 4 p.m. to 1 a.m., and Sunday from 3:30 p.m. to 12:30 a.m.

Greg Lee, WMOT program director, said there will be almost no interruption in the music throughout the weekend.

"The unique thing about this festival is that the acts will perform on two rotating stages," Lee said. "As one act finishes on one stage, the

I will not walk to school.  
I will not walk to school.  
I will not walk to school.



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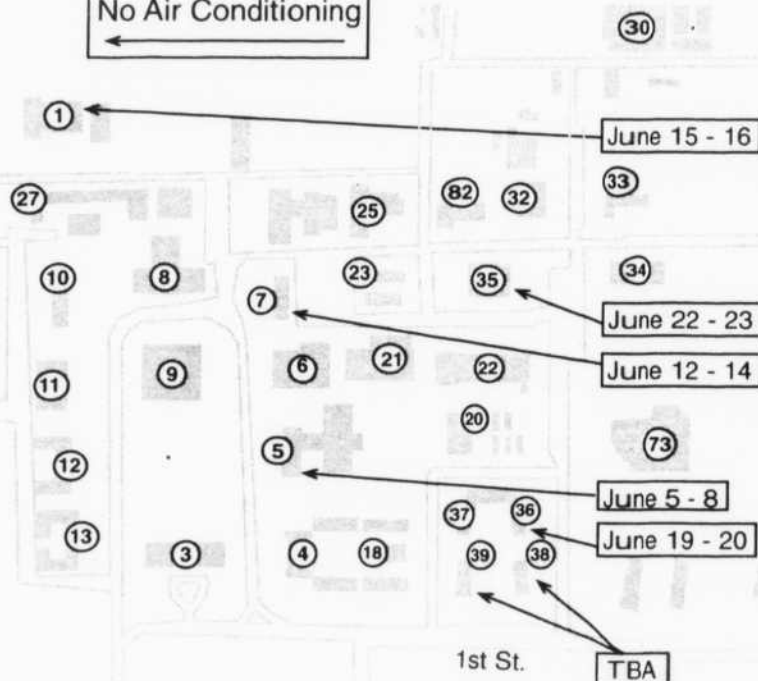
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## End in sight for current phase utility/infrastructure project

June 7, 1995



No Air Conditioning



1. Alumni Memorial Gym
3. Cope Administration Bldg.
4. Smith Hall
5. Wiser-Patten Science Hall
7. Jones Hall
9. Peck Hall
10. Rutledge Hall
11. James Union Building
18. Woodmore Cafeteria
21. Keathley University Center
20. Graphic Arts
23. Forrest Hall
25. Boutwell Dramatic Arts
27. Voorhies Industrial Studies
32. Stark Agriculture Center
34. Cummings Hall
35. Corlew Hall
36. Felder Hall
37. Wood Hall

## Underground work means no AC

Work on the current phase of the Utility and Infrastructure Improvement Project is scheduled for completion by July 21, and final approval of the work is scheduled for Aug. 21.

Bill Smotherman, director of facilities services, says the remaining work will mean steam and cooling outages.

## Steam line outages

Steam service to several buildings will be interrupted for about four days beginning on the weekend of either June 17 or June 24. Buildings affected include Abernathy Hall, Gore Hall, Bragg Mass Communications, Graphic Arts, Clement Hall, McWherter LRC, Cummings Hall, Nicks Hall, Deere Hall, Wood Hall, Ezell Hall, Woodmore, and Felder Hall.

## Chill water line outages

According to Smotherman it will be necessary to have a two or three day outage of chill water which will occur after July 8 for Beasley Hall, Judd Hall, Clement Hall, Sims Hall, Gracy Hall, and Smith Hall.

Chill water will be shut off sometime after July 10, and before July 21 in Abernathy Hall, Felder Hall, Deere Hall, Gore Hall, Ezell Hall, Nicks Hall, and Wood Hall. Specific dates for the outages will be announced.

If there are questions, please contact Bill Smotherman at 2967.



# Viewpoints & Opinions

## Letters Policy

Letters to the editor should be no more than 200 words long, and should contain sender's name, campus address or e-mail address. Sidelines reserves the right to edit letters for

clarity. Send letters to MTSU Box 42 or to the e-mail addresses listed in on the second page. All letters should be marked "letter to the editor" so that they can be distinguished from other correspondences. Sidelines will print letters as space allows.

*"It's time the schedule maker here used a little brain power"*

## The avenging ANGEL OF DOOM



DAVE  
BARRY  
Columnist

I found out about laser tag from a guy I know named

Woody. Woody is in public relations, despite the fact that he looks like—and I say this as a friend—a street person who has failed to take his medication since 1972. I believe this is the secret of his success: When Woody approaches business people, they expect him to ask them for spare change, and possibly throw up on their shoes, and when he doesn't, they're so relieved that they agree to let him handle their public relations.

Anyway, Woody represents this outfit that operates a laser-tag game, and he'd been bugging me to try it.

"It's really cool," he said. "Everybody runs around and tries to shoot everybody else."

"Woody, 'I said, 'that doesn't sound like a GAME. That sounds like MIAMI.'"

But finally I decided to look into it, because I'm a journalist, and in

my line of work, you never know when you're going to come across a socially significant new phenomenon, except that this will definitely not happen to you if you're playing laser tag.

And thus on a Friday afternoon I went with my son, Rob, to the laser-tag place in Coconut Grove, which is a part of Miami where busloads of European tourists go to enjoy the unique South Florida tropical experience of meeting and mingling with other European tourists, sometimes from completely different buses.

The laser-tag place was staffed by wholesome-looking young people. They collected \$7.50 apiece from us and ushered us into the Briefing Room, along with about a dozen others who would be playing the game—some teenage boys, a family with munchkin-sized children, and two women who looked as though they came directly from work.

At this point we were just ordinary humans with no interest in killing each other.

A staff person divided us into a Red Team and a Green Team, then explained the principles of the game, which boil down to: Shoot the other team. (Actually, the staff person, for

public-relations reasons, used the term "tag" instead of "shoot.") Each time you get shot you lose a life; after you lose four lives, you go to the Re-Energizer, where—here's a major improvement over reality—you get four MORE lives.

The staff person also said we could use our lasers to deactivate the Enemy Base.

"Why would we do that?" asked one of the women who looked as though they came directly from work.

Rob and I smirked at each other, guy-to-guy, trying to imagine the mental state of a person who would not immediately grasp the importance of deactivating the Enemy Base. Our smirks got even smirkier when this woman asked if it was OK to play the game WEARING HIGH HEELS AND CARRYING PURSES.

Sometimes you have to wonder what is happening to this nation.

After the briefing, we went into the Vesting Room, where we each got a laser gun, attached to a red or green plastic vest (the vest has a device that vibrates when somebody shoots you). Then we were led to a big, dark, semi-spooky room with artificial smoke drifting around and

a big maze in the middle, full of nooks and crannies where a person could skulk. The two teams went to opposite ends of the room. Then a voice on the loudspeaker said "5...4...3...2...1..." and suddenly the room was filled with extremely loud, pulsating music apparently created by musicians beating their amplifiers to death with rocks.

I am not a violent person. I am a product of the Flower Power '60s. I have actually worn bell-bottomed jeans and stood in a mass of hundreds of people, swaying back and forth, singing EVERYBODY GET TOGETHER, TRY TO LOVE ONE ANOTHER RIGHT NOW, having vivid visions of World Peace. (Granted, some of us were also having vivid visions of giant red frogs hopping across the sky, but that's another issue.) I haven't been in a fight since seventh grade and have never owned a gun.

But when the laser-tag game started, a primeval reptile instinct took over my brain, turning me instantly into The Avenging Death Killer of Doom. I made Rambo look like Mister Rogers. I was a wild man—darting through the dark maze, ducking around corners,

see BARRY, page 11

## HAVING CLASS ON MEMORIAL DAY OBSCENE



SCHOOL  
DAZE

WARREN  
WAKELAND

Intercession is a pain in the butt. You cram a semester's worth of work into three weeks, a week's worth into a day. It's a big pain in the butt, especially if you have to work to keep a roof over your head.

Intercession runs from Tuesday, May 16 through Friday, June 2—a total of 14 school days. The instructors usually realize this lack of time and shorten the content of their courses to fit the time element.

That's why I like intercession classes. I can take a course I will have no use for when I leave here (like what I am taking now) and it goes by real fast. You don't have to learn dates or times or any of that stuff.

Usually.

I have a friend who's taking a statistics class and she has had five tests in this class in 14 days. Statistics is hard enough, but to cram five tests into that kind of time is absurd. Tough luck, darling.

But you know what urks me the most about intercession? Not the length of the classes; not having only half of Peck Hall air-conditioned for three days (the half my class isn't in, of course); not even having no vacation time.

What bugs me most is having class on the Memorial Day holiday.

To me, this shows the ultimate lack of respect for the soldiers who died fighting for this country's freedom.

Memorial Day, in my mind, is the second most important holiday our country recognizes behind Independence Day. It is a national holiday. Banks are closed, government is closed, many stores are closed (except retail stores, who use

the holiday as another excuse for a sale). There is no mail delivery and no trash pick-up. Public pools open for the summer and everyone goes to the pool. If you don't go to the pool you have a picnic.

No matter what you do, you realize the significance of the day. It is a holiday, except at MTSU.

For this university to be open for classes on this day says we don't care about all the great men and women who have died in battle trying to help preserve our freedoms, which currently are matched nowhere on Earth.

It is the ultimate slap in the face to those veterans going to school here during intercession. They have to go to class instead of taking a day to honor those like them who were unlucky enough to have not made it through the hell of battle.

This is wrong and must be changed.

Whether or not you agree with the concept of war is irrelevant. Without those

who died during WWI and WWII, along with all the other wars in which our country has been engaged over our history, we might not have the freedom to go to school now. We might not have the choice of what to study.

We might live in a Communist society, where the state determines what you are going to be with a series of tests when you are five years old. You wouldn't be able to change majors. You wouldn't even decide your own major.

Without those fighting for our freedoms, Dr. Walker probably would not have the position and status he currently holds on this campus and in the Tennessee educational community.

Not recognizing this day is insulting for the university.

In the future, why can't intercession begin on a Monday rather than a Tuesday? The reason school was open on Memorial Day is that there has to be a

certain number of days in the intercession in order to receive state funds so that intercession can take place. By opening on Tuesday, taking Memorial Day off meant we would not have had enough days of class.

If you start class on Monday, you can make Memorial Day the holiday it should have been in the first place.

Memorial Day is a time set aside by our country's leaders to honor those who have given the ultimate sacrifice—their lives—in the effort to preserve freedom. To keep school open on Memorial Day is to reject the notion that those men and women deserve to be honored. I suspect most of us do not reject that notion.

It's time the schedule maker here used a little brain power. Have some respect for those who have helped make America the greatest country on the face of God's green Earth. No more school on Memorial Day. ■



## VIEWPOINTS &amp; OPINIONS

## BARRY

continued from page 10

making totally unintelligible combat-style hand signals to my teammates. At one point, I swear, I signaled to my son, and, without a trace of irony, yelled "Cover me!" My nervous system was on Maximum Overload Red Alert, because I knew that somewhere out there, in that smoky gloom, was The Enemy, and I had to hunt him down without pity, because he was a merciless killer who would not hesitate to...

BZZZZZZZZZZZ

No! My vibrator is vibrating! I've been SHOT! The enemy is even more deadly than I thought! He is vicious! He is brutal! He is...

HE IS A WOMAN WEARING HIGH HEELS.

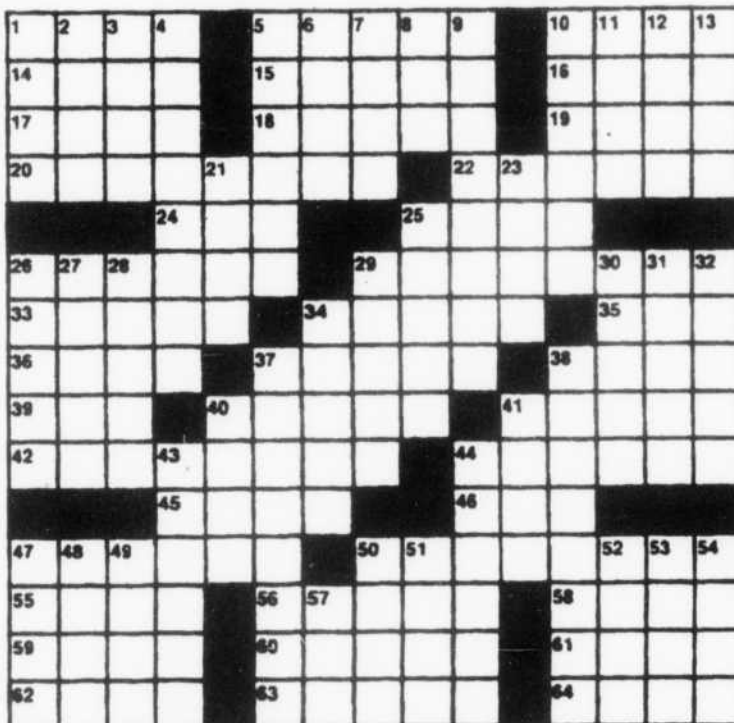
At least she didn't hit me with her purse. I also got nailed repeatedly by the

munchkins. The Avenging Death Killer of Doom spent a lot of time skittering back to the Re-Energizer, trailed by a persistent 7-year-old with excellent aim who was making The Avenging Death Killer of Doom's vest vibrate like a defective alarm clock.

But I also scored a few hits myself, and at one point—I want this in my obituary—I deactivated the Enemy Base. Overall I found the experience to be far more entertaining than anything currently being funded by the National Endowment for the Arts. And to those of you who feel that this kind of game is bad because it might encourage aggressive behavior in a society that is already far too violent, let me say that, while I understand your point, I also feel that this type of "play-acting" activity can provide a harmless release for aggressiveness and actually REDUCE violence: So shut up or I'll kill you. ■

## THE Crossword

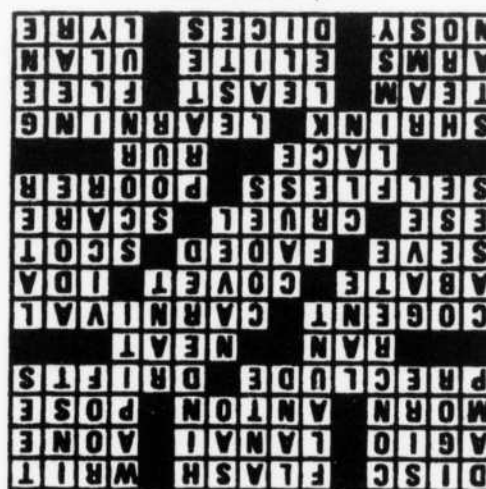
- ACROSS**
- 1 Phonograph record
  - 5 Instant
  - 10 Court order
  - 14 Exchange premium
  - 15 Porch
  - 16 Top-notch
  - 17 Poetic time
  - 18 Chekhov
  - 19 Sit for a portrait
  - 20 Make impossible
  - 22 Moves along aimlessly
  - 24 Operated
  - 25 Undiluted
  - 26 Convincing
  - 29 Mardi Gras, for example
  - 33 Lessen
  - 34 Desire
  - 35 Mountain on Crete
  - 36 Golfer Ballesteros
  - 37 Grew dimmer
  - 38 —free
  - 39 Native of: suff.
  - 40 Pitiless
  - 41 Strike with fear
  - 42 Not egotistical
  - 44 Worse
  - 45 Doily material
  - 46 Capek play
  - 47 Decrease
  - 50 Lore
  - 55 Group of players
  - 56 Smallest
  - 58 Run away
  - 59 Equips with weapons
  - 60 Upper crust
  - 61 —Bator, Mongolia
  - 62 Prying
  - 63 Cuts into cubes
  - 64 Old instrument



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- 6 Settle after flight
- 7 Poker stake
- 8 — Paulo
- 9 Got in the way of
- 10 Elk
- 11 House cover
- 12 Part of M.I.T.: abbr.
- 13 Golf pegs
- 21 Superman's Lois —
- 23 — and rave
- 25 Kind of orange
- 26 Crates
- 27 Fat
- 28 Mallet
- 29 Morse and area
- 30 Clergyman
- 31 Like a lot
- 32 Delayer's motto
- 34 Bring about
- 37 Like some skin
- 38 Contemptuous
- 40 Sept
- 41 Lemony
- 43 Unsubstantial

## ANSWERS



- 44 Chatters
- 47 Getz or Laurel
- 48 Big sandwich
- 49 L.A. players
- 50 Secular
- 51 Punta del —
- 52 Badly
- 53 Come closer to
- 54 Heredity factor
- 57 A Wallach

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