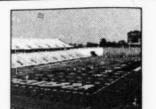
## Wednesday

July 26, 2000



# SIDELINES



Apathy in MTSU athletics: Is there any cure?

Murfreesboro, TN

www.sidelines.mtsu.edu

MIDDLE TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY

Volume 75 No. 69

# New parking fee meets little opposition from students

**James Evans** Managing Editor

The new method of charging students for parking for the upcoming semester has been met with little controversy from students accept for a minor need for clarification, according to Parking Services officials.

In fact, Parking Services Director Connie Hagberg said the only calls she has received from students about the issue dealt with questions on how parking permits were going to be

distributed under the new sys-

"I haven't had one [complainingl call," she said.

This year, it won't be necessary for students who wish to park on campus to buy a parking permit because everyone is paying a parking fee as part of the new general access fee, which was passed by the Tennessee Board of Regents in mid-July.

During the 1999-2000 school year, 16,715 green permits and 314 black were sold, and 350 were issued.

Because all of approximately 18,500 students will be paying \$23 per semester — or \$46 annually (which is a dollar more than the previous cost of green permits) - an additional \$96,000 in revenue will be raised for Parking Services.

"I think at this time it's going over well," Hagberg said.

The process for students to get their permit will work similar to that of the previous years, minus the writing of a \$45 check. Students will have to go blue disabled student permits to the Parking Services office, complete the vehicle registra-

tion form, and after presenting a valid student identification card, they will be issued a parking permit.

On Aug. 1, Parking Services will begin issuing the permits to students who have already paid all of their fees. Some students who have to

buy white permits - such as those students who work as area coordinators - may have a small problem with the new sys-

As of yet, Hagberg said it hasn't been decided how those students will be charged for the

white permits because they will have already paid fees for a green permit.

"That's one of the issues that needs to be addressed," she

The general access fee was passed Tuesday, July 11 at the Tennessee Board of Regents

In addition to parking fees, the new inclusive fee will group together past fees, including the student activity fee, the debt services fee and the Student Government Association fee.

According to John Marshall,

SGA president, the total amount of fees is not rising, just being categorized better.

"There will be no significant difference in fees," Marshall, "but they will be more conveniently packaged."

The new fee will include the following: the parking fee, \$23; the graduation fee, \$4; the technology fee, \$100; the activity fee-athletics, \$20; and the activity fee-Recreation Center, \$15 a total of \$162. Students not enrolled full time will be

See Parking, 3

# Deconstructing history, paving future

Construction projects hinder parking, driving on campus until fall semester

James Evans Managing Editor

A dawning school season wouldn't be complete without new construction, and this fall is no exception.

Two major undertakings the continuing steam line replacement project and the straightening of the S-curve adjacent to the Co-generation Plant - are currently in progress, but campus officials expect the bulk of those projects to be complete by the time the fall semester begins.

The current leg of the steam line project has centered on the west side of campus, extending from the parking lot behind Rutledge Hall along the rear of the James Union Building to the corner of Miss Mary Hall.

In the process, a 100-yard trench and series of protective fences have replaced the parking spaces that were located directly behind the buildings. Some of those spaces included disabled parking spots, which temporarily have been relocated to spaces behind Miss Mary

A formal completion date for this phase of the steam line project hasn't been set yet, said Bill Smotherman, director of Construction Administration.

"I don't have an exact date in mind," said Smotherman, but added that they should have the current phase of the project completed by the first day of fall

"There's always a chance we won't make it, but I think we probably will."

The other notable eyesore on campus is the deconstruction of the S-curve adjacent to the Cogeneration Plant. The S formation of the curve is being straightened to a less drastic single-loop curve.

The bill for the first phase of

See Roads, 3

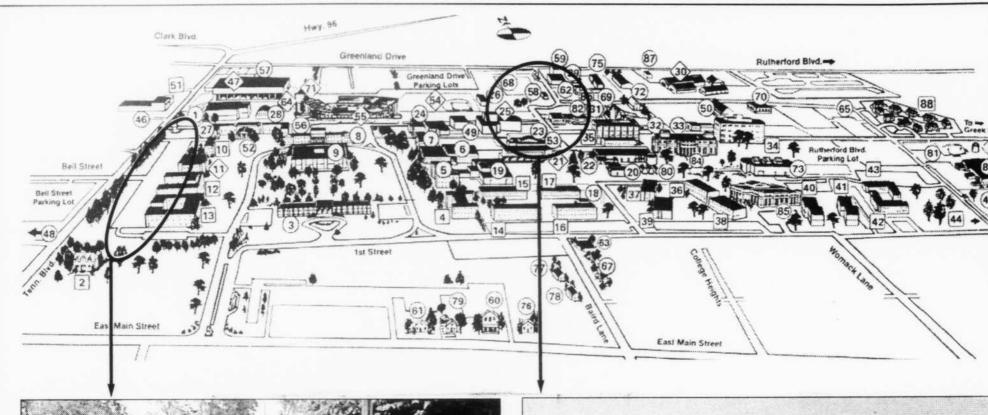




Photo by James Evans | Managing Editor;

This trench behind Rutledge Hall was dug to accomodate the replacement of old steam lines with new ones. Officials in the Construction Administration Office are hoping this leg of the project will be completed before the fall semester.



Photo by James Evans | Managing Editor

The S Curve adjacent to the Co-generation Plant is being converted into a less drastic curve to ease the traffic problems in this area of campus. A turning lane is also being installed for C Street as part of the project. The road should be "usable" by Aug. 15 according to officials.

# Professor translates controversial Arabic novel into English

Elizabeth McFadyen-Ketchum Staff Reporter

Egyptian police fired rubber bullets and sprayed tear gas to silence a rioting crowd of university students in the streets of Cairo in May. The students were in an uproar after the Egyptian government's culture minister rereleased Syrian novelist Haidar Haidar's "A Banquet for Seaweed," which some Muslims find insulting to Islam.

While many of the impassioned students admit they haven't actually read the book, Allen Hibbard, MTSU professor of English, has. Hibbard has spent the past five years working with a native Syrian writer to translate the classic Arabic novel into English.

The story centers around two twentysomething Iraqi men in

land for political reasons and settle in Algeria, an Islamic country in northern Africa, only to find themselves excluded from society. In despair, one of the men refers to God as a "failed artist" and dubs himself

The idea of atheism is unacceptable to fundamentalist Muslims, Hibbard explained.

"You have to believe in God." Hibbard said of the Islamic mindset. "They can't imagine that you can't believe in God."

The man later throws himself into the ocean, killing himself, and therefore becoming literally a "banquet for seaweed."

Though the novel is fiction, Haidar makes bold statements about the state of affairs in the Middle East through the voices

of his characters.

novel is very much about politics. It's very much about government. It's very much about fascism, I think. And Haidar Haidar, although he doesn't come right out and say this in the novel, he is critical of authoritarianism in whatever form it might exist."

The novel has some Egyptians clamoring for the removal of the culture minister and trial of Haidar for apostasy, the offense of deviating from accepted religious ideals, Egyptian officials said to the Associated Press.

"They are launching an attack against enlightenment," Haidar said to The Washington Post. "They are fighting to take us back to darkness and igno-

Hibbard contends that not "Politics matter in the Middle only are many ideas in the novel

the 1970s who flee their native East," Hibbard said. "And the taken out of context, but also the author cannot be persecuted for creating a debate via the players' dialogue through the story.

> "You can't take what a character says as being an author's point of view," Hibbard explained. "What they fail to see is that this is 'so-and-so' speak-

> The Egyptian government has recalled the copies of the novel it rereleased in response to the

"They caved in to the pressure," Hibbard said. "One of the ironies as I see it is, in the book, one of the more fundamental characters is portrayed as being extremely intolerant. It seems to me somewhat ironic that what happens in the novel is simply replicated in the social-political scene we see in Egypt. Here's a group that cannot accept another point of view."

Building a mystery

Hibbard began his study of the Arabic language in 1985 as a student at the University of Washington-Seattle. Hibbard is self-taught and considers examination of other languages a personal journey.

"I'm not as well versed as a scholar of Arabic literature would be," Hibbard said. "I've learned it on my own. I've learned it by being in Arab countries. It's become part of a project of mine to see if I can come to know something vastly different from myself. Just to learn to write the alphabet was a real delight. It's an art form itself.'

Before taking on the task of translating Haidar's tale, he translated various works, including poems by Adonis, with the help of his friend and Syrian native Osama Isber.

"I always have somebody else to help me," Hibbard said. "I'm a newcomer and I'm really a dilettante when it comes to Arabic.'

Hibbard and Isber chose to translate the novel for various literary reasons.

"The narrative moves fluidly across time and space," Hibbard

Hibbard also feels that translating literature from other cul-

tures benefits everyone. "It makes something available to a wider audience that other-

wise would not know the work," he said. "It makes one culture available to another." At this point, Hibbard and

Isber have completed about onethird of the translation and plan to finish within one year. Syracuse University Press has shown interest in publishing the translation.

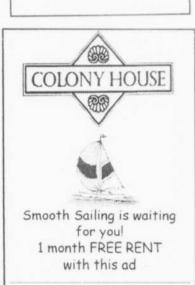


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## CAMPUS BRIEFS



Photo by James Evans | Managing Editor

These horses in a corral near the Livestock Center enjoy Tuesday Afternoon with a snack. Mr. Ed would be jealous.

### Tharp honored as 'Outstanding Academic Advisor'

Terri Tharp of Development Studies has recently been named Outstanding Academic Advisor by the National Advising Academic Association, the largest organization for academic advisors in the country.

Last year, Tharp was charged with the advising responsibilites of 425 freshman.

"Freshman are a lot of fun." she said. "We have people coming straight out of high school as well as a lot of adult students. Some students are delighted because they need help. Others are very upset because they don't want to be in developmen-

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work on them in the beginning."

Tharp says that more work needs to be done at the beginning of a student's academic career to ensure they stay in school and graduate.

## TWRA to buy donated property from university

The MTSU Foundation and the Tennessee Wildlife Resource Agency have reached an agreement for TWRA to buy an 800acre tract of land from the university for \$830,000.

The land was donated to the university in 1969 by Clifford and Pauline Stark for educational and recreation purposes. However, the land is located in

tal studies. We really have to Hickman County and because of the distance, hasn't been of much use to the university.

### **MTSU Coaches** head for Adelphia to meet the public

On Aug. 17, coaches from all MT sports will be at Adelphia Coliseum to meet with friends, students and alumni to celebrate MTSU's joining the Sun Belt Conference.

The event will begin at 5:30 p.m. and admission is \$5 per person.Children under ten will be admitted for free. Door prizes, dinner and beverages will be available.

Alumna Holly-Thompson-Lynch of WSMV Channel 4 will emcee the event.

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# Congress gives schools over \$1 billion without competition

**Arlene Levinson** Associated Press

Congress directed more than \$1 billion to specific colleges and universities in the federal budget this year, a record for a noncompetitive process critics assail as pork barrel spending, The Chronicle of Higher Education says in a report being issued Sunday.

The total is more than 30 percent greater than last year's record \$797 million, the journal said, and it's a sizable portion of the \$40 billion in this year's overall federal appropriations for higher education, which includes student aid.

Such funding, without being subjected to review by the agencies directed to give out the money, is known as "earmarks" in the federal budget.

Critics call it "pork" - gifts that members of Congress give to their districts.

But defenders say schools have to find money wherever they can, and that no member of Congress or school wants to risk looking silly by throwing money at a bad project.

'There's an awful lot of people busy pointing fingers, rather than trying to lend a hand," said Vincent Scalia, dean of the College of Health and Human Northern Colorado. "Politicians are not that dumb.'

Scalia's college got a \$1.81 million earmark to enlarge a cancer rehabilitation institute. "I would say it's politics at its best, not its worst side.'

But opponents of earmarking see only politics.

Many of the funded projects have merit, said Ken White, director of the Massachusetts office of Common Cause, the government watchdog group. "But the federal government is too often seen as a place for everybody to line up with their hands out to ask for something. This is the kind of thing that turns people off to politics."

The earmarking system "does not allow for anyone to analyze the projects and determine if they serve a good educational purpose - or if the money could be better used at another school," said Rep. John F. Tierney, D-Mass.

The Chronicle, a Washingtonbased weekly, analyzed spending in the federal budget for the fiscal year that ends Sept. 30. Its report appears in the July 28 edi-

Much of federal spending for higher education goes through a review process, and federal agencies often hold competitions to choose recipients of

Sciences at the University of money for research, facilities and other projects.

But sometimes, earmarking may be the only option, administrators say.

Dartmouth College received \$15 million for research on terrorism, especially assaults on computer systems. When the school in Hanover, N.H., wanted to create an institute for this work, no big competitive grant programs existed, Provost Susan Prager told The Associated

The school turned to Sen. Judd Gregg, R-N.H., a senior member of the Senate Appropriations Committee. "Dartmouth is known nationally for cybersecurity, and Senator Gregg is fortunate to be in a position to help not only Dartmouth, but a number of worthwhile projects in New Hampshire," said Jim Morhard, a committee aide.

The Chronicle found the most earmarked grants - money not shared with other schools, businesses or agencies - went to California at \$64 million. It was followed by Texas, \$47.5 million; and Mississippi, \$40 million. Only Delaware schools received no earmarked funds.

The biggest single recipient was Loma Linda University in California, with \$36 million for a variety of medical research and to retrofit a building against

The Seventh-day Adventist school of 3,500 students is in the district represented by Rep. Jerry Lewis, R-Calif., whose photograph is displayed in a research building.

Lewis chairs the House defense appropriations subcommittee, and several of the Loma Linda grants came from the Defense Department, Chronicle noted.

"We take exception to the term 'pork barrel," said Loma Linda spokesman W. Augustus Cheatham. He said Lewis "has taken note of the success and accountability that is clear in our track record with Congress."

The small state of West Virginia is No. 5 on the list, with \$38.8 million, the Chronicle

West Virginia's Sen. Robert C. Byrd is the ranking Democrat and a former chairman of the Appropriations Committee, and Rep. Alan Mollohan, D-W.Va., sits on the Appropriations Committee.

Mollohan disagrees with critics of the earmark system.

Nobody knows their constituents or their academic institutions or their programs better than the members of the House and Senate who represent those organizations," Mollohan said.

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# Parking: Few complaints about new parking fee

#### Continued from 1

charged a \$27 flat fee plus \$11 per hour. The new fee is estimated to bring in \$22,103.

These amounts are on a persemester basis.

· According to the MTSU Bursar's Web site, other fees not included in the general access fee are the debt services fee, \$8 per academic hour with a maximum charge of \$95; a recreation activity fee of \$15; a postal services fee of \$8 for full-time students; and a SGA fee of \$15.

Last spring the SGA fee was \$10, the technology fee \$100, the recreation fee \$15, the postal fee \$8 and the student activity fee \$65 for a typical full-time stu-

The \$4 per-semester graduation fee will replace a one-time fee of \$30 and \$35 paid at graduation. The new athletic activity fee will include the excessive debt service fee on Floyd Stadium.

Some issues have been raised

about students being unfairly charged fees, such as the case with parking and the graduation fee, which will be partially paid by undergraduate students not graduating that semester.

The Student Government Association, according Marshall, is still ironing out some wrinkles with Duane Stucky, the vice president for Finance and Administration.

"There are still questions about some fees which are being discussed with

Marshall said. "He has been very cooperative so far."

Marshall says the main advantage of the new fee is convenience for students, especially with parking. "It will be easier for students to get parking passes," he said.

"Some students won't benefit from this," said Marshall, "but some will. Fees aren't something we want to pay, but something we have to pay. This will at least make them more convenient."



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# Roads: Students lose parking temporarily for projects

#### Continued from 1

the project will cost \$448,000, which is being absorbed by Parking Services. When the project is completed, the parallel parking on C Street will be elim-

inated, and a turning lane for hassles in the area. left-turning traffic will be added. according to Paul Wright, manager of Campus Planning.

The main motivation behind the straightening of the curve. Wright said, is to ease the traffic

behind the Cason-Kennedy Nursing Building is also being expanded to include 10 more spaces and will be paved as a phase of the project.

Wright expects the new curve The gravel lot in the field section to be open by mid-August, but said the area may still need minor work such as landscaping.

"Our goal is to have it usable by Aug. 15," said Wright. ■

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# OPINIONS

4 SIDELINES

Wednesday, July 26, 2000

Murfreesboro, TN

## From the Staff

# Timing is everything; so much for good planning

Working here over the summer, the staff has come to one conclusion. Lots of things that affect students are decided during the months when a majority of the student body is away at home or traveling.

For once, this state's policies rather than the people in charge are to blame.

Fees are revamped, budgets are passed and decisions are made without the students even having a say in the matter.

Then when the students return in the fall, they are confused when it's time to pay the man.

It's hard to say what the solution is, but something is needed to make the system more democratic in nature.

Why does the fiscal year begin in July? Wouldn't it be better if the year started in January and policy decisions were made in November?

I guess people are always resistant to change.

Still, this is the first summer I have been able to witness the process of how the fees that we pay are decided.

But most years, I come back, get my bill, wonder what's going on with all the fees and reluntantly pay the increases that have become an August ritual.

I feel sorry for those returning students who walk into the business office in a month and begin to feel that stress not developing in their stomachs when they see how much they owe.

I guess the price for improving oneself isn't cheap, even at the "most affordable school in Tennessee."

# Prostitution: legalize to control, protect

Jake Ten Pas OSU Daily Barometer (Oregon State U.)

(U-WIRE) CORVALLIS, Ore. — Americans love to pay lip service to the concepts of American liberty and rugged individualism, but when it comes to their actual practice, many of those same Americans seem somewhat more reticent.

Not one state has been successful in its attempt to truly legalize euthanasia (sure, Oregon passed a ballot measure, but as long as there are judges willing to hold their state hostage for their own political ends, such voter-decrees carry little weight), and when it comes to the personal choice to gamble or use mindaltering drugs, our country still seems to be thinking with their Bibles instead of their brains.

Though feminism and women's rights receive equal theoretical consideration, once again, we seem more comfortable sitting around intellectualizing than attempting to realize such goals. And although it may seem far removed from any discussion of women's liberation, the legalization of prostitution has to be

considered in such lofty light.

After all, what is the debate over prostitution about, if not about women's rights to do whatever the hell they want with their own bodies, and be safe in doing it.

I'm not going to sit here and glorify the act of prostitution itself; even in the best of circumstances, an individual is still selling her or his body to another, probably unsavory, individual for cheap, loveless sex.

But that's not the issue. Of course I could sit here and moralize my column away, explaining why prostitution is wrong from both a spiritual and an intellectual perspective, but that's just my opinion. And a country's laws should not be based on morals or opinions, no matter how well intentioned.

And no matter how reprehensible you imagine legalized prostitution to be, it's nothing compared to illegal prostitution.

If you doubt that fact, just compare the U.S. with Holland. In Amsterdam, as you damn well know, prostitution is not only legal, it's regulated by the government.

Prostitutes are required to use condoms and other forms of protection against both pregnancy and sexually transmitted diseases, and they're checked on a monthly basis to make sure they're free of any and all illness.

Now compare that with the streets of New York City. One viewing of HBO's documentary "Hookers on the Point" will more than demonstrate the sickening state of prostitution in our country. Women are forced to take on sometimes dangerous "Johns" in dangerous settings, usually back alleys and unfamiliar

They are not only not tested for communicable diseases, but in fact have to resort to even more dangerous behaviors, such as I.V. drug use, to escape the reality of being pimped out of the money they more than earned. Regulated prostitution is kinder, gentler prostitution, point blank.

Which isn't to say that it's perfect. As long as their are sick souls who become prostitutes and utilize them, our society will have a long way to go.

But as long as we stick our heads in the sand and pretend that the behavior doesn't exist, or that our simple-minded vice squads are doing anything positive about it, we'll continue to leave undeserving victims behind on our so-called quest for enlightenment.

# SIDELINES

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"Sidelines" is the non-profit, editorially independent student newspaper of Middle Tennessee State University and is published on Monday and Thursday during the fall and spring semesters and every Wednesday during June and July. FLASH!, the entertainment magazine, is published every Wednesday during the fall and spring semester. The opinions expressed herein are those of the individual writers and not necessarily of "Sidelines" or the university.

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## Correction

Due to a glitch in the editing process, Vice President for Finance and Administration Duane Stucky's name and title was withheld from the lead story, "Fees combined for fall."

**Denise Holley** 

Daily Evergreen

(Washington State U.)

(U-WIRE) PULLMAN, Wash. -

Wearing a bra could be the death of you.

As it binds and compresses breast tissue,

a bra constricts the flow of the lymphat-

ic system, so it cannot flush out toxins. If

these toxins build up in the breast, a

tumor can begin to grow. Does this sound

Sydney Ross Singer and Soma

Grismaijer developed this thesis in their

1995 book, "Dressed to Kill: The Link

Between Breast Cancer and Bras" (Avery

breast cancer when she was two months

pregnant. Unwilling to endanger her

child with chemotherapy or radiation,

she tossed away her bra. Her tumor

Between 1991 and 1993, Singer, a

medical anthropologist, and Grismaijer,

an environmental scientist, conducted a

unique study. They interviewed 4,730

Caucasian-American women ages 30-79

Grismaijer's doctor told her she had

researchers

totally off the wall?

Publishing Group).

Husband-and-wife

# Men, watch your backs too

Daily Illini (U. Illinois)

(U-WIRE) CHAMPAIGN, Ill. — If someone asked you if you felt safe on campus, what would your answer be? Most of us would say that yes, we feel pretty safe on campus and aren't afraid to go about our business. Police reports recently released, in fact, show that the University is indeed a fairly safe place to be, but that doesn't mean that we still don't have to be careful.

Male or female, while we feel there is only a remote possibility of being personally attacked in some way, we might be fooling ourselves.

You never think it will happen to you. Society often pins women in the position of perpetual "victim," needing to be walked home at night by her male companion and as the one who will more likely be attacked by a dark shadow hiding in the bushes.

The statistics, however, show that men are more often victims of campus crimes than women.

This might be skewed because more men walk alone at night on campus than women, but we often fail to focus on the overwhelming majority of victims. How many of you guys have walked home alone after seeing your significant other safely to his or her door without giving it a second thought? Don't wait until it's too late. Like the signs you see in residence hall cafeterias and on advertisements around campus say, 8 out of 10 assault victims are men.

Who is it attacking these poor men? Is it the shady-looking character standing on the corner? Is it the creepy-looking man sitting on the stoop of a closed restaurant asking for spare change?

While sometimes it is the people who made-for-TV movies often portray as the perpetrators of crime, the people you might really need to fear are sometimes right under your nose.

They are other students on cam-

pus, fueled by alcohol, in most cases in a group. It's the welldressed kid in your sociology class, or that seemingly calm girl in your speech communications lecture.

These are the people just like

you who, if provoked, will do things that they might not normally. So be smart. Don't walk alone at

so be smart. Don't walk alone at night. Carry a small can of pepper spray and wear comfortable shoes. Be conscious of everyone around you.

This campus is a relatively safe place to be, but that's no reason to let down your guard.

# Cross your heart and hope you don't die

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about their bra wearing. Half the group had been breast cancer patients; the other half had no history of the disease.

The researchers discovered that women with breast cancer wore bras that dug into their skin and left red marks, wore their bras more than 12 hours a day and wore them to bed at a rate higher than women without cancer.

The couple was surprised no other

The couple was surprised no other researchers had pursued this tack. When they called a press conference in 1994 to announce their findings, no one showed up.

Singer and Grismaijer did a second study in Fiji, where roughly half the women have adopted Western dress, including bras.

The researchers found the incidence of breast cancer in the westernized women was far higher than that of the women who wore traditional garb. Both groups shared the same living environment and diet.

Medical folks gave the studies a cool reception. While other researchers zeroed in on the microscopic BRCA genes, Singer and Grismaijer looked at the bra. Using sheer numbers, they found a behavior — bra wearing — that coin-

cided with breast cancer.

I am the daughter of a breast cancer victim. I fear the disease and I hate bras. Until I read about Singer and Grismaijer's research in 1995, I never made a connection between the two.

No one in the medical establishment can tell us what causes breast cancer. An American woman has a one in eight chance of developing the disease during her life. If her mother or sister had it, her odds go up.

If she didn't have children, or waited until she was over 30 to have them, like my mother and me, her risk is higher. A high-fat diet may contribute to breast tumors, but eating a low-fat diet may not protect her.

If a woman has a family history of the disease, she can forego hormone replacement therapy at menopause. Otherwise, there isn't anything a woman can do to prevent breast cancer — only detect it early with self-exams and mammograms.

After my mother died in 1977, I did my own research on breast cancer. I discovered that women who had a baby in their teens or early 20s rarely developed broast cancer.

Should we encourage girls to become

teen mothers to slash their risk of this disease later in life, or is there a less drastic measure?

Rather than watch and wait, women can unhook one possible cause of breast cancer, Singer and Grismaijer said. They can take off an uncomfortable, often expensive garment that binds the rib cage. Why, in the name of fashion, would anyone wear such a contraption to bed?

After I read about the bra and cancer study, I ditched my bra and began wearing a camisole with light padding.

What would I do if I had larger breasts? I would wear a comfortable bra to work, and for sports, then take the damn thing off at home and let my breasts breathe.

I believe the cancer time bomb still lurks inside my breasts. I dutifully check them for lumps and go for an annual "squish-a-gram." But Singer and Grismaijer's study has lifted some of my fear.

What if they are mistaken? Going braless didn't harm generations of our ancestors. If the researchers are right about bras and breast cancer, those women who lose their bras will be the winners.

# **F'EATURES**

Murfreesboro, TN

Wednesday, July 26, 2000

SIDELINES ■ 5

# Mentoring program helps physically challenged

Nathalie Mornu Features Editor

Most people probably don't give much thought to hopping into a car and driving to a movie or a restaurant, or to doing a little weight training or swimming a few laps.

For those with disabilities, however, these activities can present enormous challenges

"Living with a disability can be isolating," said Ed Woodall, a graduate assistant of marketing at the Recreation Center. He explains that along with the physical challenges come social ones, which may in turn cause problems of low self-esteem.

In 1998, the Rec Center started its accessibility program in an effort to meet the recreational needs of special students. But about a year and a half ago, Ray Wiley, Director of Aquatics at the Rec Center, decided that the accessibility programs in place weren't really addressing some of the problems of special-needs students. Taking disabled students to a hockey game a few times a semester didn't fulfill the day-to-day needs of friendship necessary for a well-balanced life.

So last semester, Wiley, his staff and volunteers at the Rec Center developed a mentoring program. Mentors in the program pair up with disabled students, target their wants and needs and help them achieve their goals.

Molly Walroth, an MTSU student intern, worked closely with Wiley and Woodall to create the program.

'We asked a few students what was holding them back from coming to the Rec Center and using the pool and the weight room," she explained, "and a lot of it was that they wanted to come work out, but like anybody else they didn't have anybody to work out with.

"It's not necessarily a need for assistance. You just want somebody to talk to while you're working out."

A questionnaire matched up 20 mentors with special-needs students who share similar interests and compatible schedules.

"We tried to eliminate as many of the things that were preventing disabled students from participating as we could," said Wiley.

Mentors worked with the university's Department of Disabled Student Services to learn approaches to special needs: how to transfer disabled students from a dry wheelchair to a water-accessible wheelchair or assisting with changing of clothes. A new changing room with more privacy and a heater was also added to the facility. A special weight machine called Uppertone allows disabled students to move their own weights around so they can do an entire workout without assistance from an able-bodied per-

Through the mentoring program, special-needs students have tried new activities such as swimming, wall climbing and martial arts.

Everyone benefits from participat-

'Often you're just taking turns working out," Walroth said, "so the

volunteers are getting a chance to work out also. They're meeting people, and they're able to help others reach goals. They see success and improvement from the people they work with, and any time you're around people with disabilities, you're going to open yourself up."

Because participants in the mentoring program work closely and for an extended period of time, the pairs of students can develop trust and friendship.

This encourages the disabled students to get involved and try new things. This participation helps them break out of their shells.

"The mentoring program broke down a lot of fears in people -- it broke down walls," Wiley said.

The efforts of Victoria Shelar, a professor in the Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Safety Department, resulted in the Veteran's Administration's donation of a van this past spring. The van, which carries up to eight students in their wheel chairs, is instrumental to the success of the accessibility program. said Woodall, because without transportation the students are confined to campus. Wiley had tried to get such a van for three years, and it took 14 months to get the Uppertone weight machine.

"It was a real challenge to get it." said Wiley. "We worked diligently to get the needed equipment and transportation. We've had to sell the idea of the need for equipment, and we've had to sell the special students on the building and on the sincerity of the staff wanting to work with

Wiley said the support from volunteers like Brenda Maynard and MTSU staff like John Harris, the director of Disabled Student Services, has made a tremendous difference in helping the accessibility program succeed. And now that the Rec Center has more specialized equipment and facilities as well as the mentoring program, Wiley thinks even more disabled students will come use the center's services.

In part because of its flat, accessible campus, and because of aggressive recruitment. MTSU has the highest per-capita ratio of specialneeds students in Tennessee.

More than 500 students at the college have disabilities and/or special

For more information about the Recreation Center or accessibility program, call 898-2104 or visit their Web site at www.mtsu.edu/~cam-

For more information about the office of Disabled Student Services, call 898-2783.

# Gadgets increase use of technology in camping

SPRING GROVE, Ill. (AP) - So much for getting away from it all: Satellite dishes, computers, cell phones and other high-tech gadgets are becoming the norm at many campgrounds.

It's gotten to the point wher a retired welding supplier who parked his decked-out RV and satellite dish at Chain o' Lakes State Park in northern Illinois this week.

Officials at campgrounds across the country say an increasing number of campers want to be connected to the outside world while exploring the great

Rangers at a campground in the forest along Michigan's Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore have been getting requests to up the voltage at electrical sites so people can run computers. And in Raymond, Maine, kids at one private campground can use digital cameras to send photos home to their

It's a far cry from the tents, tarps and modest camping vans that filled Chain o' Lakes State Park when park superintendent Ed Rodiek began working there

Besides cell phones and computers, he regularly sees everything from air conditioners and washer-dryers to microwaves and TVs. Even satellite dishes have become the norm, especially for RV owners.

"Now you're just not part of the in crowd if you don't have one," Rodiek

The trend is causing some hard-core campers, including Gregg Steiner, to

"I go camping to listen to birds chirping, not to blast a radio or TV or hear a phone ringing," says the Sherman Oaks, Calif., man, who was aghast at all the gadgets he saw during a recent camping trip to Sequoia National Park.

Some, including Allan Whitescarver of San Francisco, are retreating to more remote campgrounds to get away from the gadgets.

Technology does have its benefits, beyond convenience and comfort. Some campers have used their cell phones to call for help in an emergency.

And some say technology can open up opportunities to get outside.

Paul Entin of Lambertville, N.J., says he has taken his laptop and cell phone with him to Acadia National Park in Maine, using a car cigarette lighter as a power source to get work done.

"It takes something away from the true camping experience, but at the same time, I've come to feel grateful to technology," says Entin, who publishes a fitness Web site with his wife.

"It's because of technology that we are able to go camping, essentially whenever we please.'

With that in mind, some campgrounds are taking note, including Kampgrounds of America, which is encouraging the installation of computer kiosks so campers can check their e-

## Disabled student tests limitations

Cory Ponder, a Recording courage that takes," said Woodall. Industry major, has difficulty holding a pencil because he has cerebral palsy.

Last month, with the help of Ed Woodall from the mentoring program, the sophomore climbed nearly to the top of the climbing wall in the Rec Center's lobby.

"It was a lot harder than it looks. It was fun and hard," said Ponder. Afterward, he felt good about doing it.

Ponder had wanted to scale the wall for three years, ever since he first saw it. He started working out on the Uppertone after the Rec Center received the machine, and expressed his interest in climbing to Woodall, who quickly arranged for it to happen.

"You can imagine the kind of

It took more than just confidence in his capabilities and trust in Woodall.

'He drew a crowd when he pulled his wheelchair up there," said Woodall. "Everybody that was walking

by stopped to watch. But he still had the courage to try.' Woodall says he wants to see

Ponder test his limitations because he's still discovering things he can do. "To give him that sense of free-

dom is great," said Woodall. "And now he wants to get in the water." Besides the pool, the Alpine Tower looks like an exciting chal-

"I want to see how high I can get on that," he said with a grin.

lenge to Ponder.

# Digital divide keeps many minorities from getting tech jobs

The Dallas Morning News

Years ago, when Dr. Vincent McNeil went to see the counselor at his new school in San Diego, he was automatically relegated to a remedial English class.

Later. Dr. McNeil recalled, fellow students at the venerable Massachusetts Institute of Technology told him they thought he'd been accepted to MIT just because he was black.

But Dr. McNeil, now Texas Instruments' worldwide network camera manager, says he fared much better than most minorities who try to get into high-tech careers.

"There is a woeful lack of African-Americans in high-tech," he said. "I have been fortunate that I have had good mentors along the way."

Experts say the digital divide between technology haves and have-nots is keeping underrepresented groups out of tech jobs, which are among the most rewarding in today's economy.

Hispanics, blacks and American Indians earned 14.2 percent of science and engineering bachelor's degrees in 1997, according to a National Science Foundation

That was up from 9.5 percent in 1989 but still well below the three groups' 24.6 percent share of the American population.

(Asians, on the other hand, earned 8.1 percent of science and engineering bachelor's degrees, more than double that group's 3.8 percent share of the U.S. popu-

Dr. Andrew P. Bernat, a professor of computer science at the University of Texas at El Paso, said many minorities are getting left behind because public schools are not preparing them for high-tech careers and businesses are doing little to The long-term detriment is ... we will

have two classes of people: those who can do it and the people who can't." Dr. Bernat

Most students are disqualified from a tech career early in their lives when they forgo calculus, trigonometry and other basic math and science courses, he said.

Carlos Alvarez, president of the Dallas chapter of the Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers, or SHPE, said school officials who have an "assembly line" attitude toward education perpetuate

"Their goal was to get you enough to graduate," said Mr. Alvarez, a systems engineer at Nortel Networks. "It was up to the student to get the advanced science

and math classes."

Mr. Alvarez credits his parents, neither of whom have a college degree, and members of SHPE for encouraging him.

Dr. McNeil, 36, said the lack of minority role models can be discouraging.

Most university engineering and computer science departments have few minority professors who can relate to stu-

Blacks, Hispanics and American Indians earned just 8.1 percent of master's degrees and 5 percent of doctorates in science and engineering in 1997, according to the National Science Foundation study.

"You don't see yourself reflected in the population," Dr. McNeil said. "And if you don't succeed, you don't know whether it is you or the system."

The Systems and Software Engineering Affinity Lab, a UTEP program that involves students in research projects, has shown they do well when professors show an interest in them.

"We target students in our classes that can do the work but otherwise wouldn't volunteer or don't believe they can do the work," Dr. Bernat said. "We spend a lot of time helping them understand how to do the work.'

The 5-year-old project, which is open to all students regardless of race, has seen all of its participants go on to graduate school. The program has about 30 students every

James Mitchell, Texas Instruments' vice president of leadership resource initiatives, said corporations are investing in educational programs that train more minorities for technology jobs.

TI is giving scholarships to students from southern Dallas County to study at local community colleges. It also sends employees into local schools to mentor minority students.

The industry now understands that we are all in a worker shortage and in order to compete, we've got to generate more peo-ple for our industry," Mr. Mitchell said. "It's a business imperative that we go out and do these things.'

Industry officials concede they have been slow to address the issue but say numerous programs have been put in "It's not a perfect industry, and the

industry has taken its time to begin to focus on the issue," said Marjorie Bynum, vice president of workforce development the Information Technology Association of America. "Now they are doing quite a bit."

# Professor focuses class on women on Internet

Claire Zulkey Georgetown University

Little girls may make fun of little boys who stay inside all day playing videos games like Mortal Kombat, but what do they know? These boys may be getting the inside edge on information technology.

This is the basis for the new class to be taught this year by Sandra D. Shattuck, a professor at University of Maryland-Baltimore County. "Cybergrrls and Wired Women: Gender and Information Technology" will be a course based in both women's studies and information technology, the agenda of which is to ensure that women and girls are not uninformed, as the information age progresses.

The first section of the course will focus on young girls, looking at the video games thy play, how they are designed, and how they affect a girl's self-image and her view of herself in the information age.

The second half of the course concentrates on women, focusing on sex and the Internet. Professor Shattuck plans on posing the problem to her

"I hope that it can get more women into the technological field. All women should understand the importance of information technology."

Sandra D. Shattuck, professor

students of whether technology breeds sexism or instead offers possibility for change.

"So far, the class is a mix of computer science and women's studies students," says Shattuck. "I hope that the students can all learn from each other, with the computer science students creating a feminist analysis of information technology, and the women's studies students becoming more confident with their technological abilities.

"I've wanted to teach this course for a while," says Shattuck. "It's a wonderful opportunity for me to talk on behalf of the center," she says, referring to the school's Center for Women and Information Technology, and its nationally acclaimed Web site. "I also really hope that it can get more women into the technological field. All women and girls should understand the importance of information tech-

Shattuck plans to utilize the teachings of Justine Cassell, author of "From Barbie To Mortal Kombat: Gener And Computer Games," one of the books from the reading list.

Once a week, the course will meet in a computer lab, where students will create an online location that allows people to chat and send email, as well as producing interactive book reports and create an online support network for the women on UM-BC campus who are involved with technology.

# SPORTS

6 ■ SIDELINES

Wednesday, July 26, 2000

Murfreesboro, TN

# Curing the disease

# Athletics, University working to squash another apethetic season

Jay Carlton Sports Editor

While walking on the 500acre campus of Middle Tennessee State University it's more common to see students wearing the bright orange and white colors of the University of Tennessee Volunteers than the royal blue and white of the MTSU Blue Raiders.

It's no secret that the Vols are the pride of Tennessee in terms of college football. However, as MTSU upgrades its own athletic programs, serious efforts are under way to cultivate a stronger following of their own—starting with the students.

Even with the move to Division I-A status, the football team only drew an average of 12,472 fans over five home games in 1999. The men's basketball team only averaged 3,907 over 14 home games. Even with basketball powerhouse Kansas University playing here last year, only 7,897 fans showed up to support the Blue Raiders.

"I don't think that supporting your school is as important to the young people as it used to be," MTSU Athletic Director Lee Fowler said. "The loyalty doesn't seem to be there anymore.

"These days students don't go to their high school games and that just seems to carry over into college.'

Earlier this summer a survey was conducted to determine the amount of school spirit and student involvement on the MTSU campus. Undergraduate marketing students taking an Applied Marketing Research class under the direction of Timothy R. Graeff, Ph.D. developed the survev. The class also worked closely with Robert Glenn, MTSU's vice president of student affairs.

Those surveyed were chosen randomly from all areas of study, student classifications and from various buildings across campus to achieve an unbiased representation of students' actual feelings and thoughts.

Of the 520 students who were surveyed, only 54.2 percent expressed an interest in MTSU sports. The study also revealed that 58.9 percent don't plan to attend any football games this year. Only 24.8 percent plan to attend the homecoming game against Louisiana- Monroe.

According to the survey's results, most students said that work, a poor athletic program, and the fact that they were not interested in sports were the main reasons why they don't

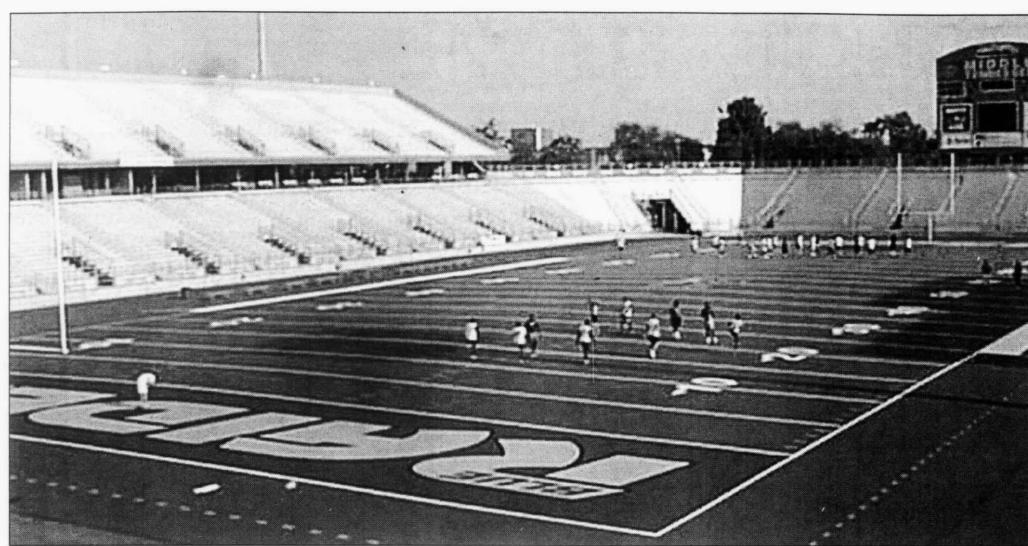


Photo by James Evans | Managing Editor

attend games. What will it take to get the student body involved?

Several MTSU officials have designed a plan to generate student interest in the athletic programs. Fowler, Coordinator of Special Events Michael Jordan, Account Executive Kyle Turnham, and Glenn are leading the initiative.

"We're trying to listen to what the students want and respond accordingly," Glenn said. "We plan to have more live and bigtime entertainment come here to

The plan will begin this fall with a "school spirit" day scheduled for each Friday. This includes wearing MTSU colors and logos to foster more school pride. Fraternities, sororities, campus ministries, and the division of student affairs will lead the way, as they have agreed to participate in the program.

Also, the university plans to provide quality entertainment that will keep students on campus on weekends when a home sporting event is taking place. Although a deal has yet to be reached, comedian Sinbad and the rock group Cheap Trick have been contacted about performing on campus.

Football team preparing to improve on last years 3-8 season

This is our third attempt to try and book Sinbad," Glenn said. "We would like to have him perform on Friday Sept.15, the night before the first home football game against Murray State. If he turns us down again, then we will find someone else that the students would like as well."

Glenn said that the decision to try to get Cheap Trick to perform here was because of a desire to appeal to several different audiences. "Cheap Trick was real big in the '70s and '80s, but still appeal to a number of recent alumni and current students."

Negotiations are under way with Cheap Trick that would have the band play a post-game concert following the Oct.14 homecoming game. Should a deal be reached, plans call for the concert to be free to students who attend the game. Students and alumni who wish to only attend the concert would have to pay admission.

Another way the university intends to encourage students to attend sporting events is through a program called "Raider Rewards." Jordan and Turnham of the athletic department are

spearheading this effort.

Before the upcoming football season, ticket holders will receive an application in the mail. Students will have the opportunity to fill one out beginning at the first home game, or before via the Internet.

The application will ask for information regarding the spending habits of the individual Once a fan has their card each time they attend a game they will receive points by swiping their card in a "kiosk," which is like an ATM machine. The "kiosk" machines will be placed around the football stadium and inside Murphy Center. Points accumulated will be good toward Blue Raider merchandise and other prizes.

"When fans come to Blue Raider games, they will swipe their card," Turnham said. "After swiping their card, they will be asked about three questions like where they shop at, what restaurants they frequent,

"Every time somebody comes to a game they will get at least something small. The machine will then print out a voucher with their point total on it along with coupons good for maybe a free Coke, ball cap, or movie

The technology that will be used in the "Raider Rewards" program was developed by AIM Technologies in Austin, Texas. Many professional sports franchises are using similar programs, including the Texas Rangers, Nashville Predators and Nashville Sounds. The only other university in the country currently using this program is San Jose State. The Naval Academy plans to begin its program starting this fall, too.

"We appreciate the financial commitment from our fans,' Turnham said. "We also want the physical commitment. This program will encourage fans not only to buy season tickets, but to actually come to the games."

Fan participation and attendance is important for a couple of reasons. When athletes play in front of large crowds it tends to raise their performance level. Having a home-field crowd makes a huge difference; just ask the Tennessee Titans.

From a recruiting standpoint, the ability to draw a large crowd can make or break an athlete's decision whether or not to attend a particular university.

Most top-notch athletes like to be watched, and if they aren't going to play in front of a large crowd, they will go somewhere where they can. If coaches can't attract talented players, winning

becomes more difficult. "It would be really nice to see this community get behind not just our football program, but the university as a whole," MTSU starting quarterback Wes Counts said. "I see the stadium half-full and I just wonder why. I've never worn orange and white, I've always been a Blue Raider."

Whether it's just not having the time, not caring, or lack of school spirit, MTSU is going to great lengths to create interest in the athletic programs. There has been a lot of time, money, and energy spent to determine why students aren't more enthusiastic than they are. Only time will tell if the efforts are worth the rewards.

"We're trying everything in the world to get students involved," Fowler said. "We want to plan activities to keep students on campus over the weekends, so that they will be more apt to attend one of our sporting events too."

# Ginn named new women's soccer coach

MT Media Relations

Athletic Director Lee Fowler announced on Tuesday that Scott Ginn has been named head women's soccer coach.

Ginn has been the head women's soccer coach at Barton College in Wilson, N.C. since 1996. Prior to Barton, he was an assistant coach for the women's program at Berry

Ginn has also served as the head soccer coach at Forest Park high school in Forest Park, Ga., and assisted with the men's program at his alma Atlantic Christian College.

Aside from his coaching experience, Ginn has worked several prominent camps including the University of

North Carolina and the University of Florida. He holds an "A" license from the United State Soccer Federation and an Advanced National Diploma from the National Soccer Coaches Association America.

Before entering the collegiate ranks as a player, Ginn served in the US Army's82nd Airborne Division.

Fowler said, "We are very

excited to have Scott Ginn on board at Middle Tennessee. He is a very enthusiastic person and I know that his excitement will filter down to the players very quickly. We feel that he is of the coach that can continue the progress of our program."

Ginn replaces Colette Gilligan who left the program earlier in the summer to take a position at the University of Minnesota.

# slotted for television

MT football games

MT Media Relations

Athletic Director Lee Fowler has reached an agreement to have two Middle Tennessee football games aired live on television this coming season it was announced today.

WSMV TV 4 will broadcast live the Blue Raiders' Oct. 21 game at UAB. The game, which will be played at Legion Field, has a kickoff time scheduled for 3 PM CST. The original published game time was 2:30 PM, but due to television coverage kickoff has been pushed back 30 minutes.

In carrying on our tradition of bringing good local college football to the area, we are extremely proud to bring fans the Middle Tennessee - UAB game," General Manager Frank Detillio said. "We have a high level of interest in the Blue Raider program with their I-A football status and look forward to bringing the area more games in the future."

The Blue Raiders will also have their game against South Florida on November 11 shown live on ESPN Regional Television. The telecast time of the game will be 2 PM CST with the kickoff slated for 2:05 PM.

The MT-USF game, which will reach 3.4 million homes, has also been selected to air on ESPN's GamePlan for national distribution. The game will be called in the booth by Al Keck and Doug Graber.

"This is the type thing that I-A football and being in a conference does for your program," athletic director Lee Fowler said. The exposure our university, facilities and football team will get on those Saturday's is priceless. Hopefull we will have many more opportunities like this in the future.'

Those opportunities are expected to also come during the 2000 season as two or three more games on the Blue Raider schedule are currently being discussed for television.

# Titans court Pickens, team courts coveted wide-out

**Associated Press** 

NASHVILLE, Tenn. - The Tennessee Titan will get to woo receiver Carl Pickens in per-

The receiver was to arrive in Nashville Tuesday morning, and the Titans plan to keep him in town overnight, general manager Floyd Reese said.

"It appears from what we hear that he's a little bit hesitant," Reese said. "The issue

will be having enough time so that everyone can get to know him. Fortunately, a large number of free agents, once they get to meet everyone, always like what they see."

That approach worked in 1998 when the Titans wanted then-free agent Yancey Thigpen. They brought him to town and worked out a fiveyear contract before letting him leave to visit other cities.

Pickens has received offers from several teams since being released by the Cincinnati

Hadley Engelhard said the Titans have been one of those working hardest to sign Pickens.

Engelhard would not comment Tuesday on what type of contract Pickens wants.

"He's looking at all different things — the team, salary, opportunity," Engelhard said.

The Titans offer a chance to join the reigning AFC champions with a chance to play. Thigpen has been slow to recover from ankle surgery in

Bengals last week. Agent April, and he has yet to practice since training camp opened. He may not be available until the final exhibition on Aug. 25.

Tennessee originally offered a five-year deal to Pickens, who played for the University of Tennessee in the early 1990s.

Pickens played with Neil O'Donnell, the Titans' backup quarterback, in 1998. The Titans also plan to lobby Pickens with quarterback Steve McNair and Pro Bowl running back Eddie George.



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## **Employment**

Elderly services by GerAssist is now hiring part-time caregivers. The job consists of nonmedical living assistance in the home, on MTSU campus, hospital and nursing homes. Flexible hours. Call 848-0114.

Seeking "sitter" for our 14year-old daughter who has handicapped condition(s). Prefer someone with experience and/ or interest in special education. Some evenings, ccasional weekends. Please call (615)781-9557 for further information.

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Mature roommate wanted. \$225/ month plus half utilities. You will have your own entrance. 867-4943 or 485-7414.

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Looking for a responsible, clean female to share a new three-bedroom house in quiet subdivision. Rent is \$333 plus half of utilities. Call 907-5305.

Hi! I'm looking for a female roommate to share a relatively cheap place to live for the fall and spring semesters! Call 227-2409 or e-mail laradempsey@hotmail.com, and we can look for a place together.

Female roommate to share 4 bedroom double wide located a few miles from town. \$350/ month. All utilities, phone and cable are included. No deposit. Call 895-1949. Leave message if no answer.

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Cash for your old toys. Action figures - Star Wars, G.I. Joe, He-Man. Diecast - Hot Wheels, Matchbox, Ertl. Lego, Tonka, Fisher Price, Atari, Slot Cars, Hand Held Electronic Games. 890-3769 Tom.

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Academy of Music and Drama Middle (Formerly the Tennessee Preparatory Program) Focusing on meeting the important need for music and drama extra-curricular activities for both children and adults. Private and class instruction offered. For more information, contact Diane Foust-Austin at 890-7464 or 337-1273.

FREE INFORMATION is available through the MTSU Placement Office, KUC Room 328. Come by and receive your complimentary copies of catalogs, pamphlets, and guides to learn how to write a resume.

## **Policies**

Sidelines will be responsible only for the first incorrect insertion of any classified advertisement. No refunds will be made for partial cancellations. Sidelines reserves the right to refuse any advertisement it deems objectionable for any reason.

Classifieds will be accepted on a prepaid basis only. Ads made by placed in the Student Publications office in James Union Building room 306, by mail to Sidelines Classifieds, MTSU Box 42, Murfreesboro, TN 37132 or faxed to 904-8487. For more information call 904-8154 or 898-2815. Ads are not accepted over the phone.



Mrs. Bradley couldn't seem to get enough parents involved in the school even though she

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ACADEMIC APPEALS FOR FALL 2000

If you think you may be suspended after grading for the 2000

summer term and you want to appeal your academic suspension,

please contact the Records Office at 898-2164 or come by Room

106 of the Cope Administration Building to obtain an academic

appeal form. Suspension notices cannot be mailed to the perma-

nent addresses until August 15.

The Deadline To Appeal For Fall 2000 Is August 15 At 4:00 P.M.

# This person votes. Shouldn't you? Don't let someone should have been continued than yours. You want than yours. You work than yours.

# The Boro Bar & Grill joins WMOT for a night of music and fundraising!

Monday, July 31, The Boro Bar and Grill joins forces with WMOT to present a night showcasing the best in local jazz. Scheduled to perform are Roland Gresham, Annie Sellick, and Swamba. The show will begin at 8 p.m. All proceeds will be donated to WMOT. The Boro Bar and Grill is located at 1211 Greenland Drive, Murfreesboro, directly across from MTSU Murphy Center. For more information please call 895-4500.

