

MIDDLE TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY SIDELINES

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President's view

Austere budget colors future

By PRESIDENT SAM INGRAM

Special to Sidelines

What happens to a university during austere budget years? Is planning for the future curtailed? Does the quality of instruction suffer? What about faculty morale?

Middle Tennessee State University begins this year the most extensive self-study it has undertaken in 10 years. Faculty and staff will spend many hours in addition to their regular responsibilities trying to determine ways in which our policies and programs can be improved.

WE EXPECT in our continuation budget to have essentially the same amount of dollars to spend on equipment this year as last. Even with a smaller rate of inflation, this will buy less equipment and supplies than last year. Our library holdings continue to fall behind our needs because of a low budget. This does mean that quality is adversely affected.

Faculty have seen their salaries increase at a much slower rate than business and

industry for the past 10 years. They are now seeing us lose our ability to compete with our neighboring states in the south. It is unrealistic to expect faculty to continue to stay in Tennessee when they can earn significantly more by leaving.

MTSU continues to lose faculty because of the low salaries we pay. Not only are we losing outstanding faculty, but we are also finding it almost impossible to replace the people we lose.

THIS HAS made it necessary to increase our part-time faculty. These instructors are usually less qualified, and they are not available to do advising and other departmental duties. Other full-time faculty must carry a heavier load.

Faculty morale obviously suffers in times like these. I believe it would be even worse if it were not for the fact that all of us expect improvement next year. We do not believe the public will continue to tolerate inadequate educational opportunities being afforded our students.

(continued on page 2)

MTSU may get \$300,000

By GINA FANN
Sidelines News Editor

Most of MTSU's projected \$300,000 return from a \$15 million statewide funds impoundment from higher education budgets will be used to pay increasing utility bills, President Sam Ingram said yesterday.

The \$300,000 was only a part of the \$1.01 million which state officials impounded last spring from MTSU's 1982-83 budget in an effort to offset a statewide budget deficit. One-third of the amount of impounded higher education funds is set to be returned to state universities and colleges.

"WE'VE HAD no official notification that we'd receive the money," Ingram said, "but I think it will be 'official' within a week to 10 days."

Ingram added that the money will replace a projected \$212,000 increase in electricity costs for the next fiscal year.

"When TVA changed the rate schedule, Mike Crain [university energy director] said that it would probably be about \$212,000," Ingram said. "We're still \$300,000 better off, and we're grateful."



University President Sam Ingram said yesterday that state funding cuts, coupled with an increase in the number of resigning faculty members here, will have a detrimental effect on the university's educational offerings.

INGRAM added that the remainder of the money will be channeled back into the current budget for use "as it becomes necessary."

Under a recommendation this week from Gov. Lamar Alexander, the total \$5 million which is set for return to state universities will not be used for any salary hikes for higher education faculty members.

department and agency were requested to cover the shortage.

Tennessee universities and colleges are required by the State Board of Regents to allocate 3 percent of their total budgets in the event of emergencies, but MTSU had prepared for the possible funds impoundment by holding back 5 percent of 1982-83's total \$35.4 million budget.

"We planned for a shortfall for the same reason the state did," University Budget Director Jerry Tunstall said earlier this year. "Rather than hit us without warning, Dr. Ingram prepared us for this. He spoke with Chancellor [Roy] Nicks several times about the possibility of a deficit."

Nicks told reporters Monday that the return of the impounded funds would mean approximately one-half of the money would go to the SBR's 16 colleges and universities, while the other \$2.5 million would be distributed through the University of Tennessee system.

"That's not as good as getting it all back," Nicks said, "but it's a lot better than getting none of it back."

TSAC loan cut effect 'minimal': aid director

By LEE ANN REID

Sidelines Staff Writer

Cuts in federal and state funding for student grants will cause 800 students to be turned down by the Tennessee Student Assistance Corporation, but an MTSU official said the effect felt here will be minimal.

"The impact of the TSAC funding cuts will be minimal at MTSU," Winston Wrenn, director of financial aid, said Tuesday. "But even if one student doesn't get assistance, it hurts us to hear about it."

A 3.4 percent decrease in federal and state funding caused the TSAC to make reductions in the money available for grants and thus

severely cut the number of students able to receive help, according to other reports.

THE EMPHASIS of the cuts will be mainly on private schools where tuition is more expensive and the grant is worth \$900 to \$1000, Wrenn said. The grant is worth about \$375 at MTSU.

Also new restrictions regarding the state-wide Pell

Grant Index will affect many people, he said. Now students will not be eligible for the grants if their family contributes more than \$1,050 to their education.

Students unable to receive grants from the TSAC should try to get a Guaranteed Student Loan, Wrenn said.

"A GSL is a student's best bet to receive financial aid," he said. "We have three or four local banks willing to help students as a last resort."

To be eligible for the GSL, a student's family must make under \$30,000 a year.

Another alternative is the

Plus Program, Wrenn said. If a student's family makes over \$30,000 a year, he or she can borrow up to \$3,000 from local banks through the school.

In the Plus Program, the loan is paid back while the student is still in school. The GSL is paid back after the student graduates.

"If students can't get the state grant, then the bank loan method is the best bet because of the amount of money one can borrow," Wrenn said. "We try to direct students in this direction...it's really the best way."

Sex survey reveals women's viewpoint

By TERRY MORROW

Editor in Chief

Editor's Note: This is the first in a series of articles about what college men and women look for in a mate.

Many university females think their male counterparts desire someone who's a cross between Betty Crocker and Bo Derek, but that's not so, according to a team of MTSU psychology professors.

Mutual attraction and a dependable character are the virtues 900 college men, aged 18 to 25, ranked highest in a nationwide survey conducted by MTSU psychology professor Beryl West and his associates, Jeannette Heritage and Harold D. Whiteside.

Men questioned were asked to rank 18 characteristics they would look for in a female. Females had the task of not only ranking what they looked for in a mate, but also what they thought men wanted.

Out of the 18 characteristics which men and women were asked to rank, scored from one (most important) to 18 (least important), the sexes did not agree in their degree of importance when trying to second-guess their male counterparts.

When 300 MTSU students took West's survey in 1979, the males who responded indicated a conventional attitude toward women and sex, he said.

"We found MTSU boys are more conservative than most UT or Vanderbilt people," West recalls. "They may like to date the party girl, but when it comes to marriage they want a girl just like mom."

Chastity was what women said they thought men wanted in a marriage partner, but men ranked her virginity as one of the lowest attributes they look for, says West.

In fact, the survey disputed earlier research that claimed 90 percent of men have had one or more sexual experiences before college age, asserted West. The MTSU research showed that 40 percent of the men responding were virgins.

"In our society, women

would rather die than admit that they weren't virgins," West said, "but men are excused because they aren't supposed to get anybody pregnant—and people will write off men having sex by saying, 'Men can be men.'"

The poll also revealed that 43 percent of the women were virgins, an increase in women who admitted they have had sexual experiences prior to marriage, Jeannette Heritage, who worked with the women's perception in the survey, said.

The vast differences in male's standards for a mate and what women think men want is "incredible," she said.

"My first reaction to these results was, 'This can't be right,'" Heritage said.

"For instance, women didn't think men think good health was important in a mate. That's incredible to think that women think men aren't concerned with their health."

Women, according to the survey results, may still be holding to the old dumb blonde/"Southern belle" type, Heritage said.

"Our results show that men don't want someone who is sickly or whiney all the time," she said. "But I do think they want someone who is intelligent."

Other major differences as reported by women and men were good looks, good financial prospects, emotional stability and a capacity for being a good homemaker.

"No wonder men and women have such trouble in marriages," Heritage observed. "People fail to communicate what they want in a mate."

Playground construction begins soon

By DEE PARKER

Sidelines Photo Editor

After "playing around" with the idea of a playground for children of students living in Family Student Housing, construction may begin by the first of August, Ivan Shewmake, director of housing, said recently.

Donations of building materials such as lumber and paint are being collected for the community building project, Shewmake said. Other items needed include tires, railroad cross-ties and telephone poles.

"If we don't get enough [donations] to do the whole thing, we may have to do it in stages," Shewmake said.

ALTHOUGH A playground already exists in the Family Student Housing complex, it is set aside specifically for the MTSU Daycare Lab's children, Sharon Hanrahan, a resident of Family Housing, said. The playground is enclosed by a chain-linked fence keeping everyone out.

"Families see the playground and think it's a nice place for their children to play, and



photo by Dee Parker

Because of a shortage of playground facilities for children who live in Family Housing, there aren't many alternatives for children during these long hot summer days.

when they move in they find out it's not for their children," Hanrahan said.

In response to the request by residents for children's play facilities, the university put up two swings, a slide and a few other pieces of playground equipment outside G building in Family Housing, Hanrahan said.

"We [family housing students] decided in order to get a good one, we would have

to do it," she said.

THE FACILITY will be next to Family Student Housing complex building G and against the existing daycare playground. When completed it will cover an area of 75 feet by 400 feet, Robert Curtis, associate director of housing, said.

Sandboxes, swings and jungle gyms are being planned for the playground, Curtis said. Other items such as slides

that are unlikely to be donated will come from the family housing account, Shewmake said.

Family Student Housing residents and other volunteers will donate the labor for the construction of the playground that will serve more than 120 children when completed.

MTSU Safety Officer Baxter Cook checked the safety codes for the facility before definite plans were scheduled, Shewmake said.

Campus Capsule

GRADUATE STUDENTS enrolled for fewer than 12 hours and undergraduate seniors who plan to attend graduate school the next semester following graduation must notify the post office by Friday, July 29, of their desire to retain their present post office box.

CLASS SCHEDULES for fall semester are available in the lobby of Cope Administration Building.

THE BAPTIST STUDENT UNION holds Bible studies every Tuesday evening at 6:30 p.m. Activities include volleyball and making homemade ice cream. For more information, call 893-5035.

ANYONE wishing to announce an upcoming event in Campus Capsule should send the information to *Sidelines*, Box 42, before 2 p.m. on Wednesdays.

Security head due by August 1

By **GAIL HURT**
Sidelines Associate Editor
A new university security chief should be selected within two weeks, MTSU President Sam Ingram said yesterday.

Forty-one applications and three additional inquiries were received by the July 8 deadline, according to Linda C. Mason, personnel director.

COMMITTEE members appointed to review the applicants include: Otis Floyd, executive assistant to the president; Paul Cantrell, dean of students,

Handicapped funding increase seen for MTSU

By **TIM SELBY**
Sidelines Staff Writer
The State Board of Regents has approved funding an additional \$74,000 for building modifications to accommodate handicapped students at MTSU.

said, and will involve modifying elevators in Saunders Fine Arts building, Science Hall, Todd Library, Cope Administration Building and the Learning Resources Center, at an estimated cost of \$80,000.

students have suggested to the Handicapped Students' Committee that a ramp to the second floor of the University Center is needed, but Associate Dean of Students David Hays said he is unsure of the present status of this proposal.

With the installation of an elevator in the Boutwell Dramatic Arts Building, the first four phases of a five-step plan involving structural modifications have been completed, according to Charles Pigg, director of campus planning and construction.

Pigg said that a meeting has been set for next Wednesday with representatives of Johnson and Bailey, a local architectural firm, to discuss the project's design.

Coordinator of Handicapped Services Nancy McBride, however, said she feels "confident that [the ramp] can be built before the summer's out."

THE FIFTH phase of the program is scheduled to begin "sometime in the fall," Pigg

Other recent improvements to campus facilities include modifications to apartments in Married Housing and rooms in J and K dorms, as well as in Wood and Felder halls.

Braille signs for lounges, restrooms and other heavily trafficked areas are also being installed.

SOME HANDICAPPED

PIGG POINTED out that input from students is an

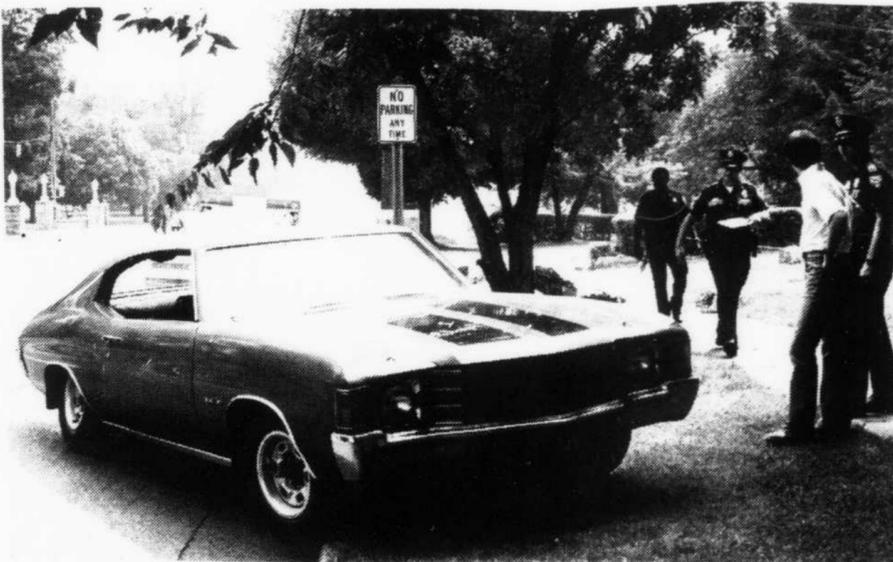


photo by Dee Parker

A former MTSU student lost control of his car yesterday afternoon on Tennessee Boulevard and ran onto the sidewalk when lengths of pipe he was transporting shifted and struck him in the back of the head. Ruben Crosslin of Murfreesboro was transported to Middle Tennessee Medical Center after the accident, but hospital officials would not release information on his condition at press time.

important factor in deciding what modifications are needed.

"We involve the handicapped. That's the approach we've taken, and I think it's a realistic approach," Pigg said. McBride agreed, adding that "I don't get many complaints about accessibility itself, but about minor repairs and things like that."

"**REAL PROBLEMS** are really rare, and it's something, usually, that you can work

around."

Hays noted that handicapped students can attend committee meetings and "provide whatever input or

suggestions are necessary."

According to Hays, MTSU may be "one of the top two or three accessible campuses in the state."

Mid-South Publishing acquires Morning Press

From *Sidelines* News Services

Mid-South Publishing Co., Inc., owner of Murfreesboro's *Daily News Journal*, assumed publication of the *Morning Press*, officials announced Friday.

The *Press*, which also printed *Sidelines*, will continue operation Monday through Friday mornings, officials said. It has published daily except Sunday since May 1982.

involved in the transaction, officials said.

Don Keith and Payne Hardison, owners of the *Press* who reached a "handshake agreement in principal" with Mid-South, said they would leave the paper to "pursue other interests." No money was

CHARLES MORRIS, owner of Morris Newspaper Corp., the parent company of Mid-South, said that he predicted local readers would benefit from the purchase.

"We will attempt to provide the readers and advertisers with a morning newspaper of interest to Rutherford County," Morris said. "We

think the interest is here, and we aim to continue the tradition that has marked the *Daily News Journal* since 1849."

Daily News Journal Publisher David G. "Pete" Bennett will act as interim publisher of the *Press*, and *Daily News Journal* Managing Editor Phil West will act as interim editor.

WEST SAID staff positions were being evaluated and "no real decisions have been made yet."

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Outlook

(continued from page 1)

As difficult as it has been to accredit our School of Business, our efforts will have been wasted unless our resources enable us to continue to meet the standards. Our new M.S. program in computer science is needed to provide students the opportunity to enter today's job market. Unless we can attract quality faculty to teach these courses, however, we should not continue to offer the program.

have a commitment to this university.

I am also saying that it is more difficult to do this with the inadequate resources we have than it has ever been before. In my opinion, we are closer to a rapid deterioration of the quality of higher education in Tennessee than we have been in many years. Hopefully, the general public understands this and will help us to prevent it.

What I am really saying is that in spite of economic hard times, MTSU has a group of dedicated faculty and staff who will be doing their best to continue to plan for the future, provide quality instruction, and to do this because they

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Opinion

from the editor

Alcohol abuse project needs student support

Alcoholism is a major problem in our society, and MTSU has an obligation to the students and faculty to educate them about how to drink responsibly.

After all, drinking is an acceptable practice in our society.

People drink for all sorts of reasons and on all manner of occasions. Wines are popular at meals. Beer is "the thing" at sporting events. Cocktails are served to dinner guests, and mixed drinks are always available at large social gatherings.

As far as drinking is concerned, the old saying "everybody does it" applies. Eight out of 10 men over the age of 21 drink, according to Alcoholics Anonymous. And women are catching up: six out of 10 females consume alcohol regularly.

Here's a closer look at that statistic: out of a U.S. population of 225 million, an estimated 100 million drink.

Of that number, some will become alcoholic and addicted to the drug either physically or psychologically.

How many people who drink "become" alcoholic? National statistics say one out of six drinkers becomes dependent.

Are you in the category of the one in six? Maybe. The chances are against it, but there's always the possibility.

Sidelines has endeavored to call to your attention the growing problem of alcoholism in a recent three-part series. The alcohol problem is the drug, and doctors conclude that it is America's No. 1 drug problem.

At MTSU, some students and faculty members have the problem. The "lucky" ones know they are alcoholic, and they are getting help by attending Alcoholics Anonymous meetings.

Some people here know someone who is alcoholic. They may have to live with the alcoholic, and they may have trouble coping with the problem. That's why Al-Anon exists. It's specifically for people who want to deal with an alcoholic.

But if MTSU is a learning community where people can expand their minds, then why aren't there any resources for understanding alcoholism?

Thanks to the efforts of Dean of Men David Hays, students can at least find out more about alcohol without hearing the "moral" arguments that can invade an intelligent conversation about the subject.

The MTSU Alcohol Abuse Project deserves student support.

One reason ASB President Mark Ross reportedly doesn't have much faith in the project is because he doubts there will be much student support.

Sadly, he's probably right. But that doesn't have to be the case. Anyone interested in helping with the MTSU Alcohol Abuse Project should call Dean Hays at 898-2454.

If there is enough support, chapters of Al-Anon and AA can open on campus.

Being ignorant about alcohol or the "rights" of a non-drinker (yes, we do exist) is one's own fault.

With knowledge, one may still drink and still be aware. It's scary to be playing with a drug you know nothing about.



Local press competition will be missed

By GINA FANN
Sidelines News Editor

Editor's Note: Gina Fann was employed by the Morning Press for one year as education and county reporter, covering city and county schools and MTSU, as well as several facets of Rutherford County government. She left her post in mid-May to complete her degrees in mass communications and English.

There's an old saying in the journalism business about "stopping the presses" if a hot story breaks as the newspaper is being printed.

In all the old movies, a copy boy would run excitedly up to the editor with a sheet hastily ripped off the wire, prompting the editor to haul himself out of his chair and back into the pressroom, all the while bellowing, "STOP THE PRESSES!" at the top of his lungs.

SOMEHOW, I don't think it meant the same thing when that statement was made last Friday afternoon at the *Morning Press* offices on Church Street.

The *Press* was purchased by Mid-South Publishing Corp., the firm which also owns the *Daily News Journal* (the local afternoon newspaper), the *Merchant*, *Smyrna's* (a local shopper), *Smyrna's* and other communications media, including a California television station. Until further notice, the editorial, advertising and circulation activities of the *Press* will be handled by the *DNJ* staffs.

THE *PRESS* was only one year old in May (at least as a



daily—it's been around since 1977 as a weekly), and it prompted some of the healthiest journalistic competition this town has seen in the 20 years I've been here.

That's something I always told us in our basic mass communications classes—get your story done, get a jump on the competition.

In the *DNJ's* case, it seemed that the staff had become rather complacent about covering news, sports and the like before the *Press* went daily, primarily because there was no real rush for news. In other words, if no one else can get to it, why worry?

THAT ATTITUDE, unfortunately, may have contributed to the paper's receiving the somewhat less-than-endearing moniker of "the Newsless Journal."

Subscribers complained that they were paying for stories they had already read in the *Nashville Tennessean* or *Banner*, and some people even

remarked that they only read the obituaries, comics and good ol' L.M. Boyd's column, because the rest was "canned wire copy."

But then, with apologies to that old song, along came the *Press*.

THAT LITTLE newspaper, first published just across the street from its competition, brought about a competitiveness that was a first for Murfreesboro.

Reporters who had rarely set foot outside the *DNJ* offices (I affectionately refer to them as "armchair journalists") were up and about, covering their beats with a fervor not seen in this town in a long time.

And it wasn't just the *DNJ*—all the local radio stations, the zone editions of the *Nashville* papers and even *Sidelines* got on the ball, slapping off copy and scratching for "scoops" as they'd never done before.

THE READERSHIP

profited most from the competition, as new interpretations, strict deadlines and reporters' experience gave them good, solid, comprehensive news coverage.

It went that way for about six months. Then something happened at the *Press*.

Management problems started at the top and worked their way down into the editorial, advertising and even the circulation staffs, where dwindling pride in the paper began to drastically affect the product. Things changed. Morale dropped, people who had been with the paper since it went daily began to get frustrated and leave.

FINALLY we gave up. Some *FINISHED* before the paper went under, others stayed in there until the end and some were eliminated by little quirks of fate called "management decisions."

And some, though the management would have been surprised to hear it, still cared about that paper, even as we were walking out the door for the last time.

Now that the *Press*—as an independent, locally owned daily newspaper—no longer exists, Murfreesboro may have to readjust itself to the news coverage it once knew before the serious competition began.

I sincerely hope not. I hope that the new owners of the *Press* will try to uphold the tradition we in the newsroom established. If a long time coming, and, if the good Lord's willin', it'll be a long time here.

Mark Phillips
Box 2648

NEWS BRIEFS

One year ago today...

It was decided by Chancery Court that separate trials would be conducted for two Lebanon men charged in the alleged rape of two MTSU co-eds.

★★★★

Five years ago today...

Sidelines reported that MTSU paid a total of \$50,000 to 35 faculty women as a result of a Department of Labor investigation into sex discrimination.

It was reported that \$2 million was appropriated by the state to construct a music recital hall on campus.

★★★★

Ten years ago this week...

Radio-TV news commentator Paul Harvey spoke at the MTSU Dramatic Arts Auditorium, urging that amnesty be granted to young men who evaded the draft during the Vietnam War.

Charles Holland, a 31-year-old biology instructor at MTSU, died from injuries received when he was struck by a car on Old Jefferson Pike between Walter Hill and Smyrna.

★★★★

Twenty years ago this week...

Sidelines reported that Lillie Brown Tipps, a Tullahoma schoolteacher and graduate of Middle Tennessee State College, was chosen the "Woman of Achievement" by the Tennessee Federation of Business and Professional Women's Clubs.

★★★★

Gary Head, in winning an NCAA golf tournament in Springfield, Mo., became the first individual to win a national title for Middle Tennessee State College.

To the Editor:

The editorial "Pageants Degrade Women" was right on the mark. A valid statement! But then next to it appeared Rick Hult's cartoon. Talk about degrading women!

Letters Policy

Letters to the editor are welcomed and are considered on the basis of timeliness, interest, taste and space. All letters must include the author's name, MTSU box number and telephone number. The telephone number will be used for verification purposes only.

We reserve the right to edit material submitted for publication. Each letter should be brief and on one subject. We will not print unsigned letters.

Please address all letters and other inquiries to: *Sidelines*, Box 42.

From Our Readers

The cartoon depicts a beauty-pageant queen stating all the "good" things she wants to do with her title. At the same time it shows what her "true" thoughts are—sex, power, and \$\$ M-O-N-E-Y \$\$.

Looking at the cartoon, one

gets a picture of women as being cheap, two-faced, devious schemers—a point which runs counter to the theme of your editorial.

The point was that beauty pageants degrade women, not

that women in pageants are harlots. You've tried to defend the rights of women on the one hand and thrown feces in their faces with the other. That dreaded Freudian slip!

MIDDLE TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY SIDELINES

TERRY MORROW
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DEE PARKER
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Sports

Facilities open to all students

By ANDY REED
Sidelines Staff Writer

Everyone knows that Murphy Center is the hub of the MTSU athletic and HPERs departments. What many people may not know is that the athletic facilities are open to any student or faculty member.

Murphy Center is open from 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. for any student or faculty member with a spring- or summer-validated ID card.

Three basketball courts (including the main arena and two auxiliary gyms), a weight room, an indoor track and four

racquetball courts are inside Murphy Center. These areas are open every day during regular hours except when they're being used for PE classes and special university activities.

THERE ARE also places on campus other than Murphy Center for recreation. The old Alumni Gym, which is adjacent to Murphy Center, has a weight room and a basketball court. The floor of the court, however, is currently being re-finished and will not be completed "until the beginning of next week." Operational Services Director Bill

Smotherman said.

A swimming pool is in the building next to the Alumni Gym, and there are two areas of tennis courts on campus also.

One set of tennis courts is located south of Cummings Hall. These courts have had a new lighting system installed recently, Smotherman said, and may now be used at night as well as during the day.

THE OTHER courts are located just outside the northwest corner of Murphy Center. These courts are lighted at night also, but only until the end of the summer

session, when the outdated system will be removed, Smotherman said.

Running enthusiasts have the option of running on either the indoor track or the outdoor track located at Jones Field. The outdoor track is equipped with low-level security lights and is open 24-hours a day.

"A lot of people use the outdoor track. They're running on it at all hours of the day," Smotherman said.

Concerning student use of the athletic facilities, Smotherman said, "We'd like for more students to take advantage and utilize them."

John Majors denies reports of resignation

KNOXVILLE (UPI) — Tennessee football coach Johnny Majors yesterday emphatically denied reports he planned to resign and take the coaching job with the new Pittsburgh franchise of the United States Football League.

"I have not talked to anybody, nor do I plan to," Majors told *The Knoxville News Sentinel* by from Honolulu, Hawaii, where he was on vacation. "I am not seeking any other job."

AN ATLANTA television station reported Tuesday that Majors would leave Tennessee before the upcoming season to take the USFL job.

Beau Bock, sports commentator for WAGA-TV in Atlanta, said he had been told by sources "inside the NFL" that Majors would sign a contract with the USFL's Pittsburgh franchise later this month. Bock called his secret source "Deep Cleat."

Officials of the Pittsburgh club vigorously denied that Majors was returning to the Steel City, where he led the Pittsburgh Panthers to the college football championship in 1976.

"THAT ABSOLUTELY not true," said Beano Cook, public relations director for the team. "If he is leaving Tennessee to go to the USFL, it must be to another team, not us. We don't

Riding the bench

Frisbee golf course worth the expense?

By KEITH TIPPITT
Sidelines Sports Editor

Could someone please explain exactly why MTSU needs to spend \$10,000 on a Frisbee disc golf course when expenses in almost all areas of the university are being cut back?

David Kessler got his "last hurrah" from the grounds committee to make a course utilizing trees, light poles, and other assorted landmarks on campus as holes and boundaries. Since that time he and the MTSU Ultamatics Ultimate Frisbee Club have been pushing for the installation of a new competition-style course that would be complete with tees and concrete-based metal goals.

SURE, IT would be nice if we had the convenience of having a fancy Frisbee golf course at our back door. There would be at least two or three students a day who are not a part of the Ultamatics that would take advantage of the course.

The new course would be great to hold Frisbee tournaments on, and MTSU and the Ultamatics could impress disc competitors from all over the east and southeast. That is surely the goal and ambition of almost every student that attends this school.

The existing course is evidence of the 'great need' for a professional style course. Driving around campus, one can see thousands of students standing in line to get a shot at the famous MTSU Frisbee golf course. It is rumored that the MTSU security force will re-hire many laid off employees in order to guard the course from use by non-students.

THERE JUST aren't enough students that are genuinely interested in Frisbee golf to merit the spending of big bucks on an expensive course when

there is already a course satisfactory to most students who will be using it.

It is true that the sport is a popular new pastime, and there will be more students utilizing the course this fall, but the only ones benefiting from a new and costly course would be the Ultamatics.

Could it be that dear old Dave and the Ultamatics are more concerned with the wishes and whims of themselves than with the best interest of the whole student body?

SURELY THIS school has the ability to see that there are things needed on this campus worse than a Frisbee golf course. This is supposed to be a school of higher learning, not Cedars of Lebanon II in 3-D, and therefore, the administrators of this fair campus could surely find some books or supplies that they could spend \$10,000 on.

Kessler has mentioned the possibility of getting the course funded by sources from outside the school budget (although no possible candidates have been mentioned), and then putting up the goals around campus. This would save the university money, but would give the appearance of a state park instead of a state university.

There would still be the problem of overthrown discs hitting and damaging passing as well as parked cars, and once again the fact that most of the student body could care less whether there was a new Frisbee golf course on campus or not.

One can only hope that the administration will not listen to yearnings of a group that has been met with snickers and boos when performing before the disinterested student body at MTSU sporting events last year. The university would be better off without a new Frisbee golf course.

think he'd be interested. As of now, we don't plan to talk to Majors."

Cook said the club was considering three candidates for the head coaching job, and Majors was not among them.

Majors, 48, came to Tennessee in 1977 after the Tony

Dorsett-led Panthers won the national title. Majors is a Tennessee native who played tailback for the Vols from 1954 until 1956.

TENNESSEE boosters hoped Majors would lead the Vols back into the college football elite.



Finger-lickin' good?

photo by Keith Tippitt

George Long of Augusta, Ga. balances a spinning Frisbee on his tongue at the 8th annual Tenn. State Frisbee Disc Championships held at MTSU. The participants, who came from 9 states as well as Ontario, Canada, competed for trophies and cash prizes.

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And speaking of SPORTS, the SIDELINES is looking for some folks who are really fired up about SPORTS and have a talent for writing. The fall semester is coming and we need writers to cover the wide variety of area sporting events. So if you really know your way around the field, court, course, track, or locker room, come on up to Room 310 in the James Union Building and fill out an application. **AND DON'T FORGET WE NEED SUMMER SPORTS WRITERS TOO! SO HURRY, HURRY!!!**
