

SIDELINES

August 7, 1991

Middle Tennessee State University

Volume 65, Number 67

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Wed - Partly Cloudy, Scattered thundershowers. Hi mid 80s-90s. Lo mid 60s-70s
Thurs - Fri Partly cloudy, scattered thunderstorms

Pedestrian safety emphasized

TIFFANY MORTON
Assistant News Editor

Signs reminding drivers that pedestrians have the right-of-way while walking in the crosswalks on campus have been posted and will, hopefully, prevent students from being hit, the director of campus safety said.

The signs were put up as a safety precaution and as a reminder to the drivers on campus.

"Students have been hit in the past, so maybe these signs will help to remind the drivers on campus to watch out for the pedestrians and remember that

pedestrians have the right-of-way" said Jack Drugmand, director of public safety and security.

During student orientation, student safety was mentioned and the importance of walking in the crosswalks were stressed. The students who will have automobiles on the campus will also have to follow safety procedures, he said.

"A person is not safe on campus until they have parked their car and exited their car," said Drugmand.

One of the reasons that
See Safety, page 2



LENDING A HAND



Jackie Schklar/photographer

Collecting canned goods: Members of Phi Beta Sigma fraternity are collecting canned food donations, last Saturday, for the Rutherford County Food Bank. Shown from the left are: Kathy Smith, Anthony Tate, Odgen Rattliff, Steven Arnold, Robert Pearson and Les Newman.

Appeals move considered

SAM GANNON
Staff Writer

There is some talk and concern about the possible movement of academic appeals to the college level, rather than the university level, according to Dean of Students Paul Cantrell.

The Academic Appeals Committee currently reviews cases in which students seek to be readmitted to the university. In an average semester, the committee handles about 400 cases.

"There would be a different process among college attitudes, readmission could influence majors, and increase the budget," Cantrell said.

If each college was allowed to control its appeals, then the liberalism or conservatism of a college would be very important. For example, if one college was more liberal than another, students who were rejected by one college could possibly be accepted by another, the dean said.

This amount of transiency between colleges could lead to more students and more money for the university, he pointed out.

See Appeals, page 2

Increase in freshmen remedial courses

(CPS) - More than a third of college freshman in the South need remedial help to complete college-level course work, a June report on remedial education revealed.

The findings suggest that colleges need to pay attention to those students' needs and work harder to meet them, said Ansley Abraham, the study's author.

"If they're going to admit the students, they need to have the programs in place to meet their needs," Abraham said.

In the 15 states served by the

Southern Regional Education Board which released the report, about 180 of the 500 students in a typical freshman class need academic support in reading, writing, or mathematics before they enroll in classes that actually offer degree credit.

The report, "They Came to College?"

A Remedial/Developmental Profile of First-Time Freshman in SREB States," surveyed remedial programs at 606 public and private colleges and universities in the region.

"The major problem is a lack of preparation at the secondary level," Abraham said.

"It has a lot to do with students not going into college preparatory curriculum in high school."

Abraham says that given the large number of remedial students who enter college each year, campuses that accept these students might reasonably be expected to prepare their faculties and support staffs to meet the needs of these students. But that

doesn't always happen.

"Even though students who need remedial help must pay the same tuition and must meet the same standards for graduation," he says, "they are rarely accepted as full-fledged members of the higher education community."

Perhaps because they have a better grasp of the situation, states that have mandatory testing and placement policies tended to have higher percentages of freshmen in remedial courses, the study found.

Campus Briefs

Holocaust Seminar offered in the fall

Honors will offer its widely known Holocaust Seminar this fall. All sessions are free and open to the public, but registrants are still welcome. Instructors for the course will be Dr. Nuell of the art department and Dr. Sonja Hedgepeth, of the foreign language department.

The class is offered on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 3:05 until 4:20. Anyone wishing to take this honors course is asked to inquire at the Honors Office, PH 106 for a permission form.

Poff named counselor

Gina Hinton Poff is a new counselor in the office of financial aid at Middle Tennessee State University.

The 1990 MTSU graduate will be very busy in her new role. "Gina will be assuming the responsibility of dealing with private scholarships and student loans, as well as student counseling," explains Winston Wrenn, director of MTSU office of financial aid.

Poff will also be developing informational materials, maintaining a catalog of available scholarships, accounting of private scholarships back to the donors responsible, and participating in the university's summer orientation programs.

Campus Capsule is a service provided by *Sidelines* for non-profit campus groups. If you have a notice that you would like to run in Campus Capsule, please submit typewritten or printed information to our office in the James Union Building, Room 310. Items must be received by Tuesday at noon for Wednesday's publication. Inclusion is not guaranteed and is based on available space.

MTSU Day Care Lab announces the sponsorship of the Tennessee Department of Human Services Child and Adult Care Food Program. Meals will be available at no separate charge to enrolled children at the centers who are eligible.

A sales tax workshop offered to assist small business owners, accountants, lawyers, and others. The workshop will deal with sales tax, regulations, problems and procedures is scheduled for Aug. 15 from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m. at the KUC theater. For more information, call the Division of Continuing Studies.

YWCA is sponsoring a support group for women of color. The group will deal with domestic violence problems. The group meets on Thursdays at 6 p.m. For more information call 297-8833. Meetings are confidential.

InterVarsity Christian Fellowship looking for someone to lead the group worship and singing time. The group meets on Tuesdays from 7-8 p.m. Please call Rob Holmes at 896-5863 for information if you have a guitar and synthesizer, talent and love the truth.

Tennessee Inventors Association will meet at 10:00 am, Saturday, August 17th, in the Tennessee Innovation Center. The center is located at 1055 Commerce Park Drive, Oak Ridge and visitors are welcome. For more information, contact Duncan Johns, (615) 690-3109.

A free Rutherford County Aids/HIV and STDs Educational Awareness Seminar will be held August 22 from 8:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at the Middle Tennessee Medical Center Amphitheater. The medical center is located at 400 N. Highland Avenue,

Murfreesboro, Tennessee. For more information call 898-0344.

The Japan Center of Tennessee announces a photograph exhibit entitled *The Four Days of August, 1945: The Photographer's Legacy* on display at Maryland Faums Racquet and Country Club, Maryland Way, Brentwood, during the month of August, 1991. The public can view the exhibit Monday - Friday 8:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m., Saturday 9:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m. and Sunday 11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Grades for Summer 1991 will be mailed to the permanent address of all students enrolled provided outstanding financial obligations to the University are cleared by 4:00 p.m., August 7, 1991. Grade reports for those students who continue to owe money to the University after August 7, 1991 will be held in the Records Office.

Appeals

continued from page 1

The benefits of the program would include "more contact with the students. Before and after, adviser input and influence if readmitted would be encouraging to the student versus the university level in which there is no follow-up; and if a member of the Academic Appeals Committee did see a student, he probably wouldn't recognize him," Cantrell continued.

"Under the college system, there would be a more one-on-one personal basis; students would feel more pressure to excel," he said.

The affects on the process in general would be minimal, Cantrell said.

"There would be some influence on the process, but there will be no substantial difference in the time it takes to process an appeal," Cantrell concluded.

Safety

continued from page 1


accidents do occur between drivers and pedestrians is because drivers are more preoccupied in finding parking spaces than letting students cross the street, Drugmand said.

"On Aug. 16, six signs will go up around campus to indicate to students of the parking lots on the outskirts of campus," said Drugmand. "It made a big difference last year in helping congestion in the center of campus; and, hopefully, it will relieve some of the congestion this year."

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Opinions

Hope rude drivers are good readers

Why did the chicken not cross the road at MTSU? Because it was swarming with lead-footed, car jockeys that would gladly convert anyone in their path to road pizza.

OK, so that's not how the joke goes, but it is a pretty accurate description of the attitudes of some motorists on this campus. How many times have you been strolling along in a designated street-crossing and have a near death experience with a monster truck racing the Blue Raider 500?

Hopefully, those days are a thing of the past thanks to seven, simple words: "PEDESTRIANS HAVE RIGHT-OF-WAY IN CROSSWALKS." Signs bearing this phrase have been placed around campus to alert motorists that pavement does not always equal highway and to inform them to yield to street-crossers.

Of course, this is not a new rule. Pedestrians have always had the right-of-way in crosswalks (hence, the title). The problem is that too many people on this campus either don't know or don't care about this rule and, unfortunately, even a sign will not cut out all of these rude and dangerous acts.

However, the signs are a good idea and should serve as a reminder and a deterrent to those who might violate this rule and prevent some of the senseless accidents that have occurred in the past.

WASHINGTON



Mark Alan Stamaty

Letters to the Editor

MTSU employees respond to parking issue

To the Editor:

As employees of this university, we would like to respond to the consensus editorial of 7/31. The following is for your information. All university employees are required to maintain office hours of 8 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. However, most staff have to get here no later than 7:30 in order to find a place to park; there are few white spaces left after 8 a.m.

Working in the James Union and trying to park is particularly difficult. For those of you who don't know, those of us who do work in this building, you know, the one with the student cafeteria, scheduling center, faculty dining room, Tennessee Room and all the other dining rooms, have a particularly tough time trying to find parking space. Unless we get here before 7:30, and many times earlier than that, we are out of luck. We agree that students are the ones who pay the bills, aka paying customers. But our tax dollars also go to support your education here as well.

As far as a hiring freeze, in case you have forgotten, this is a new fiscal year and MTSU is announcing new job and position openings every day. These jobs

will be filled and more automobiles will be coming on campus with black or white decals for parking. And in case you have forgotten, black and white stickers are allowed to park in green curb areas, taking up your parking spaces as well. As far as everyone having a "fair shot" at parking, everywhere I have ever worked has always furnished their employees with ample parking space. As far as we're concerned, we would be more than happy to pay a fixed price per month or semester to be guaranteed a parking space within a relative distance to our offices, not on the far side of campus behind the ag barn.

For your information, there are: 361 black parking spaces available and 609 decals issued; 522 white parking spaces available and 1093 decals issued. And the number issued changes almost daily.

And if you think you are underprivileged now, think about the students with white or black decals. Where and how did they get them and what makes them so special?

Another problem with this campus is the number of visitors we have in ever growing numbers. The JUB in particular has parking problems in

accommodating these people. We have a constant flow of people attending seminars, breakfasts, luncheons, etc., and they park their cars, most of the time without visitor parking permits, and take up even more of the available spaces. And in case you are not aware, they also take up green spaces. I don't think that visitors should be given priority parking by taking what is designated for us without having to pay penalties. However, we do sympathize with them when they have to be here at a particular time and are late to their respective meetings because they cannot find a place to park. Visitors should be given a designated parking lot and told when receiving information about their conferences and seminars where to go. If they park out of the designated area, they should be ticketed just like everybody else and they should have to pay their fines!

Parking is a problem for everyone on this campus and I think your editorial should have addressed the whole issue rather than the narrow view that you took.

Kathy Slager
Jenny Crouch

SIDELINES

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Opinion Page Policy

Unsigned editorials represent the viewpoint of the paper's editorial staff, while signed columns reflect the views of the author. All letters to the editor must be accompanied by the author's name, campus address and phone number. The author's identification will be verified, and unsigned letters will not be printed. Editors reserve the right to edit for libel, news style and length. Address letters to: **Sidelines, Box 42, MTSU, Murfreesboro, TN 37130.**

Gotten an opinion?

Well let us know!

Write Sidelines P.O. Box 42

Features

Learning is not just for youths

MARSHA BLASCO
Staff Writer

An MTSU professor and his 44 "students" gathered early one morning last week in a horse barn outside Murfreesboro and stood facing a concrete platform.

The air inside the barn was humid, and the odors pervasive—but no one complained.

The students' attention was riveted on a strong, black mare. The horse's dark eyes moved from side to side as she stared back at the group.

Bill Reed, horse trainer and owner of Shady Creek Farm, introduced the students to Generator's Sonata, nicknamed Melody, the 1990 reigning World Grand Champion Plantation Walking Horse.

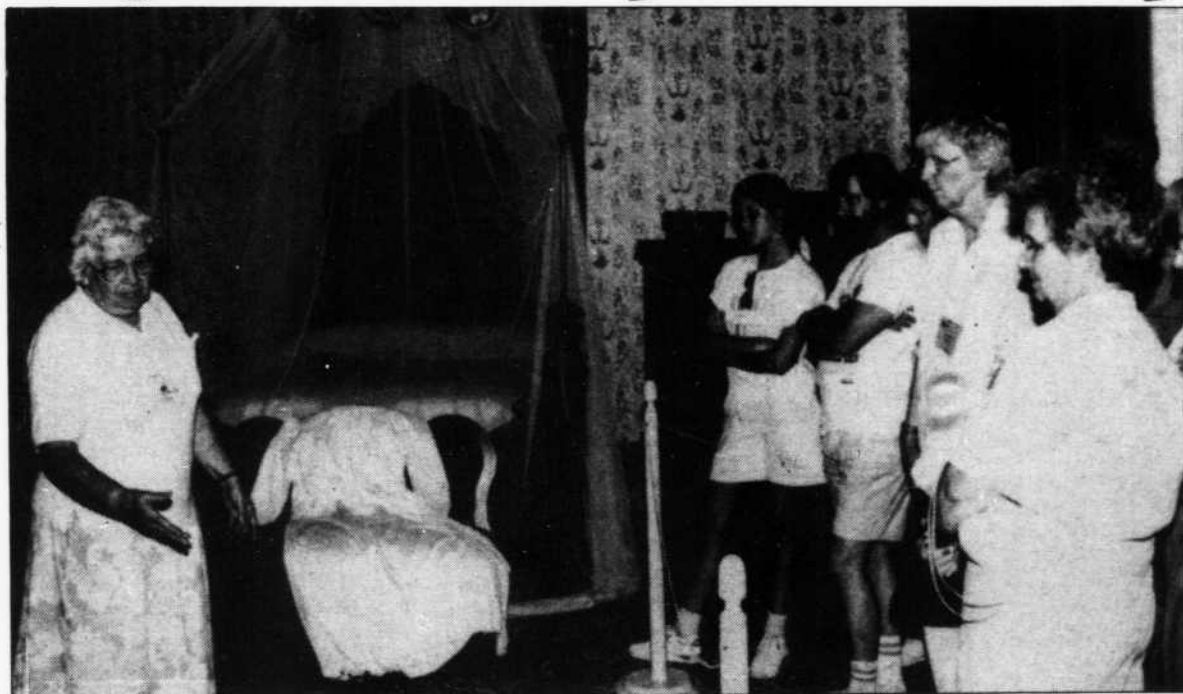
This class about Tennessee Walking Horses is not open to all students at MTSU. Students must be seniors to be accepted—seniors 60 years and older, that is.

These "seniors" are part of a non-profit group called Elderhostel. This international program, founded in 1975, is based on the idea that people of all ages should have access to learning experiences.

The search for knowledge draws Elderhostel participants to programs in all 50 states and in over 40 foreign countries. Students live on a university campus for a week and take three non-credit courses. MTSU is one of more than 1,000 universities around the world that offers dorms as inns for Elderhostel students.

MTSU has offered the same three courses for the past 11 years: Tennessee Walking Horses; The Civil War; and Country Music. According to Dr. Cynthia Drennan, campus coordinator for the program, MTSU classes are in great demand.

"We are considered to be the premiere program in Tennessee," Drennan said. "Our programs are



Shelley Mays

HISTORIC MURFREESBORO TOUR: Members of MTSU's Elderhostel program tour Murfreesboro's Oakland Mansion.



Marsha Blasco

JUST A RIDIN': Dr. Bob Womack rides Coin's Flash Dance while horse trainers Bob Reed, right, and Marilynne Orr, center, look on. The class on Tennessee Walking Horses was taught at Shady Creek Farm during Elderhostel.

usually filled. When you look at other programs in Tennessee, that is not always the case."

MTSU has offered seven

week-long Elderhostel programs this year. Last week's session had 44 participants, representing 12 states.

Education professor Dr. Bob Womack taught the courses on walking horses and the Civil War. Reading from diaries and letters,

Womack presented soldiers' descriptions of Civil War battles and hardships. The course also included field trips to Cannonsburg, the Stones River Battlefield and the Sam Davis Home.

Elderhostelers learned about Tennessee walking horses in class sessions held on campus and at a professional horse barn.

Sociology professor Dr. Ben Austin presented the process of songwriting and the social needs behind the music in the course on country music. Austin and students also visited the Grand Ole Opry.

In addition to classes, Drennan scheduled a tour of Opryland, two picnics, a sing-along, a hayride and some free time to allow student to explore the local area on their own. The cost for the week was \$265, which covered room, board and tuition.

"Camaraderie is a big draw to a program like this," Drennan said. "We get groups of people from various walks of life, from various parts of the country. They learn not only from the courses, but also from the others. They make friendships from the group and plan to meet in other areas."

A woman from Ohio proudly explained that this trip was her 22nd Elderhostel experience.

"I would be a continual student if I could," she exclaimed.

She said this during the class held at the horse barn, as she watched the animated walk of the prize-winning mare, Melody. As the mare's owner rode the horse the length of the barn and back, the group watched the mare's head nod in rhythm with each step. Her front legs lifted high and her back legs seemed to stretch forward with each stride.

The student turned again to add, "Where else could I go [besides Elderhostel] to learn things like this."

Satterwhite teaches, performs and works for Doctorate

If you want to meet a Jack-of-all-trades, meet James Satterwhite. He is currently working on his doctoral degree, teaching music classes at a local high school, performing in various bands in the United States and abroad, making numerous television appearances, winning awards, raising a family, and enjoying every minute. Whew!

Satterwhite will earn his Doctor of Arts degree in English Literature in August from Middle Tennessee State University, but that's just part of the story.

He is the songwriting expert in the Nashville Metro Public School system, and says his program at Hunters Lane High School "is the only one of its kind in the country as far as we know."

The class covers music indigenous to Tennessee—mountain music, bluegrass, old-time string band, gospel, blues, rockabilly, and some parlor music. The Murfreesboro native was originally hired as an English teacher "but once they heard me play guitar they wanted me to start this program."

Satterwhite's career almost didn't happen. His parents wanted him to become a lawyer. He applied to law school, was accepted, and was about to enroll but was "fortunately saved by the MTSU English department."

"I was on my way to a performance, and my car blew up in Oklahoma," recalls the music teacher. "It was such a miserable trip that it inspired me to write a short story. I had been writing songs, short stories, and poetry since I had been on the road. I took some of my writing to Dr.

John McDaniel in the English department (now dean of MTSU's College of Liberal Arts), and he thought the English department would be a good place for me. So that's how I ended up in English."

Satterwhite earned his bachelor's and master's degrees from MTSU and has been working on his dissertation while teaching music, performing on the road two or three nights a week, and winning awards.

The Murfreesboro Central graduate

See SHATTERWHITE, page 5

'Boyz in the Hood' is great portrait of life

Black directors break new ground as more black films are made

The neighborhood is a lower middle class section of central Los Angeles. The "Hood" as it is better known is home to mostly lower class blacks that have nothing better to do than to get caught up in the violence and the fights with rival gangs in the area.

Compiled by
TONY JONES
GREG ADKINS
ERIC WALKUP

This story centers on Tre Styles (Cuba Gooding jr.) who returns to the Hood to live with his father and spends his time with old childhood friends. His best friend is Ricky (Morris Chestnut) who is a promising scout for USC football. Ricky and Tre have been pals for life and are very much alike. They are both blacks from the Hood and both are non-violent college bound

people.

Doughboy (Ice Cube) is Ricky's brother, an overweight loafer whose daily life consists of beer, crack, guns, violence, and as he calls them "hoes." Doughboy and his friends have spent time in the pen and now they are out to resume their "normal" lives.

John Singleton has created a masterpiece with this film. A wonderful social statement that should not be overlooked by anyone. The importance of this film is relevant to the times of gang violence and drugs among the black communities in America. Singleton splendidly creates a nasty environment with no shame on the black culture. The full intensity of the "Hood" keeps the pace of the movie and makes the whole experience seem so very, very real.

Although the film is full of abusive, foul language and depictions of gang violence; it fits here, its' real life. Not only does it

make you think very hard about what's going on, it also educates you about the horrors of gang style violence.

If every person of junior high school age and older could see this film then one day there may be no need for films like this.

Boys living in the hood do not necessarily have to be lower class blacks. They can be any race of any social prominence. A lesson is there for all of us to learn.

John Singleton could very well be the next Spike Lee or even the great Sidney Poitier. I think that Mr. Singleton has a bright future ahead of him in Hollywood, and a movie that should be considered no less than the best picture of the year.

Boyz in the Hood was marred on its opening day by theatre violence. This violence simply followed a trend set by movies such as *New Jack City* and *Colors*. During the fights that

broke out over the opening weekend 33 people were injured and 1 killed.

Do these movies tell a tale too hard to hear? Do they spin a story a little too close to reality?

While it cannot be denied that the majority of these films deal with blacks, and more exactly youth gangs, it must be remembered *Godfather III* sparked violence on its premiere.

Beyond the fighting and the violence the black film industry is taking off. This year more black movies are being made than in the whole last decade.

Directors have arisen from surprising black actors. Bill Duke, a common action villain or sidekick to Arnold Schwarzenegger, directed *A Rage in Harlem* one of this years first black films. Mario Van Peebles, first seen as Clint Eastwood's pain in Heartbreak Ridge, grossed \$46.1 million on *New Jack City*.

Van Peebles is probably the first member of black film heritage, his father Melvin Van Peebles directed *Sweet Sweetback's Baadassss Song*.

But the best story comes from the black directors who are just black directors.

Spike Lee, probably the best known black director, has been making films, commercials and political statements for years. He has become what many of us wish to be, a man who speaks his mind and gets what he wants. Many new black directors are using his style and direction as a guide.

While these movies have been connected to some violent episodes let's not forget the good they have done. Finally, maybe it will be possible for blacks to examine their heritage out in the open with the rest of us.

Sorrow comes to TPACC with song

The scene is France. The time is the early to mid-1800s when revolution was in the air for the country's poor — Les Miserables. Victor Hugo's masterpiece of French literature is well represented in this musical

Play Breif
SAM GANNON

adaptation.

The cast of characters drifted in and out and intermingled voices of Eponine (Cadese Marchese) and Fantine (Lisa Vroman) were almost haunting.

The main plot consists of Jean Valjean (Brian Lynch), a convict who breaks parole and makes a success of himself and his life including adopting a orphan child, Cosette (Talaria Haast, then Nashvillian Marian Murphy). Surrounding this character are several people who would like to see him fail,

including Javert (David Jordon), who had been tracking Valjean for years for breaking parole.

Mr. and Mrs. Thenardier (Joshua Finkel and Diana Rogers) are the major comic relief in the musical. They tore the audience up with laughter.

Meanwhile, the students of Paris are planning a rebellion and Marius (Nashvillian Ron Sharpe), who is Cosette's love interest, takes part in it. Valjean takes part to in the rebellion to guarantee his daughter's young lover's safety.

Buddy Smith was excellent as the urchin Gavroche. His death probably brought tears to a lot of eyes in the house that night.

Having little experience with musicals, I don't have that much with which to compare Les Miserables, but I can recommend it to anyone. If you missed it this time it assuredly will return again. This musical production is one you should not miss.

SATTERWHITE — continued from page 4

recently received the Outstanding Achievement Award from Gov. Ned McWherter for preserving and enhancing traditional Tennessee music. His student group, "The Hunters Lane String Band," won the 1991 Grand Country Band Championship at the Tennessee State Fair, beating a lot of professional bands.

His talents will be showcased on two television shows this fall: the Fox television network special "Folk Music Across America," and with his student group on the Public Broadcast System's "Musical Encounter."

What does the future hold for the teacher, musician, television performer, family-man, and soon-to-be doctor? "It would always be nice to have some success as a songwriter, and I keep working on that. I will probably continue teaching because the program at Hunters Lane is so unique. It's a custom fit. I'll probably go on teaching, performing and writing."

"I enjoy what I'm doing now. I make sure I take time out for my family, and the combination of family and work makes me happy."

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Sports

Candidates apply for coach's job

More than 79 applications were received by the Monday deadline for the basketball coaching job being vacated by Bruce Stewart while speculation surfaced that former coach and Athletic Director Jimmy Earle may seek the job.

While applications received this week with an Aug. 5 postmark will be accepted, Earle is believed to have met with Athletic Director John Stanford Monday.

In an article published in a local newspaper, Earle confirmed

the meeting but said he had not made up his mind whether or not to apply for his former position.

Stanford said he could not release any names of the applicants due to the need to protect applicants' privacy.

"We will not release any names until the hiring committee has had a chance to narrow the list down to a few applications," Stanford said.

The head coaching position opened up when Stewart resigned to take up a professional position

with the Grand Rapids, Mich., Hoops, a Continental Basketball Association team.

Stewart said he accepted the job with the Hoops organization because of a personal goal to coach a professional team.

"My goal has always been to coach pro ball, and Grand Rapids is a solid organization with solid ownership. With coaching pro basketball being my ultimate goal, this is the time to do it by getting into the CBA," Stewart said when he officially resigned.

MTSU assistant coach Tommy Smith, Belmont's Rick Byrd and former UT coach Don DeVoe are among those rumored to have applied for the position. Other names being tossed around are former Tennessee and Alabama assistant Fred Bryant and David Lipscomb coach Doug Meyer.

The person named to succeed Stewart will have quite a record to follow. During Stewart's seven years here, he built a 141-76 record, won three OVC

championships, won two OVC tournament championships, made two NIT post-season appearances and three NCAA post-season appearances.

MTSU also garnered national recognition with wins over teams like Tennessee, Georgia, Florida State, Michigan and the USSR National team.

Officials hope to have a replacement for Stewart by the time fall semester begins Aug. 23. But the committee will have to cull the applicant pool considerably before interviewing can begin

SLAM



Shelly Mays

THE BIG SPIKE: Jason Cruise from Tullahoma drives a mean ball during a Campus Recreation Volleyball tournament.

Special Olympics makes everyone a winner

Every four years or so, almost everyone with a television, no matter which country he or she might live in, tunes in to watch the world Olympics. There's nothing wrong with that.

The events featured in these Olympics are pretty impressive. But there is another Olympics which happens every year which most Americans aren't aware of. This event doesn't feature any big names like Greg Louganis or Ben Johnson. There aren't any death defying sports like the luge or downhill skiing. These are just ordinary people like

MARY RHUDY Staff Column

you and me. Or perhaps I would be more correct in saying these are extraordinary people.

These are the Special Olympics, and the people who compete are anywhere from 8 to 80 and up. They have some limitations that the rest of us don't have. They may be developmentally slow, paraplegic, or have any one of a number of birth defects. They are, however, by no means any less heroic than their so-called normal counterparts. Moreover, these people are certainly not short on raw chutzpah and determination.

Some seven years ago, I had the chance to volunteer my time at a Special Olympics meet in Tullahoma. Those 8 1/2 hours I spent working that meet were by far some of the most memorable of my entire life. I was a "hugger." That meant that my soul duty that day was to go around and be there for whomever needed that extra bit of encouragement or just needed a hug. I cheered people on and congratulated them regardless of whether they came in first. One thing about Special Olympians is that they are all winners.

This past Friday, I talked with Alice Risner, a gymnastics coach whose daughter takes part in the gymnastics events in these games. We talked about just what these events mean to the people who take part or just volunteer their time. One thing she mentioned that really struck a nerve was the general attitude that our society has towards the people who compete in these games.

"There is a stigma, a preconceived notion that these people are somehow 'not normal' or just 'different.' Some people don't think much about these games because they just don't see the importance of being able to toss a softball over a line, or whatever," Risner said.

Usually the only people who come to watch the games are the friends and relatives of those competing, she added.

Special Olympics does far, far more than just give the participants the chance to get outside and have lots of fun.

"Special Olympics helps these people to find out they are truly something special, not just slow or handicapped. It helps them to reach out to people, to trust, to have the courage to try new things. What's more, Special Olympics gives them more self-confidence than they ever had before," Risner pointed out.

One thing that the World Olympics has that Special Olympics doesn't have is money.

"Special Olympics is almost entirely supported by volunteers and donations, both from private sources and businesses. There are a rare few districts that have the money to support a few paid positions, but mostly it is all volunteer," Risner said.

McDonald's is one of the biggest supporters in Tennessee, she said.

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Better to walk than to complain about the parking

One would have to be as blind as a near-sighted mole to not have noticed the lack of parking spaces on campus. (Funny how while student enrollment is up, green parking is mysteriously turning white.)

This, of course, renders it necessary for most of us to do considerably more walking than we are probably used to. So why not make the best of what will most assuredly remain a problem

long past the time when we have all been awarded our Ph. D's and won our Nobel and Pulitzer Prizes?

Walking happens to be one of the most beneficial of the aerobic exercises.

*It burns as much as 300 calories an hour.

*It strengthens leg, hip and abdominal muscles.

*It helps to raise levels of beneficial (HDL) cholesterol and

lower levels of harmful (LDL) cholesterol.

*It strengthens the cardiac muscle and increases lung capacity.

*It causes your body to burn more fat.

*It reduces the effects of stress and helps improve the quality of sleep.

*A great many people who have quit smoking have reported that regular aerobic exercise

(most often walking) helped them to quit.

There are somethings you'll want to keep in mind as you prepare to do the inevitable extra bit of walking. First of all, you'll want to buy a good pair of walking shoes with suitable arch support. Heels may look perfectly elegant, but, besides being a source of great torture on the spine and feet, they have been proven to be bad for the calf and

shin muscles.

Secondly, make sure you drink plenty of water. Whether you're spending more time in humid heat or dry cold, your body's need for fluids rises with increased activity levels.

Doctors and health officials also advise that you eat more citrus fruits, bananas, etc. These supply potassium which is

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Pee wee clinic is full of good baseball

If you wanted to get an idea of what pure, raw, unbridled energy and excitement look like, you should have been at the Bruce Stewart "Hoop Camp" Pee Wee Basketball Clinic this week.

Fifty-nine girls and boys between the ages of 5 and 8 took part in this clinic which was headed up by MTSU students John Skinner, Ben Dotson, Rick Arp and Kristi Brown.

Skinner, a graduate assistant, was in charge of the clinic, with Dotson and Arp, managers for the Blue Raiders, and Brown, a Lady Raiders, assisting.

The children were taught basic skills, such as passing, dribbling, shooting, team skills, sportsmanship, as well as drills, according to Skinner.

Girls in fluffy pink hairbows played as aggressively and with just as much skill as the boys. There was real team spirit developed, as well as some awesome moves.

The playing wasn't the only thing that was noteworthy, the directors pointed out. There were some special children involved, including a boy named Alex. Alex was born two months premature and had only weighed 3 pounds at birth. Despite having had a slow start, he was out there doing just as well as anyone, Skinner said.

At the end of the week, there was an awards ceremony where the children were each given a

certificate of achievement and several other prizes, as well. They also went over some of the things that had learned during the week, such as school work coming before basketball, listening to their parents, taking good care of themselves, and being good sports.

"We only had one or two shy kids this week, and it didn't take them too long to get into the game and start having fun," said Dotson.

"The girls play just as hard and fast as the boys do." There was no distinction made between girls and boys. The kids were treated as athletes, pure and simple," he added.

The parents found themselves getting just as involved as the kids.

"We had parents taking off from work just to be here with their kids all week. They have just as much fun as the kids do," said Skinner.

Parents agreed that this experience had been very good for their children. Those interviewed said their children learned some important skills and values from the camp, such as playing well with other children and having more self-confidence.

These clinics are offered every summer, said Skinner.

"If anyone wants more information, all they have to do is call the athletic office here at MTSU," he added.



Shelly Mays

WATCH YOUR FEET: Noah Thompson fades bak to make a catch at MTSU's baseball camp.

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Another problem is that there are people out there who could benefit from being a part of Special Olympics, but who, for whatever reason, either don't know about it or are afraid to try.

"If you know of someone who you think could get some good out of taking part in Special Olympics, it would be perfectly all right to go and talk with their family or with their school. Sometimes the parents of special education students either don't know about the games, or are afraid or unwilling to admit that their child needs the help. Sometimes the parents themselves are handicapped, as well," she said.

If you would like more information, either about participating or about volunteering, please contact your school's special education teacher or your chamber of commerce. It

cannot be stressed too strongly that Special Olympics depends almost entirely on volunteering and donations for their survival. Speaking from personal experience, I can honestly say that what you put into the experience will be repaid a thousand fold in the love you get from these truly heroic Special Olympians.

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excreted by the body in sweat. Potassium must be replaced or you could run into heart problems.

You can shed a few pounds while you walk to class by cutting back on the fat in your diet. Walking is an excellent fat-burning exercise and uses up choice unwanted to calories.

Try to balance the weight of your books while walking. Switch hands carrying your bag to guard against strain on neck muscles.

Don't forget to say Hi! to

people you pass. You'll brighten someone's day and perhaps make new friends as well.



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