

# SIDELINES

March 30, 1992

Middle Tennessee State University

Volume 66, Number 55

## Shuttle buses billed as parking solution

*SGA questions numbers, feasibility of shuttle plans*

**SAM GANNON**  
News Editor

Getting to class may be as easy as riding a shuttle bus if the proposed parking plan is implemented by President James Walker.

A parking study was (earlier this month) by the Finance and Administration department. Surveyed were 81 schools, 31 of which used shuttle buses.

If MTSU does purchase

two shuttle buses, the survey results suggested that possibly 750 to 1,000 students would benefit daily from this service.

The shuttle system cost, including the vehicles, drivers, maintenance and fuel, would be \$76,085, the report said.

It would be free to students, staff and faculty, said Jerry Tunstill, vice president of Finance and Administration.

"If you have an ID, then you can get in this thing and ride it," he said.

The suggested buses would be "normal passenger vans" and would run beginning at 7:30 a.m. until 5:30 p.m.

"It would be a 25-passenger bus," Tunstill said. "Anything we buy will be handicapped accessible."

The plan already has taken some slack from the Student Government Association for only being able to accommodate maybe one in 15 students on a daily basis.

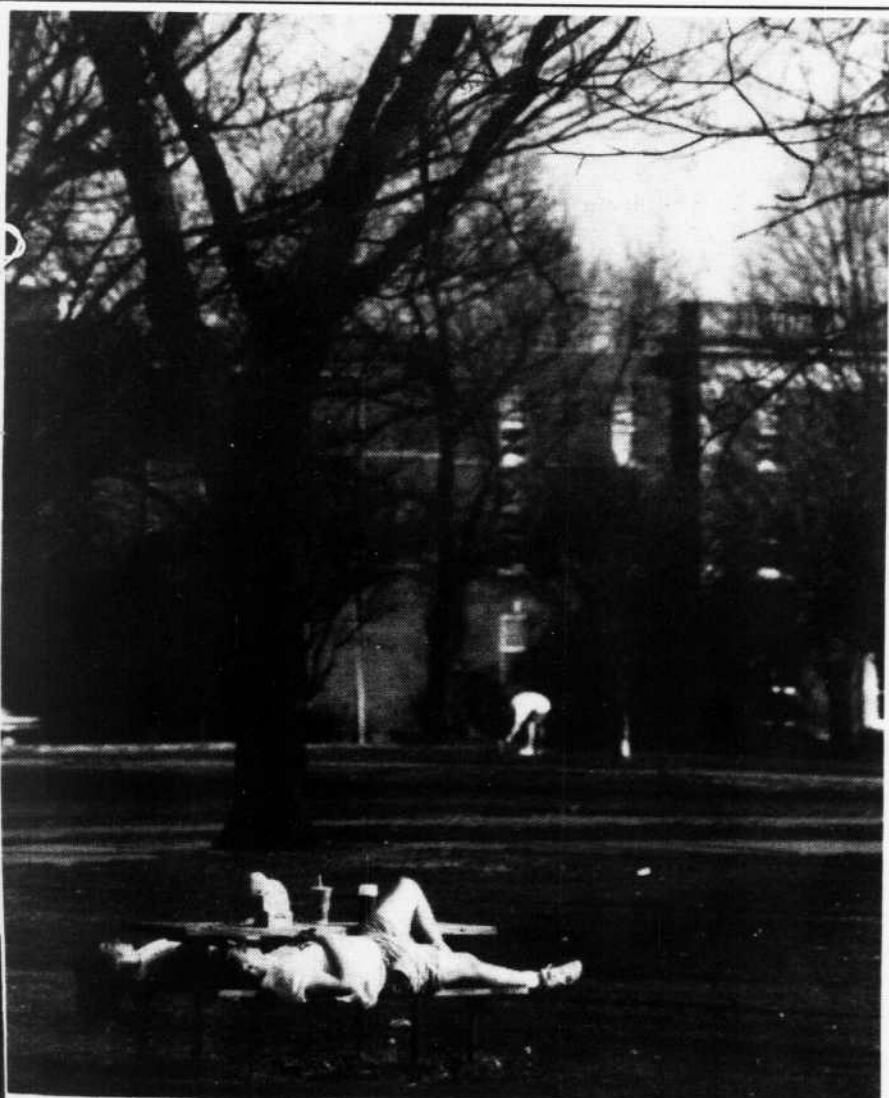
In a letter to Dr. Robert

LaLance, vice president for Student Affairs, the SGA explained: "The feasibility of the shuttle system working as designed, with the perimeter lots not being more than 10 minutes from the academic buildings, we feel that there will be no demand for the shuttle service which can only service 24 to 48 students at a time. In other words, by the time a shuttle could pick up a

See **PARKING**, page 2



Third in a series



Dane Herndon/Photographer

**ENJOYING THE SUNSHINE?** Two students enjoy the summer-like weather we had over spring break.

## Activism on campuses: Still alive and growing



(CPS)—The winds of change can be felt on American campuses, say student and political leaders who predict that old-fashioned activism is growing among students frustrated about social issues.

While '60s demonstrations concentrated on the Vietnam war, the '90s are seeing students organizing around a far wider range of causes. Protection of the environment is the hottest issue, followed by racism, women's issue's, AIDS, Native American rights, pro-life/pro-choice, apartheid and gay-lesbian rights.

"I believe that activism deals with the root of the problem, while service volunteerism deals with the symptom — and you need both," said Tajel Shah, president of the United States Student Association in Washington, D.C., the oldest and largest student-run political organization in the United States.

Today's new breed of activist is informed, educated, and not fueled by emotion, say student leaders.

There is a distinction between service volunteerism, also a trend on campuses today, and hard-core activism — where students are prepared to make a greater personal sacrifice, if necessary, for their beliefs.

South African divestment stirred the ire of student activists of the '80s, and their outcry was heard throughout the country.

Since the release of Nelson Mandela (the African National Congress leader) and the lifting of apartheid laws in South Africa, much of the uproar over universities investing in companies doing business in South Africa has fizzled.

The shanty towns constructed by student activists are gone; and, in some cases, universities are quietly re-examining divestment policies. Students also cite the recession for declining interest in South Africa.

Most activists say they prefer to work within the system, such as the U.S.S.A. Others state that, if necessary, they will use non-violent sit-ins, demonstrations, and other acts of civil disobedience to make their point.

"Students are not apathetic. They are

See **ACTIVISM**, page 13

### NEWS

#### LAYING IT ON THE LINE:

The SGA presidential candidates present their ideas and policies on the record.

page 3

### OPINIONS

#### PARK-N-PAY:

The university's proposed parking reforms are solid, but students will pick up the tab.

page 5

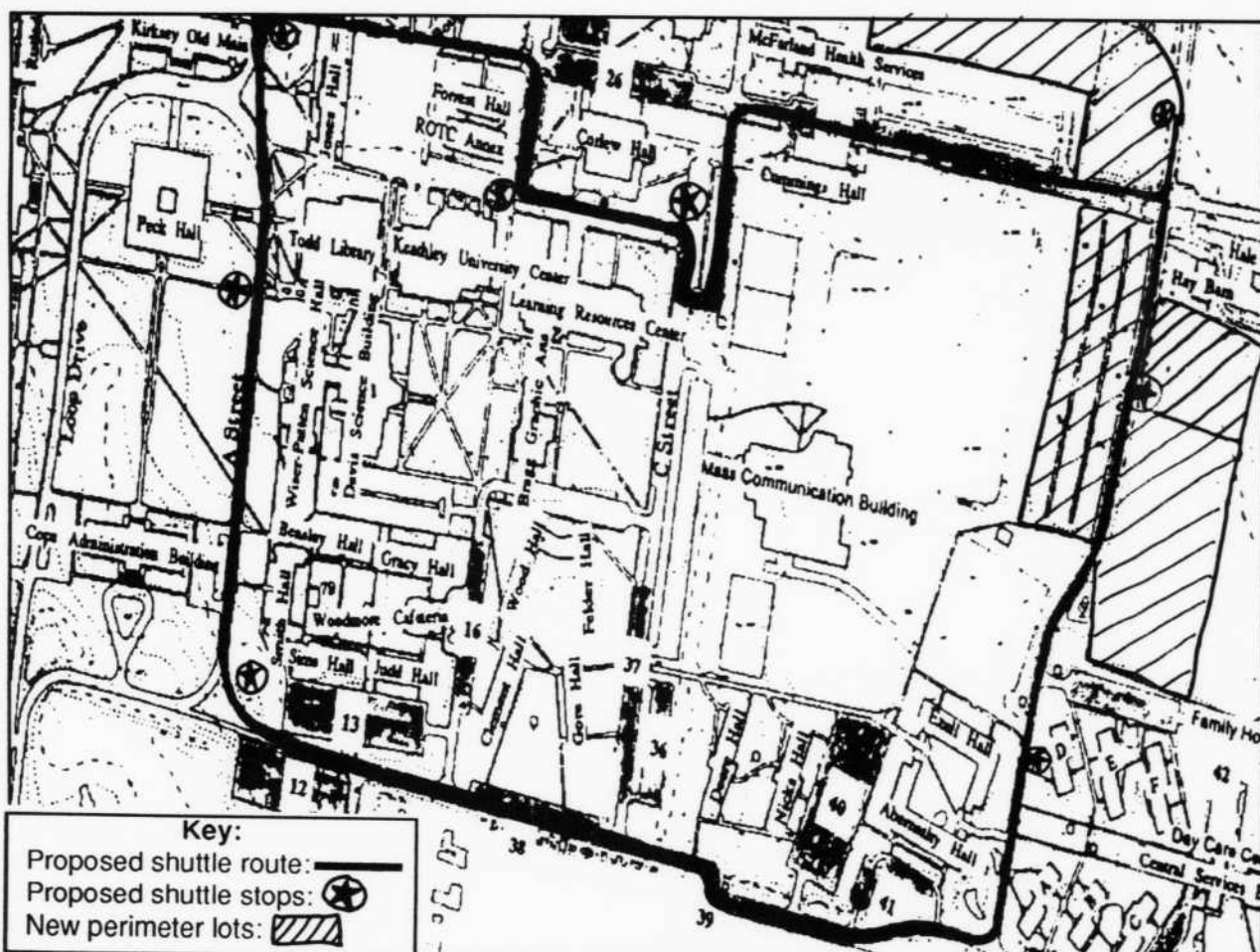
### FEATURES

#### FIGHT THE DEADHEADS:

Series reveals faculty and students see apathy in different light, but agree it's time for change.

page 9





## Parking

continued from page 1

student, the student could have walked to class."

In phase one of the process, the buses would run one route to include stops at Ezell Hall/Family Housing, Smith Hall/Cope Administration Building, Peck Hall/Wiser-Patten Science Hall/Todd Library, Kirksey Old Main/Jones Hall/Saunders Fine Arts Building, Forrest Hall/Keathley University Center/Corlew Hall and the

Learning Resource Center.

The shuttle would drop students off and pick them up from perimeter lots located behind the Mass Communications Building and lots to be made in that same area.

Also included in the parking survey was a recommendation to put off the building of a garage behind Kirksey Old Main.

The cost for the garage and additional landscaping will be more than \$3 million, the report said.

"We felt that we would not gain enough spaces if we built a garage," said Reta King, coordinator for the project.

If constructed, the garage would have 450 spaces, covering 104 already there. Closing Faulkenberry and Loop drives would eliminate 178 spaces while 58 spaces are supposed to be taken from the lot behind Keathley University Center, resulting in a gain of 46 spaces.

All garage spaces would be for faculty, staff, visitors and handicapped, Tunstill said.

The cost for building a garage cannot come from state funds, so money to build one will have to come from revenue generated on campus.

All campus funds must go into the general fund unless the department is an auxiliary. If the parking study is accepted by Walker, then possibly an option for the parking auxiliary will be to save money for a garage.

# Campus Capsule

## Today

Anti-Apathy Rally, noon-2 p.m., field behind baseball practice field on Greenland Drive.

"Integrating Eclectic Therapies," Margaret Smith, Psychology Colloquium, 4:15 p.m., Peck Hall 201.

Art Open House, 4-6 p.m., Art Barn Gallery, call Jane Burgunder, Ext. 2455.

Bicycle Training Rides for Cyclists and Triathletes, 2 p.m., meet in Greenland Parking Lot, call Guy Anderson, Ext. 2688.

"Ethics in the Classroom," Robert Eaker, Honors Lecture Series, Peck Hall.

## Tuesday, March 31

Anthropological Society of MTSU, film screening, 7 p.m., Peck Hall 319.

MTSU Observatory viewing of the planet Jupiter, 8-10 p.m., observatory, call Roy Clark, Ext. 2077, weather permitting.

Phi Kappa Epsilon, meeting, 7 p.m., Murphy Center Student Lounge, call Barbara Vanderloop 381-3040.

Christian Music Society, general interest meeting, 7 p.m., Mass Communications 149, call Eric Nance 849-9531.

Model United Nations, cookie sale, 9 a.m.-3 p.m., bottom floor of Keathley University Center.

"Promoting the African American Male," Dr. Henry Ponder, 7 p.m., KUC 324.

## Wednesday, April 1

Sigma Tau Delta English Honor Society, organizational meeting 4:30 p.m., Peck Hall 107.

Senior Career Orientation Placement Center, 3 p.m., KUC 324, call Martha Turner, Ext. 2500.

Students for Environmental Action (SEA), 5 p.m., KUC 30, call Dave 849-8732.

Presbyterian Student Fellowship worship, 9 p.m., 615 N. Tennessee Blvd.

Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA), 8:30 p.m., Blue Raider Room, call John 3716.

Faculty Musical Recital, 8 p.m., Wright Music Building Music Hall.

## Thursday, April 2

"Real Time Measurement of Neurotransmitter Secretion," Mark Wightman, 7:30 p.m., Davis Science Building 100.

Student Songwriters Association panel of licensing agencies, p.m., Mass Communication 10, call Rick Hill 890-4225.

Intervarsity Christian Fellowship 5:30 p.m., KUC 313, call Mike Moore 3372.

## Other Campus Events

BONFIRE, Student Environmental Action Coalition Southern Super-Regional Conference, workshops and presentations, April 3-5, call Adam 386-3909.

Applications for Student Ambassadors are being accepted. Pick up an application in the Public Relations Office, Cope Administration Building 20, deadline is Monday, April 6.

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 noon for Thursday publication and noon Friday for Monday's publication. Inclusion is not guaranteed and is based on available space.

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# SGA presidential candidates on the the issues



REBECCA RUCK

## Background Information:

- >Major: Mass Communications
- Minors: Theatre and English
- >Currently a Junior, attended UT-Knoxville and Columbia State
- >Hopes to attend law school in fall of 1993

Campus theatre productions at Tucker Theatre  
Womyn's Political Action group  
several TV-12 programs

## Equality in SGA activity funds, and the proposed activity fund increase:

- >Feels each organization should get an equal amount.
- >Opposes an activity fee increase.

## The parking problem:

- >Favors fine increases for students who park in handicap parking spots.
- >Opposes passenger vans and opts for a shuttle system.

## Allocation of state funds between TBR and UT-systems schools:

- >Opposes current allocation structure.
- >Opposes enrollment caps.

## The name change:

- >Favors a change in attitude over a change in name.

## University Housing and health care:

- >Favors quad housing for women.
- >Favors hiring a full-time physician.

## Encouraging students to stay on campus on the weekends:

- >Opposes limitations on open-parties for Greek organizations.

## If you could totally overhaul and reconstruct one program or service, what would it be and what would you do?

- >Wants to publish teacher evaluations.

## Student appointments to standing university committees, insuring that they show up to meetings and represent

- >Favors making application process more rigorous.
- >Would make replacements when necessary.



EDDIE JOHNSTON

- >Major: Aerospace Administration
- Minor: Psychology
- >Hopes to get a job in the Aerospace industry
- >Currently a Senior, attended Riverside Academy

Varsity MTSU cheerleader for five years  
Housing dorm guard for two years  
ROTC Air Force two years  
Colorguard

- >Feels we are limited to raising the activity the SGA activity fund a dollar per year.
- >Favors the referendum on the activity fee.

- >Sees parking problem as a "parking situation."
- >Opposes charging students with a higher parking price.
- >Favors buying a simple trolley system "to move students from the outside to inside of the school."

- >Opposes current budget cuts to MTSU.

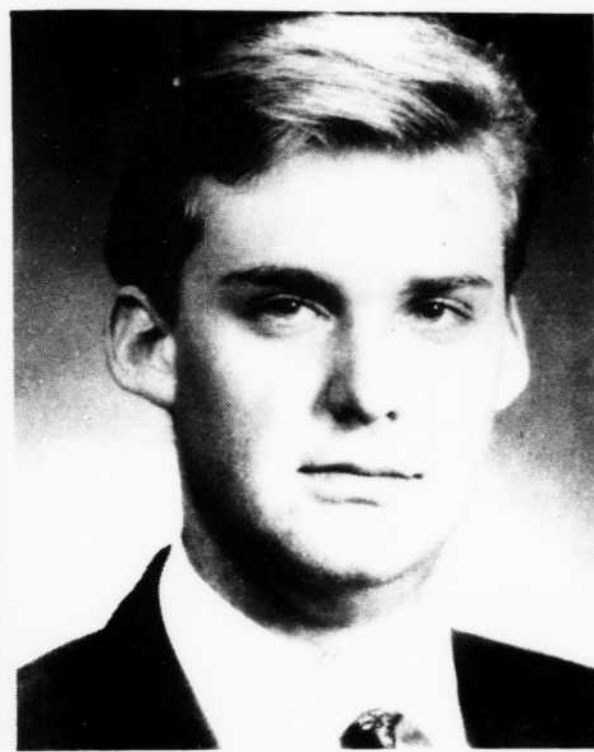
- >Favors school name change, but is interested on focusing on school's attitude change.

- >Sees university health care as having no major problems.
- Favors a doctor in emergency situations.
- >Opposes coed housing.

- >Favors meals to be served to students on the weekend to stop the "suitcase university" theory. "Our students need to get some independence, grow up and be self-sufficient."
- >Would like to see movies shown on weekends to encourage students to stay on weekends.

- >Favors seeing other franchise similar to ARA to operate the cafeteria. Says ARA is too concerned with "packing up" when it's almost closing time. Students should be allowed to eat at their own pace.

- >Favors appointing students who will be "committed" to meetings.



TOBY GILLEY

- >Major: English
- Minors: Criminal Justice/Psychology
- >Hopes to master in Psychology and go to Law School
- >Currently a senior

SGA Vice President, speaker of the House  
Tau Kappa Epsilon member  
Area-Coordinator for Tennessee Inter-Collegiate Legislation  
Member of Christian Student Center

- >Feels that it depends on how the organization will be using the money.
- >Favors the referendum on the activity fee increase.

- >Opposes a new fee structure.
- >Opposes idea of two passenger vans because they would not accommodate the needs of our students.
- >Favors either basement parking in new buildings or roof-top parking for faculty and staff of new buildings.
- >"It's not a matter of parking, it's a matter of convenience."

- >Opposes current allocation structure.
- >Favors allocation of funds based on population.

- >Favors the name change (image-wise), but would rather focus on other problems of university.

- >Favors revamping housing to include more services including more computer accessibility, bulk rate cable, and extended visitation.

- >Favors ending ARA's contract on campus and replacing it with national franchises.
- >Favors more weekend events and extended library hours.
- >Does not feel that recreation is the answer.
- >Feels that since students live so close to home that maybe there are no set answers to the problem.

- >Would end ARA's contract and bring in franchises adding competition.

- >Would try to arrange appointees and committee so that people get on a committee that they are interested in (majors and interests).
- >Would include an interview session before placement on a committee.



# Debate adds mud-slinging to heated SGA elections

**NICOLE M. SIKORA**  
Assistant News Editor

The campaign for Student Government Association positions heated up Wednesday night as the candidates faced criticisms during a live debate televised by MTSU TV-12.

The debate aired Wednesday from 7:30-9 p.m. on the student-operated channel.

Candidates for the SGA offices of speaker of the House and president spoke on a variety of subjects including parking, food service, housing, handicapped services and student involvement.

Speaker of the House candidates Todd Hill and Don Gandy were not present to debate with fellow candidate Ray Lentz.

Hill said he could not be

present at the debate because of a modeling job in Nashville but was represented by a video-taped interview recorded after the SGA luncheon forum Tuesday.

Gandy said he was notified too late to request rescheduling from his employer.

"They never contacted me at all. I found out about it by word of mouth the night before the debate," Gandy said.

Lentz spoke about his past action on the parking situation and attempts to get condom machines installed in residence halls.

"I think it went terrific," Lentz said about the debate. "I think it should be an annual thing."

Accusations of indecision and lack of credentials were exchanged among presidential

hopefuls Toby Gilley, Eddie Johnston and Rebecca Ruck.

Ruck and Johnston responded to questions concerning inexperience with comments on their involvement with the student body.

"As far as giving me a grade between one and 10 as far as participation in this school and trying to make the school better, I give myself a 10," Johnston said. "As far as actually attending each legislative SGA meeting, I wouldn't give myself a very high grade."

"But that doesn't mean that I'm not aware of what happens at all times in student government and on campus in general," Johnston said.

Ruck said she has followed

See **DEBATE**, page 5

## Students vote on condoms, increases in activity fees

**SAM GANNON**  
News Editor

Students will vote about the placement of condom machines in residence halls and an increase in student activity fees during a referendum Monday and Tuesday.

The Student Government Association passed legislation in the fall to have condom machines placed in residence hall bathrooms, but a decision was made by Dr. Robert LaLance, vice president for Student Affairs, earlier this semester to reject the SGA's proposal.

If students pass the condom referendum, it will not change the decision made by LaLance yet will let the administration know how students feel, said Shawn Burgess, SGA president.

"Hopefully the administration will strongly

consider what the SGA and the students want. I don't think that they are taking us as students seriously," said Ray Lentz, junior senator and originator of the bill.

Lentz went on to say that he expects a higher voter turnout because of the condom referendum.

"Usually the SGA has 1,500 students to vote," Lentz said. "I am predicting anywhere from 3,000 to 4,000 because of the referendum."

Joyce Prock, a faculty member at the University of Texas-Pan American, said that school recently faced a similar problem.

"They [the administration] finally asked the students how they wanted them vended," Prock said.

See **VOTE**, page 5

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## Candidates raise voices in Speak Out

**NICOLE M. SIKORA**  
Assistant News Editor

*Editor's Note: Due to this article being cut off in our last edition, we are reprinting the story.*

Candidates for the offices of Student Government Association president, speaker of the Senate and speaker of the House raised their voices at the SGA Speak Out Wednesday.

The event was held in the Keathley University Center Grill at noon.

Presidential candidates Toby Gilley, Eddie Johnston and Rebecca Ruck presented their campaign platforms and answered questions from the audience such as cafeteria food, housing conditions, the parking situation, weekend activities and extended library hours.

Current Speaker of the House Toby Gilley spoke of his concerns with state funding, grades in classes that are repeated, attempts to get alternative food suppliers on campus and textbook selection by teachers.

"I'm not going to make a lot of promises to you. But the thing I do want to promise you is that I will exhaust all possible outlets at the students' disposal to make sure that what the student body wants and needs gets done," Gilley said.

MTSU cheerleader Eddie Johnston said he wants to "change the attitudes and images of the school from a community or suitcase college to that of a major university."

Johnston discussed the problem of freshman who live on campus being required to buy meal cards that do not cover meals on the weekend.

"The school gives you food and shelter during the week. But when the weekend comes, they take the food away from you and all they leave you is shelter," Johnston said. "It forces the students home, and then people wonder 'Why is this a suitcase college?'"

Johnston said he hopes to see a variation in food services now that ARA Food Services' contract is up, a building for the aerospace program, and a co-op between students to buy and sell books among themselves.

Candidate Rebecca Ruck said her main concern is the method MTSU administrators treat students.

"We do not have a student-friendly campus," Ruck said. "We need to realize that the students are the customers of this business. It is a money-making business."

Ruck voiced her concern over short library hours, lack of equality in housing for women, and the lack of a full-time physician and weekend hours at Health Services.

"We are a large university. Administrators need

to understand that. We do deserve rights," Ruck said. "They need to get their priorities straight."

House Speaker candidates Don Gandy, Todd Hill and Ray Lentz, and Senate Speaker candidate Larry Beaty, who is running unopposed, also spoke at the event.

Beaty discussed future SGA action on parking and high voter expectations.

"What you and I think is common sense and an easy solution may not necessarily be an easy solution, but the SGA is working for you," Beaty said.

Candidates for speaker of the House spoke out about the qualifications for the position of House speaker, changing the name of MTSU to the University of Middle Tennessee, the parking problem and placing condom machines in residence halls.

Candidate Todd Hill said the House speaker must be someone who is "vocal, in control of a situation, and knows what is happening."

During the past one-and-a-half years, Hill said he has participated in SGA and visited other schools to monitor how they deal with issues such as getting students to stay on campus during the weekends.

"If we don't say anything at all, nothing is going to get changed. But if we do say something, it can possibly get passed on to Dr. [James] Walker, and we can work it up the steps," Hill said.

Current Junior Sen. Lentz focused on the issues of parking and condom machines being placed in residence halls.

Lentz said he would not mind increases in parking fees if he could find "a decent parking space."

"When I say a decent parking space, I'm not talking about parking over at Hickory Hollow Mall. But at the same time, I'm not talking about parking beside my classroom either," Lentz said.

Lentz also expressed his belief that condom machines should be made available to students in residence halls in light of the AIDS epidemic.

"I know Health Services has this service," Lentz said. "But do they have it at 12 o'clock?"

Gandy discussed the renaming of MTSU to the University of Middle Tennessee as related to the image of MTSU as a "suitcase college."

"The administration won't schedule events on the weekends because students aren't here. But students won't stay on campus because nothing is scheduled, so it's kind of a catch-22," Gandy said.

Through students initiated weekend events, Gandy said he hopes administrators will begin scheduling events on the weekend as well.

Gandy said he does not believe the name of the college will change the attitude of the students.

"Saying that I go to MTSU does not degrade me

See **SPEAK OUT**, page 5



**Debate**

continued from page 4  
SGA action by reviewing legislation discussed at the meetings.

"I am a very concerned student, and I do have the ability to get things done," Ruck said.

During the debate Ruck questioned the decisiveness of Gilley in his stance on ARA Food Services.

"On Toby Gilley's platform, it says 'When ARA's contract is up, the Keathley University Center Grill should be the only dining area guaranteed to them,'" Ruck said. "Then in the resolution that was brought up in the meeting last night, 'When the current food service contract with ARA expires, operation of the KUC Grill will not be included in bid specifications.'"

"I'm not sure what Toby Gilley stands for by looking at this," Ruck said.

Gilley responded by saying he originally thought that allowing the ARA to control the Grill and allowing various franchises to control other food areas on campus, food service would be dispersed.

"After talking to Dean Hayes and Dr. (Robert) LaLance about this, the more feasible solution lies in the renovation of the Grill and putting the food court there because the other buildings are set up in a cafeteria format," Gilley said.

Current SGA President Shawn Burgess said he has been slightly disappointed by the actions of the candidates.

"I think they're slinging too much mud," Burgess said, though he is pleased with participation.

**Vote**

continued from page 4

"They [the administration] finally asked the students how they wanted them vended," Prock said.

Prock said much of the controversy was because of the hours of the campus health services facility that was previously solely responsible for the handing out of condoms. Its hours were 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., and students were not satisfied with the limited hours.

MTSU's health services is the sole provider of condoms on campus. Its hours are 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Lentz said the SGA does not want to promote sex by making condoms accessible on campus but that it wants to make sex safer.

"I hope the student body can

see that this is something good that the SGA is trying to do for them," Lentz said.

Burgess said he thinks the students will support both referendums.

If the second referendum receives approval, it will increase the student activity fee from \$3 to \$4 effective immediately.

Larry Beaty, speaker of the Senate, sponsored the bill earlier this month. "What MTSU students need is not being met," Beaty said.

"We received over \$150,000 in requests for the money, and we had little over \$50,000 to give out," said Toby Gilley, speaker of the House.

Activity fund money is allocated to various Greek organizations, professional groups, honor societies and special-interest groups.

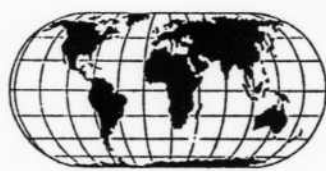
**Speak Out**

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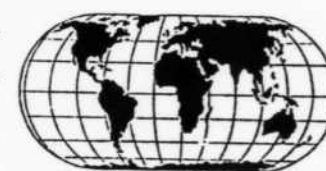
at all. Saying that I go MTSU and everyone hearing that it is just a little community college — that hurts," Gandy said.

**PRACTICE  
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# MTSU International Culture Week



April 1-4, 1992



International Student Services • Middle Tennessee State University, Murfreesboro

## WEDNESDAY, APRIL 1

### Spanish Guitar Performance

Keathley University Center Theatre, 12 noon-1 p.m. Come see MTSU's best guitarists perform solo and in a quartet ensemble.

### International Displays

Keathley University Center Second Floor Lobby, 11 a.m.-1 p.m. MTSU international students will present their native costumes, artifacts, videos, and an international dessert bake sale.

## THURSDAY, APRIL 2

### International Displays

Keathley University Center Second Floor Lobby, 11 a.m.-1 p.m. MTSU international students will present their native costumes, artifacts, etc. again, but feature different countries than the day before.

## FRIDAY, APRIL 3

### International Folk Dance

Murphy Center Dance Studio A, 6 p.m.-9 p.m. Come and learn folk dances from around the world! No experience needed.

## SATURDAY, APRIL 4

### International Banquet

James Union Building, Tennessee Room. Doors open at 5 p.m., dinner served promptly at 6 p.m.

**Tickets - Adults \$10.00; Students - \$5.00 with valid MTSU ID**

(for ticket information call 898-2238)

The Banquet will include

**Speaker:** Dr. E. James Hindman, Vice President for Academic Affairs, MTSU

**Performers:** Greek Palanokia Dancers; The Rogues, Celtic Folk Band;

Romanian Violinists; Martial Arts Demonstration

**Student Performers:** New Zealand Folk Musician; Flamenco Dancers; Indian Dancer

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Daily events include a Keathley University Center Cube Gallery Exhibit, a Todd Library Exhibit, and the University Cafeterias will serve ethnic food as part of their regular menu.



# Opinions

## Consensus

### Sidelines offers SGA election endorsements

Today's SGA elections present students with the opportunity to voice their opinions on a variety of topics. In addition to the annual officer elections, there are referendums on the condom machine issue and the student activity fee increase. Each is important to the future of the school and the students.

*Sidelines* has tried to cover the election in depth so that you may make informed decisions. Because we are familiar with these matters, we have a few suggestions that we feel are in your best interest.

The referendum on the installation of condom machines in the dorms is an important issue. With the threat of disease and unwanted pregnancy, students should have every opportunity at prevention. Some school officials insist on making this a moral, rather than practical, issue. Send a loud message to the administration — vote "YES" for condom machines.

Students will also vote on the student activity fee increase. Although its passage would mean only a \$1 hike, we strongly feel that it should be voted down. The students have been hit hard enough. As long as fraternities and sororities use these funds to go to conventions, we feel that the current fee is ample, if not excessive. Vote "NO" on the activity fee hike.

We have mixed emotions about the SGA presidential race. All three candidates are talented and energetic, but we feel the best person for the job is not on the ballot. He is current Speaker of the House Larry Beaty. In dealing with him throughout his term, his dedication to his job is something he has always taken seriously — not a sudden conversion during election month. Write in Larry Beaty for president.

The most important endorsement we can make is a simple one — JUST VOTE. If you care about these issues, your school and yourself, take a minute so that your voice may be heard.

## SIDELINES

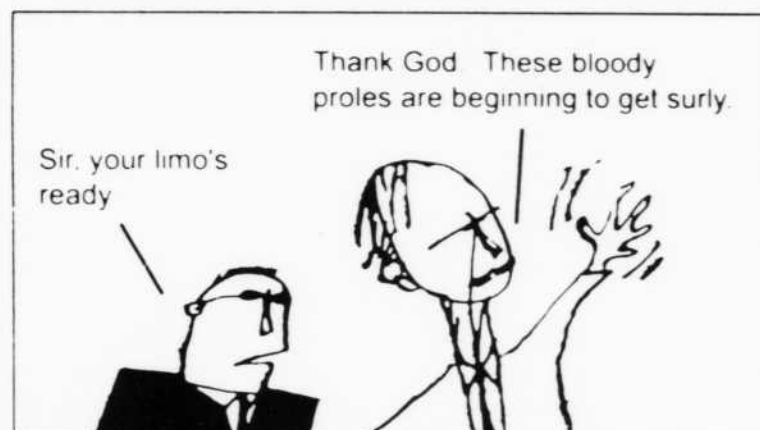
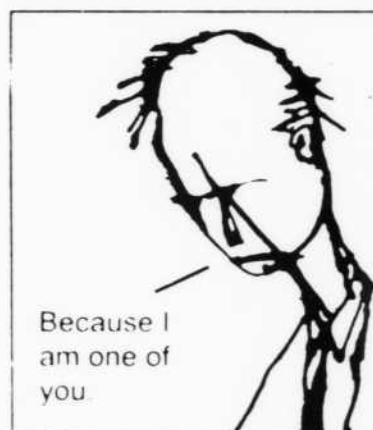
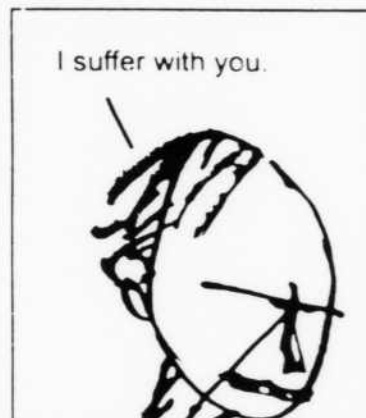
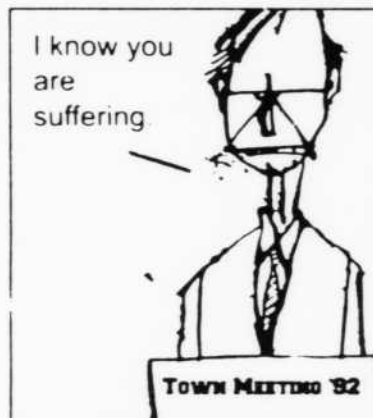
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### Opinion Page Policy

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, Tenn. 37130



## Anti-Apathy Rally encourages students to act - not just think

NICOLE M. SIKORA  
 Staff Column

"I wonder....but not often."

It is a sentence my younger sister wrote on her best friend's driveway one day while they were playing with pieces of chalk. She had wanted to write a profound thought after "I wonder," but she thought it would take up too much time and effort. So she settled for something significantly less profound.

There is nothing unusual about this story; it happens every day, all around us. We all have grand ideas about what we want, but instead we tend to settle for so much less than what we envision because we don't put in the effort.

MTSU does not need more visions. It needs action on the visions it already has. I cannot count the times I have heard brilliant ideas of how to change "the system." From the way the library is run to the parking problem, from the speeding-up the turtle-like pace that most MTSU offices function to the cafeteria-style food. It is obvious that change is needed.

How long are we going to wait to attempt a change? Are some of us waiting for the Rapture? Are we waiting for someone to ASK us to do something?



SIDELINES  
 FIRST ANNUAL  
 ANTI-APATHY RALLY

WILL BE HELD  
 TODAY  
 NOON- 2 P.M.

IN THE FIELD  
 BESIDE THE  
 FOOTBALL PRACTICE  
 FIELD AND  
 GREENLAND DRIVE

The anti-apathy rally idea was formulated when several *Sidelines* staff members got fed up with reading about students taking action on their ideas at other campuses. It is time to stop complaining that we are treated like high school students and start taking responsibility for ourselves.

We think the rally will help set students on the path towards taking responsibility.....that is, IF they will take responsibility to show up.

TERRY MASSEY  
 Staff Column

I remember when the *Sidelines* staff presented me with the notion of holding the Anti-Apathy Rally. I laughed. Not that I didn't think it was a good idea - I did. But I also know how good ideas work on this campus. They remain just that - ideas.

I told them that, too. I wasn't going to get excited or plan my life around it until it actually happened. Well, today is the day.

In the time it has taken for the event to go from brainstorm to blueprint, members of our staff have put in a countless number of hours to get the rally organized. Greg Adkins has had to deal with the administration's version of the paper chase just to get university approval. Nicole Sikora, bless her heart, has worked non-stop and developed a severe case of telephone ear to insure that the event goes off without a hitch. Each member of the staff has contributed to some degree to make the rally possible.

Now that the Anti-Apathy Rally is reality and not a dream, I don't mind eating my initial words of disbelief. The rally is for a good cause - to get the students of this campus to wake up, speak up and act up.

Make sure you come by the Anti-Apathy Rally today and leave your inhibitions at home.



# Letters to the Editor

## SGA president speaks out on elections

First, I would like to welcome everyone back from spring break and I hope that everyone enjoyed it. Also, I would like to thank all of the students, faculty, and administration who attended the luncheon forum on March 24.

Next, I would like to take this opportunity to encourage every student to participate in the making of history on Monday, March 30 and Tuesday, March 31. On these two days, the SGA will be holding elections for the positions of president, speaker of the senate, speaker of the house, and senators. This history-making event will have more than 10 percent of the student body voting in the elections. We feel this will be achieved because of the additional two issues which will affect everyone and that will need the input of the entire student body.

The first issue to be decided upon by referendum is the question of raising the student activity fee by \$1. This issue is important, especially to all members of organizations. As you may know, the activity fee is used by all organizations to sponsor events and other

activities that represent the university (i.e. bringing speakers to campus, attending national conventions, supporting Mr. & Mrs. MTSU pageants, Homecoming events, etc.) This semester over \$140,000 was requested, but the committee only had \$53,000 to allocate. If you're wondering who suffered, we all did — for many events were cancelled. I strongly urge you to help alleviate this situation by voting "yes" on March 30 and 31 to raising the activity fee by \$1. This will provide an additional \$15,000-\$16,000.

The second issue is whether or not condom dispensing machines should be installed in residence halls. This is not a means of advocating heightened sexual activity, but for those consenting adults — students who, by their own choice, have decided to be active — this is a way of providing them an avenue to having safer sex. Whether you are in favor or not, you should vote to allow us the opportunity to truly know how the student body feels on this issue.

We are expecting a very large turnout for this election and we would greatly appreciate your assistance in fulfilling our expectations. I would like to also

encourage everyone to attend the Anti-Apathy Rally on March 30 between the hours of 12-2 p.m. There will be several speakers including Dr. Walker, the presidential candidates, and myself. There will also be live music from the band *Political Funk*. The rally will be held at the picnic pavilion behind the football stadium. Please come and enjoy. Also, be a part of history and vote March 30 and 31. Shawn Burgess  
Box 1

## Aly's letter badly misses the mark

Upon reading a letter to the editor on March 12 entitled "Apathy and MTSU Are One in the Same," I became rather irritated with the attitude of its author. In this letter, the majority of MTSU students were blasted by Mr. Aly with a plethora of foul-mouthed insults and ill-founded assumptions that I'm sure many students (myself included) found offensive. I do not believe that this letter was really attacking students' apathy, I believe that it may have stemmed from a resentment that the author feels toward particular types of student activities and behaviors. I, for one, do not

believe that voting for a "stupid" student recreational center constitutes apathy. On the contrary, I believe it shows a concern for the improvement of university facilities and a desire for more school-oriented activities.

The idea that the primary concern of most students is to become a member of the right fraternal organization is also questionable. I do not belong to one of these organizations, but the majority of friends and acquaintances I have that are involved put academic priorities above frat parties. Many students also find that belonging to such an organization gives them an opportunity to become involved with community and university activities and programs from which they might otherwise be excluded.

I believe that the primary concern of Mr. Aly was not to attack the problem of the apathetic students, but to condemn a certain stereotype which can only be applied to a very small minority. He mentioned that many students wear sunglasses to look cool and drive around campus with their stereos cranked up. I must admit that overly loud stereos can be

annoying and that this type of behavior is juvenile, but it does not constitute apathy by any means. I for one, own a pair of sunglasses and do not look down on others who do. As a former bartender, I can also attest to the fact that MTSU students are not always lousy tippers. Many of the local business people can, too.

I am afraid that this letter was sadly misdirected, and I also feel that it is students like this one who give MTSU students a bad name — by categorizing us all in this shameful manner. As a graduating senior, I have enjoyed my years at MTSU and gained a valuable education for which I am thankful. I feel sorry for this student because he has let his bias toward a few individuals disrupt the pride he should have in this institution. He is condemning activities that make college life a memorable and enjoyable experience for many.

Stephanie Neal  
Box 1143

## A feeble attempt at humor

Already, there's a rumor that the Anti-Apathy Rally has been cancelled due to lack of interest. David Randolph  
Box 2551

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CAN  
RUIN  
YOUR  
WHOLE  
DAY!**



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# Students should beware of cult activity

"I tasted a cult this summer, and it tasted awful." It was the fall of 1989. Over that summer, my friend had become involved in a "cult" and was deeply scarred by the experience.

Her story includes most of the common signs of "cult" activity; such as blind allegiance to a group, total surrender to a human authority, cutting off all contact with family and friends, total and unquestioned acceptance of new teachings, and excessive pressure to conform to a new way of life.

For my friend, this new way of life meant trips to Nashville four to five days a week for intensive "studies" which lasted several hours. It also included a high level of accountability to a "discipliner" with a listing of all sins, all books read and all people dated.

Her guilt and fear at the end of that summer cast long shadows across her normally sunny, carefree face.

Cults are nothing new. Down through the centuries, humans have utilized the tactics of fear, guilt and shame as basic motivations for religious activity. Using the language of freedom and mercy, "cults" bind their "disciples" with chains of intolerance and a black or white interpretation of truth. These practices are closer than you might think.

## DAVID ROBINSON Guest Column

Yes, such activity goes on right here at MTSU. Just this fall, I've been made aware by university administrators of "cult" activity happening on the MTSU campus.

How easy it would be to jump back four centuries and relive the horrors of Salem, Massachusetts. But witch-hunting is not the democratic way, nor is it God's way of dealing with religions of intolerance and guilt. We live in a pluralistic society which calls us to uphold the right of any

group, regardless of intent, to practice its religion.

That does not mean that we should be ignorant as to the intentions and practices of certain religious groups which practice dangerous approaches to human relationships. Danger signs of "cult" activity include:

1. Demands of complete, "blind" allegiance to a human leader.
2. Demands of unquestioning acceptance of group's teachings.
3. Uses confession of sins to maintain control over group.

4. Claims to be the only true church or way to perfection.

5. Members are pressured to forsake family and friends.

6. Practices persistent and aggressive persuasive tactics to convert new people to their beliefs.

7. You can't leave freely, but are held by guilt and fear.

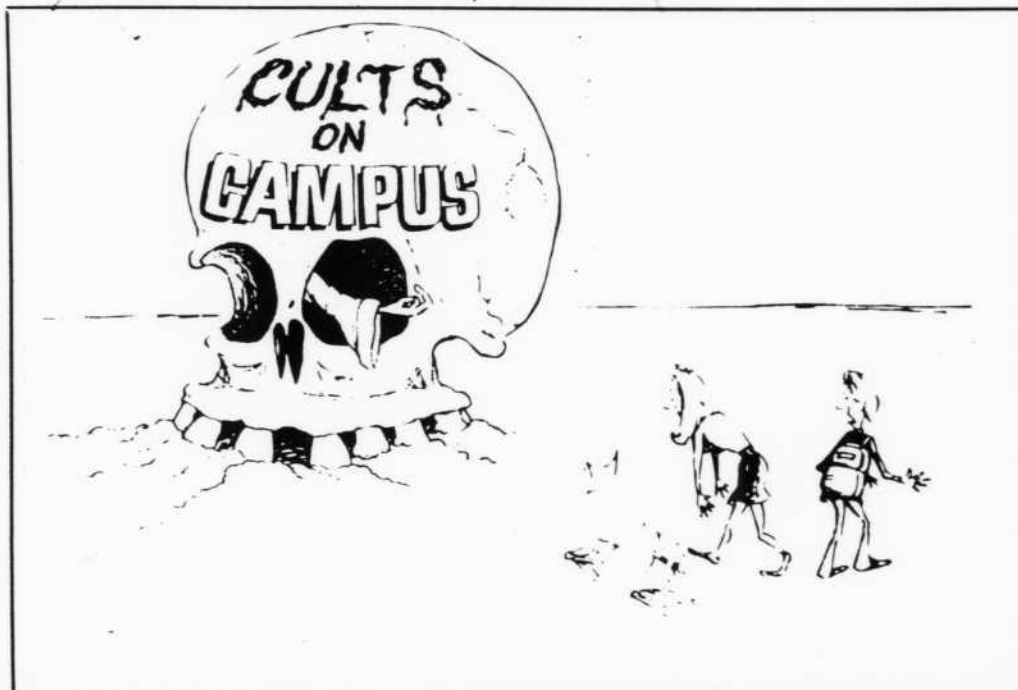
If you've been involved in a group that practices many of these tactics, here's how you can get help:

1. *Talk:* Break out of your isolation and tell someone what you're going through. Tell your family, an R.A., administrator or counselor on campus, or contact an MTSU campus minister.

2. *Act:* You have been given a great gift by God, the gift of free choice. Don't allow someone take that gift away from you, no matter how wise they seem to you now. Ask questions. Stand up for what you believe, even if it means leaving the group.

3. *Pray:* Ask God to break the chains of guilt, fear and shame which may have over shadowed your life and clouded your judgement. Turn your heart again and again towards the tender God of mercy and love. Get to know the freedom and new way of life offered freely by God in love.

*Editors note: David Robinson is a guest columnist and campus PSF pastor.*



# WANTED:

**STUDENTS SEEKING ADVENTURE, KNOWLEDGE, A LARGER SOCIAL CIRCLE. NO COUCH POTATOES MAY LEAVE UNAFFECTED.**

**SIDELINES FIRST ANNUAL**

# ANTI-APATHY RALLY

**MONDAY, MARCH 30**

**NOON TO 2 PM**

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**\*HEAR COOL SPEAKERS\***

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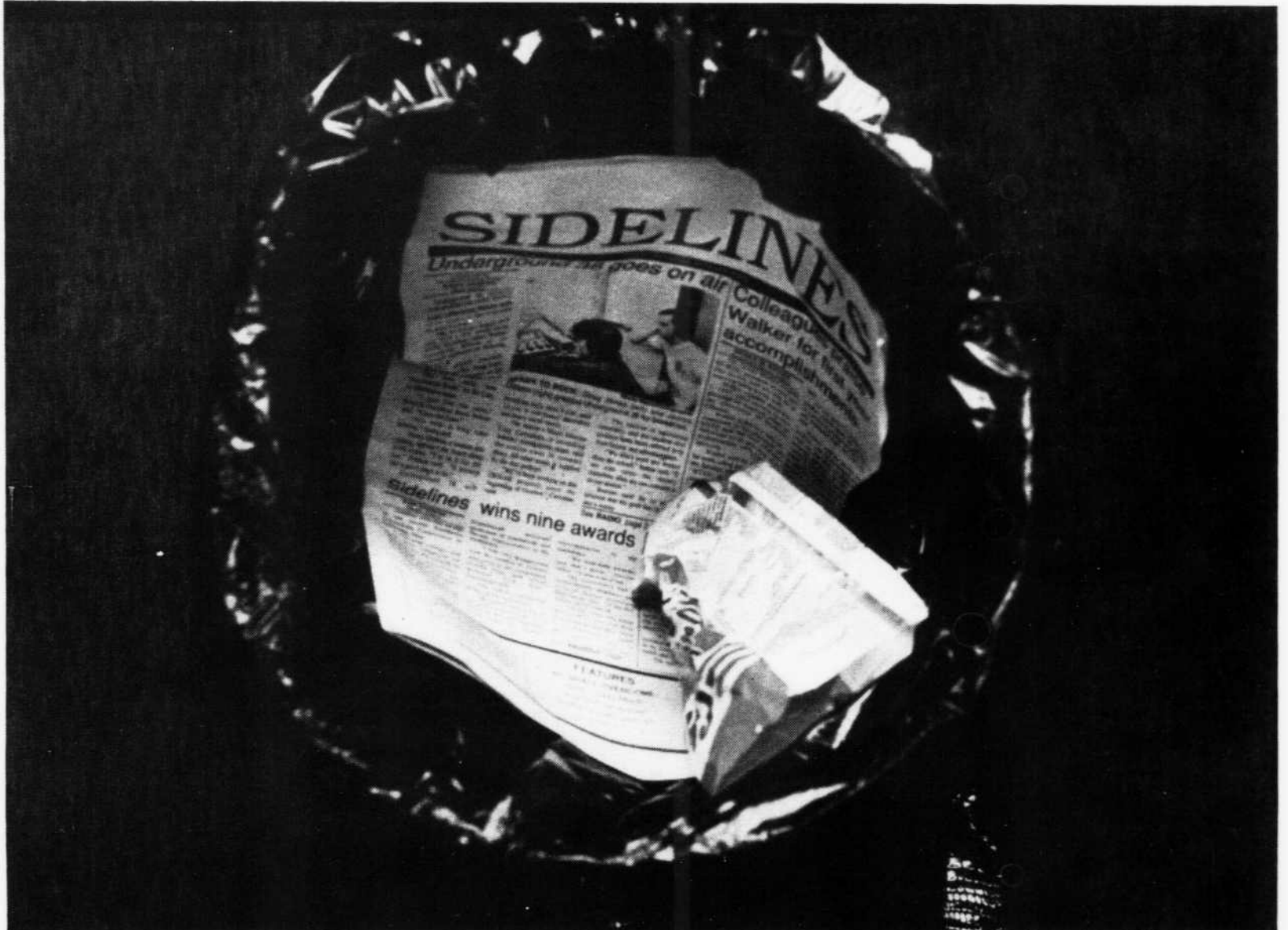


# Features

## WAGING WAR ON APATHY

Part One  
of  
three

Apathy  
(ap'ə thē)  
1. lack of emotion  
2. lack of  
interest; listless  
condition;  
unconcern;  
indifference



Fern Greenbank/Photographer

## Cure found for apathy: Effort

FERN GREENBANK  
Features Editor

"We all need a healthy dose of idealism," asserts journalism professor Sandra Pigg.

Of course, this is Pigg's first year at MTSU and she's got a healthy dose of idealism. She's still enthusiastic, even idealistic, about the college environment. Which brings up a good point. Should faculty be expected to motivate us or should we arrive on campus fully equipped with self-motivation?

It isn't healthy to continually focus on the source of a problem. Considerable energy can be misdirected, but some degree of analyzing must take place in order to find a cure for the scourge spreading across campus.

As dean of the school of education and educator of future educators, Dr. Robert Eaker has some thoughts on the role faculty plays in student motivation.

"Students tend to model the behavior of their teachers, from K-12 up to the university level," Eaker points out. "We call it contagious enthusiasm."

The role of expectations also plays a large part in the attitude of students. "By and large, students do what we expect of them. We see the problem as a more individual thing. Some teachers who are 30 act like they are 80 and some who are 80 have the enthusiasm of someone much younger," notes the educator.

Eaker says evidence shows that if a student is motivated and becomes involved in campus life, the student has a greater chance of success away from campus.

"Those who are involved, who make a significant contribution, are usually the successful ones. The ones who aren't involved tend to be less successful," says Eaker.

But the dean is quick to point out another reason for lack of involvement in student organizations—the changing nature of the population at MTSU. He notes that we are fast becoming a commuter college and a large part of the student body is made up of non-traditional students. Older and returning students often have added responsibilities, whether that means family or jobs, and

they simply don't have the time to devote to campus activities.

In this case, Eaker says we are dealing with a double-edged sword. "It is harder to get jobs because they [non-traditional students] are competing with younger students who may have more campus involvement, but they bring things like maturity and experiences and recommendations to the job market to counteract that."

However, being a non-traditional student isn't always the reason for lack of involvement. For every non-traditional student who says they don't have time to be active in school functions, there is another one with the same responsibilities who does become involved. So, we're back to motivation.

The state of the economy and the attitude of society are sometimes blamed for the rise in apathy and lack of motivation—not necessarily on campus, but in society in general, which we can assume permeates the student environment as well.

Dr. Glenn Himebaugh, professor of journalism at MTSU for more than 20 years, disagrees.

"I don't think it has anything to do with the economy," Himebaugh says. "I've noticed it for several years. I think it does have some cultural overtones. I think everybody now is doing their own thing, getting their degrees and getting a job."

"I've had numerous editors call me and tell me that they are more concerned about hiring people who have done something journalistic while on campus as opposed to strictly getting good grades. They like good grades, but they're more concerned with evidence of commitment."

Himebaugh says many journalism majors are working as stringers for papers off campus or doing internships, "but a majority of them are doing nothing," he adds.

There are 111 journalism majors registered with the College of Mass Communications and only two of them work for the campus newspaper. This degree of non-student involvement isn't confined to mass communications, but it is indicative of a trend. Is this a

See **APATHY**, page 11

Editor's note: The love of money is not necessarily the root of all evil. It may very well be apathy.

Apathy means not caring enough to get involved. Many of us say we care, but we make excuses not to show it.

When you tear away the layers of life, apathy lies at the bottom. It contributes to racism, poverty, disease, homelessness, greed and crime. Our campus is just a microcosm of the bigger world but apathy affects us in the same proportion.

We've become a mini-nation of whiners, not doers.

Sidelines is making a commitment to its readers. We'll promise to strive toward producing a quality newspaper and we challenge you, the reader, to strive toward greater campus organization involvement.

The purpose of our series on apathy is not to point fingers, although we will lay blame on students and faculty alike. Our purpose is to investigate the causes of apathy, its affect on the university and possible solutions.

It's time to take control of our university. In order to do that, we've got to care.



# Women, your hour sounded



Dane Herndon/Photographer

**SPEAKING FOR ALL WOMEN:** Languages paid tribute to women during the third Lyceum event last Wednesday. The readers gather together in costume for a group pose prior to the reception hosted by the Honors Student Association.

Last Wednesday I traveled to China, Mali, Pakistan, Japan, France, Haiti, Spain and many other exotic lands. It only took an hour and a half. I experienced this poetic voyage with about 150 other MTSU students. Our mode of transportation was a vehicle called Lyceum.

Ok, it was really Peck Hall 109 and we never left the room, but you can't convince the participants of that. We gathered for the Honors Department's third Lyceum event this year, "Femme, ton heure tinte" ("Woman, your hour is sounding"), a reading of international poetry in the native language.

What Dr. Ron Bombardi did for the Celtic music concert and Dr. Tom Strawman did for the poetry slam, Dr. Nancy Goldberg and Dr. Charisse Gendron did for the international poetry reading. The chairpersons' expertise in the field of language and communication was evident by the obviously well-thought out organization of the event.

The written program, which each participant is now the proud owner of, looks more professional than some of our textbooks. It seems foreign languages are just as beautiful to look at as they are to

## FERN GREENBANK Lyceum Review

listen to. Janet Higgins of the art department played a generous role in the preparation of the programs along with the assistance of students taking the advanced book arts class. The booklet should be displayed in the Art Barn as a work of art.

But the real applause goes to the poetry readers. They were gracious enough to dress in native costumes which only added to the international flavor of the event. As part of the celebration of National Women's History Month, the event centered around women. The chosen poetry was in keeping with that theme and it encompassed every conceivable aspect of the female gender. You didn't have to be a lover of languages or a woman or a poetry enthusiast. That's the magic of these Lyceum events. You just come with an open mind, an appreciation for the world around you, and a high level of curiosity.

I hate to say it, but you had to be there. Even for a writer, it's difficult to

describe what "a moving experience" really means, but "moving" is the word I heard repeatedly. How can you not be moved when you hear the tales of a woman who must leave her home under an arranged marriage? Yasmeen Mohiuddin spoke to a hushed audience as she recited "Folk Song" by Meera in the language of Urdu, a poem illustrating the culture of another land. Although the customs of Pakistan are much different than our own, the universal feeling of women who are not in control of their lives was there — and heads shook slowly in the audience with empathy. Even the men were nodding.

Chiharu Yamazaki, in traditional Japanese attire, brought many heads to a slight reverent bow as she read "Never Let Them Kill You, Brother!" The trees surrounding the podium, the incense burning, and the candles encircling the speaker painted a perfect picture in which to frame Yamazaki. The fear of war from a woman's perspective was heart wrenching.

Contrast was the name of the evening. From the fear of war, Sonja Hedgepeth took us to another land, one where modern

Hebrew is spoken. "From My Mother's Home" was a poem for all women. Hedgepeth says she chose the poem because it related to the connection of generations of women. Each time a daughter looks into the mirror, she sees the result of many women before her, as our lives reflect the accomplishments of generations of brave and beautiful women.

All of the readers brought their heart with them to the event. It wasn't just something to do. The audience could just have easily been at home ordering a pizza. But they chose to try something new. As a result, the atmosphere was much different than that of a required lecture.

When all is said and done, it seems the Honors Department has set themselves up. This year's Lyceum events surpassed the expectations of us all. Now that we know the campus is thirsty for a cultural environment, and we know there is a way to satisfy that thirst, the Honors Department will be expected to outdo themselves next year. I can't imagine that it gets any better than this, but I have a feeling Dr. J.P. Montgomery and his honors team are already planning bigger and better things to prove me wrong.



## Apathy

continued from page 9

reflection on the journalism faculty or merely an indication of poor student attitudes?

"What I am finding today," Himebaugh says, "is less willingness on the part of the student leaders to accept the challenge and do the job. Now, I am not sure that all of that is due to apathy. There are some extenuating circumstances such as holding down jobs or doing internships or dealing with family problems. But I think the key to success in student organizations is motivated and involved student officers, and I don't look at the faculty role as being that of a baby-sitter. As a leader of a student organization, you are by implication accepting responsibility. It gives you the opportunity to develop leadership skills and to get experience."

Himebaugh recently resigned as faculty adviser for the Society of Professional Journalists after an 18-year relationship with that organization. He cites lack of student involvement as his reason.

The good news is that there are organizations all over campus who are fighting apathy with a vengeance, due in part to committed faculty advisers.

One case in point is the Honors Department, under the direction of Dr. John P. Montgomery, which has enjoyed a phenomenal year.

Faculty and students joined hands to create the Lyceum — a series of events aimed at bringing the campus together in a cultural environment. They worked

together, not against each other.

Montgomery empathized with students and took their complaints as serious concerns, not as apathy. What he heard was a resounding tone of dissatisfaction with the environment on campus. Students wanted to network and create an intellectual atmosphere that was serious yet fun.

So, as an educator, Montgomery stepped in to facilitate. He makes it known that students have done much of the work, but he says he feels strongly that teachers must be involved — at least in heart. They need to care about the students. In return, the students walk out of the classroom caring.

"These students have made me come alive," says Montgomery. "There's a dynamic going on in the classroom. Of course, students need to come to class curious, wanting to learn, but it's our job to put as much in front of them as we can and hope the light bulb comes on. Sometimes you can't talk about apathy in terms of big numbers. As a teacher, you think in terms of individuals. When you see that one student finally light up, it's worth the work," Montgomery says with sincerity.

On the other hand, Montgomery empathizes with his fellow colleagues and comes to their defense. He points out that classes are oversized and personal interaction is difficult. There is pressure to publish and present papers and perform research which leaves little or no time. He says budget problems have effected everyone negatively.

"With the present budget crunch, raises are non-existent and it's demoralizing," asserts Montgomery. "There is release time for faculty who are publishing, but there isn't a built-in system for allowing faculty to spend more time with student organizations. Some professors are angry about the present state of education funding and they take a 'you aren't getting anything extra out of me' attitude," he continues. "But you have to believe that one of these days the wrongs are going to be righted, and in the meantime, we

*'It's our job to put as much in front of them [students] as we can and hope the light bulb comes on.'*

Dr.J.P. Montgomery

have an obligation to the students."

Himebaugh's feelings on faculty pressure echo those of Montgomery. "There's no reward for being involved with student organizations," Himebaugh says. "You don't get money or promotions and you don't get

much credit at all. There isn't much tangible reward."

Most professors seem to agree on one point. Some students are impossible to motivate. Sandra Pigg says there are some students who just want to play the game and pass, and nothing she does seems to motivate them.

"Apathy doesn't necessarily start in college," Pigg points out. "The symptoms are what get our attention, but it goes a lot deeper. Families have changed and there is less supervision of children. MTSU also suffers from apathy because it's a suitcase college with many commuters and a lot of non-traditional students. It is hoped that good teachers motivate, but it's hard to motivate some students," she adds with a caring, but frustrated, tone of voice.

Some feel that MTSU's standards are too low and attract a group of students who aren't fully prepared to be in the college setting.

"Developmental studies needs to be trimmed to the bone," says Derek Frisby, a junior international relations and history major. "We need to raise the ACT standards. There are too many people here who are reliving their high school days. It devalues our degree. The high school diploma of the 1950's is like our bachelor's degree now," Frisby continues.

Dr. Jeffrey Allbritten, assistant professor of mathematics, warns against academic bigotry but admits, "we're funnelling people into college who don't want to be there and who don't necessarily

need to be there. A lot of people are going because they're expected to go."

Allbritten admits that he initially attended college for lack of a better plan. It took him quite some time to feel comfortable with his decisions and to enjoy the academic environment.

Allbritten also noted that some people make the mistake of saying "if I get involved, then I'll get behind."

"But the more you get involved, the more you get out of it," notes the math professor. "I think the old adage is true — you only get out of something what you put in."

Montgomery's thoughts follow the same theme as those of his colleague Allbritten. "When I came to college," the honors chairman says, "I wanted to please my parents. I stumbled around here for a while and then I read a particular book and it made me want to be a writer," Montgomery continues. "Obviously a lot of students are pressured to be here and they shouldn't be here."

*The Tennessean* recently reported that 71 percent of college freshman need remedial studies. The Board of Regents is reportedly looking into possible alterations in the present requirements for college admission and are finally beginning to see that problems need to be addressed in grade school and high school before they clutter up the university classrooms. Non-caring students in the classroom make it difficult for enthusiastic students to fully

See **APATHY**, page 13

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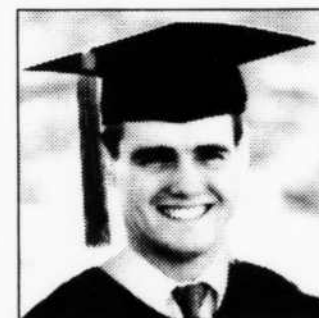
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# April off to interesting start, culture international style

DAVID ROBINSON  
Special to *Sidelines*

Imagine a world in which cultural and ethnic differences are causes for celebration rather than violence. Imagine a world of mutual understanding between different religions, ethnic groups and nations. Imagine a world where all colors, creeds and nationalities of peoples gather around a common banquet table to celebrate the wonderful variety of humankind on the face of this planet.

Such a world need not exist only in your imagination. This week, April 1-4, at MTSU, such a celebration is taking place—MTSU's 3rd Annual International Cultural Celebration. As in the past two years, this year's event is under the direction of Dr. Tech Wubneh, director of international student services at MTSU.

"A rich cultural diversity exists both on the campus of Middle Tennessee State University," observes Dr. Wubneh,

"and also in the outside community."

There are 352 international students presently studying at MTSU from more than 60 countries. These students journey from such faraway places as Iceland, India and Indonesia. Represented in greatest numbers are students from Japan, Iran, Laos, Thailand and South Korea. In addition, MTSU is the professional home of about 40 international faculty members.

"To celebrate this diversity, the international cultural event had been expanded from a single banquet to a week of events. This year's highlight is the international cultural banquet on Saturday, April 4, at 6 p.m. in the James Union Building," adds Wubneh.

Tickets sell out fast at \$10; students can purchase tickets for \$5 with a valid student identification card. Last year, more than 430 people attended the banquet. Tickets can be purchased in the International

Student Services office which is located in 202 Cope Administration Building. No tickets will be sold at the door. Contact the MTSU International Student Services office at 898-2238 for information and ticket sales.

MTSU's International Cultural Week celebration would not be possible without the support of the MTSU Foundation, area businesses, and MTSU campus ministries. Dr. Wubneh hopes to see the support and celebration of international culture continue over the years.

"I think understanding of international cultures in this area, in contrast to other areas in the states, is low," comments Wubneh. "The more understanding we have in our rapidly changing world, and the more we appreciate the cultural diversity in our world, the more we will be able to cohabit this world peaceably."

That's a world we all can imagine.

## WSMV searching for stupid students

STAFF REPORTS



Finally, stupidity is being recognized as a virtue.

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Students interested in performing a stupid trick should come to the front of Keathley University Center beginning at 11:15 a.m. Taping will continue until approximately 1 p.m.

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**Apathy:**  
Not only  
unsightly,  
it's a killer!

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### NICOLE M. SIKORA Event Review

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Obviously enough people agree with her views. I think that is the only time I have seen a crowd of over 300 assemble on a Friday night on the MTSU campus. Normally, a function scheduled on a weekend here can anticipate a "crowd" of about

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I bought one of her books-- *My House*-- during the reception

and got her to autograph it. Before I let her sign the book, however, I told her that even some of our greatest leaders could not evoke such a large, sincere audience reaction as she had. I meant every word of it.

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## Apathy

Continued from page 11

enjoy their academic experience.

Montgomery says that about eight years ago, he began to see an anti-intellectual attitude that still infuriates him. He calls this mind-set "profoundly disgusting" because it robs serious students of their freedom to feel comfortable with being curious and motivated.

In other words, the pervasion of apathy into the halls of academe hurts everyone involved. Teachers are expected to tap dance and entertain students who don't want to be there. They don't have time to spend with the ones who want to be there. Students who come in contact with burnt-out professors often walk away disillusioned and apathetic. Students who are self-motivated and persistent, who somehow find a way to fight off the dreaded intellectual lethargy, are often criticized and frustrated. There will always be a few exceptional students who have built-in motivation, who

excel in the face of all obstacles, but they are few and far between.

The hope is, that by continually addressing the issue, students who are borderline motivated will see the benefits of campus involvement and come forth. We want to graduate leaders, not losers—winners, not whiners. The more leaders that walk away from here, the more pride MTSU can take in it's role in the community and the more pride students will take in attending this institution which offers endless opportunities.

Which brings us back to motivation and the idea of a "healthy dose of idealism." The line forms here for the motivation vaccination. Hopefully it will be a long line. There is a cure for apathy. There is cause for hope. Because, after all, as journalism professor Sandra Pigg puts it, "We need to realize that there is good in striving." Or, as they say in Latin, "bene est laborare." Remember that phrase, you're going to be seeing it a lot in the months to come.

Alan Jacenovic/Photographer

**ON TOP OF THE WORLD:** A crew member (a.k.a. unsung hero) makes final adjustments to the lighting at Tucker Theatre for the upcoming "Chicago."

## Hats off to unsung heroes

You go to see a play. The sets are beautifully built, the costumes are stunning, and you barely notice the lights. But do you ever wonder how they got that way?

Believe me, there's more to it than a list of names near the back of the program. I call them the "unsung heroes of theatre" (trite, but appropriate). And I'm not talking about the designers or directors, either.

Technical theatre is a world unto itself. And the inhabitants of this world are special (really - not like the church lady) because they are required to know and practice so many different skills. Think about it — how many of you can wire together a quartz and halogen lamp base, paint a realistic-looking mountain in the background, sew an applique on a sleeve and then build a platform that will hold ten people?

As we sit and enjoy the actors "strutting their stuff" on the stage, we tend to be blind to the many people who have worked their butts off to create the illusions we are enjoying.

I would also like to single out one special person who is all but forgotten on our side of the

### GARRY ESTEP

Fine Arts Editor

stage. If the theatre were its own society, this person would be God. Yes, I'm talking about the stage manager.

This is one job I never wanted to do, but I have the highest regard for the person who does. All through rehearsals, the stage manager observes and takes extensive notes. When the play opens, if anything goes wrong, it's the responsibility of the stage manager. It's kind of like being a dictator — you call the shots and if it falls, it falls on you.

I haven't mentioned the people who make sure we have a place to park our butt while watching the play — or the folks who make sure we can see and hear what's going on.

Enough you say? You promise not to take these folks for granted anymore?

That's right, it's not as easy as Judy Garland and Mickey Rooney made it look.

To all of you theatre "techies" who make the world of theatre come alive — I salute you. Please keep up the good work.

### Activism

continued from page 1  
mobilizing on more and more issues," said Shah, whose organization lobbies Congress on student-related issues from tuition to curriculum reform. "We work within the system."

Shah, on leave from Rutgers University, says she will always be a political activist and admits having a talent for organizing for social change. "Education is a right for making a better society," she says.

"Students are experiencing having classes cut and (they are) increasingly making the connection to military spending, which will be \$291 billion in 1992. They are saying 'let's take the money out of there,'" said Bruce Gagnon, who organizes students for the Florida Coalition for Peace and Justice. "I predict peaceful demonstrations over military spending on campuses."

"Activism tends to be a way of life, a willingness to do things,

to sacrifice yourself. Many people are willing to get arrested to do what they believe in," said Blair Palese, a Greenpeace spokesperson. Palese says that students comprise a large number of the international environmental group.

Greenpeace, whose policy is non-violence and "direct action" (such as blocking shipments of nuclear waste or hanging protest banners on bridges), has attracted thousands of students since the environment has become the most popular issue on campuses. U.S. Greenpeace membership is

1.8 million.

Palese says that students have an "understanding of protecting the environment and atmosphere" from nuclear hazards and toxic waste because they are "without a lot of economic ties."

"They get involved at an age when they believe they can make a difference," she said.

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# Sports

## Blue Raiders munch on Colonels

### *MTSU bats red hot in weekend sweep*

**SCOTT HASSLER**  
Assistant Sports Editor

Someone call the fire department the MTSU baseball team is on fire. The Raiders took on Eastern Kentucky this weekend in a three game series at Smith Field and defeated the Colonels all three games. More impressive than that was the fact that the Raiders scored 38 runs in the series while pounding the Colonels 13-6, 8-2, and 17-3. Those are scores the football team would be proud of against Eastern.

Needless to say Raider coach Steve Peterson was very impressed with the Raiders' performance. "In the first game we took their number one (pitcher) out of the game. Every time we were down we really battled back. In the second game we jumped on them real quick and then played solid ball after that. And today (Sunday) we knocked out their starter and we were able to use every active player that I had available to use."

The Colonels could never get any type of rally put together in any of the games due to the outstanding pitching of the Raiders. The Raider pitchers held the Colonels to 11 runs in the three game series including six of them in the first game.

The Raiders were fortunate to have solid bullpen help in the first game provided by Dean Hanks after relieving starter Mike McLaury. McLaury went 4.2 innings and gave up four runs and six hits while striking out five. Hanks pitched

2.1 innings and allowed two runs while walking two and striking out one.

The second game was more of the same for MTSU. Patrick Mayes pitched a seven inning complete game to help the Raiders win handily. Mayes allowed five hits and two runs while striking out six and walking two.

In the double header the Raiders combined for 23 hits and 21 runs to support the solid pitching. The Colonels on the other hand managed only eight runs and 14 hits.

The third game played Sunday was never in doubt. The Raiders scored four runs in the first inning and four runs in the second inning as well. Just to make sure Eastern had no intention of making a game of it, the Raiders scored five more runs in the fifth inning and two additional runs in the sixth to send the Colonels home with their tail between their legs.

"This was a good team victory," coach Peterson said. "We really needed to take these three after a disappointing weekend last weekend. This puts us back in the chase."

The chase is indeed on already to see who will win the regular season title for the OVC. Austin Peay is currently in first place but MTSU is right behind with a mark of 13-9 for the year and 4-1 in OVC play. MTSU has home non-conference games this week against Berry College Tuesday and Cumberland Wednesday. Both games are at 7:30.



Barbara Klemt/Photographer

**HOT CORNER:** Middle Tennessee third baseman Brent Greer appears ready for the ball to head in his direction during baseball action over the weekend.

## Boots has boys going

### *Spring practice underway, coach looking to fill gaps*

**SCOTT HASSLER**  
Assistant Sports Editor

As the sounds of spring time begin to arrive in the Middle Tennessee area, many people begin to look forward to the summer break which is just a month away. For the Blue Raider football team the sounds of spring mean football practice in preparation for the fall football season in September.

The Raiders have begun spring drills in preparation for hopefully another successful season. The Raiders have 29 days in which to get in 15 practice sessions to determine who will fill roster spots left open by graduating seniors. Raider coach Boots Donnelly feels spring is an important time of the year for football, but realizes the hard work that needs to be done to rebuild.

"We have 75-80 guys on this team," Donnelly said. "Spring practice allows the young athlete time to play without the fear of making a mistake. In the fall you can't do that. Every thing you do in the fall is dictated by what we do here in spring practice."

The major influence of Coach Donnelly and his staff is to find people for the offensive and defensive lines. coach Donnelly added, "Our number one priority is offensive line. When you lose the number of players we did, including an established center, you have to find the next four best guys for the two guards and two tackles."

Boots does have some good news on offense though. The only returning offensive lineman is two time All-American Steve McAdoo playing in his final season for the Raiders. Behind McAdoo is quarterback Kelly Holcomb who had an outstanding

freshmen year as the starting quarterback. Behind Holcomb are running backs Walter Crowder and Walter Dunson. Both of whom played very well in last year's action.

"We have receivers, running backs, and quarterback possibilities," added coach Donnelly, "but what good are skill people if we can't take down interference?"

On defense the Raiders face a similar problem like that of the offense. The Raiders have the skill positions on defense but no defensive line to help secure the defense.

"Defensive tackle is a major concern, linebacker, and then being solid," Donnelly said. "We also need to find a free safety that can make the plays required of that position."

Recruiting is a major problem solver if the Raiders can get the personnel they want. Coach Donnelly feels that the Raiders have been fairly successful in that regard.

"We signed a majority of the people we feel can play college football," Donnelly said. "We have young players who have to be good players. The key to coaching is to find someone who can play. They get knocked down and get right back up. The real value of a winner is a guy who learns from losing."

When the spring showers pass away and the heat of summer begins to creep forward, the Blue Raider football team will have a better idea of what the fall season will bring. Until that time the players are trying to concentrate on the task at hand which is to build a competitive football team.



Dane Herndon/Photographer

**FUTURE STOCK:** MTSU quarterback Kelly Holcomb figures to be a key player for the next three seasons. However, an offensive line needs to form in order to help make his duties easier.



# 'It's Showtime'

## American Gladiators hit competition hard

TONY J. ARNOLD  
Sports Editor

Eight competitors entered Murphy Center Saturday night with intentions of beating the odds. Yet, similar to hitting a brick wall, they ran head first into reality.

That reality was the American Gladiators, who came to Murfreesboro on their national tour. Large in stature, both men and women showed the public that the highly successful television show is no joke.

Regardless of gender, the Gladiators, like Nitro, Tower, Diamond and Storm wrestled, threw, beat and even pointed a few fingers at the local competition.

As the show began eight contenders, whom qualified two weeks ago at a tryout held at the Alumni Gym, went through three preliminary rounds, narrowing the field to two men and two women.

The first even was the assault where contestants fire various weapons from station on the floor while a Gladiator stands on a podium shooting tennis balls at high speeds. If the Gladiator hits you, you receive no points. If you hit the target above the Gladiator, you receive 10 points and a draw earn you five.

Nancy McAllister of Bellevue was the only

contender to hit the target.

After battling through a game of powerball and spinning around in atmosphere, the field of competitors was narrowed to two men and two women, who then proceeded to events like the eliminator, break through a conquer and the joust.

The eliminator, which is always the final event, presents the competitors with a obstacle course with the person who compiled the most points in the other events getting a head start. Whoever crossed the finish line first was the champion.

In the women's event, Ann Holloway started eight seconds behind McAllister while David Tayes was three and a half seconds behind Robert Yarbrough. In both cases the later starters overcame the deficit and won. Both Tayes and Holloway were from

Monterey, Tenn.

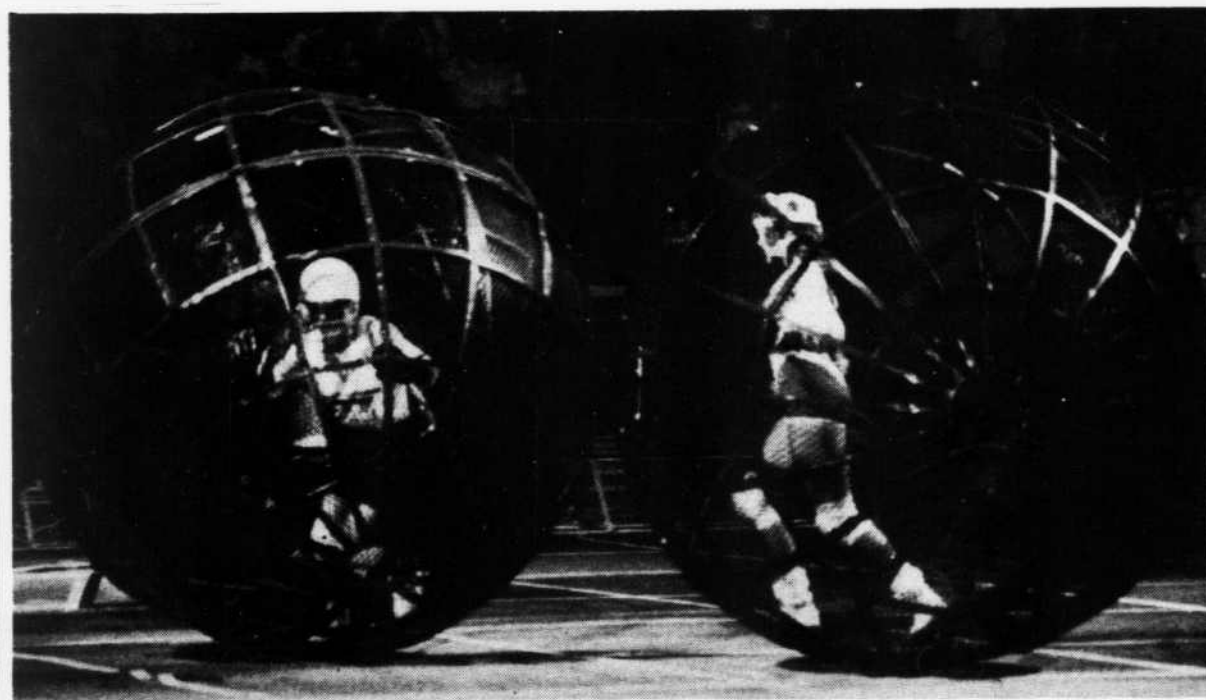
The tour wasn't exactly like the television show, but the 8,000 people in attendance didn't seem to matter. At every opportunity, children were being rewarded with autographs, and the Gladiators continually praised the vocal crowd.

But the competitors are the ones who got to appreciate it the most. In fact, they've probably got the bruises to prove it.



Dane Herndon/Photographer

**AMERICAN ACTION:** Some 8,000 fans filed into Murphy Center Saturday night to take a peek at the American Gladiators. The tour around the nation has given fans an up close look at the action which takes place on the actual television show. Events such as the Eliminator, Joust, Powerball and Break Through and Conquer took the spotlight in Murfreesboro. Winners of the MTSU event will now get a chance to make the television show if they are good enough.





# Oakland A's powerful, Jays will take the title

*Editors Note: Over the next week, baseball prediction columns will appear in each Sports section. Since no one could agree, we figured we'd let everyone voice their own opinions.*

Baseball season is just a few weeks away and many people dust off the old armchair in preparation for cable competition and pay-per-view paradise. Many of us baseball know-it-alls have begun to make predictions for the 1992-93 season to show our infinite knowledge of the game and the players who play it. The trades of the preseason are known over so the task of predicting the winners becomes glaringly simple, right?

For those fans who paid attention to last year's races in each division you will remember the surprises as well as the givens. The surprises were the two worst to first teams, the Minnesota Twins and the Atlanta Braves. Both teams finished dead last in their division the previous year, only to have both make it to the world series. The Twins were able to come away with a tough victory for the championship in a truly remarkable season.

The two givens were the Pittsburgh Pirates and the Toronto Blue Jays. The Pirates had won the Eastern division the previous year and were expected to repeat as champs. The Pirates

## SCOTT HASSLER 3-2 Count

repeated only to lose the National League Championship to the Braves. The Blue Jays relied on a consistent offense and strong pitching to win their division over a pesky Boston Red Sox team. The Blue Jays were then eliminated by the Twins.

This year the givens and the surprises are hard to find. Some teams have experienced major shake-ups due to the outrageous salaries of Major League Baseball players. Other teams have used their wealth to gain big name players and super star pitchers. Whether these investments pay off remains to be seen but it definitely adds to the excitement and anticipation of the upcoming season.

The American league is probably the more stable of the two leagues in terms of who the contenders are. Both races should be exciting but few surprises are in store for the eventual champs.

### American League West

Every year the speech is the same, "How can anybody compete with the Oakland A's?" Well this year the speech will be heard once again. The A's have power with Jose Canseco, Mark McGwire, Ricky Henderson and Dave Henderson. The pitching is solid with Dave Stewart, Bob Welch, Mike Moore and Ron Darling. Plus the A's have one of the best relievers in Dennis Eckersley. If the A's can stay healthy and get consistent fielding from their offensively minded players, they should be

hard to beat. Predicted Finish: Oakland A's, Chicago White Sox, Minnesota Twins, Texas Rangers, California Angels, Seattle Mariners and Kansas City Royals.

### American League East

The Toronto Blue Jays play north of the American border and tend to be forgotten about when the armchair predictors predict. This armchair predictor never forgets. The Blue Jays shall win again. Toronto has the best pitching in the American League with Jack Morris (former Twin and Cy Young winner), Jimmy Key and talented David Wells, Todd Stottlemyre and Juan Guzman. Tom Henke and Duane Ward head up the bullpen. The Jays have power in the form of Dave Winfield, Joe Carter, Kelly Gruber, Devon White, and Roberto Alomar. The fielding should be solid and the experience of veteran players is always a help. Predicted Finish: Toronto Blue Jays, Boston Red Sox, Detroit Tigers, New York Yankees, Milwaukee Brewers, Baltimore Orioles and Cleveland Indians.

### National League West

The National League west was one of the most exciting divisions in the major leagues last year. Drama, suspense, courage, it was all there. This year should be more of the same with one noticeable difference. The Los Angeles Dodgers on top of the hill. The Dodgers have everything it takes to win and did so last year too. The Dodgers have the dream outfield of Eric Davis, Darryl Strawberry, and Brett Butler. Those three guys alone could make opposing managers cringe with pain. The Dodgers pitching is equally as good with Orel Hershiser who is now healthy, and Ramon Martinez, Tom Candiotti, Bob Ojeda, and possibly Ramon's younger brother Hector Martinez providing the knockout punch. With all this added talent it really will take a miracle season for the Braves to compete. Predicted

See **JAYS**, page 18

## Braves, Twins won't be back again this year

Break out the balls and gloves because America's game is about to get in gear. The 1992 baseball season opens in less than two weeks, and it seems as if most people have their own ideas about the outcomes when October rolls around.

**TONY J. ARNOLD**  
'Round the Horn

Soon, all predictions will be answered, some of which will be sooner than others, as the injuries mar the teams and the rookies or newcomers shine. Some veterans will be released while some will lead their team in the pennant chase.

Will the Braves be back? Can Pittsburgh survive without Bonilla?

Will Eric Davis find happiness and health in Los Angeles or will Nolan Ryan get another no-hitter?

It's that type of suspense that keeps the fans coming to the parks in groves to witness the game, yet as the bar room debate continues, I'm going to throw in my picks to see how I can do.

### AL WEST

Last year I picked Kansas City, and it finished near the bottom so forget them.

Oakland will be the team to beat this year. The A's still have the most ferocious bats in the big leagues. Even if you do hate Jose Canseco, you can't deny that he produces. Just think what he'd be like if he could keep his trap shut and had a brain. Anybody who wants to play crash derby with his Porsche has to have a loose screw.

In Chicago, Bo knows he can't play, yet the White Sox will take second behind the improving Frank Thomas. Seattle will benefit from the 40+ homers that Kevin Mitchell knocks with Ken Griffey Jr. on base.

Minnesota will not repeat the miracle of a year ago as it will finish just above .500 and fourth while California continues to fade to the back of the pack.

In Texas the ageless Nolan Ryan won't get another no-hitter and he'll spend a portion of the season on the disabled list. Reuben Sierra and Julio Franco can't carry the extra burden, while Kansas City will take the cellar without Brett Saberhagen.

Final Standings: 1)Oakland 2)Chicago 3)Seattle 4)Minnesota 5)California 6)Texas 7)Kansas City

### AL EAST

It's between Boston and Toronto again and expect it to go down to the wire.

The Blue Jays are equally as talented as the Sox, but the presence of Joe Carter, who can carry a team when he's hot, will make the difference. He'll be named AL MVP in the fall while Roger Clemens will once again be crowned Cy Young winner.

Take the Jays with a slim two-game lead at the end of the season.

Detroit always hangs tough under Sparky Anderson, but it won't challenge for the top spot all year long. New York will have a better year as will Don Mattingly. It'll finish above .500 for a change, rekindling a flame of hope for the troubled franchise.

Milwaukee won't be the team you want to face every day because it can do some damage but not enough to be a contender.

Baltimore should go ahead and fly south and begin preparing for next year while Cleveland is just plain Cleveland.

Final Standings: 1)Toronto 2)Boston 3)Detroit 4)New York 5)Milwaukee 6)Baltimore 7)Cleveland

### NL WEST

Everyone is talking about the Braves. Braves this, Braves that, it's almost nauseating.

But the big question is, can they repeat their performance of a year ago? The answer is no.

This year belongs to Cincinnati and Los Angeles. During the offseason, the Reds built the best pitching rotation in baseball led by this year's Cy Young winner Jose Rijo. Meanwhile, LA added former Red Eric Davis to its roster.

See **BRAVES**, page 18

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# Can Kidd carry the load?

*Warren will be counted on after team's sup-par season*

**SCOTT HASSLER**  
Three Seconds in the Lane

The Raiders played nationally ranked Cincinnati and lost by eight in a gutty performance. The season seemed to be going as well as could be hoped.

The first conference game of the year was against Murray State a known conference powerhouse. The Raiders were blown out of the building in what seemed like a message for all of Middle Tennessee. The Raiders did not throw in the towel and for three-quarters of the season instead they contended for first or second most of the year.

The Raiders had a chance to win another OVC title if they could win the remainder of their games. However, Middle could not do it though as they lost to Austin Peay in a must win game at Peay. The Raiders could have and should have won that game but lost a lead in the closing seconds and couldn't recover.

Regular season forgotten, for a good reason, the Raiders looked to revive themselves in Rupp arena in the OVC tournament. MTSU was seeded third and drew a first round game against Morehead State, a thorn in the Raiders side all year. The Raiders were stuck hard by the Eagles in an 81-80 loss at the buzzer.

MTSU teammates began to question shot selection in an attempt to explain the season that had just passed before their very eyes. How could a team with so much talent lose in the first round?

The OVC's most dominant center, now that Murray State's Popeye Jones is graduating, Warren Kidd will return for the Raiders in an attempt to once again capture the glory of former Raider

See KIDD, page 18

# MTSU Lady Raider future looks bright

Winds of change blew through Murphy Center last year, disrupting the Lady Raider basketball program and leaving numerous questions behind.

**TONY J. ARNOLD**  
'Round the Rim

For starters, the Lady Raiders had lost two talented seniors from the previous year, Pippa Gibson and Stephanie Capley. Both had been team leaders and prime-time players.

Second off, head coach Lewis Bivens had suffered a blood clot, resulting in his paralysis from the waist down. At times there were doubts of him ever coaching again; at times, there was even a question for his life.

Third, the pressure was on a very young, but talented, team.

The Lady Raider program is perhaps the most noted in the Ohio Valley Conference. No other school has dominated in the past like MTSU, which won seven consecutive OVC crowns in the '80's, which still stands as a national record. But over the two past years (89-90, 90-91), they compiled a 25-31 record, meaning the fans were getting restless.

Those fans can rest with ease now, though, as the 1991-92 season has closed out with the Lady Raider program back.

Over the past year, Bivens returned to the court and served not only as a coach but also an inspiration. Priscilla Robinson stepped up to take the lead and earned OVC Player of the Year honors with her 20-point scoring average. As far as the pressure, well, I guess the women answered that with a 19-9 overall record and second-place finish in the OVC standings.

Newcomers like Sherry Tucker, Cherita Williams and Niki Bonner worked from outside in showing that they will be a future force. Meanwhile, old reliables like Maggie Cox, Julie Morrison, Shana Wright and Kristi Brown filled the starting roles at times, getting the breaks when needed as Tricia Sisson and Laurie Hopwood gave them time to rest with solid play.

At times the team sparkled. At times the players saw sparkles floating around their heads because of the bashing they had taken.

See BRIGHT, page 18

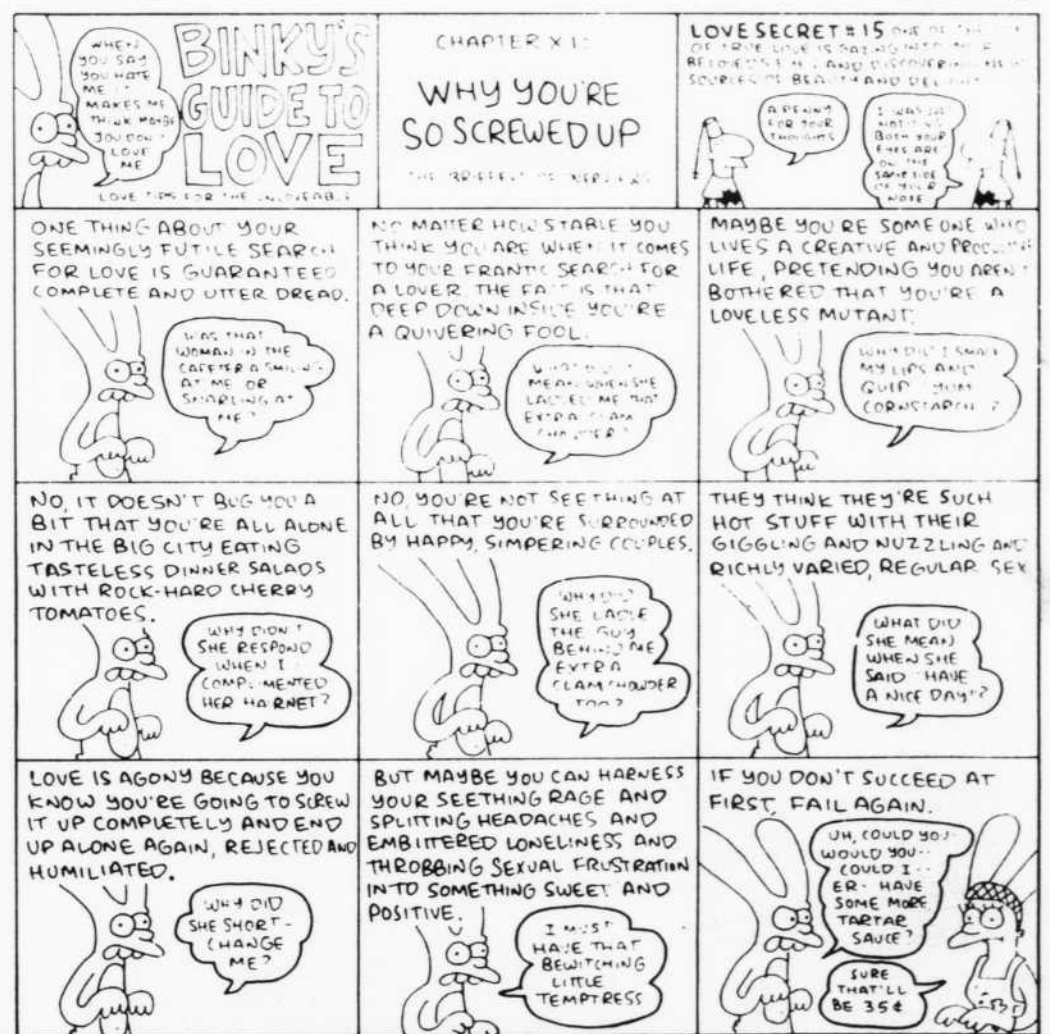
# Comics

## Larger Than Life by David Gallagher



Public Syndicate ©1992 David Gallagher

## LIFE IN HELL





**Kidd**

continued from page 17

squads. The Raiders are young and unproven now and must rely on the capable hands of Kidd for leadership. The times might be lean for the Raiders in the future but we should be used to that.

**Bright**

continued from page 17

Hopwood gave them time to rest with solid play.

At times the team sparkled. At times the players saw sparkles floating around their heads because of the bashing they had taken.

There were those nights you want to forget. They were countered by those that will live forever.

We saw Robinson rule the paint. We witnessed K.B. nailing eight treys against Tennessee Tech in one of the best single game performances I've ever seen. We saw nationally ranked teams that lifted frustration and then there were those where

everyone just set back and relaxed.

All in all, it was a good year but not good enough.

No one is going to be remembered for finishing second, and the team realizes this. Sure it was a year to remember, but it was also a steppingstone to the top.

Next year Bivens' troops will not be rebuilding—they will be reloading. At the close of this season, we had to say goodbye to Wright and Hopwood.

Wright was a starter. The rest of the starting line-up usually consisted of a freshman and three sophomores. To contribute to that, Bivens has one of the top high school point guards in the state, Heather Prater, coming in and Sonya Morrow, a Prop 48 casualty, will be a intimidating force inside.

Meanwhile, until the tip-off of the new season, fans and players must be content with a solid season. Next year, we all hope it is a championship one as well.

**Jays**

continued from page 16

Finish: Los Angeles Dodgers, Atlanta Braves, Cincinnati Reds, San Diego Padres, Houston Astros and the San Francisco Giants.

**National League East**

Last year the Pirates of Pittsburgh controlled the division from day one and never looked back. Now the money requested by the players has destroyed the Pirates attack. The New York Mets have the money and they have the talent to overtake the Pirates in the most competitive division in the league this year. The Mets picked up free agent Bobby Bonilla from the Pirates to add to their outfield with Vince Coleman and Howard Johnson. The pitching includes Dwight Gooden who seems to have his personal life under control which should help his baseball life be dominant once again. In addition to Gooden the Mets have Bret Saberhagen from the Royals, Sid Fernandez and David Cone. John Franco is the stopper and he's usually unhittable. If the Mets get any defense whatsoever from the infield they should be tough to beat. Predicted Finish: New York Mets, Pittsburgh Pirates, St. Louis Cardinals, Chicago Cubs, Montreal Expos and Philadelphia Phillies.

Now that each division is predicted, the world series can be

decided before the season even starts. Look for the Dodgers to be tough and for the A's to be powerful, but the Toronto Blue Jays will win it all.

**Braves**

continued from page 16

The two will be seeing the finish line in September, yet only one will cross first and that will be Cincinnati.

Eric Davis and Darryl Strawberry can get as hot as possible, but if the pitching doesn't post banner numbers, Tommy Lasorda can watch the playoffs from his television as can Davis, who'll probably be covered in Band-Aids.

Atlanta will finish third as Justice has his best year yet, earning him MVP honors at the season's close, although the pitching will be unstable causing it to falter as the season progresses.

San Francisco doesn't have the best talent, but it does have Will Clark, who possesses a will to win. That hustle will lead it to an above .500 record.

San Diego doesn't have much to get excited about, yet it could be worse. The Astros have some fine talent but a month-long road trip will do them in late in the season.

Final Standings: 1)Cincinnati 2)Los Angeles 3)Atlanta 4)San Francisco 5)San Diego

6)Houston

**NL EAST**

The top spot has been Pittsburgh's for the previous two years yet Bobby Bo has gone bye-bye for good and Pittsburgh can kiss the division title so long as well.

Despite the distractions of the big city, New York's Mets, with Bonilla, will eat the cake with a runaway title after the All Star break.

St. Louis will knock some base hits, especially off the bat of Felix Jose. Ozzie is an aging Wizard, yet if he contributes like he did last year and the pitching staff stays healthy, the Cards will take second.

Pittsburgh will be right on their tails, and one slip could slide them into the runner-up spot.

Everybody loves the Cubs win or lose, and lose again they will.

Philadelphia has some talent, but it's minimal and streaky. It won't finish last, though, because that belongs to Montreal.

Final Standings: 1)New York 2)St. Louis 3)Pittsburgh 4)Chicago 5)Philadelphia 6)Montreal

Finally October will roll around and expect the Mets and Blue Jays to battle for the national championship. Toronto will fly away with the crown in six.

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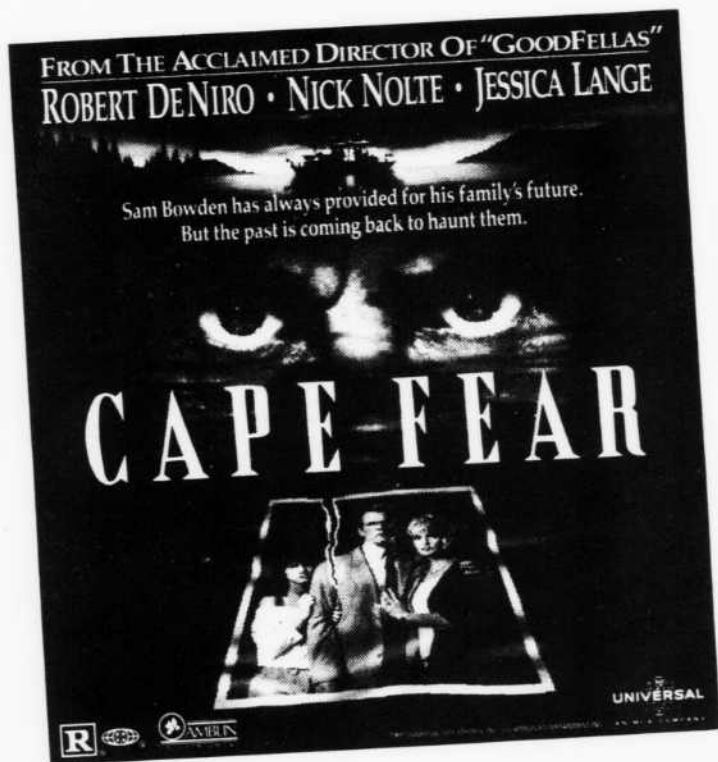
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