

Sidelines

*Middle Tennessee
State University*

Vol. 47 No. 39 Murfreesboro, Tennessee 37130 Friday, February 1, 1974



Photo by Tim Hamilton

Joe Banker presents a clever balancing act (above) in the 38th annual Biology Club Stunt Night last night at the Dramatic Arts Auditorium. Of the fifteen organizations participating, the Gymnastics Club placed first in the non-Greek division with their skit "Whistling Bellies,"

while Alpha Delta Pi won first in the Greek division for "Snow White and the Five Dwarfettes." Master of Ceremonies Andy Johnston, WLAC-TV's Tennessee Traveler, promised to award campus celebrity Dexter Dodson with an airing of his impersonations.

Grant-in-aid cuts may hurt teachers

by Wayne Hudgens

Faculty members depending upon the MTSU grant-in-aid program to partially finance further education may find themselves affected by a cut in that program recently ordered by the State Board of Regents.

President M.G. Scarlett said this week that the grant-in-aid offerings had been curtailed and restricted because of a new Regents policy, which directs that the job market for advanced degrees must be exhausted before university faculty members are given money to pursue higher degrees.

In the past, the MTSU program had been designed to give faculty members stipends and tuition and fee money if they wished to conduct

doctoral or master's degree work and then return to MTSU to teach.

"Now, before giving grant-in-aid money we consider only what the university needs in terms of higher degrees," Scarlett said Wednesday.

"Before the new Regents policy it was based on faculty needs-- what they wanted to pursue-- in terms of higher education--now we must determine our program in terms of supply and demand."

Scarlett explained that the market in doctor's degrees had increased in the past few years, thus prompting the Regents to make the policy change.

"The Regents felt that all state universities and colleges should use grant money for higher salar-

ies instead of paying faculty members to obtain degrees which were already available in the market," he said.

"I believe this is wise fiscal policy on the part of the Board."

The president said no faculty member would be given grants now unless department chairmen or other academic heads determined that the needed position could not be filled by someone else who already had an advanced degree.

"Of course there are some areas, for example nursing or theatre, where there just aren't many doctors available," he said. "We will still have grants available for MTSU instructors who wish to apply under those circumstances."

Scarlett said individual faculty members will no longer initiate requests for grant-in-aid monies. "Requests will now come only from departmental or academic administrative staffs," he said. "Faculty members who wish to apply for the advanced degrees needed will then be notified."

Faculty bulletin number eight, prepared for release on Jan. 16 by Dr. Howard Kirksey, vice-president for academic affairs, said that grants "will be made in terms of needs to meet accreditation standards which cannot be met because of unavailability in the academic market place."

"Instead of supporting 'go-getters' the fund will be used to procure 'already-gotters'," the bulletin said.

"Department chairmen will initiate the recommendation for a grant," the bulletin said. In the past individual faculty members could initiate the requests.

Stipends for higher education work were \$375 per month based on a faculty member with two dependents with all fees and tuition being paid by the school, Kirksey said yesterday.

The new policy will allow as much as 30 per cent of the faculty member's salary as stipend and pay \$500 per semester or \$333 per quarter toward fees and tuition, Kirksey said.

The vice president was reluctant to answer further questions asked him by this reporter, asking why the "student newspaper was interested in the grant-in-aid changes?"

"The change doesn't seem like news to me," he said yesterday. Kirksey said any further questions about the changes could be answered by his office.

Kirksey last week refused to talk by telephone to a student reporter inquiring about the changes, which were outlined in a faculty bulletin.

Jimmy Jackson, assistant to the vice-president for finance and administration, said yesterday that \$34,000 had been budgeted in 1973-74 for stipends in the grant program. He said \$15,850 had been expended of the stipend budget as of December 1973.

Jackson said \$6,000 has been allocated for tuition and fees for the same period, of which \$3,487 had been used by December.

By contract, any faculty member who receives grant money must return to the institution to teach at least three months for every month of instruction paid for in part by grant money.

According to the contract, no grant will be supplied for longer than a 12 month period.

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Media board organizes; fails to decide proposal

Officers were elected Wednesday for the newly-formed Council on Student Publications but no decision was reached on the proposed combination of Midlander and Collage.

Lucy Sikes, Collage editor and an ASB appointee, was elected chairman, Reza Ordoubadian, English professor, was elected secretary.

Students from Midlander, Collage and ASB attended the meeting, contributing to the discussion of the proposal.

As proposed by Director of Student Publications Jerry Hilliard, the new publication would appear four times during the next school year and would combine traditional features of the yearbook with creative works like those now in Collage.

It is important that a decision be made soon on the proposal, said Edward Kimbrell, chairman of the mass communications department.

If the proposal passes, he said, a staff should be chosen immediately to allow the remainder of this semester and the summer semester for detailed planning of the new publication.

Another meeting is tentatively set for Tuesday.

Terry Thomas, ASB secretary of student mobilization, presented results from a random survey of opinions concerning Collage, Midlander and their proposed combination.

Two thousand students responded to the survey taken during spring registration that excluded freshman who might not be familiar with the publications, Thomas said.

The survey listed ten questions and 1,562 students answered the question, "Should Collage and Midlander (the magazine and yearbook) be combined to produce a periodic publication?" About 29 per cent responded yes and 70 per cent no, Thomas said.

Questions were raised about the survey's validity as a true representation of student opinion since the handout did not contain details of the proposal.

The magazine would interest more people in working, said Fred Carr, Midlander's chief photographer. Only about 12 people regularly work now to publish both the yearbook and Collage, he said.

Nancy Nipper, who works on both publications, also expressed a desire for consolidation.

However, others were opposed. "We don't need to risk the functions of two books by combining for a book that will serve neither function very well," said Jim Trammel, former editor of the yearbook.

"Collage has proven it can stand on its own," Sikes said. "I'm opposed to using it as a shot in the arm for a failing book."

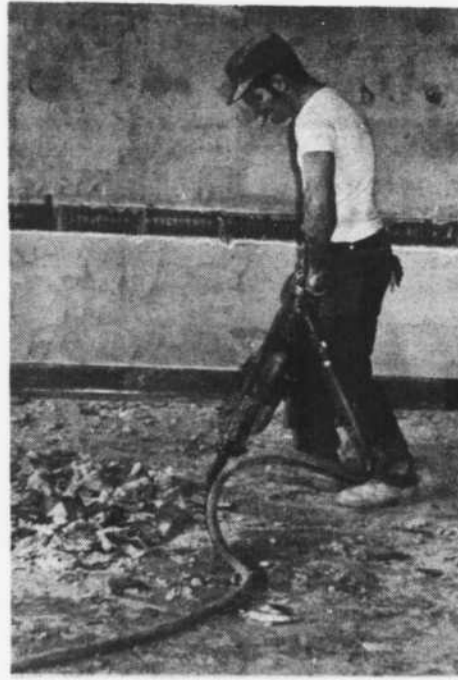


Photo by Steve Reynolds

Funding delays renovation plan

Workmen such as the one at left will continue renovation of the old science building until January, 1975, according to campus planning director Charles Pigg.

Problems in funding the \$950,000 project have caused the delay in completing the structure, he said. Work was originally scheduled to be completed in August.

Because of the work extension, science classes presently meeting in the UC and Agriculture buildings will continue to do so until the next spring semester.

Smyrna Hardware and Lumber Co. is in charge of the renovation project.

Varsity, junior debaters head for separate meets

by Susan Patterson

MTSU debaters will represent the school in two different tournaments this weekend, according to director of forensics Jim Brooks.

The top varsity team, comprised of juniors Mike Hall of Murfreesboro and Ron Howell of Jefferson City, will travel to Cambridge, Mass., to participate in Harvard University's debate tournament.

About 80 schools from the United States will be represented in the tournament. Brooks predicted that MTSU will finish in the top 10 per cent of the competition.

All competing teams are debating this year's national intercollegiate debate resolution, which resolves that the federal government should control the supply and utilization of energy, Brooks said.

Participating schools compete against each other in eight rounds. From the original 80 schools, only the top 16 enter elimination debates at the end of preliminary competition.

Elimination debates continue

until one team is declared the winner.

The junior varsity debate team will represent MTSU this weekend at the University of Georgia in Athens. They will be competing against debaters from the southeastern part of the United States.

Sophomore Gary Buchanan from Nashville and freshman Harold Balcum from Huntsville, Ala., are the members of the first junior varsity teams. The second team consists of sophomores Mike Deal from Nashville and Tom Smith from Maryville.

Enrollment goes up, comes down

Enrollment for this semester is higher than that of one year ago, but lower than that of the fall session, according to Frank Glass, dean of admissions and records.

Spring enrollment is traditionally below totals of the previous fall because of the number of students who drop out, Glass said.

Present enrollment is 8,943.

Full time equivalent (FTE) student projections, made to determine allocation of state funds to the university, are not used in spring semesters, Glass said.

"The number of spring and summer students is not included in the determination of appropriations we get from the state," he said.

Last fall, MTSU had to return over \$100,000 to the state because

the university fell short of its FTE prediction by 137 students.

The department showing the greatest increase in total credit hours was mass communications with a rise of 1490 hours.

The largest decrease in credit hour enrollment was in the department of industrial arts which registered a decline of 712 hours.

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Editorials

Nixon era must end

Wednesday evening the President of the United States told Congressional leaders that "one year of Watergate is enough."

With those few words he again demonstrated his amazing ability to ignore the growing political and moral quagmire that has been lumped collectively under the term Watergate.

Richard M. Nixon has proven his insensitivity to the suffering of his countrymen--to the lack of vital fuel oil and gasoline, to spiraling prices in the grocery store, to the mindless, indiscriminate hacking of needed social programs.

As his "State of the Union" address proves, he is evidently concerned only with maintaining a grasp, however weak, on the nation's highest elected office.

We believe that he is no longer able to demonstrate his capability to serve in the office he holds.

He has held himself above the law, ignored federal and state courts and even stooped to the lowest level of humanity by "selling down the river" his close personal secretary in order to make a pitiful attempt to save his own political skin.

The commie baiter and irrational demagogue of the 1950's has not passed away as his top staffers would lead us to believe.

For Nixon it's just the same old show with another cast of criminal characters receiving the national spotlight.

We believe that it is now time for Nixon to relinquish his hold on office and step down immediately in favor of Vice-President Gerald Ford.

Ford is quiet, yet in his own way reassuring and competent. He would make a much better "caretaker" executive than the aged, ruthless man now residing in the White House.

The Nixon saga has ended. One year has been enough. Enough for the people of this strife-torn nation and enough for their highest leader, who, if he continues to stay in office, can only deepen the wounds of distrust and hatred he himself has inflicted.



"NOW, I COULD SAY THAT WORDS FAIL ME, BUT THAT WOULD BE THE EASY WAY OUT . . ."

Sludge strikes again

ASB just ain't NORML

by Sam Sludge

There are 9,200 students on this campus and I am one of them. Sludge is the name — Sam Sludge. My sidekick is Raol (the Duke) Mynkowski.

We're Sidelines special agents. The ASB is our beat. So it goes.

It's disgusting what one can discover about the anarchist antics of the ASB. None of their activities fall among the normal range of sanity.

Currently, I'm filling the second highest Associated Student Body post — Secretary of Publicity Photos. It is my responsibility to round up all of the various ASB officials and guarantee that they get their photos in the Midlander and all other forms of official and non-official propaganda mediums.

It's not an easy job. After all, no one ever sees an ASB official until its time for him to have his photo taken.

I'll never forget the time I tried to find all of the ASB House members. (First time I ever heard about the ASB House, I thought it was some sort of fraternity abode.) (I wasn't too far from wrong?) At any rate I searched and searched for the House before finally finding it.

I tried everything from running File 13's in the Sidelines to posting notices in the Grill — nothing worked — until I bought a \$12.95 Poloroid at Big K.

I got that camera, marched up the UC steps and started flashing flashcubes. Five minutes later I was completely swamped by all the members of the ASB House.

It was then I was appointed ASB Secretary of Publicity Photos. Shortly after being sworn in I was taught the secrets of being a successful ASB politician. "Always smile," said my adviser. This same adviser even told me the most secret of all ASB secrets —

the ASB motto. The motto, simply put, is "Don't do nothin'."

After informing my SIDELINES superior about lucking into a high ASB post, I was instructed to appoint my sidekick, Raol the Duke, Assistant Secretary of Publicity Photos. (Which I did.)

I was then informed to complete a complete investigation of that most cryptic of ASB officials, President Tim Watson.

Raol and I followed his steps for the next three months before making our first big break in the case. It was a dramatic discovery.

We uncovered the fact that Tim Watson was dead — killed by ten pounds of roach poison slipped into his Saga coke.

Watson had been replaced by an impersonator, who we discovered was Terry Thomas with a jowl transplant.

This discovery had a startling effect on Raol, but the thing that led to his mysterious death was the uncovering of the fact that Thomas had been replaced by Emily Webb.

"No," Raol screamed, "anything but that."

He quickly reached for the Watts Line in an attempt to inform his boy on Capital Hill about the overthrow of decency at MTSU.

It was then an immense charge of electricity surged through the telephone. "It's the Boss of all Bosses, behind the operation," Raol bellowed.

It was too late to save his life. Now I'm alone. I am the only Sidelines' agent left investigating the ASB.

Inefficiency, red tape, propaganda, apathy and know-nothingness — a university full of it and I am the only one left to fight it.

It just ain't NORML.

Readers' views

To the editor:

To date the Charles W. Holland Memorial Scholarship Fund has \$1,038. The scholarship fund was started this year by the Biology Club in memoriam of Dr. Charles Holland, a young biology professor who was killed in a hit and run incident near Murfreesboro this past summer.

The scholarship fund must have \$5,000 in order to grant a \$300 per

year scholarship. Contributions in any amount can be made to the MTSU Foundation for the Charles W. Holland Memorial Fund.

Mrs. Katherine S. Hall
Biology Club, president

To the editor,

I am appalled by the lack of initiative on your part to provide an editorial page in the last edition of Sidelines. I am sure that Vince Vance would be considered by some a giant in the field of social commentary, but I beg of you to give consideration to the condition of your poor and starving staff cartoonist. I am barely subsisting on the small pittance which I receive for penning my heart and soul onto stark white paper. Where is your sense of justice?

Jan Ellis
Cartoonist
Box 3546

Sidelines

Wayne Hudgens--Editor
Gina Jeter--Managing Editor
Ron Vannatta--Ad Director
Freda Blackwell--Bus. Mgr.

Sidelines is published every Tuesday and Friday during the fall and spring semesters by the students of Middle Tennessee State University in Murfreesboro, Tennessee.

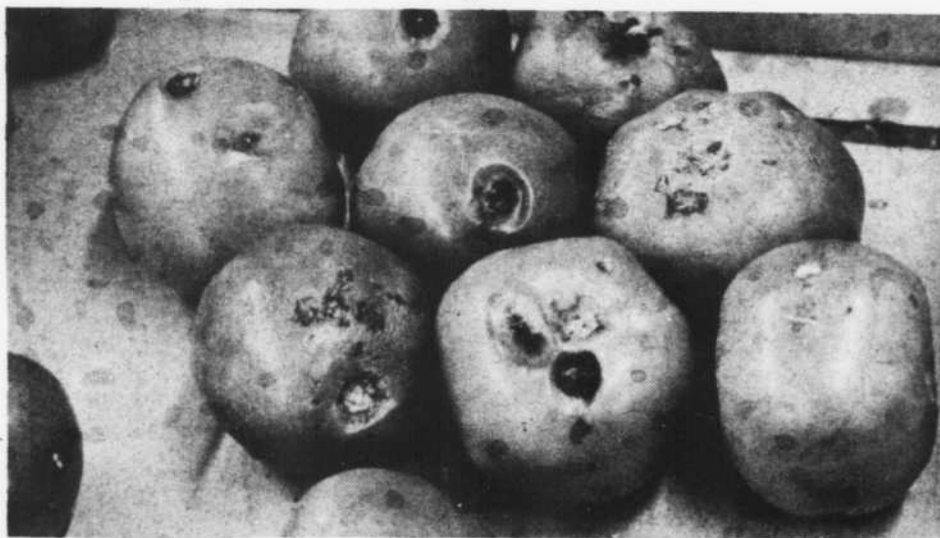
Complaints spark probe of grocery

by Bill Mason

Sanitary conditions and food quality at a local market will be investigated today by John Adams, inspector for the food and drug division of the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Adams will conduct an investigation of Davis' Foodland on East Main Street in response to a Sidelines report of rotten fruits and vegetables, browned meats, damaged canned goods and filthy floors at the store.

An examination of conditions at Davis' was made last week by Sidelines because of frequent com-



Rotten tomatoes

Photos by Alan Loveless

Vegetables at Davis' were also of poor quality. Wilted lettuce, molded cauliflower and damaged tomatoes were all representative of the market's food standards.

Ironically, all produce at the store was marked "guaranteed fresh."

Canned goods were often dented or damaged in some other way, and some boxed products were torn open and the contents exposed.

Dust covered many of the products, and some canned and bottled items were caked with dirt.

Old or damaged products such as salad dressing or Nestle's Quik were placed in special stands at discount prices. These items were often in dented containers and covered with dirt and rust.

Meats were brown and, in a few cases, spoiled at Davis'. Ground beef had an unpleasant odor.

Wooden floors were filthy, showing little if any, care. Boxes filled with trash blocked the aisles, and litter cluttered the entrance.

A garbage can located at the entrance of the store was filled to overflowing. Most of the market's garbage was kept outside in an open-air area.

After the examination of Davis'

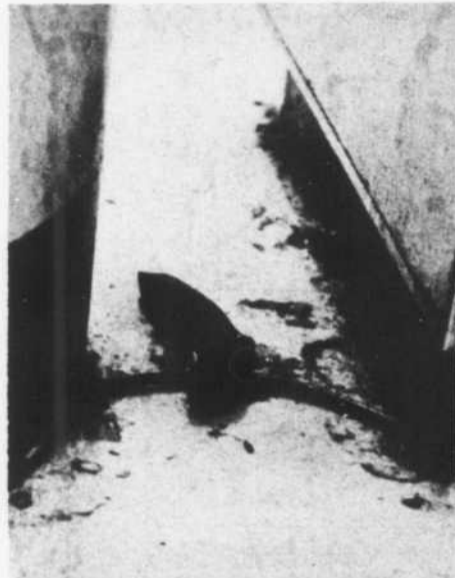
by Sidelines, Robert Reeves of the food and drug division in Nashville was contacted about the conditions described above.

Reeves said that Davis' has provided problems for his office in the past and was inspected in December 1972 and April and November of 1973.

In those three investigations, the store had been ordered to correct such conditions as mice in the storeroom, dirty floors, an in-operative rest room and unclean equipment in the meat department, Reeves said.

Davis' was also told to put safety tubes over lights in the meat cases and to keep meat products cleaner, he said.

Reeves promised to request an immediate re-investigation of the store by Adams, inspector for the Murfreesboro area.



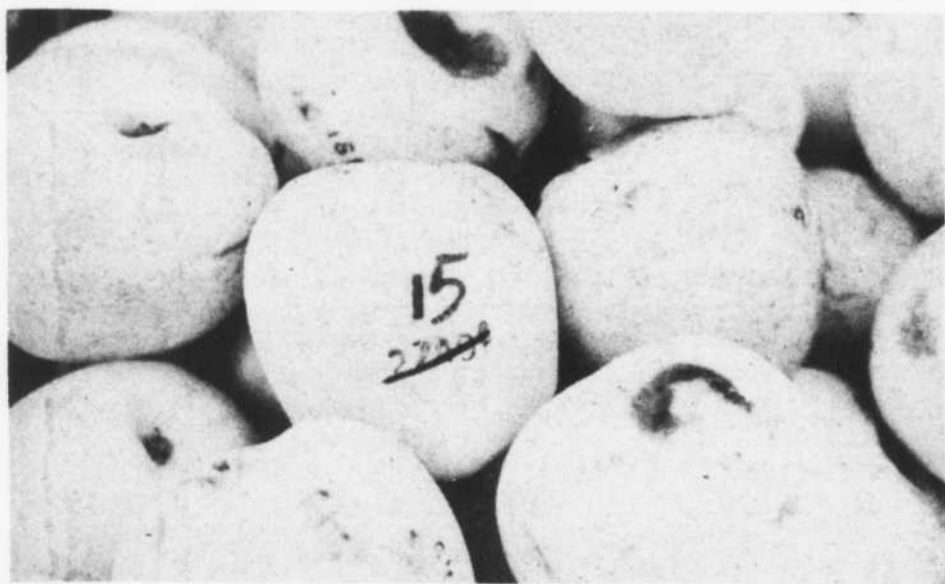
Wayward banana

plaints from students concerning the store's quality of merchandise and cleanliness of facilities.

Fruits at the store were almost inedible, apparently because of inadequate storage temperatures. Oranges were molded and sometimes punctured, while pears had blackened with age. Grapefruit and apples were obviously rotten.



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Chief tightens 7-day ticket limit

by Wayne Hudgens

Strict enforcement of the seven day appeal limit on all campus parking violations has begun, Matthew Royal, security chief, said yesterday.

Royal said the seven day limit is being enforced because of persons attempting to have citations voided after the fines have already been forwarded to the business office.

"After our officers write a ticket, it is sent to the computer center and from there to the business office for payment," Royal said. "Anyone coming in with the hope of voiding a ticket after seven days of the issuance date will just have to pay

the fine, no matter how good his reason is."

"It's mainly a matter of book-keeping," he said. "Everything is juggled around badly if we void a ticket after it goes to the computer."

"I feel like the seven day limit is a reasonable one," Royal said, "if someone has a legitimate excuse for illegal parking he won't wait over a week to bring it to our attention."

The security chief said faculty and administrators attempt to void tickets "about as much as students."

"Students are only about half the problem," Frankie Brians, security captain, said. "We have a

problem with maintenance men and other university personnel who move around the campus a great deal."

"We will void tickets only if someone has a very good reason to park illegally," Royal said. "If a person is not satisfied with the way we handle his tickets, he may still appeal to the ASB traffic court."

Royal said he and Brians have also instructed officers to "crack down" on parking violators.

"We don't necessarily like writing tickets, but if we didn't, this campus just wouldn't have any traffic flow or parking space," he said.

Student to face charge of rape

Former MTSU football player Ronnie Martin will appear in general sessions court Thursday to face charges of raping an MTSU coed, according to Deputy Sheriff R.C. Clark of Murfreesboro.

Martin was arrested Monday night by police officers at University Park apartments where the alleged rape occurred.

The campus security office refused to give out any information concerning the arrest.

A warrant was served Martin Tuesday at 10 a.m., and bond was set at \$7,500.

"The coed is reported to be all right," Clark said.

Martin was one of the two MTSU football players suspended last semester for possession of marijuana after a raid on the athletic dormitory.

He was allowed to re-enroll this semester as ineligible to participate in official university functions.

As of now no action has been taken by the administration against Martin, according to Associate Dean of Students Paul Cantrell.

"It is being treated as a civil and criminal suit by the law," Cantrell said.

Music frats set show

Phi Mu Alpha musical fraternity will present its seventh annual Stageband Show Tuesday at 8 p.m. in the Dramatic Arts auditorium.

The show will feature jazz as well as contemporary hits by Elton John, the Beatles and the Fifth Dimension.

The stageband is directed by MTSU student Rick King from LaVergne and will feature the Sinfonia Singers, who made their debut in last year's show.

Tickets are \$1.25 and are available today and Monday at the University Center ticket office 8 a.m.-4 p.m., at the door or from any Phi Mu Alpha member.

Spots remain open for theatre flight

A few places remain open for the MTSU New York theatre flight scheduled March 12-15, according to Dorothe Tucker of the speech and theatre department.

The flight will cost \$200, Tucker said, which will include round-trip transportation, room accommodations, balcony seat tickets for Radio City Music Hall and all luggage handling.

A \$25 deposit is due when reservations are confirmed, and the balance is due Feb. 12, Tucker said.

One hour credit is available in applied Speech 463 for those signing up for the flight and the class is still open for late registration, Tucker said.

Flight reservations will be accepted until Feb. 22, she said.

Group to study teacher programs

Evaluations of teacher preparations programs at MTSU will be conducted by the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE) Feb. 4-6, according to Delmar Pockat, dean of education.

Art students win cash

Three paintings that won MTSU art students cash prizes last night are in a current exhibit at McDonald's Restaurant, contest sponsor.

Scott Paulk won \$125 first prize for his acrylic painting entitled "Op." The second place prize of \$100 went to Kee Ryun Sohn for an oil interpretation called "Soccer Players." Third prize of \$75 was awarded Alice Baker for "Wave," a staining.

The council will inspect graduate and undergraduate teacher programs of the education department, Pockat said.

Only institutions which offer at least a four year curriculum in teacher education, volunteer for evaluation and meet the standards of NCATE will be accredited.

"Most importantly, NCATE accreditation provides a basis for reciprocity in teacher certification with 30 other states," Pockat said. "This means that any person receiving a certification to teach from MTSU may also be licensed in any of 30 other states without having to meet additional requirements."

A self study was prepared by the education department as a first step toward the NCATE accreditation, he said. The upcoming evaluation by the team of inspectors is the second step in that process.

The self study and inspection team's report will be used by the national council to reach a final determination of the department's accreditation, Pockat said.

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Raiderettes to meet UT; Ledford eyes comeback

Beating the defending state champion University of Tennessee is the assignment facing the Raiderette basketball team tonight in Knoxville.

"It's going to be a tough game," said Raiderette coach Karen Ledford. "UT has all their starters from last year back."

MTSU is 2-5 on the season after dropping a 65-51 decision to Volunteer State Community College Tuesday night.

Debbie "Boogle" Boykin paced the lady Raiders with 16 points and 10 rebounds.

Guard Lynn Burklow and center Jackie Carter followed with 13 and 17 points, respectively.

Burklow also pulled down 10 rebounds and drew high praise from her coach.

"Lynn played a fine game," Ledford said. "She's made a big contribution to the team."

Ledford said her squad "just got outhustled" by Vol State.

"We're getting into better shape," she added, "but we're still not in the kind of condition we need to be in."

Ledford indicated the Raiderettes' attitude is very good.

"We've got to get it going," she said. "The tournaments are coming up, and we need to get into the winning habit."



Photo by Scott Elliott

Raiderette guard Lynn Burklow sets to fire a shot goalward in MTSU's game with Vol State Tuesday. Burklow netted 13 points and pulled down 10 rebounds to lead the Raiderettes' charge.



Photo by Alan Loveless

A high-flying Intramural Basketball player goes up for a field goal attempt in a game played Tuesday in Alumni Memorial Gym. Games are contested Monday through Friday.

Intramural basketball standings

Intramural basketball has been underway for two weeks, and log-jams exist in the league standings.

Pi Kappa Phi is locked with Sigma Alpha Epsilon for the lead in League A with a 1-0 record.

A three-way tie between Omega Psi Phi, Sigma Alpha Epsilon's second team and Sigma Chi exists in League B. Each squad is undefeated after one game.

Holding the lead in League C with 1-0 marks are Pi Kappa Alpha's third team, Kappa Alpha Psi and Sigma Chi.

Pi Kappa Alpha, Delta Tau Delta and Kappa Alpha's second squad are leading League D with 1-0 slates.

Gore and H Halls are deadlocked for the lead in League E with 2-0 records.

The Newman Club and H Hall's second squad are 2-0 and lead League F.

League G is topped by the Keeblers and Judd Hall with 2-0 records.

The Bro's second team and IMR are tied for the lead in League H with 1-0 marks.

FCA club open

Anyone interested in joining the MTSU chapter of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes is welcome to attend the club's weekly meetings Thursday at 7:00 a.m. in the exercise room of the athletic dorm.

Membership is open to anyone participating in a varsity sport at MTSU, all intramural participants and any high school lettermen.

John Chapman, a tight end on the Blue Raider football team, is the club's president, and MTSU quarterback Freddie Rohrdanz is the vice-president.

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MTSU basketball has arrived-- the hard way

by Scott Elliott
Sports Editor

Upon the completion of a disastrous tee shot, I once heard an old Sunday duffer reply, "It's not how you start in this game--it's how you arrive."

The old fellow knew what he was talking about because his next shot, out of some tall grass, arrived about 10 feet from the cup.

It may be a strange comparison, but the way that old golfer felt about his game is the same attitude I possess concerning the MTSU basketball program.

An outstanding basketball program has been a long time in coming to MTSU. One could look as far back as 1923 to find a Raider roundball squad with a great record--A.B. Miles' team had a 13-1 mark.

This year Raider fans have something to cheer about, a winning basketball team--maybe the best in the Ohio Valley Conference.

But why has it taken this university so many years to build a winner and, furthermore, why can schools like Austin Peay achieve

instant success like last year's Governor squad?

The answer to these questions can be found by examining the men behind the program. In MTSU's case--it's people such as Jimmy Earle, Ray Rich, Charles Murphy, M.G. Scarlett and a host of others too numerous to mention.



Jimmy Earle

These men have dedicated themselves to one solid idea in building the MTSU basketball program--to develop a strong foundation with clean, hard-working young men.

It all started with athletes like Jimmy Drew, Herman Sykes and Mason Bonner. Together with their coach these athletes molded the wave of the future for MTSU roundball.

Yes, other programs have achieved instant success, but not many have earned the respect which Earle and company possess.

I think the type of program Earle has built was best exemplified during the Austin Peay game.

MTSU win streak on line; Hilltoppers coming to town

Jimmy Earle's Blue Raider basketball team will be going for its third straight Ohio Valley Conference win when the Western Kentucky Hilltoppers invade Murphy Center at 7:30 Saturday night.

The Raiders have beaten Austin Peay and Murray State Universities in consecutive games and carry a 4-2 conference slate.

Western has had what Earle terms "an up-and-down" year, having beaten nationally ranked Providence and lost to the East Tennessee Bucs.

Earle indicated his squad is hampered with injuries but "will be ready to play Saturday night."

"Tim Sisneros has a strained lateral arch," Earle said. "He's playing in an extreme amount of pain."

"We also have Mason Bonner out for at least another two weeks," he added, "and Freddie Allen is playing with strained ligaments in one knee."

Caring not to use the space, I won't comment on the Governors' conduct, but I am certain anyone who attended the game was able to make a distinct comparison between the discipline of the two teams involved.

All of us Raider fans have been caught up in the hysteria brought on by the Big Blue's winning ways, but let us not forget the people who have sacrificed and made MTSU basketball what it is today.

To Coach Earle and his staff, I would like to say congratulations on a job well done.

Just like the old golfer said, "It's how you arrive." MTSU basketball has arrived and in fine fashion.

MTSU Assistant Coach Stan Simpson scouted the Hilltoppers in their game with Austin Peay Monday night and said, "they're the best of the rest," indicating the Raiders to be the best.

"Western has really got it cranked up now," Simpson said. "They never give up, and they're capable of beating anyone in the OVC."

Simpson said Western is a "running team" that employs a three-guard offense.

"We're going to have to be at our best to beat them," Simpson said. "Western is the type of team that can sneak up on you if you don't watch it."

"Last week Coach Earle was quoted as saying we could pack the groceries if we beat Murray," Simpson added, "and I think we should change our fight song from give 'em hell Raiders to lets go Krogering."

MTSU Sports Information Director Jim Freeman indicated that tickets for the Western game are being sold fast.

"We've had a big demand for reserve seats," he said. "I would advise anyone who wanted a reserve seat ticket to get over to Murphy Center as soon as possible. There will be general admission tickets available at game time."

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