



Middle Tennessee State University SIDELINES

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Volume 73, Number 25

Murfreesboro, Tennessee

January 12, 1998

In the News

Miss MTSU to be crowned

The Miss MTSU Scholarship Pageant will be held on Jan. 16 in Tucker Theatre at 7 p.m. Fifteen women will compete in the areas of talent, interview, evening wear and physical fitness/swimsuit. Miss MTSU and Miss MT Blue Raider will be crowned. Both winners will receive scholarships and will go on to compete in the Miss Tennessee Pageant.

Tickets will go on sale Thursday in the Keathley University Center. Tickets are \$5 in advance and \$7 at the door. Golden Patron tickets — the best seats in the theatre — can be purchased for \$15 each or two for \$25. The pageant is sponsored by Sigma Alpha Epsilon and proceeds cover the cost of production.

TVA invests in students

Congressman Bart Gordon presented the MTSU College of Business with a \$100,000 check on Dec. 22 to be used as part of the Tennessee Valley Authority Investment Challenge Award program. MTSU is one of 18 universities in which students will design a long-term management strategy, actively manage the funds and provide updates to a TVA mentor. The program is part of TVA's plan to diversify the financial management of its \$450 million used to clean up decommissioned nuclear power plants. There will be an annual awards ceremony in which universities with the best investment portfolio will be honored with prizes up to \$20,000.

Schools teach honesty

Two MTSU Elementary and Special Education professors are helping children learn about honesty and integrity through a special project. Diane Glower and Connie Jones acquired grants last fall to purchase 2,400 copies of the book "A Penny's Worth of Character" by Jesse Stuart — enough copies for each fifth grader in the Rutherford County and Murfreesboro City school systems. According to Glower, the project was inspired by the fact that many elementary school students have never heard of the Golden Rule.

Women pastors to speak

Two Nashville pastors will discuss community and religion on Jan. 20 as the June Anderson Women's Center and the National Coalition of 100 Black Women present the third installment of the Race and Gender lecture series. Rev. Chestina Archibald is the chaplain at Fisk University and pastor of Nashville Braden United Methodist Church while Rev. Trudy Stringer is chaplain of Columbia Centennial Medical Center. The dialogue will be held in the Hazelwood Dining Room in the James Union Building from 3-4:30 p.m. For more information contact the JAWC at 898-2193.

Nominations due Feb. 6

Nominations for the 21st MTSU Distinguished Research Award are now being accepted by the Faculty Research and Creative Activity Committee. The recipient will receive a \$1,500 honorarium from the MTSU Foundation. All nominations should be sent to the Graduate Office and should be received by Feb. 6. Guidelines and nomination forms have been forwarded to department chairs.

Call of something noteworthy happening on campus? Call the Sidelines news desk at 898-2336 or fax us at 904-8487. Information can also be mailed to box 42.

Hours for graduation may be lowered

□ Keith Ryan Cartwright/staff

In light of the Tennessee Board of Regents decision to lower the number of required units to graduate from 128 to 120, MTSU officials may reconsider a similar proposal of its own.

According to Barbara Haskew, vice-president of academic affairs, MTSU has been in the process of putting together a proposal that would lower the minimum graduation requirements from 132 hours to 128.

MTSU's minimum requirement for graduation has been at 132 hours despite the fact that the TBR's minimum has been at 128 for years.

"Our office is happy to move forward and discuss with [President James Walker] the recommendation we have," Haskew said.

The idea was first discussed at MTSU nearly one year ago when Rick Elam, dean of the college of business, made the proposal to lower required

hours at a faculty senate meeting.

The proposal then went to the standards committee, where they recommended a modification of the original proposal.

"One of the factors in keeping us from moving the proposal forward has been waiting to see what would happen with the [TBR's] proposal," Haskew said.

Haskew contacted the standards committee nearly five weeks ago, after the result of the TBR's proposal was known, to see if the committee wished to reconsider its agenda.

Due in large part to the Christmas break, Haskew has yet to hear from the standards committee on its intention.

"If there is a desire to move the minimum to lower than 128," Haskew said, "then there are all sorts of options."

"I would think that if [the standards committee] choose to go

lower than the 128, that it would require much further discussion."

If the university does go forward with the current proposal of 128 hours, it is unlikely that students who are scheduled to graduate either this year or next year would benefit from the move.

Should President Walker approve the plan, it means that beginning in the fall of 1998, academic departments would than be able to draw up a proposal outlining how their programs could adequately be completed in less than 132 hours.

Interested programs would only be allowed to cut or combine courses in which they have control. The restructured course study would fall within the student's choice of major.

Students would see a change in the required hours in the fall of 1999 at the earliest.

However, if the standards committee chooses to reconsider the

proposal some more, changes in the required number of hours would be pushed back even further.

"If we went ahead with the current proposal and the president approved it, then the minimum could conceivably be 128 [next fall]," Haskew said. "But, it doesn't mean any programs will change. It might take a while."

It is unlikely that any department which currently requires more than the university's minimum of 132 hours would propose lowering its individual minimum.

There is speculation, however, that because Elam initiated the idea, the university's College of Business would be the first to act upon the change.

"You could anticipate that because they proposed it, they might be one of the first programs to come forward," Haskew said.

Auditors investigate financial aid office

□ Angelique Page/staff



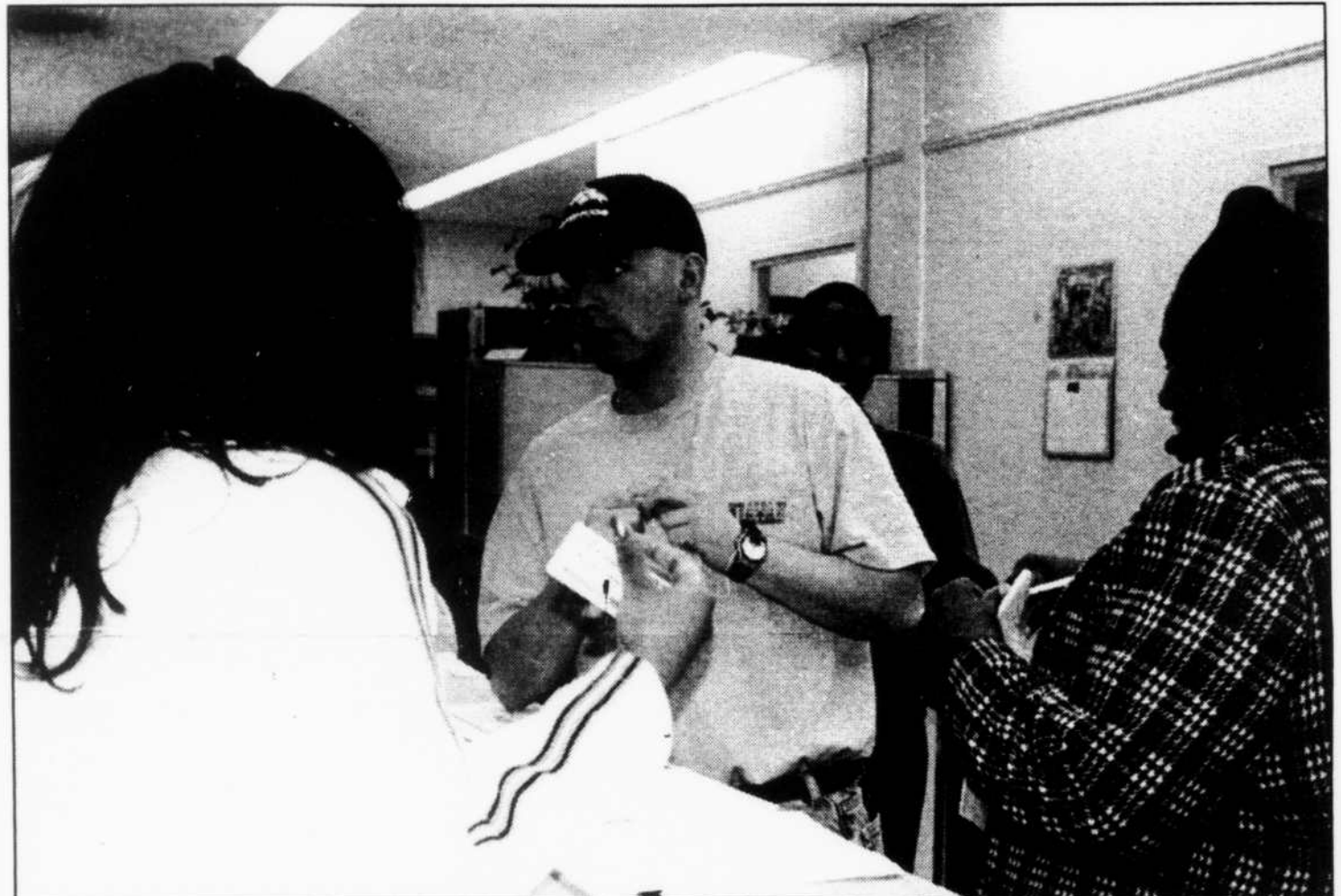
Federal and state auditors continue to carry out an investigation of the MTSU financial aid office prompted by questions relating to a small number of loan applications.

The audit, which began Oct. 31, is ongoing and, although auditors have not said what they are looking for, a source inside the Cope Administration Building said Winston Wrenn, former director of financial aid, is "directly involved."

"Any information that we receive is considered confidential, but we can confirm that the audit is still going," said Glenn McKay, assistant director of investigations for the state comptroller's office. "We have to let the audit run its course."

He also said that he is unsure whether or not the Department of Education is involved in the investigation, but he confirmed that "we did notify them."

In a letter to Wrenn, Robert LaLance Jr., vice president for student affairs, informed him that he was being placed on administrative leave with pay Nov. 7 "pending the outcome of the review regarding activities in



Student worker Brad Lee, a graduate student in aerospace, works in the financial aid office answering questions for a long line of students. The financial aid office is currently being investigated by federal and state auditors.

your office."

After 24 years of employment with MTSU, Wrenn was terminated on Nov. 14, and began retirement on Nov. 15.

"To date, there are no findings of any violations of state or federal law," said LaLance. However, LaLance said Wrenn's termination "was in the best interest of him and us."

Wrenn, who obtained all of his academic degrees from MTSU, was again unavailable for comment on the subject Jan. 9.

Doug Williams, director of news and public affairs, said he was unsure if Wrenn's replacement had been named.

The policy of the Department of Education is to neither confirm nor deny that an audit is taking place, said Stephanie Babyak, a spokesperson for the public affairs office for the U.S. Department of Education in Washington. She informed "Sidelines" that she could not discuss in general what happens when an audit is being

conducted by her office, but said she could release details about an audit after it is completed.

"I know that the state and a representative from the Federal [government] are involved," but added he didn't know which department.

No one knows exactly when the audit will be completed. At the onset of the investigation Williams was told it could be as early as last Christmas or as late as this spring.

MTSU leads the pack in growth

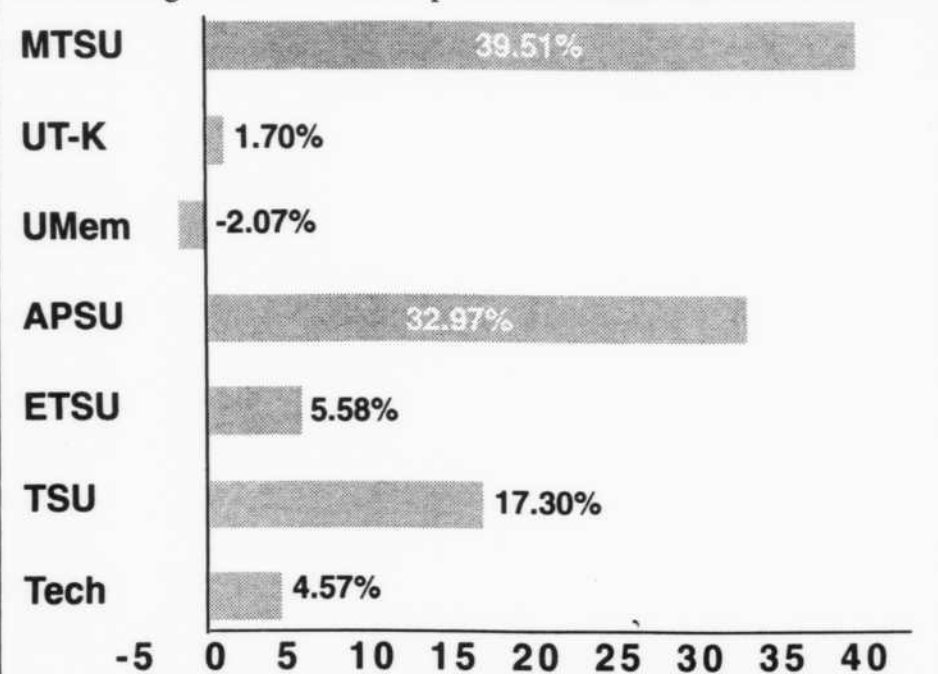
MTSU had the highest increase in enrollment among Tennessee's public universities over the past 10 years, rising from 13,165 students in 1988 to 18,366 students in 1997, an increase of 39.51 percent.

The figures for MTSU far exceeded those of Tennessee's two largest public institutions, UT-Knoxville and the University of

Memphis. UT-Knoxville grew only 1.7 percent during the 10-year period, from 24,985 to 25,410. Enrollment at the University of Memphis dropped from 20,270 to 19,851, a decrease of 2.07 percent.

Austin Peay State University had the second highest percentage gain, with 32.97 percent from 5,168 students to 6,872.

Enrollment growth in Tennessee public universities fall 1988 to fall 1997



Source: Tennessee Higher Education Commission

Adam Smith/staff

Toxic waste cleanup delays horse coliseum

□ Chad Gillis/staff

Construction of the Tennessee Miller Coliseum has temporarily been delayed, according to Duane Stucky, vice president of finance and administration.

"We are placing a hold on further design of the coliseum," Stucky said.

The delay of the 150 acre site for equestrian events, located on Thompson Lane west of Route 231 was caused in part by a need to clean land parcels in the Anchorage, Alaska, area which were donated to the university by John and Mary Miller.

"There is still more than one parcel to be sold," said David Whitaker, director of public service horse sciences. "Mr. Miller had some heavy equipment that was leaking and had to be cleaned up."

The leakage of toxic waste sparked a cleanup project totaling some \$400,000— money that was taken from the Miller Fund.

"As far as we know, the clean up has taken place," Stucky said, adding that the university would have to wait until winter is over before they can be sure.

Stucky also said that the university may want to hold back certain funds in case further cleanup is warranted.

The original projected "move-in" date for the 250,000-square-foot facility was set for the latter part of 1999, with construction on the coliseum tentatively set for this spring, but officials have placed a hold on the design of blueprints until all of the Miller funds can be secured.

"We could look at ways of doing the project in phases," Stucky said, adding that it would not be wise for the university to spend several hundred thousand dollars on blueprints without the money to complete the building aspect of the project.

The university has access to \$14 million of the Miller Trust, with an expected \$4.5 million still to be acquired.

Once winter is over and cleanup has been verified, designers will continue with the blueprints. Two Nashville-based design firms—Hart, Freeland and Roberts and McKissack and McKissack—have been chosen for

Please see COLISEUM page 4

Registration: Jan. 12-30

Captain's Meeting:
Feb. 3 @ 5:30pm

Play Starts:
Feb. 4

Leagues: Men,
Women, Co-Rec,
Under 6 ft.



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Phone 2464

Student Government Association
Middle Tennessee State University



On Campus

To have information placed in the On Campus section of the paper, come by the "Sidelines" office, located in JUB 310, and fill out a form located on the table by the door. Information must be submitted in person. The deadline for Monday's paper is Thursday at 5 p.m. The deadline for Thursday's paper is Monday at 5 p.m. A new form must be filled out for each edition or the information will not be run.

Jan. 12-21

Open instruction classes are available at the Todd library. If you would like more information on searching the library CD-ROM databases, the online catalog, the Expanded Academic Index/ASAP, the internet with Alta Vista and Yahoo, or any other subject, contact Sharch Parente at 898-2549 or 898-2817.

A question and answer session will follow the speakers. For more information contact Scott Demers at 898-7220.

Miss MTSU/MT Blue Raider Scholarship will be held at 7 p.m. in the Tucker Theatre. Tickets will be sold for \$5 Wed. and Thur. in front of the grill and for \$7 Fri. at the door. For more information, contact Vic Felts at 898-5996.

more information contact Cosette Joyner-Watson at 904-0116.

Feb. 7

University School of Nashville will host Summer Opportunities Day, where students can learn more about summer experiences, from noon to 4 p.m. Representatives from more than 75 local and national programs will be available to describe their programs in academics, fine and performing arts, sports and wilderness adventures among others. For more information contact Marte Beatty at 327-8158.

March 16-21

Students are invited to walk through rainforests, see volcanoes, swim in pools below waterfalls and raft the wild Rio Pacuare with Campus Recreation on their Spring Break trip to Costa Rica. Space is limited, so visit the Rec Center or call Glenn Hauley at 898-2104.

Jan. 13

The Lambda Association, a student organization for gay, lesbian and bisexual persons and their supporters, will meet every Tuesday night at 7 p.m. in Mass Comm 103. Everyone is invited to attend. For more information call 780-2293.

Jan. 16

Nashville Chamber of Commerce speakers will be on campus to discuss urban development with a focus on Middle Tennessee at the Geography Club meeting at 11 a.m. in KOM 324. Refreshment will be available.

Golden Key National Honor Society will have a group business meeting at 6 p.m. in KUC 312. The regional director will be preparing for Campus Awareness. Everyone is invited to the meeting and pizza. For more information contact Cosette Joyner-Watson at 904-0116.

Jan. 27

Golden Key National Honor Society will have a group business meeting at 6 p.m. in KUC 312. Everyone is invited to the meeting and pizza. For

Murfreesboro Counts on You!

Watch for your Census Form in the mail this week

The City of Murfreesboro is conducting a special census to increase the annual sales tax and gas revenue received from the State. These taxes are distributed by the State to the City based on population.

You can help us receive an estimated additional \$400,000 from the State by returning your census form. Please follow these three easy steps:

- Step 1: List your Murfreesboro street address;
- Step 2: List the first and last name of all persons living at this address;
- Step 3: Mail it to the City in the provided return envelope. The return envelope is already addressed and includes postage.

The Census rules allow the City to count college students. This applies to all MTSU students, even if they live in Murfreesboro only during the school year. The City is working with MTSU to obtain an accurate count of the on-campus students. The City encourages off-campus students to return their census form by January 23. If they do not receive a form, they should call Assistant City Manager Robert J. Lyons at 849-2629.

The City will be required to personally visit residents who do not return their census form. Mailing your census form by January 23 will avoid future contact with a census taker. This information will be strictly confidential and will not be sold or given to anyone compiling consumer mailing lists.

If you don't receive a form, please call 849-2629.

Please return your census form by January 23!



Student life positions filled

□ Jaime Rheinecker / staff

Dawn Kennedy and Stuart Eddings have been hired to fill the two new positions recently created in the department of student life.

Dawn Kennedy, who has been responsible for college lecture programs featuring

national leaders such as Maya Angelou and Danny Glover, will be the Coordinator of Student Organizations and Community Service.

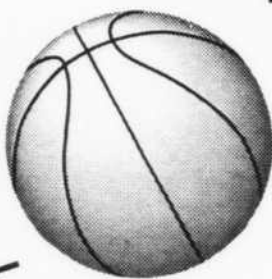
Starting Jan. 12, she will be responsible for developing and coordinating programs designed to maximize student involvement in campus and community life activities.

The job will focus on the oversight of student organizations, including the development of leadership support programs for organizational leaders, advisors and members. Kennedy will also coordinate student participation in community

Please see LIFE, page 4

Sidelines and **MTSU** Athletics presents:

Lucky 13 Contest



A Spring Break trip to

South Padre Island

Texas

Here's how you win:

1. Be a full-time MTSU student with a valid I.D. card.
2. Swipe your I.D. at Murphy Center student entrance prior to halftime.
3. Go to at least 13 MTSU mens and Womens basketball games this season.
4. Be prepared to pack your bags.



1997-98 MTSU HOME SCHEDULE

| | |
|---------|---------------------------|
| Nov. 15 | Women vs Ole Miss |
| Nov. 29 | Women vs Montevallo |
| Dec. 18 | Men vs C-Neman |
| Dec. 22 | Men vs Erskine |
| Dec. 30 | Men vs Presbyterian |
| Jan. 3 | DH vs Murray (ESPN) |
| Jan. 5 | DH vs UT-Martin |
| Jan. 13 | Men vs Tenn Tech |
| Jan. 14 | Women vs Tenn Tech |
| Jan. 15 | Men vs Austin Peay |
| Jan. 17 | DH vs Tenn St |
| Jan. 19 | Women vs APSU |
| Feb. 5 | Men vs Eastern Illinois |
| Feb. 7 | DH vs S.E. Missouri |
| Feb. 9 | Women vs Eastern Illinois |
| Feb. 19 | DH vs Eastern Kentucky |
| Feb. 21 | DH vs Morehead State |



Simply swipe your I.D. card at the student entrance to Murphy Center prior to halftime and you're in the drawing for a nightly prize from Blue Raider Book & Supply or 527 Mainstreet. Make it to at least 13 home games and you're in the drawing for a 6-day, 5-night trip for two to South Padre Island, Texas that includes airfare on Southwest Airlines, transfers and hotel through Universal Travel on the square.

Dry soil causes KOM settling

□ Bryan Brooks/staff

A geo-technical engineering company located in Nashville found something they had never seen before when they conducted exploratory work over the holidays to determine what is causing Kirksey Old Main to settle.

After first studying the condition of the building, the Geotek engineers decided to dig a test pit in the basement of KOM to see how the foundation was supported, according to Paul Wright, an architect with Campus Planning.

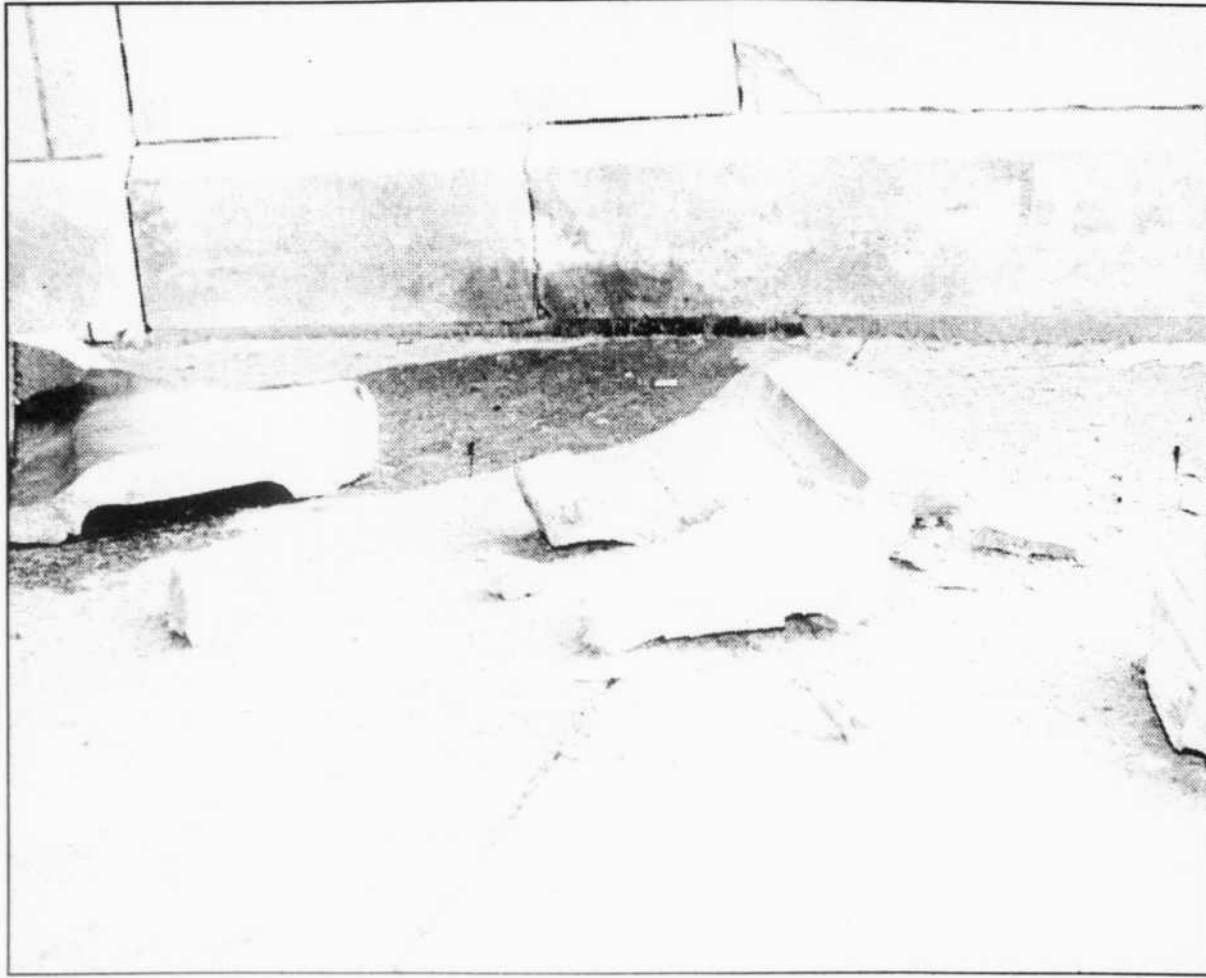
As the engineers dug below the concrete slab that the foundation of KOM rests on, "they noticed the feeling of air coming out from under the slab and that the soil was extremely dry," Wright said.

The soil had consolidated into a very hard mass, which is very unusual, Wright said. When soil dries it shrinks, and that was what was causing the settling, he explained.

"What caused the soil to dry was the critical issue," Wright said. "If we could find out what had caused it to dry like that, we could resolve the settlement issue."

The area where the dry soil is located is immediately adjacent to the heating/air-conditioning unit for the building, according to Wright.

"What has happened is that over the period of some 20 to 30 years the concrete slab in the room [containing the heating/air-conditioning unit] has cracked, and the tremendous positive pressure created in that room by the fans was forcing the air through those cracks down into the



Brenden Kjar/staff

These chunks of rock have fallen off the west side of the settling Kirksey Old Main. The KOM is sinking due to dry soil under the bedrock ground beneath the building," Wright said.

"Over a long period of time, that has caused the soil to dry out. And that's what has caused the building to settle at that location."

Campus Planning will be meeting with the architects soon to start the process of designing the remediation work to stabilize the building.

"Once we determine the scope of the work, we can get an estimate of the cost," Wright said. "Our estimates just for the

structural repairs is going to be in the neighborhood of \$80,000-100,000." A total of \$150,000 is allocated for the work.

Despite these repairs, Wright said the amount of money set aside for the original project of renovating classrooms and expanding the computer labs has not yet been changed.

The work to repair the KOM will take place over the summer.

Thomas Cheatham, chair of computer sciences, said the planned expansion of the

computer labs in KOM should be finished around the end of the summer.

"We were hoping it would be done by now, but the problems with KOM sinking is putting the renovations on hold," Cheatham said.

Thirty-six new computers are to be added when the \$110,000 expansion project for the computer science labs is completed.

A new math lab is also planned to be opened in KOM 251 and 252.

College paper wins access to campus crime statistics

□ Christine Tatum and Mike Gruss/CPS

While her classmates were focusing on final exams recently, Miami University student newspaper editor Melissa Baker was preparing to study their disciplinary records.

Without comment, the U.S. Supreme Court on Dec. 8 let stand a ruling from the Ohio Supreme Court that forces the university to release disciplinary records — with students' names and addresses attached — to The Miami Student.

The case is an example of how growing interest in campus safety and protests by campus newspapers are chipping away at the notion that sexual assaults, hazings and other violent acts should be dealt with quietly by student judiciary panels or by university administrators.

Critics of such closed-door policies said that the reporting of campus crime has been hindered by privacy rules that allow administrators to withhold information about such incidents. At the heart of the debate is the Family Educational Rights to Privacy Act, also known as FERPA or the Buckley Amendment. Under FERPA, colleges are prohibited from disclosing "personally identifiable information derived from education records" without a student's consent.

In the Miami case, student journalists said they wanted access to disciplinary records to track crime on campus and have fought since 1995 to get it. Miami administrators argued that records of student disciplinary hearings were "education records" as defined by FERPA.

In July, the Ohio Supreme Court ruled that most records of campus disciplinary hearings are subject to disclosure under the state's open records law and ordered Miami to release the documents. However, the Department of Education told Miami University officials in September that they may be violating federal law if they complied with the ruling and released the records.

Miami University officials, feeling "caught between a rock and a hard place," refused to release the information until they received direction from the courts, said Richard Little, senior director of communications.

"Ohio state law said the information should be released, but federal law dictated that it shouldn't be," said Little. "The university has never taken a position on the matter. It simply wanted greater clarity."

After the Supreme Court let stand the lower court ruling, Miami officials said in December they would begin releasing the disciplinary records to the student newspaper. The state court's decision opens the disciplinary

records of all Ohio universities and colleges to public review.

Nationwide, the Supreme Court's refusal to hear the case hasn't settled the debate because courts in two other states have issued contradictory opinions. In 1993, the Georgia Supreme Court ruled that student disciplinary records are not exempt under FERPA. The following year, a district court in Louisiana decided they are.

"So far, it's two states against one," Baker said. "I hope we see this continue because students aren't exempt from the law just because they're students. And if they break a [university] value code, they can be held accountable for that, too."

Campus crime experts have said the disciplinary reports without names, addresses or other vital information are of little value because it's impossible to contact crime victims or the accused, and to weigh the fairness or effectiveness of the judicial system.

"That's exactly the reason so many student journalists are fighting for this information," said Mark Goodman, executive director of the Student Press Law Center.

"They've come to realize that huge numbers of incidents are never reported to police but dealt with in secret in campus disciplinary hearings."

Please see PAPER, page 4

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Eligible freshmen and sophomores may qualify for six hours of free tuition in the summer. Juniors and seniors are eligible for special all-expense paid eight-week seminars. The application deadline is February 28.

For Applications and Further Information, Contact:
Dr. John Vile, Chair
Department of Political Science
Peck Hall 209
898-2596

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Sidelines at
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IM BASKETBALL
Leagues: Men, Women, Co-Rec, Under 6 ft.

Registration: Jan. 12-30
Captain's Meeting: Feb. 3@ 5:30pm
Play Starts: Feb. 4

For more information call John Huck@ 898-2104

SPRING '97 IM INDOOR SOCCER

Registration: Jan. 14- Jan. 30:
Rec Center
Captain's Meeting: Feb. 2@ 5:30pm:
Rec Center

For more information contact: Dave Smith@ 898-2104

For more information contact Dave Smith@ 898-2104

Registration: Jan. 7- Jan. 19
Captain's Meeting: Jan. 20@ 5:30pm

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RAQUETBALL

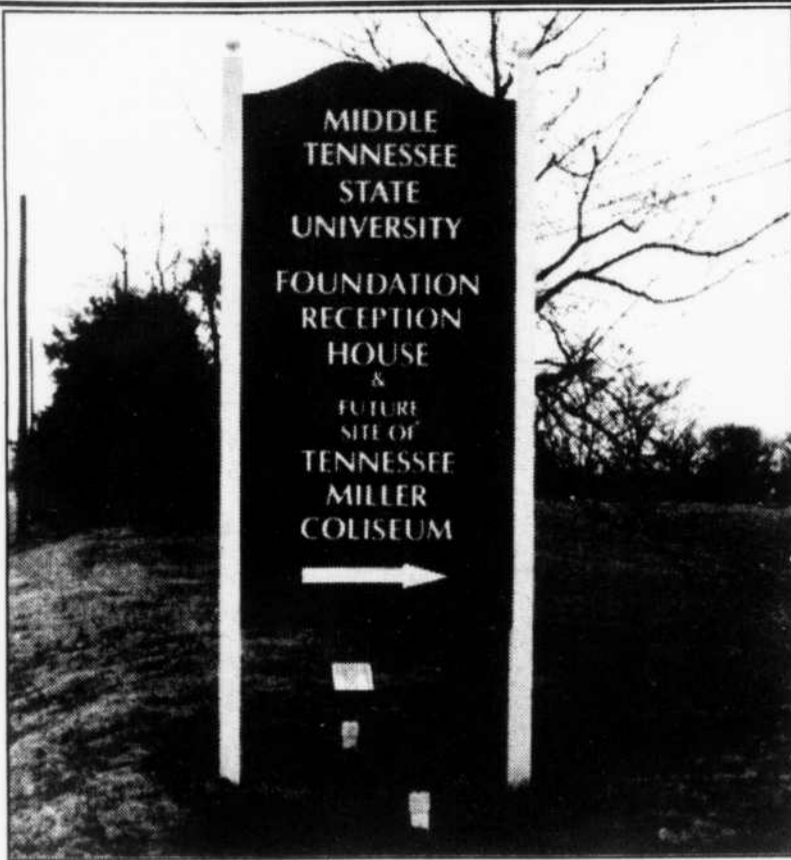
Men, Women, Co-Rec

Registration: Jan. 13-17
Captain's Meeting: Jan. 21@ 6:30pm

3ON3 BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT

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Vickie Gibson/staff

The construction of the Tennessee Miller Coliseum on Thompson Lane is delayed pending the sale of property in Alaska.

CHANNEL 8

GENERAL INTEREST MEETING

Where:

Mass Comm Rm 104

When:

Wed., Jan. 14

7:30 p.m.

All are welcome to come and share ideas about our Channel 8!

COLISEUM
continued from page 1

the project. After a design plan has been secured, the university will consider bids from construction companies interested in the project.

Upon completion, the Tennessee Miller Coliseum will hold a substantial segment of the horse science program and four additional employee positions, including barn manager, according to Whitaker.

"We're sitting in one of the great hot spots in this country," Whitaker said. "We probably bred 6,000 mares within a 30-mile radius last year."

Along with creating a new facility and jobs, the Miller Trust Fund has provided the private dollars for two additional Chairs of Excellence at MTSU in the equine science field.

Miller made his fortune building roadways for the Alaskan pipeline. John's wife Mary died in 1994 and left the bulk of the Miller estate to the MTSU Foundation.

PAPER
continued from page 3

Students now will be better informed about crime on campus, said Susan Wenner, managing editor of the Miami Student.

"People will know what they're getting in to," said Wenner. "If 40 people broke into rooms last year, people know to lock their doors. If five people were raped in one place, people know to walk with other people there."

At the same time, disciplinary records could come back to haunt students later, Little said. Caught cheating or sneaking someone into the dorm after hours? Guilty of vandalism? Even if a violation doesn't surface in the student newspaper, such information is fair game for everyone, he said.

"Anyone who wants to know more about you, whether it's a future employer or graduate school admissions [committee] can find out now," he said. "All they have to do is ask."

Japanese New Year



Carrie Hirsch/staff

Members of the Middle Tennessee Japan Society enjoy toys and games at the second annual New Years party held Jan. 11 in the Tennessee Room of the James Union Building.

LIFE
continued from page 2

service opportunities such as the Raider Assistance Project.

Kennedy has experience in directing major projects such as Alcohol Awareness Week and Safe Spring Break Programs at many colleges, Student Government AIDS Awareness Week at Florida State University and a major concert series at the University of Central Florida.

Stuart Eddings, formerly of the University of Alabama, will take the reigns as Coordinator of Orientation and

New Student Programs beginning Jan. 20.

His job will be to coordinate a comprehensive program of new student and parent/family orientation. He will also develop and plan Family Day promotional materials and activities, develop and oversee MTSU's parents association, and assist with other programs and activities within the area of student development.

Eddings served with the Alcohol Awareness and Educational Task Force, Partnership for a Drug Free Tuscaloosa conference, Ad Hoc Student Life Subcommittee:

Sorority and Fraternity pledge periods and the African American Association Leadership Workshop while at Alabama.

He also assisted in coordinating and administering services for 150-200 homeless people per day, conducted educational service programs for AmeriCorp volunteers and researched educational topics for a television program designed to publicize legal issues relevant to the community in Memphis.

Kennedy and Stuart will be located in KUC 122 until additional office space is

Virginia students offer advice on alcohol

□ Lorraine Eaton/Knight-Ridder/Tribune News Services

Some Virginia college students have some blunt advice for members of the Attorney General's new Task Force on College Drinking: Don't restrict drinking so much it becomes even more alluring to young people; teach practical information about drinking in public high schools, such as how much is too much; and encourage parents to openly discuss alcohol and its dangers with their children.

They also believe that

campus drinking is so pervasive it will be nearly impossible to curb.

"It's a difficult problem and almost one I wonder whether can be tackled," said Ramin Fahti, a 1996 graduate of a Norfolk and a sophomore at Yale.

A spate of alcohol-related deaths of college students across the state this fall prompted Virginia Attorney General Richard Cullen to set up a task force designed to curb alcohol abuse among students. The panel of college presidents, students from each state four-year college, parents, state policy leaders

and law enforcement officials is tasked with finding ways to reduce drinking among college students. Also, it will examine pre-college drinking.

The task force is in its formative stage. All suggestions are for consideration. For example, some colleges have declared their campuses dry.

"Too many rules could prove to be a Catch-22," said Sharon Greene, a 1996 graduate of Princess Anne High who now attends Virginia Tech. "The more people try to control it, the more people will go out of their way to do it."

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OPINIONS

Monday, January 12, 1998

Page 5

Editorials

Students deserve Division I-A education

It's no secret. MTSU is at the National Collegiate Athletic Association's Division I-A level in sports. Football became our last major college sport to raise the bar, which will be implemented for the 1999 season.

And regardless of who or how many opposed this move, it is in effect. According to many university officials, this type of move will raise the standards of MTSU in the eyes of students and rest of the country.

Of the many factors to consider when debating the attributes of this nation's finest universities, our enrollment definitely qualifies for Division I-A. Administering an "official mascot and athletic logo" suggests that officials at Middle are concerned with raising the standards at which we compete on the fields and courts. The majority of the staff of this newspaper wishes them well.

MTSU raised admission standards earlier this decade, another positive move. Seemingly limitless construction and the rate of growth suggest that we are ready for the "big time." But is Middle Tennessee State University or will it ever be a quality Division I-A school?

Judging by the business hours kept by the Todd Library and the availability of adequate computer labs and hours suggest a resounding NO!

One positive, tuition also suggests that MTSU is not amongst the nation's elite universities, but that fact is being slowly denounced on a semester-by-semester basis.

When will the library services be available on a 24-hour basis? When will students be able to use decent computer systems without waiting in line with a desperate "I've got a paper due in two hours" look on their face?

Even the cafeterias on campus shut down at every opportunity. No wonder this is a "suitcase college." Every Friday, the JUB cafeteria shuts its doors in the early afternoon and it doesn't reopen them until the following week.

Parking is a constant problem and seems to be one at many universities. But regardless if some don't agree with the Division I-A move, it's happened. Let's apply a lesson learned from the Korean and Vietnam Conflicts: if we are going to wage war, let's wage a war and not conduct a conflict.

This move must sweep the board. If MTSU students of the present and future are going to be required to pay for such changes, they must be given the tools to get a Division I-A education. And that means longer library and computer lab hours.

That also means more jobs available for students in the form of computer lab assistants. Sure, it may be jobs only for the computer advanced, but students who work on campus tend to have a higher respect for this university and devote more of their lives to education.

This university is receiving a facelift of sorts, a positive from this newspaper's perspective, but it seems to be in certain areas and not on all levels. This growth era will define the future for MTSU (or UMT); it is a must that academics and the average student not be left behind.



SIGNE
PHILADELPHIA DAILY NEWS



From the Mailbox

Liner's logic incorrect regarding property rights and ownership

To the editor:

Joshua Liner wrote on Dec. 4 that property rights are not logical because there is not connection between a person's work or creative thought and the product of that work; he wrote that no one can force him to take ownership of the resources he uses. He also claims that merely coming up with an idea confers no right upon the inventor, that copyright laws and laws of property are simply fiction. Then Liner concludes his letter with what should be the socialist's credo: "I cannot steal from you what isn't yours to begin with." Socialists refuse to concede that my stuff is mine; it's their justification for taking it from me. Perhaps Liner should eschew some of his philosophy courses this semester in favor of mathematics courses; his logic skills are somewhat underdeveloped.

Property rights, like all rights, are simply agreements between civilized people. For example, we agree that one right is the right to the self; therefore we have outlawed slavery. If this agreement is abrogated, then a person with enough force may impose his will on another to the extent that the other is de facto

enslaved, regardless of philosophical arguments regarding ownership. Absent a binding agreement to the contrary, those with enough force on their side can compel weaker people to do anything. In order to keep the strong from running roughshod over the weak, we civilized people agree to a system of law.

Property rights are the foundation from which all rights derive. If, as Liner suggests, no person has the right to own anything, then the strong (or sneaky) may take whatever they want, guilt free. If I have no right to the food that I grow or the goods that I make or the property upon which I live, then socialists are justified in taking my food from me, stealing my goods, and confiscating my property. If I resist, then any force the socialists choose to employ is acceptable because I have no right to resist. When socialists deny people the right to own property they endorse anarchy, which they then proceed to eliminate with machine guns & tanks.

Socialists assign the right to hold property to the state exclusively. The individual has no right to property, and consequently has no right to freedom. I cite the National Socialist (Nazi) Germany and the Soviet Union as the best examples of unfettered socialism. Hitler applied "special treatment" to 6 million Jews while Stalin "liquidated" 20 million Soviet citizens. Does anyone think that it was merely coincidental that those citizens had no property rights?

But what about modern socialist states? Surely Italy and France are better than the evil bad guys mentioned above. Although they aren't participating in genocide this time (remember Il Duce & the Viche government?) they are wallowing in unemployment and are economically depressed. They have punitive tax rates - the top French tax rates approaches 90%, while southern Italy pretty much supports northern Italy. France's unemployment rate is over 12% and shows signs of increasing this year. I guess the volk are being well served by the willingness of the state to assume the burden of owning things and making decisions, hmm?

Capitalism, with its built-in respect for individual property, encourages liberty. Socialism, with its appropriation of all property rights, encourages oppression. Fortunately for mankind, socialist regimes aren't that good at holding power. I cite Hitler, Stalin, Kruschev, Lenin, Andropov, Mussolini, Idi Amin, Baby Doc Duvalier, Deng Xiopeng, Mao Tse Tung, etc. as evidence of my thesis. Even Massachusetts is trying to change its taxing ways. Think China will stay communists for much longer? Not if Coca-Cola and trillions of free enterprise dollars have anything to say about it—and they will.

Mark T. Gibson
MTSU alumni

Part-time work in the next millennium

□ Michael Moses and Praveen Nayyar

Early in the next millennium, part-time work will likely be the norm in the United States rather than the exception. If properly planned, part-time employment can be a win-win proposition for both employers and employees.

About 20 percent of today's workers hold a part-time job, but trends will cause that share to increase for both white-collar and blue-collar employment. There are several reasons for the shift, including continued growth in the service component of our economy.

Meanwhile, demand patterns will remain highly individual and variable, the pressures of worldwide competition will increase and Americans will continue to demand individual lifestyle choices.

Lastly, government efforts to reduce unemployment around the world will encourage part-time work.

Understanding and adjusting to this phenomenon will be crucial in the first quarter of the upcoming century. Decisions on this issue could well mean the difference between a happy and unhappy populous.

The United States has moved and is continuing to move to a service economy. This trend almost certainly will not change.

A defining difference between service and manufacturing is the inability of a service organization to inventory the act of service.

If the demands at New York's George Washington Bridge or the San Francisco Bay Bridge were constant

over the course of a day, there would be a need for only one deck. However, commuters cannot be inventoried like air conditioners. Second decks and additional toll-takers are needed to handle peak traffic.

Responding to peaks in a service business requires additional capacity in some form.

This capacity can be capital, such as extra lanes on a bridge, or human, such as adding early morning sorters at United Parcel Service (one of the issues in the recent strike).

Peaks can also be seasonal. Tax preparation, crop harvesting and holiday travel are obvious examples.

Store-front tax offices like those run by H&R Block utilize part-time, free-lance accountants. Migrant workers historically have satisfied farm requirements.

Companies providing holiday travel try to level demand by price mechanisms but, unfortunately this is a far from perfect solution. Going to grandma's for Thanksgiving is close to immutable.

Hiring someone for a full day when only half a day of work is required raises costs substantially and contributes to inflation. It leads to noncompetitiveness not just domestically but in the new globalized markets.

Featherbedding played a major role in throttling the railroad system in this country. In a global marketplace, it will prove equally fatal to any organization.

Computer hardware and software companies handle the majority of their customer questions between 8 a.m. and 6 p.m. But glitches, as many of us

know from personal experience, have little respect for the hours designated even by titans such as Microsoft and IBM.

The alternative to part-time domestic employment is to hire full-time employees at substantially lower wages in nations an appropriate number of time zones away.

This explains why some computer companies have more brogues at the end of technical support phone lines than can be heard in an Irish pub on St. Patrick's Day.

Companies employing offshore help for off-peak demand may soon transfer their prime-time work load as well, resulting in a loss of high-tech employment in the United States.

Part-time work will increase as Americans choose nay, demand individual lifestyle choices.

Involuntary part-time workers account for no more than 3 to 5 percent of the work force. The majority of part-time workers limit their hours by choice. Children, crafts, hobbies, second jobs and so forth have a siren call for many.

The United States is not the only country where part-time work has increased. European Union countries have seen a sharp rise. About 38 percent of the workers in Holland and 24 percent in the United Kingdom are employed part-time.

The Economist magazine noted recently that unemployment rates in the U.K. and Holland are 5 percent to 6 percent, half the Common Market average. The magazine urged European governments to scrap

Please see PART-TIME, page 6

Got a gripe? Let us hear about it.



E-mail your letters to the editor to "Sidelines" at:
stupubs@frank.mtsu.edu

Corrections

In the Dec. 5 issue of "Sidelines" an article stating that Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity members Shannon Johnson and Daryl Holman were 1997 and 1966 initiates respectively. Both are actually 1996 initiates. "Sidelines" would like to apologize for the mistake and ensure that it was not made on purpose.

Sidelines

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Letters Policy

"Sidelines" encourages comments from readers. Letters to the editor should not exceed 300 words. Authors who want more than 300 words to express themselves should contact the editor. "Sidelines" keeps its pages open to all viewpoints and all members of the MTSU community. Authors should include their name, address, major, classification and phone number for identification purposes. (Phone numbers will not be published.) "Sidelines" reserves the right to edit for length, grammar, style and libel. "Sidelines" will not edit for correct spelling or sentence structure. EMail letters to stupubs@frank.mtsu.edu. Send letters to Box 42, MTSU, Murfreesboro, TN 37132 or drop them off at the "Sidelines" office in JUB Room 310.

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Students' rights violated

□ **Melisa Ann Wilson/Utah State**

A box full of graded finals in front of a professor's office, a posting of grades taped to a bulletin board, an open filing system in the Biology department hallway for graded tests, passing around a pile of graded papers through the class saying, "pick out yours and pass along the rest," are all ways Utah State University instructors violate federal law.

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974, also known as FERPA or the Buckley Amendment, defines privacy of "education records" of "students."

According to this law educational records are to be protected from anyone but the student, parent or university official.

This holds true for all educational records, financial aid and the like, but here I am concerned with grades.

I have had classes where professors have used all the above methods.

Currently, my graduate student recitation instructor slaps down a folder full of graded quizzes and says, "find yours."

This week he slapped down the wrong folder and he saw the grades of his other recitation section as we thumbed through it again and again, unable to find ours.

If FERPA holds true, this record "custodian" is violating my privacy.

After FERPA was passed in 1974, USU created a policy in concordance with the privacy

restrictions. The Administrative Council approved the latest version in 1996 called the "Use and Release of Student Records."

Part of it reads: "When a record contains information about more than one student, the student may inspect and review only the records which relate to him or her."

The "custodian" is the one responsible for maintaining the record's (grade's) integrity.

So does this mean we are all bound to personal consultations with each professor for our grade?

No, handing back tests or papers from instructor's hand to student's hand is legal.

Records may also be released with consent. This means if the instructor has written consent from each student to distribute grades in whatever manner — he or she can broadcast them over KUSU (not that too many people would be listening.)

But without that consent, professors, instructors and yes, graduate students are breaking the law.

So, how about if we post the grades using social security numbers? Not too many of us can remember such a massive number for more than ourselves. (Maybe not even that ... I know mine starts with a five.)

That's semi-illegal too. John at the National Social Security Administration office said it's not "illegal" but the decision is up to the "number holder" or you, the person with the social security number.

It is your decision whether

or not you want your Social Security Number used for that purpose. Again, you must give consent.

Professors do not generally ask for consent. I have one professor who asked an un-full classroom generally if she could pass around our graded quizzes. Everyone in the class at the moment said yes.

That wouldn't hold up in a court — she asked by raise of hand, not every student registered for the class was there and she asked for that specific quiz, not all quizzes.

But, at least it's a start.

It is true that when I collect my Fisheries and Wildlife final and term paper, if I wouldn't read other's papers with grades and comments, their privacy wouldn't be violated.

That is not what happens.

I am sure that when others leaf through stacks of papers they glance at my grade, even if they don't remember it or even associate it with me.

My grade is a private thing. I wouldn't want just any stranger walking through my home eyeing everything. I don't want any student walking through the hall eyeing my grades either.

Or rifling it while rifling through a stack of papers in class, looking at a list of names and grades on an overhead, listening to a teacher calling out names and grades ...

Melisa Ann Wilson is a senior majoring in journalism and environmental studies. She is the assistant to the editor at "The Statesman."



PART-TIME
 continued from page 5

obstructions to part-time work as counterproductive.

A growth in part-time work seems unavoidable. We should try to level demand as much as possible, but it is more important to change attitudes.

Why not allow individuals to choose the month they want to pay their taxes? Stagger school years? Other tasks can be altered to level demand, but such changes will probably be

at the margin because service cannot be warehoused.

We should not assume that holding a part-time job or two part-time jobs is negative. Governments and unions should not make the cost of two part-time workers more than one full-time worker.

And employers should not hire part-time workers because they are cheap but because it is the efficient way to get a job done.

Wages and benefits must be compatible to full-time levels.

Multiple part-time

employees give an organization a larger pool of trained individuals to draw upon at peaks and in emergencies. They provide a reservoir of replacement talent for openings in the full-time work force.

This worker pool should be considered a strategic asset and might not be compensated when not being called upon.

Part-time work may be the norm as soon as 2020. It has the potential to make a significant contribution to the good life for all.

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The Downtown Wigs play the 3rd & Lindsley Bar and Grill at 8 p.m.

Johnny Rawls plays the Bourbon Street Blues & Boogie Bar from 8:30 till 1:30 a.m. \$5 cover.

Tuesday, January 13

Stacy Mitchhart and Blues U Can Use play the Bourbon Street & Boogie Bar from 9 p.m. till 2 a.m. \$5 cover.

Donn Love & Nighttrain plays the 3rd & Lindsley Bar and Grill at 8 p.m.

The Sidemen play J.T. Gray's Station Inn.

Wednesday, January 14

Stacy Mitchhart and Blues U Can Use play the Bourbon Street & Boogie Bar from 9 p.m. till 2 a.m. \$5 cover.

Billy and Terry Smith, Charlie Cushman and Laura Weber play at J.T. Gray's Station Inn.

The Wooten Brothers play at the 3rd & Lindsley Bar and Grill at 9 p.m.

Thursday, January 15

"Ain't Got Long to Stay Here," a one-man show about the life of Martin Luther King, Jr. starring Barry Scott, will be performed in the James K. Polk Theater of TPAC at 8 p.m. All tickets are \$10 and can be obtained through Ticketmaster and the TPAC Box Office.

Stacy Mitchhart and Blues U Can Use play the Bourbon Street & Boogie Bar from 9 p.m. till 2 a.m. \$5 cover.

Holly Cole will play at 3rd & Lindsley Bar and Grill at 6 p.m.

The David Peterson Band play at J.T. Gray's Station Inn.

The Derailers play at the Ace of Clubs at 114 2nd Ave. South in Nashville. Show time is 9 p.m.

Friday, January 16

Space Odyssey, an all-orchestral program featuring music like the "Star Wars" theme and "The Planets," will be performed by The Nashville Symphony at TPAC's Jackson Hall at 8 p.m. Tickets range from \$8 to \$45 and are available at Ticketmaster locations or by calling 255-9600.

Kevin Williamson and Shadow Ridge play the Station Inn.

The Amazing Rhythm Aces play the 3rd and Lindsley Bar and Grill at 10 p.m.

Writer Robert Sawyer will sign copies of his mystery and science fiction books at Bookman Used and Rare Books at 1724 21st Ave. South in Nashville. The signing will begin at 6:30 a.m.

Saturday, January 17

The Dig-Its, Pain and Plaster play Lucy's Record Store in Nashville. The show will begin at 8 p.m. \$5 cover.

Space Odyssey will be performed by the Nashville Symphony at TPAC's Jackson Hall. Tickets are \$8, \$16, \$26, \$38 and \$45. Tickets are available at Ticketmaster.

TV SCHOLAR LOVES ALIENS, BUT HATES LUCY

□ Susan McMahan/staff

For David Lavery, the truth is out there.

Lavery, a professor of English, co-edited a book published in 1996 called "Deny All Knowledge: Reading 'The X-Files'" along with English professor Angela Hague and English adjunct professor Marla Cartwright.

"It seemed natural that I would do a book on it," he said. "I didn't want to do it all myself because I was chair of the English department at that time."

So, he enlisted the help of Hague, an expert on alien abduction and flying saucers, and Cartwright, a religious "X-Files" watcher.

The three gathered essays from scholars all over the country about the show, including the one they wrote: "Generation X: 'The X-Files' and the Cultural Moment."

Because the show was so popular, the trio had no trouble finding a publisher for the book.

"As a matter of fact, Syracuse University Press, which published it, sought us and offered us a contract and everything for it," he said.

Lavery, a self-proclaimed "television scholar," is currently working on two other books.

The first is "Prophetic/ Prophylactic Television Criticism: Anticipating/ Preventing/ Parodying the TV Discourse of Tomorrow," which he edited with Hague.

The book, which will be published this year by Syracuse University Press, is a collection of book reviews on scholarly books about television that weren't actually written. The reviews cover imaginary books on everything from "Mr. Ed" to "Beavis and Butt-head."

Lavery's own entry is a review of a book called "Californication and Cultural Imperialism: 'Baywatch' and the Creation of World Culture."

The second book is about nothing, literally.

He and Sara Lewis Dunne, an assistant professor of English, are working on completing "About Nothing: Charting the Sitcoms of 'Seinfeld.'" The duo is writing the introduction essay "Part of Popular Culture: 'Seinfeld' and the '90s.'"

Despite Lavery's love for "The X-Files" and other television shows, cherry pie and coffee will always hold a special place in his heart.

"I got pretty well hooked on 'The X-Files,' although I'm not as big of an 'X-Files' fan as I was of 'Twin Peaks,'" he said. "I can quote you anything on 'Twin Peaks.' I mean, I know absolutely everything about 'Twin Peaks.'"

"I jokingly say that I am now, without fear of contradiction, the world's greatest 'Twin Peaks' scholar."

Lavery had started watching 'Twin Peaks' when he was teaching Communication and Film Studies at University of Memphis.

"I missed it when it was first on,

caught it in the reruns and got completely hooked," Lavery said. "I became the cult 'Twin Peaks' watcher. I had parties with cherry pie and coffee."

When the cult show was about to be cancelled, Lavery realized it was worthy of a book. He started sending letters out to everyone he knew to see if they would write an essay about the show.

The result was a book called "Full of Secrets: Critical Approaches to 'Twin Peaks,'" which Lavery edited along with Hague and Cartwright. Lavery even wrote an essay for the book called "The Semiotics of Cobbler: 'Twin Peaks' Interpretive Community."

Because the show had already ended when the book was complete, Lavery said he had a hard time looking for a publisher. The book, published by Wayne State University Press, finally came out in 1994, two years after the show had ended.

"And yet, I just got my most recent sales figures," Lavery said. "The book has sold 5,000 copies, actually, all over the world."

The book was so successful that Wayne State has Lavery co-editing another book about the show. The book, which is due out later this year, will be called "Twin Peaks revisited: Appraisals and Reappraisals of the Show that was Supposed to Change TV Forever."

The success of the first 'Twin Peaks' book has surprised Lavery.

"I was in England the summer before last," he said, "and there were copies in every bookstore in England I went in."

Despite all the many hours Lavery has spent "working" and watching television, he said it's still fun because he only watches what he likes.

"It's kind of hilarious to think that you're watching 'Beavis and Butt-head' to do research," he said.

He said he would consider a scholarly book on a show like "Married... With Children" to be punishment.

"Let's see, what would my idea of television hell be? Having to do a book on 'I Love Lucy' would be my idea of hell," he said. "I absolutely despise 'I Love Lucy.'"

"I've been in psychoanalysis for this, trying to figure out why. I think it's because Lucy reminds me of my mother."

Lavery said that in one sense, there is nothing more important than television even though it is often mindless and frivolous.

"Week in and week out there is some really thought-provoking stuff on television," he said. "Much more so than you're likely to find in the movies these days. Movies tend to be pretty empty and vacuous. So, it's not an insult to your intelligence to study television."

Lavery, who did his dissertation on the films of Federico Fellini and is

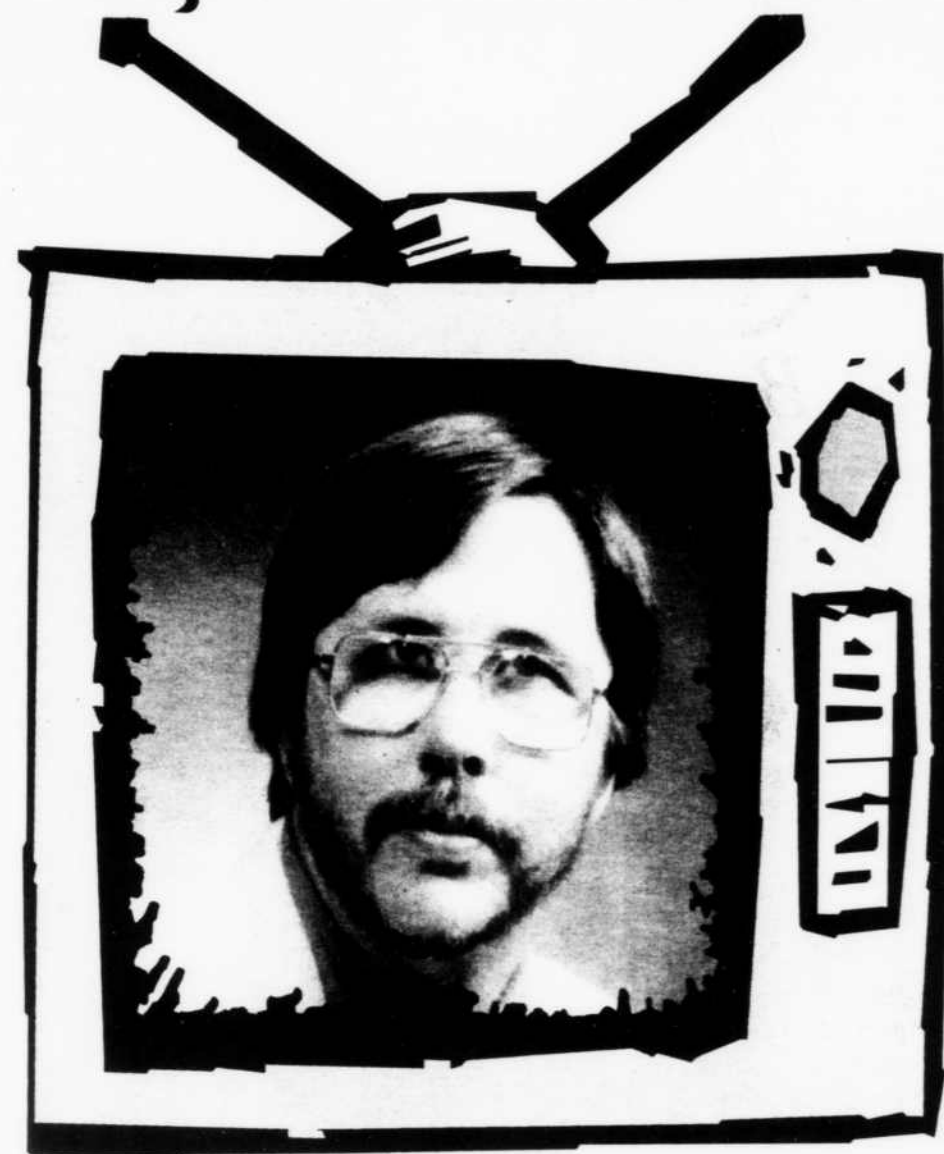


photo illustration by Carrie Hirsch/staff

working to get a film studies major at MTSU, said he now enjoys television more than the movies.

He does still enjoy the movies, however. He currently is working with associate English professor Robert Holtzclaw and Allison Graham to write a textbook called "The Movies: An Introduction to the Art and Culture of Motion Pictures."

"When I first started studying film, it was fascinating. I didn't know anything about it," he said. "It was just like an unexplored land. It was like coming to a new continent."

Film appealed to him, he said, because it was something new for him to look at and literature was "getting old hat."

He even has taught film classes in other countries. In 1992, he taught a class on contemporary British film in London and, in 1996, he taught a class called Ireland and Scotland at the Movies on location.

These classes were taught through the Cooperative Center for Study in Britain, a program that provides teachers with transportation and lodging in other countries in exchange for developing and teaching a class. The program has since grown to include other countries, like Hong Kong and Australia, where Lavery is thinking about teaching next.

This wasn't his only experience teaching abroad.

Lavery, who was a philosophy and English major as a college undergraduate at Clarion University in Pennsylvania, has always been

interested in Oriental philosophy and China. After he got his doctorate, the American job market for English teachers was "terrible" and he applied for a job in China.

In 1981, 14 months and one child later, the family moved to Shanghai against his wife's better judgment, where Lavery was a foreign expert in English at the East China Normal University.

"She was right; it wasn't a good idea. It was incredibly hard on us," he said. "But looking back, it's one of those things that you look back on as valuable experiences, even though they were painful."

Lavery said he learned the true meaning of culture shock while he was in China.

"I thought it was just a term in a book," he said. "It's real. It is absolutely real. We had it the entire time we were there."

After a few months living in China, the family returned to the United States and Lavery again taught English to American students.

Although he loves television, movies and the rest of popular culture, especially the correlation between media and culture, he still loves the traditional English courses. He said he feels torn between poetry and the movies.

"If I had to give up one of them, I think I'd give up film and TV," he said. "I don't think I could live the rest of my life without poetry."

"It's kind of hilarious to think you're watching 'Beavis and Butt-head' to do research."

Juried Student Show opens Monday at Barn Gallery

□ Ginette Garza/staff

Art students would like to share their best work with students and staff.

The annual Juried Student Show will be held Jan. 12-23 at the Barn Gallery in the Art Barn. The show, one of three exhibits scheduled for this semester, is dedicated to the students' efforts on art.

As a collaboration of art work by students involved in the MTSU art program, this is an opportunity the

gallery offers students to showcase their talents.

"This is a chance for students to get the work they have out there," explains Danielle Addington, the secretary for the gallery.

Students from every year level have entered various works, including such things as sculptures, paintings and drawings, into the competition. This show is the only time of the year in which students of every class can display their work. Seniors in the B.F.A. program will have an exhibit at the end of April when they can display their work before they graduate.

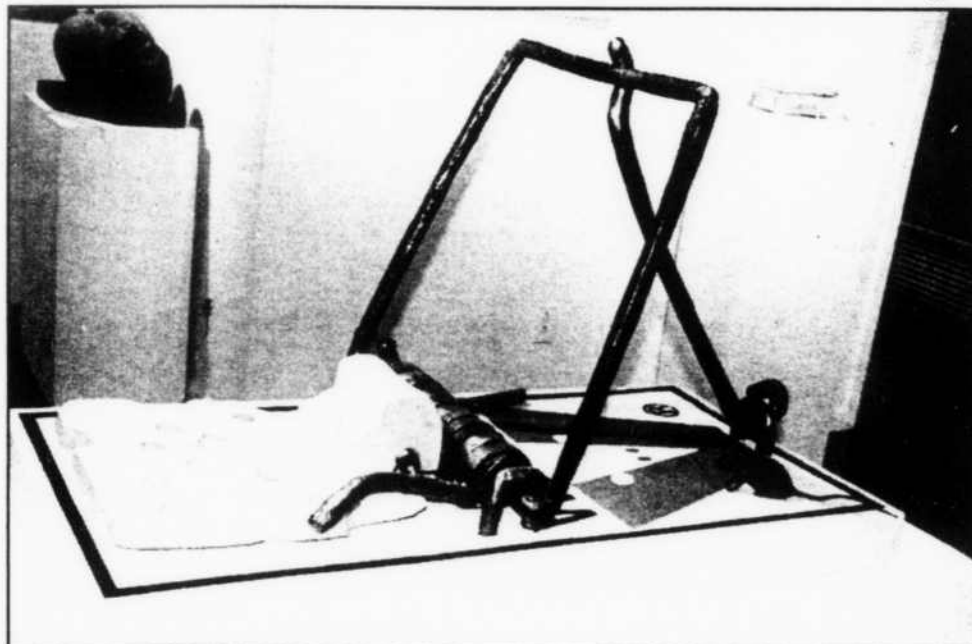
Other scheduled events for the spring semester occurring in the Barn Gallery include "Chicago: Memories and Fantasies", a Robert Graham painting exhibit and "Charcoal Interiors", an exhibit of the drawings and paintings of both Julie Mitchell and Teresa Prater. For more information of any of these presentations or how to enter work into next year's Juried Student Show, contact 898-5653. The university is awarding cash prizes to the Best of Show and each of the Honorable Mention artists of the exhibit.

"It was so hard to judge because it was all great," said Karen Kittelson, a Vanderbilt art instructor chosen to judge the work and select those pieces which would be included in the show.

Of the 129 works submitted, she



"Jamie's hand in the Absurdities," an oil painting by Brian Koelz, can be seen through Jan. 23 at the Barn Gallery.



Vickie Gibson/staff

"The Better Mousetrap" by Dawn M. Perault is on display at the Juried Student Show. Kittelson explained her decision was based on those students who seemed to be "working hard, pursuing an idea," and, "[showing] a great deal of personal involvement in their work. It would have been great to see all that work up."

Though judging was an exhausting task for Kittelson, she felt confident in her decision for Best of Show.

"It was a consistent body of work [with a] great deal of creativity," she

The winners of the show will be revealed Monday during an opening reception from 4 to 6 p.m. The Barn Gallery will be open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. It is a free exhibit, and no tickets are necessary to view the show. The show is a creative representation of the students at MTSU.

"I was really impressed with everything," she said. "I have such a great impression of the school from the work."

Please direct any entertainment information to the Sidelines Features Desk at 898-2917.

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Metro Parks offer cheap entertainment for broke students

□ Tara Larimer/staff

If the dollars you've just forked over for books and tuition are forcing you to check out more economical forms of entertainment, Metro Parks and Recreation of Nashville offers a number of alternatives.

January and February will be busy months for the Warner Parks Nature Center, located at 7311 Highway 100 in Edwin Warner Park. One of the largest urban parks in the nation, Edwin Warner and Percy Warner Parks are joined together and feature ball fields, picnic shelters and playground equipment, in addition to a number of free programs offered year round.

"Depending on what your interests are, there's something for almost anyone who's interested in nature," said Barry McAlister, Metro Parks and Recreation's director of public relations.

The nature center's programs are designed both for those who wish to get outside and explore, as well as those who prefer a lecture-style experience, often complete with slides and videos. McAlister highly recommends "Bird Banding Day" Jan. 29 from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., an up-close-and-personal look at the catching and banding of birds, and how scientists work together to keep up with the bands.

"The Appalachian Trail: Georgia to Maine," also recommended by McAlister, takes place Feb. 7 from 2-4 p.m., and focuses on the stretch and breadth of the trail, as well as information on what part of the trail is nearby for people to take advantage of. McAlister said the program will prove to be highly beneficial to anyone who enjoys hiking.

"Shelby Bottoms Interpretive Walk," Jan. 17 from 9-11 a.m., will take explorers to Shelby Park, located on South 20th Street at Shelby Avenue. The park offers picnic shelters, tennis courts and playground equipment. Shelby Bottoms is a large new tract of land Metro Parks and Recreation recently acquired at the back of Shelby Park, located under an elevated railroad trestle.

"It's a beautiful natural area that used to be farmland and hayfields. There's now over a mile of paved trail that goes through meadows, down by the river and through some wetlands," McAlister said. "Especially if you can't get out to the Warner Parks, Shelby Bottoms is a wonderful alternative."

There are over 15 events scheduled at the Warner Parks Nature Center for January and February, some involving exotic plants, animal tracks and hiking, to name just a few. All the events offered through the center are free, but many

require reservations. To obtain more information on these and additional programs, contact the center at 352-6299.

Centennial Park, located two miles west of Nashville on West End Avenue, offers a number of indoor and outdoor activities that are also easy on the wallet. The park itself is home to playgrounds, a pond, a sunken garden, picnic facilities and a number of monuments.

The Centennial Sportsplex, located at the back of the park, boasts the only ice skating rink in the region, as well as an aquatic center, tennis center and fitness center. Ice skate rentals are included in the \$6 admission price, and admission is the same for use of the Sportsplex's other facilities.

The Sportsplex is open weekdays 6:30 a.m. until 9 p.m., Saturdays from 8:30 until 6 p.m., and Sundays 1-5 p.m., and can be contacted at 862-8480.

Centrally located in the park is the Parthenon, a full-size replica of the original Greek Parthenon as well as home to two art galleries and the Parthenon Symposia, a free monthly series of lectures which begin January 15. Barbara Tsakirgis, associate professor of classics at Vanderbilt, will host the first lecture titled "Of Hearth and Home: The Ancient Greek House." The lectures, taking place Thursday evenings at 7 p.m., will run through May and require reservations.

On permanent display in the Parthenon is the 42-foot sculpture of "Athena," the largest sculpture in the Western Hemisphere, as well as the "Cowan Collection," composed of works by 19th and 20th century American painters. Admission to the Parthenon is \$2.50, and also permits access to the art galleries.

Exhibitions running this month at the Parthenon include Richard Mitchell's computer-generated portraits show in the west gallery from Jan. 10th to Feb. 21. "The Last Greeks of Istanbul," a dramatic documentary series of photographs portraying the small surviving Greek community in Turkey, will run in the east gallery from Jan. 17 to Feb. 28.

Metro Parks and Recreation offers a complete guide to its parks, programs and facilities. Music, art, dance, nature and sports programs are all featured, as well as the programs offered just open to seniors, inner city youth and persons with disabilities.

All the programs offered are free or affordably priced. To find where to obtain a guide and take full advantage of what Metro Parks and Recreation has to offer, contact the administration office at 862-8400.

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SPORTS & RECREATION

Monday, January 12, 1998

Page 9

2-MIN. DRILL!



Lightning to strike Murphy Center

School officials will unveil the new athletic mascot and logo during a halftime ceremony of the Blue Raiders basketball game Jan. 17 against TSU.

Termed "Lightning Strikes," all that is currently known is that the mascot is in fact a winged horse that involves heavy rain and lightning.

The show will include laser lights, special effects and music. It will be the first ever "official mascot" in school history.

The game is scheduled to tip off at 7:30 p.m.

Upcoming Raider television schedule

Jan. 17 WMBK vs TSU 5:30
WNAB
Jan. 17 MNBK vs TSU 7:30
WNAB
The Randy Wiel Show
Every Sun. Night on WNAB at 10pm Replayed 5pm Mon.-Fri. on MTSU Ch. 8

Raider Radio Network schedule

WMTS FM 88.3-
Jan. 17 WMBK vs TSU 5:30
Jan. 31 WMBK at Martin 5:30
Feb. 7 WMBK vs SEMO 3:00
Feb. 14 WMBK at TSU 7:00
Feb. 21 WMBK vs Morehead 5:30
WGNS AM 1450-
All Lady Raider basketball games
The Randy Wiel Show on Sun. nights
6-7pm taped at Toot's
WBOZ FM 104.9-
All Blue Raider basketball games

Upcoming schedule

Mens Basketball-
Tenn. Tech (Home) 7:00 Tuesday
Austin Peay (Home) 7:00
Thursday
Womens Basketball-
at Eastern Illinois 7:05 Tonight
Tenn. Tech (Home) 7:00
Wednesday
Womens Tennis-
at Georgia 2:00 Jan. 16
Indiana Tourn. All Day Jan. 24
Mens Tennis-
at Wake Forest T.B.A. Jan. 31
ITA National Indoors Feb. 5-8
Indoor Track-
at Illinois State Invite Jan. 24
MTSU Invite Noon Jan. 31
Baseball-
vs Illinois State 3:00 Feb. 20
vs Illinois State 1:00 Feb. 21
vs Illinois State 1:00 Feb. 22
(Opening Home Stand Series)
Softball-
at Samford (DH) 1:00 Feb. 21
at Ole Miss (DH) 2:00 Feb. 25
Golf-
Bridges All-Amer. Tourn. Feb. 16-17

Next Issue

The introduction of "Guest Columns." Each Thursday "Sidelines" will feature two columns, one written by a coach and the other by one of their players. Pick up a copy and read what's on the minds of some of the Blue Raider Athletic Department's very own. First up will be men's tennis coach Dale Short, a former two-sport star for the Blue Raiders, and senior Anthony DeLuise, who is currently the ninth ranked collegiate singles player in the country.

A game recap of the Blue Raiders game Tuesday at the Murphy Center against Tenn. Tech. The Raiders are currently 10-3, 4-1 in the Ohio Valley Conference heading into the game.



Please fax any information on sports and recreational activities to Sidelines at 904-8487.

Baseball team prepares to move into new clubhouse

□ Keith Ryan Cartwright/staff

The Blue Raider baseball team is preparing to move into their new 6,000-square-foot clubhouse later this spring.

Though the team had hoped to be able to move into the \$350,000 facility in January, head coach Steve Peterson is unsure the exact date the move will take place.

"We have to be patient and keep looking at the pot of gold at the end of the rainbow," Peterson said.

The facility is expected to house the entire baseball program including a team locker room, training room, bath rooms, shower room, laundry room, storage area, coaching offices, umpire dressing room, a small weight room as well as three indoor clay pitching lanes and two hitting tunnels.

"When it's all done, it's going to be one of the best facilities in the United States," Peterson said.

Peterson is hoping to get clearance from Bill Smotherman, project coordinator, to use the pitching lanes and hitting tunnels, which have already been completed.

Construction of the project fell behind at the start last spring when excavation crews encountered more rock in the ground than they anticipated.

"You never know what you're going to find under the ground," Peterson said. "And that right there delayed us weeks."

The idea of the project dates back to 1984 when former head coach John Stanford had plans drawn up for a dressing facility.

"At the time," Peterson said, "the money that was needed, the university just couldn't swing."

However, in 1992, Peterson went to Steve Smith with his need for the facility.

Smith, a former standout pitcher for the Blue Raiders, is the son of the late Reese Smith, after whom the field is named.

Smith's father has been instrumental in raising money for the Blue Raider baseball program in the past.

Peterson and Smith put together a proposal for university President James E. Walker.

Once the project was approved they began fundraising in the winter of 1992 and spring of 1993.

While the baseball program raised \$200,000 through private sectors, the university supplemented the cost by adding \$150,000.

But, Peterson said the facility also became a reality through what he termed "gifts in kind," donations which helped to cut down the cost of the project.

"You're probably looking at a facility," Peterson said, "that if you had to pay hard cash for everything, it would probably cost close to a half-million dollars."

In recent years, the move to their own facility became more of a necessity with the addition of new athletic teams and the growing number of classes that take place in the Murphy Center.

"Like everything else on the campus," Peterson said, "we experienced an over crowding of space."

"It was just getting tougher and tougher to find times to workout in."

The Blue Raiders will begin defending their eighth Ohio Valley Conference title Feb. 20, when they host Illinois State for a three game series at home.

In the future, Peterson hopes to make improvements to the Reese Smith Field's stands, concession area and public rest rooms.

"In time, that will come," Peterson said. "We need to improve the conveniences for our fans. Not that they're bad, but we can improve on what we have."

Fundraising nothing new

□ Keith Ryan Cartwright/staff

Raising \$200,000 and gathering nearly \$100,000 in donations of labor and materials for the new clubhouse, was nothing new for the Blue Raider baseball program.

"Our program is a people's program," said head coach Steve Peterson. "It's been so supported by the private sector."

Over the years, private donations has allowed the coaches to add a press box, lights, netting, padding, chair-back seats and a brick wall to Reese Smith Field.

In fact, coaches and players built and moved the bleachers found along each outfield foul line. They even installed the chair-back seats after they were purchased.

"We wouldn't be where we're at without the Middle Tennessee community and the alumni supporting our program," Peterson said.

Reese Smith Field is now one of top collegiate facilities in the country.

Fowler to call Oilers next week

□ Keith Ryan Cartwright/staff

Despite conflicting reports, MTSU Athletic Director Lee Fowler has not spoken to anyone from the Tennessee Oilers front office in regards to the Oilers using Johnny Floyd Stadium for the regular season or training camp.

"I had always planned to call them when their season ended but that [newspaper article] kind of got the interest sparked up," Fowler said Friday morning in his office. "There's a possibility, but until I talk with them I don't know how much interest they really have."

Middle Tennessee's name began to surface after the Oilers last game of the season when team owner Bud Adams stated on national television the urgency to get his team out of Memphis and into the Nashville area next season.

The following day, a Memphis newspaper reported that Adams was considering MTSU. Fowler learned of the story when he was contacted by a sports writer from "The Tennessean."

"Instead of hashing it out in the newspapers," Fowler said. "I need to call Floyd Reese (the Oilers' general manager) and talk with him."

Last season, the Oilers averaged just 28,000 fans per game at the Liberty Bowl, the lowest attendance mark in the NFL.

The Oilers had hoped to move to Nashville and play the next two seasons at Vanderbilt Stadium, but officials at Vanderbilt University remain uninterested in hosting the NFL team.

Reese, however, is currently in San Francisco for the East/West Shrine game and is not expected to return to his Nashville office until Jan. 20.

In a recent article that appeared in the "The Tennessean," Reese said that he wanted to have the entire situation sorted out by mid-February.

"What I'd like to do, is get him down here to look at our facilities," Fowler said. "Let him see what we're getting ready to have in six months."

Construction of the major remodeling of the stadium is going through is expected to be completed early this summer.

"We don't have as many seats as they probably want," Fowler said. "But, we have more than they averaged in Memphis."

Please see Oilers, page 10

Road games result in split for Raiders

□ Staff reports

The Blue Raider basketball team finished a tough two-game road trip with a split decision by easily defeating Southeast Missouri 70-55 Saturday night.

The win in Cape Girardeau, Mo., tipped the Raiders overall record to 10-3 and put them at 4-1 in the Ohio Valley Conference.

Four Raiders reached double figures in scoring, led by Richard Duncann's 15. Aylton Tesch and Freddie Martinez each had 13 while reserve Ali McGhee scored 11.

For the Raiders, they finished the game shooting 52 percent from the field and a staggering 53.8 percent from beyond the three point arch: along with hitting five of seven three-pointers in the first half.

The win came on the heels of an 85-74 loss at the hands of Eastern Illinois.

The loss to Eastern was the first conference set back for the Raiders this season.

With the quick road trip behind them, the Raiders return home to Murphy Center for a three-game home stand beginning Tuesday night against Tenn. Tech.

The Raiders will return to Murphy Center again Thursday to take on Austin Peay before wrapping up the home stand Saturday against Tennessee State.

Burrell endures long road

□ Keith Ryan Cartwright/staff

It's been along time coming, but Bama Burrell is finally in a Lady Raider basketball uniform.

Burrell was one of the first players Stephany Smith, now in her first year as head coach, recruited when she came to Middle Tennessee four years ago as an assistant coach.

"You cannot imagine all the things we went through to finally make it happen," Smith said with relief.

Smith first saw Burrell play when she led Athens High School to the Alabama State High School Tournament her sophomore year, where they finished runner-up.

However, retired Lady Raider head coach, Lewis didn't get a chance to see Burrell play until after her junior year when she played AAU. After the AAU Nationals; Burrell attended a week-long camp at Middle Tennessee.

"That's when we really hit it off," Smith said, "because she was here on campus for a week."

"She knew that I cared a lot about her."

As much as the two may have cared about one another and the match seemed to be a perfect fit of playing styles and personalities, a three-year road block was about to take place.

Unfortunately, Burrell wasn't academically eligible and wasn't going to be accepted by the Middle Tennessee admissions office.

"Initially I went through every act of congress on this campus to get her eligible," Smith said. "But, obviously we have some really strict admissions requirements."

"It was hard for me to accept in the beginning."

So instead of donning a Lady Raider uniform, Burrell headed off to Kilgore, Texas to play for Evelyn Blalock at Kilgore Community College.

Kilgore is a national power at the junior college level having claimed three national championships in recent years.

"From the time I went down to Kilgore, we had the understanding that I was coming back," Burrell said. "I was coming to Middle Tennessee."

"I have a tremendous amount of respect for my coach down there as well. There were other coaches trying to get in contact with me and she let them know where I wanted to go, that I was already committed."

Though Burrell knew in her heart she would one day play for the Lady Raiders she didn't let the set-back dampen her spirits. Instead, she made



Burrell

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Please see Burrell, page 10

Lady Raiders rebound with a pair of victories

□ Staff Reports

After one of the worst games in Lady Raider history, Stephany Smith's team has responded by winning the first two games of a three-game road trip.

The Lady Raiders first traveled to Cookeville and defeated Tenn. Tech 59-56 in a game that was close all the way to the end.

Joanne Aluka led the Lady Raiders with 14 points and six rebounds in 32 minutes.

The freshman from Augusta, Ga., then led the Lady Raiders to an 89-71 win over Southeast Missouri with 17 points and seven rebounds.

Five Lady Raiders reached double figures in scoring as the team finished the game shooting 60 percent from the field.

Kelly Chastain, another of the Lady Raider freshmen, added 15 while Bama Burrell, Courtney Neeley and Carlita Elder all chipped in 14, 13 and 11 points respectively as the team raised their record to 7-5, 3-1 OVC.

Defensively the Lady Raiders held SEMO to just 46 percent from the field and tallied 14 steals while forcing 19 turnovers.

Tennis teams to continue success

□ Marcy Eibel/staff

The MTSU tennis teams once again are preparing to serve up a season full of success.

Having just recently started their practice sessions for their spring matches, they are already showing a willingness to conquer on the court.

The men's team, which is currently ranked 18th in the country, has seen three of its top players achieve some high rankings heading into the spring session.

Anthony DeLuise is ranked ninth in the country and is the second Blue Raider to ever be ranked in the top ten.

"We lost Fred Niemeyer, but Anthony has proven that he is ready to fill his spot," head coach Dale Short said.



DeLuise

The Raiders have also seen the doubles duo of David McNamara and Julius Robberts win the hardcourt championship in Austin, Texas. They are the first doubles team in the Blue Raiders history to ever win a national title.

McNamara and Robberts are currently ranked second in the country heading into the spring.

Although the team lost two of its top six players from last year, the coach and players are looking forward to a very successful season.

"We have the potential to be as good as last year," Short said. "We feel we can compete in the top 10 of the country."

First time freshman, Shayne Podberry is among the

newcomers welcomed to the team this spring.

Jade Culph, whose eligibility will not be known until the end of the week, may also be there to help fill the gap left behind by the loss of two players, which was ranked as high as fourth in nation at one point.

The men's team has a tough schedule ahead of them, one of the toughest in the country. They will be paired up against dozens of the top 50 teams, but the Raiders are willing to compete against all the levels.

Thus far, the team has been to the NCAA Team Tournament the last three years. However, they have been knocked out within the first two rounds.

This year the team's goal is to win at least four or five of the rounds. Overall the men's team plans to finish stronger than they did last year.

The Blue Raiders open their season on January 31 when they play at Wake Forest in Winston-Salem, North Carolina.

The Lady Raiders, although not at the same level as the men, are also warming up for a very competitive season in which they hope to break into the NCAA top 75 rankings.

Head coach David Thorton, is very excited about this year's team and he expects a successful spring.

"We have a tough season ahead of us, but the

ladies are a great group with a strong chemistry," Thorton said. "Most of our season will be spent on the road which may tire and wear the team out, but they are prepared for an equally impressive year as last season."

The Lady Raiders finished last season with a 19-7 record, which ranked them at 120 in the Bob Larson rankings. So far this season, the Lady Raiders have worked their way up to the 94 spot and are hoping to keep climbing.

The whole team is returning from last year. Therefore, lots of experience is on hand along with great attitudes.

"Nobody stands out individually, we have a very solid team which works hard and plays well together," Thorton said.

However, the Lady Raiders will look for Murfreesboro native Malinda Ryan for leadership this season.

The team has a tough season ahead of them and they are not really looking forward to very many wins. However, with clear heads and the right attitudes, they plan to build off the experience they will encounter in order to be stronger in the end.

"We have one of the toughest non-conference schedules in the OVC," commented Thorton.

"But because of the seasonal games we come out stronger in the end, we have won the OVC five of the last seven years because the season prepared us for the teams in the tournament."

The Lady Raiders open the season Jan. 16 on the road in Georgia.



Robberts



McNamara



Ryan

Kwan gets eight perfect marks to win U.S. title

□ Barry Wilner/AP

How do you top near perfection? By getting even closer to it the next time, as Michelle Kwan did Saturday night.

Kwan got eight perfect 6.0s out of nine marks for artistry in the free skate to win her second U.S. Figure Skating Championship in three years. The 1996 world and U.S. winner got seven 6.0s in the short program on Thursday.

The United States send its three brightest skating stars to the Nagano Olympics next month. Defending world and U.S. champion Tara Lipinski and 1995 American titlist Nicole Bobek place second and third, respectively, also skating marvelously, and will join Kwan, who got an automatic berth for winning.

An international committee chose Lipinski and Bobek for the U.S. team later Saturday night, meaning the last three women to win the American crown would go to Japan.

After Bobek nailed every element of her program with grace, Lipinski was even better doing a more difficult routine with seven triple jumps, including her trademark triple loop-triple loop.

Then came Kwan, who was sidelined in November and December with a stress fracture of a toe on her left foot. Performing to "Lyra Angelica," she was almost heavenly.

Skating in front of her idol, Brian Boitano, who was working for ABC-TV, Kwan

equaled Boitano's achievement of eight perfect scores in a national championship.

"I have talked to Brian and asked him how it feels to be national, world and Olympic champion," she said. "We talked about it a lot and I took a lot of inspiration from him."

Kwan, 17, hit six triple jumps, two in combination, but it was the beauty of her performance that jumped out at the judges and the crowd, which chanted "6.0! 6.0!" as she awaited her marks.

"I just listened to the crowd and listened to the music and I thought of angels and clouds," Kwan said. "I thought, 'I can do this,' and just enjoyed myself."

She received the most 6.0s in a free skate at nationals for any skater. And she might be enjoying herself a whole lot more in Japan as a gold medalist.

Then again, so might Lipinski, the 15-year-old jumping jack who has added considerable charm and personality to her routines.

"To come back even stronger was so exciting," Lipinski said. "Coming here and doing great, I think I can do anything."

Or Bobek, 20, who has staged a rousing revival of her career since winning her U.S. crown, could be atop the podium.

"The minute I finished, the first thing that ran through my head was Carlo," she said tearfully of her former coach, Carlo Fassi, who died last March during the world championships, where she

plummeted to 13th. "I felt like Carlo was there. I felt like I could see him. He is always with me. I know that."

Any of the three is capable of a gold medal in any event if they skate as they did Saturday. Talk of 1-2-3 sweep for these women would not be outlandish.

Tonia Kwiatkowski, the 26-year-old veteran skating in her final nationals, entered the free skate worth two-thirds of the total score-in third place. But she struggled as the last skater after Kwan, Lipinski and Bobek soared, and fell to fourth.

Earlier Saturday, Elizabeth Punsalan and Jerod Swallow won their record-tying fifth U.S. championship in ice dancing. They equaled the achievements of Judy Schwomeyer and James Sladky (1968-72) and Judy Blumberg and Michael Seibert (1981-85).

"We're pretty excited about our fifth title," Swallow said of their final nationals. "It's always a long week. Ice dancers have to compete four times and it's always a relief to finish on a high note. I think it was a strong event in general."

Joining them at Nagano will be Jessica Joseph and Charles Butler, the rising stars of dance. The current world junior champions, they made an unprecedented leap right to the Olympics by finishing second here.

The other Olympians are five-time U.S. champion Todd Eldredge and Michael Weiss in men's and Kyoko Ina and Jason Dunjen in pairs, along with Jenni Meno and Todd Sand.

Burrell

continued from page 9

back dampen her spirits. Instead, she made the best of the situation.

During her two years at Kilgore, Burrell not only excelled on the basketball court but off the court as well.

The 5-foot-11 forward played an instrumental role in the Turn Around Kilgore Anti-Drug Program. In 1996, she was named Most Representative Student for her hard work and her friendly personality landed her the honor of Homecoming Queen.

"I do like to meet people," Burrell said. "I'm from a small town, so I have a tendency to like to know everybody."

But, frustration was about to hit again. Texas is one of the only states that requires student/athletes to take an exit exam, similar to the ACT and SAT, when they transfer out.

Unfortunately, Burrell's score fell just short of allowing her to play for Middle Tennessee last year when she enrolled. So instead of playing last year, she was redshirted and is eligible to play this season and next.

Again, Burrell was forced to endure not being able to wear a Lady Raider uniform and again Burrell dealt with the situation with a mature attitude.

"There was never any doubt or a question in my mind," said Smith, that Burrell was one day going to be her starting forward.

Last year, the criminal

justice major, moved to Murfreesboro, enrolled in school and took part in student government as she patiently waited for the start of the 1997-98 season.

"I'm just laid back and I love the game of basketball," Burrell said.

"One of the first things coach Smith said to me [at the start of this season] was, 'You waited a long time for this.' So that felt good."

Burrell not only loves basketball but can play the game at an extremely competitive level, regardless of whether or not she had the "gitter bugs" at the start of her first game.

The nerves must have calmed quickly because with just a quick glance at the Lady Raider stat book for the current season, Burrell's name is all over the starting board.

The leading small forward leads the team in total points with 137, field goals made with 56, her 76.7 percent from the

charity stripe is not only the best on the team, but among the best in the Ohio Valley Conference.

However, offense isn't the only end of the floor Burrell plays. She leads the Lady Raiders in rebounding, averaging just under eight boards per game, and has recorded a team leading 25 steals.

If the game is on the line Burrell is last player opponents look to foul. In the clutch, she's 11 of 11 at the free throw line with under five minutes to go.

"I'm looking forward to the rest of this year and next," Burrell said.

If she continues to play as terrific as she has been, the Lady Raider coaching staff and the fans of Middle Tennessee will be enjoying the fact that she is finally wearing that uniform as well.

"It was definitely worth the wait," Smith added.

Oilers

continued from page 9

"We don't have as many seats as they probably want," Fowler said. "But, we have more than they averaged in Memphis."

The stadium will now seat 31,000 fans, boasts a new state of the art press box and 16 skyboxes.

"Most people in Nashville remember old Johnny Floyd Stadium," Fowler said. "We want everybody in Nashville to know what we have and really

we want the Oilers to know."

Also adding to the rumors is the fact that the Oilers apparently were not happy with the way training camp went last season at Tennessee State University and may be looking to relocate that as well.

"There's a lot of issues here," Fowler said. "More than anything else, it's an educational process. It's a time to get together with the Oilers since we'll be living in their shadow."

"But all that aside, I think we need to have a relationship between the university and [the Oilers]."

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Lee Fowler,
MTSU athletic director

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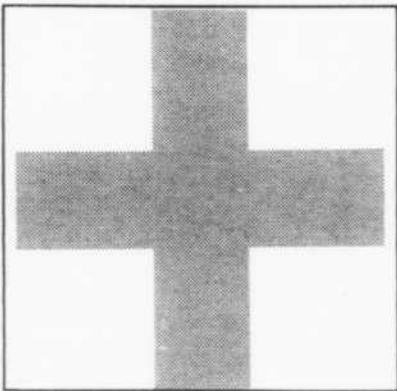


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Students encouraged to give blood

giving blood keeps many out of the room.

The number of excuses are growing too. "No time," "I gave last year," and "There are enough people giving blood. I don't have to" are quite popular. Fortunately, there is not a lack of locations to donate blood. Many churches, community centers and schools (including MTSU) sponsor blood drives several times a year. Most hospitals welcome people to come in and donate anytime. The Red Cross always offers appointments for volunteers to donate blood.



There are certain requirements to be a blood donor. The donor must be at least 17 years old, at least 110 pounds, and in good health. There is a list of health and lifestyle questions to answer before donation that will verify his or her eligibility. After the questionnaire, volunteers have their finger pricked for a few drops of blood in order to take an iron test. If their iron level is too low, the nurse will tell them not to give blood. If approved to give blood, the volunteer moves to a reclining chair and the nurse prepares him for the donation procedure. The whole process could take up to an hour, but the actual donation takes about ten minutes. After the pint of blood is drawn, it takes two months to

restore the lost red blood cells. Adult males have around 12 pints of blood in their system, while adult females have about nine. The body is efficient enough to lose a pint and restore itself within weeks. However, in the 24 hours before and after donation, it is important to drink plenty of liquids and eat a little more than normal.

There is no need to worry about the spreading of diseases when giving blood. Each needle is individually wrapped and the nurses are required to wear gloves. Once the blood is drawn, it is shipped to a laboratory to be tested for diseases, such as HIV/AIDS or hepatitis. After testing, the red blood cells are separated from the rest of the blood and are stored under refrigeration for no longer than 42 days. Blood can be frozen for up to ten years as well.

Platelets, which control excessive bleeding, have a shelf-life of five days and are used on cancer patients going through treatment.

The white blood cells are transfused within 24 hours of donation and help boost the immune systems of infectious patients. Plasma, like platelets, help control bleeding and can be frozen for up to one year.

The clotting factor from blood, known as Cryoprecipitated AHF, is made from plasma and can also be frozen up to a year.

What could be better than life to someone in need? There is no excuse for not giving blood, with the exception of a health reason. It is a safe, easy and fast procedure that has more rewards than efforts.

In honor of National Volunteer Blood Donor Month, find the courage and the time to give a pint of life to someone who needs it.

Stay Fit Jennie Treadway



Forget your fear of needles, the potent smell of alcohol and the sight of a reclining hospital chair and make your way to the Red Cross. January is National Volunteer Blood Donor Month. Every three seconds someone needs blood. This year's theme, as directed by the American Association of Blood Banks, the American Red Cross and America's Blood Centers, is "Got Blood? Give It!" This includes a wide range of people at MTSU.

Donating blood is one of the best ways to help the community. It is a volunteer project that does more than give a meal, provide companionship or wipe a few tears. Giving blood gives life.

According to the Red Cross, about eight million people donate blood each year, which provides over 14 million units of blood for needy patients. The number of people needing blood transfusions increases nearly every year but averages to about four million.

Patients needing blood are commonly those involved in accidents, those needing major surgery, and cancer patients going through treatment.

The most common bloodtype is type-O, with type-A following. Type-B and -AB are the least common. In terms of giving and receiving, type-O is the "universal donor" in that it can give blood to anybody.

Type-AB, the "universal recipient," can receive blood from anyone, but give it to only another -AB.

Although every living person has blood, only about five percent are willing to sit in the chair for ten minutes and donate. Millions are eligible, but the overwhelming fear of

Oilers and MTSU: a perfect marriage

Keith Ryan Cartwright Sports Editor



Not so long ago, the thought of the Tennessee Oilers playing a regular season game at MTSU would have seemed more like a joke than wishful thinking.

However, timing is everything and it just may be time for MTSU and Johnny Floyd Stadium to shine in the national spotlight.

With the Blue Raider football team moving to the NCAA Division I-A level, the stadium has undergone a major facelift and host of new seats raising its capacity to 31,000.

Couple the recent renovation with the problems facing the Oilers--a move from Houston to Nashville and Vanderbilt University's apparent uninterested attitude toward the Oilers--and MTSU begins to look more and more like a viable avenue.

Obviously 31,000 seats isn't a lot, but for a team with the worst attendance in the NFL, it's 3,000 more than they averaged.

However, my take on the situation is a bit different.

Professional sports has taken a big beating from both the media and the public in the 90s for all their excess behavior.

Athletes, owners and franchises have done everything from act as though they're above all else to spending millions of dollars frivolously.

Now here's a chance for a team to take a step back and bring the fans in closer to the team.

So what if the stadium doesn't seat 80,000 people, at least every Sunday afternoon they would have 31,000 fans making more noise than the Oilers have had in years.

The cozy atmosphere may even make for a situation where the fans begin to feel more a part of the team than they have.

It's no secret that so far the move from Houston to Nashville has been anything but smooth for the entire Oiler organization. Their offices are still spread out into three cities covering two states.

Who knows why Vanderbilt doesn't want anything to do with the Oilers, but then again, who cares?

All that means is that No. 1, MTSU is going to receive some national publicity they never thought they'd get. And, No. 2, somebody finally has opened their arms and is willing to accept the team.

Whether it's hosting regular season games or housing the Oilers training camp, MTSU Athletic Director Lee Fowler has made it known that, yes, Middle Tennessee is interested in the Oilers.

The smartest thing the Oilers could do is accept the friendly hand that Fowler has extended to them.

For anyone who believes 31,000 seats is too small, let me just give you a little lesson in the history of one of the NFL's most storied franchises.

I was born and raised in Oshkosh, Wi, not far from Green Bay, home of the defending Super Bowl champions.

After winning the first two Super Bowls, the Packers suffered through 20 years of losing. But, I'll tell you what, the fans never left them.

Despite the fact that even today, the population of Green Bay is less than 100,000, they still supported the team.

The biggest reason, Lambeau Field has one of the most "homey" feelings you'll ever find in professional sports.

Until just recently Lambeau only held 55,000 fans but with the addition of skyboxes and stadium seats it

now holds 60,660.

Even by some standards, the Packers still play in a relatively small stadium. But, that's just the way they like and it's exactly why going into Green Bay is a tough chore for any opponent.

Though Johnny Floyd Stadium may not be another Lambeau Field, it sure is a great way for the Oilers give the fans in Middle Tennessee a chance to become part of the team.

It's about time the Oilers kicked their habit of home field disadvantage.

Hopefully, during the weeks to come the community of Murfreesboro will embrace this possible opportunity for all its worth.

And believe me, it's worth more than anyone can imagine.

Something like the Oilers would generate more revenue for the city than anything else Murfreesboro currently has to offer outside of the university.

So rather than sit back and say, "Nah, it won't happen," give your support any way you can and help make it happen.

As residents we can let our opinions be known through letters to newspapers. We can call radio stations and businesses can even advertise the hopeful outlook for the Oilers on their marquees.

The fact that Middle Tennessee is the home of a professional team doesn't just mean that those of us who live around here can say, "Oh yah, the Oilers are from here."

It's way more like a marriage, a two-way street of support.

Now we have an opportunity to let the Oiler organization know that they didn't make a mistake in choosing to move to Nashville.

The fact is, the Oilers won't struggle forever and the benefits of helping them now when they need it most is something we'd reap for a long time to come.

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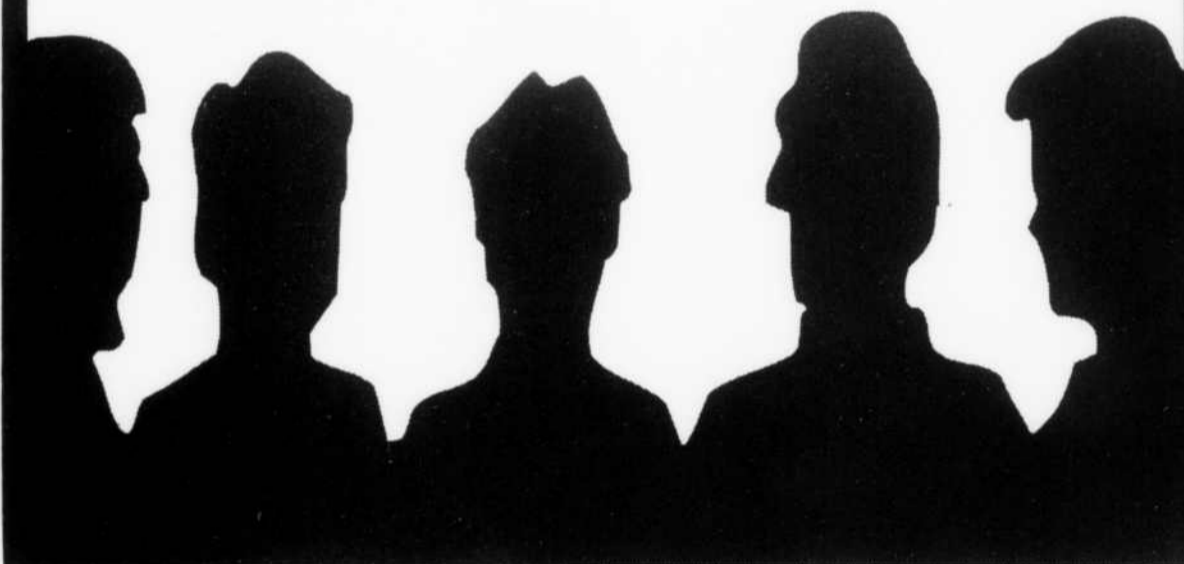


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