

SIDELINES

Batman Forever

Latest transaction in the lucrative business of Batman movies

Blues: The latest from Pointblank

Columnist in Alaska

Dave Barry visits the last frontier, finding beer and other wild things



Dave Barry, page 10

THE COMPUTER NUMBER ONE

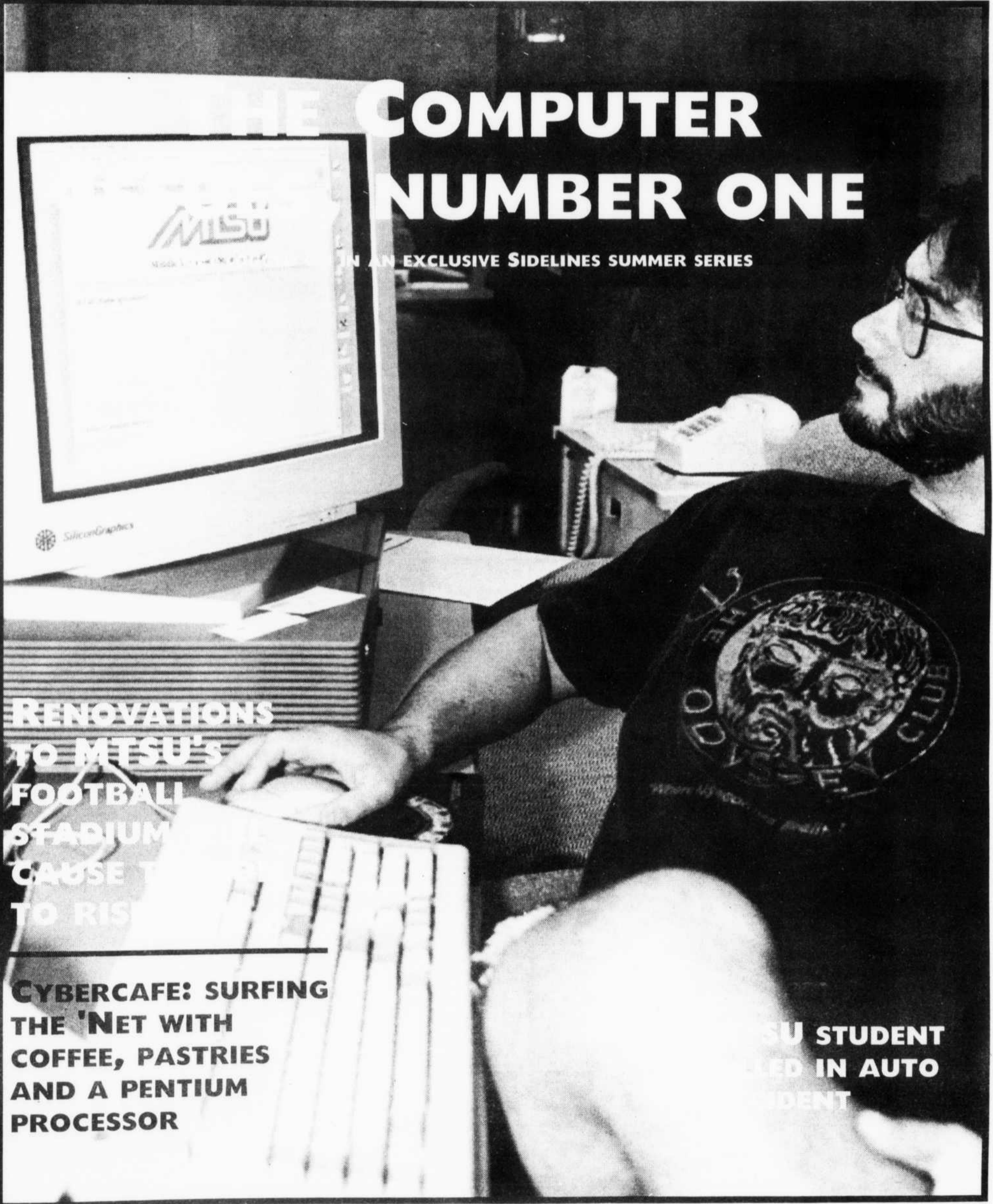
IN AN EXCLUSIVE SIDELINES SUMMER SERIES



RENOVATIONS TO MTSU'S FOOTBALL STADIUM CAUSE TO RISE

CYBERCAFE: SURFING THE 'NET WITH COFFEE, PASTRIES AND A PENTIUM PROCESSOR

MTSU STUDENT KILLED IN AUTO ACCIDENT



INSIDELINES

Letters Policy

Letters to the editor should be no more than 200 words long, and should contain sender's name, campus box number or e-mail address. *Sidelines* reserves the right to edit

letters for clarity. Send letters to MTSU Box 42 or e-mail to one of the addresses listed in the box at right. Please clearly mark all electronic correspondence "letter to the editor."

JUNE 14

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Asbestos: suit looms on horizon

Labor Department threatens suit if MTSU does not meet certain criteria concerning a former housing employee who claims MTSU is not following proper asbestos removal procedures. **Mark Blevins** investigates. Page 3

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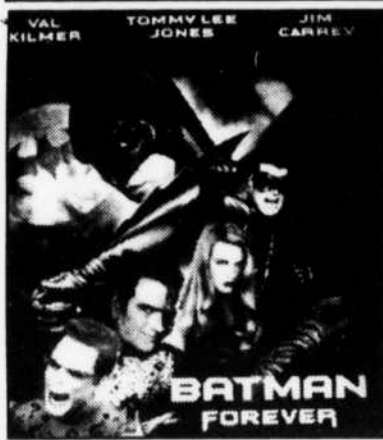
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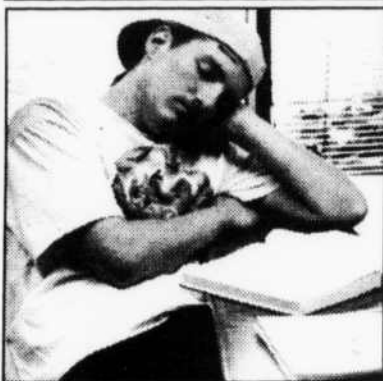
Viewpoints & Opinions

Will we have an empty stadium?

Warren Wakeland expresses concern that renovations to the MTSU football stadium are a grossly unnecessary expense. What do you think? Page 10



New release, *Batman Forever*, is "like watching a comic book." Page 8



Sleeping in class? Page 3

Features

THE INTERNET NUMBER ONE

We decided it was high time *Sidelines* provided the information MTSU students need to know about the Internet. In part one of this series, **Andy Frantz** gets you logged on. Page 5

Cybercafe

Cybercafes--coffee shops that provide Internet access--are popping up across the country and around the world. In this issue, **Brent Andrews** explores *Bean Central* in Nashville, the world's 29th cybercafe. Page 6

FROM THE EDITOR...



Moving through crowds is an art form. Just like painting, photography and great poetry, moving through a tightly packed crowd requires style, an eye for detail, and good form. You must be willing to let yourself go, to progress at whatever rate your limitations will allow; you cannot be impatient, or lazy, or un-motivated. If you don't take advantage of opportunities that are presented to you, you might just miss out on a great achievement, a golden moment in your life.

If this is true, then I became Vincent Van Gogh Saturday night at Nashville's latest den of debauchery, the Music City Mix Factory (*The South's Ultimate Entertainment Complex*). The place was packed from the entrance on Second Avenue to the dance floor on the third level. Everywhere there were people milling about, dancing and chatting the night away to the beat of dance mix hits. Moving through the throng, I gyrated this way and that: Here a swing of the hips to dodge a waitress carrying a tray of drinks; there a shoulder twist to make way for a drunken man stumbling toward the end of the night. I was one with the crowd, doing a lithe dance to the thump of surrounding speakers, the beat of the crowd.

I did make one mistake, though. I spilled a bit of icy-cold water down the back of a girl walking in front of me when I was pushed from behind. I apologized profusely, but that wasn't enough. She was really mad, and nothing I could say could make it okay that I accidentally spilled water on her. I didn't know what to do. It was like she wanted me to cut off my index finger to show her that I was sorry. I didn't have time for her madness, so I told her (with a flood of expletives I keep in the back of my mind for just such occasions) to go die. Her boyfriend didn't like that, but a fresh flood of expletives was waiting for him when he complained. I was Expletive Man there for a while.

When things calmed down I went back to what I was doing before--making trips back and forth from the bar to where my wife was standing with gallons and gallons of us carrying lots of cool and refreshing liquid football jerseys, except that the players happened to be my friend and his friend Stéphane.

I eventually found that it was just a hot, sticky, and

dance floor in these little excursions, but soon the floor was so crowded that this became dangerous, so I went back to the sardinely-packed mob. At least they weren't threatening me with hips and flailing arms, though I did have to dodge the occasional cigarette.

Without the weapons that my wife uses to move through tight crowds, "breasts and a lit cigarette," I was nearly helpless, but I did have a couple of weapons of my own: A smile worked well in some particularly tight spots; the occasional "excuse me" didn't fare too badly either. All in all, the Mix was a cool place, and if you don't mind big crowds and loud music I recommend it highly as a good place to spend an evening. If you go alone, though, don't forget to take a healthy supply of condoms. As the now-household statement from the movie *Forrest Gump* might have said (if it had been written to serve different purposes), "large, amorous crowds are kind of like a box of chocolates--you never know what you're gonna' get."

But you know *exactly* what you're going to get from this issue of *Sidelines*. This week we start a series on the Internet--network of networks--that will explain how you can get connected FREE through MTSU to the net. The story on page 5, brought to you by Staff Writer **Andy Frantz**, will enlighten you with information on such things as e-mail, getting hooked up to frank or knuth, what the World Wide Web has to offer, what a browser is and some helpful do's and don't's of IRC (Internet Relay Chat). For those of you who know about the Net this story might be interesting; for those of you who don't know about it, this story will be an easy-to-understand introduction to this vast supply of information.

Also in this issue, News Editor **Mark Blevins** will bring you news that matters to you as MTSU students; Reviews and Events Editor **Chris Patterson** will bring you the usual reviews, and as always, photo editor **Don Goins** has been working hard to document campus life for your eyes. So move on through these pages. We'll see you there.

And by the way, *Sidelines* is submitted for your professor

Brent Andrews
Editor in Chief

SIDE LINES

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News & Notes

In Brief High School graduates who are planning to attend MTSU may be eligible for one of two MTSU Honors Program Freshman Scholarships. The scholarships, \$3,750 each, will be awarded to two freshmen who have an ACT composite score of at least 26. Applicants must write a 300-500 word essay on the topic: "If you could now restructure your high school education, what changes would you make?"

Finalists may be invited to campus for an interview by the Honors Scholarship Committee.

Interested students can obtain an application from the Honors Office in Peck Hall at MTSU.

Applicant with other full scholarship will be ineligible for this scholarship.

TBR grants MTSU \$65 fee increase

Governing board also approves tuition increase

MARK BLEVINS
Sidelines

MTSU got what it asked for last week—a \$65 increase a semester in student activity fees to fund the renovation of the Floyd football stadium and Horace Jones Field.

The Tennessee Board of Regents (TBR) approved

MTSU's proposed budget along with a state-wide TBR tuition increase of 3 percent recommended by the Tennessee Higher Education Commission. The tuition increase amounts to \$24 more a semester for undergraduate students, \$32 for graduate students and represents the lowest of its kind in five years.

Student activity fees would increase from \$15 to \$85 to increase the stadium's capacity from 15,000 to around 30,000-35,000.

Earl Thomas, executive assistant to the president,

estimated the total cost for the renovation of the stadium at \$20-\$25 million.

Ed Given Jr., director of sports information, estimated the renovation would begin no sooner than after the 1996 football season. No date has been established yet as the planning for the work has not begun. After the plans are made, they will have to be approved by the state building commission and by TBR.

Renovating the stadium is linked with the university's master plan for

athletics, according to Thomas.

Part of that master plan is bringing all of MTSU sports to a NCAA I-A level by 2000, though Thomas and Given said this renovation is not directly related to having a division football team at this point. There is currently no plan for conversion to the higher level.

Justification for expanding capacity for a stadium that never reaches its current capacity lies partly in an administration theory.

Thomas said that President James Walker and those working with the president believe that a larger stadium will enable the university to attract football teams that draw larger audiences. This will be done with hopes of

The four parts of the athletic master plan at MTSU

■ Student athletes meet or exceed graduation rate of all NCAA A-1 teams by the year 2000.

■ MTSU be competitive in all sports in NCAA I-A by year 2000.

■ MTSU become the national center for training in sports communication.

■ MTSU create a new level of pride by having recognized athletic programs.

Source: Earl Thomas, executive assistant to the president

enhancing campus weekend life, Thomas said.

Another part of the **see fees, page 4**

MTSU may face lawsuit by department of labor

Labor department telling MTSU to rehire fired worker

MARK BLEVINS
Sidelines

MTSU could be facing a lawsuit brought by the Tennessee Department of Labor unless the university meets certain criteria concerning a former housing employee.

Department of Labor Commissioner Alphonso R. Bodie recently sent a letter to the chancellor of the Tennessee Board of Regents outlining what actions MTSU must take concerning

former housing employee Charles F. Johnson.

Johnson's employment with MTSU housing was terminated in July 1994 for **Shewmake** under the terms of his contract, according to Ramona Taylor, director of Human Resource Services. The standard employment contract for MTSU is such that an employment can be terminated "for any reason or no reason," Taylor said.

Johnson says his employment was terminated



Shewmake

for speaking out against some instances of asbestos removal from dormitories.

The Labor Department's letter states "Mr. Johnson had exercised his rights under the TOSHA [Tennessee Occupational Safety and Health Administration] Act by complaining to management

"The real story here is not me...it is that MTSU...has used student workers to remove asbestos."

Charles F. Johnson, former housing employee

about occupational exposure to asbestos, and further by complaining that management, and the MTSU Safety Office, had taken little or no corrective action despite his previous complaints."

"In his present complaint, Mr. Johnson submitted a transcript of his pre-termination conference along with other evidence tending to show that his dismissal was in retaliation for activities protected under the TOSHA Act," the letter states.

The letter goes on to state MTSU must reinstate Johnson, confirm full seniority benefits as though Johnson had never left, pay Johnson full back salary, expunge his record of any reference to his discharge and post notices concerning employees' rights to file complaints under the TOSHA Act.

If MTSU does not do this by a July 15 deadline, the Labor Department says it

see housing, page 7

Student dies in car crash

KRYS SPAIN
Sidelines

On Wed., June 14, just four days after her 19th birthday, MTSU freshman Sayphonh (Stacy) Chanthara lost her life in a car accident on Franklin Road.

Chanthara, of Cross Creek Road, and Loy Southivongsa, 16, of Annelle Road died at the scene of the accident that occurred at 10 a.m. on Wed. morning, near Franklin Road Baptist Church.

Sisanh Nit Chanthaboun, 17, Chanthara's cousin, and 17-year-old Anong Sengsavang of White Haven Rd. were injured in the accident. They were treated at Middle Tennessee Medical Center. Chanthaboun has been released and Sengsavang is in stable condition.

Chanthara and the others were heading towards Franklin when Chanthaboun, who was driving the 1990 BMW, had to swerve in order to avoid a collision with a tractor-trailer truck.

Chanthara is survived by her father, Soy Chanthara, and her mother, Chanphenh; also by two sisters: Pat and Batsana; and three brothers: Art, Attie, and Artie. She was the youngest of six children.

Chanthara's funeral was held on Saturday, June 17, at 1:00 at Woodfin Funeral Home on Tennessee Blvd.

"There were approximately 300 people at the funeral. Nit was there, she wasn't sure she could sit through the funeral, but I comforted her and told her that she could do it," said her cousin, Many Boualaphanh.

Chanthara was originally from Laos. She and her family moved to the United States when she was

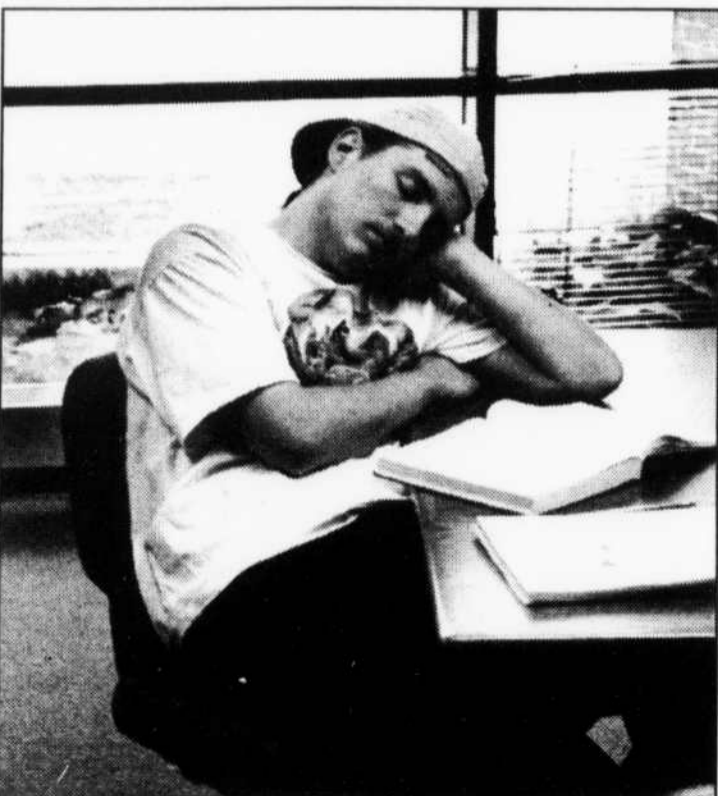
3. After living in the United States for 16 years, she had been planning to pursue citizenship.

"She had a lot ahead of her, she was going to go get a citizenship on June 20," said Boualaphanh. "No one expected this to happen. She was very nice and willing to help anyone, a great friend. She'll be missed by everyone." ■



Chanthara

A remedy for the summertime blues



Don Goins/Photo Editor

James Gilehrst in deep study recently in the Mass Comm building.

Asbestos work continues

MARK BLEVINS
Sidelines

Asbestos abatement projects in Miss Mary and McHenry dormitories began the last week in May and are the only such projects this summer, according to MTSU Director of Facilities Services Bill Smotherman.

Ceiling material and old, non-functioning heating pipes are being removed from the women's dormitories under two separate contracts with Environmental Abatement Inc. (EAI) from Hendersonville, Tenn.

Furniture and air conditioning units have been taken out to facilitate removal of the asbestos material.

MTSU Safety Officer Terry Logan said the removal is being done in accordance with federal regulations. MTSU's asbestos abatement procedures are currently being reviewed by the Tennessee Occupational Safety and Health Administration (TOSHA), according to TOSHA officials.

The removal contracts were awarded to EAI at \$79,410 for McHenry Hall and \$65,690 for Miss Henry Hall, Smotherman said. This includes the removal and re-attachment of the air conditioning units. The housing department moved the furniture.

There is a separate contract for the reapplication of the ceiling material.

Lyon Hall, which is between the two dormitories, is not receiving work because

there is no asbestos in the ceiling material, according to Smotherman.

Work began in the halls during the last week of May and is scheduled to be finished before residents move in for the fall semester, Smotherman said.

The mechanical rooms in the halls are not being removed of any possible asbestos. Smotherman said the primary aim of the abatement process is to remove asbestos from areas where students, residents and other people unfamiliar with asbestos will be present.

Asbestos is also routinely removed around campus when non-related projects create a need to disturb asbestos, Smotherman said. Asbestos poses a hazard when it becomes airborne.

No comprehensive understanding of where asbestos is on campus or when it will be removed exists currently, according to Smotherman. The state did a survey in 1984, but Smotherman said the survey is "a little outdated" and needs to be reconfirmed.

Currently Smotherman's office is searching for a campus hygienist whose responsibilities would include oversight of asbestos identification on campus and coordinate its removal.

Smotherman said his office hired a hygienist, but that person decided to remain with his previous employer after receiving a raise in pay.

Ezell Hall is scheduled as the next major asbestos abatement project which Smotherman hopes will be done next summer. ■

FEES

continued from page 3

justification lies in some surveys related to the master plan for athletics.

Thomas said three open forums and four separate sessions with various campus organizations including the Student Government Association held last spring showed positive response for implementing the plan.

A survey conducted by Jack Forrest showed positive response for football team conversion to NCAA I-A, according to Forrest. He is chairman of the athletic master plan marketing committee and MTSU associate professor of management and marketing.

Forrest's survey was conducted on a random sample of students and alumni and all of MTSU faculty.

Forrest said the groups were asked if they thought MTSU football should make the move to I-A and were not asked about stadium renovation or how it should be funded. Thomas said he was not sure if plans for funding the conversion and stadium renovation were discussed at the open

forums.

Thomas said the other three parts of the master plan are: 1) for student athletes to meet or exceed graduation rates of all NCAA I-A athletes by the year 2000; 2) for MTSU to become the national center for training sports communication by 2000; and 3) to create a new level of pride by recognized athletic programs.

Funding for the stadium renovation would come from a state bond issue which the university would pay from student activity fees, according to Bob Adams, vice president of the business office. Adams said the university must have enough money for the first year of payment before the bonds are sold.

The stadium was built in 1933 and last renovated in 1971, according to Given. He said the restrooms and concession areas are "sub-par, at best."

MTSU is part of the TBR higher education system. The other system is the University of Tennessee Board of Trustees. The Tennessee Higher Education Commission oversees them both. ■

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Getting hooked up to the Internet is not as hard as it might seem

ANDY FRANTZ
Staff Writer

The Internet. If you already know what it is and how to use it, you probably aren't reading this. You're probably online right now, looking up valuable information like how to brew the best beer or the name of your favorite Seinfeld episode. Sounds like fun, huh? If only you had thousands of dollars to spend on getting on the Internet yourself. A few thousand dollars doesn't seem unreasonable considering you could be linked to millions of people and their computers, worldwide.

Getting hooked up to the Internet may not be as expensive as you think. In fact, it is free. Well, almost free. As long as you are an MTSU student, which we all know is not free, you have access to the greatest worldwide communications circus to date. Why do I say circus? Because it is a virtually unregulated gateway to millions of pictures, sounds, information, people, and anything else you can and can't think of.

The best way to find out what is on the Internet is to set a few days aside and sit down at a computer and wander through the vast, virtual Internet space. This is where MTSU comes in. All you have to do is go to the Office of Information Technology located in the basement of the JUB.

Tell them you want an account on frank or knuth, show them your student I.D., and in 24 hours you will be ready to go. You'll receive a handout that describes the steps of logging on and some basic commands. The handout also gives the telephone numbers for dialing in from your home computer. Of course, you don't need your own computer, as you can take advantage of the computer labs on campus. If you can get yourself logged in, you're well on your way to Internet ecstasy.

One of the most popular features of the Internet is the **World Wide Web**. The WWW lets you view "pages" known as **hypertext** documents. Hypertext allows you to go from one page to another by simply clicking on words or pictures. Speaking of pictures, that is one problem with the access here at MTSU—no graphics. you can, of course, pay for services where you can get the graphical interface for about \$20 a month or you could simply transfer to another school that provides that service.

WWW pages are viewed with a **browser**. The browser at MTSU is called Lynx. Once you are logged on to frank or knuth, just type *lynx* and you'll be connected to the World Wide Web. By highlighting something, like the MTSU Home Page, and

About this series...

The world is getting smaller and smaller every day. It used to take months to move information from places as far apart as Australia and the United States. Today, information is exchanged almost immediately over computer networks that spread to every corner of the world.

In 1984, there were approximately 1,000 computers connected to the Internet. By 1987, that number had increased to 10,000. Two years later to 100,000. In 1992, there were over 1,000,000 computers exchanging information over the Information Superhighway.

As of 1993 the World Wide Web, discussed in the story below, had an annual service-traffic growth rate of 341,634%. It's hard to imagine how many people will be using the Web to access information in five years--or ten years. For today's student, it's becoming more and more convenient to access university libraries, useful research information and other students over the Internet. Whether it's through use of e-mail, the Web or *real-time* chat lines, we have the opportunity today to know our neighbors around the world like we never have before. Perhaps this will lead to a better understanding of different cultures, and to less conflict between citizens of the world. The Internet makes possible better collaborative research efforts that may lead to cures to illnesses such as AIDS and cancer.

The world is changing rapidly, and it's important for today's student to keep up with the changes. That's why we're bringing you this series. Look for it on Wednesdays, only in *Sidelines*.

pressing the *enter* key, you will be directly connected to that page. Incidentally, from the MTSU Home Page, you can search for a student's or faculty's **e-mail** address.

E-mail (electronic mail) is another popular Internet feature. You are able to send messages to people around the world and, unlike regular mail (known as snail mail, or s-mail, to regulars on the net), it takes only seconds to send a letter to a friend thousands of miles away. A good e-mail interface at MTSU is called Pine. Whenever you want to send mail, or if you get a message that you have incoming mail, just type *pine* and you will see a self-explanatory menu. As an example of an e-mail address, here is mine at MTSU:

rip001c@mtsu.edu.

Internet Relay Chat (**IRC**) is a great way to talk to people all over the world.

You simply type your conversations with other people on the same channel. There are hundreds of channels to join, or you can begin your own channel. There are some acronyms and symbols that are used quite frequently by the regulars on the IRC. A couple of these are "lol" (laughing out loud) and ":-)", which is a smiley face if you tilt your head to the left. If you spend any time at all on the IRC you will pick up on the nuances very quickly.

Some words of warning about the IRC: As I said before, the Internet is virtually unregulated. This means that anyone can say anything they want. In other words, if you are easily offended you should be careful of the channels you choose to enter. On the other hand, if you aren't afraid to speak freely, you can be "kicked" from a channel if you are less than flattering to the other

members of that channel.

The Internet is not just used for fun. There is endless information on just about any subject. Freeware and Shareware can also be downloaded along with informative text files. File Transport Protocol (**FTP**) is a method used to accomplish downloads. When you find a file you wish to acquire, which can be a very tedious process, you may request that it be sent to your computer. There are some great graphic files and sound files out there, you just have to look to find them. If you are going to do much file transferring, it would be advisable to have a good anti-virus program because "you never know what you're gonna' get."

Gopher is an Internet feature that makes it a little easier to find files that you are looking for. You are able to search many gopher servers with a word or words that describe what you need. Just type "gopher" at the system prompt to begin your search.

Overwhelming, isn't it? That is what I thought when I first began reading about all of the Internet's features. Once you try it though, you get instantly pulled in to Cyberspace and all of its conventions. After a few hours on the net you'll be helping other "newbies" (newcomers to the Internet) learn how to use IRC.

Next week, after you have had a chance to get to the office of Information Technology and get online, I'll tell you some of the more interesting and/or informative places to visit on the Internet and I'll also tell you some of the problems of the network of the world known as the Internet. ■

Editor's note: Andy Frantz is a CSCI major at MTSU.

IMPORTANT TERMS

Here are some definitions* that you will find useful when reading stories in our Internet series:

World Wide Web (W3; Web)- A hypertext-based navigation tool for the Internet that was started in 1991 at the European Lab for Particle Physics (CERN) in Switzerland.

Browser- A computer program such as Mosaic or Netscape that helps users work with the World Wide Web by displaying documents and making links between computing sites.

Lynx- A text-based Web browser.

Mosaic- A graphical Web browser that can display Web documents in hypermedia format; that is, it can be used to view text, images and video and to listen to audio.

Modem- A means of connecting one computer to another via telephone lines.

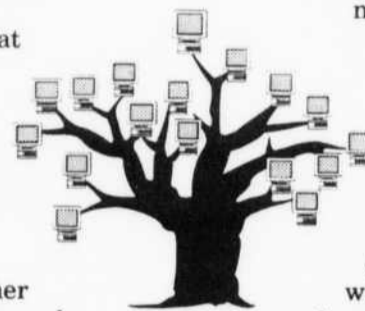
Home Page- The initial entry port into a World wide Web document. The home page may also serve as a main menu and contain references and hypertext links to related documents.

E-mail- Electronic mail is used to transfer simple documents and letters between Internet users.

Hypertext- Text in a World Wide Web document that is usually bold colored, or marked by an icon. By clicking on hypertext links, users can move from page to page on the Web without entering specific site addresses.

HTML- Hypertext Markup Language, a language used in writing documents for the World Wide Web.

*Some Information obtained from *The Communicator*, the newspaper of the MTSU Office of Information Technology.



Nashvilles only cybercafe offers Internet cruising, coffee drinking

The 29th cybercafe in the world, Bean Central provides futuristic entertainment in Nashville

BRENT ANDREWS
Editor in Chief

When Joe Dougherty got his first computer in 1983, the idea of integrating computers and coffee was nearly ten years away. He started using his IBM PC (with a 360K floppy drive and a monochrome monitor), with a bit of added memory, to run Lotus 123.

He taught himself how to use Lotus, learning by trial and error, and managed to keep up with technology into the 1990's as the Internet became ever more popular.

The computers are different now. In his coffee shop on West End Avenue in Nashville—Bean Central—Dougherty has two \$2300 75 megahertz pentiums with 16 megs of RAM and 64-bit graphics cards (which make the 15" monitors as clear and sharp as a television set) that run Windows for Workgroups. The computers are connected to the World Wide Web through a Nashville company called ISDN-NET, using an ISDN line—which is designed for digital transmission of

information—to move through the pages of the Web with lots of speed (something you will appreciate if you are used to waiting for graphics to download over a standard modem connection). For use of the computers, Bean Central charges \$2 for 30 minutes of online time.

Bean Central was the 29th cybercafe in the world (14th in the U.S.), and the 25th to get its own Web home page. When Bean Central began offering computer services to customers eight weeks ago, it gave Nashville a service offered in other, somewhat more progressive cities like Portland, Ore., San Francisco, London, New York and Melbourne, Australia. In an e-mail interview, Dougherty explained the process through which the Bean Central Home Page on the Web was built.

"First you need an account with a provider," he wrote in the interview. "Then it is a matter of creating words and images in a language called HTML. It stands for Hyper Text Markup Language."

Dougherty said that the idea of cybercafes is growing,

and that he gets lots of questions from other coffee shops interested in providing Internet access to their customers.

"The growth of cafes with Internet connections is

"Essentially any question you have--if asked intelligently--can be answered on the Internet"

Joe Dougherty, owner Bean Central

exploding," he wrote. "I get several inquiries every week. I see the interface to the Web as becoming ubiquitous."

The computers at Bean Central can be used to send mail to anyone with an Internet address, and can also be used to telnet to accounts you have access to. Users can gopher (locate, view and retrieve information) this way as well. Dougherty said that

Bean Central has just acquired software that will allow users to use chat lines (talking to other Internet users in "real time") and run other programs.

The computers at Bean Central are also helpful to artists, who can use Photoshop to participate in "panics" (collaborative works of art) on OTIS, an Internet group designed for these collaborative efforts.

But the major attraction of the Bean Central computers is the World Wide Web, which can be used for learning and for fun, for cruising around the world and for getting answers to questions.

"You can exchange ideas or read other people's ideas, especially in the newsgroups that are available on thousands of subjects," Dougherty wrote.

"Essentially any question you have—if asked intelligently—can be answered on the Internet."

When asked if Bean Central customers were there for work or for pleasure, Dougherty said

that the two can often be the same thing.

"If you have a good job, work and play are the same thing. It is a mixture."

But Bean Central, Dougherty reminds me, is first and foremost a coffee roaster. Roasting coffees from all over the world since 1986, Bean Central offers wholesale prices for shipment to the Eastern United States.

"We take great pride in the quality of our coffee," Dougherty wrote. "We of course sell our beans at Bean central. They come from all the major (and minor) coffee regions of the world, from Ethiopia to New Guinea. [We have] light roasts and dark roasts and super-dark roasts."

Dougherty said that students are welcome anytime, adding that Bean Central's busiest hours are in the mornings, with an afternoon rush and a late-night rush. So far, there have been no accidental coffee

see Bean, page 7



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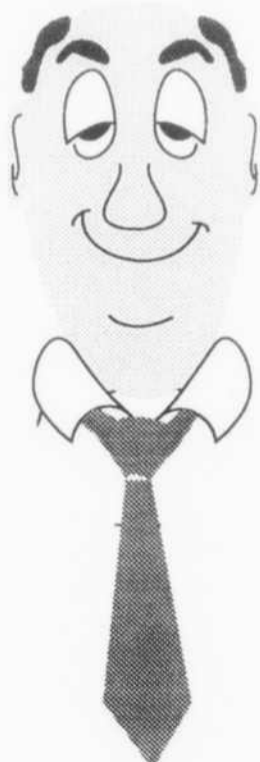
- #10-\$30.00 your first donation—who could argue with that?
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BEAN

continued from page 6

spills on the computers at Bean Central, but Dougherty isn't naive enough to think that it will never happen.

"We are waiting for that," he wrote.

Dougherty sees a bright future for computer communications, and wrote about telephone booths that will allow customers to immediately access to the Internet.

"Soon—and I heard someone already saw these in San Francisco—you will find telephones that are also monitors and keyboards and video stations. You will log on and view your e-mail, video conference, check

travel arrangements, check the weather, whatever, in addition to just being able to use the phone."

Bean Central is located at 2817 West End Avenue in Park Place shopping center (across from Comptons grocery store). Its hours are 7 am to 11 pm Wednesday through Saturday, and 7 am to 6 pm Sunday and Tuesday. If you would like to visit the Bean Central Home Page for more information, its World Wide Web address is:

<<http://www.bean.isdn.net/bean>>. Joe Dougherty can be contacted at: <jodo@edge.ercnet.com>. ■

HOUSING

continued from page 3

will file suit on Johnson's behalf. The suit will be filed based on "a prima facie showing that MTSU has violated the statute by discharging him in retaliations," the letter stated.

Wendy Thompson, legal assistant to the president, said the university has not made the decision whether to reinstate Johnson or stand by the decision to terminate his employment and go to court.

In an interview this week, Johnson said his reinstatement is not the real issue.

"The real story here is not me and not me coming back, it is that MTSU and [the Housing Department]

has used student workers to remove asbestos," Johnson said.

He says students have done work without warning or training.

"The story is that some activities went on that may have endangered thousands of people."

Johnson claims that some methods of removing asbestos were not done according to TOSHA standards.

Housing Director Ivan Shewmake denies the claims saying that the department has used Law Engineering, an environmental consulting firm, to oversee the removal and that TOSHA has kept a close eye on the work.

"We are not going to do anything that's going to put any student or resident at risk," Shewmake said.

Officials at TOSHA said MTSU's asbestos abatement procedures are currently under review.

Johnson has a \$500,000 claim with the state for "stress caused by concern over potential damage caused by asbestos exposure and by my termination because I reported the improper asbestos removal to TOSHA," according to the claim report.

Johnson also has two other civil suits out against housing employees. One is against Shewmake and one is against area coordinator Richard Smith related to asbestos exposure.

Johnson worked six years for MTSU Housing. He was an area coordinator for five of those years. ■

CYBERCAFES AROUND THE WORLD

ICON Byte Bar & Grill, San Francisco, CA

Internet Cafe, Scranton, PA

The Habit, Portland, OR

Cybersmith, Cambridge, MA

The Coffee Gallery, San Antonio, TX

@Cafe, East Village, NY

Cappuccino Caffe Surf Station, Allentown, PA

Speakeasy Cafe, Seattle, WA

Eek-A-Greek, Toronto, Canada

CyberPerk, Ottawa, Canada

Cafe Electronique, Montreal, Canada

C@FE INTERNET, Copenhagen, Denmark

Cafe Stein, Vienna, Austria

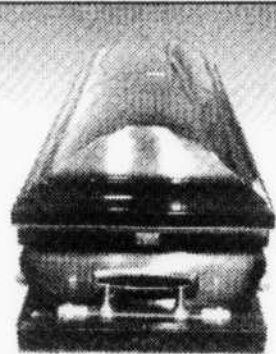
Internet Yourself, Brussels, Belgium

Das Computerhaus Internet Cafe, Salzburg, Austria

Look for more on computer networks, the Internet and the World Wide Web in the next issue of Sidelines

CHAOS by Brian Shuster

Unlike their European cousins, African Killer-Chickens are feared by all who know them.

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Reviews & Events

In Brief

Legendary rock group KISS kicked off its first official worldwide KISS Convention on June 17 in Los Angeles. The convention will make 23 U.S. stops and give lifetime fans a chance to revisit the past, experience the present, and look ahead to the future of KISS.

KISS who over the course of their career have sold over 70 million albums, with 25 of these certified gold, are now only one gold record away from the all-time high set by The Beatles. An all-knew album is expected for a Fall 1995 release.

KISS fans should mark their calendars, the KISS Convention will be in Nashville on July 9 at the Nashville Convention Center.

Batman Forever is like a comic book

DAN JORDAN
Staff Writer

If you enjoy seeing elaborate settings, props and perspectives, then "Batman Forever" is the perfect movie for you. Unfortunately, the comic-book nature of this movie allows for little else.

The characters are portrayed by excellent actors; such as Val Kilmer and Tommy Lee Jones, but the roles they portray are typically stiff and underdeveloped.

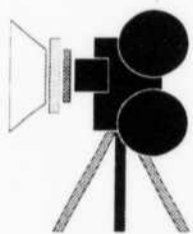
The exception to this is Jim Carrey as the Riddler and Chris O'Donnell as Robin. After watching the movie, you have more of an understanding of who these two characters are: the frustrated adolescent filled with a sense of both justice and vengeance, and the highly ambitious and

"Unfortunately, the comic-book nature of this movie allows for little else."

resenting scientist/madman. Jones' character, on the other hand is absolutely unbelievable.

The subtle blend of camera direction and computer enhanced images renders a three-dimensional view and makes the film worth at least renting; but worth paying six dollars for to the avid film buff.

Overall "Batman Forever" is a good movie if you go expecting to see a two-hour animated comic book, rather than a fleshed-out suspense story. On a scale of one to five jumping catfish, I give "Batman Forever" a three. ■



DON GOINS/Photo Editor

Batman Forever poster at Stones River Mall Cinema shows Val Kilmer as Batman.

Events Around TOWN

Tonight

-Blu Greene at 527 Mainstreet
-The Nationals at the Boro

Thursday

-The Apes at 527 Mainstreet
-Autumn Lords at the Boro

Friday

-Cusp, Bad Karma and Dancing with Norma at 527 Mainstreet
-Redstone at the Boro
-Bob Batts and Rich Reagan at Comedy on the Square

Saturday

-Bullet and Dusty Jane at 527 Mainstreet
-Static Trip at the Boro
-Bob Batts and Rich Reagan at Comedy on the Square

Reviews of the Absurd

Family vacation brings back childhood memories

JASON YOUNG
Staff Writer

Ranging between the size of the restroom on a U.S. Air 747 and the glove compartment of my '78 Impala, there is a lake-side town named Iuka (EYE-YOU-KA), Miss.

This I was told by my beautiful, voluptuous and all around Eve of my Garden girlfriend, Shannon, would be the place where would spend a weekend relaxing at a lake house.

I've always heard small towns can be a breeding ground for romance, so my mind began to reel with the possibilities. I had already said I would go when in her next breath, she informed me that we would be accompanied by 16 family

members.

At that moment, I felt the sensation of being smacked by cool lake water without even leaving Murfreesboro.

It was true. Shannon were going to the tropical paradise of Pickwick Lake and her Dad, Mom, Aunt, Uncle, Cousins and seven in-laws would be our chaperons. So I momentarily discarded my plans for romance and decided to focus on the next best thing: food.

When you are hungry in Iuka, you gotta go the the Tennessee side of the lake and eat at the state park. This, I was told by various members of our party, was the next best thing to Charlie Tuna himself.

They had catfish, shrimp, some other kind of fish I was afraid to eat and the fresh catch of the day: Country Ham. Yes, sitting right next to the peel-and-eat shrimp was a steaming tray, piled high with that tender, and rare, amphibious lake hog. It tasted good anyway.

Once everyone was settled in for the night, the topic of adventure arose. "Let's rent a pontoon boat!" was the battle cry of one family member. I got about my 15th case of the cold sweats that trip thinking about what havoc 15 novice outdoorsmen could wreak on this serene and peaceful lake.

But as sure as pigs can swim, 13 members of Shannon's family were at large on one Iukian Pontoon Boat in the waters of Lake Pickwick. No one died, but a few came home wet.

What about me? Well, I really didn't know if I could handle all of the family fun of venturing out into the deep dark waters of Lake Pickwick on an Iukian pontoon boat humming across the glass-like surface on the lake to a supersonic five miles per hour.

No, they didn't need me on that boat, so I stayed at the cabin and spent some bonding time-that is

Shannon's Dad.

So much for romance. Does this sound like fun? Well, it was. This past weekend reminded me of what summers used to be like. Sitting around the house, being bored, complaining, having a terrific sunburn, and passing up on fun things just because you want to be alone. It kinda made me feel like a spoiled twelve year-old (as opposed to being a spoiled 21 year-old). Yes Iuka gets a nine out of ten from this reporter, even if I didn't ride the pontoon with Shannon's family. It was actually doing them a favor. After eating all of that fresh water hog, I would have sunk the boat. ■



Doggone Blues Sampler wide sampling of Blues

WARREN WAKELAND
Staff Writer

Doggone Blues Sampler
Point Bland Records

Blues is a great form of music. It can be played very fast, very slow or anywhere in between and you still get the same meaning from the music.

There are many different forms of blues music, but they all put across the same message of tough times. No other style of music captures its meaning quite the way blues music screams what it is all about.

When a record company puts out a "best of" type of blues release, it usually involves one particular form of the blues, be it Chicago blues, Memphis blues, St. Louis blues or any of the thousands of other forms in blues music.

Pointblank Records has released a "best of" album that not only includes different styles of blues, but also covers the different eras of the blues.

Doggone Blues Sampler

truly is a wide sampling of what blues is, and includes some of the great names of blues generations.

The tape (not CD, which is appropriate for this piece of work) begins with the 1950s, including such legends as John Lee Hooker, Elmore James, B.B. King and the "Master of the Telecaster," the late Albert Collins. These are the men who influenced some of today's guitar wizards, such as Eddie Van Halen, Slash and Eric Clapton.

Two of the great female voices in blues music, Etta James and Hadda Brooks, also belt out tunes on the tape. Melissa Etheridge and Natalie Merchant (10,000 Maniacs) are two of today's terrific female vocalists who attribute their first love for music to these women.

The tape also includes some of today's more well-known blues artists. Duke Robillard (Room Full of Blues, The Fabulous Thunderbirds), Terry Evans (frontman for Ry Cooder) and the legendary Pops Staples (The Staples Singers) all have recent releases on this

tape.

When you play the tape and listen to the music, whether the music is fast ("Johnny Guitar," Johnny Winter), slow ("Fool's Paradise," John Hammond) or in between ("You Upset Me Baby," B.B. King), it's music you can move to.

Rap, disco, punk, hard rock, et al., is music you can dance to. You don't dance to blues, you *move* to it. You *groove* to it. I spent 55 serious minutes movin' and groovin' to this tape.

If you truly appreciate music, you need to find *Doggone Blues Sampler*. You can hear the music that got many of today's famous musicians started. I give it four guitars on a scale of one to five, only because they left off Stevie Ray Vaughn. But Pointblank is a subsidiary of Virgin Records, which does not control Vaughn's music. It's not their fault, but a work of great blues is not complete without SRV.

If you want to hear some music you can move to, pick this one up. I highly recommend it. ■



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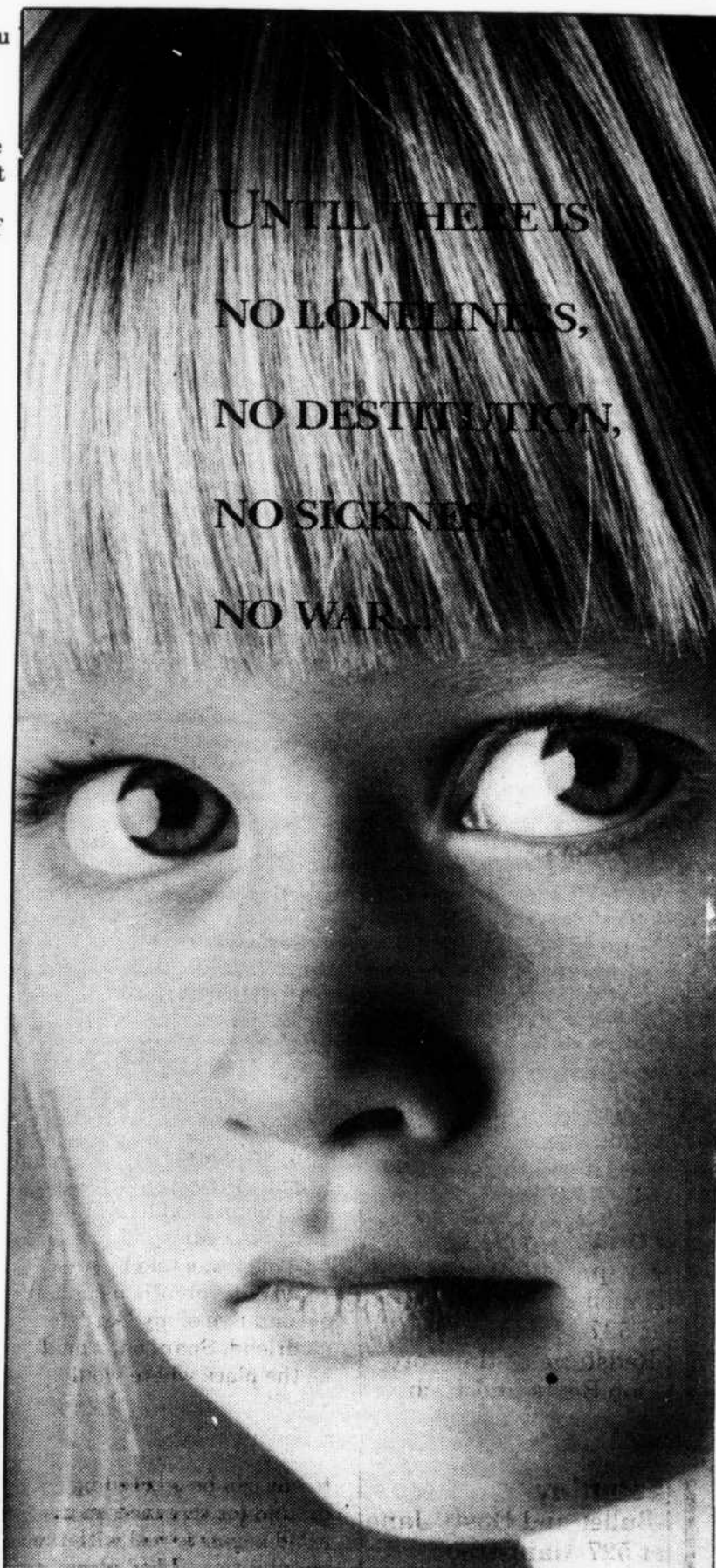
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DON GOINS/Photo Editor

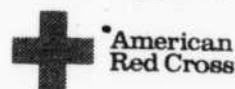
Working Dilligently

Hope Davidson paints during her figure painting class Friday night in the Art Barn.



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Viewpoints & Opinions

Letters Policy

Letters to the editor should be no more than 200 words long, and should contain sender's name, campus address or e-mail address. Sidelines reserves the right to edit letters for

clarity. Send letters to MTSU Box 42 or to the e-mail addresses listed in on the second page. All letters should be marked "letter to the editor" so that they can be distinguished from other correspondences. Sidelines will print letters as space allows.

"I have never...received an angry letter from a bear."

Land of the Frozen Earwax



DAVE BARRY

Columnist

As a lover of nature and a rugged outdoorsperson, I enjoy going to remote wilderness areas where I can relax, "recharge my batteries" and possibly be eaten. So in late April I hopped on an airplane, then another airplane, then eight or nine more airplanes, until finally I reached Alaska (Official State Motto: "Speak Up! Our Earwax Is Frozen!")

Following is Part One of a two-part report on my trip. (Part Two will appear next week.) (Both parts are tax-deductible.)

DAY ONE—I arrived in Anchorage and, as is the ancient custom in "The Land of the Midnight Sun," I had the airplane seat cushion surgically detached from my butt. It was evening, but there was still plenty of daylight left, and I knew that within just a few miles of downtown there were many spectacular unspoiled areas, virtually untouched by human civilization. So I went to a bar.

There I had a few beers with my friend Craig Medred, who splits his time between writing a column for *The Anchorage Daily News* and trying to get himself killed. Craig is a serious, by which I mean clinically insane, sportsperson. He's the kind of guy who's always heading out to

the wilderness for days at a time, crawling around in the snow, chewing pine cones for nutrition, engaging in some extremely rugged sporting challenge such as hunting wolverines with a letter opener. One time, while riding a mountain bike, he fell off a 75-foot cliff; another time, while moose-hunting, he encountered some bear cubs, and their mother—who, as fate would have it, was also a bear, but much larger—attacked and hospitalized him. ("Maul first, ask questions later," that is the mother-bear child-care philosophy.)

For the record: In all my years as a newspaper columnist, I have never so much as received an angry letter from a bear.

My evening at the bar with Craig was surreal. Maybe it was jet lag; maybe it was the general cosmic weirdness that permeates Alaska. It was definitely something. People were talking about the urban moose problem. It had been a very snow-intensive winter, even for Alaska, and there were moose wandering all over Anchorage. This can create problems, because moose, in addition to being humongous, are the disgruntled postal workers of the animal kingdom. Anchorage residents routinely call their employers and say they can't come to work right away on account of there is a moose on the porch. (Do not try this in, for example, San Diego.)

Anyway, we were sitting at the bar, complaining about the moose situation, when somebody said, very calmly, "We're having an earthquake."

"WHAT?" I said, adding:

"NOW??"

"Look at the lights," somebody said. Sure enough, the chandeliers were swinging back and forth. Nobody seemed remotely alarmed by this. People were more interested in discussing Craig's court case. It turned out that Craig had been arrested and tried on charges—I am not making this up—towing a canoe on a railroad track. I'm still hazy on the details; it had something to do with hunting ducks.

As it happened, Craig's lawyer was also in the bar (this kind of coincidence occurs often in Alaska, which has only about 150 residents total). He came over to discuss the case, which ultimately came out in Craig's favor. The lawyer said this was because Craig groveled before the judge, although Craig views the fundamental right of every American—not stated explicitly in the Constitution, but clearly implied—to tow canoes on railroad tracks.

At 10 p.m. it was still light outside, but I was exhausted, so I trudged the two blocks back to my hotel, keeping a wary eye out for moose and other dangerous urban criminal elements. Yes, Alaska does have crime. I know this because alert Alaskan reader Jenny Leguineche has sent me selected excerpts from *Dispatch Alaska*, a section of *The Anchorage Daily News* that reprints news items from other newspapers around the state. Here are some actual items:

From *The Seward Phoenix*: "Male reported that his dog was stolen from his residence and he had a ransom

note."

From *The Sitka Daily Sentinel*: "A man was reported to be beating on a boy, but the two turned out to be having a dandelion fight."

From *The Skagway News*: "A business owner reported that someone broke the hand off her mannequin. A possible suspect may be a man with a blue and yellow shirt, sandy-colored hair and a long skinny neck who walks humped over."

And finally, we have these two alarming items from *The Petersburg Pilot*:

—"A caller reported that he had received a report regarding someone speeding in a forklift at Chatham Strait Seafoods."

—"A caller reported that he had returned to his residence where he was staying and a ball was missing from the front porch. The caller stated that neighbors had seen an individual take the ball and use knives on it."

Despite this crime wave, I made it safely back to the hotel, where I was able—call it instinct—to locate my room. I immediately went to bed so as to rest my body for further Alaskan adventures, which could, I knew, require me to actually leave the hotel vicinity. But that is the price you pay when you possess the kind of pioneering spirit exemplified by men such as Lewis and Clark, both of whom—don't try to tell me this is coincidence—are dead.

TUNE IN NEXT WEEK for Part Two of this series, featuring glaciers and a terrifying encounter with Binky the Tourist-Eating Bear. ■

Earth to Fowler: We don't need a new stadium



Warren Wakeland

School Daze

What have we done to deserve this?

For those of you who have not yet heard, our beloved institution is about to be stuck us for another \$65 per semester so that we can have the privilege of watching Division I football six days a year.

Last Friday the Tennessee Board of Regents (TBR) approved MTSU's plan to expand Horace Jones Field/Johnny "Red" Floyd

Stadium (that's the football stadium, for the thousands of you who do not know this) to more than double its current size, more than 30,000 seats, in our continuing effort to gain Division I status in football.

In order to pay for this expansion, the university has decided it will raise the student activity fee 433 percent, from its current level of \$15 per semester to \$80 per semester. With the three percent in-state tuition increase to be implemented by the Tennessee Higher Education Commission, the cost per semester for an in-state undergrad will jump from \$896 to \$981, or a cost increase of 10 percent. For out-of-state students, the increase will be even more dramatic.

Of course, there will be no

democratic process (i.e.: a vote) concerning this fee increase; no say for the students. According to SGA president Shane McFarland, student voting on something like this is illegal by TBR standards. The dictatorship—uh, I mean administration—will begin screwing us this fall.

"I picked up *The Tennessean* Saturday morning and was stunned by a quote attributed to athletic director Lee Fowler. "There will be some students who won't like this, but most will favor it," Fowler says. "They want a campus life on weekends."

I will **guarantee** you, Mr. Fowler, and even wager my \$6,000 in loan checks for the 1995-96 school year, that given all the facts, the majority of students would

not favor a \$65 fee increase for this purpose if put to a vote. I sure as hell don't.

I don't believe Mr. Fowler has done his demographic homework concerning MTSU students. If he had, he would know a few things about this school and its student body which might convince him otherwise.

In case you hadn't noticed, Mr. Fowler, MTSU is a commuter school with many non-traditional students. Most students here must hold jobs in order to pay their bills and help their parents defray the enormous cost of a college education. This means they work on Saturdays, which means they won't be in your seats.

These people don't have time to care about "campus life on weekends." They

already strain to pay for college. Taking \$65 more from their pockets is a heavy burden on them, particularly for something they will never use.

Do you think all these students are going to quit their jobs to see your middle-of-the-road Division I football team six times a year? Think again.

In reality, there may be as few as 3,000 students who can attend college here and not have to work on weekends, freeing them to attend football games. Most of them couldn't care less about what the football team does, and bringing in Memphis State instead of Tennessee State will not draw their attention. And

see Daze, page 11

OPINIONS & CLASSIFIEDS

DAZE

continued from page 10

with a 30,000-seat stadium, you're not going to get any Nebraska's or Florida State's to come here.

Of those students who live in the dorms, many will go home even if you offer them top music acts in Murphy Center every weekend. Many dorm students work on weekends as well, either where their parents live or in the Murfreesboro community.

McFarland proposed that the size of the new stadium would allow MTSU to host more outdoor concerts by big-name acts like The Eagles and Pink Floyd, thus generating more revenue for the university. I don't think Pink Floyd is going to come to a 30,000-seat stadium in Murfreesboro unless they can charge \$100 per seat.

I wouldn't pay \$100 to see Jimi Hendrix, even if they could bring him back to life. Unless they were going to kill him again right after the show.

Country music acts are the only acts that could possibly fill 30,000 seats and turn a profit here, but they do not tend to favor open-air facilities. Pink Floyd almost didn't come to Vanderbilt last summer because they could only seat 43,000. They would laugh at 30K.

In case you hadn't noticed, Mr. Fowler, there is also a great deal of apathy on this campus. Few students vote in SGA elections, few attend the movies shown in the evenings, and no one attempts to hold pep rallies for the football team before the big games because they know no one will show up.

Do you really believe that going Division I means students will stay in town so they can show up in your stadium six times a year? All of a sudden MTSU is going to be Knoxville on a Saturday, right?

I don't think you are that stupid. You just haven't done your homework. Unfortunately, while you do your homework we will still have to pay the extra \$65 or be barred from attending classes. If we don't pay, our schedules are deleted. We have no choice.

Maybe.

I don't know if this is

possible, but I would like to see this fee increase challenged in court. I believe there are several grounds for overturning it. First, if a student believes this is an improper decision and does not want to pay this increased fee, the university's saying they must pay this fee or not be allowed to attend classes is a violation of our First Amendment right to freedom of expression.

Second, according to the mission of the university it will, among other things, "provide student support services that create a

campus environment conducive to learning and personal development." Athletic programs are supposed to "complement the academic program while strengthening the development of the individual student." I fail to see how taking \$65

from each student to build a stadium most will never use is conducive to learning or complementary to the academic program or the development of the individual student. In fact, the fee breaks down the development of the student by making it more difficult for the student to find time for academics due to ongoing financial needs. It will put a greater hardship on the student.

Third, by first thrusting the fee for the Student Recreation Center and now this fee for construction of a stadium expansion on students and not creating a fee for construction of an academic facility, such as a badly needed modern classroom building, the university is not fulfilling its mission to support academics and athletics evenly in order to support development of all students equally. Supposedly, creating a fee for academic support is illegal by TBR standards. If this is true, TBR needs to get its head on straight.

Division I-A football is an admirable goal. However, to not consult the students in any way before implementing the fee is just plain wrong. Hold a vote to measure student opinion before diving into this head first. If the students say it's a good idea, do it. But taking \$65 from me without asking is tantamount to theft. Ask first—maybe I'll say it's OK. ■

"I fail to see how taking \$65 from each student to build a stadium most will never use is conducive to learning..."

Warren Wakeland
MTSU Student

Classifieds

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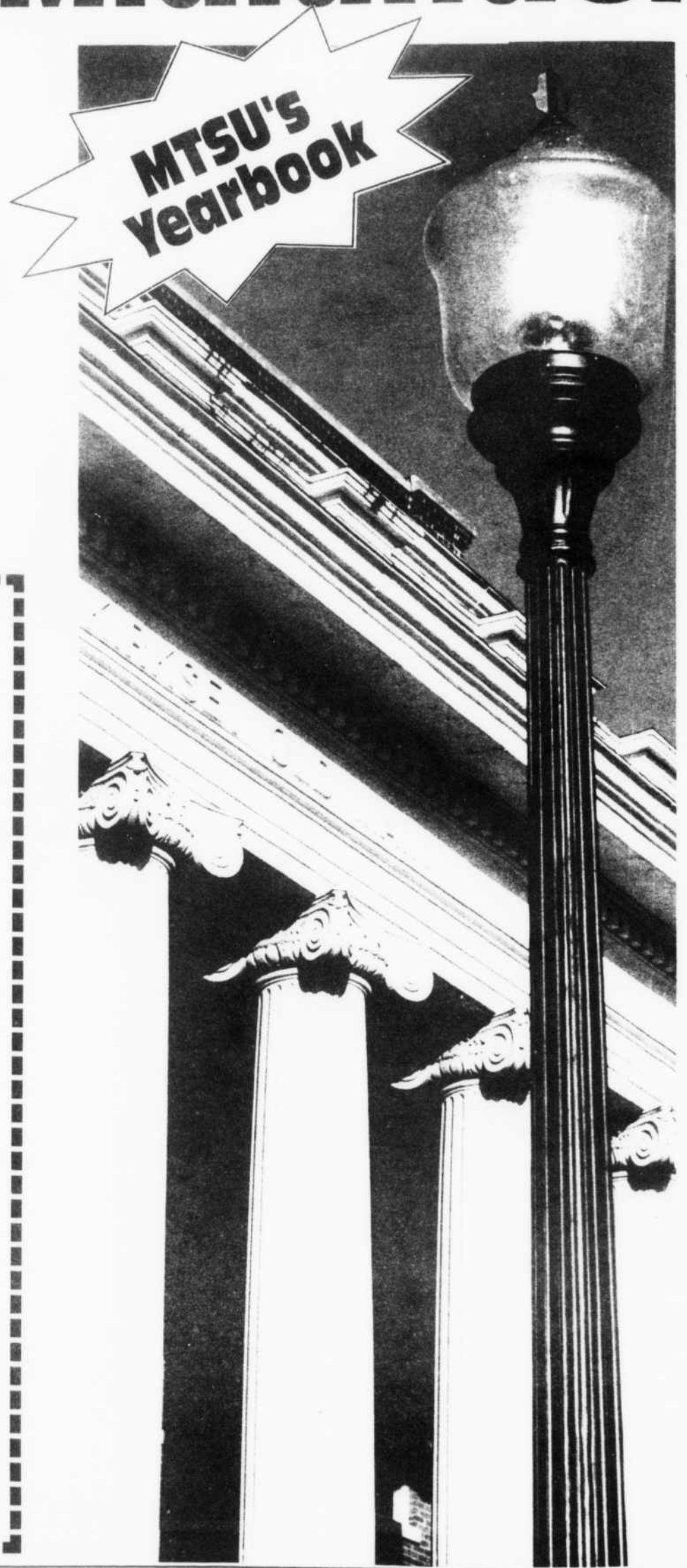
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