

SIDE LINES

Pocahontas

Disney finally creates a strong female role model

Maids of Gravity review

Columnist in Alaska

Dave Barry relates the latest disaster in the Alaskan zoo



Dave Barry, page 10

ASBESTOS REMOVAL

HOUSING REMOVES VINYL ASBESTOS FLOOR TILING



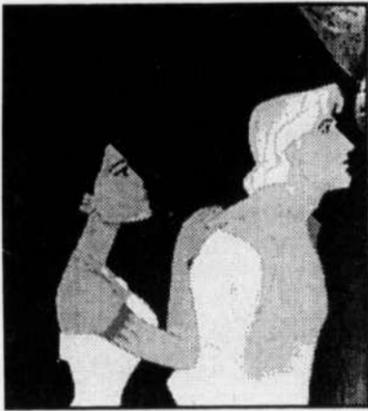
SEARCHING FOR AMERICA: STRANGE STORIES FROM NEBRASKA

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 28


Disney's new classic "Pocahontas" presents a strong female role model. Page 8

News & Notes

Protests over activity fee increase

SGA and Faculty Senate upset over the activity fee increase. MTSU breaks state asbestos removal regulations, though no danger is posed. **Mark Blevins** investigates. Page 3

Reviews & Events

Pocahontas

Disney's new film has a strong, underlying message and great animation. **Chris Patterson** reviews. Page 8

Viewpoints & Opinions

Clinton finally gets it right

Warren Wakeland delivers a scathing reply to the GOP's plan to drastically reduce funds for the student loan program. Page 10

Features

SEARCHING FOR AMERICA

Abandoning his nest for the open road, **Brent Andrews** reports from Nebraska about the oddities of Cabela's Outfitters. Page 5

Ecstasy in Cyberspace

Andy Frantz instructs how to order a pizza and Coke over the Internet. Page 6



Cabela's. Page 8

FROM THE EDITOR...



America. The word conjures up images of George Washington, the Stars and Stripes, maybe traffic choked highways and tax forms. Lessons history has taught us and lessons we learn everyday. But the real America, the one that you and I are a small but integral part of, is out there waiting to be found. While some students take summer tours of Europe, America waits to be explored, with infinite miles of highways and byways that lead to the unknown, into life lessons and new faces. Right here in America, only a few hundred miles from our doorstep here in the Boro, we have deserts and mountains, canyonlands and plains, volcanoes, great cities.

But here, like any place in the world, you have to be careful. You have to choose your destinations wisely and not get sucked into scams--like I did in a town called Little America, Wyoming.

Little America, on the vast, open plain of the Continental Divide Basin in Southwestern Wyoming, was started (I hesitate to say "founded") by a "young man" who, according to legend that is printed on every possible surface in the restaurants and hotel in Little America, was lost in a blizzard for a whole night in the place where Little America is today. While he was lost, he longed for and dreamed about a place where travelers could go for a cozy fire, a warm bed and a good meal. Decades later, he had an idea: Create a place for travelers, in the very place where he was lost back in the 1890s, they would have a comfortable place to spend the night along the road. Little America, which began as an idea in the 1890s, began to take place in the 1930s. Today, that man's descendants are bringing in money by the truckload from hotels in Flagstaff, San Diego, Salt Lake City, Sun Valley, Little America and Cheyenne. Signs for Little America begin in Nebraska, and show a picture of something enticing like a big hamburger or a steak above the cryptic words LITTLE AMERICA. The signs continue through

Wyoming until, by the time you get to Little America, you're expecting a four star hotel and world class dining, swimming and dancing or maybe even a three-ring circus. We just had to stop for a few minutes to get the world-class salad my wife had seen on one of the billboards. We ended up spending the night and about \$75. In the morning, when the haze of the night had settled off, we felt violated, like we'd been had. We felt swindled and embarrassed. We paid our bill in the shabby, Waffle-House-looking lobby of the hotel and hit the road, glad to have at least some of the pride left.

We will stay away from things that look too good to be true in the future. I hope.

But besides the roadside danger of roaming America, there are also many good things. The scenery of the Rockies is unbelievable, and the Cascades are even better. On Mt. Hood in Oregon there is skiing (on real snow) all summer long. Beaches along the coast await the arrival of your well-oiled winter-white flesh.

So get out there this summer. See what your country has to offer. You don't have to have a lot of money--a credit card that has not reached the limit will do just fine coupled with a bit of cash you can save up if you skip a few nights of revelry at Mainstreet. It's summertime, have some fun. Students can not live on summer school alone.

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 sanitized for your protection.

Brent Andrews
Editor in Chief

SIDELINES

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Sidelines is published every Wednesday by students of Middle Tennessee State University. The opinions expressed herein are those of the author and not necessarily *Sidelines*.

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News & Notes

In Brief The Academic Advising Program just received the Outstanding Institutional Advising Program Award for 1995 from the National Academic Advising Association (NACADA). "NACADA is a national organization that includes college advisors and developmental studies advisors from all over the nation," said Carol Bader, developmental studies

director.

"We are a very service-oriented faculty," said Bader. "What we try to do is get the students where they can be comparable when they get to college-level classes...."

Last spring there were 253 first-time freshmen at MTSU and 183 (or 72 percent) of them were enrolled in at least one developmental studies course. ■

SGA senators to oppose fee increase, Faculty Senate disapproves of method

President Walker: increase should be no surprise

MARK BLEVINS

Sidelines

MTSU's Student Government Association (SGA) senators and the Faculty Senate are expressing disdain with how MTSU's \$65 activity fee increase was implemented.

President James Walker said Tuesday that the increase should be a surprise to no one except those who chose not to get involved.

TBR approved the \$65 activity fee increase from \$15 to \$80 dollars at MTSU June 15 at its regular quarterly session. The increase was specifically earmarked for renovation of the Floyd football stadium. Stadium renovation is key part of MTSU's master plan for athletics.

One junior SGA senator, Chad White, said Monday he has confirmed that a majority of senators will attend a special summer meeting to pass a resolution opposing the fee increase.

White wants the fee implementation to be postponed until the student body can vote on it this fall and for the increase to be rescinded if it is voted down.

"This should have been a major campus debate and it wasn't, and that's wrong," White said.

The special meeting is scheduled to be held in KUC 315 on Thur., June 29 at 7 p.m. White said all students are welcome to come and speak.

If the resolution passes and is ineffective, White said he intends to organize students who oppose the increase.

MTSU's Faculty Senate overwhelmingly passed a motion in their summer

meeting Monday to send a letter to President Walker expressing their concern.

"The Faculty Senate is concerned that the \$65 fee increase was made without adequate prior assessment of faculty and student willingness to support such fee," the motion stated.

An earlier motion to recommend suspension of the fee until a better survey could be taken failed in the Faculty Senate.

Several Faculty Senate members were angry that they read about the increase in the papers and were not notified by university officials.

Some members were upset that newspapers noted that MTSU faculty supported the fee increase and there was discussion about misrepresentation at the meeting where the fee was approved.

Harold Whiteside, professor of psychology,

Survey for move to division I-A football

Question: "Do you want MTSU to change from division I-AA up to division I-A in football?"

Respondents could answer "yes," "no" or "don't know."

Category	Sample number	Returned surveys	Positive response %
students	1,000	37	69%
faculty	all	134	55%
alumni	1,000	137	60%

President James Walker said this survey represented only part of the data used to determine the parties' opinion. Most of student opinion was gauged by a series of meetings over the last four years, Walker said.

Source: "Marketing aspects of I-A football: A report to the president, Dr. James E. Walker, by Dr. Jack Forrest." Forrest chairs the athletic master plan marketing committee and is associate professor of management and marketing at MTSU.

presented the faculty results of a related survey to the Tennessee Board of Regents (TBR) who approved the fee increase. Whiteside said Walker asked him to present the results and that he did not purport to represent the faculty. Whiteside is the

current Faculty Senate president.

There was also some discussion of the fee increase being "brought in the back door" at the meeting.

Walker says it was not a **see fees, page 9**

MTSU breaks asbestos abatement regulation; no danger

Tile removal work not dangerous, but wrong: TOSHA

MARK BLEVINS

Sidelines

It appears that an MTSU Housing project involving vinyl asbestos floor tiling has been underway outside of state regulations.

This discovery comes one month after the Labor Department called for the reinstatement of a former MTSU Housing employee. Former housing employee Charles Johnson claims his employment was terminated in part because he spoke to state officials about improper asbestos abatement procedures at MTSU.

Johnson claims that the

Housing Department has used student workers in the past to remove asbestos and has endangered other students with careless procedures. MTSU has until July 15 to reinstate Johnson or the Labor Department says it will bring suit on his behalf.

An inquiry into the tile replacement work at Judd and Gracy halls took the university official responsible for overseeing asbestos abatement, Bill Smotherman, by surprise.

Smotherman, who was not aware of the work, ordered asbestos testing to

be done and temporarily cancelled work on the site.

The TOSHA official said that under current regulations, testing must be done on a tile removal site unless testing was previously done on a similar site involving similar work.

"To the best of my knowledge, we do not have a case history of removing floor tile under monitoring equipment," Smotherman said.

"We entered a situation where the contractor was rather careless in his work," Smotherman said.

The work was contracted

to City Tile of Murfreesboro and no student workers were used, according to housing officials.

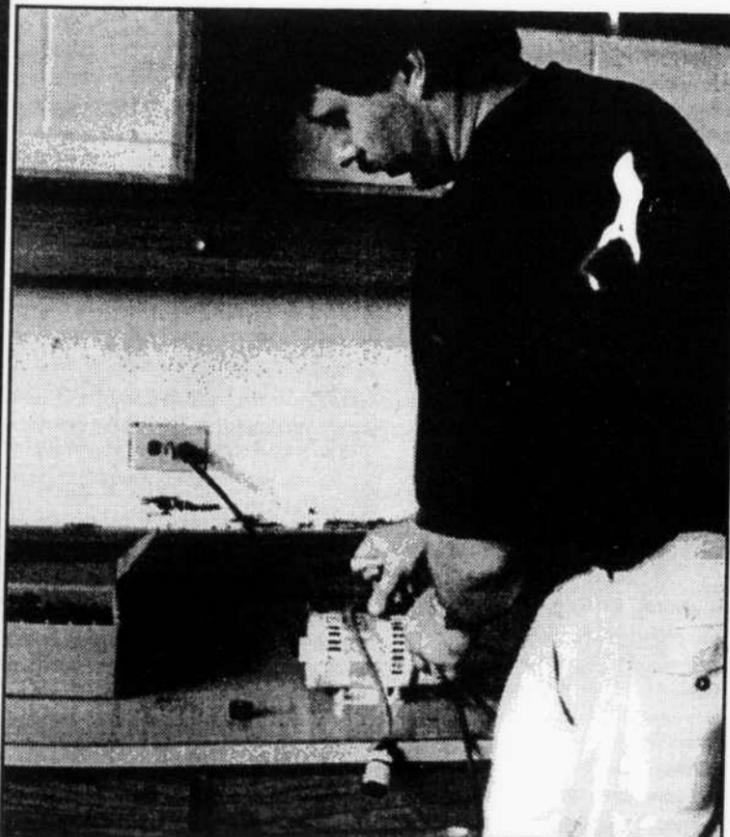
Tests for asbestos in the two halls proved to be well below TOSHA's regulation levels.

A TOSHA official said that the tiling is "not that big of a problem," because it does not easily become airborne and dangerous.

Ivan Shewmake, director of housing, said he did not contact Smotherman after MTSU Safety Officer Terry Logan and the contractor said the work could be done without any problems.

Terry Logan is out of town and could not be

see asbestos, page 4



DON GOINS/Photo Editor



Todd Sorum/Staff

Officials from Law Engineering, an environmental consulting firm retained by MTSU, at left, establishing air monitoring equipment for asbestos. At right, an abatement team picking up strewn pieces of vinyl asbestos floor tile. Work began after a *Sidelines* inquiry Monday.

CAMPUS CAPSULE

Looking Forward is a free on-going group for female survivors of rape and sexual abuse. Topics such as safety, relationships, effectiveness of coping skills, and ending isolation will be discussed. The group meets Weds. 3 - 4:30 p.m. To register call Mary Glantz at 5725. Space is limited. All inquiries are confidential and confidentiality in groups is encouraged. Sponsored by

STUDENT SURVEY

Recently, the Tennessee Board of Regents (TBR) approved a recommendation from MTSU to increase the student activity fee charged to students from \$15 to \$80 in order to help finance construction of a seating addition to Johnny "Red" Floyd Stadium. *Sidelines* has decided to allow students to voice their opinions via this **unscientific survey**. Fill out the survey and return it to Survey, MTSU Box 42, Murfreesboro, TN 37132, or bring it to our offices in room 308, JUB. Each survey returned to *Sidelines* will be forwarded to MTSU President Dr. James Walker and TBR Chancellor Dr. Charles Smith.

1. How much of a priority do you believe expanding the football stadium is to the overall success of the university and its students?
 - First priority
 - High priority
 - Medium priority
 - Low priority
 - No priority
2. Do you favor requiring students to pay part of the cost for stadium expansion through fees charged each semester?
 - Yes
 - No
 - I have no feelings either way
3. Do you believe the university should institute a fee increase of this size without putting the increase to a referendum vote of the student body?
 - Yes
 - No
 - I have no feelings either way
4. How much money per semester would you feel comfortable contributing to the university for expansion purposes via a fee increase?
 - \$0 to \$10
 - \$20 to \$30
 - \$30 to \$40
 - More than \$40
5. How much money per semester would you feel comfortable contributing to the university for expansion purposes via private donation?
 - \$0 to \$10
 - \$10 to \$20
 - \$20 to \$30
 - \$30 to \$40
 - More than \$40

Any comments you would care to make concerning the fee increase may be recorded below. Do not sign your name to your comments unless you wish for your name to be known.

ASBESTOS

continued from page 3

contacted for comment.

TOSHA reviews the MTSU abatement procedures only by university reports and rarely inspects sites.

"The university has a safety person there, they have the laws, and it's up to them to regulate themselves.

"When we become aware of some potential situation, we are going to try to take care of it as rapid as possible and as open as possible," Smotherman said.

The university is about to implement a policy where Smotherman reviews all sites before any work is

done, according to Smotherman. He said the university was working on that policy last week.

The university will now report the incident at the two halls to the Tennessee Board of Regents (TBR), according to Smotherman. He said TBR would then decide whether to report it to TOSHA.

The TOSHA official said the incident would warrant "a citation, on an unserious basis."

MTSU asbestos abatement procedures are currently under review by the Tennessee Occupational Safety and Health Administration (TOSHA). ■

Vanderbilt University Medical Center

Vanderbilt's Center for Fertility and Reproductive Research is seeking women (ages 21-35) interested in donating human eggs to help infertile women achieve pregnancy. Financial compensation will be given. Confidentiality assured.

For additional information, please contact Stephanie Bryan, R.N.C., at 322-6576.

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Search for America leads to the Econolodge and Cabela hiking store

Nebraskan store offers hunting trophies, hiking boots and a toilet chair.

Brent Andrews
Editor

My wife and I escaped the monotony of summer school and left the Boro with a couple of credit cards and a bit of cash in our pockets, rolling down the Interstate toward Nashville and the Great Wide Open—the American West. We had only 14 days to complete a round-trip tour that would include 10 states: Missouri; Nebraska; Wyoming; Utah; Idaho; Oregon; California; Nevada; Colorado and Kansas.

We looked ahead at the 2,500 miles or so to Portland with great anticipation, knowing that the town would be just as cool as it was the last time we made it there—almost exactly one year before. But the trip to Portland, we knew, would be more than half the fun. On the way to Portland we would cross inhospitable desert, soaring mountains. We would face the possibility of running out of gas in the middle of nowhere (like we had the year before) and sitting for hours waiting for more fuel. But we were confident that the trip would go well; we had our AAA membership renewed, lots of water to drink in case of emergency and all of our favorite tapes ready to be popped in.

Our first day on the road we drove more than 800 miles to a truckstop-motel combination in Lincoln, Nebraska. We would have stopped sooner but we couldn't find a room that wasn't in an Econolodge, which gives us the creeps since the grisly murder that occurred at the Nashville Econolodge last year. We went from hotel to hotel, getting delirious and laughing hysterically as we were told over and over that "no, we don't have any rooms tonight, but the Econolodge does." We didn't doubt that one bit, as people were probably being hauled out of the Econolodge in Zip Lock Baggies every few minutes. Plenty of rooms available at the old Econolodge. We were desperate for sleep, but the

prospect of complete mutilation did not agree with our vacation plans.

We drove on, rolling over miles and miles of endless highway, watching lightning light up the black sky while wind whipped around and into the open windows of our car. At last, just before we collapsed by the roadside in exhaustion, we found a room at a truckstop.

The next day we woke early, anxious to be on the

one chair that nobody was sitting on—a chair that looked like a toilet with a trash bag designed to catch whatever landed in the bowl. Neither of us was brave enough to try out this modern, convenient poison ivy preventer, so we took a snapshot and moved on, marveling at the vast collection of stuff.

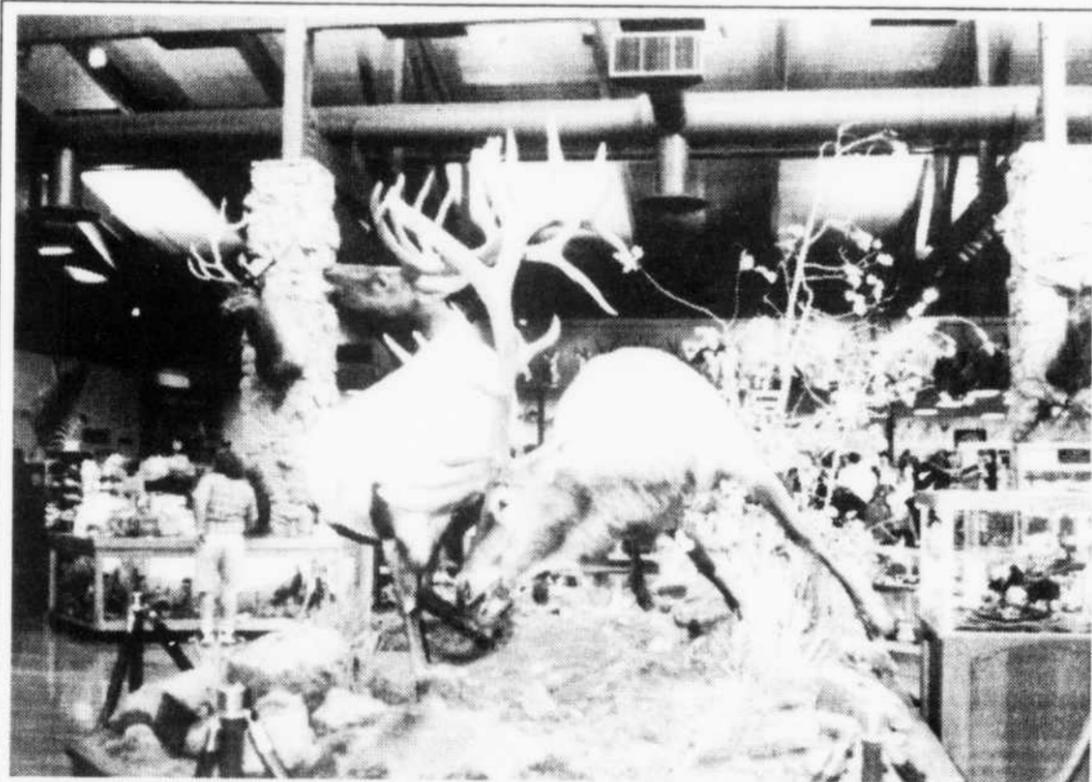
We found thousands of boots all well out of our price range. One pair—a dusty,

again duck its head under a cool mountain stream to get the fresh, tasty plant growth on the bottom. nearly every inch of wall-space in the building was adorned with a dead animal head. A sign in one area of the building cheered the accomplishments of hunters, who have—by killing some animals—prevented the spread of disease and starvation. This is a fact, proven by population explosion of deer

rams. Below the stuffed cold-weather animals were animals that lived at lower elevations: A cougar was stuffed into a menacing position on one side of the display. In the foreground, a lynx motionlessly chased a jackrabbit as a glass-eyed coyote looked on. Behind these, a 13 foot tall Alaskan brown bear stood on his hind legs and reached with long, sharp claws toward passing shoppers. A family of black bears—mother, brother and sister—foraged nearby. Close to the lynx and the jackrabbit a baby deer nuzzled its cold, lifeless mother in a cuddly looking pose. A polar bear and a wolverine hung out nearby, looking menacing. More elk stood not far away, and a grizzly bear and cub meandered eternally up the side of the man-made mountain.

Elsewhere in the store were other stuffed life forms. In one corner a lion attacked a strange-looking bird. An elephant stood near the clothing section, its tusks long and white. In the lobby and information area of the store, two bull elks fought a timeless battle that neither would even win. This display was a big hit, and scored high on the tourist's list of good things to take pictures of.

Tired of shopping, we moved on toward Wyoming, and the Rockies. We had



Two mounted Bull Elks battling for herd domination is only one of the displays in Cabela's 73,000 square foot building. Other exhibits include the Gun Library, Art Gallery, Cache Shop and an Aquarium.

road again and knowing that today we would cross the Rocky Mountains. In Western Nebraska—in a town called Sidney—we found a giant, 73,000 square foot building full of camping stuff and had to stop for a while. Inside the store—which was big enough to spawn two hotels, a couple of restaurants, and some gas stations—we found everything a camper could ever want, and lots of things a camper would never really need. One section of the building was devoted to tents, and we wandered in and out of tents to our hearts' content, judging the various models available for our inspection by whether or not we could stand in them and if we could afford them or not. Not a single tent fell within our price range, so they all failed the test.

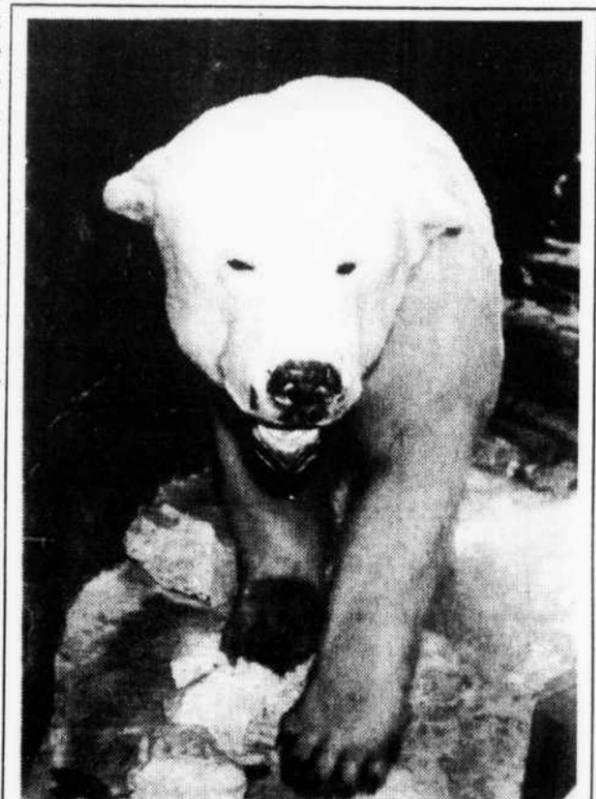
In another section were various models of camp chairs and stools, most more comfortable (and more expensive) than the average leather living room recliner. We sat on a few of these, glad to be sitting for a while, and dared each other to try out

affordable-looking pair of use hikers—bore a price tag of \$185. I laughed at the sheer looniness of this. Everything else in the store—except the postcards—was priced similarly. I wondered how many people would wander through the store today and buy thousands of dollars of really neat camping equipment, then camp once and let the stuff collect dust in a lonely attic corner. The number probably wouldn't be small.

But novice campers aren't the only folks who were shopping at Cabela's. There was a travel agency, a restaurant. There were no less than 500 mounts hanging on the walls, looming over the shoppers, and some just wandered about the store looking at these. On the giant walls of Cabela's hung every big-game animal imaginable. Horns stuck impotently from the heads of deer, elk, bison, other animals I didn't have names for. Hung there on the walls were antelope that would never play on the range again, the occasional moose that would never

that were very nearly obliterated by disease before hunting restrictions were loosened, but I don't suppose those animals on the wall were very grateful.

The center piece of the building, the pride and joy of Cabela's, was a huge, plaster-and-paint mountain scene, complete with water and grass and even a bit of fake snow. Near the top of the mountain were stuffed versions of animals that lived in that sort of environment—sheep, wolves, mountain goats,



Perched on a man-made mountain, the stuffed polar bear is used as an ornament in Cabela's Store.

four more days before we would get to Portland, and lots of adventure lay ahead. We'll keep you informed. ■

Getting caught in the World Wide Web

Ecstasy in Cyberspace

part two

ANDY FRANTZ
Staff Writer

Before I begin this week, I must make a couple of corrections from last week. First of all, I do not know what I was thinking when I said the Office of Information Technology is in the JUB. It is actually in Cope. So, anyone that went to the JUB and now thinks they're crazy, you can take relief in the fact that it is me, not you, that is crazy. Secondly, an error that I can blame on someone else is my incorrect e-mail address. It was mistyped as rip001c@mtsu.edu, when actually it is **ript001c@mtsu.edu**. Now that that is cleared up...

When last I left you, I said I was going to expand on two subjects this week. I lied. After thinking about it, I decided there are so many good, if not unusual, places on the Internet that I should spend more time on that topic. Likewise, there are enough problems and potential problems with the

Internet that that subject demands more time as well.

Now, lets take a look at some places to stop on your journey through the Internet; particularly the World Wide Web.

To get the full impact of the WWW, you need to view the sites with a graphical browser. I have been informed that it is possible to have graphical capabilities through MTSU. To get more information, join the MTSU Internet Guild. This is a forum for discussion about the Internet. First time Internet users and veterans of the net are all welcome. Asking questions and giving answers is a major part of the organization. Refer to the URL **http://www.mtsu.edu/~cannon/guildintro.html** to find out more. The most recent version of Netscape, the browser that I use, is available at numerous sites on the Internet. One site's URL is **http://www.edge.net/software/software.html**.

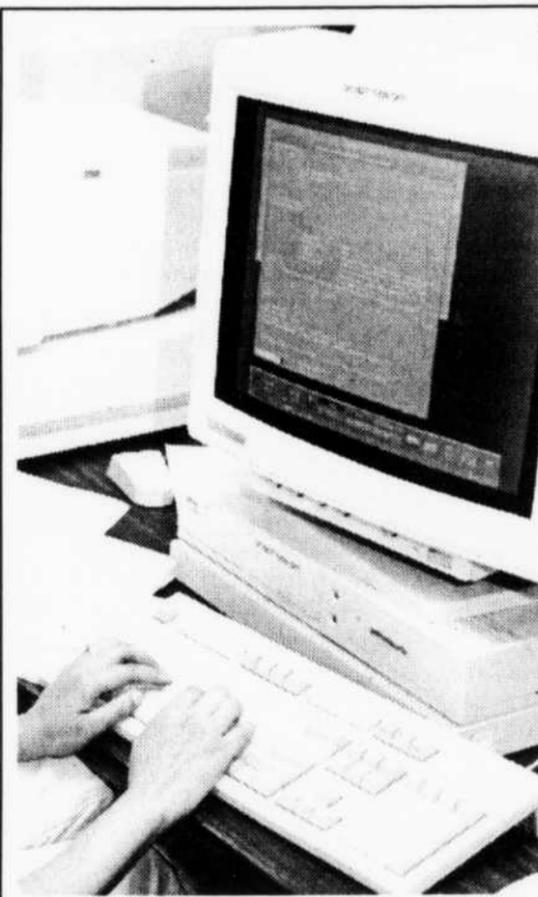
Wait a minute. What the

heck is a URL? A URL (Uniform Resource Locator) tells the computer where to

case, the URL begins with http. This stands for hypertext transport protocol. The URL for MTSU's home page is **http://www.mtsu.edu**.

Some Web sites are total reality and some are purely virtual. Most sites, however, fit somewhere in between. Many sites are there for some purpose other than to provide you with entertainment. The Web is a great way to advertise. Since the users are interacting with the advertisement, it keeps them interested. Commercial sites usually have a URL that looks something like **http://www.something.com**. Other common extensions are .edu (educational), .gov (governmental), .net (network), and .mil (military).

If you are looking for a subject in particular, one of the first sites you should visit is WebCrawler at **http://webcrawler.cs.washington.edu/WebCrawler**.



TODD SORUM/Staff

MTSU student Malini Dodaballapur plays on the computer in the Kirsey Old Main lab.

look for something and what type of something it should expect to find. In the WWW's

This site allows you to enter a word or words to search for. If any matches are found, a page with links to the sites with that word(s) is displayed. If you search for a word like "internet" there will be thousands of matches. For this reason, you can specify the number of links to display. The default value is 25.

After hours of searching for all of the prank phone calls Bart Simpson has made to Moe, the bartender, you are probably getting hungry. Just go to the Pizza Hut site, at **http://www.pizahut.com** and order yourself a pizza. You will get a list of different types of pizza to choose from, or you can create your own.

Once you get your pizza, you will need something to wash it down with. It would be a terrible waste of net-surfing time, though, to go to a Coke machine only to find your favorite beverage is sold out. This problem is solved by visiting one of the coke machine sites, like **http://www.swiss.ai.mit.edu/htbin/Coke**. You will then be able to tell if your nearest Coke machine is fully stocked.

Another useful site on the Web, if you can call vending machine inventory useful, is **http://www.tennis.org**.

See Web, page 7



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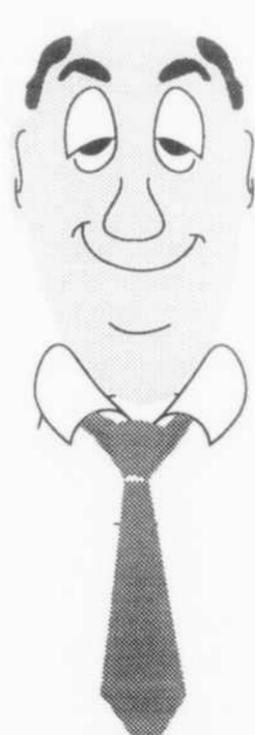
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Sun: 8a.m. - 5p.m.

WEB

continued from page 6

This allows you to take a virtual tour of the aquarium in Chattanooga. It also tells you information about ticket prices and operating hours.

One of my favorite sites is ESPN's, at <http://ESPN.SportsZone.com>. Here, you can get scores and updates of your favorite sports teams and post instantaneous messages, that others respond to, about sports events. Links are also provided to your favorite sport's official site, like the NFL, NBA, or NHL.

For a site that is a little more out of the ordinary, try Darcom's site at <http://www.interport.net/~darcom>. This site has a lot of links to other interesting sites, like The Crow and the SciFi Channel, but what is unique about this one is the way the background pseudomorphs. There is also an audio surprise after the page finishes downloading. There are many more sites similar to this one, but I will leave the fun of finding them to you.

If you like Zima, or even if you don't, you might want to check out their site at <http://www.zima.com>. There are several things to do at this site. One thing you may want to do is join the Zima "fan club." They basically send you e-mail every once in a while and give you a years supply of Zima, free! Maybe not. Another thing to do at the Zima site is to raid the refrigerator. Just click on an item in the refrigerator to snack on some more useless information. Not that useless information is a bad thing. In fact, some of the most entertaining things involve useless information. That is why the WWW is so popular.

These sites I have mentioned above are just a sample of what is out there. There are literally hundreds of thousands more to visit, and once you start looking, it is hard to stop. From product information to sound bites from a movie, it is hard to tell where you could end up on the Internet's World Wide Web. ■

Students object to what their activity fee funds

(CPS) - Student Government Association—\$4.03

Huskie Entertainment Fund—\$2.84

Black Student Union—\$37

Although they're not always itemized, fees tacked onto the end of college tuition bills are definitely there adding anywhere from \$50 to \$200 to students' tuition bills.

Most of the time, student activity fees are glossed over by students and their parents, who tend to concentrate only on the "total due" when writing out their tuition checks.

But a growing number of students is taking note of how their student activity money is being spent and is refusing to contribute any money toward organizations or causes that they oppose. Instead, they are subtracting the appropriate fees or demanding their money back.

"Students should have a choice in determining where their money goes," said Ron Witteles, editor of the *Northwestern Chronicle*, a conservative campus newspaper that sponsored a "Take Back Your Money" day earlier this spring at Northwestern University. "The last thing we want is the administration or a student government bureaucracy deciding where to spend our money."

During "Take Back Your Money" day, Witteles and his staff gave \$5 back to the first 100 students who showed up at a campus landmark. The \$500 had been allotted by the student government to NU's Conservative Council. But the group chose to hand the money back to students rather than spend it on speakers or other activities.

"No one should be forced to pay for something if they're not going to get any benefits," said Witteles, adding that NU students pay approximately \$50 each semester in student activity fees. "It doesn't make any sense. Why should you pay for something you're never going to use?"

Collectively, student activity fees add up to much more than pocket change on many campuses. At the University of Florida, nearly

\$6 out of every credit hour worth of tuition—\$6 million in all—goes toward student activity fees, which are delegated to various groups by the student government.

But even though the student fees budget is in the millions, a recent survey by the *Independent Florida Alligator*, the university's newspaper, revealed that 90 percent of the UF student body did not know how much they paid in student activity fees each year. Forty-four percent of students couldn't name one item that their money went toward.

"I was pretty surprised when I found out how much money the student government had control of," said Tony Mirando, a UF senior. "When I think about that much money, it just seems like there should be a lot more free stuff for me to do."

A few students, however, have objected to paying for activities that violate their personal ideological or political beliefs. At California State University—Long Beach, for example, two students were given a 15-cent refund after complaining that funding for a speech by Khalid Abdul Muhammad, a former Louis Farrakhan aide, was in violation of a California state law.

Long Beach State's Associated Students Muhammad's speech, in which he referred to white students as "crackers," could not be funded by students fees, which, according to California state law, can not be used to advance "political, religious or ideological interests."

Students Steve Negley and Joseph Thinn argued that while it was Long Beach State's Black Student Union who paid Muhammad \$3,700 to speak on campus last November, the student group was funded through the university student fees.

Negley and Thinn demanded a refund for their share of the \$3,700, which amounted to 15 cents each.

Negley said he sought the refund because "the university has to follow the law." "The funding of the speech, which was clearly a hate-speech meant to divide the student body and was an illegal action," he said.

Since the ruling, Negley said that other students have indicated an interest in receiving a refund as well.

In another incident, a Muslim student at the University of Minnesota shorted his tuition payment last year by 26 cents because he did not want to fund a gay and lesbian student organization. The university

"Students should have a choice in determining where their money goes."

honored his position and credited his account in full.

Most administrators and students agree that the disbursement of student fees belongs in the hands of the student government.

Chris Tompkins, the former University of Florida student body president, said that funding for various organizations is determined by hearings, discussions and votes. "It's a democratic process," he said. "We try to weigh the importance of something to the students, both individual and as a whole, and then make the fairest allocations we can."

But David Engelland, a University of Minnesota sophomore, contends that not all groups are treated equally by student governments.

Engelland, president of UM's Students for Family Values, tried unsuccessfully last year to qualify for student funding. After being told his group was "too political," Engelland said he became convinced that he was being mistreated because of the group's conservative agenda.

"We are a non-partisan group, and we welcome anyone who wants to join," Engelland said. "Just because most student groups

gave a somewhat liberal stance, we stuck out. We needed to make the funding committee realize that student activities are about options."

Engelland spent the next 12 months arguing his group's case. This year, Students for Family Values received \$10,000. Although the group had requested \$26,000, Engelland said he's pleased. "We'll be able to set up a Rush (Limbaugh) Room for people to come and listen a couple days a week, and we'll try to sponsor different activities," he said. "It also gives us a chance to set up some fundraising efforts."

Like Engelland, other students have complained that they've been excluded from receiving funds because of the ideological content of their projects. At least one group of students has taken their case to court.

The U.S. Supreme Court will rule this summer on whether the University of Virginia can provide funding to student groups with religious affiliations. The decision will set a precedent for state universities and governmental institutions across the nation.

Four years ago, UV officials denied \$5,862 in funding to *Wide Awake*, a student-published Christian magazine that focused on social and political issues. Administrators told the student editors they were adhering to a 1970 bylaw that prohibited the use of student activity fees for "religious activities."

Ronald Rosenberger, Gregory Mourad and Robert Prince, the editors of the magazine, cried foul, pointing out that the university funded 118 other student organizations, including the Muslim Student Association and the Jewish Law Students Association, and that the decision to deny funding to *Wide Awake* was one of selective discrimination.

Rosenberger and the other students filed a lawsuit against the university, but lost their original case as well as the subsequent appeal. ■

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Reviews & Events

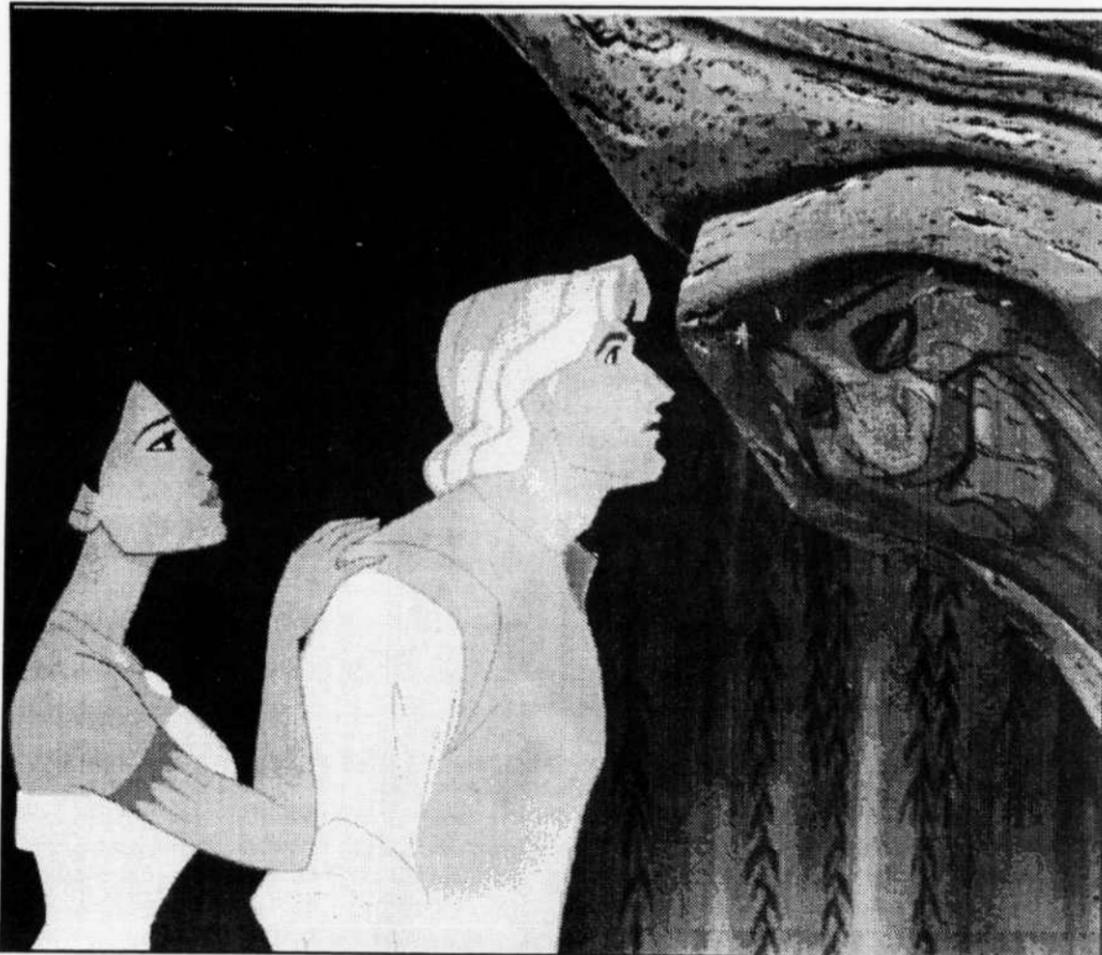
In Brief

Movies Under the Stars is a special program sponsored by the Murfreesboro Parks and Recreation Department. Each week one movie is shown at several locations around the city. This week's movie is "Rookie of the Year."
All shows begin at 8:30 p.m. and are free

and open to the public.

Locations include:
Mondays - MTSU Greenland Drive parking lot
Tuesdays - SportsCom
Fridays - Mitchell-Neilson Primary School
Saturdays - Hobgood Elementary School

Disney's latest has strong messages



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CHRIS PATTERSON
Reviews and Events Editor

The recent release of "Pocahontas" marked Walt Disney Pictures' 33rd full-length animated feature.

The most recent release also marks Disney's first feature film to be inspired by a real-life figure. The release of "Pocahontas" coincides with the 400th anniversary of the legendary indian woman's birth.

The movie is filled with beautiful animation and art direction. The forest and mountain scenery couldn't have appeared more breathtakingly gorgeous. They were beautifully portrayed.

The song score was also most impressive. The track included titles such as "Just Around the River Bend," "Colors of the Wind," and "If I Never Knew You."

The story is a beautiful one about a brave young woman who must learn to "listen with her heart" in order to choose which path to follow in life.

The heroine, Pocahontas meets the adventurous sea captain, John Smith. From that point the story takes on a romantic view of their legendary encounter.

Pocahontas then teaches John Smith that every rock, tree and creature has a living spirit and explains how the indians are able to "paint with all the colors of the wind."

John Smith and Pocahontas then fall in love and when Smith is captured and is about to be executed by the indians, Pocahontas places herself in danger by declaring that she must be killed first.

"Pocahontas" is a beautiful love story with excellent animation and song. This movie also had several meaningful underlying messages. One notion that came out strongly in the movie was the idea that one person can make a difference through bravery and courage. Another notion was that just because someone is different or has a different way of life, that doesn't mean that they are "savages" or that something is wrong with them.

Another excellent point about this film is that Pocahontas is a very strong heroine. I think that more of these strong females need to be seen, especially to young children.

"Pocahontas" was a little disappointing to me because the story was not very factual. In reality Pocahontas was probably only about 11 or 12 when the British first arrived. While she did save the life of John Smith and played an important role as a peacekeeper, there is not evidence showing that the two had a romance.

This movie also left me hanging a little because at the end you really aren't sure if the heroine and hero ever see each other again or what happens to them. This usually doesn't happen in a Walt Disney film.

Overall though I give "Pocahontas" four blue corn moons out of five.■



Maids of Gravity CD Stereotypical

DAN JORDAN
Staff Writer

Maids of Gravity
Virgin Records

I usually enjoy alternative music but this CD leaves something to be desired in this area.

The Maids of Gravity sounds just like any other alternative band out right

now.

On the entire album, I only found one track that I liked. "Introverted Skies" sounded cool. It was the only slower track on this CD.

The rest of the tracks were very fast-paced and all sounded alike. They sound a lot like someone playing around on an electrical guitar.

The entire album featured a lot of electrical

guitars, I prefer a little more acoustical sound to be mixed in.

The lyrics of most of the songs were even overpowered by the electrical sound.

Overall, this band sounded like a passive Faith No More. It's not as heavy as Faith No More but it is very similar.

Maids of Gravity is a very stereotypical alternative band. They need to develop

their own sound if they want to make in in the music world.

Maids of Gravity rated one lonely guitar out of five because it was borderline annoying. I couldn't listen to the whole CD at once.■



Events Around Town

Tonight

-Strutter at 527 Mainstreet
-Miranda Louise at the Boro

Thursday

-Radio Active Flower at 527 Mainstreet
-Nice Boy Record Review and Daphne's Operation at the Boro

Friday

-Heavy Flavor at 527 Mainstreet
-Mud Brothers at the Boro

-Mike West and Rich Barbs at Comedy on the Square

Saturday

-Venus Drive, Static Trip, and Brown's Drowning at 527 Mainstreet

-Mike West and Rich Barbs at Comedy on the Square

REVIEWS & EVENTS

Happy Independence day!!!

CHRIS PATTERSON
Reviews and Events Editor

July 4 is just a few days away. That means it's time to make those plans on how to celebrate the independence of our nation.

Just in case you haven't already got plans, we'd thought we'd let you know what is going on for Independence Day.

Murfreesboro Parks and Recreation Department will

be sponsoring children's activities and games at 5:00 p.m. at Old Fort Park.

At 7:15 p.m. 12th Avenue South will be playing at Old Fort Park in Murfreesboro.

Following the band's performance will be a fireworks display. The display is scheduled to begin at 9:15.

For those of you who would like to attend a little larger Independence Day party, Nashville will

sponsoring their own festivities.

Live music will begin at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, July 4 at Riverfront Park.

A fireworks display will begin at 10 p.m. The display will be based at Riverfront Park and can be seen over the Cumberland River.

If you party too hard please don't drink and drive.

Have a safe and happy holiday. ■

FEES

continued from page 3

back door operation at all.

He says 30-35 meetings with students and student organizations over the last four years have not misrepresented the funding for the move to division I-A football.

"I think the people that were saying that [they didn't know about how the funding would be accomplished] were either not at those meetings or fell asleep at those meetings," Walker said.

"They couldn't get day care for that cost and they are going to get a good quality education at that cost," Walker said of the \$1,962 total yearly amount of attending MTSU.

Walker suggested that students compare costs and services with other schools and "realize how lucky they are."

The new annual total for attending MTSU places us second in expense in the TBR school system behind the University of Memphis. Walker said he would not have pushed for the increase if he thought it was unreasonable.

Walker also said this is how the university normally gets funds for this type of project.

The vote on the student recreation center was not in accordance with TBR policy, Walker said. He said he was reprimanded for breaking policy in that instance.

Funding for the library or other academic buildings are not in competition, according to officials at TBR. State funds are not used for athletic programs and activity fees cannot be used academic programs.

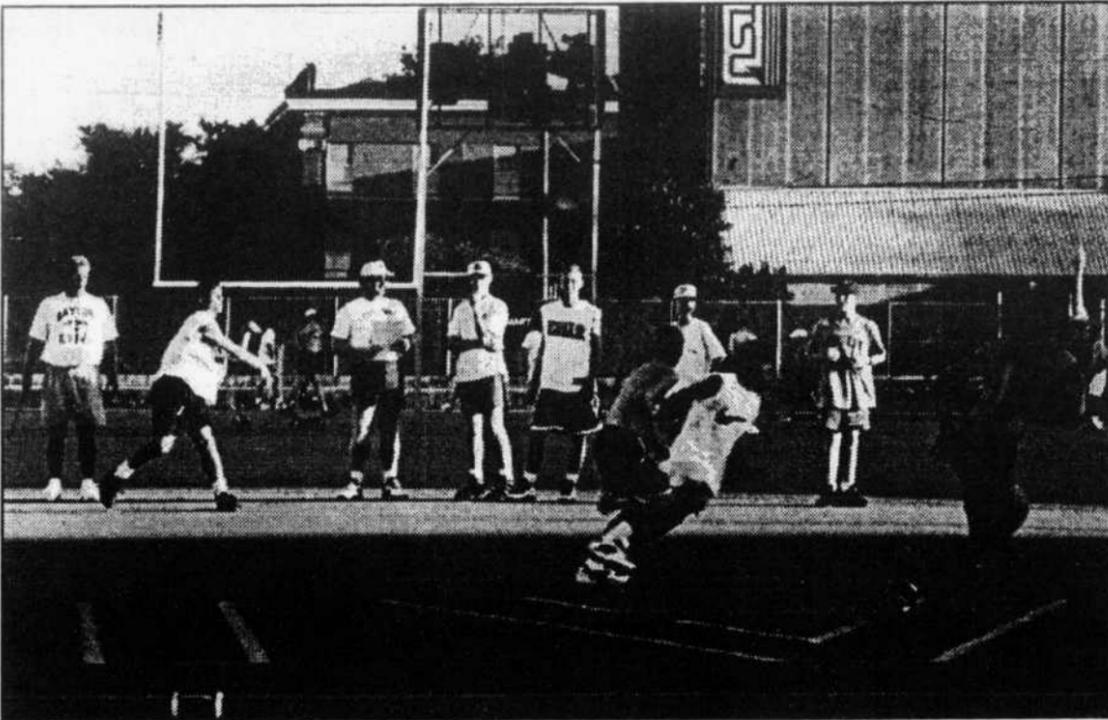
Walker said he thinks the meetings averaged 30-40 people a session and that they carried the most weight

in determining student opinion on the move to division I-A football. A survey by the marketing committee of the master plan for athletics of students, faculty and alumni also carried some weight in determining opinion, Walker said.

"Do we want to be a full comprehensive university or do we want to go back to being a Normal school?" Walker asked. MTSU began as a Tennessee State Normal School in 1911 which was a school specifically for training teachers.

Most students favor a progressive MTSU, Walker said.

MTSU would be more able to provide a comprehensive university experience and instill university pride in students with a division I-A football team, according to Walker. ■



TODD SORUM/Staff

Learning the Basics

Participants of the Football Quarterback/Receiver Camp practice passing and receiving maneuvers on Monday evening on Jones Field.



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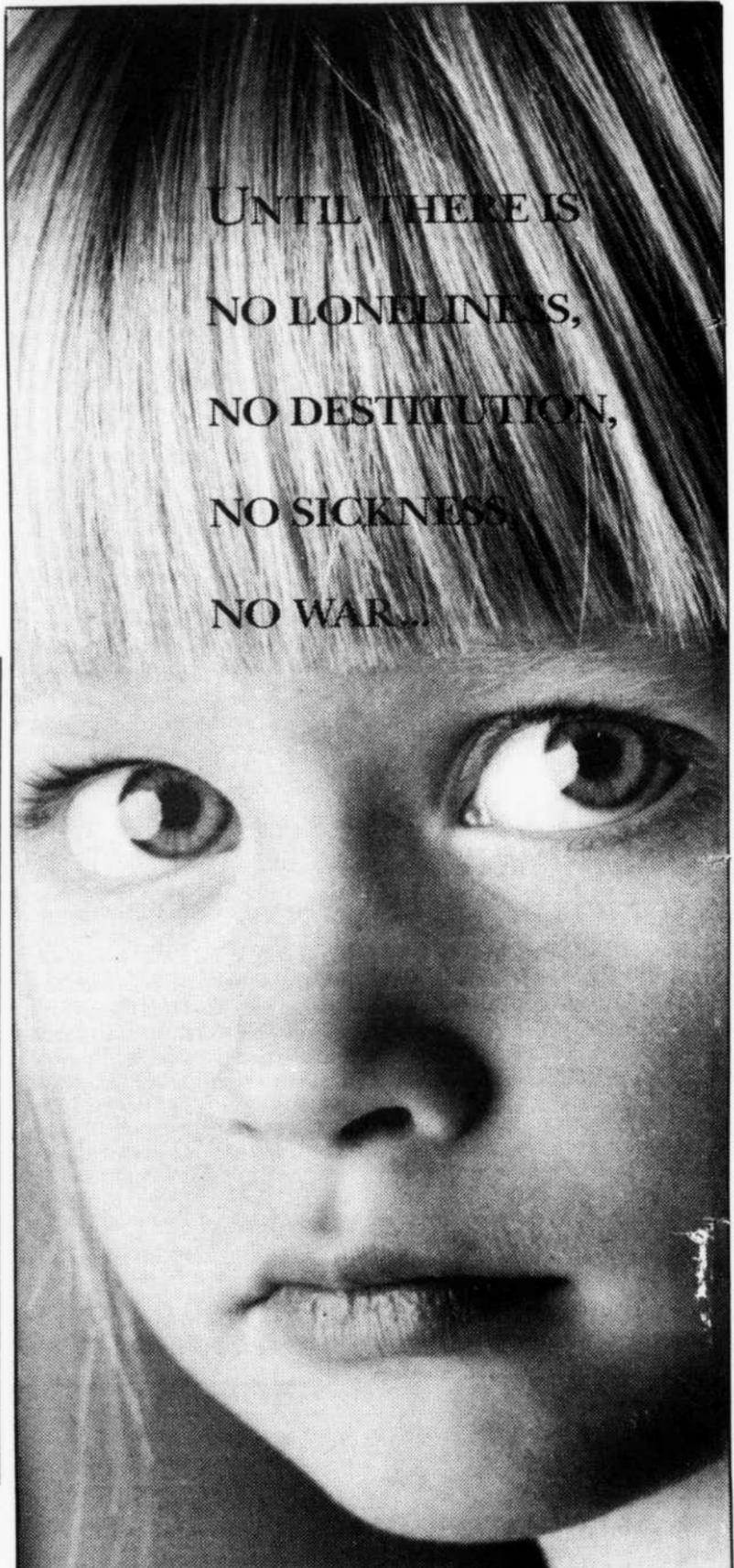


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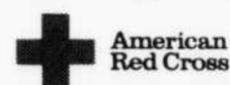
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Letters Policy

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clarity. Send letters to MTSU Box 42 or to the e-mail addresses listed 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.

"We need to add to the educational budget. . ."

Do not feed the Alaskan polar bears



DAVE BARRY

COLUMNIST

It's time for Part Two of my two-part series on the exciting, dramatic and—above all—tax-deductible Alaskan Adventure trip I took earlier this spring. As you recall, in Part one I recounted the events of my first day in Alaska, during which virtually nothing happened. This leads us to:

DAY TWO—I woke up in a nervous mood, because I knew this was the day that I would boldly leave the hotel altogether and—armed with nothing stronger than Certs brand breath mints—face a polar bear. This can be extremely dangerous. Polar bears are fiercely aggressive meat-eating hunters that weigh upwards of 1,000 pounds and can run down a horse; the only real hope I had for surviving this encounter was the fact that this particular polar bear lives in the Anchorage Zoo.

It frankly struck me as pretty strange that Anchorage even bothers to have a zoo, seeing as how, as I

noted in Part One of this series, there are already plenty of large and sometimes hostile animals wandering around the city loose. You could easily have a situation where you'd be unable to go to the zoo to see the moose or bears because there was a non-zoo, freelance moose or bear standing on your patio.

Fortunately I had no trouble getting to the zoo, and I soon found myself face-to-face with the zoo's star polar bear, Binky, who, in terms of size, is basically a Winnebago motor home with teeth. Binky became a major news story in Alaska last year when, on separate occasions a few weeks apart, he attempted to eat two people. The victims, both of whom survived, had climbed over two fences to get close to Binky's cage. One of them was an Australian tourist, who said she climbed the fences because she wanted to take a close-up photograph; she wound up with her leg in Binky's mouth. I saw a videotape of the attack, taken by another zoo visitor, showing several men beating on Binky with sticks through the cage bars, trying to make him let the woman go. You can tell that the woman is thinking: Next time, I am definitely going to Disney World.

If there is one fundamental, unifying principle of human

psychology, it is that everyone, everywhere, regardless of age, gender, religion or ethnic origin, hates tourists. So when Binky chewed on one, he instantly became a major celebrity, like Kato Kaelin, but with a higher IQ. Alaskans fell in love with a freeze-frame video picture, taken by a local TV news cameraman, showing Binky wandering around his cage, looking a little wistful...with the Australian woman's sneaker in his mouth. Entrepreneurs put this image on T-shirts, which still sell by the thousands, along with all kinds of other Binky merchandise (one woman showed me a pin she was wearing—a little white polar bear with a little silver sneaker in its mouth).

Binky was sleeping when I arrived at his cage, but after a few minutes he got up and started engaging in routine bear behavior such as yawning, pacing around, diving in his pool, phoning his agent, etc. I could not help but notice that Binky's cage still is not particularly well protected; it would be pretty easy for a tourist to hop over the two low fences, get to the cage and become Purina Bear Chow. It's almost as though the zoo wants this to happen (NEXT TOURIST FEEDING: 3 p.m.).

I myself did not get anywhere near Binky, because I wanted to stay

in peak, non-mauled physical condition for the strenuous activities scheduled for the final day of my Alaskan Adventure, also known as:

DAY THREE—The big event of Day Three was a helicopter tour of some glaciers, arranged by—speaking of getting chomped by bears—*Anchorage Daily News* columnist Craig Medred, who, as you recall from Part One of this series, is an outdoorsperson so rugged that he makes Davy Crockett look like Martha Stewart.

Lambert gave us a terrific tour. At one point we landed on a rocky outcrop next to a particularly scenic glacier, and there, many miles from the nearest convenience store, we had lunch. As we sat there, contemplating one of the most overwhelmingly beautiful views I've ever seen, Craig said something—call it an insight; call it a revelation—that struck a responsive chord deep in my soul.

"I had this flight billed to *The Anchorage Daily News*," he said, "but they Don't know it yet."

That's the kind of bold, "can-do" spirit that makes Alaska what it is today, and if you're the kind of person who enjoys nature, I urge you to visit "The Land of the Midnight Sun" so that you can experience, firsthand, the mountains, the glaciers, the rivers and—above all—the zoo. Binky's getting hungry. ■

GOP: Government loans are necessary



Warren Wakeland

School Daze

We don't normally talk politics in this column, but today we are going to make an exception.

We don't talk politics because it's a four-letter word, and those aren't allowed in journalism. Spell the word: p-o-l-i-t-i-c-s. See? Four letters.

Politics is a dirty word, a dirty business. This column is meant to be about this school, not that ugly four-letter word.

But this past week the ugly word crossed the line into our educational Utopia. How? Thanks to the GOP.

A fiscal year 1996 budget compromise was presented last week by the Republican Party for perusal in Congress. In it the GOP holds steady in its promise to

initiate cuts in various programs they consider wasteful.

But they have touched one area that will affect about 7,000 of the students enrolled here and millions of others nationwide—student loans.

The GOP has included in their budget approximately \$11 billion (yes, *billion*) in cuts from the Federal Stafford Loan and Pell Grant programs. This means that, if passed and signed in this form, you better get your financial aid forms for Fall 1996 semester in the mail now or you may not get any money.

Do you know how much money we're talking about? \$11,000,000,000—that's how much. That's almost as much as my new car payment. That's a lot of money.

Why are they cutting this money? I don't know.

I called Newt Gingrich's office Monday to ask him why. I can do that because I used to live in his district outside of Atlanta. This makes me privileged.

Of course, Newt wasn't

around. He's busy selling his book right now. But one of his aides talked to me and gave me a reason. The aide said there is already a tremendous glut of well-educated people who cannot find jobs in their chosen fields. The government, the aide said, should not be contributing to this glut by financing college educations for students with loans that may never be paid back in full because the students may never get the jobs necessary to be able to fully pay back the loans.

Wow.

You know, I am not a Bill Clinton fan. I once wrote that a Clinton presidency would be a pox on our country, and I believe Clinton has been just that in many areas. However, he is doing something smart here by saying he will not sign a budget that includes cuts in education.

If the reason the Gingrich aide gave me for the education cuts is correct, it makes me ashamed to have voted twice for this man.

Question #1: How can giving people as quality an

education as possible be detrimental? The United States is falling fast in the world order in terms of the educational level of our young people. Cutting or eliminating financing for those who cannot pay for an education on their own would only cause that level to fall further.

Question #2: Are the middle-aged people having trouble finding jobs right now going to live to be 200 years old? If they are, then let's cut education altogether. See, this would mean today's youth wouldn't have to worry about being educated because they could live off their parents all their lives. This being the case, we should raise the retirement age to 170.

Question #3: Do the Republicans really believe education is something we don't need to stress in our society? If so, Newt & the Family Stone need to take a tour of East Nashville, South Central L.A., Harlem and other lower-income areas in this nation. There are intelligent children in those areas who do not get a

chance to further their education because money is tight. Taking money away from these people is condemning them to no possibility for success in life.

This is idiotic.

Education is the one place in our nation's budget where we do not need to be cutting money. Cut from Social Security—it's not going to be around in 30 years anyway, and old people aren't going to be around forever. Cut Welfare—make lazy people wash dishes for minimum wage instead of sitting on their butts collecting my tax dollars. Cut social programs, foreign aid, public transportation, even the military (forgive me, College Republicans), but don't cut education.

Our country is going to hell in a handbasket. Bill Clinton and his policies is one of the major reasons. But here good ole' Buffalo Bill is right on the money. We need to add to the educational budget, not detract from it. Call your congressman or senator in Washington and tell him or her just that. ■

Letters to the Editor

Students protest dramatic increase in recreation fee

To The Editor:

The increase in student fees to pay for the renovation of the football stadium is a prime example of white collar crime. That's what I consider this situation to be. Our university, and especially the administrators of it, is raping its students to the tune of \$65 per semester. Is it absolutely necessary to write out a specific rule concerning the robbery of students through practices that are usually considered legitimate? Or can we continue to trust those same administrators who have committed this atrocity to conduct themselves in an ethical manner?

As to whether or not the students can afford this tremendous increase in student fees, our "trusted" leaders in the university have obviously forgotten the type of clientele they serve. It will be a real struggle for some to come up with the additional \$65. We are middle class and working class students who may have to work an additional 15 to 20 hours just to pay for a new football stadium when the one we already have sits empty most of the time. Even

when there are games going on in the stadium, there is always plenty of seating for the sparse crowd that shows up. We are not in the same social class as those who attend the Ivy League schools, and therefore, most of us cannot call home for the additional money. Those who are behind this crime should be ashamed of themselves for pulling a stunt like this.

If prospective students have any questions about what this university stands for, they need only to look to where the university spends its money. I'm sure the new \$12 million recreation center and a new football stadium will attract many new students who are interested in getting an education from a university that can claim those two prizes. Will our future employers recognize from our transcripts and diplomas that we have graduated from a university with the newest facilities to play in? It's not likely they will recognize MTSU as an outstanding educational facility with these types of decisions.

Connie D. Frey
MTSU Box 7290

To The Editor:

My husband and I were shocked one night while watching the evening news. We learned that the university we attend, along with the Tennessee Board of Regents, had passed an increase in the student activity fee from \$15 to \$80.

The students were never informed of this decision, nor did we realize it was a choice. This increase was submitted so the stadium could be renovated. Now we realize sports are important, but this increase will generate more than \$1 million of revenue which could be utilized in many other vital areas. With so many other areas of this campus suffering such as

dormitories, lack of computers and professors and library renovations, it seems ludicrous for this money to be spent on something like a stadium that never fills to capacity. Are we not going to school to better our education?

We sincerely hope that all officials involved will reconsider this increase. We, like many other students here, scrape by to make ends meet, and this increase could mean losing an extra book, supplies or even food. This is our money funding a project in which we had no say. I am sure if anyone had bothered to ask, not many students would have volunteered to go in debt to fund the stadium.

Donna and Bradford Haynes

To The Editor:

Who cares about football? The jocks, the athletic department and obviously Dr. Walker and the Board of Regents. Football isn't going to make this a better school. How about a new library or renovating the art department? How about getting rid of the trailer park that the school has crammed faculty into? How about the post office or the radio station? The list could go on and on, not to mention that

University Housing is in sad shape. The dorms are the biggest eyesore on campus.

I think the university should do a bit more research on the needs of the students. I have no problem paying the extra \$65 except when it is used on football. I sure as hell didn't come to MTSU because Blue Raider football is so exciting. Who do they think we are - UT?

Bingham Barnes
MTSU Box 6556

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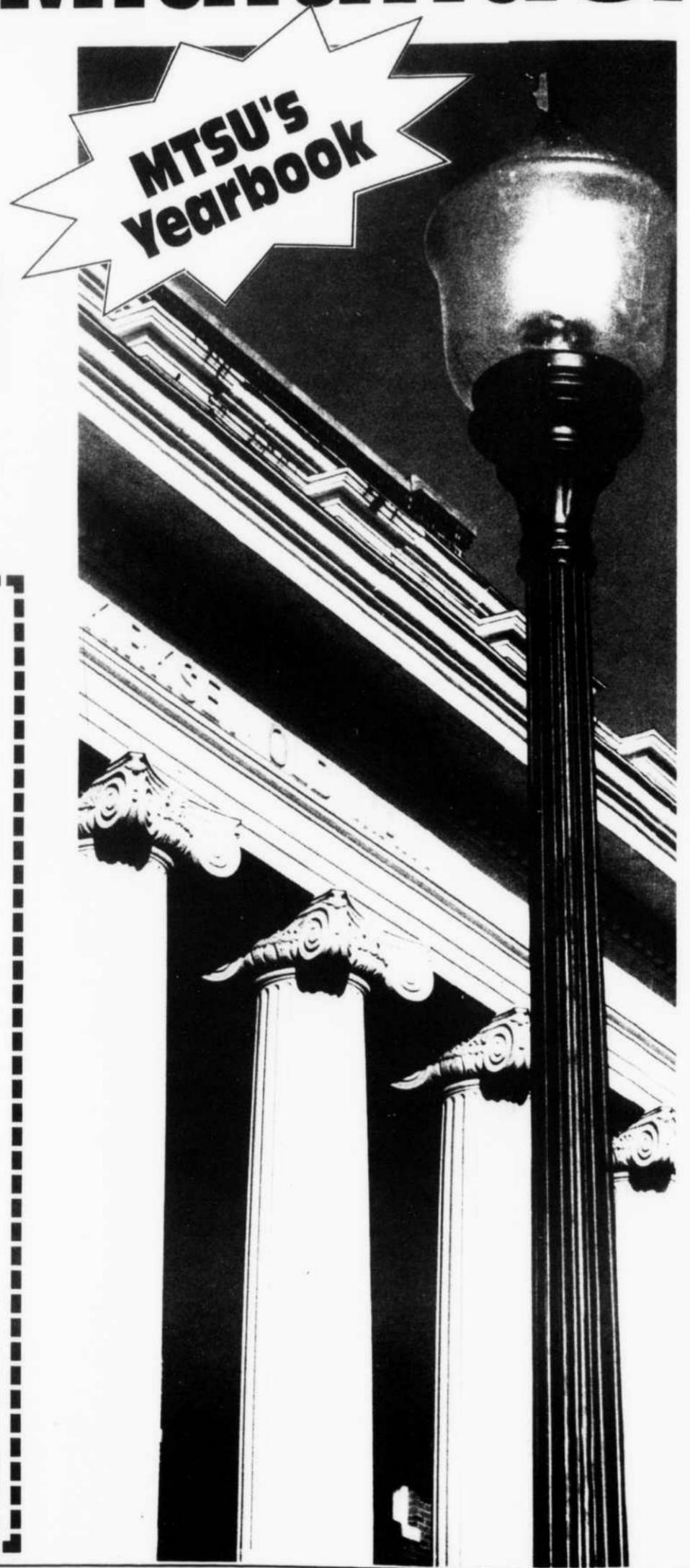
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