

Students complain to stores about textbook prices

by Cathy Forkum

Complaints that seven used textbooks had two prices on them have been made by three students to personnel of the University and Blue Raider Bookstores.

The students allege that the books are being sold at prices higher than their original retail prices. Robert Harvey, an MTSU senior, complained, "with the continuing cost of education going up, up, up, I feel that for the students to face such a 'rip-off' is immoral and unethical."

Harvey bought a book from Blue Raider Bookstore with a \$7 price marked on the second page and a \$9.45 price on the first page. In a

similar incident, another student who dealt with the University Bookstore commented on the situation "I am tired of getting the shaft. Price-fixing is wrong and the university should do something about it before it gets out of situation."

Jim Towery, of the Blue Raider Bookstore, was asked about the students' claims. "The publisher sets the prices of the books and the used books are sold for 75 percent of the new book's retail price."

Sometimes books are received from other schools and we have several used books left over that we must raise to the new 75 percent price."

Asked what was being done with the extra profit made on pricing



Earl Harris

used books, Towery explained, "We used the extra revenue to cut down on our cost, which sometimes allows us to lower the prices of books a few cents."

When asked about the students' claims, Earl Harris, manager of the University Bookstore's book department, said that "the bookstore always tries to sell the books for the publisher's suggested retail selling price. Our used books are always 75 percent of the new book's retail price. We often have copies of books left over from one semester to another and get a new shipment of books at a higher cost to us, which means we must up our price

[continued on page 5]



SIDELINES

Middle Tennessee State University

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Worst over in apartments' fight against bugs

Residents of J and K apartments have been fighting a real battle with insects, but it appears the worst may soon be over.

According to residents of the apartments, the bugs appear in greatest numbers in the kitchen area. "The bugs in our apartment are so bad you can't open the cabinets without bugs falling on you." D'Nice Lawson, a resident of J apartments, said. "They were all over the dishes and canned foods."

The bugs were "in the stove, the cabinets and behind the refrigerator," Sharon Walker, also a resident of J, said.

Lawson said she had sprayed the apartment for bugs twice herself, "but they're still here. They are in the bedroom and the bathroom."

The problem is not as bad in other apartments. "They're not

eating us up but you can see them and that's bad enough," Fran Heard, a J resident, said.

Ann Parsons, the former head resident of J apartments, said she had received complaints that bugs in the kitchen area of some apartments "were pretty bad." She added there had been one or two cases of insects in the bedrooms.

"They used to spray once a month but this summer the service was not as regular and the bugs got worse," Parsons said.

Terminex employee assigned to MTSU was not doing his job, according to Ken Fox, director of building services. Terminex is under contract to MTSU to spray for bugs on a monthly basis, he explained. The service has not been satisfactory in the past and MTSU has threatened to cancel the Term-

inex contract, Fox added.

Service should be better now, Fox said. The Terminex employee has quit and has been replaced by a man who seems to be doing a good job, he added.

Under normal conditions, the spray used by Terminex usually

lasts about three months, Fox said.

Maintenance department employees also do some spraying themselves. They are responsible for such areas as food services, he said.

Any student having problems with insects should call Fox at 898-2414.

\$2.7 million in Blanton's budget

Funds proposed for MTSU

by Ben Eubanks

Over \$2.7 million for new buildings and renovations at MTSU has been proposed in Gov. Ray Blanton's proposed budget.

In a presentation to the General Assembly Tuesday night, Blanton proposed a statewide educational budget increase of \$203 million over last year with higher education receiving the bulk of the funding with \$47.7 million.

If approved by the Assembly, appropriations for MTSU would be used to build a music annex, renovate Jones Hall and to build a vocational agriculture facility.

The music annex would complete the original 1958 construction plan of Saunders Fine Arts building. The construction was left unfinished because of budget overruns, according to Charles Pigg, director of campus planning.

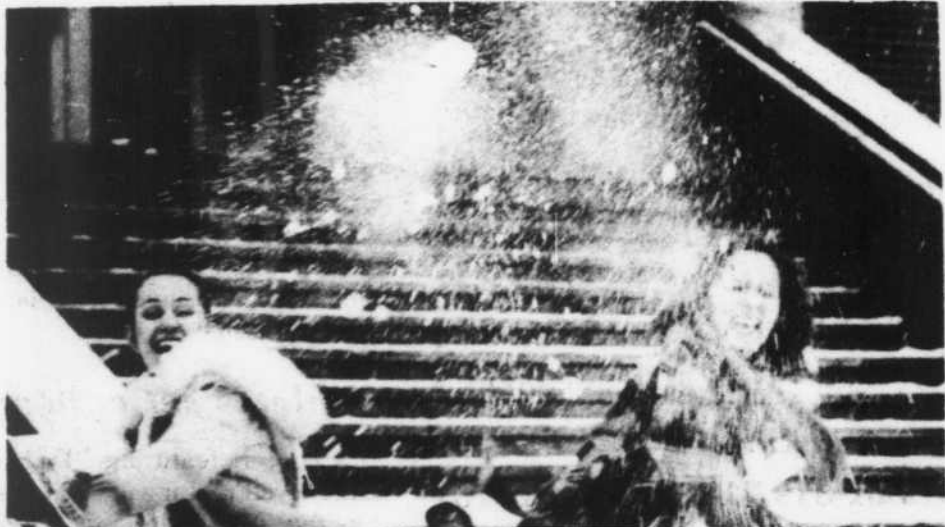
The \$2 million annex would include a 400-seat recital hall with a pipe organ and additional practice and studio room, Pigg said.

Jones Hall is scheduled for complete interior and exterior renovation with heating and air conditioning systems being included in the renovation, according to Pigg.

Built in 1924 as a male dorm, the building was converted into faculty offices over 10 years ago. Blanton's proposed budget includes \$520,000 for the remodeling.

Also included in the budget proposal is \$180,000 to build a vocational agriculture building. Pigg said the building size would be 6,000 square feet and would be a pre-engineered metal building. Pigg said the building would contain one lab/shop room and a classroom.

President M.G. Scarlett said he was optimistic about the Assembly's approval of the budget. "The state is in as good financial structure as it has ever been," Scarlett said. He added that Ned McWhorter, speaker of the house, approves the budget and could help in its acceptance.



Jane Woodard [left] and Mary Brewer find Thursday's snow excellent for making and throwing snowballs. [Steve Harbison photo]

State politician approves of pot bill

by Jerry Williamson

Decriminalization of marijuana was advocated by State Rep. Bill Boner at the National Collegiate



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MCAT-DAT Review Course take in Atlanta in 3 to 5 days, P.O. Box 77034, Atl., Ga 30309, Phone: (404) 874-2454.

LOST

White-gold Seiko ladies' watch, between D.A. and parking lot behind Jones Hall. If found, contact lost and found office at U.C. Reward offered.

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Association for Secretaries meeting Wednesday night.

There is a bill before the Senate Judiciary Committee asking that the use of marijuana become a civil offense. "This way you are just fined. I feel that the first offenses should be punished by having the choice of going to jail or being fined," Boner said.

Boner said that he disagrees with the governor's attempt to pardon Humphreys. "I feel that the governor made a mistake. I generally take the attitude that if I screwed up the works, I'd best admit it and go on," he added.

Boner added that he feels that the governor knows that he made a

mistake and that if he had the chance he would change his point of view.

"Some elected officials feel they have the divine right to never be wrong," Boner said.

Along with these statements, Boner pointed out that the right to pardon goes with the office of the governor.

However, concerning Blanton's recent position on the media, Boner stated, "I feel that the governor should be as open as possible and should be able to rely on the news media to truthfully report the news."

On the issue of out-of-state tuition, Boner said that each state has an obligation in post-high school levels to the residents of



Bill Boner

their state.

"We should encourage the best education for our residents first and foremost," Boner said.

Boner, a former ASB president of MTSU, is working on his law degree and serving as a member of the state senate.

Cafeteria closed

High Rise Cafeteria will be closed for dinner Friday, but will open again Saturday morning, according to Doug McCallie, of the ARA Food Service.

He added that the 19-meal food tickets will be honored at the Grill in the UC during the High Rise closing.

McCallie said the cafeteria was being closed for fumigation.

Exam planned

Prospective teachers who plan to take the National Teacher Examinations Feb. 18, at MTSU have less than two weeks to register with Educational Testing Service (ETS) of Princeton, N.J.

Dr. James A. Martin, director of guidance and counseling, said registrations must be mailed in time to reach ETS no later than January 26.

Registration forms and instructions may be obtained from Martin, or directly from the National Teacher Examinations, ETS, Box 911, Princeton, N.J. 08540. On-the-spot registration is not permitted.

During the one-day testing session, a registrant may take the Common Examinations, which include tests in professional and general education, plus one of the 26 Area Examinations designed to

Seconds increase price of non-freshman tickets

Non-mandatory meal tickets are more expensive than mandatory freshman tickets because of the cost of unlimited seconds at meals, according to Morris Bass, vice president of business and finance.

"The university absorbs the cost from the other tickets.

"We don't want to make the mandatory tickets any more expensive than we have to," he added.

About two years ago, Bass said, only athletes were allowed unlimited helpings. To avoid discriminating against non-athletes, seconds were permitted in Hi-Rise and Woodmore cafeterias.

Access to food was a major consideration in allowing seconds. "Because of the floor plan in the SUB cafeteria, we can't keep track of who has paid for a meal and who

hasn't," Bass said. "That's why there are no free seconds there."

Freshmen may exchange their ticket for the non-mandatory 3-2-1 (or budget) plan, which is accepted in the grill.

Instead of a set amount for each meal, the actual price of the food is marked off the 3-2-1 ticket.

A longer semester will not affect the price of that plan, Bass said.

"Bids are made on a semester basis. If the academic semester is going to change, it won't affect the basic minimum amount the student pays for the 3-2-1 ticket," Bass said.

"Students on the budget plan will just have to budget themselves during a longer semester," ARA director Doug McCallie said. "That's why they call it the budget plan."

Deadline near for drop-add

Registration for classes close Monday, Jan. 24, and is the deadline for dropping or adding a course, according to Cliff Gillespie of admissions and records.

After Monday, anyone dropping a class will receive a W/P or W/F. A course dropped before then will not receive a pass-fail grade. Drop-add forms may be obtained from student advisors.

As of Tuesday, the total student enrollment was 9,235, including off-campus registration. The final number cannot be determined until Monday when registration is complete, Gillespie said.

Athletes set concert

A concert featuring "Dogwood and Steve Fromm will be sponsored by the Fellowship of Christian Athletes on Jan. 23, at 7:30 p.m. in the SUB's Tennessee Room."

Middle Tennessee State University

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CAMPUS CALENDAR

FRIDAY

Job Interviews: Budd Company
(Sign up at Placement Office)

Horse Sale: All day, Livestock Pavilion

Meeting: Society of Financial and Accounting Managers, speaker—John Rucker, 11:45 a.m., Dining Room B, SUB

Track Meet: Oakland High School, 5:30-9:30, p.m., Murphy Center Track

Dance: Kool Klub, 9 p.m.-1 a.m., Tennessee Room, SUB

SATURDAY

Horse Sale: All day, Livestock Pavilion

Junior Varsity Basketball: MTSU v. Ft. Campbell, 2 p.m., Murphy Center

Women's Basketball: MTSU v. APSU, 5:45 p.m., Murphy Center

Men's Basketball: MTSU v. APSU, 8 p.m., Murphy Center

Dance: Delta Sigma Beta, 9 p.m.-a.m., Tennessee Room, SUB

SUNDAY

Horse Sale: All day, Livestock Pavilion

MONDAY

Meeting: Biology Club, 6:30 p.m., DSB 100

House approves resignation

In Thursday's ASB House meeting representative Donna Hoover was appointed to replace Danny Dunkleberger on the ASB election commission.

Dunkleberger resigned from the job because of the time it required.

The minutes from the previous house meeting were not read because the secretary could not find them. Joy Heath, speaker of the house, said the minutes had been placed on a desk but had disappeared.

Heath read a letter from Dean of Students Paul Cantrell saying 13 canned Coke machines were to be placed in the dorms.

Heath also read a letter from Robert LaLance, vice president of Student Affairs. It had been sent to

Don Craig, director of the library, urging him to meet with ASB representatives to discuss the ASB resolution calling for the library to extend its hours. Heath said the meeting has not yet been set up.

Print shop director has heart operation

MTSU print shop director Jim Booth underwent heart surgery Thursday at Baptist Hospital in Nashville.

Booth is in intensive care and will remain in the hospital for some time. "The operation went fine and he is doing very well," according to a print shop employee who contacted the hospital today.

ASB election date set

ASB elections for president, speaker of the House and of the Senate will be held Mar. 8 and 9 on the second floor of the UC, according to Steve White, ASB election commissioner.

There will be 17 senators chosen, five of which will be chosen with between 15-44 hours. Five senators with between 45-75 hours, five with over 76 hours, and two graduate senators will be elected.

Petitions for candidates will be

available at the ASB office beginning Friday. Petitions for presidential candidates must have 200 signatures, while speaker candidates require 100 signatures and 50 for senatorial candidates. Deadlines for the petitions will be seven days before the election.

White also stated that campaigning, which can begin 10 days before the election, will be allowed in the grill but nowhere else on the second floor.

ORIENTAL MARKET

Weekly Specials

Old Milwaukee 6 pk., 12 oz. cans & NRS—\$1.79

case—\$7.15 Case Ret. Botts. . . . \$5.99

Falstaff, 12 oz., NR Botts.—6 pk.—\$1.39

Case—\$5.55

Blatz, Ret. Botts.Case—\$4.99

Prices Good Thru—Jan. 21, 1978

Student award available

Applications are now available for the campus student of the month award, to be given at the end of each month.

Student of the Month awards will be given to a male and female showing outstanding academic, social, athletic or other ability.

To be eligible, applicants must be full or part-time students for two consecutive semesters, they must not be on academic or disciplinary probation or suspension and must have a 2.0 grade point average. Applicants must also have all finances cleared with the business office.

Applications for the awards must be turned in to the ASB office by

the end of each month, according to Mike McDonald, ASB senate speaker and a member of the selection committee.

Other members include Associate Dean of Students Ivan Shewmake and Sidelines managing editor Cathy Wood. The committee will review the applications each month and select the most outstanding male and female student.

Winners of the awards will receive a lamp from the MTSU bookstore and a framed certificate bearing their name and accomplishments. In addition, the MTSU News Bureau will be notified, and a press release will be sent to the hometown of each individual.

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Editorial

Snow is no excuse to cancel

How much does it have to snow before MTSU will close?

Apparently, even Thursday's snowfall was not enough. Why, some ask, does school continue to meet with that snow on the ground and street?

Most students either live on campus or close to it. Those that live on campus can still walk and the driving distance for the others is so small the danger is low.

For those that do live in Nashville or even further away, the policy of the university is to give students who miss class on bad weather days an opportunity to make up any work they may have missed.

Students are not the only reason classes continue to meet, there are financial considerations as well.

If classes were cancelled, the school would be giving the faculty a days pay for no classes. There would also be the cost of wasted energy since the buildings would continue to be heated during the cancelled day.

The university is not asking that students endanger themselves by coming to class, it merely recognizes that bad weather does not keep that many from going to class.

Letters

ASB plans benefit game for Evansville athletics

To the Editor:

On Dec. 12, 1977, the University of Evansville basketball team departed from Indiana destined for Music City. They were scheduled to play MTSU the next day. But a tragic plane crash led to the deaths of all those aboard the flight.

While the news media coverage gave only facts, a memorial service at MTSU caused many to face the reality of death. I was one. I could not help thinking "it could have been our team."

Many of our students were at home for the holidays when the accident occurred. Yet I'm sure those same thoughts registered in their minds. After that service, I began to look around my friends, administrators and personnel in student affairs filled my eyes. I realized then how lucky we all are as students to still be here. It was at that point that I realized that, out of all the problems we as students have, we have so many other important things in life to be thankful for. Seeing tomorrow outweighs high bookstore prices and

the hassles of college life. Many of us have forgotten that we had a choice to go to college or not. And while the University of Evansville basketball team had no choice, we do.

Brother Dave, the chaplain for the MTSU basketball squad, said it all when he expressed these words, "It's only when you live life to its fullest that you can face death."

Regardless of all of our differences and values, when it really gets down to the wire, we need each other. I have always thought a lot of our basketball team. But this year, for reasons expressed earlier, they are really special to me. Win or lose, I would not trade them for anything in the world. And win or lose in life, we have to remember that we're a team in this together, this thing called life.

Mike McDonald
Box 4234

P.S.-The ASB is planning a benefit basketball game with proceeds going to the University of Evansville Athletic Department. Anyone interested can contact me at Box 1 MTSU or 898-2464.



Open Forum

Economic growth hindered if state spending limited

by Barbara Haskew
Professor of Economics

By all accounts the "sleeping" issue of the just-concluded State Constitutional Convention turned out to be the proposal to limit state government spending. This proposed amendment, which would require the Tennessee legislature to limit growth of state expenditures from state tax dollars to the rate of growth of the state economy, may prove, if adopted in March, to have greater long-run impact than the more controversial judicial and interest rate articles.

Tennessee is not alone in attempting to control the growth of the public sector; voters in both California and Michigan recently considered and rejected similar state constitutional amendments. Presently, voters in Massachusetts being urged to consider such a proposed state spending ceiling in a 1980 state-wide referendum. These attempts to limit state spending in Tennessee and in other states obviously reflect and respond to a national climate of voter urgency about the growth of the public sector and deepening frustration over "excessive" taxation. However, before approving such a limit on state expenditures in the March election, Tennessee voters would be advised to develop a clearer picture of the real size and cost of the state public sector and to consider the impact of such expenditure limitations on the provision of important public services in Tennessee.

It is difficult to specify the appropriate size of a state's public sector, but by almost any measure Tennessee's is relatively small. In fact, the state and local tax burden borne by Tennesseans is one of the lowest in the nation. For example in 1975-76 a Tennessean on the average paid only \$493.17 in state and local taxes compared to the hefty \$902.71 tax bill of the harder-pressed Massachusetts' resident.

Public spending, of course, purchases and provides needed public services. It is only realistic to recognize that simply maintaining a constant level of services for each

Tennessean in future years will cost no more than it costs today, due to population growth and inflation. But media emphasis on poorly paid state workers, low educational expenditures per student and overcrowded correctional facilities remind us that there may be serious deficiencies in this present level of state services. Limiting state spending to the state's growth rate, however measured, may prevent Tennessee from improving the quantity and quality of these and other state programs. In fact, with such limitations as proposed by the constitutional convention, if the state's economic growth should slow, sputter or temporarily stall, even present inadequate levels of certain expenditures might have to be cut back. Perhaps most significantly, new government programs that would develop the economic infrastructure needed to secure Tennessee's share of the projected Sunbelt industrial growth would probably be put on a back burner. The constitutional delegates attempted to provide for such emergency situations by providing that the legislature could by simple majority vote to exceed the spending limit.

It is tempting to toy with the notion that government spending might be limited and controlled by locking it into step with some economic measure. Unfortunately, this naive approach assumes that government spending is presently at the optimum level in Tennessee and that this level is likely to remain the optimum one for the future. Additionally, it also assumes that economic forecasting is a more exact science than most economists would wish to claim.

It is startling indeed to consider the impacts that would have been wrought in Tennessee had such a limit on government spending been added to our constitution fifty years ago. The one-room schoolhouses and dirt roads of that day may appear attractively clothed in nostalgia, but they are a far cry from the educational and highway systems expected and demanded by today's Tennesseans.

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Sidelines is published every Tuesday and Friday by the students of Middle Tennessee State University. Editorials and columns reflect the opinion of their authors and not of the MTSU administration, faculty, staff or newspaper adviser Byron St. Dizier.

Batman TV movie being planned

Boy Wonder now doing promotions

by D'Nice Lawson

Time has softened the approach of the crime-fighting, villain-chasing Robin The Boy Wonder, comrade of Batman.

Instead of being surrounded by arch enemies like the Riddler, Joker and Catwoman, Robin was confronted with a mob of youngsters seeking his autograph as he calmly sat at a desk prepared for him University Ford in Murfreesboro.

Perhaps it is just as well the bad guys didn't show up since Batman wasn't around to lend a helping hand like he did during their days on television. Reruns are still being

shown.

Burt Ward, the boyish face hiding behind the Robin's black mask, is making a tour through Southern towns promoting places like the car dealer and making personal appearances.

Ward doesn't spend the entire year making public appearances. Seven to eight months are spent in Los Angeles taking care of his Entertainment Management Corporation which handles fan clubs and promotion tours for people like the Fonz and Starsky.

A two hour Batman and Robin movie is planned for next year says Ward. "Of course it will star Adam

West and myself, but all the villains will be new."

"Our Saturday morning TV cartoon show is rated number one," he continues. The "dynamic duo has not been forgotten."

"And the response from the kids has been great on this tour. It always is. Kids are pretty much the same everywhere."

But some children are harder to satisfy than others. One curious youngster wanted know, "Are you really Robin?"

"In the flesh," replied Ward.

"Oh yea? Well then where's Batman?"



Jack Wilson, sales manager for University Ford, gets a "Bat-handshake" from Robin, the Boy Wonder.

Survey shows more transfer students come to MTSU

Students transferring to other schools accounted for the majority of students who did not return in the fall, 1977 semester to MTSU, according to a survey conducted by admissions director Cliff Gillespie.

Gillespie sent out a survey to those students who had attended MTSU in the spring, 1977, but who had not returned in the fall semester, to discover why they had left.

Of the 1,800 surveys sent out, about 600 replies were returned. The results were not surprising, according to Gillespie. Many said that they could not handle college financially. Others decided to work instead, or had married.

However, Gillespie expressed concern with the number of students who responded to the survey by saying that they felt they were

not "college material," and thus became discouraged with MTSU.

Survey results revealed a number of students who felt that MTSU had poor academic advising. Gillespie said that advising was a give and take process, and that many students may not actively seek out advising from their professors.

However, MTSU did well in the area of transfers coming here from other schools, Gillespie added. A report issued from the state level concluded that last year MTSU had more transfers come here from other colleges than any other college or university in the state. The majority of these transfers came from Motlow State, Columbia State, Volunteer State, UT-Nashville, UT-Knoxville and Tennessee Tech.

Gillespie plans to issue the survey and sent it to all deans and department heads on campus. A

meeting with the deans and the department heads is scheduled for early spring to analyze the survey.

Senators face impeachment for excessive absences

Only 13 out of 20 senators appeared at Tuesday's ASB Senate meeting, causing Speaker Mike McDonald to remind the senators they can be impeached for excessive absences.

According to the by-laws, a senator can be impeached after three unexcused absences, McDonald said.

There were no bills or resolutions introduced in the session. However, McDonald made several

assignments to various committees.

The food service committee is to find out why ARA food service employees do not wear hair nets in the grill and the housing committee is to find out if there are still three people to a room in some of the dorms. The committees are to report to McDonald at the next senate meeting on Jan. 31.

McDonald explained the purpose of the committees is to provide answers to student's questions.

Students

[continued from page 1]

a little to maintain our profit level.

There are only two prices on our shelves, the new and used prices on textbooks. This policy creates less confusion when students would buy the same books for two to four different prices."

Asked if used books were purchased from other university bookstores, Harris' answer was no. "We buy our books from many wholesale book suppliers and buy from other bookstores on rare occasions when we know for certain we will be using the book the store is discontinuing."

When questioned concerning the possible extra profit, Harris said, "We use it for profit and for the overall reduction of our total expenditures."

University policy on the setting of book prices is based on the State board of Regents policy and a university administrative policy approved by Morris Bass, vice-president of business and finance.

SHAKERS

by DBFischnetz



After Saturday, six teams could lead

Peay invasion is newest episode in OVC race

by John Pitts
Sports Editor

Once again mired in a three-way tie for the Ohio Valley Conference basketball lead, Middle Tennessee will be looking to post its fourth OVC win Saturday night against invading Austin Peay.

sidelines sports

MTSU owns a 3-1 conference record going into game, and is 11-4 overall. Peay, off to a cold start under the direction of first-year coach Ed Thompson, has rallied to a 2-2 OVC record, 8-6 overall.

The Blue Raiders had a chance for sole possession of the conference lead, but lost to a determined Tennessee Tech team 65-60 last Monday night in Murphy Center.

Middle Tennessee has lost its last four regular season matches against Austin Peay, but still has a one-game edge over the Govs since the series began in the 1939-40 season. In that game, Peay routed MTSU 57-28 on the way to a perfect season.

Middle Tennessee faced Austin Peay three times last season, losing twice and winning once. The Raiders lost the initial 1977 meeting 63-62 in Murphy Center, then fell 67-60 in Clarksville. Then, in a classic shocker, the Raiders beat Peay 77-65 in the finals of the OVC post-season tournament, sticking the Governors with their first home loss since inaugurating Dunn Center in 1975.

"There's no doubt that Austin Peay's players recall the loss last year," Earle told the crowd at Thursday's faculty-press luncheon in the Student Union Building. "And all we have to do to fire our players up is mention Austin Peay," the coach added.

The game will be just another episode in what Earle terms "the most mixed-up, equal OVC race you'll ever see." The MTSU

coach's statement underscores how close the present conference race is (three teams tied for first and three teams tied for fourth) and how much closer it might get.

The right combination of wins and losses Saturday night might leave six teams in a tie for the OVC's first place. Only Murray State and Morehead could not claim at least a share of the OVC lead after Saturday night's action.

Another combination of wins or losses could put any of the three teams that lead the conference (MTSU, Tennessee Tech and Western Kentucky) in sole possession of first place.

With those confusing possibilities as a backdrop, MTSU's nationally-ranked defense will get its strongest challenge of the conference season in the form of the Govs' Otis Howard.

Howard, a 6-7 senior that Earle tried to recruit out of an Oak Ridge high school, went on the rampage last week and led his teammates to two crucial home wins, 113-85 over Eastern Kentucky and 85-69 over Morehead State.

In those two games, the 1977 OVC Player of the Year rammed in 58 points, yanked 26 rebounds, flipped 11 assists, grabbed four steals and blocked four shots. That



Jimmy Earle

Herculean effort left Howard leading the conference in rebounding [10.9 per game] and third in scoring [21.0 points per game].

Howard was named OVC Player of the Week for his performance.

"It's difficult to defense Otis Howard—he's gotten 20 or 22 points on his bad nights," MTSU assistant coach Stan Simpson joked at the luncheon.

In addition to Howard, the Peay will send double-figure scorers Norman Jackson (10.6 ppg) and Dennis Pagan (10.2 ppg) against MTSU's defense, ranked first in the conference. Peay has the shortest center in the league, 6-4 Phil Mayo.

But with Howard at forward, the Govs have plenty of inside strength.

MTSU's firepower comes from three steady performers: senior guard Sleepy Taylor, who averages Greg Joyner, who averages 16.3 points and 7.3 rebounds per game and senior post man Bob Martin, who is averaging 12.0 points and 8.3 rebounds per game.

In addition to its defensive prowess, MTSU is the best field goal shooting team in the league, averaging 51.6 percent from the field. Joyner (58.0 percent) and Martin (57.8 percent) pace the conference in field goal shooting.

Monday night, the Blue Raiders venture to Murray State to try and avenge last year's 71-70 loss. In that game, MTSU held a 70-64 lead with 39 seconds left, but nevertheless lost the game.

Murray is led by forward Mike Muff, second leading scorer in the conference with a 23.6 points per game average. After finishing in the top four last season, the Racers stumbled to a 4-6 preseason record and lost its first two conference games. The team then rallied to beat Morehead 69-60, but fell to Eastern Kentucky Monday night 63-60 and now has a 1-3 OVC record.

Joyner: 'I'm ready to play'

by Chuck Cavalaris

If one were to subscribe to some of the rumors floating around about Greg Joyner, it would be easy to envision the Philadelphia, Pa., native as a gangster who ate tin cans for breakfast.

All sorts of wild tales made the rounds and eventually settled on the ears of coach Jimmy Earle. One (untrue) report said Joyner and Earle got in a fistfight at I-Dorm Tuesday.

Other rumors said Joyner and three other players (Sammy Burrell, Derek Render and John Sauer) were being punished by the coaching staff for severely violating team

rules.

"Somebody said we had a situation like Arkansas' football team before the Sugar Bowl," Earle said with an angry scowl. "That just isn't so. I'd like to find out who it is that delights in starting such stories."

Well then, coach, what about the fistfight rumor?

"That's the craziest thing I've heard in my life," Earle exclaimed. First, I'm not a fighter. Or a lover either, for that matter. And if I was going to fight somebody, it would not be Greg Joyner. I'd be at least a 50-1 underdog," Earle added.

For what it's worth, Greg Joyner—after meeting with Earle earlier in the day—practiced with the first unit Thursday and expects to open against Austin Peay on Saturday.

"I hope I start," said Joyner, who has been besieged with a handful of personal problems and a severe case of the flu to boot.

"Not a thing happened in the dorm. There is no discipline problem. Whatever the coach says, I'll abide by it. We know whenever you break the rules you pay. Everything will be all right. I promise," Joyner said Thursday.

Joyner flashed a startled look when told he was supposedly in the middle of a swirling controversy



Greg Joyner

and said, "I want to do whatever I can to help my team win. I'm certainly not going to do anything that would hurt."

Much of the discussion started when fans noticed only 10 players dressed out for the East Tennessee game (instead of 13) and when Joyner was on the bench when the game began.

Earle, however, insists that the move was a morale play and that Joyner was not benched, but rather held out because of his illness and resulting weakened condition. Joyner agrees.

[continued on page 8]

Super sports Saturday?

Despite the bad weather, several of Middle Tennessee's athletic teams will see action Saturday.

There will be three basketball games in Murphy Center, along with an indoor track meet. Two of the games, the womens' and mens' varsity, will be broadcast on campus radio station WMOT-FM (89.5 on the FM dial).

TRACK (INDOOR): MTSU vs. Furman; noon, Murphy Center track.

WRESTLING: MTSU at Anderson Invitational.

BASKETBALL: MTSU Jayvees vs. Ft. Campbell 3 p.m., Murphy Center.

MTSU women vs. Austin Peay; 5:45 p.m., Murphy Center.

MTSU vs. Austin Peay; 8 p.m., Murphy Center.

Another 'close encounter'**Second half rally saves Lady Vols**

by John Pitts
Sports Editor

Pat Sarver's first season as coach of the Blue Raider women's basketball team has been filled with "close encounters" against nationally-ranked teams.

Her latest was with third-ranked Tennessee, which overcame a 40-38 halftime deficit to beat the Raiders 87-79 Tuesday night in Murphy Center. The loss left MTSU with a 6-7 record.

"Sometimes, I've looked out on the court this season and thought we were playing NBA teams," Sarver laughed Thursday as she turned her sights toward Saturday evening's clash with Austin Peay in Murphy Center.

"We played three games in two months, and then followed that with six games in the last 10 days," Sarver said of a grueling schedule which, among other things, sent her women on a 1000-mile bus trip from Murfreesboro to Morehead, Ky., to Jackson, Tenn., and back home again.

To make matters worse, four MTSU starters (point guard Jan

Zitney, forwards Patrice Amos and Sharon McClanahan and center Sherry McKinney) have suffered the effects of the flu bug during the past two weeks. Substitute Kathy Riley underwent knee surgery Thursday morning in Nashville and is "probably through for the season," Sarver said.

Despite those problems, the Raider Women gave Tennessee just about everything they could handle, leading 7-0 and 11-2 before Pat Head's Vols began to settle down and play the way a nationally-ranked basketball team is supposed to.

In the end, it was the "Cindy and Suzy" show that stifled MTSU's giant-killer hopes with a 53-point outburst, 31 of those in the second half.

Forward Cindy Brogdon canned 14 of 24 field goals (including at least five in a row from 15 feet) to lead all scorers with 28 points. Teammate Suzanne Barbe fired in 10 of 18 from the field and five of six at the line for 25 points in winning cause.

Forward Amos, who was named

the OVC's Player of the Week in the latest conference press release, hit eight of eight from the floor and four of five from the charity stripe to pace the losers with 20 points.

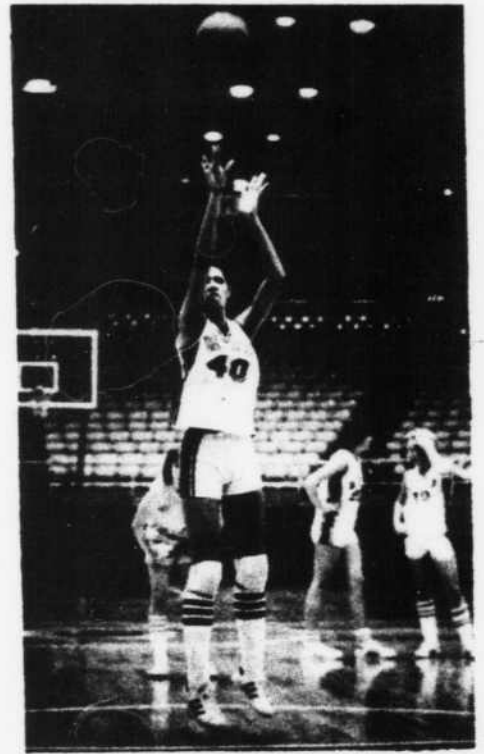
Close behind her was forward Liz Hannah with 18 and McKinney and McClanahan with 14 each.

After taking the lead to the locker room, MTSU got involved in a see-battle early in the second half, leading by two or tied up until "we really got exhausted," Sarver said.

Tennessee took a two-point lead (52-50) on a Brogdon jumper, then extended that lead to six points. Middle never again was able to catch the Lady Vols, though they pulled within five points with just two minutes left.

For the game, Middle Tennessee shot 55.6 percent from the field, while Tennessee shot 50.9 per cent. MTSU hit 19 of 22 from the foul line for 86.4 percent, while UT managed of nine for 77.8 percent. The Raiders out-rebounded Tennessee 36-35.

The key statistic in the game was turnovers. Middle Tennessee, playing much of the second half without



Sherry McKinney

key playmaker Zitney, committed 28 turnovers while Tennessee turned the ball over just 16 times.

"We turned the ball over while trying to play catch-up ball," Sarver observed. "We kinda fell down defensively when they started to fast break the ball in the second half, and trying to come back forced some offensive errors on our part," Sarver said.

Murphy Center spirit needs a speedy 'revival'

by Chuck Cavalaris

Will you be in Murphy Center Saturday night?

Inclement weather has caused poor attendance at the first two conference games in Murphy Center, but according to the weatherman, there is a slight chance the weather will break before Saturday's game with Austin Peay.

A penny for Jimmy Earle's thoughts right now would certainly find him wishing for a packed house in what shapes up to be a tremendous basketball game.

"Our home court advantage is our student body," Earle explained as flakes flurried all around. "If

this stuff doesn't stop, our fans might have to come to the game in snowplows. It's not the court, Earle analyzed. "It's the fans, especially the student body, that get after them."

But that emotion, if you listen to the words of those closely associated with the team, has not been quite as great, quite as volatile, this season as in some years past.

The consensus opinion is that Murphy Center needs a revival.

"Most of it may be the weather," cautioned Earle, whose club has failed to play before a packed house at home this season. "But the same enthusiasm just isn't there. It is

almost a completely different setting."

"I don't really know how hungry our fans and players are," continued Earle, pointing to two trips to the NCAA tournament in the last three years.

Assistant coach Stan Simpson pegged as the cause an avalanche of pre-season buildup as "title favorites" that has some fans accepting a conference championship before a game is played.

"Last season we had to fight and scratch for every point we got. We were the underdog," Simpson explained. "But now, fans here seem to be sitting back waiting for us to

wipe somebody out. We simply don't have that kind of talent."

Whatever the outcome concerning the number and disposition of Saturday's crowd, all reserved seats have been sold. Maybe a couple of "Let's Go Peay" cheers will work the charm in the Blue Raider sections.

If that doesn't do it, surely nothing else will.

RAIDER NOTES:

•Austin Peay's first-year coach Ed Thompson was expecting a large turnout Tuesday when he said, "It will be interesting to play before a big, noisy crowd."

•A letter wishing well to all Blue Raider fans from Lewis Mack is on a bulletin board in the dressing room...Mack is now an assistant coach at Jamestown Community College in New York.

•Austin Peay has won two straight games in Murphy Center.. Derek Render hit 13 straight shots from 15 feet or better in yesterday's practice...watch for Peay to open in its usual man-to-man defense.

•Seventy percent of the college basketball players across the nation would not play with the pain Bob Martin has, according to Earle. "It's a day to day situation," Earle said of the torn cartilage in Martin's knee.

•Clint Dennison has made Earle's honor roll with enthusiasm, much like Gil Thompson did last year. "Clint has always been willing to do his part for the program," Earle said.

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All Are Welcome!

Officials seek cooperation in Pizza Hut drive

by John Pitts
Sports Editor

Officials here and at Austin Peay will try Saturday to forge an agreement that would almost guarantee that a senior player from both schools will participate in the upcoming Pizza Hut Basketball Classic in Las Vegas.

Bob Martin of Middle Tennessee and Otis Howard of Austin Peay are the only basketball players in the state named on the ballot for the game. In all, there are 124 senior basketball players from around the country listed on the ballot. There will be 16 players elected for two teams, East and West.

Despite the problems encountered with making "deals" with other schools, Freeman expressed optimism that an arrangement can be made to combine the ballots from Murfreesboro and Clarksville (a total of more than 700,000 ballots, Freeman said) and send both players to the game.

"There's a time for competition and a time for cooperation...I think that through cooperating, we can give a big boost to both schools' basketball programs and also honor two great players," Freeman said.

Freeman already has in his possession more than 200,000 of the special ballots, and most will be distributed to campus organizations in

the first phase of ballot-marking. "We were seeking a way to involve the most people in the marking—we decided a contest would be the best way of all," Freeman said.

Details of the planned contest are outlined in a letter mailed by Freeman to advisers of the largest and most active campus groups. The group that marks the most ballots will receive, at Pizza Hut's expense, a pizza and beer party on the night of the game and the use of a pair of color television sets to watch the game, Freeman said.

The second phase of the ballot-marking process will be for the general public on Feb. 13 in the Tennessee Room of the Student Union Building.

Third phase of the attempt to send Martin to (and Howard) the game will involve the ballots in Clarksville, although Freeman said Thursday he was not sure what the agreement would Austin Peay would entail.

"It will take at least 350,000 ballots to insure that Martin and Howard go to the game...there's just no better way to get them there than to work together with Austin Peay," Freeman said.

Joyner

[continued from page 7]

With 13 minutes remaining against ETSU, Joyner was whistled for his second foul in less than a minute, his fourth in the game. The call was a charge, one Greg felt was wrong, but the contact made him sick and he left the court.

"I guess now I realize it was wrong to walk off the court like that," Greg confided. "But everything seemed to be working against me. You can't help the team with fouls that make you sit on the bench."

What about the personal problems?

"It took couple of days but I worked them out," Greg replied. "Sometimes it's hard to play ball so far from home when things go wrong. But that is behind me. I'm ready to play ball now."

As for the other three players, Earle said they did not dress out because of "not enough bench enthusiasm."

"We need an active bench just as much as we need an active crowd," Earle offered. "We had some players on the bench that were not fired up and encouraging those playing."

"We wanted them to know that just because you come to practice, it doesn't mean that you will dress out. Many times a player starts to feel sorry for himself when he isn't getting that much playing time. Sometimes you have to put the team above yourself."

In Thursday's practice, Earle was encouraging all of the players who didn't dress out in Monday's game. Players that will dress out will be posted the day before a game, Earle said.

Track season opens

Dean Hayes will be conducting a "surprise" track meet Saturday afternoon in Murphy Center.

The surprise will be if anyone besides Hayes' MTSU team shows up, considering the present inclement weather.

The meet, which begins at noon, was originally scheduled to pit MTSU's team against Furman, and David Lipscomb College against another opponent. But weather and other problems have left Hayes admitting that "there will be a track meet, even if I'm not absolutely sure who'll be there."

Whoever trudges to the indoor meet will be faced with the challenge facing many of the athletes that made Middle Tennessee the OVC outdoor track champion in May.

Foremost of the returning Raiders is John DoDoo, a junior leaper who was voted Co-Trackman of the Year in the conference in 1977. Joining him will be junior Shiekh Faye, OVC outdoor champion in the long jump.

Another entry in the jumping events will be freshman Greg Artis, the number one triple jumper in the nation last year.

Field events will be bolstered by the return to form of Ted Hausauer, 1976 OVC indoor shot put champion.

Hurdle events provided a number of pleasant surprises for Hayes last season, and two of those talented athletes return: conference record holder Russell Holloway in the intermediate hurdles and sophomore Ed Thomas, a versatile hurdler.

Returning runners for Hayes' team will include David Robinson, J.T. Musgrove, Ed Stegall and Chester Ransom, along with transfer sprinter Larry Gholson. In the distance events, Hayes will field senior Dennis Votava, sophomore Garry Perry and transfer Dana McCutcheon.

Field events begin at noon, while running events get underway at 1 p.m.

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