

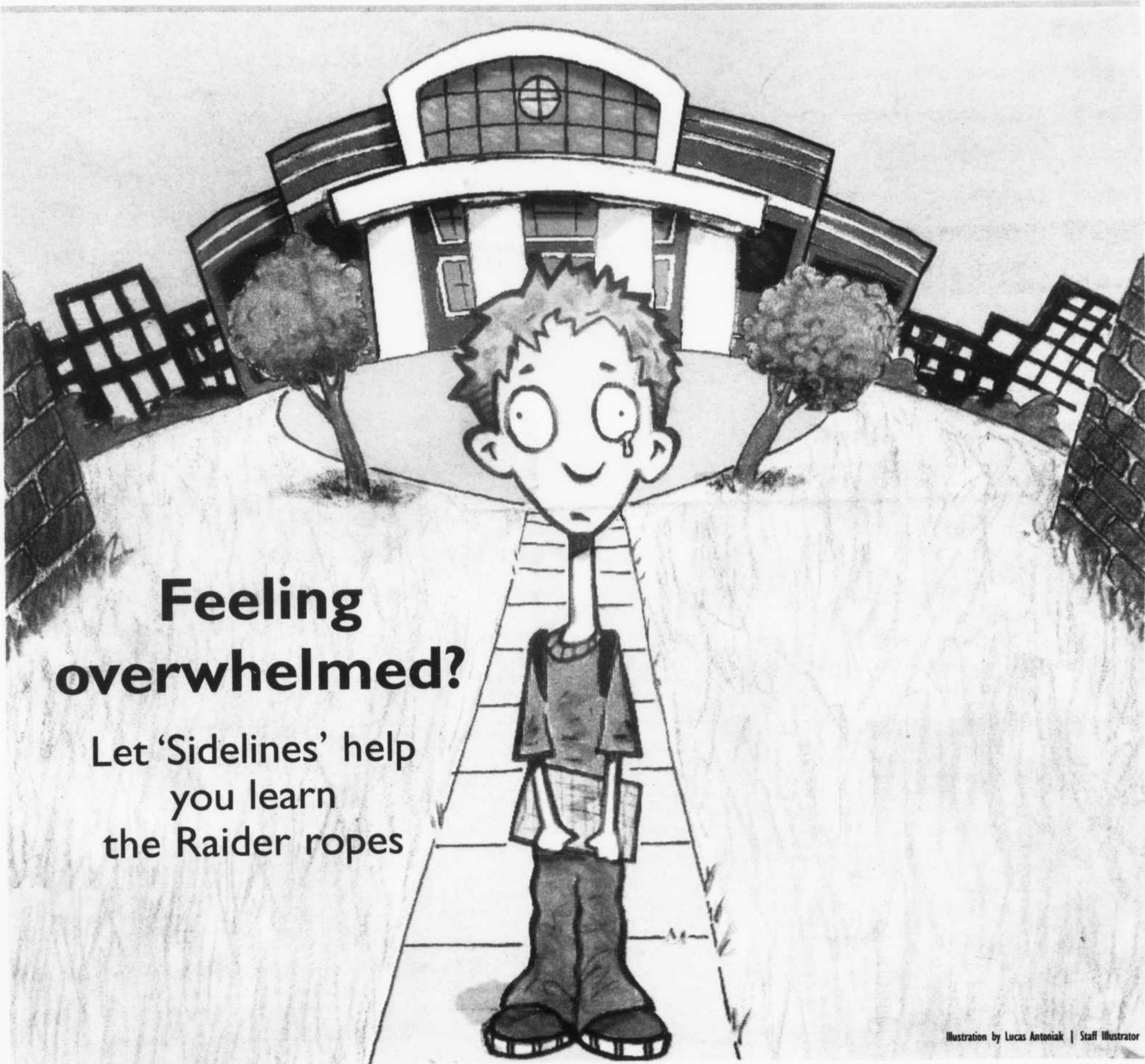
*An editorially
independent
newspaper*

NEW STUDENT EDITION 2003

SIDELINES

Middle Tennessee State University

MURFREESBORO,
TENNESSEE



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the Raider ropes

Illustration by Lucas Antoniak | Staff Illustrator

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SIDELINES

Middle Tennessee
State University
1301 East Main Street
P.O. Box 8
Murfreesboro, TN 37132

Editorial: 898-2337
Advertising: 898-2533
Fax: 904-8193
www.mtsusidelines.com

Editor in Chief
Managing Editor
News Editor
Assistant News Editor
News Design/Production Manager
Opinions and Online Editor/Design
Features Editor
Features Design
Sports Editor/Design
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Sidelines is the editorially independent, non-profit student-produced newspaper of Middle Tennessee State University. Sidelines publishes Monday, Wednesday and Thursday during the fall and spring semesters and Wednesday during June and July. The opinions expressed herein are those of the individual writers and not necessarily of Sidelines or MTSU.

Sidelines welcomes letters to the editor from all readers. Please e-mail letters to slopino@mtsu.edu, and include your name and a phone number for verification.

Sidelines will not publish anonymous letters. We reserve the right to edit for grammar, length and content.

W.O.W 2003

Week of Welcome at MTSU

Friday, August 15

Residence Halls Open - 12 p.m.

We-Haul

Information Booths - 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Live from the Quad

•Dinner & Music - 6 p.m.

•Catch Me If You Can - Outdoor Movie - 8:30 p.m.

Saturday, August 16

We-Haul

Information Booths - 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Dinner & Street Fair - 6 p.m.- behind Corlew

Sunday, August 17

University Convocation - 2 p.m. - Murphy Center

President's Picnic - 4 p.m. - between Peck and Cope

Monday, August 18

Ice Cream on the KUC Knoll - 12 p.m. - 1 p.m.

Tuesday, August 19

Meet Murfreesboro - 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. - KUC Courtyard

Wednesday, August 20

Meet Murfreesboro - 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. - KUC Courtyard

Thursday, August 21

Meet, Greet & Eat - 7 p.m. - Floyd Stadium

Friday, August 22

Comedian - 8 p.m. - Murphy Center

Saturday, August 23

Honors Challenge

Sunday, August 24

Honors Convocation

Monday, August 25

Open Mic Night at Cyber Cafe - 7:30 p.m.

Tuesday, August 26

Volunteer Fair - 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. - KUC Courtyard

Wednesday, August 27

Student Organization Fair - 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.- KUC Courtyard

Thursday, August 28

1st home football game

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Photo by Jamie Lorange | Staff Photographer

The area in front of Keathley University Center buzzes with activity on a sunny spring day. MTSU's campus will be crawling with new and returning students in August. A 5 percent enrollment growth cap for freshmen may affect the number of incoming students.

Freshman enrollment capped

Officials limit growth to 5 percent above 2002

By Juanita Thouin
Staff Reporter

State-mandated budget cuts are having an impact upon MTSU's student enrollment for the 2003-04 calendar year.

According to MTSU President Sidney McPhee, the Tennessee Higher Education Commission is mandating a freshman enrollment cap of 5 percent above last year's enrollment.

Rich Rhoda, executive director of Tennessee Higher Education Commission, said the commission is concerned that failure to limit the number of students will impact the quality of education available system-wide.

"The whole premise (behind caps) is that there will be no new appropriations in the foreseeable

future," Rhoda said.

Rhoda pointed out that the enrollment limit is for first-time, full-time freshmen at universities. Community colleges are not affected.

While McPhee acknowledges a need to manage enrollment, he expressed apprehension about turning interested students away.

"The last thing we want to be doing is limiting educational opportunities," McPhee said.

Rhoda agreed that denying anyone access is not something those involved in managing higher education want to do. But right now, THEC believes a more productive use of limited funds would be to concentrate on retention of current students.

Betty Dandridge-Johnson, director of policy, planning and research

for THEC said that most recent statistics indicate only 49 percent of first-time, full-time freshmen at Tennessee universities graduate within six years.

According to Rhoda, part of the long-term plan is to encourage under-prepared high school graduates to begin their higher-education careers at community colleges rather than four-year institutions.

Robert Glenn, vice provost for enrollment management and vice president for Student Affairs, said MTSU will use a similar strategy to meet enrollment restraints.

Previously, MTSU would allow 10 percent of incoming freshmen to be admitted by "exception." This meant that the university would admit a certain number of students

who did not fully qualify academically.

With the mandated caps, fully qualified applicants will take precedence over those seeking entrance by exception.

According to Sharon Thomas, associate director of admissions, at this point in time, a student's choice of major will not play a role in enrollment management.

Thomas said that in some majors, competition for upper division classes is intense. But she contends that, because so many freshmen

enter as undecided and because students often change their majors well into their college careers, attacking the overcrowding problem at the admissions level is not very effective.

In addition to the state-mandated

cap for freshmen, MTSU has placed its own limit of 5 percent on new students — across the board.

"We feel we need to carefully manage our growth so we don't outgrow our facilities," Glenn said.

According to Assistant Vice Provost for Enrollment Services Sherian Huddleston, the university is expecting to register 1,058 new students for the fall semester. This would raise student population to 22,221.

Enrollment was up 5.43 percent in 2001-02.

Officially, the deadline for fall admissions is July 1. But Glenn said the cut-off date may come earlier, depending on when enrollment quotas are met.

"We're encouraging prospective students to apply and register earlier," McPhee said.

According to Huddleston, many incoming freshmen and transfer applicants are still deciding whether or not they will attend MTSU. Therefore, the enrollment services office does not yet know if or when registration will be cut off. ◆

"The last thing we want to be doing is limiting educational opportunities."

— Sidney McPhee
MTSU president

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University ready to gear up for two weeks of food, fun

By Mealand Ragland
Staff Writer

Each fall, MTSU spends two weeks welcoming new and returning students to campus. Local businesses donate time and food to make sure that Welcome Week is successful. Events making comebacks for 2003 include a meet and greet with the football team and a comedy show. New to this year's schedule is ice cream on the Knoll. Below is a tentative list of activities scheduled for Welcome Week 2003.

Friday, August 15

Residence Halls open at 12 noon
We-Haul – Students help move freshmen into campus dorms
Information Booths – 10 a.m.-6 p.m.
On the Quad – Dinner, Music and a Movie – 6-10:30pm

Saturday, August 16

Move-in continues
Dinner and Street Fair – 6 p.m. behind Corlew Hall

Sunday, August 17

University Convocation – 2 p.m.
President's Picnic – 4 p.m. between Peck Hall and Cope Administration Building

Monday, August 18

First day of class
Ice cream on the Knoll – 12 noon-1 p.m.

Tuesday and Wednesday, August 19-20

Meet Murfreesboro 10 a.m.-3p.m., Keathley University Center Courtyard

Thursday, August 21

Meet, Greet and Eat – 7 p.m., Floyd Stadium

Friday, August 22

Comedy show – 8 p.m., Murphy Center

Saturday, August 23

Honors Challenge

Sunday, August 24

Honors Convocation

Monday, August 25

Open Mic Night – 7:30 p.m., Cyber Café

Tuesday, August 26

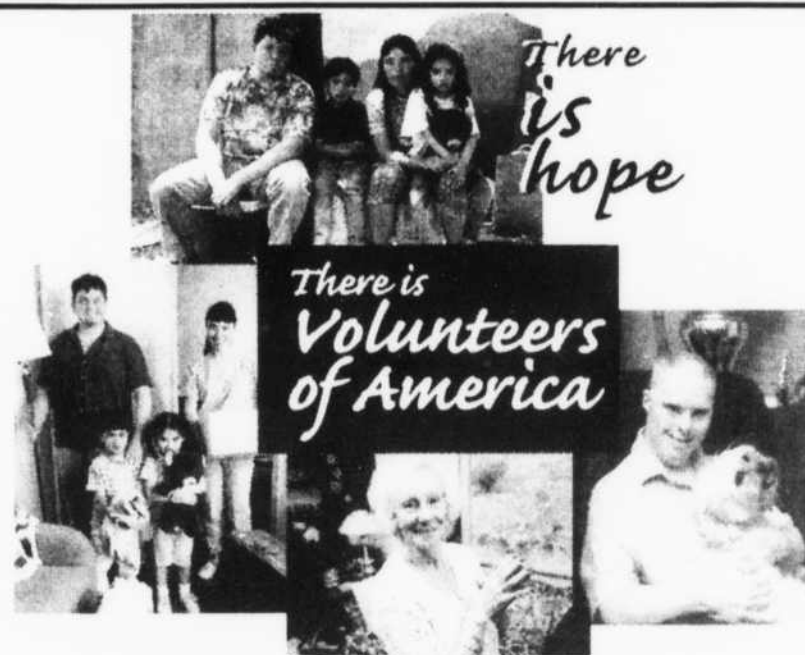
Volunteer Fair – 10 a.m.-2 p.m., KUC Courtyard

Wednesday, August 27

Student Organization Fair – 10 a.m.-2 p.m., KUC Courtyard

Thursday, August 28

Florida Atlantic vs. MTSU, Floyd Stadium, time TBA. ♦



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What students think

Sidelines staff writer Wes Murchinson recently asked current MTSU students, "What are the biggest differences and similarities between high school and college?"



Shannon Aplin
Senior psychology major

Difference: "The world isn't what I thought it was. I was a little sheltered."

Similarity: "No matter where you go can always find people to connect with."



Stephanie Ross
Freshman English and journalism major

Difference: "That I didn't have any money."

Similarities: "That all my classes had an attendance policy. I thought that kind of sucked."



John Workman
Junior biology major

Differences: "I do more work than I had expected. There's not as much partying as I'd hoped. It's a lot different. I think I had more fun in high school."

Similarities: "There isn't any."



Jordan Greene
Junior English major

Differences: "There were so many people. I was shocked at the huge diversity – there was older people and people of different ethnic backgrounds."

Similarities: "Trying to get good grades."



Holly Bush
Senior English and Spanish major

Difference: "Trying to balance the new freedoms you have with the new responsibilities you have."

Similarities: "You don't have the same friends but you'll make better friends in college."

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Changes in store for campus dining

Officials plan better food, longer hours

By Wendy Caldwell
Staff Writer

Students will find changes in some of the campus dining halls in the fall semester.

McCallie Dining Hall, located in Corlew Hall, will be undergoing phase two of Real Food on Campus.

Phase one of the plan, nicknamed RFOC, consisted of the construction and renovations that occurred at McCallie this year. The second and final stage of RFOC will target improvements in areas such as food and food preparation.

Food Service Director Paul Stuart said MTSU's dining is unique in that it does not have a separate athletic training table like many other large universities. As a result, MTSU feeds the bulk of students at McCallie.

Stuart also said phase two of RFOC would focus on more display cooking. For example, when a student in the past ordered lasagna, a piece was cut from a pan of pre-cooked, pre-prepared lasagna. After phase two is implemented, the lasagna will be built in front of the student and then put through an oven, according to Stuart.

"It [phase two of RFOC] will be a substantial improvement," Stuart said.

Students will also notice a difference at the Cyber Café at Woodmore.

"I chose not to renew the [Taco Bell] contract," Stuart said. Taco Bell may be replaced with Subway, though plans are still tentative, according to Stuart.

"The students seem to like Subway relatively well," Stuart said. He also added that Subway has better prices than other deli competitors, making that aspect favorable for students.

Stuart also mentioned tentative changes in the James Union Building dining facilities. Surveys indicated that few people eat in the JUB before 10:30 a.m. These same surveys also indicated that students would rather the

Where to eat on campus

Keathley University Center – Pizza Hut, Chik-fil-A, Freshens, Grille Works, Salad Garden, Starbucks, Home Zone, Easy Goes, Bene Pasta

James Union Building – Subway, Grille Works, Bene Pasta

McCallie Dining Hall – Bene Pizza, PanGeos, Home Zone, Grille Works, Salad Garden, Sweet Things

Woodmore Cyber Cafe – Java City, Burger King, Taco Bell

JUB stay open later in the evening.

Stuart hopes to offer a continental breakfast in the JUB and also aims at keeping the JUB open an extra hour.

"We have asked the university for that. Approval has not been given [yet]," Stuart said.



Photo by Jenny Cordle | Chief Photographer

Jared Scheel eats a meal in McCallie Dining Hall, one of four dining halls on campus. McCallie has seen several changes over the past year and faces more.

Stuart also hopes to expand dining facilities to other academic buildings and high-traffic areas. Stuart hopes to have kiosks, such as the one located in the Business and Aerospace Building, available in academic buildings such as the library.

"We basically have to be asked in by them," Stuart said.

Stuart indicated that the Keathley University Center Grill would remain unchanged for the fall semester. ♦

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Getting better acquainted with your dorm

By **Keosha Thomas**
Staff Writer

You've been to all the local department stores and bought everything from A to Z.

Now comes the time to move into your own world with new freedoms, major decisions, new friends and chances to learn more about yourself as well as others. You're experiencing the feeling of excitement and nervousness all at the same time.

Whether you stay in one of the first-year experience, honors or an apartment-style dorm, you can a different perspective on college life than others off campus.

So sit back, relax and strap on your seat-belt for a journey with all the information that you need to have a successful year living on campus.

The dorm experience opens up more opportunities for you than living at home or off-campus. Living on campus puts you at the center of the university community, ready for academic and extracurricular activities.

Many students find that MTSU residence halls or apartments are the right choice, and they become part of a vital, living and learning community, making lifelong friendships along the way. Research indicates that living on campus is one of the strongest influences on successful completion of an undergraduate degree.

Each of the 21 residence halls and apartments offers its own valuable asset. They all accommodate students with a professional staff, along with student leaders who live and work in each area coordinating services and programs. Here are some things you can expect of each dorm, according to the Housing and Residential Life staff and some students who have lived in the dorms:

West Side Halls

The small learning communities of Miss Mary, Lyon, McHenry, Monohan, Reynolds and Schardt halls range in size from 77 to 141 students and are adjacent to the James Union Building. Reception desks are located in Lyon and Monohan Halls. Centrally located bathrooms (community bathrooms) are in each hallway of each floor, shared by residents.

Mid-Campus Halls

Smith, Sims, Beasley, Gracy and Judd halls are small communities of 100 to 155 persons and share the Smith Hall reception desk, lounge and computer room. Smith, Sims and Beasley halls feature the community bath, while Judd and Gracy are exter-

ior entrance buildings with quad-style bathrooms shared by groups of four rooms.

"I liked the location of my dorm and the computer lab in the lobby," said Rheuben McKibben, who stayed at Smith Hall last year, "but I didn't like the public bathrooms too much. I really liked my dorm, to be honest."

East Campus Halls

These dorms are close to the Recreation Center and the James E. Walker Library. Wood and Felder halls share a connecting lobby and provide reception services, a computer lab and meeting/television space for all residents of the east campus. Wood and Felder halls are also home to the Honors Living and Learning Center. Clement and Gore halls are reserved for late applicants and are home to overflow students.

Nicks, Deere, Clement and Gore halls are exterior entrance buildings, which feature quad-style bathrooms shared by groups of four rooms. They also have study rooms in each building to provide a quiet space.

"It was kind of like having an apartment," said Chavone Salome, a resident of Deere Hall.

"The only negative hang-ups I had was the shower, which would sometimes get too hot, and the janitors not cleaning the bathroom."

Womack Lane

These apartments consist of 192 one- and two-bedroom units, with areas designated for both single students and families. Single students share a furnished one- or two-bedroom apartment with one other student.

Graduates and upperclassmen are given preference in assignment. Families may occupy either one- or two-bedroom apartments and may select unfurnished or semi-furnished.

The community building for Womack has a 24-hour information and service desk, laundry facilities, a recreation/meeting room and a computer lab.

Scarlett Commons

MTSU's newest residential area, Scarlett Commons, is located north of the Recreation Center. Scarlett Commons features four-bedroom, two-bathroom apartments with full kitchens and living rooms. Residents occupy a private bedroom and share their bath with one other student.

The Scarlett Commons clubhouse includes the 24-hour reception and service desk, recreation/meeting room with fireplace, and laundry room. The university shuttle, the Raider Xpress, provides campus transportation from a bus stop in front of the clubhouse.

"I liked the privacy most of all," said Chase Steely, a former resident of Scarlett Commons, "but the beds were too small."

First-Year Experience Residence Halls

Cummings and Corlew Halls, two seven-story high rises located on the north side of campus, are the home of MTSU's First Year Experience Program.

Services and programs offered in these residence halls are geared toward first year students (29 college credit hours or less) and are designed to enhance student's academic success.

These dorms offer a number of unique services for first-year students such as lower

division classes taught in a classroom in Cummings Hall, an academic advisor who holds office hours in each hall, Residence assistants available to help with any problems.

Tutors also live on each floor of the residence halls and provide tutoring services in the Cummings Hall and Corlew Tutoring Center.

They also have special workshops and programs designed to assist students with their transition to college.

Cedric Thomas, a former resident at Cummings dorm, says, "The thing I liked best about the dorm was meeting new people and making friends. The main problem I had with my dorm was the size of the room. I wish there would have been more space."

For more information, contact Housing and Residential Life at 898-2971, or visit their Web page at www.mtsu.edu/~housing. ◆

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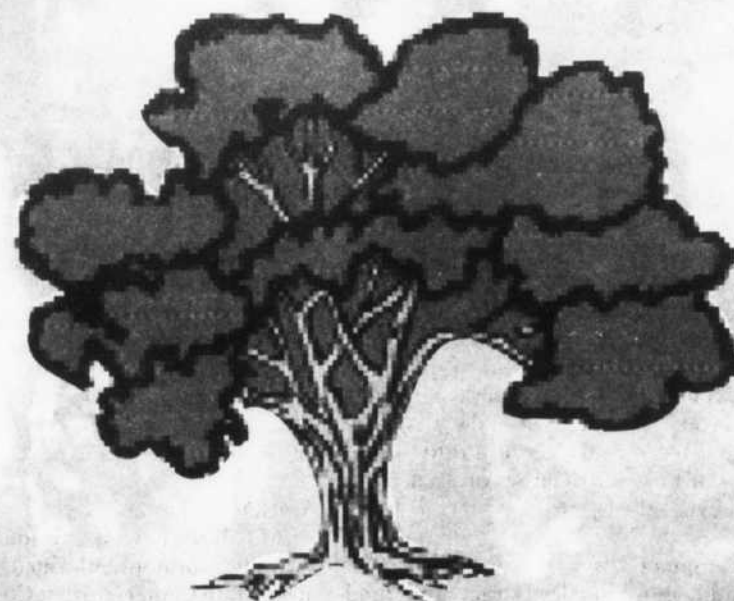
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OPINIONS

12 ♦ SIDELINES

New Student Edition 2003

Murfreesboro, Tenn.

From the Editorial Board

Welcome to MTSU; we'll help you along

As a new student at MTSU, you're probably fretting with anticipation and anxiety, apprehension and confusion right about now.

Or maybe that was just us.

Regardless, coming to college for the first time can be an overwhelming experience. It would be nice if there was a guide to help new students navigate their way through the twisted corridors of freshman living.

Oh, happy day. You're holding it.

Sidelines' New Student Edition, released each summer for incoming MTSU students, is your first official guide to MTSU and Murfreesboro, told from fellow students' perspectives.

While we know freshmen (and people in general) are reluctant to listen to unsolicited advice, *Sidelines* can't help but offer it. We've been there. We're all too cognizant of the hazards of the uninformed

student.

In this issue, you'll find advice from our esteemed columnists, stories regarding campus-related issues and a brief guide to the local music and bar scene. You'll also find a campus parking map and some of the available sports schedules.

Your Customs sessions will equip you with a general understanding of how MTSU works and what role you, the student, play. But *Sidelines* hopes to pick up the slack during your collegiate career by keeping you informed.

MTSU's schtick is to be a student-centered university, and for the most part, it is. But the only way to feel that you belong here and play a vital role is if you claim your education by being active and aware of your significance to this university and community.

Welcome to MTSU. It's going to be an interesting four – or five – years for you. ♦

Stuff they should've told me



I'm Just a Girl

Wendy Caldwell
Staff Columnist

It's not every day that you start your college experience, but for some of us, it has happened more than once.

Going to college for the first time is always exciting. Moving into the dorm just adds to the experience. Then of course there's that time when your mom gets all sentimental about how cute you were your first day of kindergarten, and you're really ready for the parents to let you go.

After a semester or two, it's time for your parents to come back and move you to another school. At least, that's how some of our college experiences began.

I began my college career at Emory University in Atlanta. I thought it was the college of my dreams. Boy, was I wrong.

Imagine the shock of my parents, both of whom attended Tennessee Tech, when I informed them that I wanted to transfer to MTSU. Apparently, MTSU and Tech were huge rivals back in the day.

So, for all of the new students (freshmen and transfer), here's a lit-

tle bit of advice I wish someone had given me.

It's OK to drop a class or take it again. Sometimes, things don't go the way you planned, and you end up realizing that maybe you're taking way too many hours. If so, it's time to cut back. It may take you an extra semester to graduate, but at least you'll retain your sanity, and that makes you more pleasant to be around.

Find your place, even if it's not where you are. I was miserable at Emory, but I love MTSU. It's not because Emory's a bad school; it just wasn't right for me. MTSU was a much better environment. If you're not in a good environment, learning and doing well are that much more difficult.

There's no written law that says you have to graduate in four years. You can graduate in three if you want. You can graduate in five. Just do whatever works best for you.

Get to know your adviser, and be sure to declare your major whenever you're ready to. This doesn't mean you have to rush to decide, but the sooner you have an adviser, the easier it will be. However, don't be afraid to take several classes of interest if you're not sure what you want to study.

Don't worry so much about pleasing other people. College is a time when you should find out who you really are. Don't focus on what

other people want; it will only hold you back.

Get involved on campus. With a school as large as MTSU, there really is something for everyone. You may have to look, but pay extra attention to flyers and chalk.

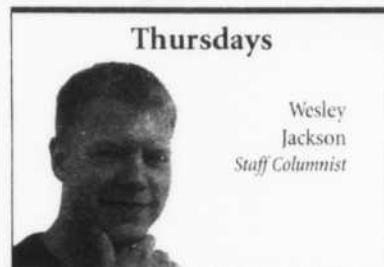
Look into scholarships. This is especially for transfer students. Coming in from somewhere else means you don't always qualify for the same scholarships as other students. A good place to start looking is within your major and minor. Go to those departments and see if they offer anything special for your area of study. You'll be surprised at what you can find.

One of the greatest Web sites to keep in mind when doing your class schedule is www.mtsureview.com. Here, you can search for different professors and find out what past students have said about them. It's also a place to post your own comments. It can really give you an insight into which professors to take.

Finally, enjoy yourself. There's no point in going to college if you never enjoy yourself. Hopefully, your major will provide some happiness. If that fails, we have two Wal-Mart Supercenters. Twenty-four hours of nonstop fun. ♦

Wendy Caldwell is a sophomore math major and can be reached via e-mail at VISA717@aol.com.

To get educated, step outside your comfort zone



Thursdays

Wesley
Jackson
Staff Columnist

For the freshmen from the area, MTSU is perhaps their first step outside the nest of home.

As a Murfreesboro freshman you think you've just won independence.

Sure, Mom and Dad only live 10 minutes away, and sure, your parents helped you move in to that dorm, and sure, you still have to call

home each night to let them know what you're up to (lest they make good that threat to come "check up" on you and your friends), and, sure, you have to make weekly trips home to grab some of that cash you told everyone you had. But who cares. You're in college. You've left home in the dust.

You're quite the "young man" or "young woman" now, as your mother is so fond of reminding you.

Everyone coming to MTSU from out of state or from a different part of Tennessee no doubt has their own sense of freedom as well. But the enjoyment of freedom is tempered with the need to get acclimated to Murfreesboro culture.

Despite whatever associations people have with Southern life, it is amazing how much diversity MTSU fosters. There are literally all walks of life present on the campus. Talk about an opportunity to broaden horizons.

One of the saddest things that can happen to anyone's college experience is that, despite the StarWars, hyper-drive leap into "independence" and a newness of life, some folks never move outside their

comfort zone. They ironically never escape the narrow-minded confines they said they were ditching when they came to school.

There are literally all walks of life present on the campus. Talk about an opportunity to broaden horizons.

They come to college where they cling to the same type of cliques as they did high school, dress the same way they did in high school, go to the same types of parties they did in high school, and

act basically the same way they did in high school.

Unfortunately, not only do they

refuse to leave their own selective social circles, but they also add immaturity to the mix. Rather than coming to college, they thought they came to Pituitary Gland Playground.

For those folks really serious about getting an education and enlarging their view of the world, there is hope.

It's my personal belief that education is founded on relationships with other people. You can sit in a classroom all day long and listen to facts, but if there's never a personal connection, someone to make it tangible to you, it won't stick.

See College, 13

Rules to live by while at college

American Bacon



Patrick Chinnery
Staff Columnist

Welcome to college.

Two days into the semester, you'll all be sick of hearing those words, so it's a good thing I'm getting to you first. I'd hate to be trite.

With that in mind, I want to be the first to tell you some other things that you'll hear in your first couple of weeks and some things that you won't hear anywhere else, but should.

One of the things you'll hear most often is, "Make sure to study." When it comes to general education classes, you can mostly ignore that advice. Most of what is covered in those classes was drilled into your minds in high school. While we here at *Sidelines* are still trying to understand the purpose of academic redundancy, we do know that those classes are great GPA boosters, should you have trouble in your upper-division classes.

Another oft-repeated mantra is "Get involved." This one is certainly true. Whether you decide to apply to write or take photographs for the school newspaper (shameless plug), join the nationally recognized Mock Trial team (another shameless plug) or run for SGA office (I have nothing to do with them), the best way to enjoy your college years is do an extracurricular activity. With the hundreds registered on campus, there's at least one with which you share an interest.

An important lesson that you will do well to learn early on is to make friends with your professors. Your high school teachers don't matter any more, and the salaried office holders here are the ones who will be writing your recommendations from now on. It only makes sense that you should befriend one or two. As a matter of fact, it's a good bet that there are one or two worth befriend.

Keep in mind, however, that there's a fine line between making

friends and kissing up. Just like in high school, no one likes the teacher's pet (or like in real life, where no one likes the boss' lap dog). I knew this one kid in high school, he was so phony the teachers he tried so hard to make friends with ended up making fun of him. Don't be that guy.

Pay attention to this one – it's very important. You can't trust everyone on this campus. For the most part, the MTSU population are a good-natured, honest, non-violent bunch. Unfortunately, there are some real jerks out there, like the red-jacketed man who held-up two students at gun point and the dark sweatshirt man who assaulted several students, both this semester, and both of whom remain at large.

On a more trivial note, don't always trust your classmates' notes when you skip class. As a general rule, ask to copy the notes of someone who sits near the front of the class. Girls' notes are typically more legible than guys'.

You should have a great time here; I know I have. Of course, not everyone's experiences will be the same. That explains my good friends who had to drop out. Some people just aren't ready for college – and there's nothing wrong with that. If you're here for a semester, and you just know that you can't take it anymore, then transfer or drop out. There's no sense wasting money on tuition when it isn't going to lead anywhere.

The most important lesson to keep in mind, however, is the need to balance fun and responsibility. College can be the best time of your life, but you have to make sure you keep things in perspective. While fun, that big party might not be worth as much of your time as the term paper that's due tomorrow. Conversely, don't get so wrapped up in your books that you never try to sneak into The Boro on a Friday night.

And make sure to leave time to write for the paper. ♦

Patrick Chinnery is a senior political science major and will be editor in chief of Sidelines for summer and fall 2003. He can be reached via e-mail at pwc2c@mtsu.edu.

Customs adventures with Joe

Bathroom Stall Graffiti



Nick Fowler
Staff Columnist

Joe's journal page 58:

This summer I worked at Customs, taking the new kids around campus and telling them how things work here so as to get them ready, turn them into useful little MTSU

student soldiers ready to conquer the world with learning or smart bombs if they just won't listen to reason.

Sure we all remember how boring Customs was, but try it while wearing the blue polo shirt with MTSU Blue Raider logo and customized nametag, along with "I'm going on a safari to wrestle hippos in the Nile" khaki shorts from the Gap.

Then there are the 15 fresh-out-of-high school teenagers who are forced to listen to me, whose minds will soon fill with anything I tell them. They get the special tour and an unscripted diatribe on the troubles of MTSU.

I find it best to take the troupe to see the classrooms and a few teachers, too many of which are adjunct faculty members because we cannot afford enough full-time teachers. You'll notice the 40 desks packed into the classroom filling the room wall to wall. This is to make educating the filthy masses cheaper though not necessarily better.

Not to worry. I'm sure the experts made a graph showing how class size affects quality of education, and have decided how much less we'll learn so as to save the state and our strapped for cash taxpayers a few dollars. Well, maybe more than a few dollars.

A trip to the parking lot is always a fun hike. I take the newcomers to the lot as far from campus as I can find, then to the one spot in the farthest corner. I point in the general direction of campus, squinting to find it on the horizon, for this spot is far from campus.

I tell them to take note of this spot, mark it on their

map, for they will wake up a little too late one day, and they will have to park here. All the other spots will be taken. As many as there are, there are not enough, and you will have to park here.

You will arrive to class late, sweaty and tired in body and spirit. You'll ask yourself one of those unanswerable questions, better left for the philosophy department to ponder. You'll ask yourself why the price of your parking permit increased though you have found no relief from your parking woes.

I catch a taxi back to campus, while the troops hoof it. We meet up at one of the many construction sites on campus, and wonder why the university is landscaping instead of solving problems.

There is something to be said for looking nice, but like Gramps always said, "Wearing a suit to church won't get you into Heaven." But enough with this trouble of appearance versus reality. To take on the real issue we have to go to Cope Administration Building.

All we know about this place is that checks come in and out. Apparently they need more checks to come in or fewer to go out. The fellows here answer to the Tennessee Board of Regents, who distribute money from the Tennessee state legislature, who seem to be very confused. All anybody can hope for is that democracy works.

By now the troops are delirious from the heat, and they are sure that I am their Great Blue Leader. I suggest to them that they organize and refer them to books and pamphlets of revolution from the 18th and 19th centuries, when people weren't so complacent and the world seemed less immutable.

The little guys, insane from my ranting and miles of hiking around campus, start foaming at the mouth, smashing things, creating quite a ruckus.

I was, of course, fired for inciting a riot. ♦

Nick Fowler is a junior media design major and can be reached via e-mail at nrf2b@mtsu.edu.

College: Talk to your profs

Continued from 1

Relationships are the conductors of education. And MTSU has an unbelievable variety of conduits to take advantage of.

But you'll have to step outside your comfort zone and get to know some of these folks.

There are a number of gracious people in the liberal arts departments, some professors from the area and quite a few more from different countries, who've taught me a lot in conversations outside of class. Discussions have ranged from world politics to theology to pop music.

It's conversations like that that can become touchstones of real education.

The business and science departments likewise have well-qualified instructors who are willing to share

practical wisdom they've learned from personal experience in their field.

But you have to get to know them first.

Want to talk about independence and escaping narrow-mindedness?

Do you want to broaden your horizons?

Then do more than just leave home.

Step outside yourself and your comfort zone and get to know the folks around you.

Try to see life from their eyes. Because anyone can leave home. Only those who step outside themselves will get an education. ♦

Wesley Jackson is a sophomore English major and can be reached via e-mail at ViolentWisdom@aol.com.

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Getting busy at MTSU

Fun times await ambitious students

By Lindsey Turner
Editor in Chief

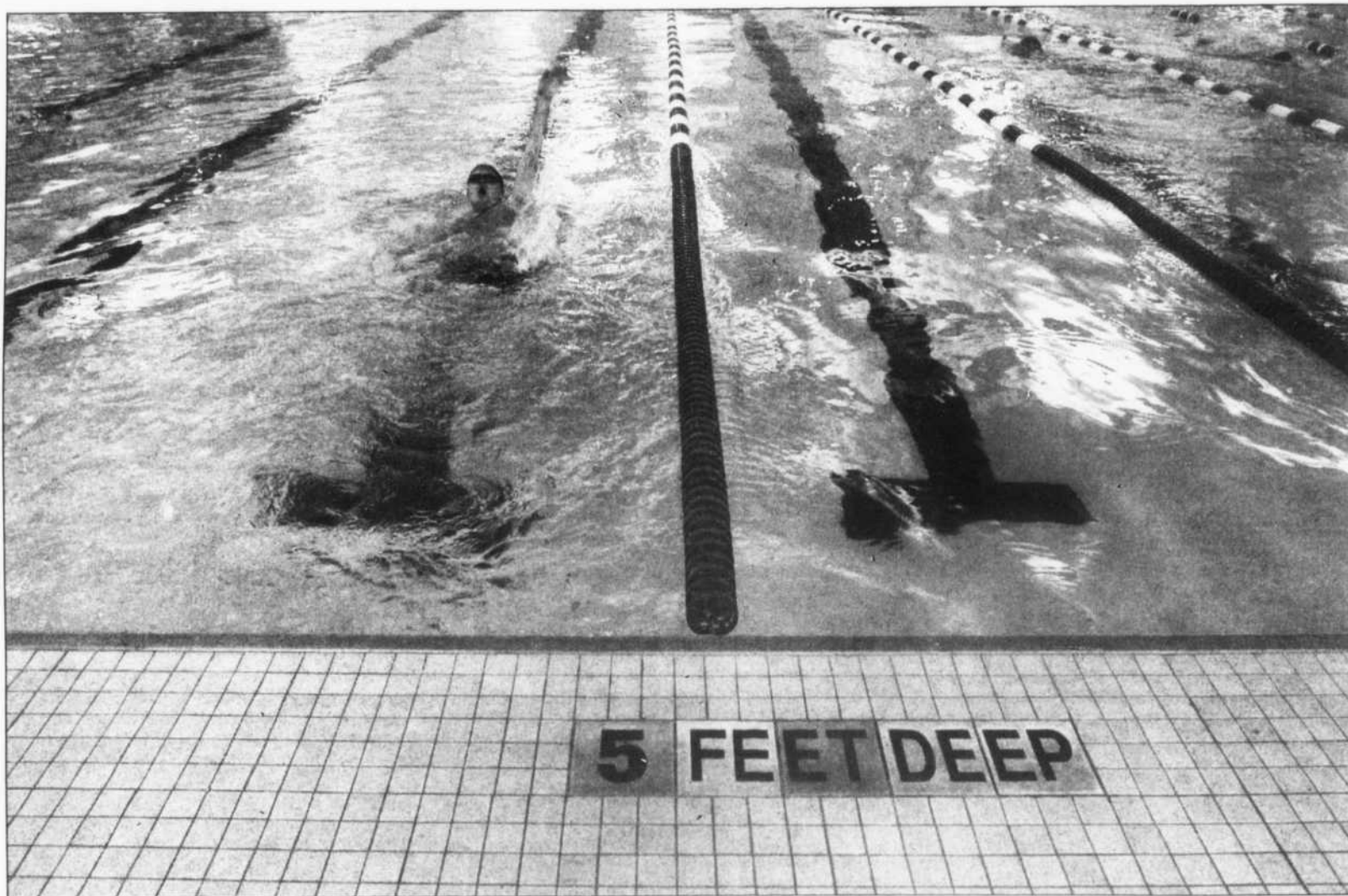
For new college students, getting out of the house and coming to a university of 20,000 people can be a tad overwhelming.

There are so many things to do, so many people to meet and so many experiences to, well, experience, it's easy to miss something.

Below is a checklist of things to do at MTSU. Cut it out, tack it on your wall and start working through the numbers to ensure that you make the most of your time at MTSU. By no means is this list complete. Feel free to add on to it yourself.

With a little creativity, boredom should never be an issue.

1. Get your own radio show on 88.3 WMTS.
2. Become a night patrol person with Public Safety.
3. Challenge your friends to a game of racquetball at the Recreation Center.
4. Join the *Sidelines* staff.
5. Create your own high-drama TV show for MTTV.
6. Go to Open Mic Night at the Cyber Café.
7. Perform at Open Mic Night.
8. Support all the MT athletics teams by attending every game.
9. Have a late-night, cross-campus, outdoor wrestling match with a friend.
10. Start your own fan club for a local band and hand out and post flyers.
11. Star gaze while reclining in



File photos

(Above) No. 13: Take swimming lessons at the Recreation Center. (Below) No. 24: Visit an art show at the Art Barn.

the Quadrangle.

12. Attend the Highland Games in the fall – wearing a kilt.

13. Take swimming lessons at the Recreation Center.

14. Watch a student-produced play at Tucker Theatre.

15. Join the Rowdy Raiders and party hard before, during and after Blue Raider football games.

16. Frolic with the squirrels in the grassy area next to Peck Hall.

17. Take advantage of free laundry days during Homecoming.

18. Run for a Student Government Association office.

19. Attend the Honors Lecture Series.

20. Take an Alternative Spring Break and do some philanthropy.

21. Help build a Homecoming float.

22. Read a book at the library.

23. Brush up on your writing skills at the university's writing lab.

24. Visit an art show at the Art Barn.

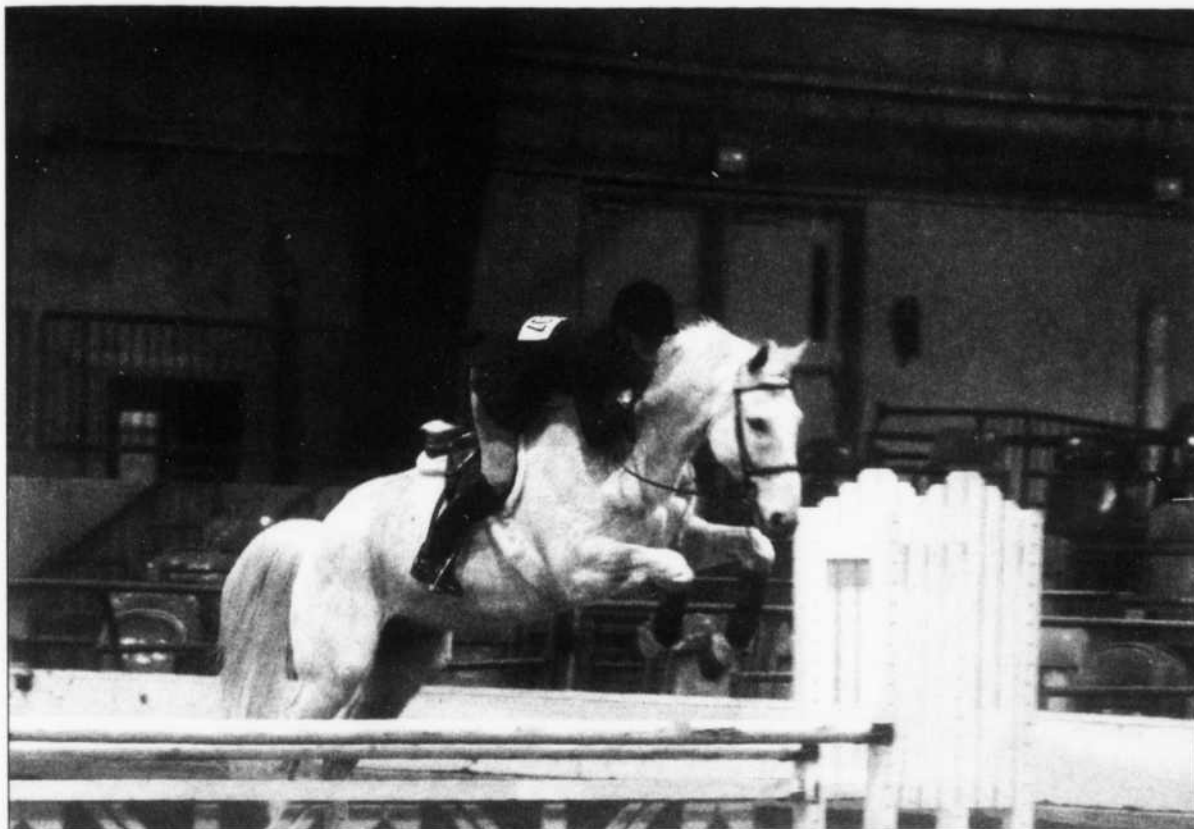
25. Check out the photos in the Baldwin Photographic Gallery.

26. See a movie at the Keathley University Center Theater – it's only \$2.

27. Look for jobs or internships at the Placement Office.

See Busy, 15





Busy: Creativity required for fun in Murfreesboro

Continued from 14

- 28. Drop by the Student Organization Fair this fall to check out the campus clubs.
- 29. Take swing dancing lessons.
- 30. Grab some free grub and play games at the President's Picnic in August.
- 31. Do your homework for once.
- 32. Put notes to your friends under their windshield wipers in those yellow parking ticket envelopes and watch the drama unfold.
- 33. Draw murals in chalk on the sidewalks of campus.
- 34. Serenade the residents of one of the outside-

- entrance dorms (during the daytime to avoid arrest)
- 35. Join the Mock Trial or Debate teams.
- 36. Whistle at the construction workers who seem to be everywhere on campus
- 37. Decorate your favorite vehicle in MT Blue and tailgate 'til the sun comes up
- 38. Join a religious group on campus.
- 39. Get a massage at the Rec Center.
- 40. March in the Take Back the Night rally held each spring.
- 41. Join the Equestrian Team, or visit one of their competitions.
- 42. Attend the student film festival in the spring. ♦



File photos

(Top left) No. 41: Join the Equestrian Team, or visit one of their competitions. (Above) No. 29: Take swing dancing lessons.

Got something to shout about? Sound off!



SIDELINES ONLINE
THE STUDENT NEWSPAPER OF MIDDLE TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY



Visit the message boards at www.mtsusidelines.com.

Middle Tennessee

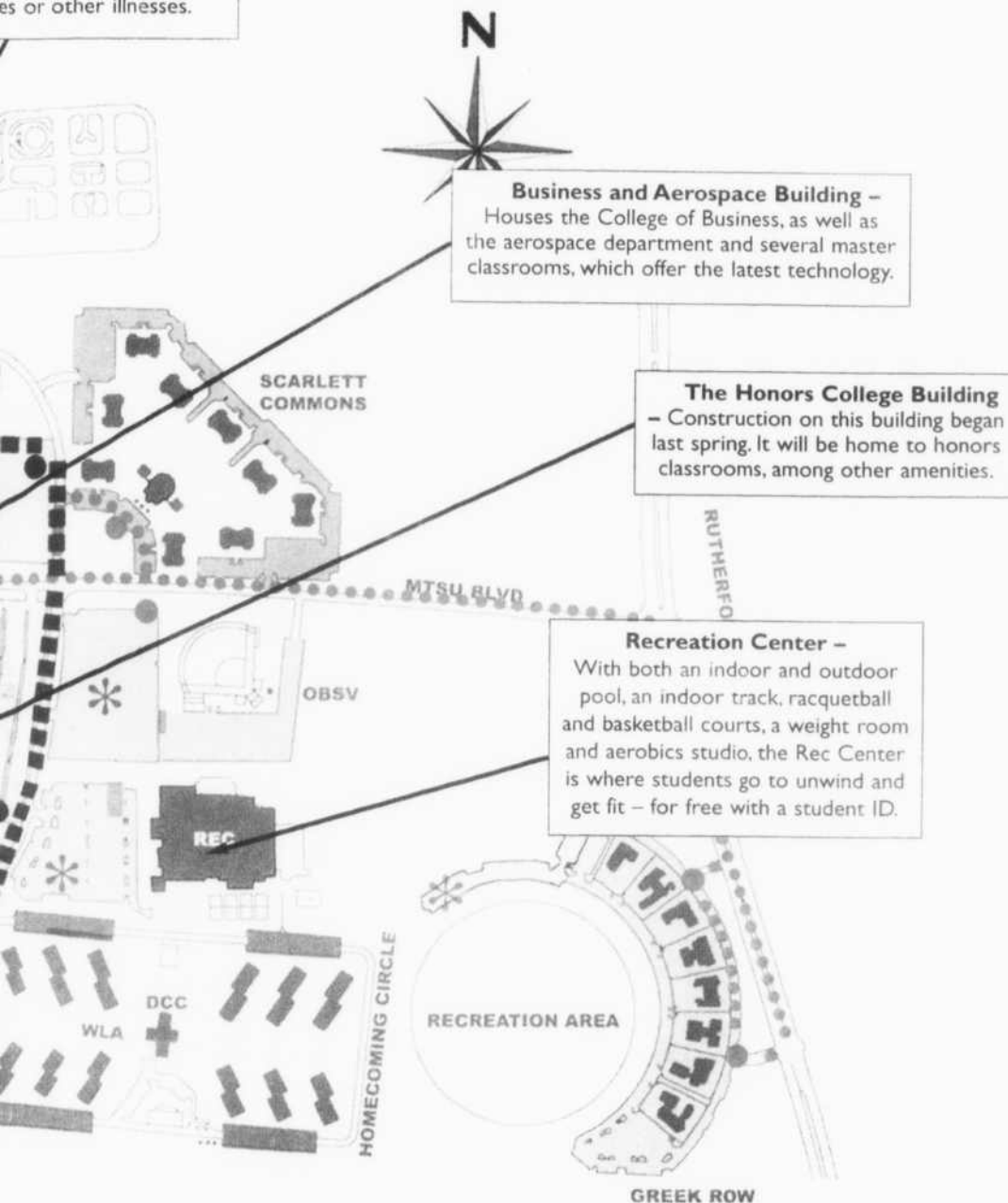
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indus

Woodmore Cyber Cafe
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and grab some lunch with
your Flex dollars.

Walker Library – Multiple computers and study areas make the library a study haven.

see State University

Health Services –
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treatment for minor aller-
gies or other illnesses.



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Legend

AB – Art Barn	MARY – Mary Hall
ABA – Art Barn Annex	MC – Murphy Center
ABER – Abernathy Hall	MCH – McHenry Hall
ALUM – Alumni Center	MGB – E.W. Midgett Business Building
AMG – Alumni Memorial Gym	MHS – McFarland Health Service
BAS – Business and Aerospace Building	MOH – Monohan Hall
BDA – Boutwell Dramatic Arts	NICK – Nicks Hall
BH – Beasley Hall	NISB – Nisbett House
BLH – Black House	PCS – Pittard Campus School
CAB – Cope Administration Building	PH – Peck Hall
CKNB – Cason-Kennedy Nursing Building	PHLP – Project HELP
CLH – Clement Hall	PHO – Photography Building
COH – Cooper House	PKM – Parking Office Modular
COMM – John Bragg Mass Communication Building	PS – Public Safety
CORL – Corlew Hall	REC – Student Recreation Center
CSB – Central Services Building	REH – Reynolds Hall
DH – Deere Hall	RH – Rutledge Hall
DSB – Davis Science Building	ROTX – ROTC Annex
DYS – Center for Dyslexia	SAG – Stark Agribusiness and Agriscience Center
EHS – Ellington Human Sciences	SCH – Schardt Hall
EHSA – Ellington Human Sciences Annex	SFA – Saunders Fine Arts
EZEL – Ezell Hall	SIMS – Sims Hall
FEH – Felder Hall	SMH – Smith Hall
GOH – Gore Hall	SW – Storage Warehouse
GRH – Gracy Hall	TCM – Telecommunications Building
HBM – Holmes Building Modular	TLC – Tennessee Livestock Center
HH – Haynes House	TODD – Todd Building
HON – University Honors College	VA – Vocational Agriculture
JCH – Jim Cummings Hall	VH – Vaughn House
JH – Jones Hall	VIS – Voorhies Industrial Studies
JUB – James Union Building	WH – Maintenance Warehouse
JUDD – Judd Hall	WLA – Womack Lane Apartments
KOM – Kirksey Old Main	WMB – Wright Music Building
KUC – Keathley University Center	WOOD – Wood Hall
LH – Lyon Hall	WPS – Wiser-Patten Science Hall
LIB – James E. Walker Library	
LRC – McWherter Learning Resources Center	

Raider Xpress runs Monday-Thursday from 7:30 a.m. until 10 p.m. and Friday from 7:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Color code for parking and bus route designation

- Yellow – Faculty, staff, administration (white permit)
- Green – Green permit parking
- Blue – Disabled parking (blue permit)
- Purple – Womack Lane residents only
- Red – Scarlett Commons residents only
- Gold – Greek Row residents only
- ... – Metered parking

Bus stops are indicated by large dot colored either red, blue or green. Each color's route is indicated in arrows, squares or dots.

Forget something? Fear not

Packing needn't stress you out

By Kristin Hall
Staff Reporter

You managed to pack all your shoes for just about any occasion (you never know when you might use those cleats), your entire music collection, and every article of clothing you own.

But in the excitement of the move, you realized you made it to school without all that essential stuff you took for granted at home.

Although you couldn't imagine college life without your television, your AC adapter for the laptop and a spare car key, somehow they were looked over in the packing process.

Now you're here, and your necessities are 200 miles away. Chances are Mom and Dad aren't going to be real happy about going home to get these things just to see your strained smile along with your best "I'm so sorry" face. Here are some tips on what to do when you've forgotten significant items of dorm life:

• Glasses and contact lenses

Unless you are willing to shell out the cash for a new pair of glasses or contacts, the only option is to get them shipped to you. Your post office box on campus is the best option for this. Incoming freshmen and transfer students sign up for your box in the basement of the Keathley University Center.

• Prescriptions

A good recommendation for the new dorm student is to start buying prescription medications from a chain pharmacy like Walgreens or CVS. Murfreesboro has both of these chains. They keep all of your records on file in case you forget your prescription. Otherwise, you can make a visit to McFarland Health Services. The staff can either refill your medication in house or send you to a pharmacy.

• Keys

Remembering to pack spare car keys is not always first on the list, but it only takes one call to the locksmith to appreciate the value of an extra key. Make copies at your car dealership and keep a spare with a roommate you can trust or close friend you can call on anytime. Also, the MTSU Police are available 24 hours a day to unlock your car door. You can call them at 898-2424, or you can contact them through one of the numerous emergency phones all over campus. If you are off-campus, then you'll have to fork over at least \$25 to a locksmith to get your keys out. Some locksmiths give a MTSU student discount and most take Visa and Mastercard for those students in dire circumstances. In case you can't find a phone book nearby, keep these types of emergency phone numbers on hand or in your wallet.

• Technical equipment

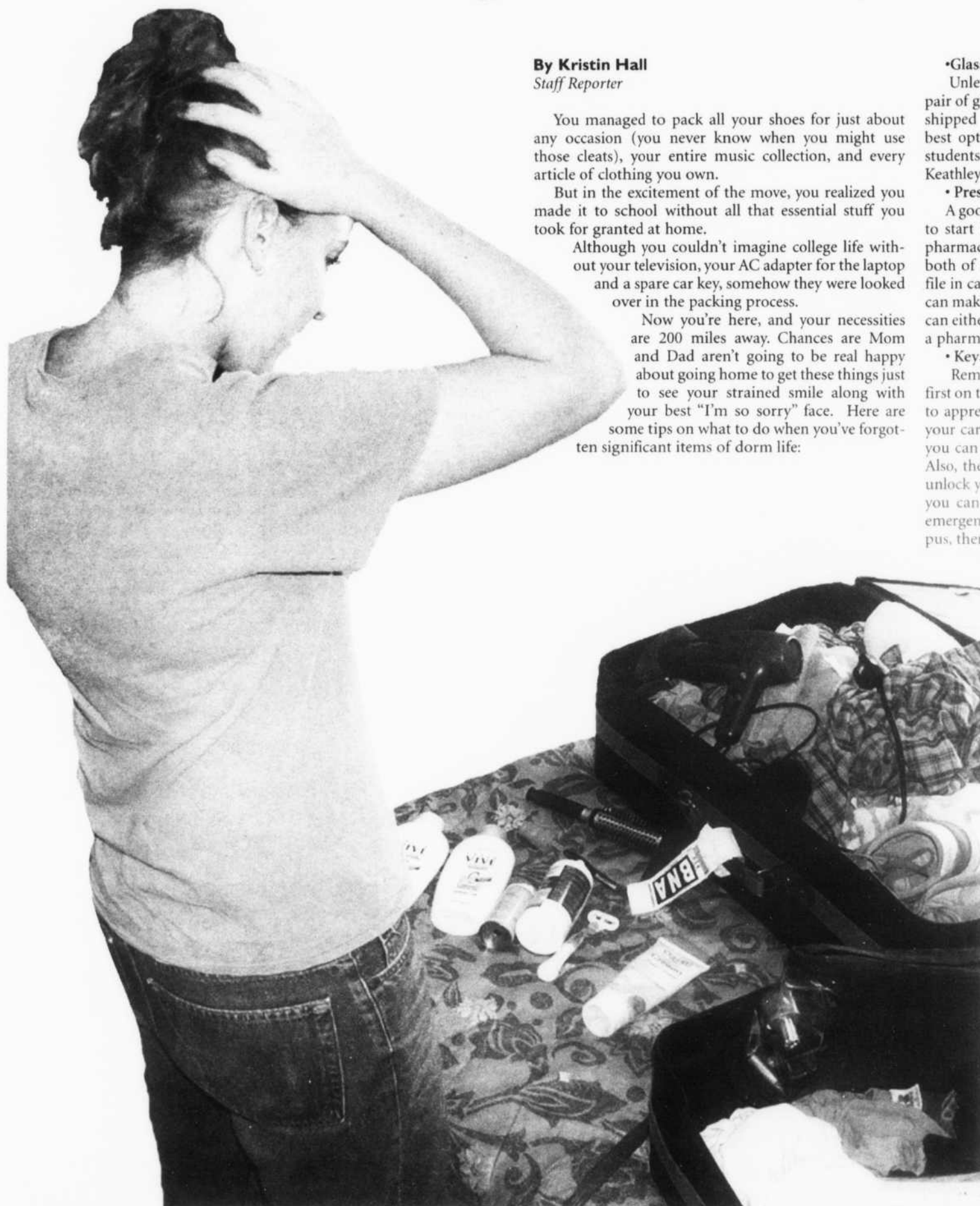
After packing and unpacking your precious PC or Mac to keep with you in the dorm, you realize as you try to hook it up that you've forgotten a number of essential cords and attachments that actually make it work.

Once you've settled in, identify what you're missing, such as coaxial cables for your television, phone jack splitters, parallel port or serial port cords for your printer, and AC adapters.

Then make a trip to Radio Shack or the campus bookstore to stock up on equipment. If you forget the cellular phone charger, you'll need to stop by a cellular phone store to find the right charger for your phone.

Most electronic stores don't carry all brands of chargers, and they'll normally be around \$30 or more.

Now you're as prepared you'll ever be for any unfortunate packing circumstances. The move to the college dorm isn't as difficult as most students imagine. The post office is the college student's best friend, especially the first year, when all your forgotten items follow your move to the campus a week later. If you can remember these tips, you'll show your parents that the choice to live on your own wasn't made in error. ♦



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On Campus versus off

Students unsure on best decision between apartment, dorm room

By Stephanie Hill
Staff Reporter

One of the main factors to take into consideration when going to school away from home is where to stay once at college.

Should a student live on campus in a dorm or apartment or off campus in one of the many apartment complexes? Both options offer pros and cons for incoming or returning students.

Living on campus, in either a dorm or an apartment, has many advantages and disadvantages. There are many different options to choose from when planning to live in the dorms. Many students chose to live in the traditional dorms with a community bathroom, such as Cummings and Corlew halls.

However, some dorms on campus, such as Judd and Gracy halls, are exterior entries with suite-style bathrooms. Students can also pay a little extra and live in Miss Mary Hall for females and Sims Hall for males, which both offer private rooms.

Students who want to live on campus but also want to live in an apartment can live in either Scarlett Commons or Womack Lane. Womack Lane Apartments are for both single students, who share a one- or two-bedroom apartment with another student, and for families. Students living in Scarlett Commons share a four-bedroom, two-bath apartment complete with a kitchen, living room, dining room and four furnished bedrooms.

"I live in Gore Hall. Living on campus is great because I can walk everywhere. I don't have to drive to school in bad weather and I don't have to walk everywhere looking for a parking space," said Laura Ellis, freshman mass communication major.

Additionally, all residents have network connections in their rooms for Internet access as well as use of five computer labs in various locations such as the honors lab in Wood and Felder halls, which allows students to print, scan and photocopy information for classes. Each dorm also has a lounge area available for students as and as lobbies for studying, recreation or hanging out. Students also have basic cable in their rooms and laundry facilities in each complex.

According to the Housing and Residential Life Web site, all



File photo

Murfreesboro offers numerous choices for students looking to get away from campus but still stay close for classes. The Woods at Greenland on Greenland Drive offers two-, three- and four-bedroom apartments.

residence halls and apartment complexes on campus are substance free and smoking only is permitted in designated rooms. MTSU has a zero tolerance policy regarding possession or use of drugs or paraphernalia in campus resident halls.

Students who live on campus and want to be involved in school matters can participate in area government and the Housing and Residential Life Judicial Board. Students can also participate in one of the many living learning communities. Students enrolled in the honors program can live in Wood and Felder halls and participate in the Honors Living and Learning Center. Incoming freshmen can live in the First Year Experience Residence Halls – Cummings and Corlew. Students can also participate in the Raider Learning Communities, the Aerospace Learning Community and either the Give Me A Beat Learning Community or the Beat Goes On Learning Community for recording industry majors.

The Housing and Residential Life Web site listed proposed rates for housing for the 2003-2004 school year, but they are subject to approval by the Tennessee Board of Regents.

As proposed, housing fees depend on what hall one chooses to reside in and can range from \$1,193 for a residence hall shared dorm to \$2,324 for a shared apartment with a private bedroom in Scarlett Commons to \$2,088 for a private room in Miss Mary Hall or Sims Hall.

Additional fees apply for summer housing and students must prepay a housing fee of \$200 when submitting an application for the fall semester, which includes both fall and spring semesters and \$125 for the summer term.

Students who choose not to live on campus have a wide variety of options surrounding the campus. Some of the more popular apartment complexes include University Courtyard, University Terrace, the Woods at Greenland, Sterling University Gables, Nottingham Apartments, Oak Park, Raider's

Crossing and LeBeau Chateau Apartments. Prices range from \$300 per month to more than \$500 per month depending on the apartment complex.

Some of the highlights included in many apartment complexes are fitness centers, swimming pools, a 24-hour computer lab, washer and dryer facilities in every unit and a tanning bed. Some apartment complexes such as University Courtyard, Raider's Crossing and the Woods at Greenland also include water, electricity and basic cable in the monthly bill, which causes less stress to students since they only have to write one check each month.

A downside to apartment life is the hassle of searching for a parking space on campus each day.

Unless the apartment complex is in walking distance to campus, such as Nottingham Apartments, located right across Greenland Drive in front of the Murphy Center, most students must drive to campus. Searching for a parking space can be a frustrating experience each day for commuting students.

"A good thing about living off campus is that you have a place to go and get full peace and quiet since with most apartments you have your own room instead of sharing it with another person," said Sheryl Mabry, senior in the College of Business.

"The only drawback for me is if I forget an assignment then I have to drive all the way back to my apartment in Oak Park Apartments to get it."

"I live in University Terrace and by living in an apartment I have my own space, my own bedroom," said Natalie Stone, a junior in the College of Education and Behavioral Sciences.

"I can go there when things are getting rough, and I just want to be by myself. Also, I am able to cook – or try to – which saves a ton of money. I love apartment life but think everyone should experience dorm life." ♦



File photo

Scarlett Commons offers students the convenience of an apartment and the proximity of a dorm.

College by numbers

a guide to helpful MTSU extensions and Web sites

Academic Affairs: 898-2880

Academic calendar: www.mtsu.edu/~proffice/misc/acad_cal.html

Admissions: 898-2111

Athletics information:

898-2968, www.goblueraiders.com

Campus event

www.mtsu.edu/%7Especevt/calendar.html

Campus pipeline: www.mtsu.edu/pipelinemt

Disabled Student Services: 898-2783, www.mtsu.edu/~dssemail

Exam schedule: www.mtsu.edu/~records/exam.html

Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Office: 898-2185

Fee payment: www.mtsu.edu/~bursarmt

Financial Aid: 898-2830

www.mtsu.edu/~fin_aid/

Food services: www.mtsu.edu/aramark

General studies requirements: www.mtsu.edu/ucat/student/gs.html

Guidance Services: 898-2670

Health Services: 898-2988

Housing and Residential Life: 898-2971, www.mtsu.edu/~housing

Library: 898-2772

MTTV – Channel 10: www.mtsu.edu/~mttv

Multicultural Affairs: 898-2987

News and Public Affairs: 898-2919

Open classes: www.mtsu.edu/~webprod/openclass/

Parking Services: 898-2850

Phillips Bookstore: www.mtsu.edu/~phillips

calendar: Public Safety: 898-2424

Scheduling Center: 898-5800

Sidelines: 898-2337, www.mtsusidelines.com

Special events: www.mtsu.edu/~specevt

Student Affairs: 898-2440

Student handbook: www.mtsu.edu/~handbook

Student ID: www.mtsu.edu/~support/campusid.html

Student organizations: www.mtsu.edu/~stuaff/sliffe/list.htm

Student Publications: 898-2815

Telecommunications: 898-2991

TRAM: 898-2000

Undergraduate catalog: www.mtsu.edu/ucat

Webmail: www.mtsu.edu/webmail

WebMT: www.mtsu.edu/webmt

Women's Center: 898-2793

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E. Main Street

S. Tennessee Blvd.

4th Ave.

HWY 70

E. Castle Street

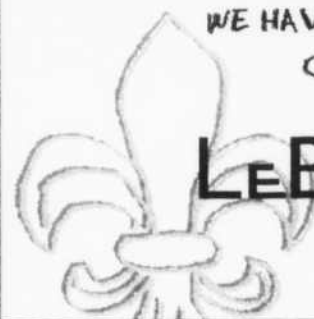
LeBeau Chateau

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Being new to the Murfreesboro area can be a bit of a challenge. It may not seem like there's much to do in this town, but with a little know-how and creativity, you can immerse yourself in the area's music scene.

The Boro Bar and Grill
1211 Greenland Dr.
(615) 895-4800

A staple in the Murfreesboro club scene, The Boro Bar and Grill offers up a mean hamburger during the day and a nice, sloshy pitcher of beer at night. This is a great place for local bands to get their

performing start and also a great place to hear live music.

There are pool tables in the back, a porch if the music's too loud and a front-row booth if you're tired of standing.

If you're at MTSU long enough, you're bound to frequent The Boro at least a few times each semester.

Faces Restaurant
and Lounge
2111 E. Main St.
(615) 867-7555

Though they're going to be closed this summer for renovations, Faces is one bar/venue that has a plethora of entertainment options for the eclectic crowd.

There's an outside

porch, indoor pool tables, a couch with a big-screen television and of course the bar and stage for live performances.

This Murfreesboro entertainment source is scheduled to reopen in the fall of 2003.

story by leslie carol boehms



File photos

Opposite page: Roland Gresham, renowned local blues artist, plays his usual Sunday stint at the Boro Bar and Grill. **Top:** Local favorites The Features take their turn at the Boro. **Above:** Red Rose Coffee House and Bistro is home to some of Murfreesboro's finest coffee, and, many argue, is the best local venue for up-and-coming musicians.

Gentleman Jim's
325 Greenland Dr.
(615) 893-9933

This dive bar is really a crappy hole in the wall. But don't let it deter you from going.

Most of their shows are 21 and up as Gentleman Jim's mostly caters to the "heavy drinker" crowd.

It might get a little bit rowdy so wear your ass-kickin' boots. If you're lucky, you'll catch Jim's on night when the music's rockin', the crowd is sweaty and your foot's a tappin'.

Infernobar
527 Main St.
(615) 217-1212

After the collapse of club Oxygen it looked as though Murfreesboro might never see a hybrid dance club/bar survive.

But with the recent onset – and success – of Infernobar, college kids now have a new revival home in the old 527 Main Street building.

Though the atmosphere may at times be a bit "fratty," Infernobar houses great live bands on the weekends and sports special events like the Chippendales every now and again.

Red Rose Coffee House and Bistro
528 W. College St.
(615) 893-1405

Probably Murfreesboro's premiere venue to see live music, the Red Rose Coffee House and Bistro is a wonderful place to see a tremendous show, drink a beer (or coffee) and buy rare vinyl.

The Red Rose has progressed into an art haven as well. You can see local artists displaying their work seven days a week and live music most every weekend. Plus, it's a great place to sit outside and study while you drink your coffee and people-watch Murfreesboro's musical elite.

Wall Street
121 N. Maple St.
(615) 867-9090

You'd never know from the looks of it, but Wall Street has a little bit of something for everyone. If you're out searching for live music, you can get it here up or downstairs. On my last visit there, a scruffy, long-haired musician belted cover songs to drunken misfits downstairs while Spooky Johnson's and the MTSU Salsa band prepared their set upstairs. This is the only venue left in the Square, so scurry to see some great shows. *

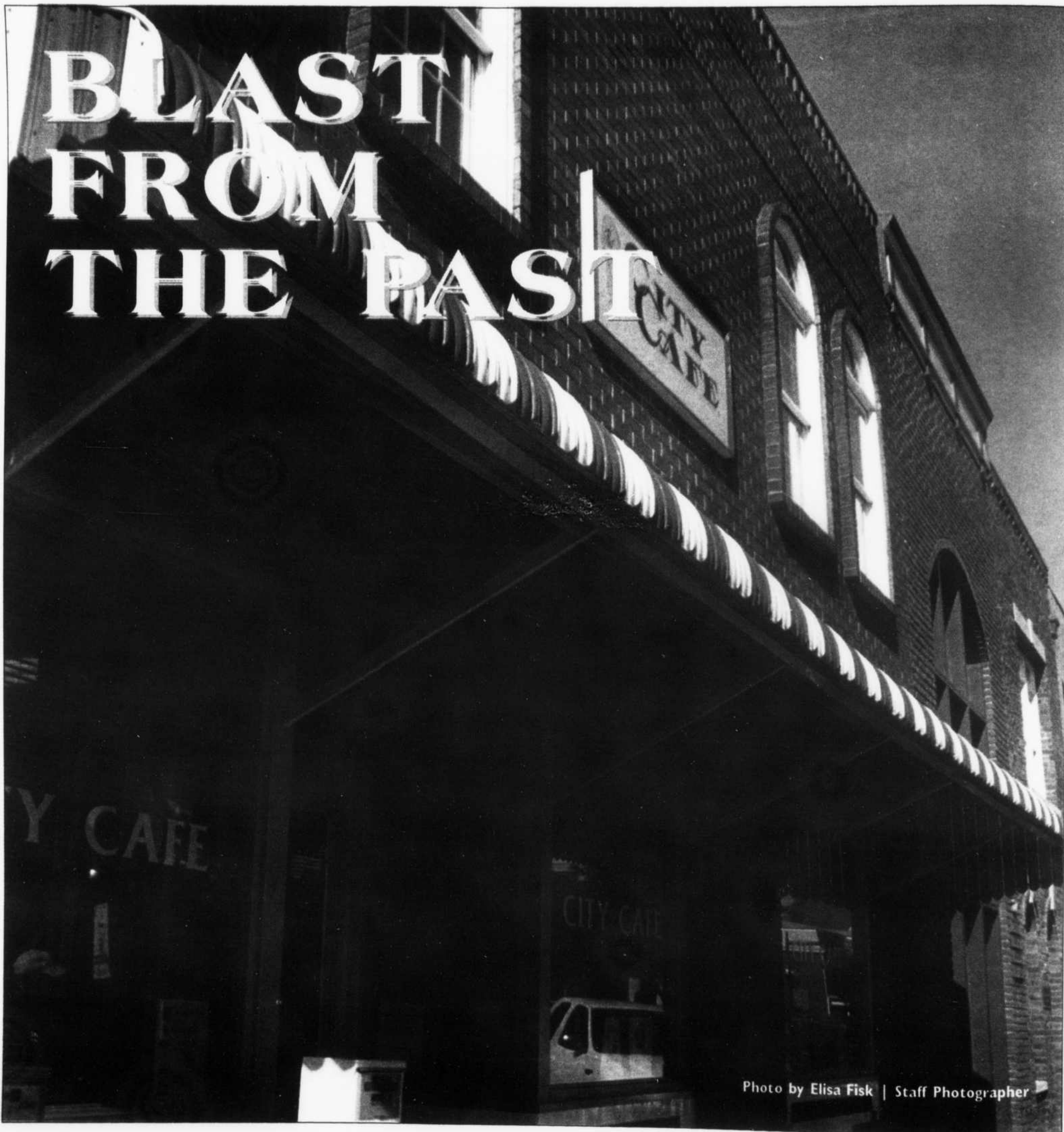


Photo by Elisa Fisk | Staff Photographer

City Café serves up food and fellowship the old-fashioned way

By Jason Cox
Managing Editor

When asked how long he's been coming to the City Café, Bill Nelms pauses for a moment, then comes back with the only answer he can: "I honestly don't know." However, he does remember that he brought his now 34-year-old son in as a baby.

"I've been coming up here at least that long," Nelms says.

Bill is one of the many people whose memories of the City Café have blurred with years of tradition and time. A look around the café's dining room shows how the city has grown during its 103 years — a cam-

paign sign for J.C. Ledbetter from the mid-1960s, a pennant from the Middle Tennessee State Teachers College (now Middle Tennessee State University) and many, many pictures.

One shot shows what Nelms calls perhaps the most interesting event to happen during his tenure visiting the café. In 1986, the restaurant installed restrooms in its third and current location on Main Street just off the square. Murfreesboro Mayor Joe B. Jackson cut the toilet paper ribbon at the ceremony and the *Daily News Journal* ran the photo on the front page.

"Is that the Joe B. Jackson

"You can come to the City Café ... and relax and forget about the high-tech, leave it outside."

— Garry Simpson
Co-owner, City Café

Memorial Restroom?" Nelms asks co-owner Garry Simpson with a laugh.

Garry and Pat Simpson have owned the Café for 18 years, when they bought it from businessman Frank Cooper. Cooper had purchased it from Ethel Watson only a few years before.

"He was what you would call a trader," Garry says. "I told Frank it was time for him to retire."

Garry and Pat were City Café customers for about 10 years before they bought it. He supposes he "went brain-dead" one day and decided to leave his job as a supervisor at Waffle House and buy the

restaurant.

"I was tired of living on the highway," he says. "(I) thought it was a good idea at the time, and it turned out to be a good idea."

One of the reasons why people keep coming to the restaurant is because the nature of the City Café has remained virtually unchanged since Doess Cantrell opened it more than 100 years ago as a 24-hour diner. The menu is pretty much the same with the exception of the Randall Salad, the D.L. Chicken Tenders and the B.B. Special Burger. These dishes were named after customers who asked for special orders that eventually became menu items.

The restaurant prepares its menu of mostly traditional Southern dishes from scratch, Garry says, with no pre-cooked or frozen foods used.

"In this day and time, these restaurants, according to experts, should no longer exist," he says. "We try to keep the place the same. You can come to City Café ... and relax and forget about the high-tech, leave it outside."

Since he bought the restaurant, Garry says, Murfreesboro has grown from a small town to a fairly large city. He says that he and Pat strive to keep the atmosphere of the restaurant the same as it has been for more than 100 years and keep welcoming everyone, as he says, from the janitor at the courthouse all the way up to the president of the bank.

"(Restaurant work) makes you look at a person as a human being, no matter who they are, and it makes you look at the most important things in life," he says. "Everybody is somebody. Every walk of life comes to the City Café. That's what makes it unique."

City Café also serves as a place where political discussion is rampant. Garry recalls that "every governor in the past 20 years" and former Vice President and current MTSU professor Al Gore have made visits to the establishment.

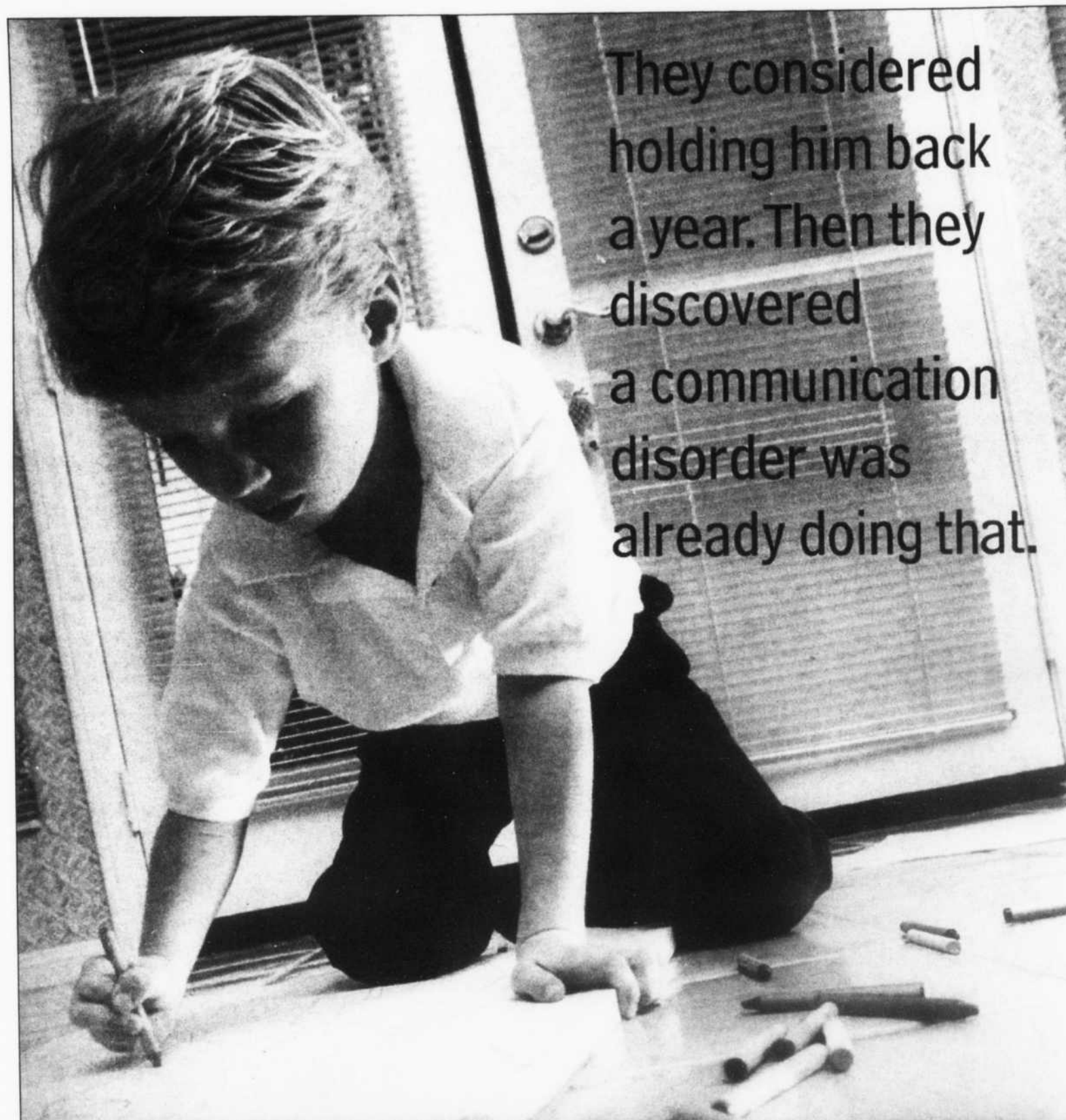
"We solve political problems every day," Garry says.

With the loyalty customers such as Nelms have to City Café, it's not hard to imagine how the restaurant has stayed in business for more than 100 years. The Simpsons, along with Cantrell, Cooper and Watson before them, have maintained a successful business formula by not fixing what isn't broken. ♦



(Left) City Café has fed Murfreesboro for 103 years, serving traditional Southern dishes to people from all walks of life.
(Above) Garry Simpson, seated, far right, and his wife Pat have owned the restaurant for 18 years.

Photo by Elisa Fisk | Staff Photographer



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SPORTS

27 ♦ SIDELINES

New Student Edition 2003

Murfreesboro, Tenn.

Blue Raiders look to improve next season

"Leadership will play a major role this year like it does with every team every year. When you look at the offseason, I believe this team has to be extremely close."

— Andy McCollum
MT football head coach

By David Hunter
Senior Staff Reporter

The Middle Tennessee football team will be looking to bounce back from last year's disappointing 4-8 season when the new season kicks off on Aug. 28, against Florida Atlantic at Floyd Stadium.

This year, the Blue Raiders will have new faces in key positions, and others stepping up to fill certain roles. One of the most important roles, leadership, will be up for grabs because of graduating seniors, including some who have left early with hopes of playing on Sunday. Also, MT has another tough schedule, including playing one of the top teams in the nation and an ever-improving Sun Belt Conference.

Head football coach Andy McCollum, who returns for his fifth season in control of the Blue Raiders, believes that this year's team is ready to step up to the challenge.

"Leadership will play a major role this year like it does with every team every year," McCollum said to Media Relations. "When you look at the off-season, I believe this team has grown to be extremely close through Silver Sunrise, Blue Dawn, Spring Drills, etc."

The offensive lineup is where the biggest changes are going to be made with the departure of several

key seniors including Tyrone Calico, Dwone Hicks and David Youell. However, there are seven starters coming back from last year's team.

The one position that will not change is the quarterback position with senior Andrico Hines coming back. Last season, Hines showed improvement with each game, even after missing New Mexico State because of a groin injury. Besides his strong arm, Hines could take off at any moment with his running ability. Last year, Hines passed for 1,753 yards, and ran for an additional 486. His 2,239 all-purpose yards last season ranks fifth most in a single season in school history.

Even though MT lost Hicks and ReShard Lee at the running back position, senior Don Calloway will be ready to step into the spotlight as the featured back. However, watch out for Kevin Davis who was the leading rusher in the Blue-White game. The wideout position will be loaded and fast, even with the loss of Calico and Youell. Several players will have increased playing time this season including Wardell Alsup, Hashem Joyner and Chris Henry.

"I like our numbers right now. We have some guys who played a lot last year, and some young guys who have shown a lot of potential," McCollum told Media Relations.

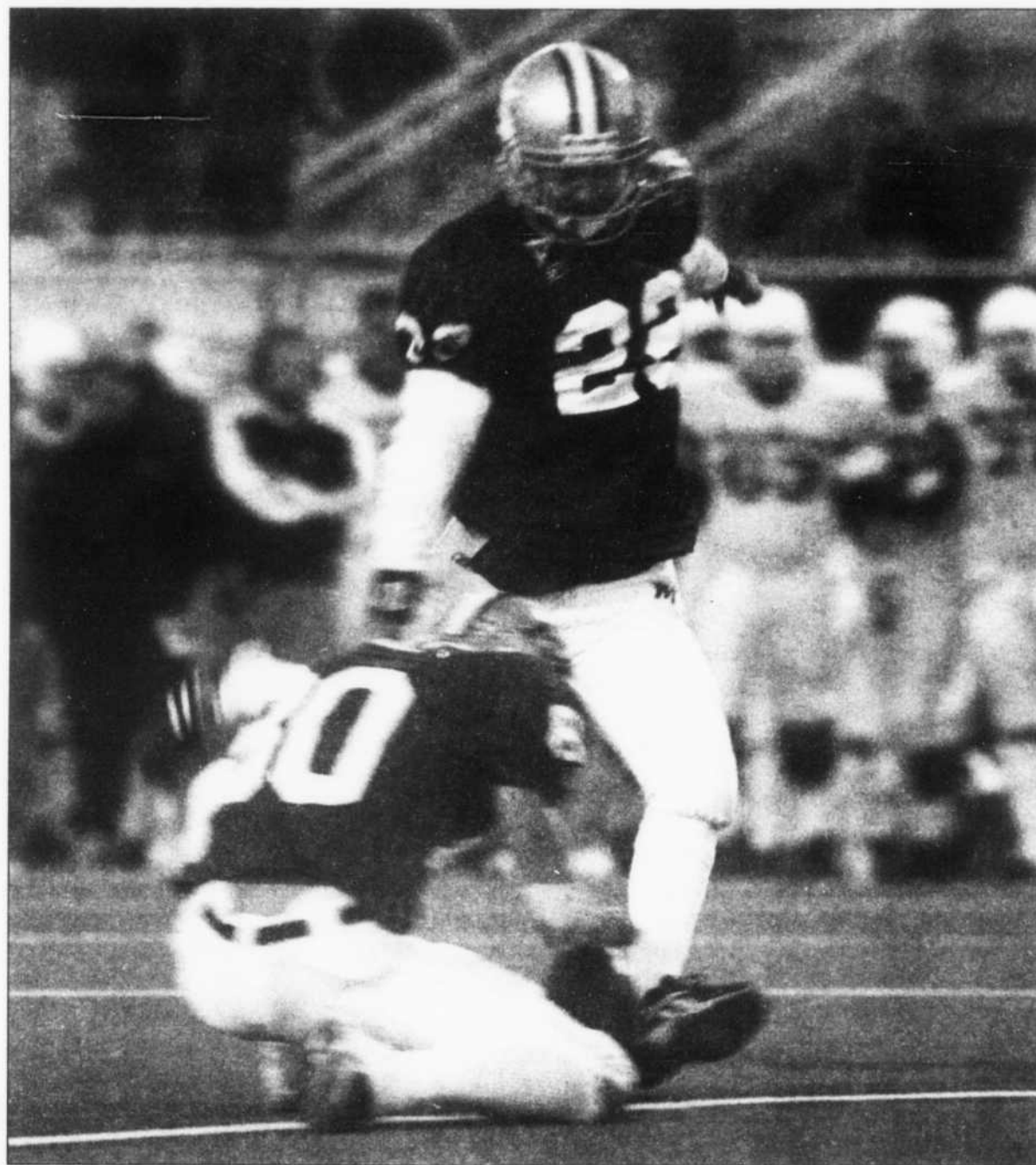
The offensive line returns three players, including one of the best in



McCollum



Hines



File Photo

Placekicker Brian Kelly (22) is expected to contribute to next season's team.

the Sun Belt Conference, Brandon Westbrook, who made All-SBC first team last season. The other two veterans with a lot of experience are Julius Gant and Josh Willoughby.

"We have three outstanding players back who have seen a lot of action and are as good as any in the league," McCollum said.

The most improved part of this

year's squad is the defense.

Eight players are coming back for the upcoming season.

The defensive line showed a lot of improvement during spring practice. In the Blue-White game, Devarick Scandrett had two sacks. Other players to watch out for on the defensive front are Jeff Littlejohn, Thomas Johnson, Jerry

Vanderpool and Demetrios Walker.

The linebackers have also showed signs of improvement. Three-year starters Brandon Lynch and Randy Arnold are primary forces in the middle, both can stop the run and have come up with clutch plays at key moments of a game.

See Preview, 30

New recruits added to football roster

By Christopher Brown
Contributor

Blue Raider football head coach Andy McCollum, though refusing to say that this year's selections comprised the best class in his five years of Division I-A recruiting for Middle Tennessee, seems pleased with the fruits of his labor.

"This is a great class, and I'm tickled to death with the work that's gone into it," McCollum said.

The 2003 MTSU recruiting class is rated No. 1 in the Sun Belt Conference, No. 46 nationally and includes four players who rank in the top 60, according to www.rivals100.com.

To put this in perspective, Vanderbilt's recruiting class is rated No. 64, Memphis No. 78, West Virginia No. 50 and Penn State No. 71 by the same poll.

The University of Tennessee is rated No. 9 on two other prominent polls.

At a celebration held in Murfreesboro's Bunganut Pig shortly after McCollum's announcement of the signees Feb. 5, McCollum showed film highlights of each player that triggered many cheers from the audience upon introduction.

One such audience eruption occurred during the video of Jonathan Harris, a 5-foot-10-inch, 185-pound cornerback from Montgomery, Ala., who was voted honorable mention All-State and first team All-Metro for his punishing 93 total tackles in 2002.

"Jonathan Harris is a great signee that coach Bradford had in his drill and said, 'If this kid will hit, you would have a great signee.' And as you saw in that film, he will wear you out," McCollum said.

Some of the recruits of 2003 turned down other more nationally prominent Division I-A schools to sign with MT.

Kenyon Buford, a 6-foot-6-inch, 345-pound offensive lineman from Riverdale High School, was heavily recruited by Ohio State, Louisville and Auburn. He helped the Murfreesboro school to get to three state championship games. The Associated Press voted Buford to first team All-

State and All-Midstate.

"I think it's special. The greatest thing about that and what's amazing in media and writers is he got offered by Ohio State, and committed to Ohio State, but then when Middle Tennessee gets him all of a sudden, well, Ohio State didn't really want him," McCollum said.

"We got a great player, from a great family, from a great high school program in a great city, and I really don't give a dime who else approves because we got a great kid."

Buford is among nine midterm signees who first committed to MT.

"I couldn't be more proud of that group," McCollum said. "We started out as good as anyone in the country with those nine guys right there; everything else added to that."

John Henry, a 6-foot-6-inch, 303 pound offensive and defensive lineman from Hillsboro High School chose Middle Tennessee over Tennessee, Miami, Florida and Notre Dame. He was a first team All-Midstate selection.

Taron Henry, a 6-foot-2-inch, 187-pound wide receiver

also from Riverdale High School was recruited by Tennessee, Auburn, Alabama, Florida and Florida State before breaking his leg in the fourth game of his senior season and missing the rest of the year.

"We've gone to the doctors, he's rehabbed, and we think he's one of the best high school receivers we've seen playing out there," McCollum said.

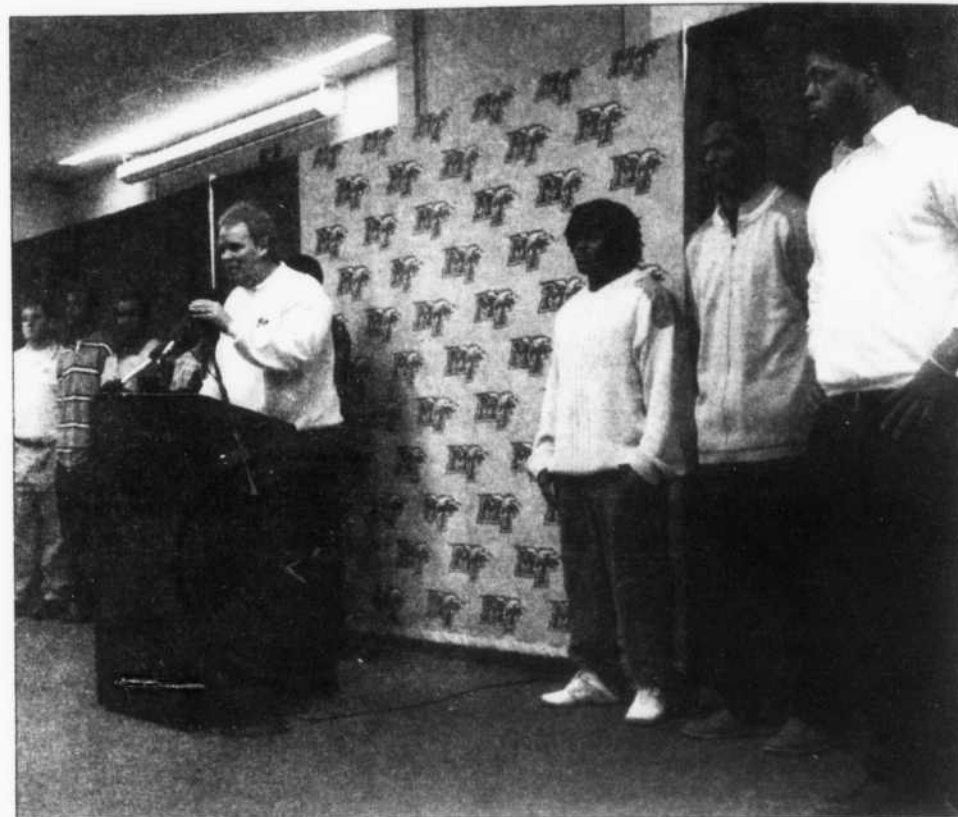
Wide receiver was a position that the Blue Raiders needed more depth in because they lost four players including David Youell and Tyrone Calico from last year.

The only position on the team that lost as many players as the receiver position was the linebacker position, the most notable loss being Sheldon Durham.

Some of the other wide receivers recruited include Seneca Chambers, Pedro Holiday, Jerrin Holt, Tommy Manus and Bradley Robinson.

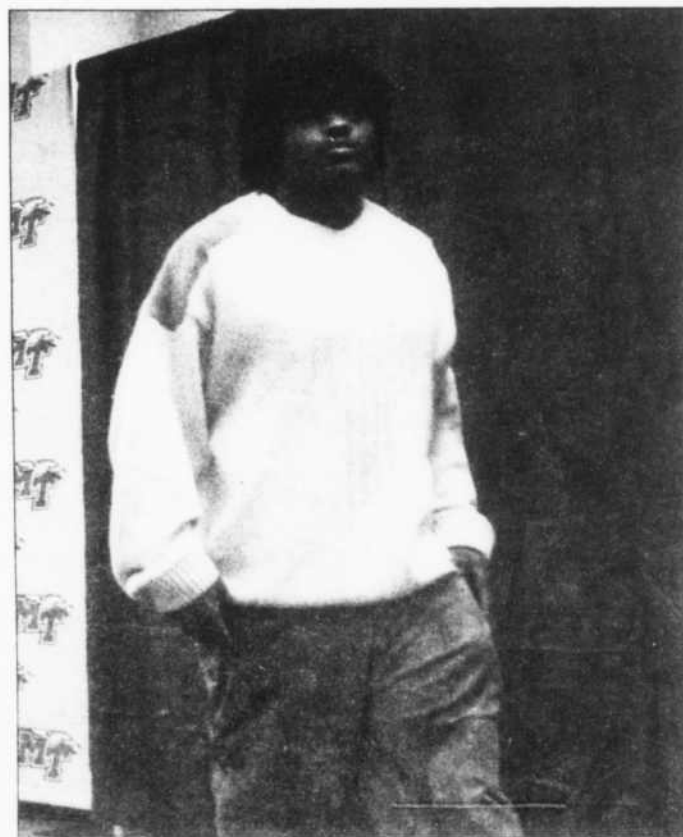
Holiday and Manus were also midterm signees. In addition to football, Holiday ran

See Blue Raiders, 30



File Photo

Head football coach Andy McCollum showcases six of the recent recruits during a press conference held on Feb. 5.



File Photo

Defensive back Tyrone Hicks set a record with 12 interceptions during his high school senior season.

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Blue Raiders, Lady Raiders search for new talent for 2004

By Brandon Morrison
Sports Editor

The Middle Tennessee men's and women's basketball teams worked overtime trying to bring the best talent they can to Murfreesboro.

Men's head coach Kermit Davis finished off his recruiting session by netting Michael Cuffee.

Cuffee, a 6-foot-5-inch wing, lead the Nesho County Community College basketball team in scoring last year with 18.3 points per game. On top of that, Cuffee earned an average of nine rebounds per contest last season.

Cuffee can also drain the ball from downtown with a 40.5 percent 3-point accuracy rate.

"One of the biggest things about Michael is that he comes from one of the winningest high school programs in the country and he went on to play for a junior college program that has a history of winning. All he knows is winning," Davis said. "He's a very versatile offensive player who can score in several ways. He also has the ability to be our best perimeter defender."

Cuffee has high hopes for next

season.

"I feel like I can come in and play right away in a very competitive Sun Belt Conference," Cuffee said. "I enjoyed my visit to Middle Tennessee and I really liked all of the players and Coach Davis. I hope I can come in and be an impact player."

Cuffee set a record at Neosho County with his 1,140 earned points, placing him as fourth-highest all-time scorer.

Also on tap for the men's next season are forward Keith Christmas of Gary Westside High School in Indiana and Georgia transfer Mike Dean.

The Lady Raiders have also been busy recruiting. Head coach Stephany Smith recently signed three junior college players for next season.

Audoshia Kelley of Pearl River Community College in Mississippi and Ditte Jakobsen and Yamil Cordero of Seminole Community College in Florida have all signed letters of intent to play at MT next season.

"They were key signees," Smith said. "Especially with two players [sophomores Tiffany Fisher and Jessica Schlueter] leaving and the fact that we're returning only seven players."

The most notable signee was Kelley, who originally signed to play for MT two years ago but didn't qualify to play academically. Instead,

she went to Pearl River Community College in Poplarville, Miss. Last season, she lead their team to the Junior College National Tournament and was named a JUCO All-American.

"She is a tremendous athlete with unbelievable quickness," Smith said.

"She can outscore off the dribble and is a great defender who will really help us in transition and the press."

Both the Blue Raiders and Lady Raiders are coming off of two relatively successful seasons.

The Blue Raiders had an improved record of 16-14 last season, with a 9-6 conference record. MT finished off their season with a 64-52 loss to Western Kentucky in the Sun Belt Conference Tournament finals.

The Lady Raiders faced a similar fate last year.

The Lady Raiders lost a 86-83 heartbreaker to the Hilltoppers in the SBC tournament finals.

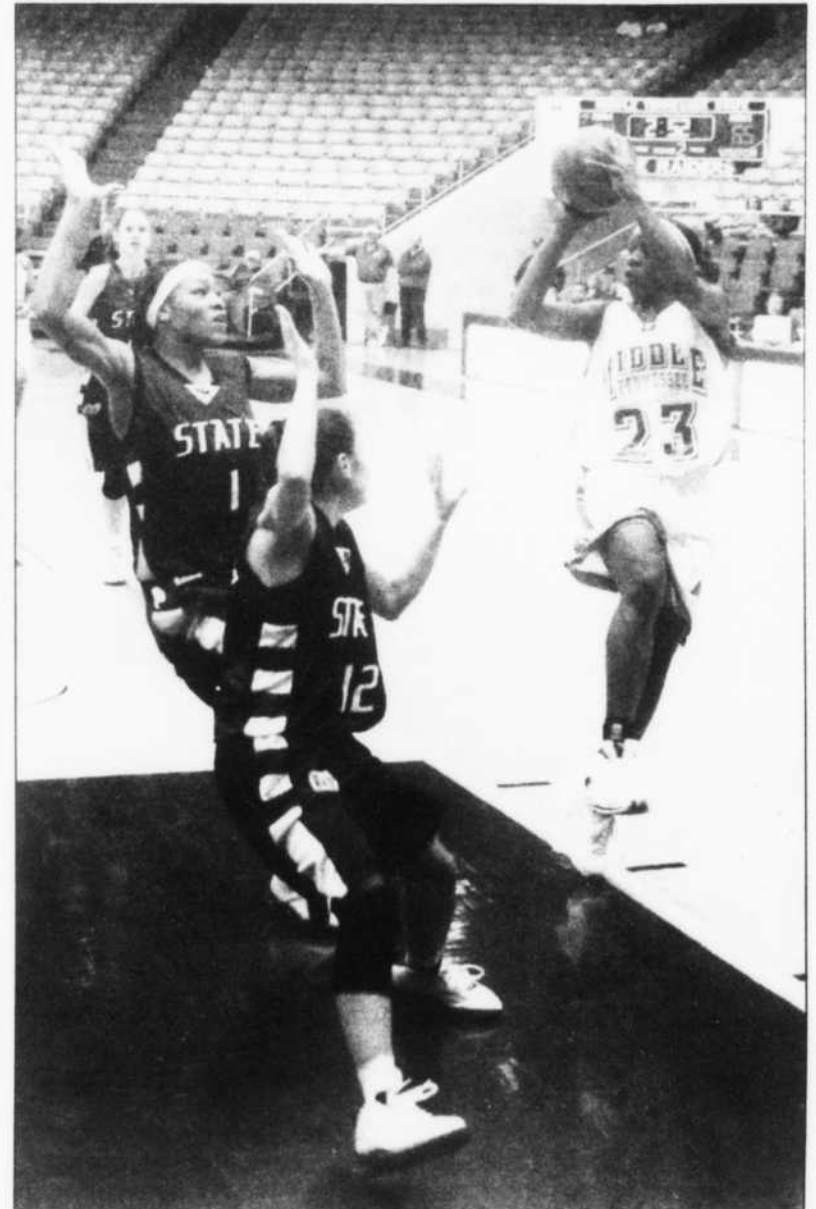
The Lady Raiders bumped up their record to 18-13 with a 9-5 record. ♦



Davis



Smith



File Photo

MT guard Patrice Holmes was named Sun Belt Conference's Defensive Player of the Year for the 2002-2003 season.

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Preview: First football game of 2003 season for Blue Raiders on Aug. 28

Continued from 27

Tony Sutton, Muhammed Rashada and Will Martin all return to the Blue Raider defensive back field. The secondary will be loaded with experience and look for opposing quarterbacks struggling to get the ball to the open receiver.

Special teams is one of the best in the SBC with punter Robert Billings and kicker Brian Kelly. Billings was named All-SBC first team, and Kelly was All-SBC second team.

The coaching staff has three new members this season. Carey Bailey is coaching the defensive line. Bailey's last stop was at

Louisiana-Lafayette. He played his college ball at the University of Tennessee. Bradley Dale Peveto is coaching the secondary. Peveto was at the University of Houston for the past four years as an assistant and Ronnie Vinklerek, who is the offensive line coach, has spent the last two years on staff with the Buffalo Bills.

The 2003 schedule provides some firsts for the Blue Raiders. The first five games of the season are against opponents MT has never faced on the gridiron, including the only SEC game of the season with last year's Sugar Bowl winner.

The first road game, Sept. 6, is against one

of the top teams in the country – the University of Georgia. The following week, MT continues their road trip with a matchup against ACC member Clemson. The road swing concludes with a game at Big 12 member Missouri.

After a week off on Oct. 4, the Blue Raiders plays their first game at home against Big East member, Temple. Homecoming and the first SBC game is the following week against New Mexico State.

MT travels to Idaho on October 18th. Defending SBC champ and winner of the New Orleans Bowl, North Texas comes to Floyd Stadium on Oct. 25.

MT takes to the road the next week to take on the Aggies of Utah State in their inaugural season as members of the SBC.

Then MT has two home games in a row against Troy State and Louisiana-Lafayette. The Blue Raiders finish the season at Arkansas State on Nov. 22.

"I know it sounds like a broken record, but it [schedule] looks to be the toughest in school history again," McCollum told MT Media Relations.

The 2003 season begins against Florida Atlantic on Aug. 28. ◆

Blue Raiders: Twenty-two MT players graduated last season

Continued from 28

on his high school track team.

"Pedro is a kid we tried to get out of high school," McCollum said. "He was a 100-, 200- and 400-meter state champion in Georgia and signed with Auburn out of high school, and then we got him back."

McCollum said he believes that some of the receivers such as Seneca Chambers "are playmakers, and could come in and make an immediate impact."

Addressing the loss of Sheldon Durham and three other linebackers, the Raiders got commitments from five linebackers for this year's class.

Sean Mosley, a 6-foot-3-inch, 245-pound linebacker from Sylvania, Ga., was the *Savannah Morning News* Defensive Player of the Year. He finished his senior season with 129 tackles, including 11 for a loss of yards.

"I felt like maybe he was one of the top players in the class," McCollum said. "He visited some major, major colleges and had a great visit here, and our guys did a great job recruiting him."

"He's a physical, bring-it-down-hill, don't talk about it player," McCollum added.

MT addressed the loss of last year's top two running backs, Dwone Hicks and Reshard Lee, by recruiting four prospects, including Terry Jackson, Eugene Gross, Demarco McNair and Justin Rainey.

McCollum said he believes that the running back position, with the return of Calvin German and Don Calloway, will make for a competitive camp.

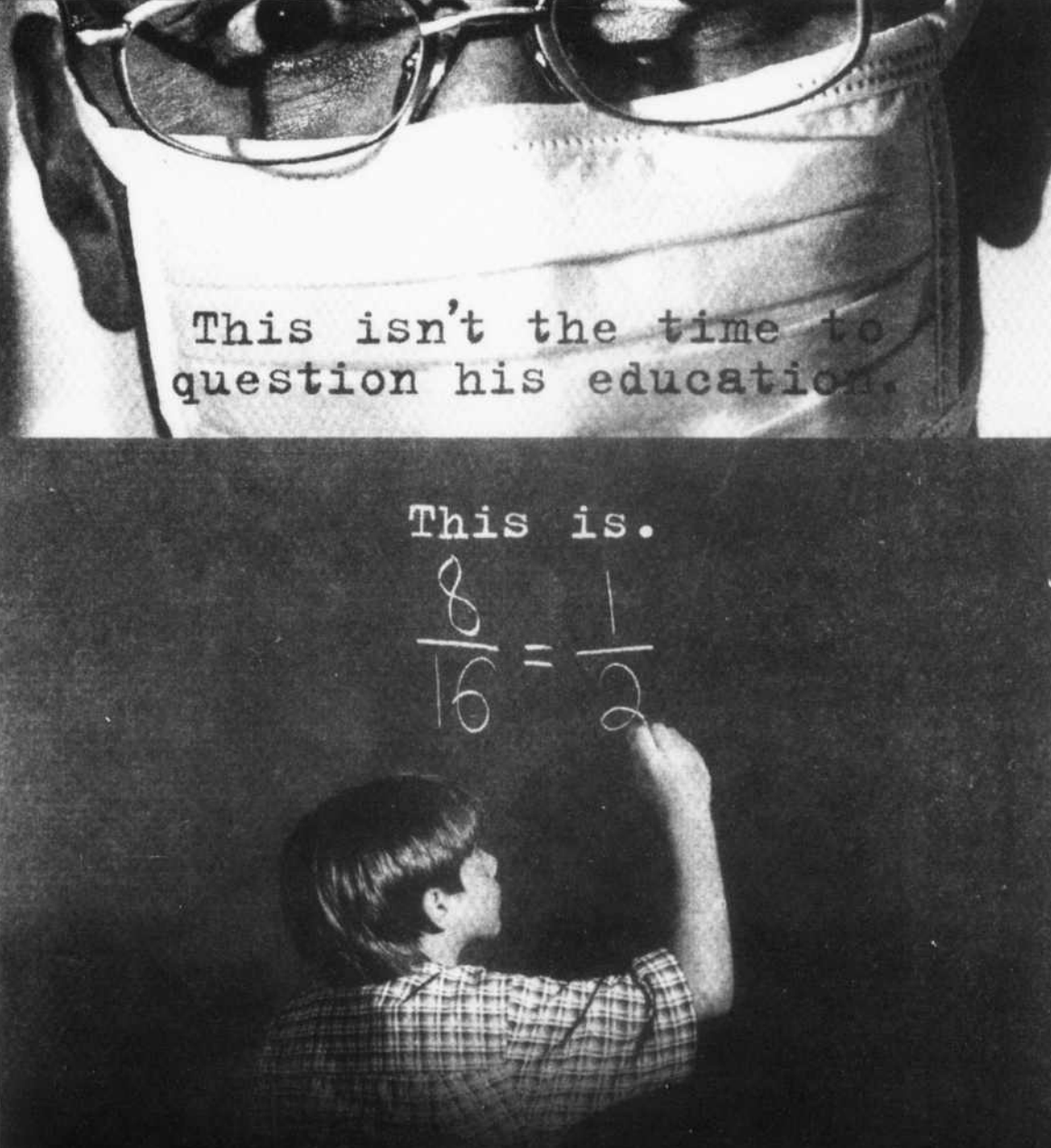
"We've got seven guys that have a chance, and we'll find three or four real good ones," McCollum said. "We've got to find the ones who are going to take care of the football and break it down hill."

Overall, MT lost 22 of last year's players, but it has managed to add 28 players to fill those voids.

McCollum mentioned at least 10 players from this year's class that he expects to make an immediate impact.

However, the coaches will "have to wait and see how they mature over the course of the summer, what kind of shape they are in, and when they will be ready to play," McCollum said.

"I think we are at a point in the program where the young ones don't have to play right now but some of the ones we had here will have to." ◆



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Fall 2003 sports schedules

Football

Aug 28	Florida Atlantic – Home
Sep 6	Georgia – Athens, Ga.
Sep 13	Clemson – Clemson, S.C.
Sep 20	Missouri – Columbia, Mo.
Oct 4	Temple – Home
Oct 11	New Mexico State (SB) – Homecoming
Oct 18	Idaho (SB) – Moscow, Idaho
Oct 25	North Texas (SB) – Home
Nov 1	Utah State (SB) – Logan, Utah
Nov 8	Troy State (SB) – Home
Nov 15	Louisiana-Lafayette (SB) – Home
Nov 22	Arkansas State (SB) – Jonesboro, Ark.



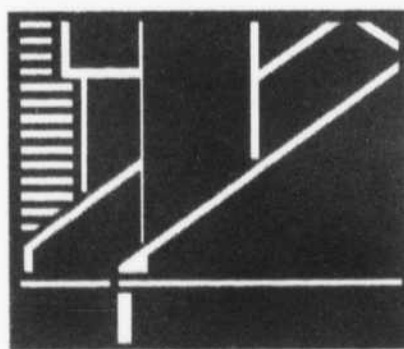
Cross Country

Aug 23	Louisville (N) – Huntsville, Ala., 6 p.m.
Aug 31	Belmont – Home, 1 p.m.
Sep 5	Louisiana-Monroe – Home, 6 p.m.
Sep 7	Western Carolina – Home, 3 p.m.
Sep 12	Southern Miss – Hattiesburg, Miss., 4:30 p.m.
Sep 14	Tulane – New Orleans, La., 1 p.m.
Sep 19	Southwest Missouri State – Home, 4 p.m.
Sep 21	Birmingham Southern – Home, 2 p.m.
Sep 26	Ole Miss – Oxford, Miss., 7 p.m.
Sep 28	Mississippi State – Starkville, Miss., 1 p.m.
Oct 3	Florida International (SB) – Home, 3 p.m.
Oct 5	Austin Peay – Clarksville, Tenn., 2 PM
Oct 10	Arkansas-Little Rock (SB) – Little Rock, Ark., 4 p.m.
Oct 12	Arkansas State (SB) – Jonesboro, Ark., 1 p.m.
Oct 17	Denver (SB) – Home, 3 p.m.
Oct 19	North Texas (SB) – Home, 1 p.m.
Oct 24	Western Kentucky (SB) – Bowling Green, Ky., 5 p.m.
Oct 26	Samford (Senior Day) – Home, 1 p.m.
Oct 31	South Alabama (SB) – Mobile, Ala., 7 p.m.
Nov 2	Louisiana-Lafayette (SB) – Lafayette, La., 1 PM
Nov 5-8	Sun Belt Championships – Bowling Green, Ky.

Volleyball

Aug 29-30	Texas Christian University, Delaware, College of Charleston – Charleston, S.C.
Sep 1	Georgia State – Atlanta, Ga., 2 p.m.
Sep 5-6	IPFW, Ohio University – Fort Wayne, Ind.
Sep 9	Belmont – Home, 7 p.m.
Sep 12-13	Purdue, Indiana State, Mississippi State – West Lafayette, Ind.
Sep 19-20	Middle Tennessee Invitational
Sep 23	Memphis – Home, 7 p.m.
Sep 26	North Texas (SB) – Denton, Texas, 7 p.m.
Sep 28	Western Kentucky (SB) – Bowling Green, Ky., 12 p.m.
Oct 3	Arkansas-Little Rock (SB) – Little Rock, Ark., 7 p.m.
Oct 4	Arkansas State (SB) – Jonesboro, Ark., 7 p.m.
Oct 8	Chattanooga – Chattanooga, Tenn., 7 p.m.
Oct 12	Florida International (SB) – Home, 12 p.m.
Oct 17	Denver (SB) – Home, 7 p.m.
Oct 19	New Mexico State (SB) – Home, 12 p.m.
Oct 24	South Alabama (SB) – Mobile, Ala., 7 p.m.
Oct 26	New Orleans (SB) – New Orleans, La., 1 p.m.
Oct 28	Tennessee Tech – Home, 6 p.m.
Nov 2	Florida International (SB) – Miami, Fla., 1 p.m.
Nov 5	Austin Peay – Home, 1 p.m.
Nov 7	Arkansas State (SB) – Home, 12 p.m.
Nov 9	Arkansas-Little Rock (SB) – Home, 12 p.m.
Nov 14	Louisiana-Lafayette (SB) – Home, 7 p.m.
Nov 16	Western Kentucky (SB) – Home, 12 p.m.
Nov 20-22	Sun Belt Conference Tournament – Bowling Green, Ky.

All other fall 2003 varsity schedules were unavailable before press time. Visit www.mtsusidelines.com for weekly sports updates this summer. More Blue Raider information can be found at www.goblueraiders.com.



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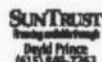
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