

Sidelines

Middle Tennessee State University

Volume 69, Number 47

Murfreesboro, Tenn.

Thursday, February 17, 1994

Accreditation panel to review changes Mass Comm advising system in place

Tina Denise Harvey
Assistant News Editor

A new advising system in the College of Mass Communication is one of the areas that will be reviewed next week by a representative of a national accreditation panel.

A member of the American Council on Education in Journalism [ACEJ] will visit MTSU's Radio-TV/Photography and Journalism Departments Feb. 25 to review corrected deficiencies found last year that resulted in provisional accreditation.

"The ACEJ told us to address our advising system, the instability of administration and to construct an official

plan that would recruit minorities and women," said Deryl Leaming, dean of the College of Mass Communication. "All of these issues have been addressed."

Academic advisor Lauree Burnette was hired last July and says there are enrollment guides constructed to organize schedules of lower-division Journalism students available in the Journalism Department.

"If you follow the enrollment guide," Burnette said, "see your faculty adviser regularly and file an upper-division form by the beginning of your junior year, you shouldn't have any problems when it comes time to graduate."

Enrollment guides for Radio-TV/Photography majors will be ready the first of March while guides for Recording Industry majors will be ready the first of April.

If you follow the enrollment guide, see your faculty adviser regularly and file an upper-division form by the beginning of your junior year, you shouldn't have any problems when it comes time to graduate.

--Lauree Burnette
Mass Comm adviser

"Soon, departmental faculty will be handing out the enrollment guides in their classes," Burnette said. "We'll give each student two guides to fill out. The professor will keep one to put on file and the student will have one for his records."

The College has also held advisement workshops for the Journalism faculty and consolidated all the student advising files into one centralized area.

Leaming was hired to address the problem of instability in the College's administration.

"We only had an 'acting dean' when the ACEJ visited last year," Leaming said.

"Now we are in the process of filling the position of chair in the Department of Journalism."

An official plan to recruit minorities and women has also been prepared and is ready for ACEJ review, according to Leaming.

The ACEJ is a national committee which accredits colleges who meet the group's 12 standards. Some of the qualifications include: A large enough budget to provide specific student programming and quality curriculum, faculty, internship programs and equipment and facilities.

MTSU is one of only three universities or colleges in the state whose Mass Communication program is accredited. The University of Tennessee at Knoxville and Memphis State University make up the other accredited programs.

"I feel confident that when Tom Bowers visits next week to review the departments, he will be pleased with the progress we've made in the past six months," Burnette said. ■

Attempted Eagleville bank robbery earns MTSU student prison sentence

Brent Andrews
Staff Writer

Last summer's attempted robbery of an Eagleville bank cost Don Gandy \$1 and over three years in a federal penitentiary.

Gandy, an MTSU senior, was sentenced Feb. 7 to 41 months in a federal penitentiary for the attempted robbery of an Eagleville bank last June.

He was also required to pay restitution of \$1, the amount of money the bank did not recover.

"It was an unfortunate incident," Gandy said. "I just want to get it over with."

"There's really not a set reason [for the robbery]," Gandy said. "I didn't realize what I was doing until after it was done."

Gandy pled guilty to one

count of attempted robbery Nov. 22 in federal court in Nashville. He negotiated a plea bargain sentence in return for fully cooperating with the FBI investigation of the robbery, according to Gary Blackburn, the Nashville attorney representing Gandy.

Authorities said they were suspicious that Gandy might have been involved in another robbery at the Third National Bank on Greenland Drive, but he has not been charged with that offense.

As a result of the plea bargain, Gandy expects to serve two and one half years in prison. Bank robbery is "not something I'd recommend for people to do," Gandy said.

Gandy was president of the Kappa Alpha Order in spring 1993 and is now an alumnus. He has also been active in student

government, including serving as SGA Election Commissioner, and student orientation.

He is currently enrolled at MTSU while free on bail and plans to graduate in May with a bachelor's degree in Mathematics. He said plans to obtain his master's degree either while in prison or after his release.

"If a person commits a crime off campus and their presence represents a clear and present threat to the welfare of students, faculty or staff, that student could be barred from campus," said dean of Students Paul Cantrell when asked about Gandy being on campus while under conviction.

He added, "I don't think [Gandy] represents a threat to the safety or welfare" of the campus population. ■



Scott Neely, staff

Moment of peace: Freshman transfer student Stacey Tomkiewicz draws with charcoal in the Keathley University Center courtyard on a recent sunny afternoon. After days of lousy weather, the courtyard has been packed with premature sun worshippers all week.

Faculty Senate annual elections to be held

Mark Blevins
Staff Writer

MTSU faculty will be choosing from nominated colleagues for the Faculty Senate in the annual election being held by mail from Feb. 17 to March 3.

One representative from each department and at least one representative for every 10 faculty members in each college make up the 64-member senate.

"We tend to stay with the issues that are directly related to academics and the issues that the faculty are most closely associated with," said Jill Austin, associate professor of Management and Marketing and current Faculty Senate president.

"It's a voice that can be a public forum for faculty to make their concerns known to the administration. It's also a mechanism for faculty members who feel like they need advice—one-on-one—

from people like the senate officers who are involved with other administration people," Austin said.

Some issues currently on the senate's agenda include working on tenure and promotion policies, establishing an electronic network across campus that would reach every office, standardizing all class times and bringing new multimedia methods into the classrooms.

"We're making some suggestions for putting technology into the teaching, using multimedia type presentation systems, so the administration has provided some money for that," Austin said.

The senate meets the second Monday of every month in room 100 of the James Union Building. The meetings are open to anyone in the MTSU community and anyone is allowed to speak.

POLICE REPORT

Police Report 2-17

A male student reported on Feb. 6 that his wallet was stolen from the bleacher area of the Alumni Gym.

A female student reported on Jan. 27 that she had been harassed by persons unknown near Reynolds Hall.

A male student reported on Feb. 4 that his windshield was broken by a baseball while parked near the Keathley University Center.

A female student reported Feb. 6 that front wheels were taken from her vehicle while parked near Abernathy Hall.

On Feb. 8 a problem with a heating unit in Corlew Hall, Room 514, caused a small fire.

A male student reported on Feb. 10 that his vehicle was hit by a front-end loader moving snow while it was parked near the KUC.

ARRESTS:

Kevin Mandell Posey, 31, was arrested Feb. 2 for public intoxication and trespassing.

Nickey Shane Keith, 26, was arrested Feb. 9 for driving under the influence—first offense.

Sidelines Contributors:

Brent Andrews • Christina Basiel • Mark Blevins • Jessica Clayborn • Kelley Lloyd • Chris Patterson • Kellie Russ • Deanna Snowden

CAMPUS CAPSULE

Today

Ray White AAE will be presenting the MMMNAA 30-year plan at the first MTSU/TSU joint AAAE meeting at the Metropolitan Nashville Airport Authority at 5 p.m. Contact Chad Fehrke at 896-6194 for more details.

Friday, Feb. 18

The Adult Learning Sub-Committee of the Presidential Steering Committee on Women's Issues at MTSU is holding a conference on Adult Learning in Tenn. Programs will begin at 9:30 a.m., after registration and last until 3:45 p.m. in JUB. Call Carol Bailey at 898-55989 for more details.

Saturday, Feb. 19

The Division of Continuing Studies is sponsoring a seminar entitled "Making Money as a Fiction Writer" from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. in KUC 314. For more details, contact the Division of Continuing Studies at 898-2462.

Monday, Feb. 21

ROTC program will be promoting camp challenge summer leadership in front of the bookstore from 9 a.m.-12 p.m.. Contact Lt. Todd at 898-2471.

Tuesday, Feb. 22

The MTSU Observatory will have open house from 7:30-9:30 p.m. for faculty, staff and friends.

Thursday, Feb. 24

The June Anderson Women's Center is sponsoring a Faculty Women Lecture Series including speaker Dr. Jackie Jackson, who will address "The Quest for Self-Definition in Zora Neale Hurston's Novels". This is the second in a series of monthly lectures designed to showcase the current research and works-in-progress by MTSU women faculty. Program will last from 3-4 p.m. in Rm. 107 of Peck Hall.

Friday, Feb. 25

Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity will be presenting the Miss MTSU pageant in Tucker Theatre at 7:30. Tickets are \$7 at the door. For more information call 890-9392 or 893-9932.

Saturday, Feb. 26

The Campus Recreation winter backpacking trip will be held at Prentice Cooper State Forest. The deadline to sign up is Feb. 21. For more information call Ed at 898-2104. The trip will last two days.

Tuesday, March 1

The Placement and Student Employment program is presenting "Marketing Yourself" from 3-4:30 p.m. in the KUC rm. 324. Topics discussed include interview preparation, professional dress and business etiquette by

Margaret Ann Pritchard. Contact Martha Turner at 898-2500.

Wednesday, March 2

The Placement and Student Employment program will present "Career Placement Orientation" from 2-4:30 p.m. in the KUC rm. 324. For seniors and graduate students only. Contact Martha Turner at 898-2500 for more details.

Ongoing

The Office for Minority Affairs is sponsoring "Institute for Healing Racism" every Tuesday at 6:45 p.m. in KUC 316. Contact Shara Winton at 895-9021 for more details.

The Bhakti-Yoga/Vegetarian club meets every Monday from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Everyone is invited. Contact Jonathan Maxwell at 898-3801 for more details.

Students for Environmental Action meets every Wednesday at 8 p.m. in KUC 305. Call 890-5097 for more details.

The Lambda Association meets every Tuesday at 6:30 p.m. in the Learning Resource Center room 241. Contact Christy Osborne at 780-2293 for more details.

The Society of Environmental Professionals will meet at 5 p.m. on the first and third Thursdays of each month in the Wiser-Patton Science Building room 201. New members are welcome. Contact Leonard Walther at 731-1684 for more details.

The Catholic Student Center holds mass every Sunday evening at 7 p.m. Call 896-6074 for details.

Fellowship of Christian Athletes meets every Thursday at 7:30 in AMG 210. Call Greg Logan at 898-3081 for more details.

MTSU students who need speech testing or speech therapy services should call the MTSU Speech Clinic at 898-2661 for an appointment.

The June Anderson's Women's Center's regular office hours are 8am-4:30pm, Tuesday 8am-7pm.

Church of God in Christ, Revival on Campus (COGIC ROC) will hold a Bible study every Thursday night at 7 p.m. Contact Kevin Johnson at 895-5968.

Graduate application deadline for the National Security Education Program is March 1. The program is a federally-funded scholarship. Contact David Curry at 898-2238 for more information.

Students can participate in an essay contest during Women's History month. Content must focus on some aspect of women's experiences. The winner will receive \$100. Deadline is Feb. 28. Contact Jill Hague at 898-2579 or 890-0686 for more details.

Campus Recreation is sponsoring a canoe trip down the Suwanee River in Fla., March 12-18. Deadline to sign up is March 1. Contact Ed at 898-2104 for more details.



Robbie Watts, staff

Listen up, class: Gloria Bonner talks to Honors students about the lack of minority educators in Monday's lecture in the Honors Lecture Series. The series is open to the public.

Administrator discusses the need for African-American educators

Yanetra Mitchell
Staff Writer

Dr. Gloria Bonner, assistant dean of Teacher Education, Administrative Services and Programming at MTSU, spoke on the lack of minorities in education at Monday's Honors Lecture Series.

Bonner, who holds a doctorate of education from Tennessee State University, was once a classroom teacher. She is now an administrator and has won many awards, such as the Outstanding Faculty Award in 1990 and the Teacher of the Year Award in 1983.

Bonner said African-Americans seldom enter the education profession due to teaching differences in cultural values and beliefs in American schools.

Historic African-American schools, Bonner said, addressed the "deeper relational needs within its community rather than the predominantly black community versus what occurs in mainstream community."

African-American teachers left the education profession because they were declined higher roles, reassigned to

different careers, and placed in foreign and hostile environments, Bonner said.

"Many of them were demoted, primarily, to the role not as the decision-maker or administrator, but the role of central office staff, or the role of the assistant administrator in charge of discipline," Bonner said. "The issue we face today is the inability of our profession to recruit and also retain African-American teachers."

Bonner also stated that because many African-American students do not have proper role models nor cultural balance in the classroom, they refrain from becoming teachers.

"The cultural environment for most African-American children does not reflect their primary cultural balance," she said. "The desegregated schools are not likely to permit the expression of the Afro-centric cultural traits and beliefs."

This problem, Bonner said, leads the African-American student to deny his identity.

Various students present at the seminar also suggested ways to alleviate the growing problem of deficient African-American students.

"You [don't] have to standardize nearly every element in society," said student Charles Helbling. "I don't even know if you can open up an all-Black school and get public money for it."

Dr. John Paul Montgomery, Director of the Honors Program, commented before the seminar that his idea of creating a classroom is to provide African-American students and other students the opportunity to understand each other.

"The diversity of the class equals the richness of the experience," Montgomery said. "Without that diversity you lose immense opportunities for all students to learn."

Bonner concluded by saying that personal educational recruiters must have personal contact with the K-12 group and first-generation college graduates to increase the number of future African-American teachers.

"These students need to know that African-American professionals are capable, contributing citizens," she said. "This group is the pull that will give the best returns for us." ■

RIM students give \$1,400 to department

Kelley Lloyd
Staff Writer

The Recording Industry Department Concert Promotions class recently presented a check to the department for over \$1,400.

"The money was given in the name of Bob Griggs, who taught the class before he was killed in an

automobile accident last year," said Dottie Huffine, publicity chairperson for the Department.

The money was raised through the Music City Unplugged concert held Dec. 6 at Ace of Clubs in Nashville. The show included country acts The Oak Ridge Boys, Exile, Great Plains, The Golden and 2AM.

Students were required to hold the concert as a final exam for the course. Most of the items needed for holding the show were donated, including performers' time, advertising space in *The Nashville Banner* and on various local radio stations, and the Ace of Clubs. Profits will go to the Griggs memorial fund. ■

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NATIONAL ROUNDUP

State to vote on lethal injections

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — The Senate Judiciary Committee approved a measure to use lethal injections for executions instead of the electric chair.

The Senate will vote on the measure next week and the House Judiciary Committee considers similar legislation today.

No one has died in Tennessee's electric chair in 33 years.

"This means that the electric chair would no longer be put to use?" asked Sen. Joe Haynes, D-Nashville.

"That's correct," Sen. Carl Koella, R-Maryville, told the Senate Judiciary Committee Tuesday, which voted 8-0 for the bill.

He said federal and state judges often use the harshness of the electric chair as an excuse for vacating death sentences.

The House version of the bill started as a proposal to give prisoners an alternative to

the electric chair — lethal injection, firing squad or hanging. Hanging was eliminated after black lawmakers argued it conjured up images of lynchings in the south.

Texas and a number of other states have used lethal injections for executions for several years.

Louisiana man confesses to murders

GAINESVILLE, Fla. — A Louisiana drifter faces the death penalty following his unexpected confession to the mutilation murders of five college students.

"We know now what happened. We are about to embark on a process to show how it happened," State Attorney Rod Smith said.

Prosecutors seeking the death penalty for Danny Harold Rolling, 39, plan to release massive amounts of previously undisclosed evidence collected at the

murder scenes.

The evidence includes details of how Rolling targeted his female victims, bound them with tape, raped them, stabbed them and arranged their bodies in lewd poses.

Rolling pleaded guilty Tuesday to five counts of first-degree murder, and three each of sexual battery and armed burglary.

Rolling's lawyer, Rick Parker, said he will argue that his client was mentally ill when he killed the students and should not be executed.

"This evidence will be helpful in understanding how the same person can rape and murder, then later regret these acts and feel compassion for the living loved ones surviving his violence," Parker said.

Rolling told Circuit Judge Stan Morris, "I have been running from first one thing and then another all my life. Whether from problems at home or with the law, or from myself. But there are some things that you just can't run from."

The mutilated bodies of Christina Powell, 17, and Sonja Larson, 18, both University of Florida students, were found on Aug. 26, 1990, in their townhouse.

The decapitated body of Christa Hoyt, 18, a student at Santa Fe Community College, was found early the next day.

Tonya and Nancy "break the ice"

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Professor resigns as contributing editor

Jessica Clayborn
Staff Writer

Journalism Professor Robert Wyatt recently retired as a contributing editor to *The Tennessean*.

Wyatt served as a book editor for 16 years.

"I became so involved in international [communication] research, something had to give," he said.

Wyatt has traveled abroad and done research on locations including Israel, Russia and Hong Kong. He will be leaving next week for France to spend six weeks teaching a graduate class on international communication with a university exchange program.

"I will be a visiting professor

at the University of Caen [in Normandy]," Wyatt said. "[MTSU has] a student exchange program with them, and their students have taken my classes at MTSU."

"Normandy is the hometown of William the Conqueror, and it's where the battle of Normandy was fought," Wyatt said of the historical perspective of his trip. "It is also the sister city of Nashville."

Even though he is retiring as a contributing editor, Wyatt said he will still have time to read. He lists his favorite non-fiction authors as John Gardner, John Updike and John Cheever. His favorite fiction author is Studs Terkel. ■

Bookstore renovations to relieve overcrowding

Deanna Snowden
Staff Writer

Phillips Bookstore renovations will provide more room to help relieve crowded situations during registration periods and will offer nicer shopping areas, according to bookstore Manager Earl Harris.

Renovations began a year ago when taller shelves were added to the book department. The left side of the store has recently been reconstructed, and remodeling of the art department, health and beauty aids and pencil, paper and computer supply aisles will begin next Monday.

The renovations are being done now, Harris said, because there was no opportunity to get everything done while classes were not in session.

"There was no time we could plan the renovations without having to close for a few days," said Harris. "We have tried our

best to make sure required items that students need are available to them."

Redoing the cash register stalls at the front of the store will conclude the remodeling. The renovations will add three new registers to the 12 already available to help relieve lines during registraion.

The front wall will also be taken out and replaced by a roller-type grill gate.

"This will allow us to use more space up front," Harris said.

Money for the renovation project comes from the Renewal and Replacement Fund established by the bookstore and funded from a percentage of the profits.

The renovations will not affect bookstore prices, Harris said.

Renovations are scheduled to be completed by fall, according to Harris. ■

U.S. astronauts to join Russian team

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. (AP) — They're pros at traveling light. But for this trip they want to be prepared.

When astronauts Norman Thagard and Bonnie Dunbar leave for a year of cosmonaut training in Russia, they'll be taking along some comforts of home.

For Thagard, 50, a physician who designs amplifiers in his spare time, that means a stereo, TV and VCR.

For Dunbar, 44, a biomedical engineer, that means a tool kit, batteries, film, and — oh yes — instant oatmeal.

"There are no 7-Eleven stores

over there," Dunbar explained.

Thagard and Dunbar are the first Americans assigned to Russia's cosmonaut training program. It's part of the same agreement that had Russian cosmonaut Sergei Krikalev flying last week on space shuttle Discovery.

Under the astronaut-cosmonaut exchange program, Thagard will be rocketed into orbit aboard a Russian Soyuz in March 1995 and will spend three months on Russia's space station Mir, conducting mostly medical experiments. Dunbar is his backup. ■



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Opinions

Page 6, *Sidelines* - February 17, 1994

Mass Comm changes help confused students

Today a nifty blue booklet called the "Middle Tennessee State University College of Mass Communication Undergraduate Enrollment Guide" magically appeared on my desk.

This booklet, which will soon be given to incoming Mass Comm students, contains a complete listing of general graduation requirements, as well as specific requirements for every major within the college.

This was not a service provided out of the goodness of the hearts of the Mass Comm college.

It is one of the results of the evaluation of the department performed last year by the American Council on Education in Journalism.

Of 12 areas reviewed, the department was found lacking in three. One of those areas was, surprise, advising.

Any Mass Comm student who has been here for longer than three years can tell you bewildering stories of not knowing exactly who one's adviser is, being told to take the wrong classes by ignorant or careless faculty advisers, or simply not being aware of the role the adviser should play.

There are any number of Mass Comm majors right now who don't know who their specific adviser is and who go for advice to their favorite professor, who has made himself or herself available for just such helpful consultation.

Now, finally, the first steps have been taken to reduce the confusion for students who need help in determining which classes they need, which minors are acceptable and just how quickly they can get out of here with the proper credentials.

If the nifty booklet is any clue, good things are being done to help students register for courses with confidence and graduate on schedule.

After all, the communications college should be quite capable of communicating. ■



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Story misleading on weather policy

To the Editor:

This letter is in response to the front page story in the Feb. 14 edition of the *Sidelines*. Some clarification is required concerning the discretionary powers of instructors at MTSU.

The story, as written, would leave the impression that the decision to hold or cancel classes because of the weather is up to the individual instructor. In point of fact, most departments on campus have the policy that if the university is open, classes will meet.

On Feb. 10, the university was officially open when I arrived on campus. I received numerous telephone calls from students asking if classes were in session, and all students that called were told that the university was open and classes were being held. At about 1:30 p.m. I was notified by my department chairman that President Walker had decided to close the university at 2 p.m. All afternoon and evening classes were cancelled.

In this particular instance, there is no question about instructors' use of discretionary powers. A directive was received from the President of the university, closing the university and cancelling classes, and the directive was carried out.

MTSU has had the policy of not cancelling classes or closing the university due to bad weather. Perhaps it is time for university officials to consider formally modifying this policy. I think that

President Walker made good decisions in closing the university on Feb. 10 and on Jan. 18, and I think that President Walker will continue to make appropriate decisions whenever weather conditions pose a serious threat to student safety. The confusion among students, staff and instructors concerning cancellation of classes due to the weather needs to be addressed.

Respectfully yours,
Terrence A. Lee
Associate Professor of Chemistry
Box 0068

Columnist needs 'reality check'

To the Editor:

I think that Jay Travis needs a "reality check."

The two "largest threats to our very existence in our nation's history" are the rise in violent crime and the deteriorating quality of public education.

President Reagan did absolutely nothing to combat these threats. In fact, they only worsened during the Reagan and Bush years.

Sincerely,
Doug Rowe
1014 N. Tenn. Blvd.

Second Amendment column 'refreshing'

To the Editor:

Christina Basiel's reiteration and description of the religious freedom clause refreshed my appreciation of our freedoms.

The only separation implied in the First Amendment is the separation of the institutions of religion and government. The

establishment clause both prevents the government from soliciting a particular religion, and it prevents a religious organization from dominating government.

The freedom of exercise of religion, however, is applicable in all public spheres. Therefore, it is entirely consistent and right for Congressional sessions to open with prayers, for government buildings to have the 10 Commandments displayed, and for public school events to include public prayer. The exercise is freely practiced, yet the government does not mandate an organized religion.

I add my agreement to Ms. Basiel's prayer in the name of Jesus: Amen.

Sincerely,
Adam Valle
MTSU Box 6338

Parent offers thanks for lawsuit article

To the Editor:

I just wanted to thank you for your support in allowing Brent Andrews to be able to write a story concerning the controversy between our family and MTSU over the required reading of pornography. I trust that you will continue the encouragement on any follow-up articles that he feels are pertinent to the issue.

It has been difficult for us to obtain honest and aggressive media exposure on this issue due to the "political clout" that MTSU enjoys. Your efforts are greatly appreciated. Hopefully, Brent has opened the door which will allow

(Please see Letters, page 8)

Sidelines

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Clinton made good decision cutting out prisoner grants

The Conservative Philosopher

CHRISTINA BASIEL



Will wonders never cease? Bill Clinton has actually proposed legislation which is in the best interests of the American people.

As a part of his get tough on crime facade, Clinton has actually suggested an action which punishes criminals: stop giving Pell Grants, government grants to students in financial need, to prisoners.

As the law stands, incarcerated public offenders are eligible to apply for and receive Pell Grants. These creeps compete with viable college students for this increasingly sparse financial aid.

Of course, bleeding hearts insist that murderers, rapists, child molesters, arsonists, etc. not only have the right to an education, but also that it is in the

best interests of the public to prepare the scum for parole.

The argument that violent offenders can be rehabilitated by wasting tax dollars that can be otherwise wisely invested in individuals who can actually make a positive contribution to society, is unfounded, unproven and untrue.

Criminals do not have the right to be educated behind bars. They do not have the right to be treated as the intellectual equals of law-abiding college students. They do not have the right to reap the benefits of the American university system...

Criminals do not have the right to be educated behind bars. They do not have the right to be treated as the intellectual equals of law-abiding college students. They do not have the right to reap the benefits of the American university system when they

should be suffering the consequences of their actions.

As most college students in this country struggle to support themselves, pay their tuition, and maintain good grades, the worst offenders of our society are receiving food, shelter, wages and college educations which have all been paid for by those of us on the outside of the bars. This certainly does not sound like punishment to me.

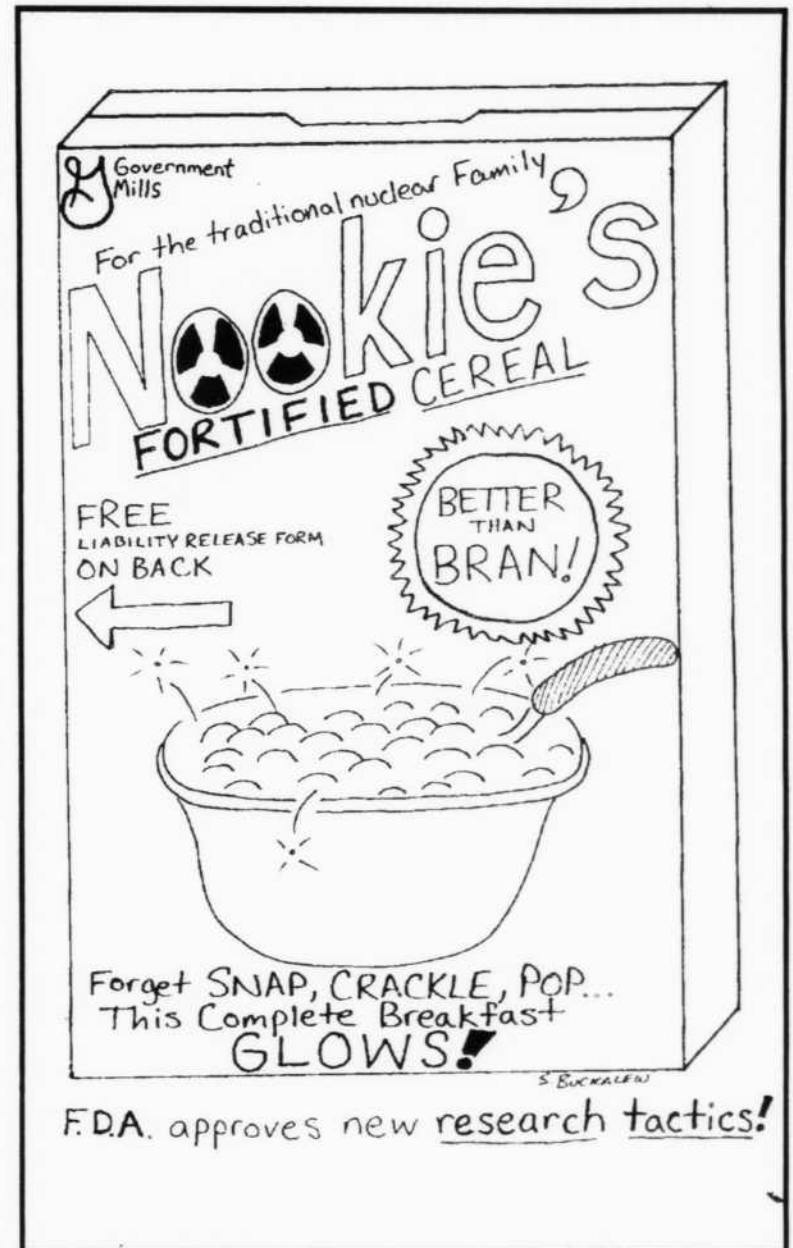
Prisoners are allowed too many rights as it is. While those of us who obey the law have the right to an education, we don't have all the opportunity, and many of us who do have created that opportunity for ourselves.

If we are going to be serious about combating crime, we must be serious about punishing criminals.

Educating prisoners is not a punishment; it is a reward.

I never thought that I would ever support a Clinton proposal; however, I do support this one. ■

Basiel is a pre-law major. Her column appears Thursdays in Sidelines.



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 COLUMBIA TRISTAR PICTURES PRESENTS A WARNER BROS. FILM

OPENS EVERYWHERE FEBRUARY 18

Letters...

(Continued from page 6)

us to pursue other avenues of media exposure and remedies.

Brent is to be commended for the conscientious and professional manner in which he conducted himself. Also, his presentation of the issue was fair and appropriate for the type of journalism that was being offered. We also appreciate Brent for being the kind of individual that he is ... sensitive, understanding, courteous and above all—a Christian.

Congratulations for doing a good job in publishing a newspaper that upholds students' rights—and not just one that prints "soft" issues and only what the administration wants to hear.

Sincerely,
Janice Roberts
7731 Ridgewood Rd.
Goodlettsville, Tn

Marijuana column didn't explore facts

To the Editor:

In the Feb. 10, 1994 *Sidelines*, I read a very interesting article by Lisa Morrison about marijuana. I have to admit this article is well-written; however, there are some issues that need to be considered concerning this subject. This article is factual and I'm a stickler for facts in articles, otherwise it would

be poorly-opinionated.

This is an article which, in my opinion, might be found inside a Grateful Dead album promo or in the magazine "High Times." I was surprised to see such an article in a state university newspaper. But that's okay, I suppose, since we have the right of free speech. Well, at least some people do, but that might change with the onset of political correctness (a whole different subject in itself).

I feel there are other things that should have been considered in the article, but weren't. This article leaves some unanswered questions.

Why hasn't the whole medical community accepted marijuana as medicine? Sometimes when you persuade an audience to believe a certain way, you need to consider both the pros and the cons. How about writing about the specific findings of the studies? What medical evidence? How about addiction? If marijuana had no side effects, maybe the MTV administration might consider allowing doctors to prescribe it, provided Billy-boy doesn't inhale.

Let's also consider the Drug Enforcement Administration's role. The DEA's role is not to produce drugs; its job is to apprehend criminals who produce it. That would be contradicting its purpose. Way before there were

the DEA and the drug war, marijuana was grown by farmers. It was called hemp and was used to make rope. But, as most things in America are, its original use of being made into something useful was perverted and was used by the flower power generation "for enlightenment."

There's always the problem of ethics. In the past, doctors have taken drugs such as valium, which they've prescribed to their patients, and abused it themselves. Who's to say that there couldn't be a doctor out there who might take marijuana and abuse it? Yes, that doctor might be dealt with appropriately, but there's always that possibility. In addition, who's to say that some doctor or patient may see an economic opportunity and sell the drug?

In Chattanooga, a few years back, a methadone-related clinic was established to rehabilitate heroin addicts. To do this, addicts had to be slowly weaned off the drug. This was done by giving the addict lower and lower doses of the drug. Doctors and employees began to collect residue from the drug and sell it. Needless to say, the clinic was shut down.

Who's going to produce it? Definitely not the DEA, as was mentioned earlier. How about growing it in a greenhouse, but who's going to guard it? Once

some drug dealers find out the location of the greenhouses, they're going to prey upon it.

Then there's always the possibility the government would make open bids to drug dealers in the Appalachia to buy marijuana at reduced rates. Ludicrous? Far-fetched?

Maybe, but maybe not. All I'm saying is that before we start listening and believing all the Donna Shalalas and Jocelyn Elders and studies, all the possibilities need to be considered.

By the way, from what studies does this information come? American Medical Association? Drug companies? And last of all, we know 35 states, according to the "study," approve of the medicinal use of marijuana. How about the remaining 15 states? Perhaps their medical communities have drugs called painkillers, such as beta blockers, that have the same effect. Perhaps. Maybe marijuana would benefit those who suffer chronic pain from a debilitating disease. But to say that we should make marijuana a prescription would require careful consideration and intensive studies. Of course, this is just one man's opinion and what I say shouldn't be taken as an absolute.

Eddy D. Dyer
MTSU Box D769

If you have an opinion on a burning issue or one of great contemporary relevance, express it in 500-750 words. Submit "Forefront" columns to *Sidelines*.

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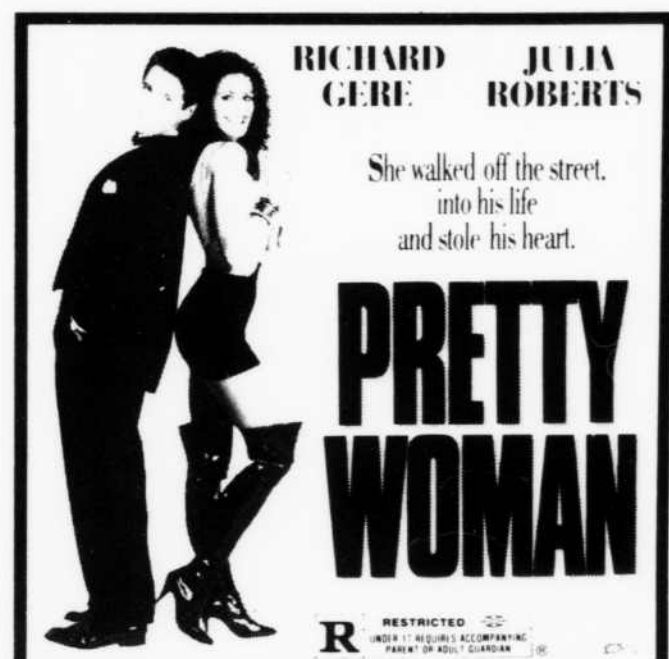
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Course on AIDS dispels myths

University of Central Florida professor is helping stop the spread of HIV

College Press Service

With an estimated 1 in 500 college students infected with the HIV virus, students are becoming aware that they learn how to protect themselves from getting AIDS, health officials say.

The startling figure was found in a study conducted by the Centers for Disease Control and the American College Health Association.

The experiment was conducted by testing 20,000 blood samples drawn at 35 college health centers. The blood was drawn for purposes other than AIDS testing, and the non-identifying demographic samples were drawn between September 1989 and December 1990.

AIDS cases are expected to increase because risk factors associated with AIDS are evident among college students. Risks such as having sex with multiple partners and not using a condom during every sex act exist for students on campuses nationwide.

Information from university health centers also indicates that students use alcohol and other drugs that may impair their judgment when it comes to sex.

"It may take 50 times before they're infected, or it may take once," said Sharon Douglass, director of the HIV-AIDS Institute at the University of Central Florida in Orlando. "But it's going to happen."

HIV infection and AIDS are the sixth-leading cause of death among 15- to 24-year-old men and women in the United States,

according to CDC statistics. The only way for college students to protect themselves from becoming infected is to become aware of the risks and take precautions, officials said.

The HIV-AIDS Institute, a non-profit institution founded in 1977, is designed to educate students at UCF about AIDS, and do research and give service to the Central Florida community regarding AIDS.

In an effort to dispel myths about the disease, a class at UCF is taught exclusively about AIDS. The course, "HIV Disease: A Human Concern," is designed to reach students intellectually and emotionally about the effects and risk of contracting AIDS.

Douglass, the founder of the institute and professor of the course, said her class of about 200 students per semester is always filled. She said students are eager to learn about AIDS and the class has been a valuable tool for getting her message about AIDS to the students.

"It goes in one ear, sticks and stays," Douglass said.

Since the class is designed to appeal to students emotionally, people with AIDS are often guest lecturers. Students also watch a slide presentation about people who are dying from the disease.

"Seeing how AIDS victims actually suffer made me think



about the fact that I have to take precautions at all times if I don't want to suffer like them someday," said an anonymous student's evaluation of the course.

Douglass said sometimes students enter the class with the attitude that AIDS is something that could never happen to them. She said that before taking the class, many of her students were sexually permissive and did not take any precautions to protect themselves against the disease.

Douglass, a respiratory therapy professor, said most of her students have some kind of misconception about the disease before taking the class. She said that before taking the class, many of her students were sexually permissive and did not take any precautions to protect themselves against the disease.

Douglass, a respiratory therapy professor, said most

students have some kind of misconception about the disease before taking the class. She said some students still think of AIDS as a disease only gay men or drug users get. However, the number of AIDS cases attributed to heterosexual contact increased by 21 percent from 1990-1991, according to the CDC.

Douglass said that after about two weeks of the class, the students realize what they knew before about HIV was miniscule, and she said by the end of class they realized how uninformed they were about the disease.

Since Douglass began teaching the class in 1986, she has had four HIV-positive students in her class, and another student had full-blown AIDS. She said there have probably been other students infected in her class, but chose not to tell Douglass about their illness.

Douglass said she thinks her

class is changing attitudes of the student who take her course. She said many of her students tell her that they are asking more questions before deciding to jump into bed with someone. She said her former students tell her that they are waiting longer before having sex with a new partner and are now practicing safer sex by using condoms.

Students may be waiting longer to have sex, but they are only practicing selective protection, said Joanne Auth, a health educator at the University of Florida's Health Center.

According to Auth, it is difficult for students to comprehend that someone infected with HIV doesn't necessarily look sick; in fact, they can look healthy for years.

Unlike Douglass, Auth thinks it is difficult to teach college students about AIDS. ■

It's just "Another Day" for Nothing in Return

Mainstreet welcomes Austin-based band on tour with debut release

Corrie Cron
Feature Editor

"Dues paying officially is what is happening now," says Matt Hammon of the Austin-based band Nothing in Return. "We slept in the van last night."

The band consists of Hammon, 20, Jeremy Gomez, 20, and Tess Wiley, 19. Together since 1990, Nothing in Return have been rocking Texas from the very beginning and are now on tour in support of their debut release "Another Day."

Hammon says that musically "we fit in somewhere in the middle" of folk and punk. It seems that is a good place to be.

Phillip Montoro of the Houston Press says, "... this band is better at cheering people up than you are at staying pissed off."

He couldn't be more accurate. "Another Day" has a summer feel to it that is perfect to counteract all this cold and ice of recent weather.

The beautiful harmony of the male female vocals are one reason alone to grant this band some attention.

According to Hammon, all the songs start out as a simple melody that evolves as each member puts in their own panache.

"We hear it and feel it out," he says. "The harmony is spontaneous."

All the band members are well-versed in at least two instruments. Wiley was training as a classical musician in strings and piano, but also plays guitar. Gomez started as a drummer and "picked up the bass." Hammon plays drums for the band as well as acoustic guitar. On top of all that, they sing and sing well.

Having made the commitment to play full-time, they have moved out of their permanent residences and are travelling from town to town. However, Hammon believes it is only a matter of time until they see some of their hard work and sacrifice paying off



WHAT'S UP: Nothing in Return will perform their unique sound at Mainstreet tonight playing selections from their debut album "Another Day," as well as new material.

in big ways.

"The music is the entire thing," he says of the band's focus. "It's the whole reason I get up in the morning."

They have opened for

such bands as Spin Doctors, Cracker, Gin Blossoms, Me Phi Me and Chickasaw Mudd Puppies. They will be performing at Mainstreet tonight.

However be forewarned. The Houston Public News urges that this is "definitely not a show for the pretentious." ■

New Earth Festival to solve mysteries of the unknown

Paige Dixon
Staff Writer

Webster defines a psychic as someone apparently sensitive to nonphysical forces. Whether that definition sounds realistic or not, psychics are coming to Murfreesboro and they're going to stay all day long.

In its two-year existence, the New Earth Festival has appeared in Nashville, Chattanooga, Indianapolis and on Feb. 20 it will appear at the Garden Plaza Hotel. The festival is the first show of its kind to appear at the hotel, said a Garden Plaza spokesperson.

Along with psychics, the festival will also feature palm-readers, numerologists, astrologers and Native American handmade jewelry, says coordinator Catherine Lohr.

"Most of the people who come to see our shows are just curious," Lohr says. They come in just to look around, and they wind up staying the entire day."

With psychic

infomercials, psychic hotlines, newspaper astrologers and roadside palm readers, one



would think curiosity would have taken a vacation. Perhaps one of the reasons it hasn't affected the festival is because it doesn't have any "madame doors." Madame doors is the phrase Loht uses to describe fake psychics, fake astrologers and fakes in general.

"Many of our psychics are well-known. We've even had some help police solve

crimes on occasions," she says. "One of our psychics was even a successful lawyer until he quit his practice to join us."

Another attraction at the festival is a machine called a personality profile. By the shape of a hand and a birthday, it will give the user an individual personality analysis. The personality profile is one of the festival's more popular features, says Lohr.

Even with all the psychics and astrologers in the festival's possession, unforeseen problems always arise. Unfortunately, Lohr says most of them are misunderstood.

"People tend to confuse what we do as satan-worshipping and that's just not true. We're all regular people and we're all Christians," Lohr explains. "I truly believe that the abilities they [psychics] have, everybody has."

The festival will appear from 9:30 a.m. to 9 p.m. in the lobby of the Garden Plaza Hotel. Admission price is \$5. ■

Wallaby has own cartoon and best friend, Heffer

Associated Press

When editorial cartoonist-turned-illustrator Joe Murray was approached by Nickelodeon in 1991 to develop a weekend morning cartoon, he was aghast.

"When I heard 'television,' a shake went through me," Murray says. "There was nothing there for me. What television had done to animation destroyed it for me. 'The Simpsons' were just coming out, but there was no way my work would be a children's morning cartoon."

But just three short years later, Murray is Nickelodeon's hot new property with "Rocko's Modern Life," a cartoon show airing at 11:30 a.m. EST on Sundays.

Each episode of what Murray calls his "anthomorphic social satire" deals with the trials of a transplanted Australian wallaby named Rocko, his dimwitted dog Spunky and his best friend, a steer named Heffer.

By assigning human characteristics to animals, Murray says he can examine society's underbelly in a comic form and still make his point.

"With Rocko as a wallaby, we have the personality of a smaller species," Murray says from his home in Los Angeles.

"He is very humble; he keeps to himself."

For a children's cartoon, "Rocko's Modern Life" seems very much aimed at adults. Most episodes deal with one of life's little horrors — from going to the grocery or the laundromat to the airplane and movie experience from hell.

Rocko is very much a progression of recent TV animation.

By the time it debuted, Nickelodeon already had a two-season run with the crude adventures of an excitable Chihuahua named Ren and a fun-loving cat named Stimpy. "The Ren & Stimpy Show" — along with "The Simpsons" and later "Beavis and Butt-head" — are part of the new "Golden Age" of television animation, according to Murray.

Like its cartoon brethren, "Rocko" revels in dysfunction. Murray's crowning achievement this season was an episode in which Heffer takes Rocko to meet his family — literally, a pack of wolves.

"We took a big chance with that show," says Murray, 32. "We are exploring not only life as it is happening, but our back stories — when we grew up and developed our neuroses." ■

Sports

Page 12, *Sidelines* - February 17, 1994

It's a bird, it's a plane.....

It's Milton Dean scoring 41 points

Travis Millsaps
Assistant Sports Editor

It's a bird, it's a plane, it's Superman! He may not have been wearing tights and a cape, but Southeast Missouri would probably swear he was not from this planet.

Milton Dean entered another galaxy Monday night at Murphy Athletic Center, scoring 34 second-half points on the way to a career high of 41. In the process he led MTSU's men's basketball team to a 94-68 rout of SEMO.

With a piercing "Oh, oww, oh" ringing out signifying that he wanted the ball, Dean sliced up the Indians full court press in the second half.

"I like to have the ball in my hands at crunch time," Dean said. "That's not being selfish; it's just I feel comfortable having the ball at the end of the game."

"I know the other players on the team feel comfortable with me handling the ball, so I try to make my presence known so they can get the ball to me"

Dean definitely made his presence known. He connected on 13-of-22 from the field, including two 3-pointers, and hit

"I like to have the ball in my hands at crunch time. That's not being selfish; it's just I feel comfortable having the ball at the end of the game."

- Milton Dean
MTSU guard

13-of-18 from the free throw line. Dean also grabbed six rebounds.

"Games like that, he's made for," said Blue Raider head coach David Farrar, of Dean. "The most interesting thing about his performance is he wasn't very good in the first half, defensively or offensively, which makes his second-half even that much more impressive."

Dean admitted that there was a difference between the halves.

"I felt a lot more comfortable shooting the ball in the second half," Dean said. "I was a little more relaxed and was taking better shots. In the first half I took a few bad shots, but in the second half I was just taking the shots as they came to me. Most of them were on the break, so it made it a

lot easier."

Dean's performance overshadowed an all-around outstanding effort by the Blue Raider squad. They committed less turnovers, shot a higher percentage, and out-rebounded SEMO. The 94 points scored equaled their highest point total of the year.

In their first meeting between the two teams this year, the Indians out-rebounded Middle by 32 on the way to a 22 point victory. Monday night, MTSU won the battle of the boards by six.

"The rebounding was a big factor, a big factor," said Farrar. "We over-analyze it [basketball] when things aren't going too well. The bottom line is we made some big baskets early, shot a pretty high percentage, only gave up six second shots in the first half, and shot a pretty high percentage of our free-throws. When you do those things, things work out pretty well for you."

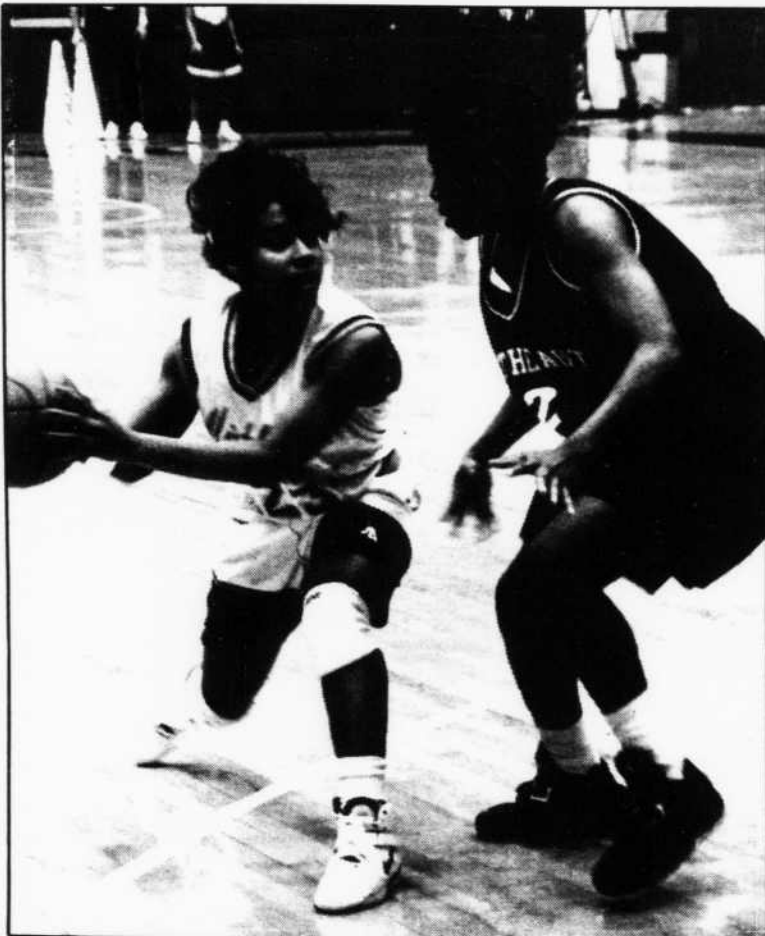
Farrar also stressed that this win was a big confidence builder for his team, especially with it being by a large margin.

"It is really good, really important. Anything that we can (Please see Victory, page 14)



Charles Hogue, staff

GAITHER ON THE GO: Tim Gaither and his team appear ready to go at Tech tonight.



Charles Hogue, staff

ON THE MOVE: Trella Thomas shows her usual hustle during the Lady Raiders recent loss to SEMO.

Lady Raiders continue slide

Third straight OVC defeat dampens OVC title hopes

Tony J. Arnold
Sports Editor

It's like sitting on the train tracks and hearing the whistle blow. MTSU's Lady Raider know just what's coming at them, and all they need to do is jump out of the way.

In a basketball scenario, it's a different story line, but the moral lesson is the same. Simply put, the opposition is choking the Lady Raiders inside game, daring it to hit from outside.

Monday night the Lady Othakians of Southeast Missouri did just that. They derailed the Lady Raiders 68-64, adding to a three-game OVC losing streak that has dampened MTSU's OVC title hopes.

"Everybody's doing the same thing. They're putting their wings in the lane and they're not honoring Sherry Tucker very much at all," said MTSU head

coach Lewis Bivens. "They're not honoring anybody out there except for trying to get someone in Heather Prater's face a little bit."

One of MTSU's strengths this season has been its ability to hit from the perimeter. However, in recent weeks the Lady Raiders have been unable to put the ball in the hole from outside. Monday, between Tucker and Prater alone, the duo combined for a 4-for-19 night from 3-point range.

"You make those and you get a little bit more room inside and if I'm another team I'm looking at that star," said Bivens. "Seriously, Heather and Sherry have got to hit their perimeter shots. That's why we were such a good ball team before and that's not something I don't think they can't do. If I didn't think they could, I wouldn't let them shoot it."

In the early going, it looked as if MTSU was going to rebound from an embarrassing defeat to

last-place Murray State. With SEMO, for the moment, honoring the guards the inside game Maggie Cox and Priscilla Robinson sparked. Between the duo, Cox netted 10 quick points and had Robinson seven en route to a 22-14 lead. But it was then that SEMO switched defenses, placing their wings in the lane, and it was then that the Lady Raiders lost the game.

Over the next six minutes MTSU did not score a point. At that same time SEMO went on a 15-0 run to take a lead which they would never relinquish.

"We came out and we played hard and we played very intensely," admitted Bivens. "But all of a sudden we totally lost and we made bad decisions and let their shooters get some shots."

"I think we played hard for three quarters of the ballgame but then we took a little siesta and (Please see Defeat, page 14)

Jordan steps into batting cage, delivers very little

BEN WALKER
Associated Press

SARASOTA, Fla. — No one, especially Michael Jordan, ever said this business of hitting a baseball would be easy.

It sure looked hard when Jordan tried Tuesday. Using a right-handed swing that looked more manufactured than natural, he hit nearly 100 balls, and only one managed to roll across the crushed-seashell warning track and reach the fence at Ed Smith Stadium.

Mostly he hit popups, routine flies and grounders. Rarely did the sharp crack of the bat echo through the ballpark; instead, there were many dull thuds.

This was Jordan's first outdoor workout that outsiders were allowed to observe. After a two-hour practice that included baserunning and fielding drills — he looked good in those — the rookie outfielder for the Chicago White Sox said spring training was going fine.

"You have to be patient. I think it's going to be gradual improvement for me," he said. "The last thing I want to be is a sideshow."

"I have to work on my hitting every day. I know there are things I need to do — keeping my butt in, keeping my head on the ball, quickening my bat," he said.

The White Sox are planning on having Jordan around for awhile. Manager Gene Lamont said he expects Jordan, who has signed a Triple-A contract, to play in an intrasquad game March 3. Chicago starts its exhibition season the next day.

For a week, the world's best basketball player has worked out behind guarded gates. The White Sox didn't want his presence to disrupt camp when pitchers and catchers report Wednesday, so they opened Jordan's two-hour session for 250 reporters.

Starting Thursday, any fan can walk in and watch. Next Wednesday, after the rest of the squad arrives, Jordan will face Jack McDowell and the other talented Chicago pitchers during batting practice.

"He won't be getting 90 mph fastballs, but he won't get 75 mph ones, either," Lamont said.

For now, Jordan faced batting practice pitcher Mike Maziarka and bullpen coach Roly DeArmas. Jordan showed a typical White Sox swing, chopping down and letting go with the top hand on a pronounced follow-through. That's the style — liked by some, loathed by others — taught by batting coach Walt Hriniak.

"That's the first time I've seen him hit," Hriniak said. "There are a lot of good things. His swing (Please see Jordan, page 14)

Don't Panic!

You have a 6:00 class that ends at 8:30 at Peck Hall and you're parked somewhere close to Alaska and it's dark and you don't feel safe walking all the way across campus. Calm Down. The Raider Xpress runs now runs until 10 p.m. Monday through Friday. There. Feel better?

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2:00 p.m. in LRC 221

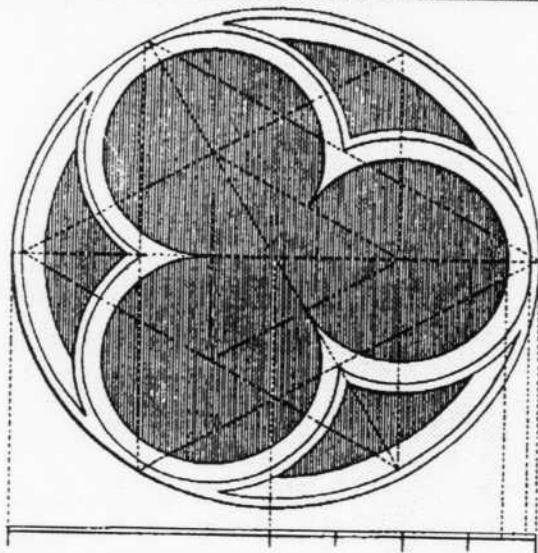
in celebration of
African-American History Month

at

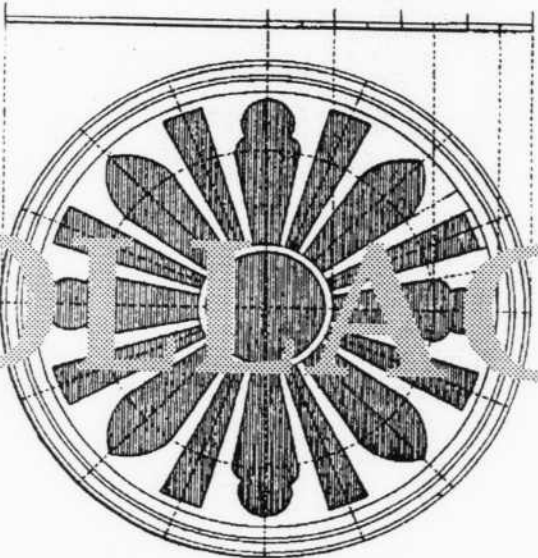
Middle Tennessee State University

for more information phone 898-2366

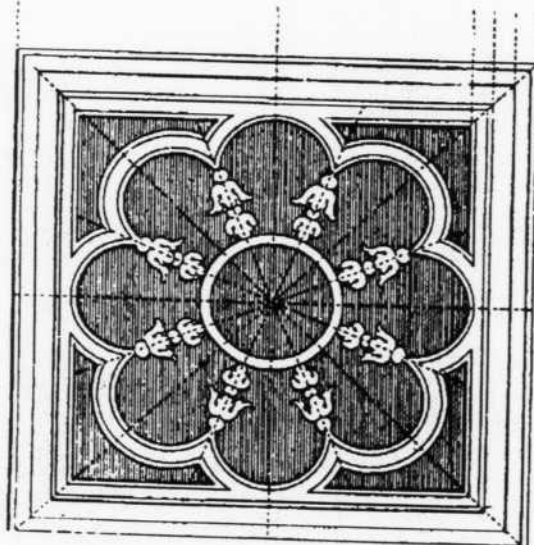
SIDELINES NEEDS 3 NEW STAFF WRITERS IMMEDIATELY CALL WARREN WAKELAND AT EXT. 2336



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Deadline Friday, February 25 - James Union Building, Room 306

Victory...

(continued from page 12)

do to win convincingly was something that was important to us.

"I've said it, I've even been teased about saying it, but the kids have stayed relatively focused. Seasons like this are not easy on anybody, but they've remained to try to have fun with it. They've tried to be very competitive and I would like to see them have some success right here at the end."

Raider Tim Gaither also had another exceptional game. He added 23 points and was the team's leading rebounder with nine. Gaither also dished out three assist and had four steals.

Southeast Missouri was led in scoring by Jermall Morgan with 16 points.

One thing that was noticeably missing from the Raiders' game Monday was the scoring lapse that has been a plague to them all

season. Middle's longest drive of the night without a field goal was 2:48.

"Coach stayed on us tonight," Dean said. "He took a few timeouts and got us to realize things we've done in the past have cost us ball games. We played tough defense and our momentum going. That's what we were trying to do."

The 41 points Dean scored were the third best in Blue River history for a single game. Milholland holds the record with 44 points against Austin State University in 1965. Burden's 43 points in 1959 against David Lipscomb University is second.

With the victory, Middle improved to 6-15 on the year, 3-8 in the OVC. SEMO fell to 3-8 overall and 4-9 in the conference.

Middle must now travel to play Tennessee Tech in Cookeville tonight. Tip-off is set for 7:30 p.m. for the men. ■

Defeat...

(continued from page 12)

that's when we fell behind and we were never able to catch up."

Despite shooting a horrific 25 percent from the floor in the second half, the Lady Raiders still made a game of it, narrowing it down to one point when Prater knocked down a trey from the top of the key with 1:57 left, making the score 59-58.

"We got it down to a point and I thought we had a chance to beat their butt but then they nailed a three from the corner," Bivens said.

Julie Meirer, the nation's leading 3-point shooter, answered with a bomb of her own, nailing MTSU's coffin shut. The Lady Othakians missed three front end of one-and-one's in the closing seconds, but the Lady Raiders were unable to capitalize.

Cox ended up leading the Ladies with a game high 23 points and 12 rebounds. Tucker had 14

and Robinson finished with 17. As a team, the Lady Raiders shot 40 percent for the game, 21 percent from 3-point range.

The road doesn't get any easier. Tonight MTSU travels to Tennessee Tech to face the Golden Eaglettes at 5:30 p.m. in Cookeville. The Lady Raiders currently have four conference losses, leaving them two games behind Eastern Kentucky. The game comes to Murphy Center Feb. 20.

"I don't know what the answer is; I really don't know," Bivens admitted. "I don't have a combination that I know is going to work right now. But I think we'll kick it in and I think we'll make the adjustment offensively."

MTSU won the early meeting with Tech this season, overcoming a 17-point second half deficit for a 74-70 win; however, the Golden Eaglettes haven't lost to the Lady Raiders at home since 1984. ■

Jordan...

(continued from page 13)

could be a little shorter. That would give him the bat speed he needs."

University of Miami coach Ron Fraser, one of the game's great teachers, was on hand and offered other observations.

"He's not very explosive. The ball doesn't jump off his bat. He swings the bat instead of throwing the bat," Fraser said. "He has a canned swing, an organizational

swing."

Jordan, who turns 31 Thursday and hasn't played baseball since his senior year in high school, is working hard every day. No one denies that, but there are plenty of doubts about whether he can hit.

"I'm not out there deteriorating the game. I'm out there to try to play the game," he said.

"In this sport, three out of 10 are superstars," he said. "In basketball, nine out of 10 are superstars." ■

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0. Notices

Money for any worthy cause—books, rent, food? Fast loans or buy gold, designer items, jewelry—other valuables. **GOLD-N-PAWN**, 1803 N.W. Broad St. 896-7167.

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TUTOR NEEDED for sociology statistics/methods class. Notetaker needed also. Contact Mitchell Tucker, 898-3192 (campus).

ADOPTION: Murfreesboro couple is seeking to adopt a child; will provide a warm and loving home, full of opportunities. Call 615-890-0162.

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Need a job? MTSU's Student Employment and Placement Office can help point you in the right direction. Some listings are available as well as resume and interview advice. Call Ext. 2500 or come by KUC 328.

21. Help Wanted

Guidance Center seeks Behavioral Assistant to work evenings 25 hrs, w/with 3 school age children. Hourly wage, will train. Call 848-1918.

21. Help Wanted

Fun Sales Positions- Part Time now Full Time in summer. We are looking to fill positions with people who have the Desire to Achieve. Must be a people person. Flexible schedules, could lead to permanent employment, apply in person at Fireworks Supermarket, 2030 S. Church St., next to I-24.

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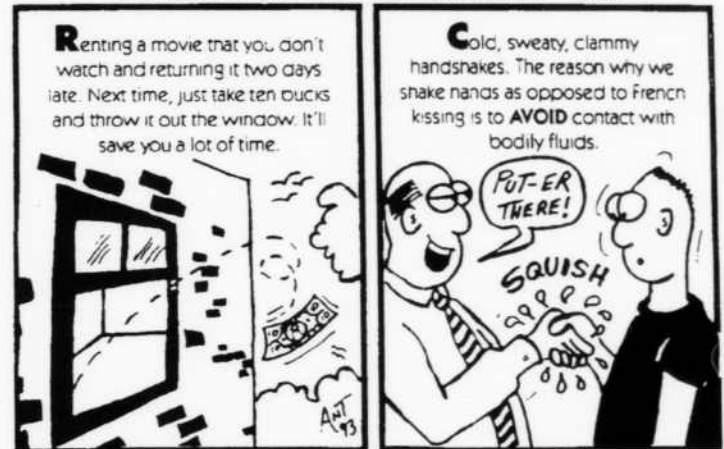
Comics

Wild Kingdom

By Anthony Rubino, Jr.

THINGS THAT SUCK

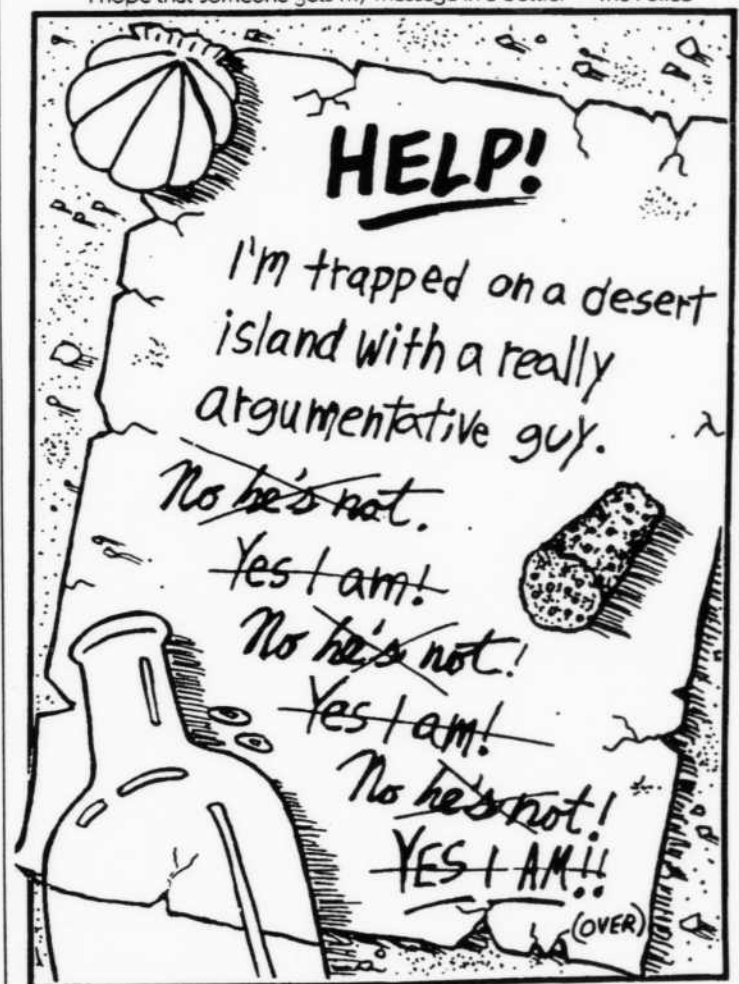
"Things that suck, like, aren't very cool...ehh ehuh ehuh."—Beavis

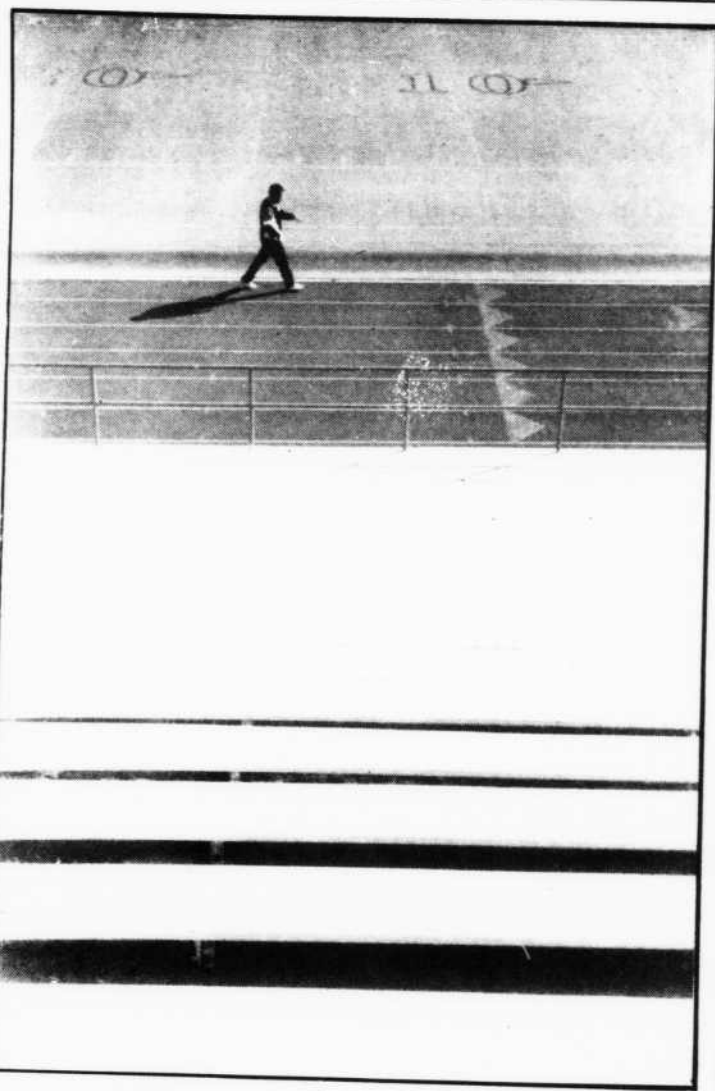


Wild Kingdom

By Anthony Rubino, Jr.

"I hope that someone gets my message in a bottle."—The Police





J.A. Hinton, staff

Once more around: Joe Dwyer takes advantage of some warm weather at Murphy Center track.

Student wins case over racist remarks

College Press Service

No disciplinary action should be taken against a University of Pennsylvania student who utters a racial, sexist or other politically incorrect comment unless it is accompanied by a physical threat, a committee has recommended.

The university decided Nov. 15, 1993 to suspend enforcement of its existing hate speech code and replace it by the end of the 1993-94 academic year with some form of student mediation.

A 25-member committee charged with identifying alternatives to the speech code recommended a broad series of changes Feb. 1, including replacing the speech code with "a system of mediation for minor disputes among students, thereby moving the issue away from a more elaborate legal system," a news release stated.

The University of Pennsylvania became embroiled in a divisive battle about free speech last year after a white male student called black women students "water buffalo" because they were making too much noise late one night near his dormitory room.

The student denied that he

intended the comment as a racial remark, but the women brought racial harassment charges against him under the university's speech code. The charges were later dropped, but not before the university became the focus of a national debate on political correctness and how far campuses should go to protect students from harassment while protecting their rights to free speech.

The Commission on Strengthening the Community, comprised of faculty, students and other interested parties, proposed that:

- * Student speech that does not contain a physical threat should not be subject to disciplinary action.
- * First-year students should be assigned housing. Under the current system, students may choose where they will reside for the first year, and the commission said the practice often results in "self-segregation and lost opportunities for wider interaction among diverse groups of students."
- * Delay fraternity and sorority rush until the sophomore year.
- * The Daily Pennsylvanian should appoint an ombudsman to oversee complaints.

Freshman survey shows advanced degrees popular

College Press Service

More college freshmen have hopes of obtaining advanced degrees after they get their four-year degree than ever before, and women are more likely than men to aspire to the highest possible degrees such as doctorates, according to findings in a sweeping survey of this year's freshmen class.

The 28th annual survey of entering college freshmen, conducted by the higher Education Research Institute at the University of California-Los Angeles, also found that competitive pressures and stress among freshmen are at all-time highs. The survey was completed last fall by 220,757 first-year students at 427 colleges and universities, and was sponsored by the American Council on Education, a Washington, D.C.-based higher education association.

Sixty-five percent of the freshmen surveyed in 1993 plan to pursue a graduate degree after they finish college, the survey found. In comparison, 55 percent of the freshmen polled in 1992 and less than 50 percent of those polled in the early 1970s had indicated they wanted to pursue education beyond the four-year

Sixty-five percent of the freshmen surveyed in 1993 plan to pursue an graduate degree after they finish college...

degree.

More importantly, researchers found, was the fact that for the first time ever in the survey women were more likely than men to seek all major types of advanced degrees (master's, doctoral, medical and law) than men; 27.3 percent of the female first-year students indicated they wanted to pursue terminal degrees, compared with 25.8 percent of the men. In 1967, three times more men than women had planned to pursue a doctoral, medical or law degree (26.7 percent vs. 8.5 percent).

"To close such a wide gap in a relatively short span of two decades is truly remarkable," said UCLA Professor Alexander W. Astin, director of the survey.

The comprehensive survey does not draw conclusions from the volumes of data garnered from public and private two- and four-year institutions, but rather shows statistical trends among first-year students.

Financial security after

graduation appears to be the motivation in obtaining advanced degrees, the survey found. Seventy-five percent of the respondents said that a "very important" reason for attending college is "to be able to make more money." More than four out of five (82.1 percent) compared with 78.5 percent last year) said that going to college is important so they can get a "better job."

Money is also an important reason why the incoming freshmen class selected their institution—32 percent said that an important reason they picked their college was low tuition or because they were offered financial assistance. Nearly 40 percent said chances are good they will get a job to help out with college expenses. The percentage of students working full time rose to its highest level—5.6 percent—since the question was introduced in 1982.

"These findings suggest that the student may be more interested in graduate degrees because they feel that advanced training will give them a competitive edge in their quest for jobs and financial security," Astin said. ■

Lost snake uncoils in TV studio

College Press Service

While it's true that journalists occasionally have been accused of being reptiles, it's not often that they get media attention just for hanging out with them.

A Colombian boa constrictor recently was on the lam for three weeks in the University of Florida's College of Journalism and Communications, alternately terrorizing and amusing students, faculty and staff after he escaped his owner's clutches at the college's WUFT television studios.

Van Gogh's three-week slither came to an end in mid-January when the boa was discovered in the studio's master control room, not far from the spot where he made his break in Weimer Hall, the independent Florida Alligator reported.

UF sophomore Jennifer Stanton, the snake's owner, and Rocky Essex, a post-baccalaureate student, were preparing to shut down power in the master control room about 11 p.m. when Essex noticed something strange near the main power transmitter.

Essex, who is not particularly fond of snakes, said they had been talking about the renegade reptile just before they came across it.

"I had just read about it in the Alligator," Essex said. "I said, 'I just hope we don't find it when I'm around here.' But she said it was probably dead."

He gets an attitude when he sheds...He didn't want to leave. He was comfortable.

Then Essex spotted a cable that looked like a snakeskin, which is exactly what it turned out to be. Van Gogh had just shed it. Essex and Stanton started yelling. "It's him! It's him! It's Van Gogh!"

The elusive snake was huddled in a two-inch space above the transmitter. When Stanton first tried to nab the escapee, Essex said Van Gogh "hissed at her pretty bad."

But Stanton said the snake was cranky from shedding his skin and from malnutrition.

"He gets an attitude [when he sheds]," she said. "He didn't want to leave. He was comfortable."

Not everyone in the College of Journalism and Communications was happy to see Van Gogh depart. Telecommunications chairman Gerald Smeyak said he was dejected about the snake's exit because it meant the end of Dean Ralph Lowenstein's periodic snake updates.

"I'm a little saddened that they found him," Smeyak said. "Just think, if in 10 years, students were still talking about a snake that roams the halls of Weimer, occasionally picking off a student. It would have turned into a Loch Monster legend."

Stanton said she originally brought her snake with her to the television studios because she was lonely.

"When she was out of the office for a minute, Van Gogh disappeared," Lowenstein said.

Repeated attempts by a pest-control SWAT team from the physical plant failed to corral the escaped snake. ■