

SIDELINES

April 9, 1992

Middle Tennessee State University

Volume 66, Number 58

Campus loses Family Planning clinic

SAM GANNON
News Editor

Students will be without convenient family planning if the clinic at Health Services closes, but condoms will still be available on campus, administrators say.

The clinic which has been operating on campus for more than 18 years is closing at the end of this semester due to cuts in the county's budget, said Ellen Gray, nursing supervisor of the Rutherford County Health Department.

"We don't have the money for staff and resources at the family planning clinic at MTSU," Gray said.

"We have talked with them and have tried to get them to keep the clinic open. We've done everything short of giving money, which we don't have to give," said Vice President for Student Affairs Robert C. LaLance.

"Unfortunately, it is labor

intensive and requires a lot of supplies," LaLance said.

"It's not that students aren't going to get the service. It just won't be so convenient," said Barbara Martin, RN, director of Health Services.

"The service won't be stopped, it's just that the location is moving," she said.

"Our dispensing of condoms will not change when the Family Planning clinic leaves campus."

--Barbara Martin, director of Health Services

Martin said that she feels students would use the clinic even though it will not be located on campus.

"Some use the clinic here in town anyway," Martin said. "I hope students will go to the other clinic."

"I hope that the student-clients would continue to go to

the clinic even though it was not located on campus," LaLance said. "It is in their enlightened self-interest to continue going to the clinic," LaLance said.

Health Services already provides many of the services that the Family Planning clinic does, Martin said.

"We do STD [sexually

transmitted diseases] testing," Martin said. Martin also said the family planning clinic on campus usually does not test for STDs.

However, the clinic on campus does provide many services that Health Services is unable to provide, Gray said.

"We have a nurse who does an examination and prescribes a

method of birth control, most often, these are birth control pills," she said. The clinic can prescribe every type of birth control method except for the insertion of Norplants and putting in IUDs, Gray said.

The clinic also tests for STDs and provides PAP smear and pregnancy testing for clients, Gray said.

Students who use the Family Planning clinic pay on a sliding scale, according to their income. Gray said that contributes to the problem.

"It is a state program. We're on a sliding scale. Most of them pay hardly anything, nothing to offset our costs," Gray said.

The Murfreesboro Family Planning clinic does have a long waiting period, sometimes up to six weeks, Gray said.

The clinic on campus has a

See **CLINIC**, page 4

Emphasis on condom issue renewed: SGA

Family Planning's decision to close its campus service is putting greater emphasis on the recent vote by students to have condom machines placed in residence halls.

Students approved the proposal by a vote of 1,310 to 291 in last month's Student Government Association elections.

"I think that it's going to give us more reason to fight to get the condom machines placed in the residence halls since we're losing that convenience," said Toby Gilley, SGA president-elect.

The SGA hopes to put the proposal to Dr. Robert LaLance again before the end of this

See **CONDOM**, page 4

Convenient location proves good, bad for school: study

TONYA MEEK
Special to *Sidelines*

One of most positive aspects about MTSU is that it is closely situated near students' homes, but the convenience leads to the school's reputation as a "suitcase college," a recent survey shows.

The survey of new students was conducted last fall by the office of Admissions, Records, and Information Systems and found that about 90 percent of MTSU students go home on weekends because of friends and work at home.

Another factor leading to MTSU's "suitcase" image is that there is almost no social activity on campus on weekends which contributes to students' decisions to go home. In the



PART 2 of 5

Survey of New Students

new student survey, students' social life ranked below that of other universities.

The President's Task Force on Weekend Activities conducted a survey last fall of about 5,000 students who compose one-third of the student body, to determine what students do on the weekends. Geoffrey Hull, a professor of Recording Industry Management and a member of the task force, compiled the results of the survey.

"President Walker formed the task force primarily because he observed that on the

See **STUDY**, page 4

Student Programming offers public chance to decide on assassination

TONYA POWELL
Special to *Sidelines*

A symposium about the assassination of President John F. Kennedy will be featured on campus during April.

The Student Programming Ideas and Issues Committee will present the eight-night symposium that begins April 13 and ends April 28.

Harold Smith, director of Programming, said, "A lot of our students weren't even born then, but thanks to the Oliver Stone movie "JFK" that whole mess has been rekindled."

The symposium will feature speakers who are scholars on the topic, Smith said.

"The wealth of informed individuals who have spent years studying this will present their different opinions that are both for and against the Warren

Commission's decision," Smith said.

"We are not taking sides. We are just trying to present the facts and let the public make up their minds," he said.

"Anyone who was old enough to understand can remember where they were when



they found out about Kennedy's death."

Dr. Sarah Howell, professor in the history department, agreed. "I was teaching an economics class when it came over the intercom first that he had been wounded and then that he'd died. Everyone was in a state of disbelief."

Speakers for the event will include Jack Anderson, a prominent journalist who has done extensive reports about the assassination; Jean Hill, who eyewitnessed the tragic event; and Zachary Scholar, who co-wrote "JFK" with Oliver Stone.

"We are looking to do a very big program," Smith said. "I don't think there has ever been anything like this put together anywhere."

Lectures will begin at 8 p.m. and will be held either at Murphy Center or Tucker Theater. Admission is free and open to the public.

"JFK," the film that has resurrected the commotion surrounding the Kennedy assassination, will be shown in the Keathley University Theater April 20-24 in conjunction with the symposium.

OPINIONS

HOT LATEX ISSUE:

The condom machine issue is becoming a hot potato for administration officials.

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FEATURES

EATIN, DRINKIN, MERRIMENT:

International Culture Week activities are captured on film for those who missed out.

page 8

SPORTS

PITCHING WOES:

MTSU's pitching staff needs to shape up in order to get at-large NCAA bid.

page 10

Lentz defeats Hill in Speaker race

NICOLE M. SIKORA
Assistant News Editor

In a run-off election for Student Government Association Speaker of the House it was a narrow win for current Junior Senator Ray Lentz.

The election was held Tuesday between Lentz and contender Todd Hill. The candidates failed to capture a majority vote in the spring SGA elections and were required by the SGA constitution, to have a run-off election.

Lentz received 422 votes while Hill received 368 votes.

"I'd like to thank God for enabling me to do the right thing for MTSU students, and I pray that he will help me to make the right decisions," Lentz said.

Lentz said he will try to block movements to raise parking decal fees by the amount proposed by the administration and wants to fight student apathy on campus by getting student organizations more involved in SGA.

"My first plan of action is to try to write a bill that makes it mandatory that all organizations that have received funding [from the SGA] be required to send one representative to each SGA meeting," Lentz said.

"I think it's necessary because the more representation

MR. SPEAKER: Newly-elected Speaker of the House Ray Lentz won a close race in Tuesday's run-off election against Todd Hill.

we have, the more productive we can be," Lentz said. "The whole idea is to fight student apathy on campus."

Lentz introduced legislation that was passed in a student referendum to place condom machines in residence halls but has received little cooperation from administration. Lentz said

he will continue to pursue the issue.

"This is an issue that needs to be addressed today and not tomorrow," Lentz said.

Hill said he had hoped the Greek vote would have been stronger and that more students had voted. "I tried," he said.

The number of students who

voted, 790, represents roughly 5 percent of the student body at MTSU, yet current SGA President Shawn Burgess said he is not particularly disappointed with the turnout.

"Five percent is what we expect in one day," Burgess said. "For a run-off vote with no major issues, the turnout was good."



Shelley Mays/Photographer

Campus Capsule

Today

Career Planning meeting, 3:00 p.m., Keathley University Center Room 318

General Musical Recital, 11 a.m., WMB Music Hall.

InterVarsity Christian Fellowship, 5:30 p.m., KUC 313, call Mike Moore, Ext. 3372.

Other Campus Events

Pre-Law Society, display of trophies won in regional and national competitions, first floor lobby of Cope Administration Building.

Videotaped Mock Interviews, Placement Center, every Monday and Tuesday by appointment, KUC 328, call Ext. 2500.

Sitcom script writing, call Miles Hunter, Ext. 1799.

English Department, tutoring lab, noon-4 p.m. Mondays and Wednesdays, 1:40-4:20 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays, appointments can be made in Peck Hall Room 324.

Any student interested in starting a chapter of National Press Photographers Association (NPPA), call Chris Harris, Ext. 2841.

Campus Capsule is a service provided by *Sidelines* for non-profit campus groups. If you have a notice that you would like to run in Campus Capsule, please submit typewritten or printed information to our office in the James Union Building, Room 310. Items must be received by Tuesday at noon for Thursday's publication and noon Friday for Monday's publication. Inclusion is not guaranteed and is based on available space.



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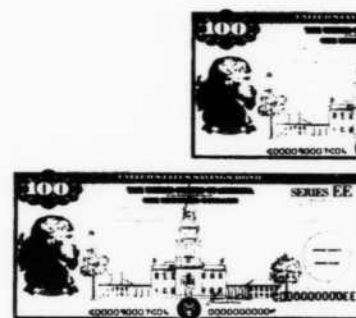
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Debate team scores high in national championships

VICKI NEAL
Assistant News Editor

MTSU's Debate Team was named one of the top 32 teams in the country at the National Championships held at the University of Texas at Arlington during March.

More than 200 debate teams were at the tournament. Jonathon Vedamuthu, a junior political science major from Florida, and Peter Demos, a sophomore sociology major from Murfreesboro, led two teams to represent the university.

"This tournament is a lot like the NCAA basketball tournament," said Dr. Russell Church, a speech and theater professor and the debate team's coach. "It consists of elimination to get to the top."

Church said he was extremely proud of the students' "outstanding finish" at the tournament. Church also said that he was surprised that Demos was involved in the tournament because he [Demos] is a "novice" for MTSU's team.

"Most novices do not make it into the national competitions," the professor said.

"Again, this would be like the NCAA tournament if you've never played basketball before."

The debate team defeated teams from the universities of Vermont and California at Berkeley and Santa Clara, California State, Sacramento, Notre Dame and Claremont universities.

"They held their own with pride," said Dr. John McDaniel, dean of Liberal Arts. "They

spend an incredible amount of time researching their topic so they can defend."

"Debating is as intense as taking a course, but it's more fun," McDaniel said.

MTSU's debate squad has won more than 31 awards at intercollegiate competitions at the University of Missouri at St. Louis, Miami University in Ohio, Otterbein College and John Carroll and Appalachian State universities.

The university's forensic squad is open to all students, and no previous experience is necessary.

Mock Trial team places 10th in nation

SAM GANNON
News Editor

MTSU's Mock Trial team recently placed 10th in the nation at the Mock Trial Tournament at Drake University Law School in Des Moines, Iowa.

The political science department sponsors a team from its class on courtroom procedure.

"We have six mock trial teams from the course," said Dr. Tom Vandervort of the political science department. Two of these teams went to the nationals.

"We started out with from 30 or 40 students," said Dr. John

Vile of the department.

Two of the six teams competed in the nationals and placed high, Vandervort said. "Our team is in the top 15 in the nation," Vile said.

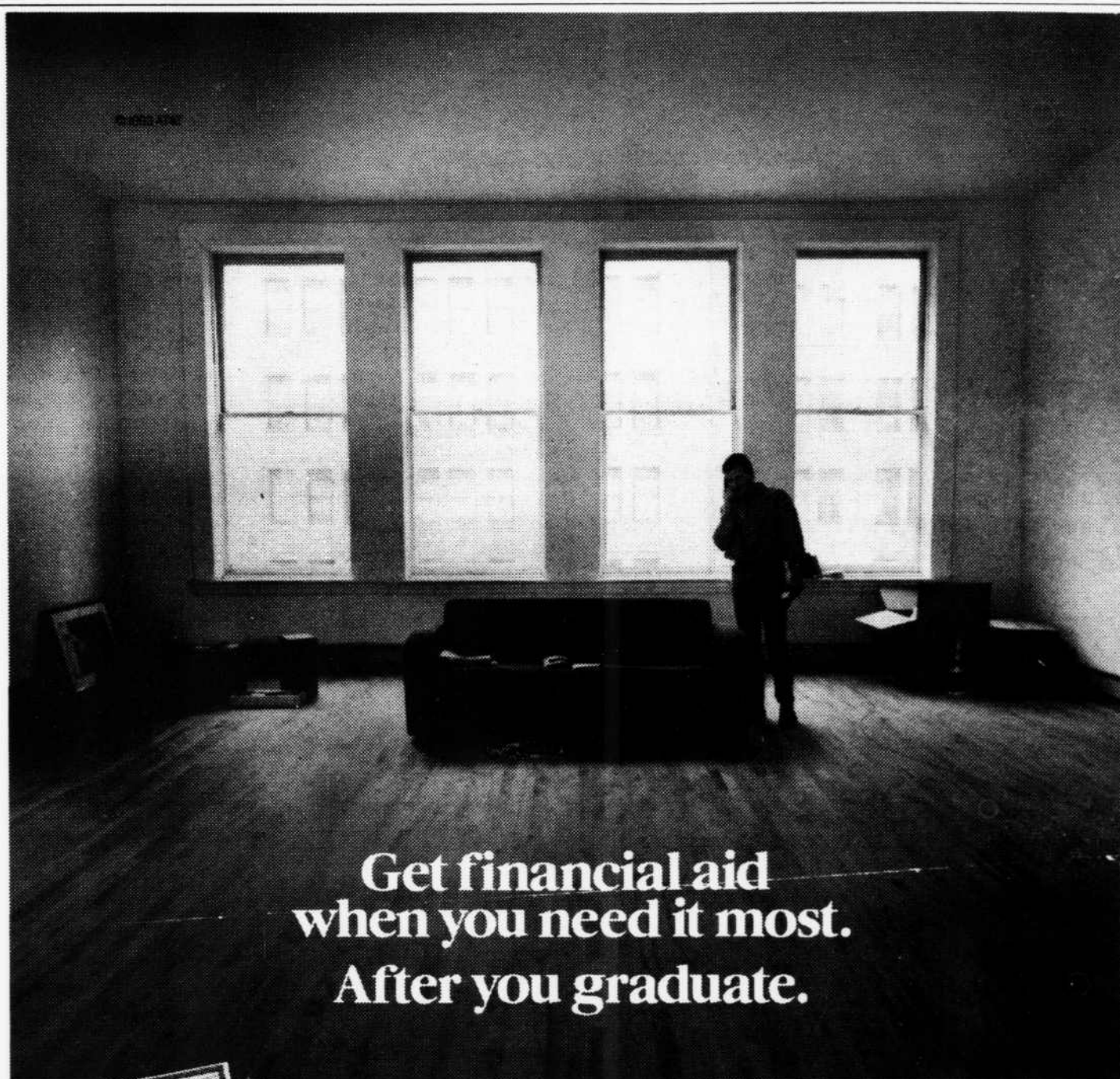
Each year the teams are sent either a criminal or a civil case hypothetical case to construct and work with for the academic year. Teams are formed with between six to eight players, of at least three witnesses and three defense and prosecution/plaintiff lawyers. Three practicing lawyers act as judges.

"Then they try the case," Vandervort said. "It is very exciting way to learn. It is also

very stimulating for our student."

This year's tournament featured two divisions, a gold flight for the more experienced players, and a silver flight for the least experienced players. "There were probably 65 teams in the gold flight division and over 100 teams competing total," Vile said.

The MTSU gold team captured 10th place and was led by captains Al Wilkerson and Michelle Guthrie, with a 6-2 record. A second team headed by Beth Tidwell and Luther Wright, Jr., had a 5-3 record, placing in the top third of the gold division.



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Environmental conference held on campus

TRIPP BALLARD
News Writer

Students from around the country visited MTSU for a three-day environmental conference April 3-5.

MTSU was host to the SEAC, Students for Environmental Action Coalition, super-regional conference. The conference, Bonfire, was dominated by workshops, state meetings and rallies.

More than 150 students from 10 states and 15 schools attended the conference.

The aim of the conference was to get students who are environmentally aware together to discuss the problems that their states and the earth as a whole are now facing, said David Chin, vice president of the local Students for Environmental Action.

The organizers said they hoped that they could fire up spirit and energy in the group. Many events, such as rallies and Indian-like drumming sessions, were included to accomplish this.

Workshops were held,

covering everything from anarchy to animal rights. The conference also focussed on different political issues covered in workshops.

State meetings got the students from the same state together to discuss ways that they could work together more often and keep communication solid between the groups.

The whole conference was student-run in every aspect, and the students expressed pride in this. The workshops were taught by students and teachers.

Eki Isabor, SEA president, and David Chin, here at MTSU, helped coordinate the conference. Both agreed that the conference was a huge success. They said they had hoped more students would have taken part in it.

"It is a great feeling. All the people are so fired up and full of energy," Isabor said.

Chin said he would like to see more participation in the group on campus.

"There are around 16,000 students on campus, and we have about 25 members in SEA," Chin said.



Shelley Mays/Photographer

GREEN SPEAK: Part of the environmental conference included lectures on varied topics, from anarchy to vegetarianism.

Study — continued from page 1
weekends you could shoot a cannon across campus and not hit anyone," Hull said.

Boyfriends and girlfriends play a major part in why students go home and why they stay. A majority of those surveyed said they would stay on campus during the weekend if their boyfriends, girlfriends or friends would stay here with them.

"I go home to see my boyfriend and because I work at

Wal-Mart on the weekends," said Jackie Powell, a freshman from Sparta, Tenn. "I have never stayed up here on the weekend."

Several students said their reasons for going home were to get their clothes washed and to get money to live on for the next week. Getting a decent meal was also mentioned, along with the fact that there are few places to eat within walking distance of campus.

Students who don't go home as often tend to live further away,

are upperclassmen or graduate students and use the weekends to catch up in their classes.

"I am four hours from home and cannot afford to go home every weekend. In which case I find this place socially non-existent," a response on the new student survey read.

"As a graduate student, I spend my weekends in the library doing research because I also work during the week," said Jonathan Harrington, a graduate student in social work.

MTSU's reputation as a suitcase college can also be attributed to its geographical location, a recruiter said.

Ginger Corley, admissions

officer and recruiter, said the majority of MTSU recruits come from Nashville and the surrounding area.

"Out of the over 14,000 students enrolled at MTSU, more than 12,000 are from the Middle Tennessee area," Corley said. "We are centrally located, and that can be a drawback. Our location is what really makes us a suitcase college."

"When I go out to recruit at high schools, one of the most commonly asked questions is 'Will I get to come home on the weekends?'" Corley said. "Many students already work in Nashville and have their jobs established. It's much more

convenient for them to stay at home where it's closer to their jobs."

Corley noted that being a suitcase college can be a virtue as well as a vice. Students, especially freshmen, feel secure in that they are close enough to go home often. For them, being a student at a suitcase college is viewed as an advantage.

The results of the survey indicated that it doesn't bother most students. Almost all the people surveyed said they enjoy going home on the weekends and that there is nothing the university can do to make them want to stay.

The Christian Music Society

is sponsoring an open invitation **Pizza Party** in the party room of **J. Gregry's Pizzeria** on Monday, April 13, at 7:00 p.m.

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Clinic

continued from page 1
two-month waiting period, Martin said.

Martin said she feels there is not a need for students to be concerned about long waiting lists. "There aren't many places you can get into on the same day you call," she pointed out.

Condoms will still be available at Health Services, Martin said.

"Some of our students choose to use that form of birth control, condoms," LaLance said.

"We will still be providing condoms to students," she said.

Five condoms come in a "Safer Sex Packet," given out by Health Services. Also included in the packet are various informational brochures on safe sex and the AIDS virus.

"Our dispensing of condoms will not change when the Family Planning clinic leaves campus," Martin said.

The clinic does provide many services that Health Services does not, including other forms of birth control.

Condom

continued from page 1
semester, said Ray Lentz, who was elected as next year's speaker of the House.

LaLance says he anticipates that the administration will review the student's request again and agrees that the machines would be convenient for students.

"It will have always added more convenience," LaLance said.

"I know we're going to review it in light of the voices of the students, in terms of fiscal importance, vandalism potential and its implications," LaLance said.

"It's not reasonable to put machines in 12-16 bathrooms in six different male residence halls," LaLance said.

"Putting them in the lobby does not seem right to me," LaLance said.

LaLance also said that he has considered the idea of putting machines in places such as the library and the university center

Opinions

Consensus

Turning up the heat on the condom issue

We hate to beat a dead horse (or Trojan horse as the case may be), but recent developments in the condom machine issue have turned up the heat on university officials.

In last week's student elections, the referendum calling for the installation condom machines in the dormitories passed by more than a 4-to-1 margin. Although the results are non-binding, public sentiment should now be clear to the administration.

If that weren't enough, the MTSU Family Planning branch announced that it is shutting down its operations. Although condoms will still be available through Health Services, other methods of birth control will not, thereby increasing the reliance on condoms for safe sex. Now more than ever, shouldn't students be given every opportunity for protection?

On Tuesday night, the issue broke out of the campus community and into regional spotlight when *WKRN Channel 2 News* in Nashville recognized the debate as newsworthy and ran a story on its evening broadcast. The story highlighted student support for the bill and showed Dr. Robert LaLance, vice president for student affairs, providing some rather lame excuses for rejecting it.

Not only were his arguments disputed by student leaders, but also by Director of Health Services Barbara Martin. The very department LaLance points to as providing adequate service disagrees with him and supports the installation of the machines.

These three developments within the last week should clearly spell out to the administration that the time has come to do the right thing. Continued delay will only create more student anger, further dissent among faculty and staff members and increased negative publicity for the school.

Give it up, Dr. LaLance. The heat is only going to get hotter.

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KEVIN STARS THE CHARLOTTE OBSERVER ©1992



"EVERYTHING'S FINE! JUST DON'T INHALE!"

Letters to the Editor

Students should take advantage of events

I've only written one letter to *Sidelines* during my 10-year association with MTSU. Last year, after noting the packed house at Tucker Theatre for a touring company's production of "Camelot," I observed in this space that it was a shame there wasn't that kind of attendance at other university events. Well, have you got another chance!

Student Programming is bringing to this campus a most impressive array of speakers to debate America's most controversial and complex murder mystery - the assassination of John F. Kennedy. Beginning on Monday, April 13 and running for eight sessions through April 28, the likes of syndicated columnist Jack Anderson, Charles Manson prosecutor Vincent Bugliosi, co-screenwriter of the film "JFK" Zachary Sklar, and numerous other well-known assassination researchers and theorists will debate the validity of the conclusions of the Warren Report, the government's official version that Lee Harvey Oswald, acting alone, murdered the president. One key speaker will be Mrs. Jean Hill, possibly the closest eyewitness to Kennedy at the moment of the fatal shot. And these sessions will not consist solely of long and wordy lectures;

the presenters are bringing a wide assortment of films, photographs, and other graphic aids as they take us through the complexities of this critical and confusing event.

It is safe to assume that at nowhere else in the nation will there be assembled such an impressive array of qualified speakers on the assassination of JFK as will gather here at your campus for these eight sessions. You should be proud of that. And then, of course, you should attend as many of the sessions as you can.

Who knows, maybe we'll solve the mystery right here.
Crosby Hunt
Box 131

Sidelines should get off of moral campaigns

As a student at MTSU, I would like to express my disgust with the amount of disrespect this paper gives its readers.

Your recent article by guest columnist David Robinson only further perpetuated my hatred (yes, hatred) of one-sided reporting, uninformed writers and single-source claims of whatever the latest "issue" might be.

Which administrators are on top of this "cult activity" at MTSU? Why isn't this Cult named, as well as others? Mr. Robinson goes on to list "danger signs" of cult activity, but I

wonder what difference his religion possesses, and more importantly — why is his view published unopposed?

I myself am a Christian, recently becoming interested in Theology. Now being a novice, my questions might sound silly, but so far not one scholar has answered them satisfactorily.

"Danger sign #4: Claims to be the only true church or way to perfection." Since when does Christianity alter alternative methods of salvation? "DS #5: Forsake family and friends." I myself have been approached by many Christian people, ministers, and missionaries, who have instructed me to disobey my would-be-Atheist parents, disregard friends of other religions or push them to convert etc. (DS #6 as well) Where are the differences?

In any event — whether these principles are unfounded or not — if *Sidelines* truly wishes to represent the students at this campus, then it will think twice before launching a moral campaign to save whomever of whatever from some unnamed cult and instruct them to pray to our beloved God, who I hope will forgive me (DS #2) for not returning your ignorance and unfairness with love.

I pray for all of us.

G. Stripling
P.O. Box 1158

SIDELINES

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APRIL 16, Thursday
Against the Theory of Conspiracy - Vincent Bugliosi

APRIL 21, Tuesday
Plausible Denial - Mark Lane

APRIL 22, Wednesday
A Conspiracy of One - Jim Moore
An Objective Perspective - Edward Sinker

APRIL 24, Friday
The Trail of the Assassins - Zachary Sklar

APRIL 26, Sunday
A Conspiracy: Cuba and the Mob - Jack Anderson

APRIL 27, Monday
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APRIL 28, Tuesday
Best Evidence - David Lifton

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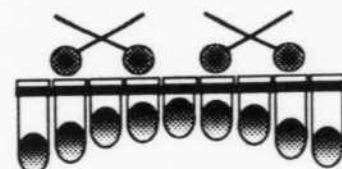
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FALL SEMESTER PARKING PLANS

A plan designed to ease the parking situation at Middle Tennessee State University calls for the development of two additional lots on the eastern edge of the campus and a shuttle service slated for use beginning with the 1992 fall semester, according to Jerry Tunstill, vice president for finance and administration. A parking study done under his direction was completed and recommendations presented to President James E. Walker in early March.

"After surveying 81 other colleges and universities and talking with a parking consultant, the university has developed a comprehensive strategy for resolving parking problems that have plagued the growing campus for years," Tunstill explained. "The university will provide a shuttle service on campus to transport students and campus personnel from parking lots on the campus perimeter into its core. Development of storage lots on the eastern edge of the campus will provide 960 additional spaces."

The study observed that "because the large storage lots on the perimeter of campus are distant from the campus core, they are not efficiently used." Tunstill said plans will be announced soon for a "Name the Shuttle Contest" to create campus awareness of the new service.

Planned in two phases, the first phase of the shuttle will serve perimeter lots on the campus' eastern edge. Phase I includes the purchase and operation of at a minimum two shuttles. A second phase will provide shuttle service from perimeter lots on the northern edge. Phase II will be implemented as soon as funds are available.

Shuttle vehicles will be fully accessible to disabled students; in addition, 35 more campus spaces will be designated for handicapped parking.

A new fee structure will be implemented as a key part of the overall plan. The study revealed that "with the exception of two-year junior colleges, MTSU has the lowest parking fees among the 81 schools surveyed. Because fees have not changed through the years, 'funds have not been available for or expended on significant improvements to solve' campus parking problems, the study continues.

The new plan, in addition to perimeter parking, designates parking for faculty and staff as close as possible to primary work locations, resident student parking near residence halls, and open parking (spaces nearest the campus core which are not used for faculty, staff, or resident students). The plan also provides for short-term metered parking spaces at 50 cents a half hour.

The annual fee structure recommended in the study and approved by the President and his executive committee, pending Tennessee Board of Regents approval, is:

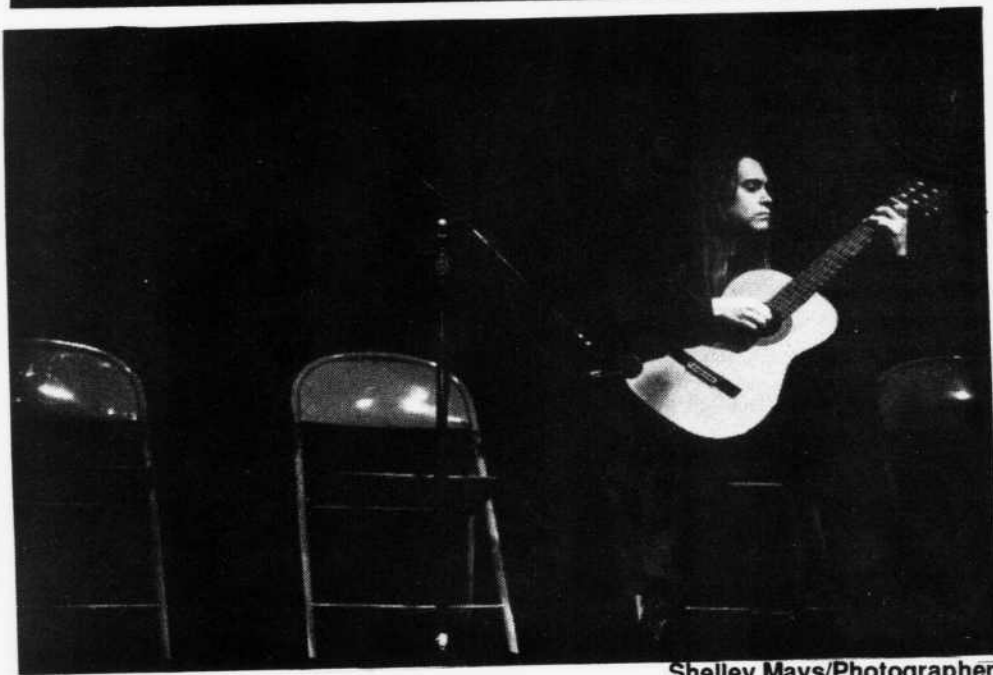
FACULTY /STAFF	\$35
RESIDENT PARKING	\$25
OPEN PARKING	\$25
PERIMETER PARKING	\$10

Parking fines will increase with most fees jumping from \$4 to \$10. Vehicles receiving five citations in a semester are subject to towing. "Violators who warrant towing should be towed consistently," the study warned. The goal of parking enforcement will be to secure compliance with regulations as a service to the persons who voluntarily observe the campus regulations.

An auxiliary enterprise will be established to enable parking fees and revenues from fines to be used exclusively for providing for parking facilities, maintenance, shuttle service, and enforcement. Any revenue generated in excess of current operating expenses will be designated for additional parking expansions and services.

"One of the challenges to any university campus, Tunstill said, is to help the campus community develop appropriate parking expectations. We must shift our thinking from a 'shopping mall mentality' to a pedestrian campus mentality."

Features



Shelley Mays/Photographer

SPANISH SOUNDS: MTSU student Bruce Fraiser shows his expertise during last Monday's Spanish Guitar Concert in the KUC.



Shelley Mays/Photographer

ARTIFACTS OF PRIDE: International students Neelan Gupta (India) and Antnyan Peh (Liberia) proudly display momentos of home last week during MTSU's International Culture Week.

Vive la difference!

STAFF REPORTS

International students come from all over the world to MTSU to pursue their educations in diverse fields of study. In the Fall semester, there were 352 students, both permanent residents and FI visa holders, from 60 countries enrolled at MTSU. With such a rich ethnic and cultural diversity, we feel it is important to have a cultural awareness week.

Emerging nations, recognizing the value of education abroad, are sending significant numbers of their brightest students beyond their boundaries so they can return with advanced training to manage burgeoning economies, improve their schools, and promote research in every field. The result is an influx of foreign students to the United States which continues to increase. With the rapid democratization of Eastern Block countries, it is likely that foreign student populations

will swell significantly. As it stands now, the U.S. leads the world in foreign student population and has enrolled more than 407,000 foreign students in its institutions of higher learning in the past year.

With increased mobility, refugee resettlement programs and more emphasis put on educational exchange, Americans are being exposed to more ethnic groups and races than past generations. This is why it is so important to have a cultural awareness week so that we may gain an understanding of the cultures and lifestyles of people from other lands who are fast becoming neighbors and our colleagues.

This year's International Culture Week, hosted by International Student Services, was a resounding success. From Spanish guitars to displays to flamenco dancing, folk dancing and food tasting, students were exposed to a different world right here on campus. We salute the efforts of all those involved.



Shelley Mays/Photographer

HOPPING TO A DIFFERENT DRUM: Katherine Strobel of the Health, Physical Education and Recreation Department took on the task of teaching folk dances to enthusiastic participants Friday in Murphy Center as part of MTSU's international culture week.



Shelley Mays/Photographer

BEAUTY AND THE BEST: MTSU Spanish instructor Victoria Mayorga was stunning in presence as she performed spanish flamenco dancing during International Culture Week's final banquet on Friday. The event featured exotic foods, Greek dancers, Indian dancers, New Zealand Folk music, martial arts demonstrations, Celtic Folk music and Romanian violinists.

Activists travel to D.C., voice choice



FERN GREENBANK
Features Editor

They're breathless and speechless. They spent more than 25 hours on a bus, didn't bathe for two days and went directly from the bus to class without sleep or time to come down off their cloud.

A committed group of people boarded a bus Saturday as part of a Tennessee contingency headed for our nation's capital.



EXPERIENCE OF A LIFETIME: A crowd estimated at more than half a million people converged on Washington D.C. last weekend as participants in a pro-choice rally, among which were MTSU students and faculty.

Members of MTSU's Womyn's Political Action Committee along with faculty members, concerned citizens, activists with the National Organization for Women and a host of others from all walks of life, converged on Washington to find a life-altering experience waiting in the wings.

"When we arrived in Washington I immediately began taking pictures," Rebecca Ruck jotted in her diary. "I kept thinking that these pictures would represent the continuing struggle of the women of my generation. I thought of the stories each picture would tell to my children and what questions they would possibly ask about them."

Ruck, a junior Mass Communications major, says the camaraderie between the participants was incredible. Over the course of the weekend, she talked to people from Massachusetts, Pennsylvania, New York, Minnesota and many other states.

"On the way to Washington we sang rounds of suffragette songs. There were women, children and yes—even men. Ages ranged from 5 to 70 and they represented Afro-Americans, American Indians, Hispanics and Asians," remembers Ruck.

"Bright yellow tennis balls were hurled onto the White House lawn with slogans painted on them, some reading 'Free

Barbara Bush!'", says Ruck's diary. "At that moment, I wish I had brought along a truck load of broccoli," she scribbled.

Ruck says the weekend changed her life. "I now know who I am. It was refreshing to see people with so much energy and motivation. Especially people from my generation. Thank God all young people aren't apathetic."

Another MTSU participant was Dahli White, graduate teaching assistant in the history department. White, a member of the campus Womyn's Political Action Committee, helped to organize fund-raisers and the details of the trip.

White uses adjectives like "phenomenal," "incredible," and "empowering" to describe her weekend in Washington. Like Ruck, White was overwhelmed by the diversity of the crowd.

"It shows there are a lot of people with the same opinions and they're becoming more vocal," White noted. "I believe that numbers do count and this was one of the largest human rights rallies to take place in Washington ever."

The graduate student says the campus organization of women activists is growing and will spend the next few months organizing and planning for next year.

See RALLY, page 11

Campus trends

Tattoos: Etching to please

BETHLYN ANDERSON
Feature Writer

Do you have a thirst for the unusual? Have you ever yearned for an extraordinary way to express yourself but haven't really found the right way to do it? Chris and Kelli offer an intriguing solution to your problem: Get a tattoo!

In the increasingly popular (and competitive) field of tattooing, or "tatting," Chris and Kelli have emerged as two of the best tattoo artists in this area. As the award-winning owners of Kustom Tattoos, they have proven their artistic prowess to many a satisfied customer with the intricate details involved in their fascinating designs.

Chris' face lights up with pride as he remembers an incident at the Outback when he noticed a man peering in amazement at the artwork adorning both of Chris' arms.

"I was standing near the pool table and this guy was staring at me. He came up to me and asked me if I had gotten my tats at Kustom Tattoos. I told him 'I am Kustom Tattoos' and he said 'Man! I've been wanting to meet you!' It made me feel good because we're out there," he

explains. "People are showing off our work and people are liking it."

He's right. People are liking it. And many are coming back for more.

Kelli has her own theory. "Once you get your first tat, you need at least one more to balance it out," she laughs. "Otherwise, you'll start feeling lopsided."

She isn't kidding. When I got my tattoo (a two and one-fourth inch red scorpion) at Kustom Tattoos last October, I had planned on getting one and only one. But, as Kelli spoke, I leafed through the multitudes of tattoo patterns they offer and found my next "tat."

Coverups are a specialty at Kustom Tattoos.

"Let's say that someone has a tattoo on them and they don't like it anymore. We let them pick out a pattern and we camouflage [the old tattoo]. The new picture has to cover the old tat," Chris explains.

He finds these jobs especially challenging. "It's taking something away and putting something else there. You can take something that was total junk and make it into something beautiful. That's art."

"It depends on what you've

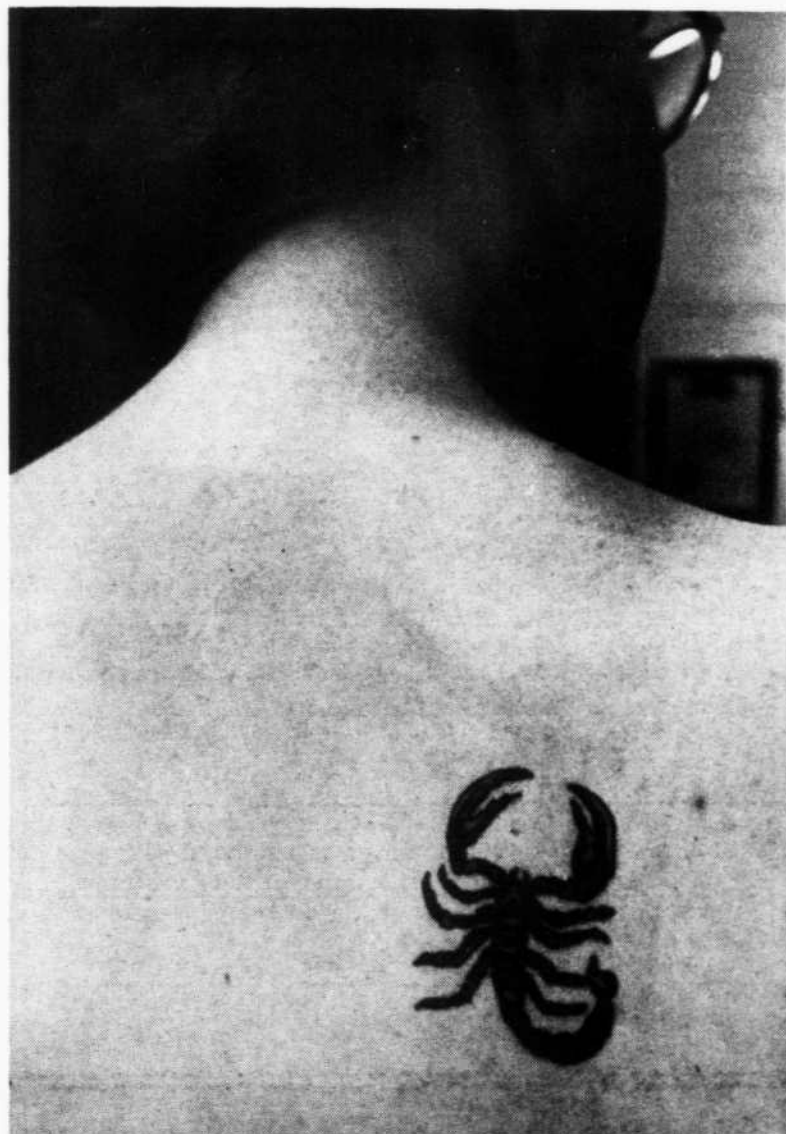
got," adds Kelli. "Some of the old tats are really hard to cover. I knew one girl who had a wizard put on her shoulder at another place. The artist really messed it up and she refused to wear anything that would show it for a long time. She came to me and asked me if I could fix it." Kelli pauses for breath and smiles, "I added a lot more detailing and it looks great. She went back to the other tattoo shop and told them off!"

What kinds of people visit Kustom Tattoos? Chris and Kelli are quick to answer "All kinds!"

"Doctors, nurses, lawyers, businessmen. A lot of professionals. People are coming from all over now," elaborates Chris.

Even from MTSU. Chris and Kelli are growing popular with college students who are eager to go under the needle in the name of art.

Ruby Hernandez, an early childhood education major, proudly displays Kelli's handiwork of a heart and musical note on her right hip. "I've always wanted a tattoo," she explains. She took the plunge shortly after her 18th birthday as



Shelley Mays/Photographer

STINGING STYLE: Bethlyn Anderson dares to bare all to show off her scorpion tattoo.

See TATTOO, page 11

Adult illiteracy: *obstacle to progress*

STAFF REPORTS

Nugrty ut Svbipecy Rekgs Flayter orx se Purznen

This is how a newspaper headline looks to 39-year-old Bob Jones. He is one of at least 10,000 non-reading adults in Rutherford County. Bob had to leave school when he was in eighth grade to help his family make ends meet. He never had a chance to pursue an education. At 19, Bob married. At 26, he had four children.

Life as a non-reading adult has not been easy for Bob. Just two months ago, he was laid off when a local factory closed its doors. In addition to the monthly household bills, his wife now fills out the employment applications Bob brings home from job hunting. Today, Bob had a second interview at a plant in town. The personal manager there handed him a test to take. Bob could only turn in a blank page.

Although Bob Jones and his story are fictitious, the problems illiteracy presents are not. Personal poverty and the need to help their family make ends meet has prevented some adults, like Bob, from learning how to read. Insufficiency in schools, difficulty with teachers, migration of family, illiterate parents and learning disabilities are stumbling blocks other adults may have experienced.

There is no agreed-upon definition of literacy. Generally, literacy is the ability to read at a fifth-grade level. Some adults may be literate, but functionally illiterate. Functional illiteracy is defined as the inability to use basic reading, writing and

computational skills in daily situations. Reading a medicine bottle, using a phone book, reading a want ad, filling out a job application or making correct change for a \$20 bill are impossible tasks for the functionally illiterate adult.

Our illiterate population is not comprised of strangers. It is not comprised of people too lazy to work, or of people unable to contribute to our quality of living. These people are our neighbors, trainable individuals who can make a lasting contribution to our society.

The inability to read affects the family structure. It affects Tennessee's ability to compete in the national and international economy, productivity and safety in the work place, and your community's chances for a strong, healthy economy.

The choice is one of action or inaction, of moving forward by developing our greatest resource — human potential — or of watching our future grow dim. For ourselves and for our children, let us contribute to a resilient, competitive and compassionate society in Tennessee by conquering illiteracy.

You can help:

- * Assist Tennessee dropouts in obtaining information about local adult education classes,
- * Volunteer to teach neighbors and family members how to read,
- * Assist employers in promoting literacy among their own work force
- * Encourage local television stations to air literacy programs.



Shelley Mays/Photograph.

CAST OF 'CHARACTERS': Christie Sutton (left) and Stephanie Anne Steward light up the stage as Roxie and Velma in the theatre department's rendition of "Chicago" in Tucker Theatre.

'Chicago' opens to mixed review, still spectacular

Naughty, bawdy, elegant, funny, slinky, glittering and gay.

Take any combination of these words and you have a good description of the MTSU Buchanan Players' production of "Chicago."

Director Deborah Anderson has led a great cast of actors into a vaude-ville/cabaret/play that is full of laughs and a lot of surprises.

With elegant, sparkling period costumes and a very effective and versatile cartoon-and-deco set (with a false proscenium tailored to this show) you journey back to the late 1920s in Chicago. They didn't call them the Roaring 20s for nothing!

"Chicago" contains some classic musical numbers including "All That Jazz" and "Cell Block Tango" (wonderful staging!) The ensemble work is delicious, with Richard Browder's savory choreography, and is sprinkled with some spicy acting. Bravo!

There are a few actors/actresses I would like to mention.

GARRY ESTEP Fine Arts Editor

Mary Lisa Bailess is wonderful as the prison matron. Love the hair! I don't want to give away her character (it's part of the surprise) but she plays it to the hilt!

Roxie (Christie Sutton) is a caricature of a flapper. Ms. Sutton has the accent and attitude perfect—not to mention her posture and movement. It's obvious that Ms. Sutton worked quite hard (with success) on developing this character.

Mary Sunshine. What more can I say without giving away this character? I loved you! Bouquets of roses to you.

The husband Amos, played by Derek Whittaker, is the epitome of dumb. Dumb and gullible. But he has a great stage voice and his character makes you feel sympathetic to his pathetic life.

My favorite for the evening is Velma, played by Stephanie Anne Steward. She has one number "I Can't Do It Alone" that is absolutely incredible. Ms.

Steward has a strong, beautiful voice and an energy that just won't quit. Throughout the show Ms. Steward presents a flux of character that is believable as well as entertaining. This young lady bears watching.

The show is accompanied by a small combo which sits "on the stage" in true cabaret style. Led by Diane Bearden, they provide good musical support for the show.

All in all, "Chicago" is lots of fun and very entertaining. I wish they wouldn't rush through so many musical numbers, like the opening number, because the lack of tempo variation becomes quite monotonous. And the finale did not seem to be very final. Something was missing — it lacked pizzazz. I really do hope someone does something about the sound. It was very hard to hear and understand many of the solos.

Technical problems aside, I would definitely recommend that you go see "Chicago." It's guaranteed to entertain you.

"Chicago" plays Tuesday through Saturday (April 7-12) at 8 p.m. and Sunday at 2 p.m. in Tucker Theatre here at MTSU. Admission is free for MTSU students with a valid I.D.

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Tattoo

continued from page 9

a present to herself. "It's like art I can put on my body and it will be there forever."

Ruby has nothing but praise for Chris and Kelli. "They're really professional," she declares admiringly. "They know what they're doing and they explain it to you. They work to please you because you're going to be living with [the tattoo] for the rest of your life."

Though Ruby made a bold move in getting a tattoo, she admits she's a little edgy about her parents' reactions.

"The first time my mom saw my tattoo, she asked what it was. I told her it was a temporary sticker." Ruby bursts into laughter at the thought. "She fell for it! I couldn't believe it! Since then she has told me that she'll kill me if I get a real one. Too late!"

"My parents are just glad it's not bigger," declares Ronnye Armstrong, another early childhood education major, about the eight ball that adorns her right hand middle fingernail. That's right—fingernail. These tattoos are Kelli's latest adventure into the quirky realm of body artistry.

"If a teenager wanted one, their mom and dad probably wouldn't get too upset. They're not permanent," explains Chris.

"They grow out when your nail grows out, which takes about a month," adds Kelli, who sports

five of the decal-like tattoos herself. "They're difficult to do because the nail is a hard surface."

"I got the fingernail tattoo because it was different and nobody else has one like it," says Ronnye. "It was painless for the most part."

Ruby agrees, holding out her hands to show off the top hat and smiley face etched into her nails. "I could feel the needle vibrating on top of my nail, but it didn't hurt at all." Fingernail tattoos cost \$5 each.

Many people are afraid to get a tattoo because of age-old horror stories about excruciating pain involved. Although there are certain areas of the body that are considered "ouch places," the total experience itself is not that bad, according to Chris and Kelli.

"Guys tend to feel pain in the chest area, especially up near the collarbone," admits Kelli. "For women, it tends to be the lower abdomen."

"It depends on the person," adds Chris. "Anywhere near a bone is going to hurt a little because there are more nerves. Different people have different pain tolerances."

James Gordon, a photography major, had Chris put

a tattoo near one of these "ouch places," between the shoulder blade and the backbone. "It didn't hurt much; maybe a little bit," he admits. James chose to take a different route in choosing his tattoo. Instead of skimming through the three large books on hand that are crammed with a variety of patterns, James chose to create his own.

"I wanted a piece of art on me. Something I designed," he explains after a moment of thought. "I just drew it and took it to Chris and he scaled it to size and stenciled it in."

James' tattoo, a yin-yang symbol

with male and female symbols on each side, took about 45 minutes to complete. Timing of the tattoos varies with the complexity of the artwork. Mine took about an hour and a half.

Though Chris and Kelli are easy to work with on deciding where to put tattoos, Chris draws the line at the head. "I won't do it on the side of the head," he exclaims, shaking his head vehemently. "This one guy wanted the *Queensryche* symbol on the side of his head! We agreed on scaling it down and putting it on his shoulder."

"We try to help customers get what they want," puts in

Kelli.

Kustom Tattoos prides itself on its special care to make sure that the tattoos are done in a sterile environment. Chris and Kelli take the time to go through each step of their sterilization process to make sure the customer feels comfortable with the needles and equipment.

"We order our needles factory-direct and pressure sterilize them for 20 to 25 minutes," Chris explains proudly. "Then we soak them in Hi-Bi-Clen, a solution used by hospitals, to further sterilize the needles until they're ready to be used," interjects Kelli. "We never reuse any of the needles!"

Despite their easygoing manner, Chris and Kelli are very strict on their policies. "Each customer has to be 18 unless a parent comes with them," Kelli asserts strongly. "If a parent does come with a kid, the last name on their identification has to match—regardless of the family situation—or we won't take them. We won't work on people who are drunk and/or drugged out either."

Though Kustom Tattoos is a fairly new business, it's quickly becoming a popular place for the bold and daring to add something new to their lives. Located in a house on the corner of University and Sevier streets, Kustom Tattoos is open seven days a week from 1 p.m. until 2 a.m., except on Thursdays when it closes at 6 p.m.

Rally

continued from page 9

"We encourage people to participate no matter what their opinions are," says White. "You don't have to be pro-choice to be a part of the Womyn's Political Action Committee. We welcome anyone who is committed to what they believe and we encourage all women to participate."

"When you spend time arguing over differences of opinion, your organization is zapped of its strength. We want to cut across all of that and work to make a difference for women in our society," White says with emphasis.

The most important thing, White says, is that people vote.

"Even if you don't have time to participate in organizational activities, you can vote. It's important not to take your freedoms for granted. It's important to back up your words with action."

White, Ruck and a committed group of Tennesseans did just that—put words into action. Now they can unpack, catch up on sleep, bathe, come down slowly off their cloud and get back into their routines. But, for those who participated, life will never be quite the same again.

"Anywhere near a bone is going to hurt a little because there are more nerves. Different people have different pain tolerances."

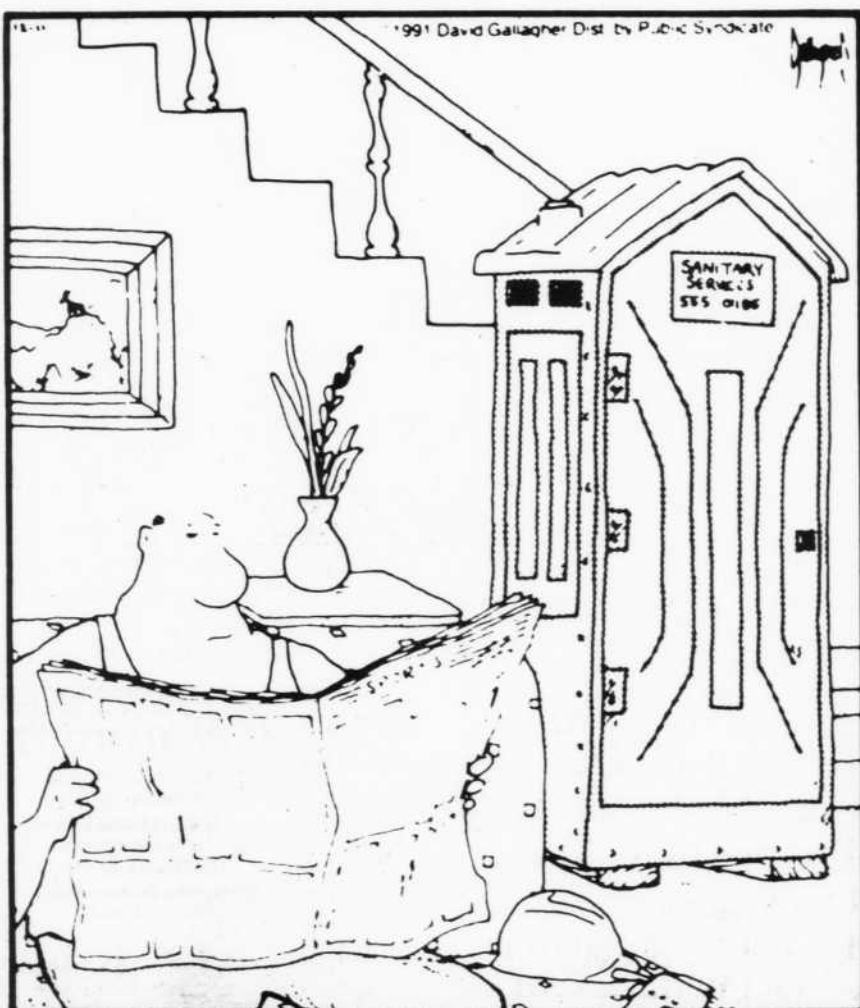
Kelli—Tattoo Artist

Comics

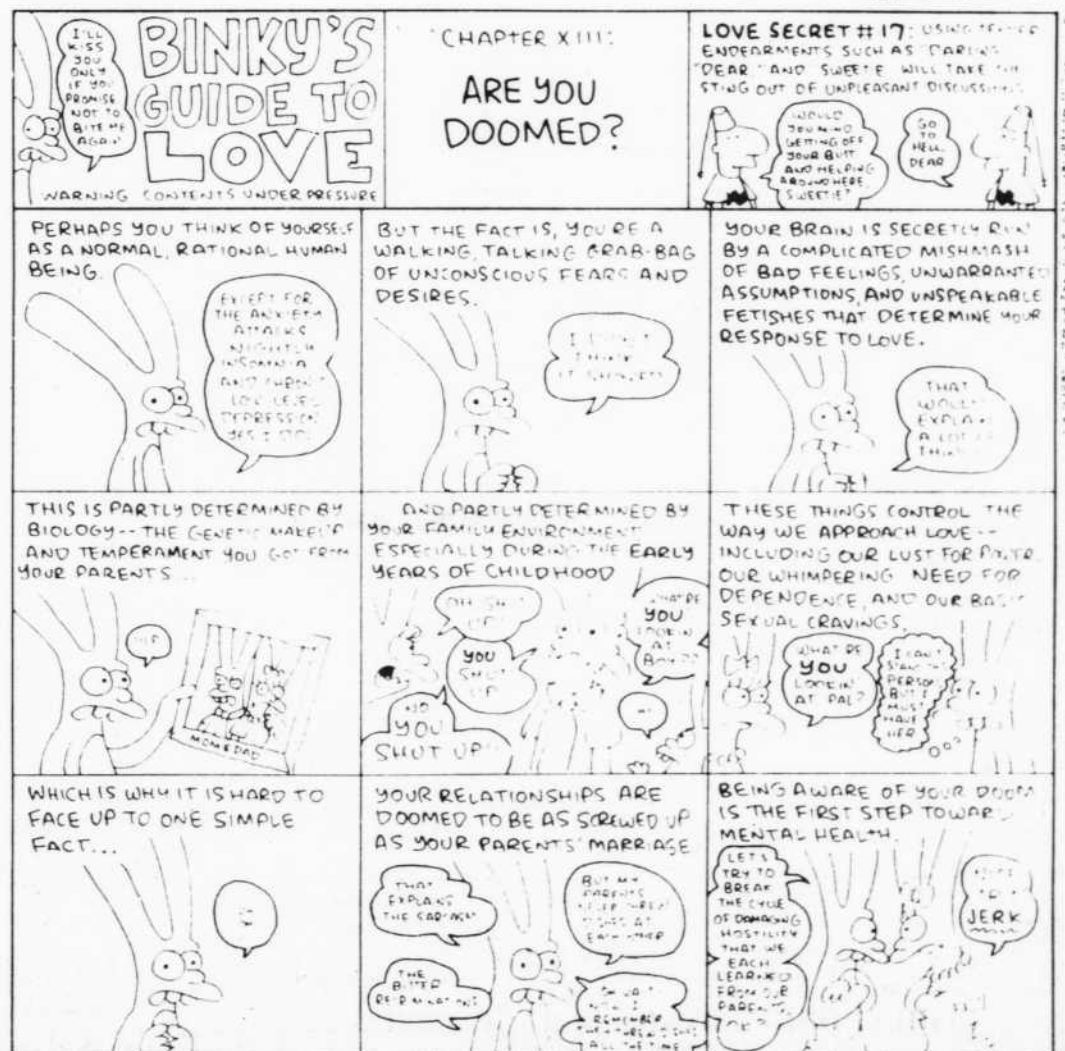
Larger Than Life by David Gallagher

LIFE IN HELL

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A construction worker at home.



Sports

Pete's pitching focus of concern

After weekend sweep, Blue Raider arms becoming wonder of MTSU mentor

GREG ADKINS
Sports Writer

Tennessee Tech's weekend sweep of the Blue Raider baseball team has Head Coach Steve Peterson questioning his chief asset: pitching.

"We have to work on our pitching," Peterson said. "We didn't match up on the mounds."

Two weeks ago pitching was the least of Peterson's worries. He was confident that MTSU had a strong starting rotation. Peterson's primary goal was to juggle the batting order.

"I feel confident with our line-up now," Peterson said. "We're pretty strong up the middle."

Tech simply out played Middle, Peterson said. It wasn't that MTSU played bad baseball, Tech was just better.

In the third game the Blue Raiders hit well enough to win, but they didn't place the ball well. MTSU's line-up hit into four double plays.

The last time MTSU got swept the Golden Eagles were again the culprit. That series of losses kept the Raiders from getting home field advantage in the Ohio Valley Conference tournament that year.

This series of losses may keep MTSU out of the National Collegiate Athletic

Association tournament.

During the past fall the OVC baseball program lost its automatic bid to the NCAA championship tournament, so the winner of the OVC tournament no longer gets an invitation to the event. It must win an at large bid.

Peterson has not lost hope of going to the NCAA. He quickly points out

that every game can't be won.

"That's the way it goes," Peterson

said. "We've got to get hot. We've got to act like a dog in a corner."

Matters were not helped Tuesday when MTSU battled with Vanderbilt to finish with a 5-4 loss. The Raiders traded last inning homers with the Commodores but came up short.

MTSU's record dropped to 14-13. Meanwhile, Austin Peay is ahead of the conference pack with one lone league loss.

"Austin Peay is off and running," Peterson said. "We've got to catch. We had a bad start last year. This is nothing new to us."

MTSU will be host to Memphis State today at Reese Smith Field. The game starts at 7:30 p.m. and is free to students.

The Blue Raiders' next OVC match up will be a three-game series with Tennessee State University this weekend in Nashville.



'Mighty Maxwell'

Versatile shortstop has array of talent

SCOTT HASSLER
Assistant Sports Editor

Every baseball team values that one guy who can play every position and be a solid player at each spot.

The Blue Raiders have one such player in sophomore Jason Maxwell.

Maxwell can play a variety of positions, including shortstop, where he plays as a starter now.

He went to Marshall County High School in Lewisburg, Tenn., and was a participant in football and basketball as well as baseball. Maxwell was a quarterback and starting shortstop while at Marshall.

"I played all three major sports in high school," Jason said. "Everybody that recruited me wanted me to play both football and baseball."

He was recruited by University of Tennessee-Knoxville and Memphis State, Mississippi State, Vanderbilt and Middle Tennessee State universities. Each school offered him a chance to play football, but only MTSU seemed excited about his baseball skills.

Maxwell said he knew he didn't want to play both football and baseball because of one particular reason. "My size made me decide to play baseball," he said.

His 6-foot-0, 175-pound frame seemed more suited for a baseball career.

MTSU became interested in Maxwell when he attended the Tennessee Sports Festival the summer

after his high school graduation. Blue Raider coach Steve Peterson was the coach of the festival and noticed his versatility.

"We needed the first baseman to pitch in a game," Jason said. "Coach P came up to me and told me he needed me at first (base). That was my first time to play first base ever."

He impressed the coaches enough, and they offered him a chance to play baseball for the Blue Raiders.

MTSU also offered him an opportunity to play football, but he chose his first love of baseball.

When he came to Middle, Maxwell started out as a center fielder and a pitcher. He didn't last long in the outfield or on the mound because the coaches wanted to protect his arm. So they moved him to first base.

He played first for 55 games during his first season at MTSU and had a 98 percent fielding percentage.

Maxwell thought first was his position until another twist of fate happened.

"One day I came in from class and the manager left me a note to come on the field early to play shortstop," he said. "When I got on the field, Coach P asked me if I wanted to play shortstop, and I said yes. He told me to prove it, and I've been there ever since."

However, Maxwell said he doesn't think that

"Maybe in the next couple of years we can get to the (College) World Series game. MTSU matches pretty evenly with all the teams."

-Jason Maxwell

See **TALENT**, page 15

'Same old, same old' for Blue Raider golfers

JIM HORTON
Sports Information

John-Paul Fitzgerald won individual medalist honors when he led MTSU to a third-place tie with Walters State in the Tennessee Intercollegiate Championship played at Ironwood Golf Course in Cookeville, Tenn.

Fitzgerald, a native of Dublin, Ireland, led from start to finish posting dual rounds of 73 for a two-over-par total of 146. This was good enough for a two-shot victory over Rob Hessing of team champion Austin Peay.

"John-Paul played very well the entire weekend, but once again he didn't get enough help from his teammates," said coach Johnny Moore.

See **GOLF**, page 14

Lady Raiders tennis team beginning to roll

TONY J. ARNOLD
Sports Editor

A feeling of security is solid. A feeling of security on the tennis court usually means solidity and trouble for the opposition.

After Middle Tennessee's women's tennis team defeated UT-Chattanooga Monday by a score of 7-2, head coach Dale Short seems to be in hog heaven.

"As a whole, I think we're beginning to come together and we're playing really well," Short said. "I guess you could say that we're beginning to peak and we're doing it at the right time."

"We're in the midst of the OVC season and we're showing that we have some confidence as we're coming together as a team."

A week earlier, Middle handed UTC a loss in Johnson City, 6-3.

Lorinda Weiss led the way with a 6-3, 6-0 victory over

See **TENNIS**, page 13

Athlete's going to bank at followers' expense

Many college students just want to get out of college with a degree and a \$50,000 a year salary waiting for them.

That's not to much to ask, and for some that's an attainable goal. But, how would you like to come out of college without a degree and make upwards of \$3 million a year?

That's an option for most professional athletes in the major sports in America and all over the world. The professional sports organizations have no certain timetable for the athletes they want. When they want an athlete, they come calling with hefty checks and silver promises. Often the greats of each game forget their education and begin the walk to the bank.

Michael Jordan is a good example of the typical sports athlete. Now, before all you Bulls fans or Michael worshippers call for my death, listen to what I have to say. Jordan went to the University of North Carolina to play for Dean Smith and the Tarheels.

Before the year was over, he and the Tarheels had won the National Championship because of Jordan's leadership.

The pros began to sit up and take notice. Jordan heard the call of the pros and left the Tarheels after his junior year. He then hit the pros with an incredible force. The advertisement agencies began to take notice. Jordan signed with Nike to do shoe commercials, and now let's all count the people who wear Jordan shoes. (I wear a pair of Air Jordans).

Jordan then signed several more ad deals ranging from

SCOTT HASSLER Words of Wisdom

Wheaties to Hanes underwear. All that means is that Jordan earns several million to not play basketball in addition to the several million he gets to play basketball.

I'm not, however, trying to set Jordan off as the Antichrist of sports. Jordan has done plenty for the game of basketball both on the court and off. I just used him as an example for all the world to see.

Jordan is not by means the worst of the salary hoarders. Baseball is full of self-interested athletes who make a profession out of arbitration hearings and contract disputes.

Bobby Bonilla, the former Pittsburgh Pirate, helped lead the Pirates to consecutive pennants in the National League. After this last year, he told the Pirates that the money they offered wasn't good enough, and he signed a \$6 million a year deal with the New York Mets.

Bonilla was then joined by former Minnesota Twin and World Series MVP Jack Morris. Morris told the Twins bye-bye and signed with the Toronto Blue Jays for more money.

Is there no team loyalty here? Well, kind of. The Cubs' Ryne Sandberg told the Cubs that their money would be just fine as long as they offered him \$7 million a year to play baseball. He is a Cub this year and for the years to come, only because the Cubs had the money to do it.

In football, players like Troy Aikman of the Dallas Cowboys, Pat Swilling of the New Orleans Saints and many others sign big

contracts to perform their specialties on the football field each week. And don't forget about the Rocket.

Yes, the Rocket—Raghib Ismael of the Toronto Argonauts. He won the Heisman Trophy in college and had the NFL organizations banging on his door. But the Rocket saw greener pastures in Canada and signed with Toronto for \$25 million, including houses, cars and even ownership in the team.

I do have a solution for this growing greed in sports. Back in the 1950s, management didn't allow free agency. There was no such thing as an arbitration hearing, there were no long term contracts and players actually got paid for their performance.

Let me give you an example. In the 1950s Warren Spahn pitched a no-hitter in the World Series, threw a perfect game and was awarded the Cy Young all in the same year. At the end of the season when contracts were renegotiated, Spahn received a pay cut because his Earned Run Average and wins were worse than the previous year.

If Spahn played in this day and age, he would make Sandberg's \$7 million look like spare change.

Now, I realize that athletes go through tremendous pressures, suffer great physical strain and are under the public's scrutiny constantly. Well, air traffic controllers are under the same pressures, and how many do you know that make \$7 million a year?

Others have said, "Well, athletes are entertainers, and See **MONEY**, page 15

Trash talk sparks rugby team, still lose close battle

TIM BURNS
Sports Writer

MTSU's rugby team earned the respect from Nashville's Club rugby team Saturday yet lost to the more experienced team 20-8.

When Nashville's team arrived, the players talked trash before the game, only to find out the Moosemen were ready to play.

"It really fired us up to pound on these loudmouths," said Clete Ledford, one of the MTSU captains.

Nashville's team has been the champion in its conference for five straight years. The team has a roster size of about 50 players vs. the Moosemen's 25.

From the start of the game, Nashville's players talked about how much they were going to run up the score against MTSU. The team has been use to beating teams by 30 to 40 points a game.

At halftime Middle was behind 12-8. The scorers for the Moosemen were Brian Savasta and Daniel Carter with one try (touchdown) each.

But when the final half arrived, Nashville's team had to take the game serious because the Raiders put on a charge. However, Nashville's squad was able to withstand and walked away with the victory.

"It was one of the toughest games I have played all year," Ledford said.

Middle faces Indiana Southern Saturday, a physical team that challenged the Moosemen last fall. At that time MTSU hadn't even heard of this team Indiana Southern, so it didn't know what to expect although they quickly learned.

"It's going to be a physical game, and we already don't like this team," Ledford said.

The starts at 1 p.m. at Greenland Drive's Field.

Tennis continued from page 12

Christina Trapp avenging a loss from last week. Following Weiss in the win column was Yael Soresman, Carol MacPherson, Jenny Oliveira and Katrina Beuchler.

"Lorinda Weiss is beginning to turn things around," Short said. "She's the team leader at No. 1 and she's the person everyone looks up to."

Weiss can hopefully lead the Lady Raiders to wins this weekend as they host Southeast Missouri (8:30 A.M.) and Arkansas-Little Rock (2:00 P.M.) on Saturday. Sunday at 2:00 P.M., they'll host Samford.

The Blue Raider's will also see action hosting Southeast Missouri (9:30 A.M.) and Arkansas-Little Rock (2:30 P.M.) on Saturday. Sunday they host Samford at 9:30 A.M. and Morehead at 2:30 P.M.

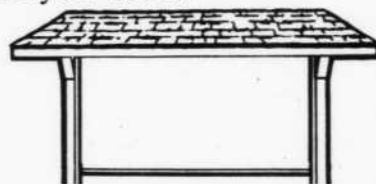


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Huggins - Stewart headed in opposite directions

Perhaps MTSU would have been better off without Bruce

I sat back in the recliner, popped open a Coca-Cola, grabbed a handful of chips and got ready for the Final Four. Then suddenly, my focus turned away from the Final Four court and into the past.

As Cincinnati made its stand against the Fab Five of Michigan, I couldn't help but look at Head Coach Bobby Huggins and remember the rivalry he brought to Middle Tennessee and how he and former Blue Raider mentor Bruce Stewart had headed in opposite directions.

Huggins coached at Akron and guided the Zips to the Ohio Valley Conference crown in 1986. During his five-year tenure there, Huggins posted a 97-46 mark.

During that same time, MTSU was gaining notoriety as well under Stewart. The Raiders made three trips to the NCAA tournament, and it appeared as if the future were bright.

The heat in Murphy Center was hot when the Zips marched into town. The flamboyant Huggins was a fierce competitor, and that brought the folks out. He wasn't afraid to speak his mind, and during one visit to Murfreesboro, someone managed to unveil a banner from the gymnasium ceiling that read "Quit Bitchin Bobby."

TONY J. ARNOLD 'Round the Rim

These were two young coaches who had everything to gain in front of them. Everything seemed to be going their way, and a pot of gold was waiting at the end of the rainbow.

During a national telecast one night Dick Vitale was rambling as he often does and mentioned Stewart and Huggins, referring to them as the two best young coaches in America.

But what a difference a few years makes. Today, Huggins is on top of the world while Stewart is running.

Huggins took the Cincinnati Bearcat coaching job in 1989 and has guided them to two 20-win seasons, including a trip to the Final Four this season.

Stewart, on the other hand, is coaching the Grand Rapids Hoops in the Continental Basketball Association. Last summer, during the midst of a NCAA inquiry, Stewart suddenly resigned his position at Middle, saying he was living out a lifelong dream to coach pro ball.

Yet that didn't convince too many people. Instead, everyone tends to think he's running. Stewart had the team he wanted coming back this past season. It was a group of guys Middle fans thought could pull off a

Cinderella job similar to Cincinnati. If such a case had happened, Stewart's stock would have gone up and a better position, possibly a National Basketball Association job, may have come open.

However, he took more than a \$50,000 pay cut and ran. Now he has a bad reputation, and unlike a captain staying with his sinking ship, Stewart was the first in the life raft.

That's not to say that MTSU is in trouble with the NCAA, but if even the smallest portion of the rumors coming out of the athletic office are true, Middle is in for a rough ride.

That's unfortunate to the fans, players and coaching staff of Middle.

Still, though, we can kick back and remember the on-court battles between two masterminds of coaching. At that time there was nothing illegal, just pure talent and leadership in a mind game that will never be duplicated.

Yet, I sat back and saw Huggins' success and the failure of Stewart, and I can't help but feel a little embarrassed and angry.

Perhaps we'd have been better off if Stewart never came to MTSU. Our reputation could have certainly benefited from it.



File Photo

ABANDONED SHIP: Former MTSU basketball mentor Bruce Stewart was once recognized as one of the best young coaches in the country.

Golf

continued from page 12

After the first round, the Blue Raiders were in good position to challenge Austin Peay for team honors, trailing by four strokes. Fitzgerald and teammate Jim McElhaney, a senior from Knoxville, were tied for the lead at 73.

Just like Middle Tennessee's prior two tournaments, the Raider golfers were unable to challenge in the final round. This past

weekend Fitzgerald and McElhaney were the only Raiders able to break 80 in the final round, with McElhaney joining Fitzgerald in the individual top 10 with a sixth-place finish.

"Jimmy had a good tournament for us and really was John-Paul's only help," Moore continues, "I believe Peay is the team to beat in the OVC right now, and looking back over the previous two tournaments, I'm not sure we can."

MTSU resumes its season

next Monday at the Bent Brook-Blazer Invitational in Birmingham, Ala., hosted by Alabama-Birmingham. The travel squad for this tournament will consist of Fitzgerald, McElhaney, Chris Guy, Matt Lucchesi and Mike Webb.

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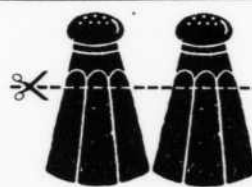
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Talent

continued from page 12
his job is complete just because he's playing the position he's always loved.

"I think both my hitting and fielding are pretty weak. The coaches try to teach me every day, and I take their advice and learn from it. I've worked so hard to get where I am now. I want to become a better and more complete player."

Maxwell hopes his hard work will carry over to the team as it heads into the Ohio Valley Conference conference games.

"The goal of this year's team is to win the OVC championship and get back to the NCAA regionals, since our automatic bid is taken away."

"Maybe in the next couple of years we can get to the (College) World Series game. MTSU matches pretty evenly with all the teams. We played USC last year when they were No. 3 (in the nation), and we thought that they weren't much better than us. They just have more scholarships and bigger names."

Maxwell said he is determined to work his hardest to make the World Series and an OVC championship possible. After all, hard work is what has gotten him here so far.

Money

continued from page 13
entertainers should get paid healthily for entertaining us."

I agree that athletes are entertainers because I have been to several Houston Astros games, and I've been quite amused. However, I don't think that Madonna should make the money she makes to entertain, and professional athletes don't even wear clothes as tight as hers.

Finally, some have said that athletes should get paid so much because their well-being is put in jeopardy every time they take the field. That maybe true, but I can put my well-being in jeopardy by covering sports stories. What if the game I was covering suddenly got bombed by terrorists? I do not have any chance of making \$7 million a year.

I'm an avid sports fan, and I keep track of every sport. But I am fed up with the athletes who continue to make unreasonable demands on management personnel in sports.

When Hakeem Olajuwon wants \$15 million a year to play basketball or when another baseball player gets traded for money or even when I lace up my Air Jordans, I think, "This is way out of control." After all, the athletes are the ones with all the control.

RAIDER ATHLETIC ACTION**SATURDAY**

8:30 A.M. Lady Raider tennis team host Southeast Missouri

9:30 A.M. Blue Raider tennis team host Southeast Missouri

1:00 P.M. Blue Raider baseball team at TSU for double-header

1:00 P.M. Raider Rugby team host Indiana Southern

2:00 P.M. Lady Raider tennis team host Ark.-Little Rock

2:30 P.M. Blue Raider tennis team host Ark.-Little Rock

SUNDAY

8:30 A.M. Lady Raider tennis team host Samford

9:00 A.M. Blue Raider tennis team host Samford

2:00 P.M. Blue Raider baseball team at TSU
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