



## Taking a hard, historical look at the KING

FEATURES, page 6

## Weather



THUR	FRI	SAT
High 60	High 56	High 65
Low 55	Low 37	Low 45

## RAIDERS return home to take on Murray State Saturday night

SPORTS, page 9

MTSU



Middle Tennessee State University is a Tennessee Board of Regents institution.

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# Middle Tennessee State University SIDELINES

Murfreesboro, Tennessee

THURSDAY, SEPT. 21, 1995

Volume 71, Number 18

## MTSU begins plans for new residential hall

Marketing consultants meet with students to determine new services

By Mark Blevins/staff

What services would you like to have in your on-campus residential hall?

Ethernet connections from the computer in your room to the campus server, photocopier machines in the lobby and a convenience store in the building are all items university officials are considering for a new hall.

Plans for a new hall begin in earnest this week as a marketing consultation firm meets with students

and administration to discover just what the groups want in a residential hall.

"The idea is to try to be competitive with off-campus housing," said David Hays, assistant vice president for Student Affairs. "Our general objective is to make the resident experience more than just a place to live and sleep."

Employees of Biddison Hier, a marketing consultation firm from Washington D.C., met Wednesday and will meet today with focus groups of students and administration to discuss what the groups want in a residential hall.

"And then, of course, it's going to boil down to dollars and cents," said Dean of Student Life Tom Burke.

Burke said he expects students to

express desire for private showers and living space that is more private.

Biddison Hier will also be examining off-campus housing to get an idea of the university's competition, Burke said.

"Their job is to advise us on what it is we're going to be building," Burke said.

The firm will also be looking at campus housing as a whole to advise improvements to the university, Hays said.

University officials believe a well-developed system of housing can revitalize campus life and raise student retention rates by having more students on campus, Hays said.

The consulting firm is scheduled to finish its study this fall and design plans for the hall itself are scheduled

to begin in the spring, Hays said. There has been no completion date established or construction site. Hays said the firm will also be looking at the best location for a new hall.

After plans are finalized, the university will send them to the State Building Commission and ask for a state bond issue for the construction costs. The bond issue will be financed with rent from residents. Rent for the new hall may be more expensive than other halls on campus, according to Burke who said many universities have different prices for different halls.

As the campus population is growing, housing has had to turn away students who wanted to live on campus.

This fall, 108 students placed on a waiting list for residential hall space did not get rooms. Of the 108 students, 57 decided to commute to school, and 51 of the students were placed in residential hall lobbies or housed at the Shoney's Inn.

Hays said he feels the university needs to move now, but is making sure to develop a comprehensive housing plan.

"I think we're in a position where we can't drag our feet," Hays said.

The focus groups were drawn from freshman, upperclassmen, administration, students who live off campus, student government members and residents who live in family housing. ●



Carl E. Lambert/staff

## Whoppin' Chicken Butt!

Robert Fortney referees Cindy Smith (left), President of the Public Relations Student Society of America, and Jason Potts (right), program chairman of PRSSA, during Clitdis Hiltabittle's Sumo Chicken Boxing. Originally from Ashtabula, Ohio, Fortney started Sumo Chicken Wrestling as a method to pay for college at MTSU. Normally participants fight in a 13x13 boxing ring is filled with air with oversized gloves and padded head gear. Contestants must first perform the funky chicken dance and lay an egg to qualify for the event.

## Some students angered at delays of packages from MTSU post office

By Nikki Bagwell/staff

Delays in general delivery are causing some students to become outraged with MTSU Postal Services.

Sophomore Jeff Beaumont recently experienced a 12-day turnaround time on a package from Los Angeles he needed for a class project.

The package was sent Aug. 28 through general mail. Beaumont first started looking for the package Aug. 31.

"For one week everyday I checked for the package," Beaumont said.

The package was received on campus Sept. 8, but Beaumont was not immediately notified of its arrival. Finally, he decided to talk to MTSU Postmaster Libby Patty. Patty immediately found the package.

"When a student signs up for admission to this campus, the administration knows that each

student will require a post office box," Beaumont said. "In preparation for each new student's arrival, there should be a system developed to assign a box number instead of the general chaotic delivery syndrome."

Sophomore Tody Russell reported a delay in receiving a package from his mother sent priority mail.

The postal service never guaranteed two-day delivery with priority mail, but they did advertise it as a two-day service until approximately six months ago. According to statistics, the recipient receives the package in two days 85 percent of the time.

"My mother sent me some important and essential items I needed for school," Russell said.

Russell received the package two weeks later, on Sept. 12. The package was stamped as received at MTSU

Sept. 5.

In both cases, general delivery slips were placed in both student's post office boxes after they had picked up their packages.

Patty explained that once a package arrives on campus, it is stamped. A general delivery slip is then filled out and placed in a box to be sorted and delivered to the student's post office box.

"Our goal is to send the notices the same day the packages are received," Patty said.

Patty said Postal Services is currently experiencing their busiest time of the year, and adds that three full-time employees were out at the time of these incidents.

Patty admitted that Beaumont should have received his package no later than Sept. 9. "It was a mistake," Patty said. ●

## College Democrats collect 520 signatures to protest student financial aid cuts

By Heather Hybarger/staff

Many students are talking about the proposed cuts in the federal financial aid program, but the College Democrats are doing something about it.

On Sept. 6 and 12, College

Democrats set up booths in the KUC, soliciting signatures for a petition against proposed financial aid cuts. The petition will be sent to the College Democrats national office, along with similar petitions from College Democrat organizations from across the country.

From the national office, the petition will be delivered to Congress, according to Mary Cummins, President of College Democrats.

The petition contains 520 MTSU student and faculty signatures.

"The Senate will be voting on this in the next couple of weeks," said Trey Hall, financial director of MTSU College Democrats. "We just hope it will make some difference."

Financial aid programs affected by the proposed cuts include Pell Grants, subsidized Stafford Loans, State Student Incentive Grants, work-study programs and Perkins Loans.

College Democrats adviser Mario Perez-Reilly stressed students to become active by writing their congressmen

about the issue and stressed the importance of getting students to vote.

"Students don't vote in large enough numbers to be a force in elections," Perez-Reilly said.

"You don't have to be Democrat or Republican to protest these cuts," Hall added. "Students should be active in learning about what might be cut." ●

## Man stands trial for death of MTSU student

Staff Reports

Prosecutors are arguing that James Clayton Young Jr. purposely murdered MTSU student Joey Ladd during a homosexual encounter Jan. 4, according to Wednesday's *Daily News Journal*.

But, defense attorney Terry Fann maintains that Young and Ladd had consensual sex at Young's Bell Street apartment after they had been drinking, the newspaper reported.

Young is currently standing trial for first-degree and felony murder.

Young already faces a maximum two-year sentence after pleading guilty to illegal disposition of Ladd's body. The victim's body was found Jan. 9 in a ravine by utility workers in the Almadale community.

Assistant District Attorney Dale Robinson told jurors that Young admitted to handcuffing Ladd's hands and feet, gagging him with a sock covered with duct tape and strangling him with his T-shirt during sexual activity, the paper

reported.

The defense attorney said that Young grabbed Ladd's T-shirt during sex and did not realize that Ladd had died until later.

Paramedic Terry Cunningham testified that she found Ladd had a head wound, bruises on his chin, face and ankles, and scrapes on his back and thighs, the paper reported. Cunningham also testified that Young and co-worker Warren Jones were the last people seen with Ladd.

Jones testified that he went back to Young's apartment with Ladd where he tried to discourage Ladd from mixing alcohol and drugs. Jones said he returned home later that night and later learned that Ladd was missing.

One of Young's friends testified that Young had admitted that he was homosexual, the paper reported.

Assistant County Medical Examiner Dr. Charles Harlan is expected to testify when the trial resumes today. ●

The Student Government Association is sponsoring an Organizational Fair today on the KUC Knoll from 11:00-2:00 p.m. Students will get an opportunity to meet and join campus organizations as well as enjoy free games and food.



## Campus Capsule

**The Student Government Association** is holding an organizational fair on the knoll behind the KUC on Thursday, September 21 from 11:00 a.m. till 2:00 p.m. This is a great opportunity for students to get involved. Call Jaime Groce at 898-2464 for more information.

**The Presbyterian Student Fellowship** at 615 N. Tennessee Blvd. hosts a cookout and discussion beginning at 6:15 every Wednesday evening and luncheons every Monday at noon. Contact Michael Malone at 893-1787.

**Student Organization** updates deadline for student organizations is 4:30 p.m. on September 21, 1995. Applications may be picked up at the mandatory student organization meeting.

Applications for **student activity fee requests** must be turned in to KUC 122 no later than 4:30 p.m. on September 25, 1995. Applications and student activity fee guidelines are available in the KUC 112.

**The College Republicans** is having general interest meeting on Wednesday, September 27. The meeting will begin at 7:00 p.m. in the KUC 314. Call Brian Lewis at 890-6478 for more information.

**The Placement and Student Employment Center** is hosting a Career Placement Orientation workshop titled "Your Job search". The workshop will begin at 11 a.m. on September 26, 27, 28. All workshops will be held in KUC room 322. This is an excellent opportunity to learn about placement services, how to write a resume, campus interviews, and employment opportunities. Call the director, Martha Turner at 898-2500 for more information.

**MTSU Speech Clinic** is sponsoring ongoing speech testing and therapy clinics in Boutwell Dramatic Arts room 232. MTSU students who need speech testing or therapy services should call the clinic at 898-2661 for an appointment.

The third lecture in the **Honors Lecture Series** "An American Checkup" will be Monday, September 25. The lecture "Civil Rights: A View From the Back Burner" will be given by Dr. Ben Austin. All lectures are in Peck Hall 107 and begin at 3:30 p.m. and are free and open to the public.

**The Student Government Association** would like to remind everyone to voice your opinion, pro or con, on the \$65 activity fee increase for the proposed stadium. The following are names and numbers of politicians who can get things changed.

Board of Regents  
366-4400  
Governor Don Sundquist  
741-2001  
Senator John Bragg  
741-3818  
Representative Andy Womack 741-1066

**1995 Family Day** is set for September 30. Registration will be from 11 a.m. till 12:30 p.m. on the KUC knoll. Registration information has been mailed to every enrolled student's permanent address. The fee is \$10 for adults and \$5 for children and includes the events of the day, barbecue, and a football ticket. There is no charge for MTSU students if family members are registered for Family Day. For more information contact New Student Orientation at 898-5533.

The **Voices of Praise Gospel Choir** will have weekly rehearsals on Mondays at 7 p.m. beginning September 11 at the Baptist Student Center. Contact Latresa McCamoll at 898-3989. Come join us!

**Intervarsity Christian Fellowship** has weekly meetings every Tuesday at 7 p.m. in KUC room 312. Call Trista at 898-3256 or Chris Ward at 898-3244.

**The Wesley Foundation** sponsors ongoing activities every week. On Wednesdays lunch begins at 11:15 a.m.; Koinania at 7 p.m. and Wesley Singers rehearsal at 7:30 p.m.

**MTSU LAMBDA** is a gay, lesbian, and bisexual student group. It meets every Tuesday at 6:30 p.m. in Mass Communications Building room 104. All are welcome. For more information call Jason at 780-2293.

**The Wesley Foundation** activities for the week are Friday, baking party to prepare for bake sale on Saturday carwash and bake sale at Sam's on Sunday at 8 p.m. university workshop.

**MTSU College Democrats** Meeting on Thursday, September 21 at 5 p.m. in KUC 314. We will be discussing the role of our organization on the campus. Contact Mary at 890-6314 for more information.

**Alpha Kappa Psi** professional business fraternity interest meetings on Monday, September 18 at 7 p.m.; Tuesday 19, and Wednesday 20 at 4:30 p.m. in the KUC room 316. Open to all business majors and minors. Must have a 2.5 GPA or better. Contact Anna Coble at 898-3133.

**Equestrian Team Meeting** every Monday night at 7 p.m. in the TLC sales Arena. Contact Lia Grove at 849-9876. Everyone is welcome.

**1995 Homecoming Parade** on November 4. Those organizations interested in participating need to notify the SGA office by October 2.

**Phi Beta Lambda** the Collegiate Division of Future Business Leaders of America is holding a membership interest meeting on Wednesday, September 20 at 3:30 p.m. in the Midgett Business Building room 303. For more information contact the president James Roberson at 898-3051 or the advisor Dr. Robert B. Blair at 898-2036.

**Society of Professional Journalists** interest meeting on September 21 at 5 p.m. in the Sidelines newspaper office. All public relations, broadcast, and print journalism majors are welcome.

**Raiders for Christ** meets every Monday at 7 p.m. in the Middle Tennessee Christian Student Center at 1105 E. Bell St. Contact Mike Strode at 896-1529 or Eddy Dyer 890-0488.

**The Concerned Faculty and Administrative Women** is sponsoring a Promotion and Tenure Workshop on Tuesday, October 3. The workshop will be from 3 to 5 p.m. in the Hazelwood dining room. The workshop is free for CFAW members and \$5.00 for non-members. Please call Denise McMahan by September 29 for reservations.

**The Christian Music Society** will meet Thursday, September 21 at 6 p.m. in Mass Comm room 150. If you desire to make Christ known through music come join us! Contact Joyce Reed at 848-0448.

**Fulbright Graduate Scholarship Deadlines** Approach. The 1996-97 competition for Fulbright grants for graduate study abroad is continuing. Top ranked seniors or graduate students may apply for one of approximately 800 scholarships. Application forms and further information for MTSU students may be obtained from the Fulbright Program Adviser, Dr. Fred Rolater in Peck Hall room 279. The deadline for filing an application is October 16, 1995.

**Attention Health Science Students!** Wednesday, September 27, 10 a.m. to noon. Mr. Nelson Strother and other representatives from The UT-

Memphis Health Science Center will be at MTSU in the Keathley University Center in rooms 324 A,B,C, and 314 to talk with students about Dentistry, Medicine, Pharmacy, Cytotechnology, Dental Hygiene, Health Information Management, Medical technology, Occupational Therapy and The Tennessee Preprofessional Program. On Thursday, September 28 Mr. Bruce Foster from Samford University will talk with students in the Davis Science Building room 241 from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. to talk with students about admission to the Samford University School of Pharmacy.

**American Criminal Justice Association** will meet in KUC room 318 on Thursday, September 28 at 5 p.m. Metro special operations will come and speak. Everyone is welcome so please come.

**The Native American Heritage Society** invites you to a special talk and slide show in the KUC 316 on Wednesday, September 27 at 5 p.m. The talk is titled "Myth vs. Science" Devil's Tower and Bear Butte, South Dakota and is free and open to the public.

**The Japan Center** of Tennessee is sponsoring a Japanese Tea Objects Exhibit through November in the lobby of Cope. The exhibit is open Monday through Friday from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and on Saturday from 8 a.m. to noon.

**The Japan Center** is also sponsoring many off campus exhibitions. The exhibit Photographs of Japan will be on display at the Felix G. Woodward Library at Austin Peay State University. The exhibit consists of photographs taken by the Director of the Japan Center of Tennessee, Dr. Esther Millon Seeman during her trips to Japan. A Japanese Doll Exhibit will be on display at the Arrowhead/Aerospace Cultural Center in Manchester. A Japanese Good-Luck Charms Exhibit will be on display in the Jean Keener Room, 442 W. Second North St., Morristown, TN. For more information on all these exhibits please contact The Japan Center of Tennessee at 898-2229.

**The Native American Heritage Society** presents the Arts & Crafts Fair on Tuesday, September 26 and Thursday, September 28 in the KUC courtyard. All items will be priced especially for students. No item over \$10. All proceeds will finance travel expenses for a 25 member Native American performance group and a related lecture series to be presented on the MTSU campus during the Native American Cultural Exhibition and Fair on October 27 and 28.

**Applications for the Tennessee Legislature Internship Program** must be turned into Dr. Mark Brynes by Oct. 6. Junior, senior and graduate students in law, political science, history, administration, social work, economics, sociology, journalism and related fields are eligible. Students must have at least a 3.0 GPA. Interns will be paid a stipend of \$250/week plus travel expenses. For more information please contact Dr. Brynes in Peck Hall 247 or 898-2351.

### DEADLINES FOR CAMPUS CAPSULE SUBMISSIONS:

MONDAY EDITION:  
4:00 P.M. FRIDAY

THURSDAY EDITION:  
4:00 P.M. TUESDAY

All submissions must be brought to the *Sidelines* office in writing. Phone in submissions will not be accepted. *Sidelines* reserves the right not to publish any listing for any reason. *Sidelines* is not responsible for false information.

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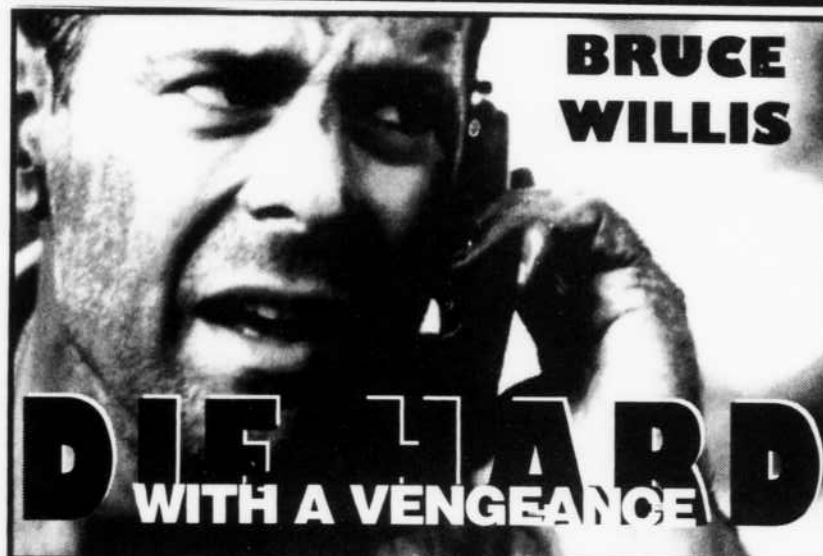


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Sept. 22

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# Internship workshop creates network for university abroad

By Charles A. Harrington, Jr./staff

The Training Systems Institute (TSI) of Syracuse University has chosen MTSU as one of five sites for their Internship Capacity Building Initiative (ICBI) Workshop.

The United States Information Agency (USIA), which selected TSI to design, develop and implement the ICBI project, engaged in this project partially in response to an indication that many internship projects do not meet the intended objectives. Interns in these cases return with less than satisfactory attitudes toward the host institutions or the United States.

"MTSU already hosts a great many international visitors," said to Diane Sawyer, holder of the Chair of Excellence in Dyslexic Studies at MTSU. "[The workshop's purpose is] not to necessarily increase but to develop better long lasting relations that will bring about more opportunities for Americans to visit and

increase commercial and business ventures abroad."

The USIA advises on workshop sites in cities throughout the country. Local

**"[The workshop's purpose is] . . . to develop better long lasting relations that will bring about more opportunities for Americans to visit and increase commercial and business ventures abroad."**

Diane Sawyer  
Chair of Excellence  
in Dyslexic Studies

efforts for conducting the workshop are being coordinated by MTSU in collaboration with the Jennings A. Jones Chair of Excellence in Free Enterprise in the College of Business.

The workshops will be

conducted by three Syracuse University professors: Dr. Phillip L. Doughty, Dr. Donald P. Ely, Dr. Paul B. Pederson and Ph.D. candidate Sharon Marie May.

The USIA and the TSI have a pending contract to conduct the workshops. It is intended that the capabilities of organizations that host internship projects will be enhanced by the workshops.

There will be 20 participants in the workshop, consisting of campus students and people from businesses and industries from throughout Tennessee. These industries, businesses and agencies received invitations because of their present involvement in programs for international visitors.

Participants are expected to develop networks that will support all of MTSU as we engage with international businesses, government and educational interns.

It is not known whether MTSU will continue the workshop after the contract is expired. ●

## Activity fees denied to minority magazine at Dartmouth College

By College Press Service

CONCORD, N.H.—Dartmouth College has decided to deny student activity fees to a proposed magazine for minority students after the publication's editors requested a staff that excluded white students.

Editors of "Snapshots of Color" had asked Dartmouth's Council on Student Organizations for official recognition and funding after proposing that membership be open to "students of color" only.

Tim Moore, director of student activities, says fees would be available to the group only if they opened up their membership to all students on the Dartmouth campus. "We require every organization to allow membership of all students," says Moore. "This is not a rule exclusive to this magazine. It is something we expect from every organization that wants student activity funding."

Although the magazine's founders are courting outside sources of income, Jennifer Daniels, co-editor of the publication, says there was never any intention to exclude any specific race from membership. "We want to

reflect the interests and accomplishments of minority students on campus," says Daniels. "To do that, we're certainly willing to accept articles and ideas from all students."

Daniels, who helped come up the idea for "Snapshots" during a course of African-

American literature, says the magazine will be published this fall with the help of \$2,000 in donations from local individuals. She says the editors haven't decided if they will re-word the staff request before applying for school funds later this year. ●

## UT students ordering texts from publishers

By College Press Service

DEKALB, Ill.—A publisher is testing a new program to sell textbooks directly to college students.

Addison-Wesley Publishing Company is offering a pilot program at two universities, the University of Tennessee at Knoxville and Northern Illinois University at Dekalb, where students can phone or fax toll-free numbers and place their textbook orders by credit cards.

The books are being offered at prices substantially lower than bookstore retail prices. For example, a physics book that normally sells for \$72 to \$75 in stores is being advertised at \$61.28.

According to a company press release, the publisher

launched the program after bookstore sales on many campuses were found to be lagging.

"We have been forced to find an alternative way to generate revenue so we can continue to make an investment in campus support," said Nancy Kralowetz, vice president and director of sales.

More than 200 titles from the publisher currently are in use at both NIU and UT, which have a combined enrollment of 40,000. The publisher is promoting the program by distributing flyers on campuses and by putting advertisements in student newspapers. ●



Joseph Neal/staff

## Pickin' and Grinnin'

BR5-49 played Music on the Knoll during last Friday's Country Line Dancin' Knoll show. The Hip-Hoppin Rapp Knoll Show is scheduled for Friday at 3 p.m.

## Campus rec forming student committees

By Lori Lill/staff

Campus recreation is forming student advisory committees in order to gather input on student wishes for programs and procedures throughout the semester.

According to director Glenn Hanley, committees will be formed for Campus Recreation, Intramurals, Outdoor Recreation, and

Aquatics.

Committee meetings will be held once a month to give students a chance to meet with recreation advisors and receive information as well as give opinions on new activities being planned. Special meetings will also be called for any problems that may arrive throughout the semester.

"Above all, our goal is to gather input from students on

our programs and activities," Hanley said.

Committees will consist of volunteers throughout campus. Departments on campus have also been asked to notify students with special interests about these committees.

For information on committee appointments, contact Student Recreation at 898-2104. ●

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DINNER 4:30P.M. - 6P.M.

**TACO BELL & SUBWAY**  
10A.M. - 6P.M.

**MEAL PLAN TIMES**  
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LUNCH 11A.M. - 1:30P.M.  
DINNER 4:30P.M. - 6P.M.

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# Learning Lab CD-ROM's available for faculty reserve

By Martha Stroud/staff

Faculty now have the option of reserving CD-ROM's in the LRC Learning Lab for student use.

This service makes it possible for a professor who utilizes CD-ROM in the classroom or who wants to make CD-ROM available to a class to place that material on reserve in the Learning Lab. Floppies that can run off the software already available can also be reserved.

Students may use the reserved software in the LRC computer lab (room 101A) during open lab hours. The lab contains 24 Power Macintosh computers with CD-ROM drives.

The Instructional Technology Support Center (ITSC) recently mailed out more than 1,000 letters to MTSU faculty, department chairs, and college deans describing the new service, according to ITSC director Connie Schmidt.

The letters notified the faculty that only CD-ROM's and floppies that can run without installing additional software on the hard-drives in the lab will be accepted for the reserves service.

"The hard-drives of the 24 computers in LRC 101 are already almost full with word-processing, spreadsheet, database, presentation, authoring, and Internet applications," Schmidt said.

Schmidt said it is too early to predict how many faculty will take advantage of the reserves service.

"The ITSC [which opened in August 1994] includes several pre-existing services that used to operate independently," Schmidt said.

It includes Engineering and Technical Services, directed by Frank Forgette.

"The TV Services division of this unit can assist faculty in actually creating original videos which can be integrated into multi-media packages,"

Schmidt said.

The equipment services division of the Engineering and Technical Services unit also fixes campus audio visual equipment, according to Schmidt.

**"The ITSC is primarily concerned with provid[ing] training and support for faculty use of instructional technology, and to assist teachers and faculty in creating multi-media projects."**

Connie Schmidt  
Director of the Instructional Technology Support Center

The ITSC also includes Media Services, which houses a video, CD ROM, and laser disc library for faculty use. They have among their collection the "Eyes On The Prize"

series as well as the PBS documentary "The Civil War," both on laser disc.

"Faculty can use these resources to present very short clips which are often referenced in accompanying

instructor manuals according to the subject matter," Schmidt said.

"The ITSC is primarily training pre-service and in-service teachers in the use of instructional technology, to provide training and support for faculty use of instructional technology, and to assist teachers and faculty in creating multi-media projects," Schmidt said.

The ITSC has been collaborating with the Office of Information and Technology (OIT) and the Computer Science department since last spring to present "Virtual School" workshops on the MTSU campus. The

"Virtual School" program, which originated at Vanderbilt University, trains K-12 teachers to use the Internet, according to Schmidt.

"The ITSC is planning to offer other technology training workshops to schools in Rutherford County and Murfreesboro City in the near future," Schmidt said.

The ITSC and OIT also worked with the Teaching, Learning, and Technology Round Table (TLTRT) sponsored by the American Association of Higher Education (AAHE) to present a Summer Faculty Technology Institute this past June, Schmidt said.

Approximately 75 MTSU faculty came to the LRC and other campus locations to learn about new instructional technologies. Technical support staff and MTSU faculty presented hands-on workshops and shared their experiences using technology in the classroom.

Schmidt said she would

like to have a full-time instructional technology specialist working with the ITSC.

"The way it is now, we have faculty receiving release time to consult with other faculty and to assist me with center programming," Schmidt said, "but as demand for instructional technology support increases across campus, the need for support staff will also increase."

"Although different departments at MTSU are involved in computer and technology training, we're not trying to compete with each other," Schmidt said. "We're trying to cooperate and collaborate to meet this growing demand for instructional technology support."

Faculty interested in using this reserves service or students with questions about open lab times should call Linda Nicholas at 898-5191. ●

## Texas students protest activity fee increase

By Kevin Fitchard  
College Press Service

AUSTIN, Texas—University of Texas students are again protesting a fee funding construction of a statue commemorating Martin Luther King Jr., though officials said it is too late to cancel the project or revoke the fee.

UT President Robert Berdahl said his office has received inquiries from both students and parents who object to paying the \$1-per-semester compulsory fee, which will be included in tuition bills for the next four years.

"One of the misunderstandings is that it's an administrative fee, but it was voted for by the students," Berdahl said. "For the most part that explanation satisfies them."

Some students maintained they had no choice in the

matter, Berdahl said. But he added that "it was a democratic process."

"They had the opportunity to vote. Most students chose not to,"

Berdahl said. Besides the referendum last spring, in which 61 percent of the 3,400 voting students approved the project, the Texas Legislature and the UT System Board of Regents approved the fee in separate actions this summer.

Timothy Taylor, a graduate student, said he did not vote in the referendum but now opposes the fee. Taylor said he did not know about the fee until it showed up on his tuition bill.

"Some students are more concerned with our studies than with politics, except when politics starts taking money

out of our pockets," he said.

Taylor has posted a message on U.S. Lead, an Internet bulletin board, announcing that he intends to

form an organization opposing this and other mandatory fees.

"It is not the statue I am against, it is the fee," Taylor said. He added, "I'd rather have something that benefits people who could really use it."

Taylor suggested the funds raised from the fee could be converted into an endowed scholarship fund.

"That would be more of a statement on the University's support for minorities that a statue would," he added.

So far, Taylor's message on the Internet has met with predominantly hostile replies, many of which accuse him of

being racist or inconsistent for opposing only the statue fee.

But some messages have offered support.

Once classes begin, Taylor said, he will solicit signatures for a petition to have the MLK statue fee reconsidered in a student referendum. He must obtain 340 signatures, 10 percent of the students who voted last spring.

If Taylor does obtain the 340 signatures, it is unlikely he will have any effect on the fee decision, said James Vick, vice president for student affairs.

The Board of Regents originally approved the statue on the condition that students raise the funds privately.

Two weeks ago the regents gave the final go-ahead for statue construction at their meeting in San Antonio. ●

## More women becoming college presidents: study

By College Press Service

WASHINGTON—The number of women heading U.S. colleges and universities has more than tripled in the past two decades, a new study by the American Council of Education has found.

During the 1994-95 academic year, 453 women served as presidents of higher education institutions, up from 148 two decades earlier.

Women made up 16 percent of the presidents of the nearly 3,000 colleges in 1994-95, according to ACE. This is up from 12 percent in 1992, 10 percent in 1984, and 5 percent in 1975, when ACE began monitoring statistics on women presidents.

Traditionally, women college presidents have held posts largely at private institutions, in many cases at women's colleges. But 1995 figures show a narrowing of the gap between the number of women heading public and private institutions.

Forty-eight percent of all women presidents in 1994-95

headed public institutions, up from 36 percent in 1984 and 11 percent in 1975.

"We're encouraged by the increased rate at which women have been assuming presidencies in the last two years," said ACE's Judith G. Touchton, deputy director of the Office of Women in Higher Education.

Despite the gains made by women, men continue to hold most college and university presidencies. Eighty-four percent of presidents at private and 85 percent at public institutions in 1995 were men.

"We remain concerned about the areas in which less progress has been made," Touchton said. "Why is it, for example, that despite the substantially increased attention given to women and women's issues over the last two decades, very real disparities continue to exist between men and women in our colleges and universities in many areas—compensation being just one?" ●

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## In our view

By the Sidelines  
Editorial Board

### Students should fight to keep financial aid

You are empowered by our system of government to have a hand in how things are governed. "For the people, by the people" is a principle at the very heart of our constitution.

It is time for students to exercise this power.

There are proposals in Congress to cut financial aid for college students. For many students who receive financial aid, it is the difference between attending school and not. That aid is all that makes it possible. College students know that it takes a great deal of non-classroom time to become truly educated. For the student that receives financial aid, this means putting in the extra study time after working at minimum wage jobs to pay rent, bills and food costs. The cuts that are proposed will only increase work loads for many students who struggle for years to become productive leaders in society. Many high school graduates may see that going straight into a job will be easier than attending college.

Unskilled labor is much cheaper in many other countries than it is in America. For this reason, it is important that America's working force is skilled and educated. These cuts hurt the college student of today, but they hurt the whole of America tomorrow.

Furthermore, how can we measure what a country loses when its people become less educated?

The proposed cuts include:

- **Eliminating interest subsidies on federal loans.** The National Association of Independent Colleges and Universities (NAICU) estimates the average loan for a freshman in college at \$2,345. At 8 percent interest (which is the present average but subject to fluctuation), this cut would cost these borrowers \$187 a year. According to NAICU, the average borrower has accumulated \$13,999 in debt (if the borrower has kept up with interest payments) by the time he/she is a senior. The cost of interest would be \$1,120 yearly. If interest was allowed to be capitalized, the average debt for the graduated student would go from \$13,999 to \$16,874 which is a 20.5 percent increase, according to NAICU. For your information, in 1994, the federal government paid \$29.9 million in Tennessee loan subsidies, according to NAICU. This is money well spent.

- **Raising the minimum Pell Grant award from \$200 to \$600.** Last year, 425 MTSU students received, and currently 250,000 student nationwide receive these Pell Grants of less than \$600, according to the MTSU Financial Aid office.

- **Eliminating the federal portion of State Student Incentive Grants.** This makes up about half of the Tennessee Student Assistant Corporation (TSAC) grant money. Last year 1,745 MTSU students received some type of TSAC grant.

These cuts hurt. They hurt students, and they hurt the country. Call your congressman and senators today. Leave a message for your representatives, and they will get it.

U.S. REP. BART GORDON: 896-1986

U.S. SEN. FRED THOMPSON: (202) 224-4944; 506 Dirksen Senate Office Building, Washington D.C., 20510

U.S. SEN. BILL FRIST: (202) 224-3344; 825 Hart Senate Office Building, Washington D.C. 20510

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...days until the Oct. 24, 25 SGA fall election which will include the referendum on the \$65 student activity fee increase, the freshman SGA ballot and the homecoming court/queen election. The \$65 fee increase is being used to fund stadium renovation to facilitate MTSU's move to Division I-A football. Though students have been charged the extra fees this semester, some students are arguing that students had no say in the increase. One SGA senator who helped get the issue on the fall ballot says he will seek a reversal of the fees if students vote it down. He says he will drop it if students show support for the fee increase. Your vote will count.

## President Clinton addresses student aid cuts in first opinion for college press

*Editor's note: Given that Mr. Clinton is the nation's president, and that he is addressing financial aid cuts which affect college students, it seems appropriate to run his opinion piece. No material from MTSU was pushed aside for his opinion.*

By President Bill Clinton

September 11, 1995

Dear Student,

This is a busy time for you. But while you are choosing classes and making the decisions that will help you build a good life for yourself, the Congressional majority is working to make drastic cuts in education—in your student loans, in national service, and even in your scholarships. And the cuts will jeopardize the future you and your generation are working toward.

I want you to know that I oppose these cuts. I will do everything in my power to fight them and to see to it that the dream of higher education remains real for all Americans. I will do this not only by defending the opportunities of those of you who are already in college, but by opening the doors further to make sure that even greater numbers of deserving Americans have the chance to stand where you stand today.

For the first time in a long time, leaders from both parties are resolved that we must balance the federal budget. From the day I took office, I've been committed to this goal—to getting rid of the budget deficit that quadrupled our national debt in the 12 years before I came to Washington. So far, we have made great progress. In three years, we have cut the deficit nearly in half, from \$290 billion to \$160 billion.

Now we are ready to eliminate

the deficit entirely. On this, the Congressional majority and I see eye to eye.

But just how we get rid of the deficit is another matter. The majority in Congress wants to balance the budget in seven years, and do it while giving an unnecessarily large tax cut. But in order to do these things, the Congressional majority would make enormous cuts in education.

My balanced budget plan would take more years than Congress' to eliminate the deficit, but that's a small price to pay to keep your scholarships, your student loans, and national service safe and well. It would also preserve our ability to protect the environment and the integrity of Medicare for our older citizens.

Balancing the budget is about more than numbers. It's about our values and our future. Education has always been the currency of the American Dream. When I was your age, it was assumed—based on our long history—that each generation would have a better life than the preceding one. More than anything else, a good education is the way we pass this vision on to those who come after us.

The facts speak for themselves. Earnings for those with no post-secondary education have fallen substantially in the last 15 years. The only people for whom earnings have increased steadily are people exactly like you—those Americans with more education. Every year of higher education increases your earnings by six to 12 percent. Those years also mean a stronger overall economy and richer lives for those who have them.

Balancing the budget will be good

for our economy and your future if it's done right. But simply balancing the budget won't do us much good in the long term if your generation does not have the education it needs to meet the challenges of the next century.

Just think over what the Congressional majority's plan, if it went through, would do to you, your classmates, and any of the one out of two college students who receives federal aid. It would:

- Raise the cost of student loans by \$10 billion over seven years by charging you interest on your loan while you are in school. This would increase the cost of a college education by as much as \$3,100 for undergraduates and \$9,400 for graduate students. Deny up to 360,000 low-income students desperately needed Pell Grants in 1996.
- Shut down Americorps, our national service initiative, which gives thousands of young people the chance to earn and save money for college while serving their country.

By contrast, my balanced budget plan builds on the national consensus that we must help people help themselves, through the power of education. It eliminates both of our deficits: our budget deficit and our education deficit. My plan cuts wasteful spending by more than \$1 trillion, but it also increases investments in education by \$40 billion over the next seven years.

Think over how my balanced budget plan would help guarantee your future and all the hard work you're about to put into it. It will:

- Increase funding for Pell Grants by \$3.4 billion. Almost one million more students would benefit from the scholarships. And we would raise the top award to \$3,128 by the year 2002.

- Expand Americorps to let even more young Americans serve their communities and go to college.

- Protect our direct-lending program, which makes student loans more affordable, with more repayment options, and saves taxpayers, parents, and students billions of dollars.

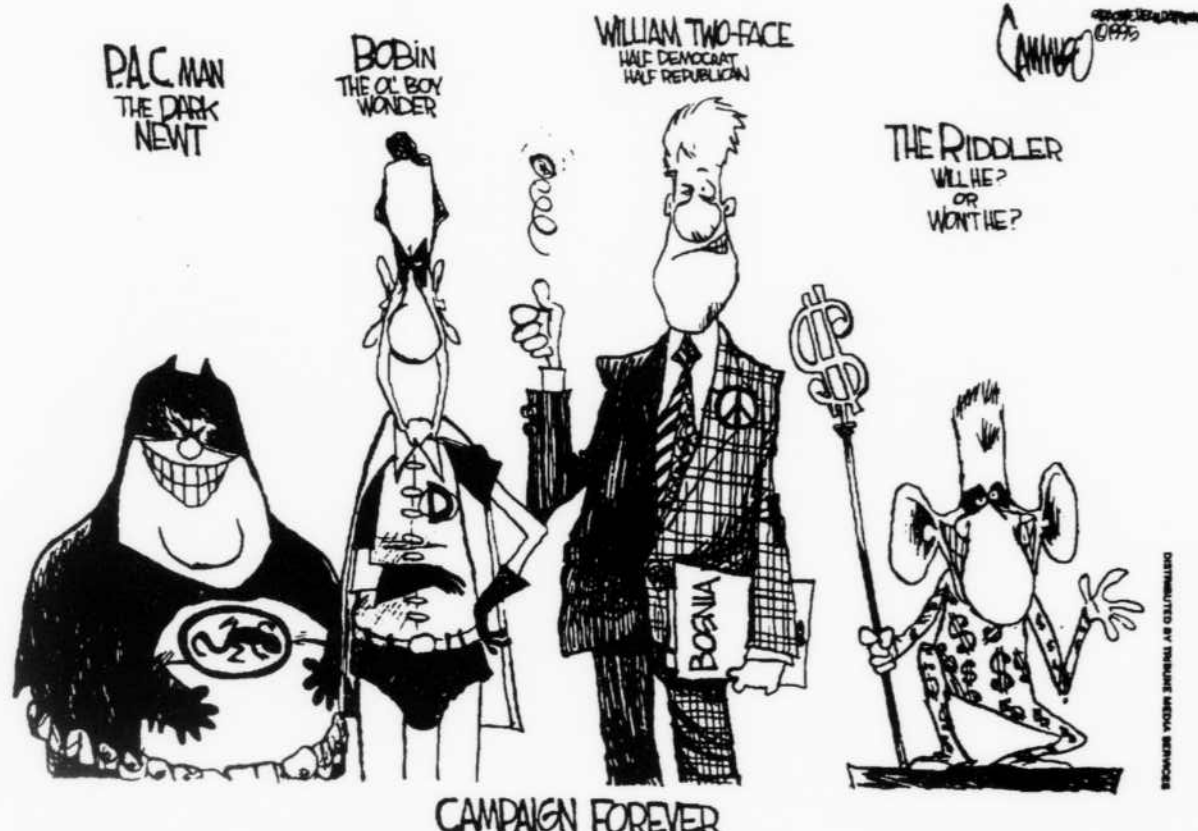
Your generation has its own battles to wage. You face the choice of doing something right and difficult—or something easy and wrong.

In taking on the responsibility of educating yourselves, you have chosen the right and difficult path. You did the work you had to do to get into college. You may be working now to pay your way. And your family may have worked long hours and

made great sacrifices to help you get where you are today.

You deserve the nation's support. And your future success will likely repay our common investment. I do not accept the arguments of those who condemn irresponsibility in young Americans and then seek to deny the nation's helping hand to the millions of you who are doing the right things.

I hope you'll support my efforts to protect education and balance the budget. The fight for education is the fight for your future. In my life—and in the lives of countless Americans—education has meant the difference between the impossible and the possible. It should be true in your lives, too. With your help, we'll keep it that way.



## Move to I-A done outside laws of economics

By Mark T. Gibson

Robert Heinlein—my hero—wrote in his last book: "When the question starts out 'why don't they?', the answer is almost always money."

"Why can't we have cheap, safe nuclear energy instead of burning nasty coal?" Because Luddites have used their ignorance, fear and (generally deserved) self-loathing to deliberately foil the development of that technology. Until they're properly ignored, dirty, sulfurous, environment-raping coal is cheaper and safer, while nuclear technology is deliberately kept primitive, thus expensive.

Why is price important? I think a lot of people look at economics as an arbitrary thing, subject to controls like any other man-made implement. But the fact is that properly designed economies, such as a free market, accurately reflect the real value of commodities. Poorly designed economies are arbitrary, ignore natural laws, and fail miserably. Don't believe me? Russia found out the hard way. China and Viet Nam are turning into de facto capitalist countries, and Jane Fonda made the switch a long time ago. Capitalism works, communism doesn't.

The law of supply and demand is so simple people overlook it, usually to their detriment. I cite health care in this country as proof. There is no inherent right to anything except death—after birth, everything else is gravy. Despite Bill and Hillary's girlish wishes, health care is not a right, it's a commodity, a service if you will. It has to be paid for, and the logical person to pay for it is the person who receives it. You mess with that simple truth and the next thing you know, a Tylenol tablet in the hospital costs twelve dollars!

So too, our proposed football stadium. I am not necessarily opposed to a new stadium, nor am I necessarily opposed to going to I-A. But the law of supply and demand is being circumvented for reasons I don't understand, and we are all going to pay for it in ways that go beyond a mere \$65 a semester.

MTSU is not here to field a football team. I know this because I pulled out my catalog and checked out the University's mission statement. There is a clause about "physical" development, but I don't think even

Lee Fowler would be bold enough to try to convince anyone that putting 60+ guys in pads somehow helps the other 17,000 develop physically. In point of fact, there is nothing that football provides the student body, in an educational sense, that can't be provided via intramural sports.

If MTSU wants a big-league ball team, then I have no problem with getting one. But I insist that the rules of economics be obeyed. Let the MTSU football program earn the money by raising either attendance or ticket prices. If there aren't enough fans to support it, then ipso facto, we don't need it. President Walker knows this...that's why he slid that fee increase in under the counter.

On the other hand, 17,000+ students *did* pay for an education, but I'm sitting in classrooms with 30 year-old desks, peeling paint and way-outdated facilities. I only have one class that has less than 35 people in it, and that one is hard, thus unpopular. I'm taking a college level biology class that I swear is a dumbed-down review of the high school biology I took in 1983! People, MTSU is going to go down in flames if this is what we call "good enough!"

If we ignore basic economics and put our money into a boondoggle like I-A football before we're ready, we're going to get stung. Until we actually have a student body that is interested enough in football to show up for the games, and a community that will pay for the tickets, students will have to be lied to and stolen from to fund any expansion. It is a morally unconscionable act to deny decent facilities to 17,000 people to give Fowler a nicer place to play ball. It's also violation of our Statement of Mission (promises 1-5) but who cares about that?

Some day, MTSU may want to go to I-A. And someday nuclear energy will be clean, cheap, and efficient. But until the economics change, neither situation will change of its own accord, and it's damn foolishness to pretend otherwise. Do we have to worry about when that time will come? Not at all—at some point there *will* be an economic incentive to change. Heinlein wrote "When it's time to railroad, people railroad." And not a moment before.

## Middle Tennessee State University SIDELINES

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*Sidelines* is the editorially independent student newspaper of MTSU and is published every Monday and Thursday. The opinions expressed herein are those of the individual writers and not necessarily those of *Sidelines* or the university.



## Television shows supported by online community

THE INTERNET



Joe Legge

Cancelled programs find new life, strong support through the Internet

It has happened to almost all of us. And if it hasn't, it will. You'll find a new and exciting television program that perks your interest enough to watch that initial pilot episode. Then, after viewing for a few weeks, you've learned that you are hooked on this program and can't remember what you did with your time before it was on. Then, the television season winds down and it's time for the suits at the network to play God. Your show—the one that opened your mind, renewed your faith in the tube, and wiped away those bad days—has been canceled.

Last seasons television programming yielded many hits—*Friends* and *E.R.*—and many misses—*Get Smart* and *M.A.N.T.I.S.* to name a few. But there were a few programs that held an audience during their time slots and managed to show substantial growth throughout the season. Shows like *My So Called Life*, *Sliders*, *VR.5*, and *Party of Five* all fared satisfactory in the ratings game, but only one was initially renewed for this year. Though massive Internet support, three of the four may see the light of day during the 1995-96 television season.

The casualty in this group is of course *My So Called Life*. Touted as a program to make you think while questioning society and openly displaying the dark side of being a teenager—*Life* brought mothers and daughters, sons and fathers together and made teenage issues easier to discuss. Drawing around eight million viewers a week against NBC's "Must See TV" is no simple feat. However, ABC didn't think so and elected to pull the plug. Before the program was canceled, Operation Life Support

([www.umn.edu/nlhome/g564.lask0008/mscl.html](http://www.umn.edu/nlhome/g564.lask0008/mscl.html)) was formed on the Internet to help save the program. Over 53 days, Operation Life Support raised nearly seven-thousand dollars for open letters directed towards ABC. These open letters begging to save the program were printed in various newspapers and magazines. The organization was also pivotal in compelling MTV to show *Life* reruns before ABC cleaned up it's programming for the Walt Disney Corporation. If ever an answer is needed for why *Life* was canceled—that would be it.

*Sliders* ([www.brillig.com/sliders](http://www.brillig.com/sliders)) replaced *Party of Five* ([www.spe.sony.com/Pictures/tv/party/party.html](http://www.spe.sony.com/Pictures/tv/party/party.html)) during mid-season and quickly became one of FOX's top five programs. FOX hasn't always made the brightest of decisions and chose to cancel this series and renew *Party of Five*. Many supporters of the program couldn't understand how FOX could justify their actions when *Sliders* consistently pulled a greater audience than *Five* did. A quick mobilization of "sliders" on the Internet overwhelmed FOX, and the program was renewed as a mid-season replacement for this season.

Another interesting mid-season replacement was *VR.5*—meaning Virtual Reality 5. Like *My So Called Life*, this was the type of program that forced the viewer to think. In addition, audiences were forced to pay attention to the plot, as well as watch every week in order to understand what was going on. *VR.5* out performed the show it replaced, but couldn't fill the ratings deficiency time-slot before the *X-Files*. FOX canceled this program without a

Please see NET, page 7

# ELVIS

## King of Rock 'N Roll now historical treasure

By Esther E. Campi/staff

Look out Elvis fans! The King has been spotted again. But not in a ranch somewhere outside of Memphis or on a late-night run to Hagen Daaz. Instead, Elvis has turned up lately under a large and scrutinizing magnifying glass held by the hands of Research.

That's right, Graceland has begun to open its doors to serious pop culture historians who want to, well, take care of business. Historical business, that is—personal documents, record contracts, clothing and memorabilia.

They want to record, catalog, preserve, and analyze the "stuff" that tells the story of Elvis. And there is plenty of it at Graceland. Two warehouses full, to be exact.

This summer MTSU graduate student Brenda Colladay became the first ever

college intern to Graceland. Not even area schools in Memphis answered the call when Graceland decided historic preservation was not such a bad idea. It took some persuasion.

"We had to convince Graceland to open its arms to research," says Dr. Andrew Gulliford, director of the public history program. Gulliford helped set up the internship.

Still, Graceland is at least careful, if not skeptical of those who want to get close to their man. One of the first questions Colladay was asked by staffers in her pre-internship interview was: "Are you an Elvis fan?"

"I love his music," she says, "but I wasn't a pilgrim." Indeed, Graceland first began to understand its historical relevance because of the huge number of visitors each year.

Historical preservation was not a

concern in the beginning. "In 1982, when Graceland opened, things were just literally slapped-up," says Colladay. "The maids were using Pledge to clean the '68 Comeback Special black leather suit."

Now preservationists have been brought in to right some of the wrongs, and their tasks are practical, nitty-gritty problems. For example, how to preserve that smashing black tuxedo Elvis wore without damaging the fabric?

They searched all over the country to find a vegetable-based dye that could be brushed on at no risk to the fabric. When it was found, two airline tickets were purchased—one for Graceland's collections manager, the other for the tuxedo itself! The tuxedo was flown on location for the procedure.

This kind of care is all in the pursuit of everlasting preservation, Graceland's main concern right now. "In 20 years it might not matter," says Colladay, "but in 200 it might."

That's why Graceland has installed UV plexi-glass around exhibits like the "Aloha from Hawaii" jumpsuit and others. Visitors used to be able to reach out and touch the flashy fabrics when they were simply stored on a rack.

But those days of war and tear and casual handling are over. Anti-humidity descants have now been installed to halt water damage to records, fabrics and other Kingly artifact.

Colladay and other researchers have spent hours painstakingly cataloging record contracts, albums, personal, documents, and even tubes of "Love Me Tender" lipstick sold in the 1950's (Graceland has about 800 tubes!).

Graceland even has its own collections manager and historical registrar. Why all the fuss? Ask these historians and they'll tell you that Elvis is perhaps the biggest pop culture phenomenon that ever existed.

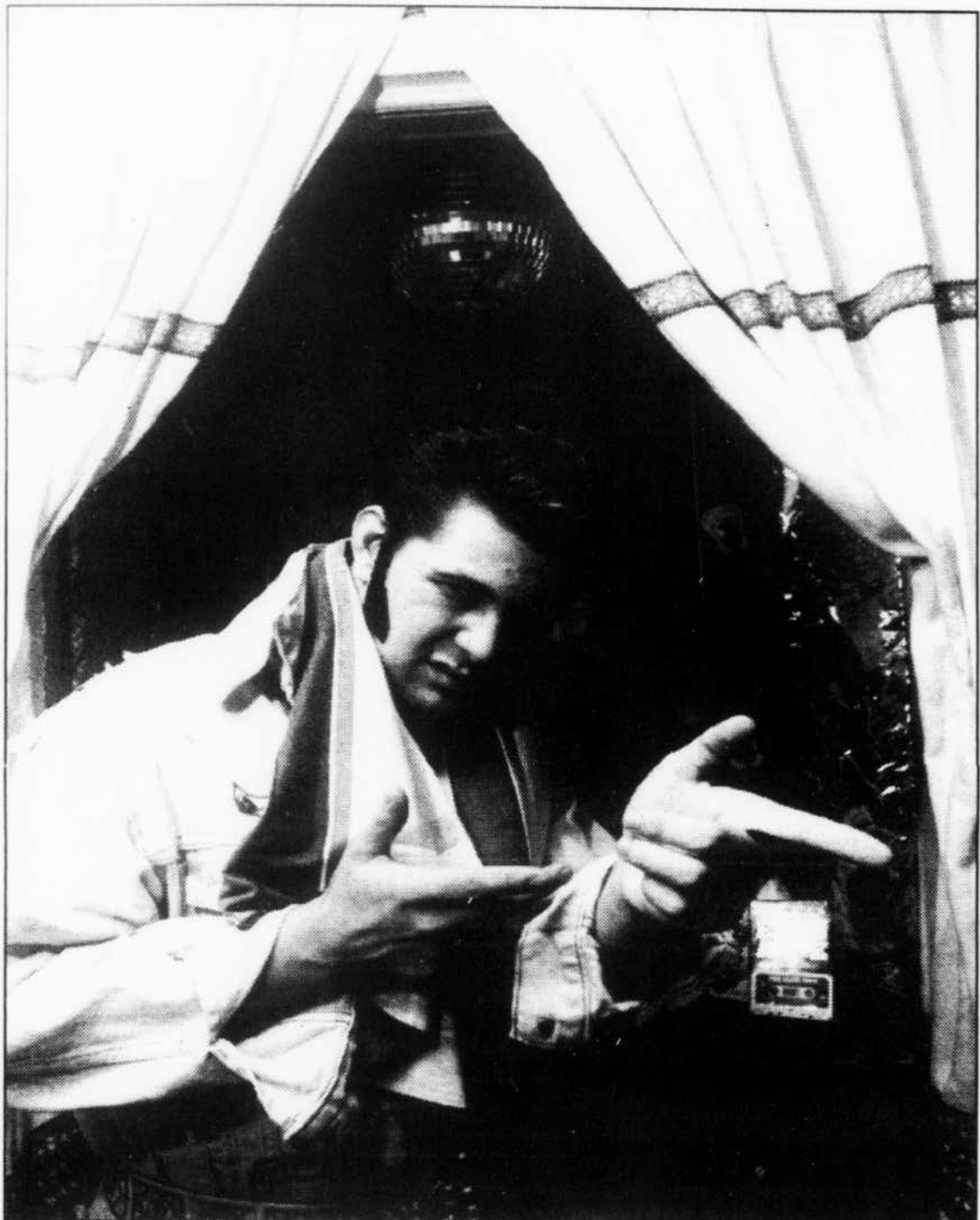
John Lennon will go them one better: "Before Elvis there was nothing." Hmm.

The droves of people who still come to Graceland are proof that there's something to it.

"The only thing you can compare it to is a religion," says Colladay, plunking down one of the color photographs she snapped this summer to illustrate her point. It is a photo collage made by a fan club during Elvis Week, and features a likeness of some of the world's greatest spiritual leaders—including Jesus Christ and the Dalai Lama.

In the center is a large photograph of the Pelvis himself, above a caption which reads: "Love has many faces."

These people are serious, and the effect Elvis had on America is no trivial matter. Considering fans will still take anything they can—fan club presidents at the annual luncheon scurried for tablecloths, napkins, and even the table glitter—historians have decided Elvis is



Carl Lambert/staff

Elvis impersonator Mike Morris stands in front of his shrine to The King.

Please see ELVIS, page 7

FIRST IN A NEW THURSDAY SERIES

## Fall Creek Falls offers fun for less

This state park, home to the East's highest waterfall, is the first destination in a travel series designed to fit the budget of MTSU students. The series will run on Thursdays.

By Brent Andrews/staff

The morning sun peeks through a group of trees hovering over your campsite, breaking up the thick night-fog that has been circling your tent for the last few hours.

Dewdrops collect on your canvas ceiling, their occasional drips making the only sounds in the stillness of the morning except for the quack of an occasional duck on the lake nearby and the restless calling of morning birds. In an hour or so you might go for a long hike through the woods to a refreshing forest waterfall, or rent a small boat and fish the day away. Or maybe you'll stick close to your campsite and roast marshmallows over a crackling fire.

Sounds like a little bit of heaven, you might be thinking.

At Fall Creek Falls State Resort Park, that estimate might be just about



Brent Andrews/staff

Cabins line the shore of 345 acre Fall Creek Lake. Other accommodations at the park include a hotel and campgrounds.

right. Located near Spencer, Tenn., Fall Creek Falls is a short drive East from the 'Boro and makes a perfect weekend getaway spot where you can spend as little as you can afford for a day or two of some much-needed R&R. Camping in the park is plentiful, with campsites dotting the lakeside close to bike rentals, boat rentals and hiking trails. Tent sites for two people are \$13 a night during the week, \$14 a night on weekends and holidays.

If you camping isn't your thing, you might spend a little more money and sleep in the comfort of the Fall Creek Falls Inn, which costs around \$60 weeknights and \$65 weekends for two people through Nov. 30. (For each extra person you'll have to pay a little over \$6).

If fishing off your private balcony sounds good to you, lakeside cabins are available for weekly rental only until late Sept. (\$523 double occupancy) and may be available for one or two day stays if a cancellation occurs. Cabins are rented on a day-to-day basis (\$80-\$100) during the winter.

Fishing is available at Fall Creek Falls for those who drop an occasional line and for avid fishermen as well. The 345-acre, man-made Fall Creek Lake has yielded state record bluegill (3 lbs.) and channel catfish (41 lbs.), and fishing equipment can be rented in the park for a minimal fee. If you don't want to fish from the lake shore, or even if you're just interested in cruising the lake for the view, small boats with motors can be rented in the park for a little over \$8 for a half day, \$14 for a whole day. Swimming is not allowed in the lake at anytime.

While in the park you'll want to check out any one of the three major waterfalls, all of which offer stunning forest scenery and the opportunity of wildlife viewing. According to park manager A.J. Anderson, 256-foot-high Fall Creek Falls, the largest in the park, is the highest waterfall east of the Rocky Mountains and is 100 feet higher than Niagara Falls.

The park also offers a golf course ranked by the PGA as one of the best 100 in the nation, an 18-hole, par 72 course that winds through thick, lush forest. On weekdays, green fees for 18 holes (\$16) allow golfers unlimited play on the course, or players might do nine holes for only \$8. Golf carts are available for rental if you don't want to walk.

### FCF TIDBITS

- ◆ 20,000 acres, after recent purchase of 2,000 acres
- ◆ Land first eyed as a site for a national park by Dept. of Interior, early 1930s
- ◆ Founded as a state park in 1943
- ◆ 1972—After \$19 million upgrade, Gov. Winfield Dunn dedicates park
- ◆ Much of the work in the park (buildings, etc.) done by CCC; corps still contributes to park upkeep
- ◆ 227 campsites—the most in any TN state park

Source: A.J. Anderson, park manager, Fall Creek Falls S.P.

Please see FALLS, page 7



# Erudite Emancipators formed for benefit of area's minority students

By Yanetra Mitchell/ staff

Every successful college student organization has a beginning, and the Erudite Emancipators are no exception.

Headed by President Inez Chopfield, the Erudite Emancipators held their second meeting on Friday to discuss major events and to serve as an open house for new joining members.

Official members Nicole Williams, vice-president, Kena Davis, secretary, and Angela Bond, treasurer, addressed the current agenda and welcomed open office positions to possible new members.

Just starting this month, the organization members have a slew of projects, fundraisers and events lined up specifically for junior-high and high school students in the surrounding area. On September 1, NAACP member Heather Allen and the NAACP college representative Tashaka Covington, along with the Erudite Emancipators, will host a kickball festival for anyone who enjoys the game and has fun playing it. The fundraiser cost \$1 to play and will be held across from the Boro restaurant on Greenland Drive. All proceeds will go to the NAACP.

"This is the first time that they're doing this," Chopfield said, "and I commend them on

it."

One of the most important events the organization plans to hold is "Getting to Know You." This is a gathering by invitation for minority junior high and high school students, and all minority student organizations to become familiar with the Erudite Emancipators and the MTSU collegiate life.

"One of the reasons that we exist," Chopfield said, "is to show junior high school students that there is another life. We are going to show them the ends and outs of collegiate life, a smoother transaction from high school to college."

The Erudite Emancipators will also serve as mentors to the students at Rutherford County Junior High School. Chopfield cited several reasons why the organization chose to do this.

"We like to build the students' moral and self-esteem, support the students with basics to advance writing, reading, and mathematics, and technology skills."

The Erudite Emancipators don't forget the college

students needs. Beginning on October 6, the organization will organize a doughnut sale and talent show as fundraising event. A significant November project in the works is the founding of a campus cultural sensitivity workshop, designed as an open forum to discuss issues on racism, culturalism and African-American integration into predominately white colleges. In February they will sponsor a Black History Month program and later in the spring they will hold a Greek rap session in the LRC for sorority, fraternity and non-Greek members to address any questions students may have about Greek life.

According to Chopfield, "This is a chance for these individuals to shine, but at the same time sharing unity."

Besides all of these major events and functions, the Erudite Emancipators also plan to sponsor events unrelated to the collegiate life. During November and December they will adopt a family for Thanksgiving and an angel for Christmas.

Please see GROUP, page 8

# ELVIS: SHOT-OUT TV'S SHOW DIFFERENT SIDE

Continued from page 6

too big to ignore.

This kind of devotion presents problems for research at times, especially when artifacts tell a story the public does not want to hear. Take for example all those little black pill boxes being cataloged.

"I don't think you'll ever see those on display," notes Colladay. "That's the thing about public history. To some extent you have to give the people what they want."

(Public history is a relatively new discipline taking off in graduate schools across the country. It

concentrates on "usable history," history that is made available to the public—i.e. museums and exhibits).

If Graceland doesn't tell every grisly detail about the darker side of Elvis, one exhibit does make an attempt to acknowledge what historical evidence can't let lie.

At the "Sincerely Elvis" exhibit, Graceland has a collection of televisions with bullet holes in them. "This is a great artifact and they can't ignore it," explains Colladay, "because everybody knows he [Elvis] shot out his TV's every once in a while.

"Even though you'll never see those black pill boxes on

# NET: Online community brings shows, music back

Continued from page 6

thought.

Shortly there after in May, the Virtual Storm ([daniel.drew.edu/~adebliec/vr5.html](http://daniel.drew.edu/~adebliec/vr5.html)) was formed on the Internet. Members of this organization coordinated their efforts to save VR.5. Through an extensive letter writing campaign to FOX and the production companies of the program, the Virtual Storm has managed to have an impact on the pending renewal of the series.

Augie De Blicke Jr., an organizer of Virtual Storm, says the impact they have had on the decisions of FOX have been phenomenal.

"A lot of the production crew and backers of the series know about us and some of the actors have even expressed an active interest in what we are doing," Blicke said. Virtual Storm proved to the "Powers-That-Be" there was enough support and interest in VR.5 to bring it back. Presently, negotiations are underway between FOX and Rysher Entertainment, VR.5's production company.

So now you're all hyped about starting an Internet campaign to bring back *Gomer Pyle* or one of those long forgotten first season programs FOX began their existence with. Blicke points out that the Internet is a great way to organize before taking action, but that there comes a time when you have to get the campaign beyond the on-line community. To do this, he suggests fliers, posters, and the always popular letter to whom it may concern at what ever network is bent on making more money.

Internet users have also freed other mediums from the grave. A perfect example is music. Numerous albums aren't in release anymore because record companies keep only the albums that continue to sell in circulation. However, through the wonders of technology, a person could conceivably download an entire album, provided they have a large enough hard drive, and then make a cassette, compact disc, or digital audio tape copy of it.

Some of you are saying—"no way." But it has been done! And it has forced some record companies to release that work commercially to ward off bootleg copies. A perfect example of this is the upcoming release *The Gold Experience*. This is an album the Artist Formerly Known As Prince worked on in 1993 and 1994. Various sounds from the album leaked to the public and found their way onto the Internet. From there, TAFKAP fans downloaded these new tracks onto their hard drives and enjoyed the music. Early last year, some overzealous fans took it on their own to create an Internet copy of this album and offer it on cassette provided you knew who to contact via e-mail. Thousands of copies of the cassette were traded—leading Warner Brothers ([www.wbr.com](http://www.wbr.com)) to demand the masters of the album so they could release it themselves. The real fans had this album in March—now the general public gets it this Tuesday.

Questions and or comments should be directed to [legman@knuth.mtsu.edu](mailto:legman@knuth.mtsu.edu) Also, visit the Internet FAQ page designed to help you out at [www.mtsu.edu/~legman](http://www.mtsu.edu/~legman)

Editor's note: Joe Legge's column runs on Thursdays in Sidelines. ●

# FALLS: Backpacking, horse rental among entertainment options

Continued from page 6

Backpacking is available in the park for those who wish to get a little further from civilization, with 2 trails that both wind 12.5 miles through the forest. One trail is mild; the other, which crosses the Cane Creek Gorge, is a little more challenging. Both trails have at least one campground for overnight stays, and fires are allowed unless the surrounding forest is extremely dry. Permits for overnight packing are required, and can be acquired at park headquarters.

In season there is general store in the park for necessities, a laundry and a craft store. Horse rental is also available a few minutes from the campgrounds, and a free nature center/museum will tell you more about the area's flora and fauna.

For more information on Fall Creek Falls State Resort Park, call park headquarters at (423) 881-3297. ●

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**Entertainment Extra!**

*What to do in the area this weekend and beyond*

**Today**

**THE MTSU THEATRE** presents "Stargate" tonight at 6:30 and 9:30 p.m.

**DANCIN' IN THE DISTRICT** presents Pat McLaughlin, Chris Duarte and The Fabulous Thunderbirds at 5:30 p.m. tonight at Riverfront Park in Nashville. Event is free and open to the public.

**THE BORO BAR AND GRILL** presents Shazam at 9 p.m. \$3 at the door.

**MAINSTREET** presents 15 Minutes at 9 p.m. \$4 at the door.

**ZANIES** (2025 8th Ave. S., Nashville) presents Mike Harvey, hypnotist, at 8 & 10 p.m. Tix are \$6 at door or through Ticketmaster.

**EXIT/IN** (Elliston Place, Nashville) presents Grapes with Urban Shakedancers at 10 p.m. \$6 at the door.

**SQUEEZERS** presents Junkbox at 9 p.m. \$3 at the door.

Jonathan's presents Plaid at 10 p.m. \$2 at the door, 21 and over only.

**Friday**

**MUSIC ON THE KNOLL** presents Pistol, Tuck, Kool Daddy Fresh, and Everyday Hustlers at 3 p.m. All Knoll shows are free and open to everyone.

**MAINSTREET** presents Mystic Meditations and Aggy Coloured Karma at 8 p.m. \$4 at the door.

**THE BORO** presents Mudbrothers at 9 p.m. \$3 at the door.

**328 PERFORMANCE HALL** presents Better Than Ezra with The Dambuilders at 8 p.m. \$10 advance through Ticketmaster.

**SQUEEZERS** presents Junkbox at 9 p.m. \$3 at the door.

**JONATHAN'S** presents Plaid at 10 p.m. \$5 at the door.

**EXIT/IN** (Elliston Place, Nashville) presents Allgood at 10 p.m. \$7 at the door.

**ZANIES** presents Mike Harvey, hypnotist, tonight at 8 & 10 p.m. Tix \$6 at the door.

**COMEDY ON THE SQUARE** (849-1256) presents Lavelle Crawford, Jerry Walski and Randy Alexander tonight and tomorrow at 8 and 10 p.m. Tix are \$7 at the door.

**VIRTUAL REALITY 2000**, sponsored by Fine Arts, will be held today in the KUC Lounge from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Competition virtual reality game. Free and open to everyone.

**THE CANNON COUNTY ARTS CENTER** presents the play *Teahouse of the August Moon* at 8 p.m. tonight. \$8 adults, \$5 students at the door.

**CAMPUS TWIN THEATRE** presents "The Rocky Horror Picture Show" tonight and tomorrow at midnight.

**Saturday**

**MTSU FOOTBALL:** Vs. Murray State at Floyd Stadium, 7 p.m. Students free with MTSU ID, others pay \$10 adv., \$12 at the gate.

**JONATHAN'S** presents Jack Ingram at 10 p.m. \$5 at the door, 21 and over only.

**MAINSTREET** presents Thunder Grapes, post-game party after MTSU/Murray State faceoff. \$2 at the door.

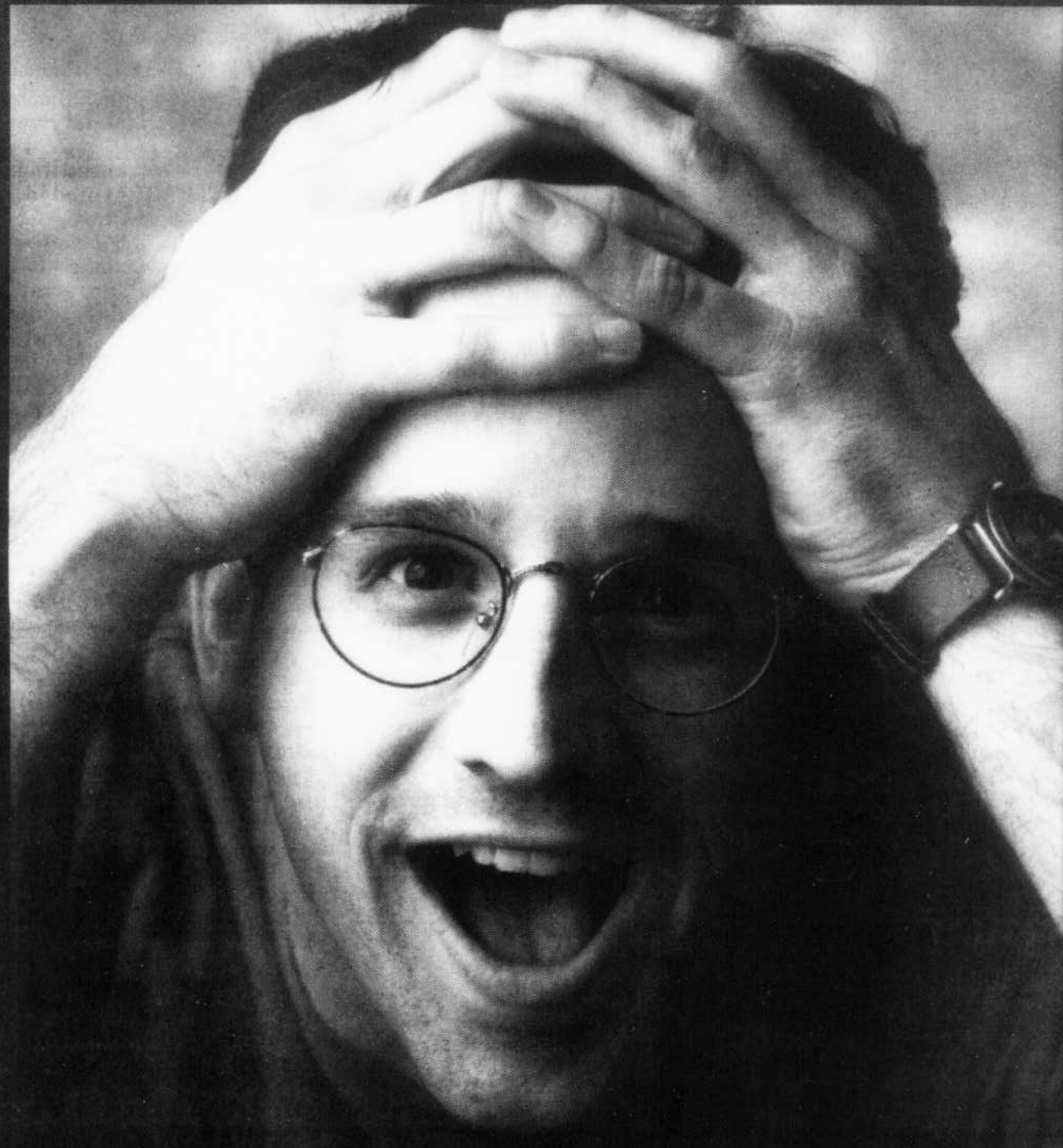
**THE BORO** presents Sha Sha Boom at 9 p.m. \$3 at the door.

**SQUEEZERS** presents Godwater at 9 p.m. \$3 at the door.

**EXIT/IN** presents Steve Forbert at 10 p.m. \$8 advance, \$10 at the door.

**Monday**

**328 PERFORMANCE HALL** presents the Freddy Jones band with special guests at 8 p.m. \$10 advance, \$13 at the door.



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**Ticketmaster:** 737-4849

**TPAC:** 741-7975

**MTSU Student Programming:** 2551

*If you would like to see your event listed in Entertainment Extra! send e-mail to Brent Andrews at <brent1@ix.netcom.com> or send request to Sidelines, MTSU Box 42, C/O Features Section.*

# GROUP: Emancipators formed five years ago to advance minorities

Continued from page 7

Like most student organizations, the Erudite Emancipators have a history behind their founding. At the beginning of the meeting Bonnie Shipp, the organization's advisor, delivered a speech on its brief history to all the former and joining members. According to Shipp, the organization was founded five years ago by a college student named Luther Wright, who felt that many minority college students did not acquire the most academic, emotional and social success or gain the most widespread access to information and resources a college student should. Thus, he wanted to form a student organization and address the various problems they confronted on college campuses. Moreover, this organization would help other minority student organizations. Eventually, Wright and four other individuals formed the Erudite Emancipators.

In their first actual functioning this year, one of the organization's primary concerns was the tension within African-American Greek organizations. Although fighting did occur at the social functions and parties the organization sponsored, Shipp believed that many of these incidents were thrown out of proportion by college media. Thus, the Erudite Emancipators held a rap session to resolve any problems the organizations had, and to focus on each group's goals and objectives. According to Shipp, several activities formed from the session: the "Ask-a-Greek" forum, student participation in The Assortor, more participation from the NAACP in campus functions, and more participation from African-American students in the student ambassador organization.

The Erudite Emancipators is a free organization for its members, and whatever revenue it acquires it puts towards charitable functions. In fact, the organization has sponsored numerous events in the past.

"Once we get more student support," Chopfield said, "we can go out and venture. We can offer more to the students and community."

Any MTSU minority student interested in joining the Erudite Emancipators and helping them reach their goals, or those who might have questions may call Inez Chopfield at 898-4312 or Bonnie Shipp at 898-2655. ●



# Raiders ready to rumble with Racers in Saturday return to 'the big helmet'

By Ryan Lewis/staff

The Blue Raiders return to the friendly confines of Johnny "Red" Floyd Stadium this week to take on another Ohio Valley Conference opponent, the Murray State Racers.

MTSU (2-1, 2-0) enters the game after their annual drilling of Morehead State, 42-0, and now stand atop the OVC. Unbeaten Murray State (3-0, 1-0) comes off a win versus Southeast Missouri, 34-0, and are ranked second in the conference.

"This is what I consider probably the best Murray football team since 1985 (MTSU won the '85 game in double overtime, 31-24)," said MTSU head coach Boots Donnelly. "They have the personnel on both sides of the ball and in the kicking game. They have what I consider everything that you need to have in order to be a team that has a great shot at winning the conference."

Indeed, the Racers appear to be loaded in '95, especially on defense.

Murray State returns nine defensive starters from a year ago including junior defensive lineman Anthony Hutch who Donnelly considers to be one of the best in the country at his position. The Racer defense is giving up only 5.6 points per game and an average of 201.7 total yards.

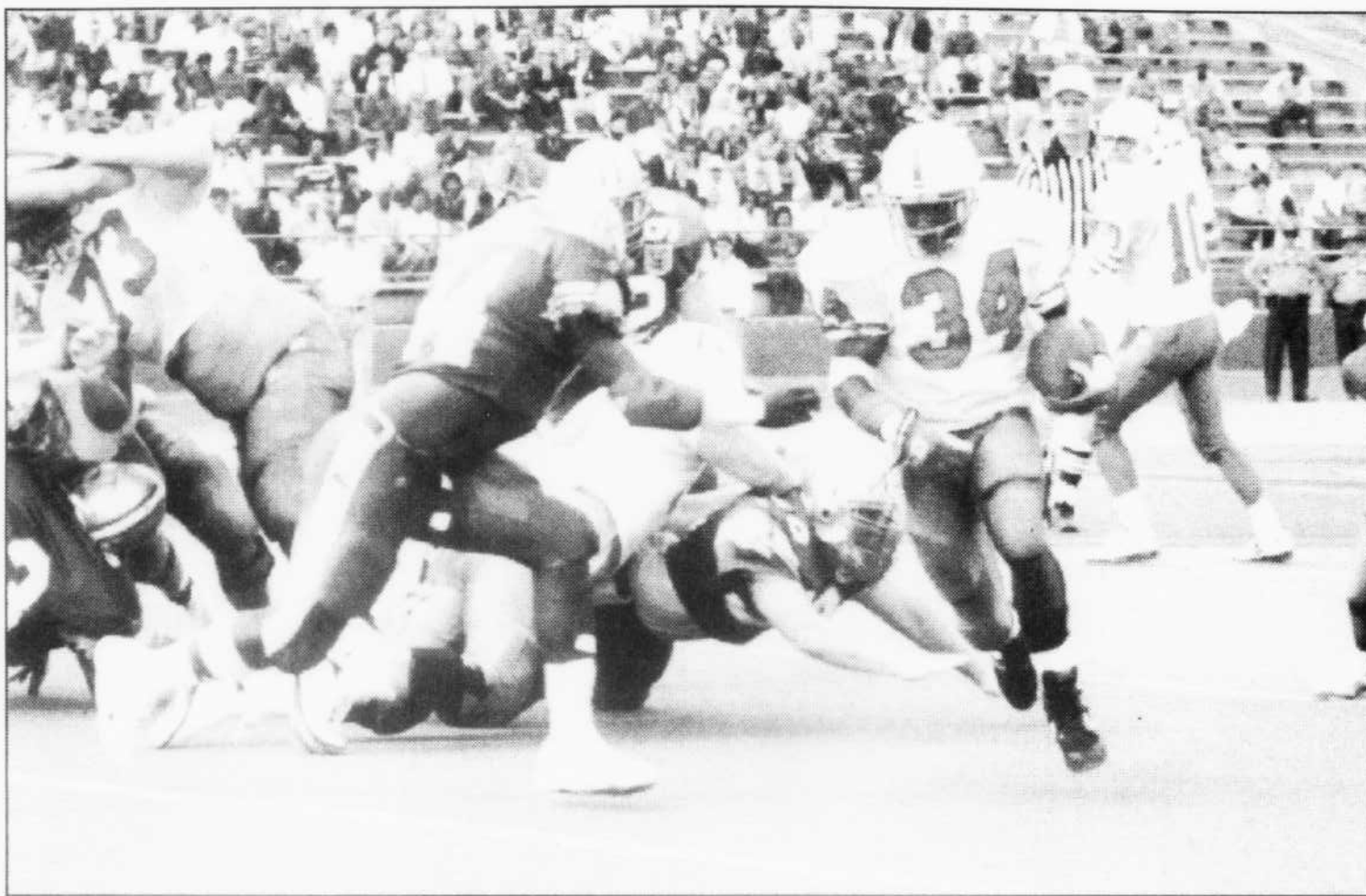
"They are playing it so well right now on defense," commented Donnelly. "They play with a great pressure scheme."

Donnelly likened the Racer defense to the formidable Buddy Ryan defenses with the Chicago Bears and Philadelphia Eagles of the NFL years ago.

Offensively, Murray State has found a potential star at tailback in TCU-transfer Derrick Cullors. Cullors racked up 252 yards rushing against Southeast Missouri, which was the second-best effort in school history. He now leads the OVC in rushing with 458 total yards in three games.

"Why TCU let him get away, I don't know," admitted Donnelly. "He's a quality back, and we'll have a lot of problems with the young man."

The Racers have a great deal of



File Photo

Blue Raider senior linebacker Nathaniel Claybrooks (44) was named OVC Defensive Player of the Week for his performance in last Saturday's game at Morehead. Claybrooks made a team-high 10 tackles, including nine solo, in the 42-0 win. He had two tackles for loss, including a sack, as MTSU limited the Eagles to just 150 yards of offense.

talent and experience at the quarterback position. Benji Bona, who started 10 of 11 games in '94, is now the back-up as Arkansas-transfer Mike Cherry steps in as the starting signal-caller. Cherry is 39-of-64 passing so far with 530 yards and three touchdowns.

The Blue Raiders got some bad news last week when they learned that senior outside linebacker Vince Akridge was lost for the season with a knee injury suffered against Georgia Southern. Akridge had surgery on the knee last week to correct the problem. Depth at linebacker was already quite thin, and the coaching staff is hoping not to be forced into playing some untested freshmen. They will if any other injuries occur.

MTSU's quarterback situation is still up in the air as sophomore Jonathan Quinn and red-shirt freshman Shelby Parker continue to trade time at the position. The starter for Saturday's game will again be decided by this week's practices. Regardless of the starter, the other can expect to see considerable action in the game.

"Neither one of them did anything overly bad," said Donnelly of his two quarterback's play last week. "Neither one of them did anything overly good. Unless one of them gets awfully hot to where I run out of courage of inserting the other one, both of them are going to be playing."

This week's matchup will give the winner a definite jump on the other

teams in the league for a possible OVC championship, so there is some extra incentive for both teams to perform well.

"I promise you this, it'll be a heck of a football team that you'll see on our field this Saturday," allowed Donnelly. "I think we'll be O.K., though, if we have a good week of practice and give them something to play with. I think we'll do that, so it ought to be an interesting night."

MTSU leads the overall series with Murray State 35-27-3 after the Blue Raiders slipped past the Racers 23-21 in 1994.

Kickoff is scheduled for 7 p.m. on Saturday at MTSU's Horace Jones Field, and admission is free for students with a valid ID. ●

## Athletes are people too; but not always the good guys

A disturbing trend is seemingly spreading in college athletics lately — athletes committing crimes.

First, Nebraska running back Lawrence Phillips snaps one night and beats up his girlfriend. Tom Osbourne promptly and appropriately boots Mr. Phillips off the team, and a Heisman hopeful season goes up in smoke.

As if Phillips's example wasn't enough, now it's been alleged that Tennessee offensive tackle Leslie Ratliffe choked and twisted the arm of his female friend. Ratliffe is already under investigation for allegedly receiving illegal booster

Rob Nunnley



Rob Nunnley

donations, so hopefully Phil Fulmer will soon face the music and give Leslie his walking papers as well.

This week the most unsettling bombshell of them all exploded. When Nilo Silvan, who just coincidentally happens to be another Vol, allegedly raped his roommate's 17-year-old girlfriend, Fulmer acted quickly and responsibly by immediately dismissing Silvan, although since hopefully Nilo will soon be doing some hard time, Phil didn't have to think too long about it.

Other Vols have gotten in a lot of trouble this season as well, for everything from the infamous telephone scam to vandalism (lest we forget Travis "Nino Brown" Cozart — who tried to become a Blue Raider after being dismissed from UT for excessive tugginess). But don't think for a minute that the problem of criminal athletes is solely manifesting itself among athletes at the University of Tennessee.

Crime rates are going up everywhere, and no place is sacred from the devastation of the criminal element — not even college campuses. Let's not forget the campus shootings, rape and murder stories that have dominated the headlines of papers all over the country (including this one) in the recent past.

And don't be fooled into thinking that a greater percentage of athletes are committing crimes lately. A college athlete is like any other student, and just like regular people a certain percentage of them happen to break the law, sometimes in violent ways. It doesn't have anything to do with whether or not they play sports, it's just because they're human.

Hopefully, the number of crimes committed by college athletes is not going up. Maybe it's just the number of crimes that are reported.

■ Exactly what is the deal with Jerry Jones?

Does the man think that because he just happens to have gargantuan amounts of money he can run all over the National Football League doing what he wants?

Now if you read this piece last week, you know how I feel about the Dallas Cowboys. But if you didn't read it, suffice it to say that when Ken Norton, Jr. was with them, I only hated 99.9 percent of the franchise. But now he's gone.

Anyway, could Jerry Jones flagrantly violate any more of the NFL's rules?

"Salary cap? No problem. I'll pay for my championship with outside licensing agreements with Pepsi and Nike. They can afford any kind of cap you want to wear."

"What do you mean, revenue-sharing? I shared \$13 million with Deion, and he won't even be on the field until October or November."

But you know what really bugs me about Jones? I don't care what he does with his money. I just wish he'd get off the sidelines during games. Barry Switzer is enough of a maniac for me without having Moneybags's clueless grin showing up on the television every 30 seconds.

You know what my dad, W.O., would say to Jerry Jones if he saw him out on the sidelines?

He'd say, "Everybody's seen you, boy. Find yourself someplace and park." ●

## Blue Raider golf team takes third at Legends

Defending OVC champions finish ten back of leaders in fall season's first tourney

### Staff Reports

The Ohio Valley Conference champion Blue Raider golf team started off its fall season earlier this week on a high note by taking third place in the Legends/Pepsi Intercollegiate tournament.

Middle Tennessee hosted the 15-squad tournament, which was held at the Legends Club in Franklin, Tenn.

Troy (Ala.) State and South Alabama, both of whom competed in the NCAA Regionals a year ago, finished one-two with Troy shooting a blistering final-round 285 (three under par) as a team to take the victory.

"You always want to win, especially when it's your own tournament," Raider Coach Johnny Moore said. "But to finish third with the level of competition we faced, I'm very happy."

As he did most of last season, senior David Reed led the way for the Blue Raiders with a one-over par total of 145, tying for fifth-place and making the All-tournament team. He shot a one-under par 71 on the final day which included a hole-in-one on the 16th hole.

Senior Brian Higgins played very well after a tough start to finish tied for ninth at 146, two-over par. Higgins also shot a 71 for the final round.

"Reed and Higgins both played well, but you expect that from players of their caliber," Moore said. "Both have been steady during their careers here and each has the chance to qualify for the NCAA tournament if they play solidly throughout the season, but that is a long time from now."

As a team, MTSU finished 10 shots back of tournament champion Troy State and seven back of South Alabama.

The Blue Raiders defeated solid teams from Ole Miss and the University of Alabama-Birmingham, both of whom were on the fringe of being in the NCAA Regionals a year ago, as well as Southern Mississippi and Southeastern Louisiana.

"We beat some very good teams," Moore continued. "This puts us in good position in our region, which will dictate the NCAA Regional selection."

"If we want to be considered for the regionals, we have to continue to play well and improve."

Senior David Head, junior Maine Brock and freshman Steve Ressler also turned in solid performances for the Blue Raiders. Head finished tied for 30th with a total of 151. He was very steady over the final round, shooting a 74 to help propel the Raiders from fifth to third.

Brock (152) shot a 73 to lead the Raiders in the first round that was instrumental in positioning Middle for its final round run. Ressler (156) shot 74 in just his second collegiate round to help Head solidify the Raiders' attack.

Seniors Mike Chesser (155) and Jon McDaniel (156), along with junior Erick Paschal (158) competed as individuals during the event. Chesser fired a 71 on Monday, tying him for the opening round lead.

"I'm proud of each of my players because they gutted it out," Moore said. "They could have given up at any time, but each persevered and that is a key to being a championship team."

The Raiders will be in action at the Mizuno/Peach State Invitational at the Port Armor Resort in Greensboro, Ga., Oct. 1-3. ●

## Lady Raider volleyball team takes weekend OVC road trip

By Rob Nunnley/staff

Coach Lisa Kisse and the Lady Raider volleyball squad will travel to Kentucky this weekend to face Ohio Valley Conference rivals Eastern Kentucky and Morehead State University.

The Lady Raiders, who received votes in the USA TODAY/AVCA coaches top 25 poll last week, had an eight match winning streak snapped last week with a loss to Nicholls State in New Orleans. The squad went 1-3 for the weekend, defeating Tulane but losing to Nicholls, Alabama and Central Florida.

"The disappointing thing is I don't think we tested what we can really do last week," Lady Raider Head Coach Lisa Kisse said. "We had some inner problems among ourselves over the weekend, but fortunately all of that is cleared up now."

"If you're going to lose, I'd rather get beat than beat ourselves," Kisse continued. "And that's what we did in New Orleans."

As far as this weekend's competition, the Raiders will face Eastern Kentucky Friday at 7 PM.

## MTSU athletic program to add women's soccer program in '96

### Sports Information

The MTSU Athletic Department has started a search for a coach as the first move in its plans to implement an intercollegiate women's soccer program by the fall of 1996.

MTSU Athletic Director Lee Fowler and Senior Women's Administrator Diane Turnham indicated they hope to complete the hiring of a new coach by Oct. 15.

"We want to get most of the administrative and budgetary portions of the new program in place as early as possible so that the new women's soccer team will be on solid footing from the start," explained

Fowler. "That primarily means time to plan, schedule and recruit."

If the University is able to complete the hiring process of the new coach by Oct. 15, recruiting and scheduling would begin by Nov. 1.

A women's soccer team would increase the number of women's sports sponsored by the University to eight, equaling the number of men's programs.

MTSU currently has women's programs in basketball, volleyball, cross-country, indoor track, outdoor track, tennis and softball, with men's programs in football, basketball, cross-country, indoor track, outdoor track, baseball, golf and tennis. ●



## L.A. Kings sold to investment group, moving into new arena with Lakers

By John Nadel/  
Associated Press

**LOS ANGELES (AP)** — The Los Angeles Kings, left in financial chaos by former owner Bruce McNall, were sold Wednesday to a Denver investor and Los Angeles developer.

The team will remain in the Los Angeles area and eventually play in a new sports and entertainment complex that will also house the NBA's Los Angeles Lakers.

The Kings were sold by LAK Acquisition Corp., to Majestic Anschutz Venture, a partnership of Denver investor Philip Anschutz and Los Angeles developer Edward Roski Jr.

"We are extremely pleased with our agreement to

purchase the Kings," Anschutz said. "And we're especially excited that (Lakers owner) Jerry Buss and the Lakers will be joining the Kings when we move to the new Los Angeles-area facility."

Earlier in the day, the Kings filed for bankruptcy to allow the purchase to proceed. The league called the sale an "extremely positive development."

"We are hopeful that this sale ... will promptly be approved by the judge so that the Kings and their new owners can move forward without legal complications," said Jeffrey Pash, the NHL's general counsel.

The Kings and Lakers will continue to play at the Forum in nearby Inglewood for several years. That will allow

time for the design and construction of the new arena.

"Inglewood has been a very good home to the Lakers for more than 20 years and has continued to attract capacity crowds," Roski said. "For that reason, Inglewood is one of the top on our list for possible sites."

"Our No. 1 priority in developing the new complex is to give the Kings and Lakers fans a first-class sports facility."

Lakers spokesman John Black said: "We feel that Inglewood is the best site for the new arena."

The sale is subject to the approval of the NHL Board of Governors, which seems a foregone conclusion.

"The Kings will receive solid financial support and their fans can look forward to both stability for the Kings and a new state-of-the-art arena in Los Angeles," Pash said.

Kings chairman Joseph Cohen said the sale will have no impact on the team's day-to-day operations.

"Players, employees and suppliers will continue to be paid, and ticket holders will see the team play its full season schedule," he said. ●

## Indycar owners protest Speedway president's plan; threaten boycott

By Steve Herman/  
Associated Press

**INDIANAPOLIS (AP)** — IndyCar owners have threatened to boycott next year's Indianapolis 500 unless qualifications for all 33 spots are open to all drivers, a car owner confirmed today.

The boycott would be in protest of Indianapolis Motor Speedway president Tony George's plans to reserve 25 of the 33 spots in the Indy 500 for top series points leaders in the new Indy Racing League.

The Indianapolis Star reported that unless George rescinds his revised qualification format, IndyCar plans to race at Brooklyn, Mich., on May 26 — the same day as the Indianapolis 500. Roger Penske's Michigan International Speedway is considering honoring all Indianapolis 500 tickets, the newspaper said.

Car owner Chip Ganassi told The Associated Press today the threat of a boycott "is real. I know that. I don't know that there's much else to say. We have a position, and we've

made it known to Tony. I hope cooler heads prevail."

George is trying to lure IndyCar drivers to his new five-race, oval-track series, which begins in January at Walt Disney World in Orlando, Fla.

George told the Star he had heard rumors about a boycott but had not received a formal notification from Championship Auto Racing Teams, the sanctioning body for the IndyCar series.

"As far as an ultimatum, we don't make them, and we're not interested in being on the receiving end," George said.

But Ganassi said, "As far as I know, he was formally notified about a week ago. ... There have been serious discussions for a long, long time. No question, I guess, we're at an impasse."

"All good business organizations have solid backup plans in place and, although we can't comment specifically, we do have a Plan B," IndyCar director of public relations Adam Saal said. "It only makes good business sense. That's why the IRL seems to be approaching Plan Z."

George has criticized CART for its street races and foreign flavor. In turn, CART has denounced the IRL as divisive and has left the Indy 500 off its 1996 schedule.

CART has dominated Indycar racing since breaking away from the U.S. Auto Club

in 1979.

"Each side submitted a position paper, and we asked (longtime racing manager) Les Richter to put together a scenario for a meeting," George told the Star Tuesday night. "But it wasn't a real attention getter, and we suggested it wasn't the right time to have one (a meeting)."

One owner said CART was ready to run at all IRL races, restructure the board to four owners and four IRL representatives, drop IndyCar's logo and adopt the Indy Racing League.

In return, CART reportedly asked George to adopt the 1996 IndyCar rules and retain Craig as chief operating officer.

"That's not entirely accurate. ... All I can say is that there is more to it than that," George said.

So far, only three owners — A.J. Foyt, Ron Hemelgarn and John Menard — have committed to the series.

Races are scheduled at two former CART tracks, Phoenix and New Hampshire. Another oval is under construction at Las Vegas. The Indianapolis 500 on May 26 would be the fifth race.

As for a possible boycott, George said: "We're going to have a five-race IRL schedule in 1996 and that includes the Indianapolis 500. We hope everyone will find a benefit in racing with us." ●



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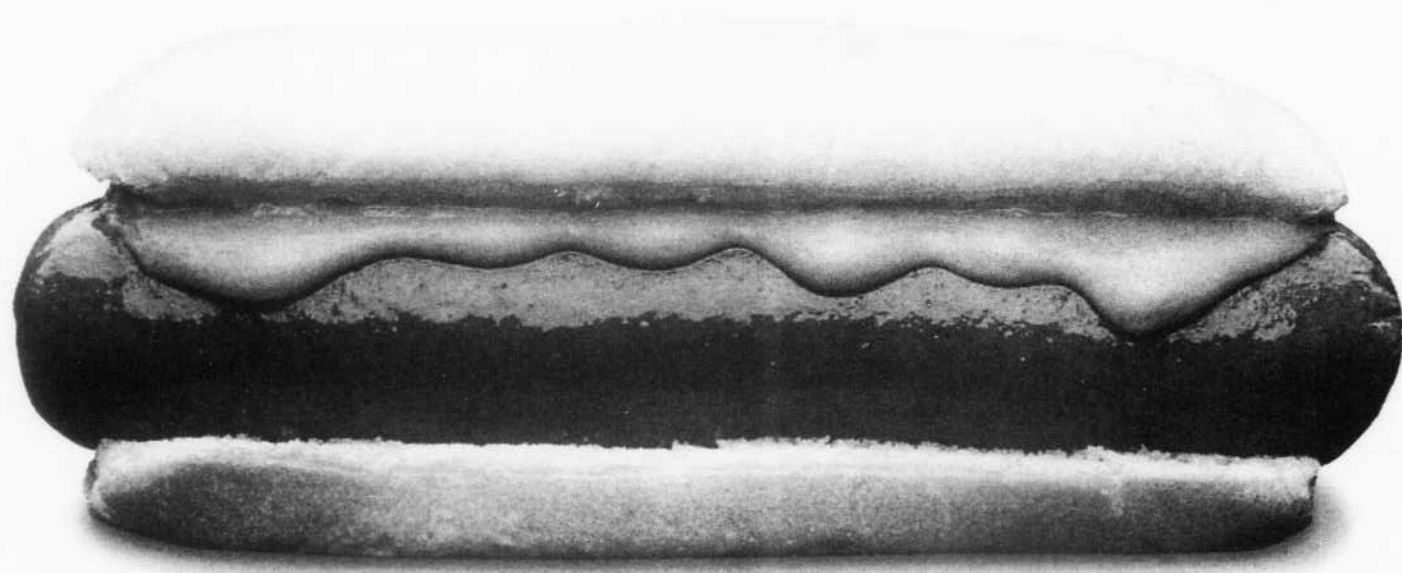


THATCH by Jeff Shesol






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