

SIDELINES

MIDDLE TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY

Afraid you won't be able to find a job after graduation? Here's your safety net.

page 5

Murfreesboro, TN

Spider spotted, caught in Mass Comm

him in a cup." Wilson County Exterminating, a private firm in Lebanon, Tenn., was contracted to fumigate the office area to kill any other pestilent arachnids. "We've been tracking them," Wells said. "And we haven't seen anymore." Tracking spiders involves a contraption called a glue box. The boxes are placed on the floor in various areas where spiders are suspected to inhabit. If spiders are around, they stick on the glue as they move about, making their presence known. Fumigating and tracking is an aggressive plan, said Bob Ary, extension agent for University of Tennessee-Knoxville agricultural extension service. But it is not the one he would have suggested. "My recommendation would

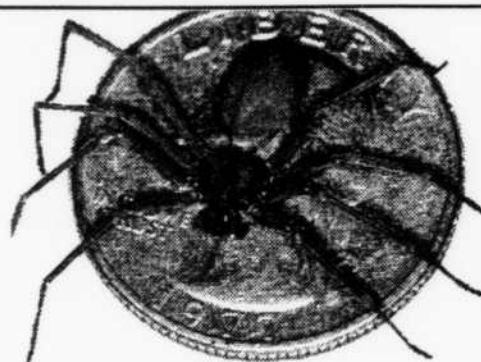
be, once they had a sitting, to place the glue traps first to determine pathways of any other spiders before undergoing fumigation," Ary said. Fumigation is an extensive, costly, toxic procedure, Ary said. "You're talking about sealing an area off and releasing a gas penetrating everywhere," he said. "Including cracks — nice hiding places — and crevices. The whole purpose is to reach tough areas." In this case, the fumigation bill was less than \$100. Only the office of the dean of Mass Communication and the office suite adjacent were fumigated. The process works like this: The area in question is sealed, meaning all doors and windows are closed tightly. All cabinets, closets and drawers are left

open. A fog pesticide is dispersed into the air. No one may enter the area for two to three days while the chemical, in this case BP 300, poisons and kills any living spiders, explained Dulcey Endsley, co-owner of Wilson County Exterminating. BP 300, or Butoxide Piperonyl 300, is used to kill spiders, including the brown recluse. BP 300's affective ingredient is pyrethrins (Pyrethrum), which derives from Chrysanthemum flowers. Pyrethrins directly affect spider biological systems. The other ingredients found in BP 300 work to stabilize the pyrethrins. BP 300 can cause undesirable side effects in humans. "Spiders are hard to control," Endsley said. "Fogging is the

See Spider, 2

Identifying a brown recluse

- light tan to dark brown in color
- distinctive violin-shaped mark on back
- long thin legs and an oval-shaped abdomen, about one quarter to one half of an inch long

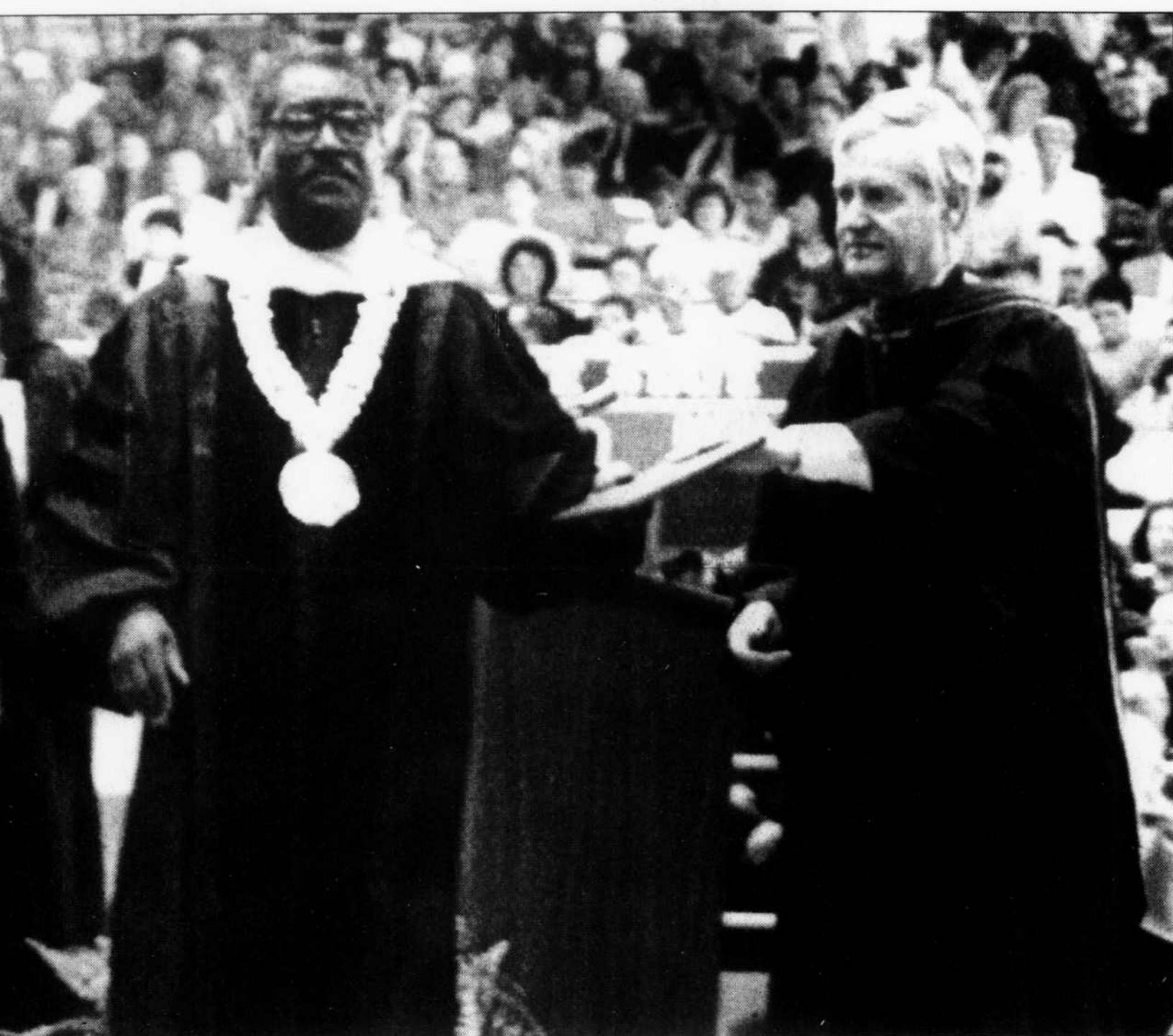


What to do if bitten

Seek medical attention immediately

Where they live

- They live in sheds, attics, garages and other dry, dark and undisturbed places.
- Recluses are just that -- they recluse from all human contact



and Robert Jones, Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs, hand out diplomas for the first commencement of the new millennium.

Nobel Prize recipient addresses graduates

Staff Reports

Dr. Walker led commencement ceremonies as 1,300 students graduated from MTSU May 13.

The commencement address, given by the 1986 Nobel Memorial Prize winner James P. Buchanan, dealt with a set of core political and economic values. He also referenced Andrew Jackson and Cordell Hull's contributions to open markets as well as called for new politicians to follow their open market ideas.

Buchanan received the Nobel in Economic Sciences.

He attended Middle Tennessee Teacher's College from 1936 to 1940. He is the grandson of Tennessee governor James P. Buchanan.

Buchanan currently serves as Advisory General Director of the Center for Study of Public Choice at George Mason University in Fairfax, Va.

MTSU's valedictorian was James Gilliam. A 4.0 student, Gilliam graduated from Manchester Central High School in 1989.

He is the first of 32 grandchildren in his family to go to college and plans to attend law school. He has been accepted to UCLA, University of San Diego, University of Southern California, Loyola and Thomas Jefferson University and has already received a \$5,000 scholarship to the school of his choice from VarsityBooks.com. ■

Force discusses fate of newspaper

interested in picking up the headache of running a student newspaper because it's a big responsibility," Campbell said during the meeting. "The only way I'd be interested... is if we created a structure with some sort of publisher model, an advocate on the administrative level." Campbell also said that he places a high priority on a new newsroom, either in Phase III of the Bragg Mass Communications building or possibly in a new student union center. As well as doubling the current budget of *Sidelines*, which was \$287,334 for the 1999-2000 fiscal year.

"Money is a problem at the beginning," Campbell said. "The current resource said not enough."

However, the question remains of how a facility for a new newsroom would be funded. The state of Tennessee has not yet released the upcoming budget for the 2000-2001 school year.

"A new student union is not as far fetched as it sounds because we've never tried," said David Hays, associate vice president of student support services.

"We've never gone out and tried to identify donors. They may not care about a student union center, but they may be very interested in supporting a student newspaper."

John Marshall, SGA president and a member of the task force, also agrees that a new student union is not out of the question.

"Under the current tax structure, funds will have to come from public donations on a large level, both from corporate and private industries," Marshall said. "We have to decide what to build and what type of organizations need to be housed there."

Deryl Leaming, dean of the college of mass communication, suggested tying in classes such as editing, advertising and photography into the newspaper in an effort to make *Sidelines* into a daily publication.

"I think it's a shame that a university of this size, nearly 19,000 students, that we have a weekly newspaper," Leaming said. "One of the easiest ways to establish the resources right now [to expand to a daily] is to tie it into several classes."

Sidelines currently publishes weekly during the summer and plans to publish tri-weekly beginning in the fall.

Editorial control is a major concern among students. Several writers had previously approached Campbell concerning the issue of control.

Leaming said in the first task force meeting April 28 that he would not have any part of a campus newspaper where students weren't free to make all final editorial decisions.

The current task force consists of Tom Tozer of News and Public Affairs, who is serving as the chair; Jimmie Cain, former chairman of the student publications committee; Jenny Crouch, director of student publications; Glenn Himebaugh, professor of journalism; Wendell Rawls, adjunct in journalism; James Evans, managing editor of *Sidelines*; Jenny Cordle, news editor for the fall semester; Elizabeth McFadyen-Ketchum and Josh Ezzell, *Sidelines* senior writers as well as Campbell, Hays, Leaming and Marshall.

The next task force meeting is July 14. ■

Projectors stolen again

James Evans
Managing Editor

Public Safety is still investigating two projectors that were stolen from the Business and Aerospace Building sometime during the weekend of April 28 and a possible related burglary of three other projectors that were stolen from the same building the morning of February 1.

"We're doing our best to make sure the [remaining] projectors are secure," said Lt. Jim Fanguy of Public Safety.

The overhead projectors from the most recent burglary — two type NEC Model MT 1040 LCD — were replacement projectors for two of the three that were stolen in the previous theft from rooms S316 and S328. In both thefts, the projectors were unbolted from their ceiling mounts and taken out

of the building.

Fanguy is not the officer in charge of the investigation, but he did say that the possibility that the same people were connected with both incidents was "certainly something to be considered."

In another incident, another piece of high tech equipment was stolen last week from a maintenance room in Scarlett Commons. Fanguy wouldn't speculate if he thought the crime was connected to the other thefts, but he did say that whoever took the equipment from Scarlett was well-informed.

"They knew what they were doing," he said.

Fanguy explained that with the Scarlett theft, the persons involved disconnected the equipment in such a way that it was not immediately obvious that anything was missing.

All of these thefts are still under investigation. ■

Students fight for instructor

Jenny Cordle
Staff Reporter

Mention the idea of leaving MTSU's Dance Club behind, and Angela Armstrong threatens to cry. Mention the idea to students that their favorite instructor may leave, and they threaten to petition.

As a graduate of MTSU, a graduate teaching assistant and an adjunct faculty member, Armstrong is one of MTSU's own and has been offered the job as an adjunct again this fall.

But unless officials from the Speech and Theatre department offer her a full-time position, Armstrong's dancing shoes might be shuffling across the dance floor of another university.

"I'm not begging for a job," said Armstrong, dance club leader. "I just want to support the way the students feel because the students rule."

And if her students could, they would pick up their shoes and move with her, but for now they are petitioning to Russell

Church, chairperson of the speech and theatre department.

"She's done more for the dance department and dance club for MTSU than anybody ever has," explained sophomore Raquel Maddox, a dance club member. "By offering her an adjunct position, they are basically letting her go."

Armstrong is credited to have inspired dancers so much that dance club's low membership count of 12 became a record high of 60 members.

She's taught a variety of dance classes in her many years at MTSU: modern dance I and III, beginner's jazz, intermediate jazz, dance production, individual choreography, social dance, continuing dance education and swing dance.

Armstrong also arranged for students to participate in various dance workshops and the annual Black College Dance Exchange, which was meant for historically African American colleges. However, the MTSU Performing Arts Company will be representing the only pre-

dominately Caucasian university attending.

The students now have t-shirts and warm-up suits courtesy of funds raised during bake sales organized by Armstrong.

"We wanted her to know she's made such a difference," said senior Valerie Hackworth, president of dance club and the person who started a petition. "We wanted to say, 'We support you and we need you and we're going to do everything in our measly student power to get you a full-time position.'"

Although the two petitions signed by 40 dance club participants, the first started by (classification and spell check) Cindy Clemans, seem as if they may be enough to make a difference, they will be seen as "measly" once the students find out that Armstrong will not be offered another position.

"I don't know that we can do anything about the petition," explained Church. "Any other position we could offer her would have to be a position that doesn't exist."

Church said the position of applied dance generalist, which Armstrong applied for, was offered to and accepted by Anne Shea from Chattanooga.

"We have a very rigorous and thorough procedure for dealing with job applications," said Church.

He explained that the "dean's office" oversees the process and a faculty hiring committee of diverse individuals makes a recommendation.

"We often try to get students involved in the process by getting their responses," said Church.

For example, Church said that last year the department officials hired a new debate coach and the students participated in the interviews and provided comments.

"We heard about support for Angela through secondhand information," he said.

"Everything I've heard about her is that she is talented, she has students who love and respect her a lot. And that's an important part of the process, but there are other parts of the process and other characteristics involved."

Church suggested that the

students should have met the other candidates for the job and looked at the job description before deciding whom they wanted, in order to be fair to all candidates.

But the students are satisfied with the effort Armstrong has put forth and want to see dance club grow even more with her help.

"Without Angela people will lose interest," said freshman Maria Lucchesi, a dance minor. "I'm already thinking about dropping my jazz class. I'm really comfortable with Angela and I want to take it from someone I know."

Dance partner and graduate teaching assistant Francisco Ramos said that it's not only Armstrong's style, "but it's the way she teaches."

"Her touch is like a magnet," Ramos explained. "As soon as the students take one class, you can see it — they're hugging in the office. To be honest, if they don't want her as a full-timer, the Speech and Theatre department is losing a very big resource."

Armstrong, who graduated with a Master's Degree of Science in Health and Physical Education in December of 1999, would like nothing more than to

stay at MTSU, where she has a graduate teaching assistant position for two years and an adjunct position for another two.

While working on her graduate degree in Administration and Armstrong became down with stressful classes needed some release, she said.

So she waltzed her dance club and has been ever since.

"It just blossomed," explained. "I just found out that is uncontrollable love it with all of my heart."

But Armstrong really has passion doesn't pay for it.

"At this point I realize I need much money I've put education, and I need that money back," explained.

Armstrong is content, er, with the faculty's decision to hire Shea, the new dance generalist.

"I'm sure she's fabulous," said.

"I continue to encourage support the faculty for her. This could be the best. Even though my heart has to go where it's meant to be."

Students arrested in arson case

Staff Reports

A MTSU student was arrested May 10 in the arson of a large dumpster between Beasley Hall and the Wiser-Patten Science Building that occurred around 1:15 a.m. April 26. Campus police arrested another student in this case a couple of weeks later.

The arrests came as a result of tips given to MTSU Crime Stoppers after it released a flier about the fire and offered a reward for information leading to an arrest. Arson is a felony.

Quick response from campus police saved a university pickup truck parked next to the dumpster, which would have been damaged or destroyed otherwise, and could have led to an explosion.

The blaze was quickly extinguished, and no one was hurt. ■

Matlock wins scholarship, chance to learn at Aspen Music Festival, School

Staff Reports

MTSU senior Alice Matlock won a \$500 scholarship and the right to attend the Aspen Music Festival and School for a nine-week classical music training program that is held every summer in Aspen, Colo.

Matlock, a vocal performance major, auditioned for the program in March by performing "The Trees on the Mountains" at the Cincinnati Conservatory. She was subsequently ranked among the top singers by the director of the conservatory's opera program.

While at the school, Matlock will study diction, the Alexander Technique, Bach arias, oratorio performance practices and the practice of learning opera roles.

She will also take a weekly one-

hour voice lesson with Viviane Thomas, a teacher who participates in the Aspen summer festival.

To help pay for the school's \$4,900 tuition, Matlock will perform a benefit concert at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, June 8; in the Oakland High School Auditorium at 865 Patriot Drive.

A reception will follow the 30-minute performance.

The concert is free to those who attend, but donations will be accepted. Performing with Matlock will be senior pianist Andrew Duncan.

The Aspen Music Festival and School was founded in 1949 during a two-week gathering in Aspen to celebrate the 200th anniversary of the birth of German poet and writer Johann Wolfgang Goethe.

The school is one of the world's premier training grounds for pre-professional music students. ■

Mock Trial team places in top ten

Staff Reports

The MTSU Mock Trial team placed seventh in its division at the National Championship Tournament held in Des Moines, Iowa.

This is the ninth consecutive year the team has placed in the top ten.

The team earned a 5-3 record over the three-day tournament in April, competing against teams from St. John's University, Cornell University, Weber State University and the University of Maryland.

Two students, Rebekah Stephens and Kim Gulden, were a major reason for the team's high ranking.

Stephens, a senior majoring in psychology, was recognized as an "All-American Lawyer" at the tournament and was selected to participate as an attorney in the All-American Round. She also scored an extremely rare per-

fect 20 during competition.

Gulden, who recently graduated with a degree in criminal justice, was the captain of the seven-team. She was also recognized as "All-American Lawyer." She opened her own full-service law firm, hopefully "within ten years."

John Vile, chairman of the psychology department; Clyde, associate professor of psychology; and Thomas VanDerMerwe professor at MTSU, coached the Mock Trial team this semester.

Vile was awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor for his outstanding contributions to related education. Vile Pleasing the Court, the first directed book written for university mock trial teams.

The team is supported by the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences activity fees. ■



Announcing the following Nominees for the MTSU Foundation's Outstanding Public Service Awards:

Faculty

Dr. Leslie Aspinwall
Dr. Meredith Anne Higgs
Dr. William Canak
Dr. Marion Wells
Dr. Jette Halladay
Dr. Marilyn Wood
Dr. Kevin Ragland
Dr. Patricia Patterson
Dr. Klaus Kallenberger
Dr. Judith Iriarte-Gross

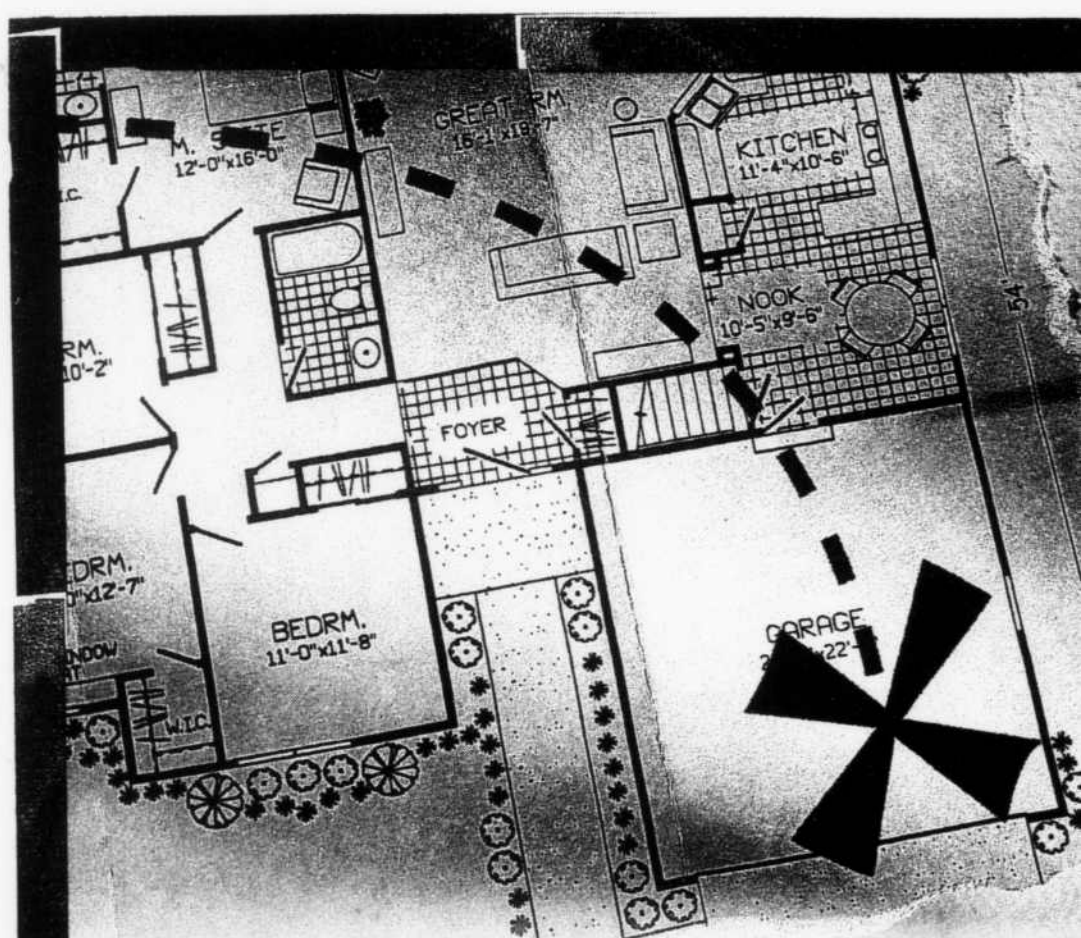
Math
Developmental Studies
Sociology & Anthropology
Biology
Speech & Theatre
Recording Industry
Agribusiness/Agriscience
Chemistry
Art
Chemistry

Non-Faculty/Staff

Jack Ross
Lori ducey
Mary Glass
Michelle Graham
John Harris
Ken Byers
Shirley Jones
Dot Harrison

Photographic Services
VPFA Office
Business Office
Journalism
Disabled Student Services
Audio/Visual Services
Foreign Language
Development Office

MTSU Foundation's Outstanding Public Service Award is presented to three faculty members who have outstanding public service for the University. This year's winner will be announced the Convocation ceremonies on Friday, August 18, at 10 a.m. in the Boutwell Dramatic Arts Building, Tucker Theatre



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A public service of this...

Dyslexia center to get new building

Angela White
Editor in Chief

MTSU will be the home of the new building for the Center for the Study and Treatment of Dyslexia. The \$1.5 million project will be funded partially by a \$1 million pledge by the Christy-Houston Foundation. MTSU is responsible for raising the additional \$500,000 by December.

Diane Sawyer, interim director of the center, accepted the foundation's gift Monday at the Center's current location, 610 West College Street, Suite 120. President James Walker, as well as several families of children who have been helped by the center, were also present at the event.

"They're the ones who made it possible," Sawyer said of Sam Fraiser and Covey Coventon, two children who have benefited from the center's help and were present to accept the check with Sawyer.

Walker originally presented

the grant proposal to the foundation.

Construction on the new building, which will be located on the corner of Baird Lane and Elrod street, is expected to begin in September and to be finished by next summer. The 7,000-square-foot building has not yet been officially approved by the Tennessee Board of Regents.

The new building, which will be double the size of the center's current facilities, will make room for classrooms, which the center has not had before, as well as observation, testing and office space. The classrooms will be equipped with audio/visual equipment. The new testing areas will allow unobstructive observation of the students, which is not possible at the current location.

The center assists school psychologists and teachers, among others, to recognize students with dyslexia. In addition, it provides training for MTSU students. Currently psychology students use the center as a laboratory, and other programs on cam-



Photo by Angela White | Staff Photographer

President James Walker, Diane Sawyer and Sam Fraiser pose with the \$1 million dollar check presented to the Center.

pus are expected to follow suit.

Dyslexia is defined by Yahoo! Health as "a reading disability resulting from a defect in the ability to process graphic symbols." It is estimated that two to eight percent of elementary-age children have some form of a

reading disability. Symptoms include a family history of learning disorder, difficulty learning to recognize written words, difficulty rhyming, and may occur in combination with writing or arithmetic learning problems. ■

Spiders: Brown recluse found in Mass Comm building

Continued from 1

best way. The EPA (Environmental Protection Agency) only allows us to use so much."

Inhaling high levels of pyrethrins may cause asthmatic breathing, sneezing, nasal stuffiness, headache, nausea, tremors, convulsions, burning and itching.

"The most severe poisonings have been reported in infants, who are not able to efficiently break down pyrethrum," reports the National Pesticide Telecommunications Network Web site at Oregon University. "The lowest lethal oral dose of Pyrethrum is 750 mg/kg for children and 1,000 mg/kg for adults."

The Material Safety Data Sheet indicates that BP 300 is 81 percent kerosene, making the pesticide extremely flammable. Only 3 percent of the compound is the spider-killing agent pyrethrins. Stabilizing ingredients comprise the remaining 16 percent.

According to the Cornell University Web site, pesticides containing pyrethrins have "very low human toxicity" affects compared to other pesticides.

On campus, brown recluse bites are rare.

"True brown recluse bites — the only way to tell is if necrosis (tissue damage) occurs — 2 per year if we are lucky," said Shandora Dorse, physician assistant at the Student Health Center.

"Most people were cleaning out sheds or something, and not in dorms," Dorse added.

Brown recluse spider have "long thin legs, an oval shaped abdomen, a light tan to dark brown color and a very distinctive violin-shaped mark on the back," according to the EPA Web site.

Thus the nickname "fiddle back" was bestowed on the brown recluse.

The spiders' bodies are generally one-quarter to one half of an inch in size and found in Midwestern states, south-central states, the Southwest and Puerto Rico, reports the EPA Web site.

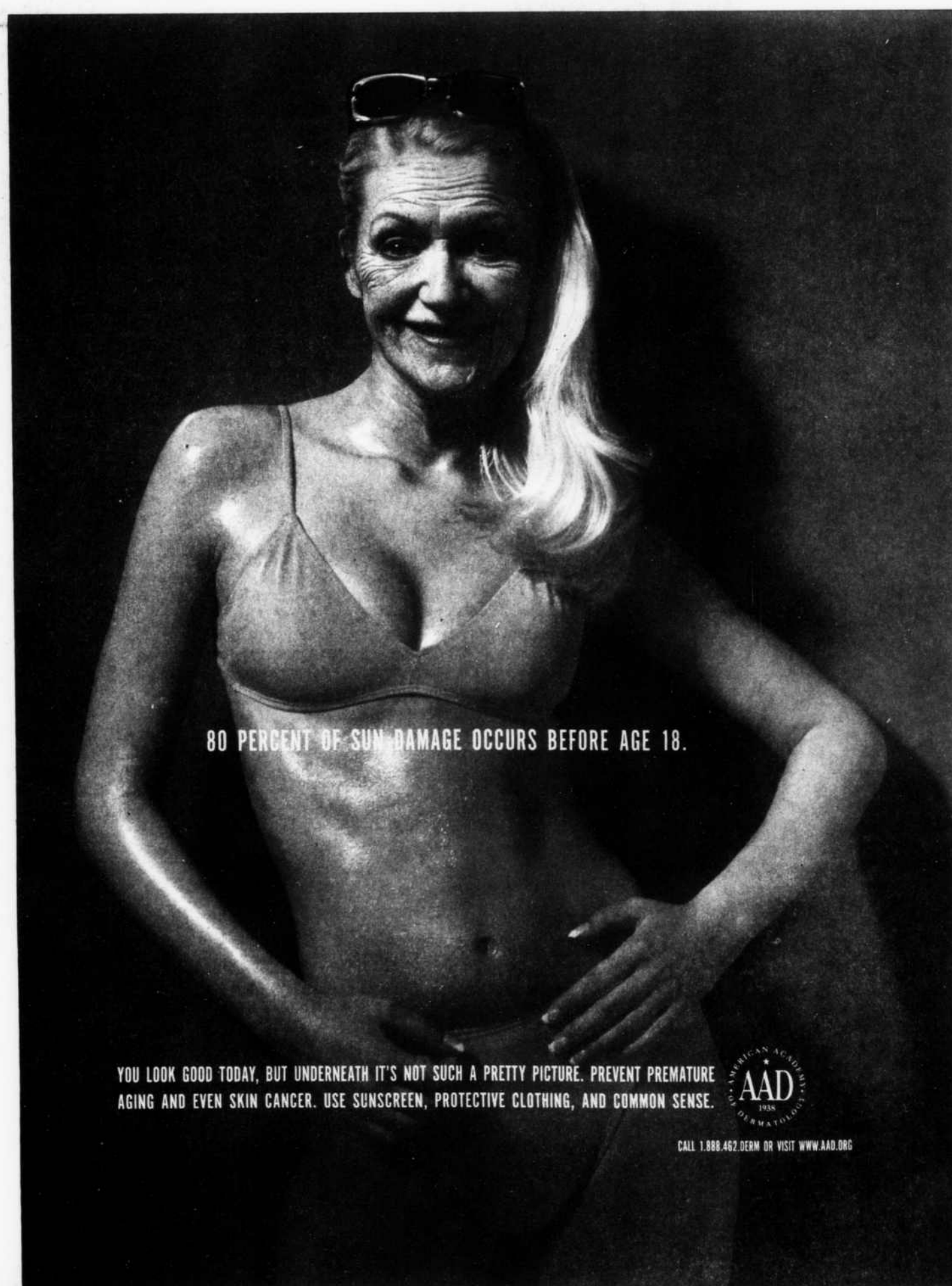
Fiddle backs avoid humans, but they often live in sheds, attics, garages and other dry, dark and undisturbed places.

Bites are almost always painful and often, but not always, lead to an ulcerous wound called a necrotic lesion that takes an extensive amount of time to heal.

Brown recluse bites can be fatal.

"A systematic reaction is characterized by fever, severe abdominal pain, chest pain, nausea and vomiting," reports Auburn University's Web site about brown recluse spiders. "The majority of fatalities due to brown recluse bites are in children under the age of seven. Death is an extremely rare occurrence."

All sources advised that contacting a physician immediately after a suspected brown recluse bite is necessary. ■



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OPINIONS

4 ■ SIDELINES

Wednesday, June 7, 2000

Murfreesboro, TN

From the Staff

State needs to come through with budget

The Governor means business.

Don Sundquist announced Monday that the current legislature, not the legislature to be elected in November, will decide the fate of the budget.

Sundquist plans to bring the legislature back for a special session if they do not reach a decision by the end of the month.

If a plan does not pass, then the state will shut down July 1.

The budget crisis means that hard questions will be answered by this legislature.

For Middle Tennessee students, a possible 8 to 10 percent tuition hike is in the balance.

Currently, there are two tax bills being discussed.

The first is to raise the 6 percent state sales tax by a quarter or a half a cent; the second is to place a sales tax or gross

receipts tax on services.

The fact of the matter remains that the state of Tennessee is still in a \$300 million hole and now yet another tax height looms on the horizon.

The equation is quite simple.

First, the state is negative \$300 million.

To correct this, the state either needs to (a) raise more or (b) spend less. An even better effort would be to do both.

However, the Senate struck down a House proposal to cut \$144 million of out the budget.

Regardless of what the state does, it needs to do it right -- no more bare bone budgets and no more shortcuts.

We've been given promises of funds long enough, and now it's time for the state to come through.

The education system in Tennessee can't afford to be fed one more year of leftovers.

SUMMERS THE ORLANDO SENTINEL
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Letters to the Editor

Gore reflects bad politics

Remember "fool me once, shame on you; fool me twice, shame on me?"

Well, I would be willing to bet the proverbial tobacco farm that the vice president hopes you don't.

In April 1996, Vice President Al Gore attended a fund-raiser held at a Buddhist temple in Los Angeles, Calif. It was a luncheon at the His Lai Temple organized by Maria Hsia and John Huang. After the vice president departed, \$140,000 was collected. It is illegal for tax-exempt religious organizations to be the setting for such political events.

Initially Gore stated that he believed it simply to be a "community outreach" program. Attorney General Janet Reno decided that since there were no tickets sold to the luncheon and no money collected while Gore was at the temple, no laws were broken.

Gore later admitted that it was a bad judgment call. I personally feel it only became a bad judgment call after he was caught. Sound familiar?

Now, go back eight years to 1988. Gore received an invitation from Maria Hsia to take a "cultural and educational" trip.

Hsia's note continued, "If you decide to join this trip, I will persuade all my colleagues in the future to play a leader [sic] role in your presidential race." At the time, Hsia was an immigration consultant and Los Angeles-based Democratic fund-raiser, and Gore was a junior senator from Tennessee.

Fast forward to 1996. Gore is vice president, and it appears that Hsia tried to keep her end of the deal with the temple fund-raiser.

According to "The Wall Street Journal," this 1988 trip was sponsored by the same Buddhist organization that acted as host for the questionable Democratic fund-raiser in 1996.

"The Journal" goes on to report that the visit included meetings with U.S. and Taiwanese officials and a visit to the headquarters of the Buddhist group that paid for this Taiwan excursion.

In August 1999, Huang plead guilty to a felony charge of violating campaign finance laws. He had been an executive at the Indonesia-based Lippo Group. Huang had conspired with fellow employees to defraud the Federal Elections Commission by arranging for Lippo employees to be reimbursed for their political contributions with corporate funds.

In February 2000, Hsia also found herself in court, charged with overseeing the Buddhist temple fund-raising event, among other charges.

Huang testified at her trial that the day after the fund-raiser Hsia handed him an envelope containing \$100,000. He said those donations were made possible because of the temple reimbursing many of the donors.

CNN reported that Hsia's fund raising with Gore goes back to the late 1980s, when she was involved in raising money for Gore, who was attempting to rebuild his senate campaign war chest after losing the

Democratic presidential nomination.

As with Clinton, controversy follows Gore. On Friday, CNN confirmed a story that the "Los Angeles Times" broke. Charles G. LaBella, the Justice Department's former chief campaign finance investigator, issued a report recommending a sweeping outside investigation into all of the campaign finance allegations. These allegations involve the president, vice president and first lady. They include another fund-raising debacle by Gore: the fund-raising calls that he placed from his government office in late 1995 and early 1996.

In regard to this Gore has said, "Everything that I did I understood to be lawful. My counsel tells me there is no controlling legal authority that says that there was any violation of any law."

Again, is it me, or does this have a familiar ring to it?

My point to all of this is that it is the year 2000 and I am tired.

There are many unanswered questions, legal technicalities and plays on words that swirl around our vice president. Call me sentimental, but I long for a candidate who doesn't hide behind the same familiar tactics that we have become accustomed to during the past eight years.

"Fool me once, shame on you; fool me twice, shame on me." You have the power to stop it. You can say, "I gave you a chance the first time, but not again. You're on your own." ... Wake up, America.

Kathleen K. Jones

Police justly killed Davis

Mr. Tune, I am writing this in response to your recent article entitled "Larry's Dead" from the April 27th edition of Sidelines.

The article was about the shooting death of Mr. Larry Davis by two Nashville Metro Police Officers.

Now Mr. Tune, I'll be up front with you.

I am a police officer, but I was trained to be judgemental of everyone, especially other officers.

However, in all the training I have encountered, the main point stressed was that of keeping yourself safe, making sure I go home each and every day after work.

I'll agree with one thing you said. There were no guns in Mr. Davis' vehicle, but there was a weapon used. Mr. Davis' car was a weapon.

Officers are trained to use their car as a weapon and also to beware of a car as a weapon. You stated yourself that there was an officer in front of the car when Mr. Davis attempted to drive away.

That officer was, in my opinion, in fear of his life, which justifies his use of deadly force.

Those two officers did what they felt was needed to return home to their families that night, and a several hundred pound, mobile piece of metal is a weapon in anyone's book.

Thank you for your time.
Officer N. Barry

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"Sidelines" is the non-profit, editorially independent student newspaper of Middle Tennessee State University and is published on Monday and Thursday during the fall and spring semesters and every Wednesday during June and July. FLASH!, the entertainment magazine, is published every Wednesday during the fall and spring semester. The opinions expressed herein are those of the individual writers and not necessarily of "Sidelines" or the university.

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Education reform: The long, hard road

Even education is subject to Laws of Diminishing Returns

Marion Brady
Orlando Sentinel

Anyone who has ever tried to lose weight, squeeze out more miles per gallon or attract customers to a business knows something about The Law of Diminishing Returns. The first few pounds usually come off fairly easily. A little more air in the tires will make an immediate difference in mileage. A half-page ad in the newspaper may bring in 50 new customers.

After that, it gets tougher. The closer a system gets to its peak performance, the harder it is to make a difference. After a while the payoffs aren't worth the additional money, time or trouble. When that happens, a whole new approach may be necessary — exercise to go along with the diet, buying a different car, moving the business to a better location.

As it does in other dimensions of life, the Law of Diminishing Returns operates in education. Reformers push magnet schools, charters, vouch-

ers, choice, new technology, flexible scheduling, tightened graduation requirements, school ranking, constant testing.

But not much happens. Even the schools we point to with pride — well-financed institutions in upscale suburban neighborhoods supported by caring parents and offering all available Advanced Placement courses — aren't doing anything spectacular. They're still loaded with kids who aren't even close to realizing their full potential, still turning out mostly Grade-C students, still sending out graduates who, in a few months or years, can't pass the exams they aced as students.

America's educational system has about peaked. Most school districts have some kind of reform project under way, but it's usually only the reform committee members who reform. On a grander scale, the 1990 national education summit meeting convened by the George Bush administration and attended by many state governors kicked off the current high-profile reform effort called "Goals 2000: Standards and Measures." It hasn't really made much difference. The main message: Work harder.

Unfortunately, working harder is no longer the answer. We have to work a whole lot smarter. Working smarter means doing things differently,

and doing things differently isn't easy. Ideas long held settle into grooves. Eventually the grooves turn into ruts so deep it's hard to see over their sides, much less climb out of them.

The beliefs and values that drive America's system of education have been in place for so long that they've become articles of faith, and around articles of faith protective bureaucratic and emotional walls get built. It isn't just the education establishment that resists change; it's everybody — parents, politicians, policy makers — even students.

But, as H.G. Wells reminded us, "Civilization becomes, more and more, a race between education and catastrophe." If we still hope to be around to celebrate the end of another millennium, we've got to drag ideas we take for granted out into the open and begin to poke and prod them to see if they're up to the task of saving us from ourselves. Just one fallacy, tightly held, has the potential for doing us in. We hold tightly not just to one but to several, and we're not even aware of them, much less talking about how to break their hold.

When a society stops questioning why it's doing what it's doing in education, "reform" boils down merely to putting a higher polish on familiar rituals. If the world didn't change, maybe we

could afford to coast along on the wisdom of our parents and grandparents. But it is changing, and at a rate unparalleled in human history. What we're doing isn't good enough. If every student in America was doing as well as the best students in the best schools are doing, it still wouldn't be good enough.

If we hope to survive as a society, kids have to be taught how to sort out mentally and make sense of a volume of raw information undreamed of a generation or two ago. They have to be taught how to use what they learn to track changes in the world around them, changes that are exceedingly complex and often beyond human ability to control.

And then they have to be taught the enormous range of skills they need to control the changes that can be controlled, and adapt to the changes that can't be controlled.

That's doable, but we're not doing it.

Marion Brady of Cocoa, Fla., is an education consultant. He has been a teacher, from sixth grade through university level, and a county-level school administrator. He is the author of numerous books and articles on education. He welcomes comments via e-mail at mbrady@digital.net. ■

FEATURES

Murfreesboro, TN

Wednesday, June 7, 2000

SIDELINES ■ 5

When job hunting becomes a job

Students can use campus, online resources to find employment after graduation

Tammy Higham
Contributor

Do you know what you're doing after graduation? I don't. Not exactly, anyway. Sure, I have ideas. I know what kind of company I want to work for. I have an idea of what city I'd like to work in. I just need to know where to look.

You vaguely remember someone once telling you that it would be helpful for the future if you did an internship. But you never got around to it. So, where do you start looking for work when you have no experience?

Start with on-campus help. Many faculty members know about job openings in their fields. You simply have to ask. Check with a professor or the departmental office in your major for

possibilities.

The Office of Placement and Student Employment, located in KUC, Room 329, has several resources available to students and recent graduates. You can also visit their homepage at <http://www.mtsu.edu/~career/index.htm>.

Available options range from posting your resume on the Internet to workshops on interviewing and cover letter writing.

According to Martha Turner, director of the Placement Center, students have many chances to find employment with the services they offer. "It allows [students] the opportunity to investigate career opportunities and to choose a major compatible with their own interests," said Turner.

A diversified group of companies attend the office's job fairs throughout the year, including insurance compa-

nies, manufacturing companies and publishers.

Turner considers the job fairs to be beneficial to students. "It allows them to make contacts with employers while on campus," she said.

Campus isn't the only place you can get help. The Internet has hundreds of job search sites. Some are general, while others are career-specific.

For instance, Monster.com provides listings around the world and allows visitors to apply for jobs online after creating up to five different resumes and cover letters.

A job seeker also can set up five different job search agents with this Web site, specifying area and job type, to hunt for jobs every day. The results are then e-mailed to the applicant.

In addition, several search engines such as Excite, Yahoo and AOL offer

career sites with links to job information.

There are also sites designed especially for certain careers. For computer programmers or technicians, job seekers can try www.computerjobs.com. Engineers can visit www.interec.net. And future teachers can post resumes at www.eduteach-1.com. There is a job search Web site available for almost any

specified field.

Don't stop with searching for a job — develop good interviewing skills by planning well thought-out answers to obvious interview questions. And expect to be turned down a few times. It will increase your experience with interviewers and make you feel more comfortable with the job search process. ■

Other Job Search Web Sites

www.americanjobs.com

www.joblink-usa.com

www.collegegrad.com

www.bestjobusa.com

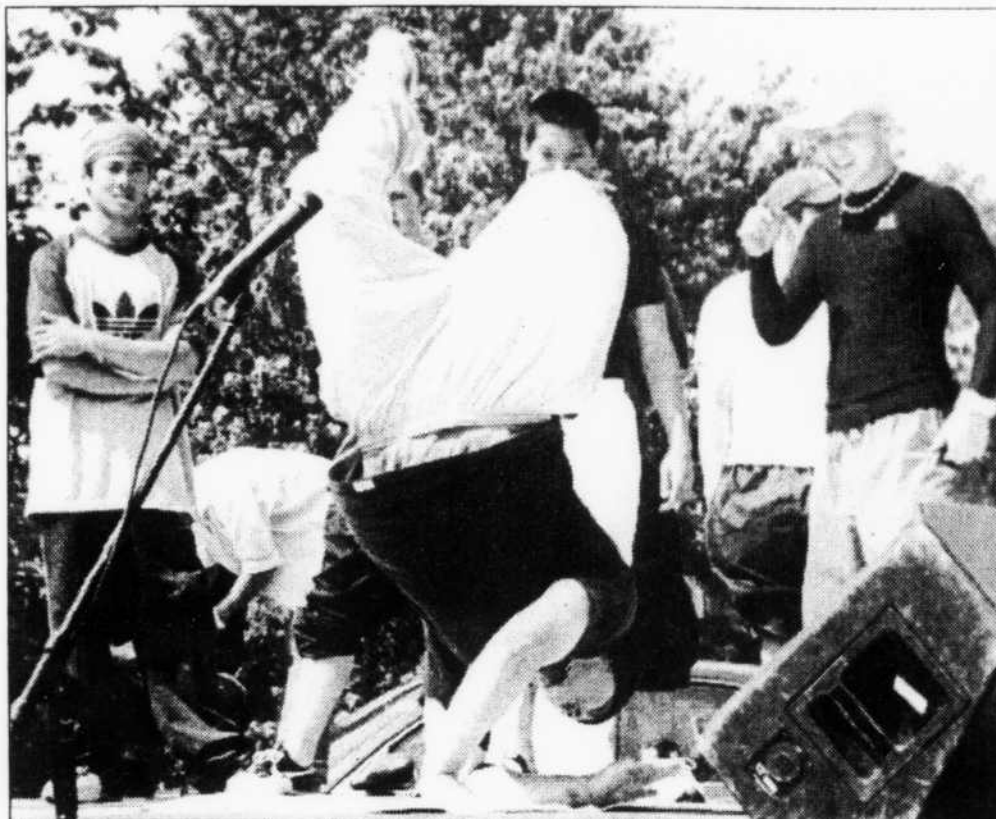
'No comment!'



Photos by R. Colin Fly | Staff
Photographer

Ryan Hooper, 3, shows off his new balloon hat at the International Street Festival held on E. Main Street May 13. The hat was designed by Chad Young.

The MTSU breakers, a local teenage dance group, performs at the festival.



Students pursue degree by day, company by night

Mason Frenzel
Contributor

While most MTSU students are heading back to their dorm rooms or the Rec Center after class, Michael Eades and Daniel Box are heading to the lab...the Somatic Lab, that is.

These two juniors are more than just students — they are business partners in the technological new realm of cyberspace. They earn their degrees by day, but their nights are strictly business as they forge their futures by making waves in the Web world with their new company, Somatic Labs.

Eades and Box have already gotten their careers up and running in the three short years they have been at MTSU, and things seem to be just getting started.

During the past year, they have started their own company, which specializes in Web page design and other multimedia applications. Since then, they have steadily increased their business and have added well-known names such as the bands Goldfinger and Self, song writer Antomina Armato (who has written songs for Mariah Carey and teen-pop superstar Hoku) and Sponge.

With names like these on their rapidly growing resume, Somatic Labs hopes to get more exposure and make a splash in the cyber-pool with their original artistic designs.

Eades and Box first became acquainted in the eighth grade via the Internet. Attending separate schools in the Middle Tennessee area, they knew each other by name only until they met in college.

"Not only were we both on the same local computer geek message boards back in the eighth grade, but we had common friends throughout high school," Eades said. "Once we got to college, and Daniel started hanging out with the same crowd of people that I had been hanging out with for four years, we found a bond and became friends."

The friendship began to blossom as Eades, a graphic communications major, and Box, a digital animation major, discovered a mutual interest in media design.

"Michael and I had been eating lunch together for two years, and not a day went by that we didn't discuss design of some sort," Box said. "Sometimes it was photog-

"We'd seen other Web design companies with good clients but really bad design. We knew we could do better."

Michael Eades

raphy, sometimes it was Web sites, but it always came up."

Those lunchroom chats soon developed into an idea for a company, and both Eades and Box realized that they might be onto something big. "We always appreciated each other's work and decided that if we worked together, we could get some really cool clientele. We'd seen other Web design companies with good clients but really bad design. We knew we could do better," said Eades.

Somatic Labs was thus born, and as of Jan. 20 it is legally recognized by the government as an official business.

Shortly after forming Somatic Labs, Box befriended an employee at a prominent design firm that both he and Eades respected. His company was getting so large that he couldn't take on small clients anymore, and he liked Somatic Lab's designs enough to suggest the companies go with them.

"We were really lucky to have this happen, said Box. "It's really nice to have an agent, and we hope someday to be able to return the favor to some of our friends."

As for the future of Somatic Labs, Eades says he hopes to continue getting clients who understand that design needs to be innovative and interesting to the eye. "It needs to be cutting edge," said Eades. "We try to design at Somatic Labs without using too many of the ultratrendy design techniques that are popular at the time."

Although Eades and Box are both still in school, one thing is for sure. When they graduate, job-hunting won't be necessary. They hope that when the time comes, jobs will be hunting for them. ■

Grinnell College's sex class gets technical

GRINNELL, Iowa (TMS) - Students signed up for a human sexuality course at Grinnell College next semester are counting on some interesting class discussion — especially given that they'll be doing much of their talking online.

Instructor Sylvia Thorson-Smith said the course's e-mail discussion group is designed to help students open up about sensitive topics they wouldn't be likely to broach in person.

"Their personal experiences of sexuality may be pleasant or painful ones, and care needs to be taken to structure all discussion in a way that invites students into potentially difficult explorations," Thorson-Smith said. "The challenge is to create a Web site that serves as a comfortable environment for the open discussion

of all sexual topics."

Only students enrolled in the class will have access to the group, which is open to them at all times during the semester. There is no pressure to give "correct answers," Thorson-Smith said.

The course also has a home page from which students can link to relevant sites containing information about a variety of topics — including circumcision, menstruation, vasectomies and drugs developed to enhance sexual performance. Thorson-Smith said the course's heavy tech emphasis is also intended to help students gain skills in evaluating Web sites for valid educational content.

To see the course's home page, go to <http://www.grinnell.edu/courses/soc/soc260-01/Unit1.html>. ■

SPORTS

6 ■ SIDELINES

Wednesday, June 7, 2000

Murfreesboro, TN

SOCCER

Still alive and kickin'

MTSU men's Soccer
Club preparing for
upcoming fall seasonPaul Parkerson
Contributor

Soccer Club members at Middle Tennessee State University are alive and kickin' this spring as the team begins preparing for its quest for a third Southeastern Collegiate League championship in six years.

The first game's not scheduled until August, but the off season is the time to see what every player is made of.

"I think our team this year is one of the best I've ever seen," said coach Jeff Dobay. "I'm looking forward to seeing how well we'll do in the 2000 season."

Dobay is a Nashville native and has been coaching soccer for 16 years. He started when his son was seven and now he is distributing his knowledge of the game at the college level. Dobay is in his third year as MTSU's head coach.

Last year, he repeated what the team has done twice before. He led them to its third Southeastern Collegiate championship. The other two occurred in 1995 and 1996.

"It is a wonderful feeling to be able to come in here my first year and experience the SCSL

championship," Dobay explains. "I am looking forward to doing it again this year."

MTSU's men's soccer team has been around for eight years. The team consists of 22 players, although only 17 of them will make the final travel squad.

This year the team will have nine returning senior players and 12 returning underclassmen.

But the intense training begins during the spring time.

"Practices during the season are quite as tough as spring and summer practices, but they do get us well prepared for the games," said forward Matt Bogden.

Training for the soccer club is a year round event, notes left

mid-fielder Bobby Lindsey.

"The more we train and the harder we work, makes the team the better for the upcoming season," he explains.

Stamina and endurance training begin in the spring and will continue until the season starts. A player is required to finish six training exercises to be considered on the starting team come fall.

The men's soccer club is affiliated with the National Collegiate Soccer Association, and MTSU is a member of the Southeastern Collegiate League. The league is organized into East and West conferences. Some of MTSU's East conference rivals are Auburn, University of Georgia, University of Tennessee

and the University of Mississippi. Two clubs from each conference represent the SCSL each year at the national tournament in Arizona.

The reasoning behind the club status for each of these schools is because there are not as many female athletic teams as there are male teams.

Until another female team is added, the men's soccer team will remain a club sport.

The season consists of 11 games — five at home and six away. Most of the games are played against East conference teams with the exception of Georgia Tech and Sanford University who are both West conference rivals. MTSU's home games are played at the

Murfreesboro Soccer Complex, which is located parallel to the Murfreesboro Airport. ■

Soccer Club

For more information on the upcoming season schedule, contact the Campus Recreation Center at 898-2104.

TRACK and FIELD

Ribac ends MT
career on high
note, earns All-
American honors

MT Media Relations

Senior Andreja Ribac ended her career at Middle Tennessee by becoming only the third female track and field athlete to earn All-American honors.

Ribac used a career best in the triple jump at the OVC Championships to qualify for the NCAA meet, and placed sixth at the Championships in Durham, N.C.

"The competition was really close," commented assistant coach Roger Kerr, who accompanied Ribac and Godfrey Herring to the NCAA Championships. "It looked for a while that she was going to get third, but there were some others who had good jumps in their final attempts."

Herring, who qualified in the 400-meters was still not up to 100 percent following a hamstring pull during the Penn Relays earlier in the season.

Herring was a full three seconds off his best time of the season and did not qualify for the finals of the 400-meters.

However, Ribac was able to make the most of her final day as a Lady Raider.

Nearing her third jump of the

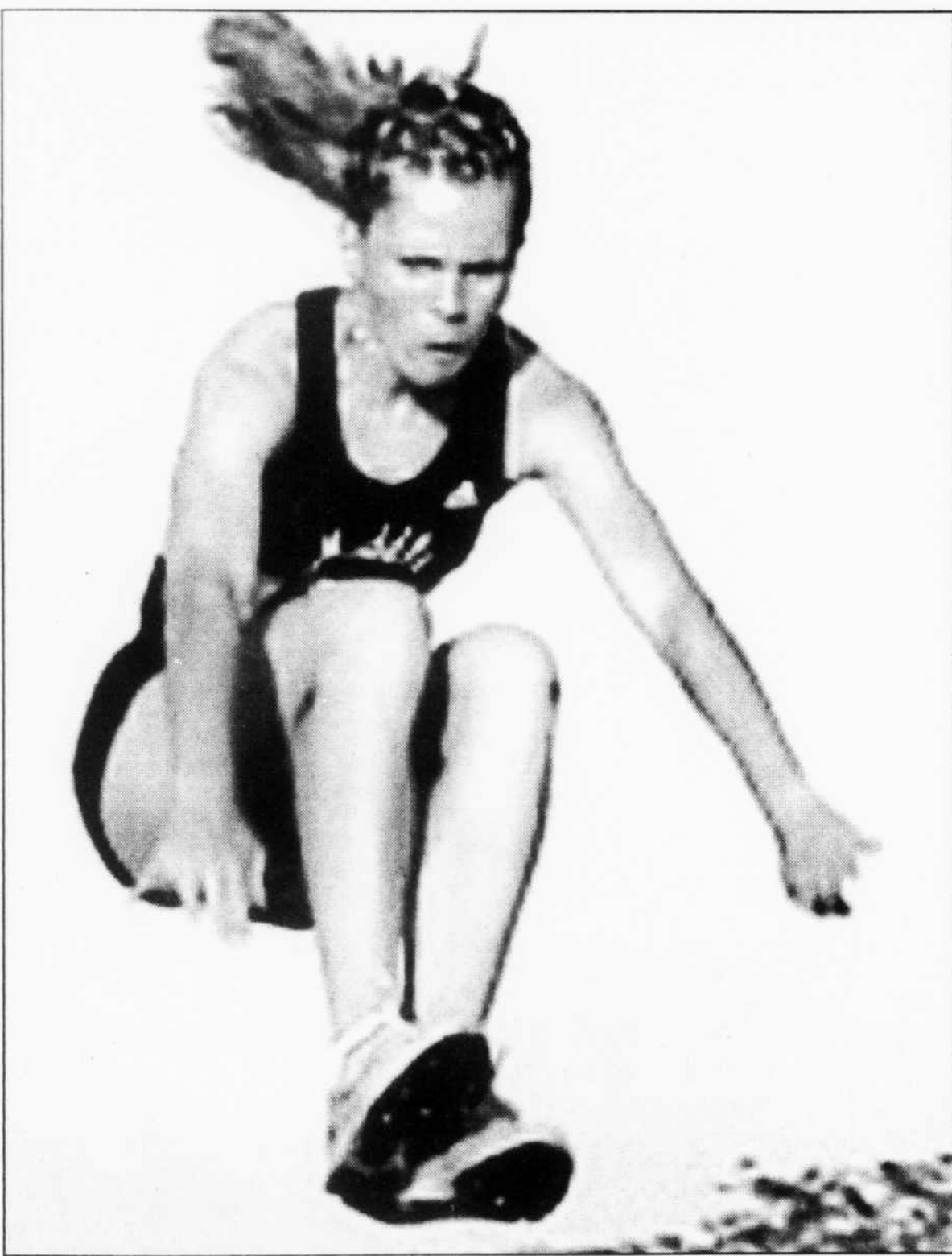


Triple Jump Final

1. Keisha Spencer, Louisiana State, 45-10.
2. Brandi Prieto, Cal State-Northridge, 44-3 1/4.
3. Kerine Black, South Florida, 44-3 1/4.
4. Sherry-Ann Gallimore, Auburn, 44-2 3/4.
5. Dalhia Ingram, Nebraska, 43-9 3/4.
6. Andreja Ribac, Middle Tennessee State, 43-6 1/2.
7. DeAnne Davis, North Carolina, 43-3.
8. Anna Tarasova, Texas-El Paso, 42-9 3/4.

meet, Ribac and the other athletes were forced off the track due to the weather. After returning from a one hour delay,

Ribac jumped a distance of 43'06.50 that was enough to earn Ribac All-American honors. ■



Senior Andreja Ribac ended her career at Middle Tennessee by becoming only the third female track and field athlete to earn All-American honors.

OVC awards
Fowler men's
all-sports trophy

MT Media Relations

Cookeville, Tenn. - The Ohio Valley Conference held its annual Honors Luncheon June 1 on the campus of Tennessee Tech and Middle Tennessee athletic director Lee Fowler was presented the Men's All-Sports Trophy for the fifth consecutive year.

"The OVC has been a great league for Middle Tennessee and we are very fortunate to win the trophy this year, but the credit belongs with our coaches and student-athletes," Fowler said. "We have been a part of this league for 47 years and we will miss all the friends we have made along the way. Middle Tennessee wishes the very best for the OVC and all its members."

The Blue Raiders, who also won the overall all-sports trophy for the second straight year, brought home the men's title for the fifth straight season.

Middle Tennessee finished the year strong by winning championships in men's and women's tennis, men's golf, softball and baseball.

The league also honored the Male Athlete of the Year (Jeremy Johnson, SEMO), the Female Athlete of the Year (Diane Seng, basketball), the Steve Hamilton Sportsmanship Award winner (Mike Turner, Murray State) and the Women's All-Sports Trophy team champion (SEMO). ■

Upcoming Blue Raider Baseball Camps

Pitcher/Catcher Camp - June 11-13

Designed for the highly motivated player with instruction and participation at more intense level. Mechanical aspects of pitching/catching are discussed along with tactical aspects of working to hitters.

Hitting-Only Camp — June 13-15

Camp is designed for the highly motivated player with instruction and participation at a more intense level. Mechanical aspects of hitting are discussed in depth.

Fundamental Camp (DAY CAMP ONLY) — June 19-23

Camp begins at 9 AM and ends at 4 PM. Register by mail or at Smith Field on Monday, June 19th from 8-9 AM.

Fundamental Camp — July 16-21 (DAY AND OVERNIGHT CAMP)

Camp will consist of fundamental work with a wider age group of participants. The camp will encompass fielding, hitting, and baserunning instruction.

For more information on the Blue Raider baseball camps or to request a registration form, please contact the baseball office at (615) 898-2984 or (615) 898-2926.

TENNIS

Hojnik, tennis teams
round out season
with national ranking

MT Media Relations

For the second time in school history Middle Tennessee's men's and women's tennis teams finished the season ranked in the nations Top 75 during the same season, and Tina Hojnik became the first Lady Raider to be ranked at the end of the year.

The Lady Raiders ended the season ranked 64th in the nation while the men finished at number 63. Both teams also advanced to the NCAA Championships during the same season for the first time in history. The Lady Raiders' trip to Mobile, Ala., for the

Regionals marked the first-ever NCAA Tournament appearance for the women's program.

The Lady Raiders also had another milestone as freshman Tina Hojnik became the first female tennis player at Middle Tennessee to end the season ranked in the nations

Top 100.

Hojnik defeated Ole Miss' Ivona Mihailova, who was ranked No. 16 at the time, during the NCAA Regional. Hojnik's efforts earned her a ranking of 81 in the country.

"It is a great accomplishment for Tina," said head coach David Thornton. "She played very well during the year and it is fitting that she finally got in there at the end of theseason. It's shame that she will not be back with us next season."

Hojnik has returned to her home country, Slovenia, and likely will not return to the United States.

Middle Tennessee will officially become a member of the Sun Belt Conference on July 1.

All sports will begin competition in the new conference this upcoming academic year with the exception of football. Tennis will begin Sun Belt competition during the spring of 2001. ■



Tina Hojnik became the first Lady Raider to be ranked at the end of the year. She was ranked 81 in the nation.

Sidelines e-mail
stupubs@mtsu.edu



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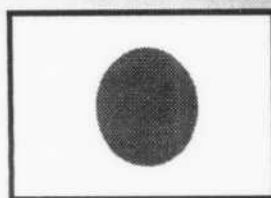
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at kawahito@mtsu.edu

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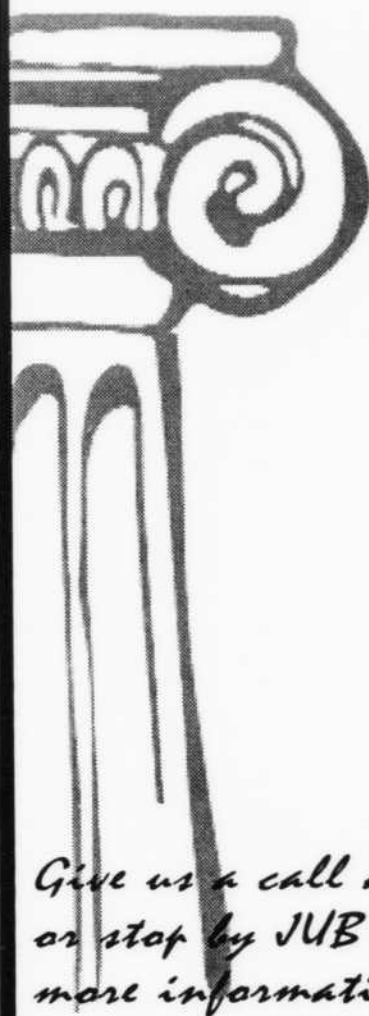
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 1. Advertising Sales Representatives
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Sales	Production
- Must work 20 hours/week on and off campus, Monday - Friday Days	- Must work 15 - 20 hours/week, Afternoons and nights on deadline days
- Must have a car	- Must have knowledge of QuarkXPress and/or PhotoShop
- Must be a high energy, outgoing, organized achiever	- Must be creative, attentive to detail, and work well under pressure