

MIDDLE TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY SIDELINES

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Library finds place on governor's budget

Last hurdle for funding to come from legislature

By Mark Blevins / staff

Hopes for a new library were raised Monday when Gov. Don Sundquist included the \$32.75 million project in his budget proposal to the state legislature.

The legislature will make the final call on the state budget—and MTSU's new library—in April after state revenue for this year is determined, according to state Rep. John Bragg, longtime chairman of the House Finance Committee.

The governor said in his address that 54 cents out of every state tax

dollar will go to education.

"I also recognize the importance of our institutions of higher learning and the value they return to our state and to our citizens," Sundquist said in his address. "In an era that increasingly requires well-schooled, adaptable workers, our colleges and universities will play an increasingly important role in training and preparing our citizens for rewarding careers in emerging industries, and in serving as a resource for government and business."

If the library makes it into the budget, the two-year construction project will begin this fall, said Director of Campus Planning Patricia Miller.

The library was not funded last year because the governor halted all building projects and state salary raises to balance the budget.

University officials hope to get an

See related story on plans for the new library, page 4

additional \$1.2 million from the state to fund the computers included in the library plans, according to Vice President for Finance and Administration Duane Stucky. Those funds will not be needed until the end of the two-year building project, he said.

MTSU President James Walker said the governor's library recommendation comes after hard work with area legislators, the governor's office, the Tennessee Board of Regents and the Tennessee Higher Education Commission (THEC).

"It was a lot of work, and a lot of effort went into it," Walker said. "We're just very glad that those efforts came to fruition."

Operational budget

Another main funding issue for MTSU is the allocation of its operational budget—the lump sum of state dollars which officials use to run the university.

THEC recently revised the funding formula which determines how much money each institution gets.

The new formula would give MTSU approximately an additional \$3.8 million for the next fiscal year, Stucky said.

However, the new formula is not fully funded yet, and the \$3.8 million for MTSU was not represented in the governor's recommendations.

Walker said officials at THEC are trying to persuade members of the legislature to fully fund the new formula.

The extra money would be used to continue pay equity adjustments for faculty and staff, to hire more faculty

to improve the faculty-student ratio, to hire more faculty to replace some graduate teaching assistants, and to improve library resources, according to Stucky.

Last year's operational budget from the state totaled \$61.5 million which does not include student fees and university-generated funds such as private donations, Stucky said. The total operational budget including fees and donations was over \$100 million last year, he said.

Pay raise

State employees—including university faculty and staff—will receive a 3 percent pay raise if the legislature adopts the governor's recommendation.

State employees were hoping for a raise as much as 8 percent.

The governor's budget also recommended funds to re-roof three buildings on campus. ●

African-American history celebrated

By Todd R. Cruse / staff

Beginning the celebration with "An Evening with Maya Angelou," MTSU is offering many opportunities to explore African-American history throughout the month of February.

Although Feb. 1 is the official beginning of African-American History Month, poet and author Nikki Giovanni spoke on campus last week.

"The planning committee for African-American History Month has many diverse offerings of historical, cultural and hopefully enlightening events coming here to MTSU," said Bonnie Shipp, assistant professor of English and co-chair of the African-American History Month planning committee.

The committee, which began meeting last May in preparation for the month, consists of 25 faculty members, students and staff.

Highlights for African-American History Month include an appearance by Reginald Stuart, editor of Knight Ridder News Bureau, and novelist Anthony Grooms, curator of the Alex Haley Museum.

Herman Green and the Green Machine are scheduled to perform a jazz concert in Wright Music Hall.

A film series related to the African-American experience is scheduled to be shown in the KUC Theatre, including "I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings," a film adaptation of Angelou's first book.

African-American History Month became a national celebration in the early 1960s in connection with the black power movement. It was first known as Negro History Week and changed to Black History Month before finally arriving at its current title.

"We want to emphasize that the African-American History Month is for everybody, not just African-Americans," Shipp said. "We encourage everyone to attend the events and learn of the African-American experience."

The committee hopes that students and the community will gain a greater understanding of the African-American experience and realize how intricately woven this experience is into the American experience, Shipp said.

A complete calendar of events for the month is listed in an advertisement on page 10 of this paper. ●



Amanda McCadams / staff

Politics of equality

Uniform Equality Committee (UEC) members Michael Grantham (left), Martin Toppings (center) and Richie Smith (right) sit at their information table in front of Phillip's Bookstore in the KUC yesterday morning. Scott Wing and Marianna Dedmon receive information about the UEC's proposal to include a sexual orientation statement in the university's non-discrimination clause.

Computer lab to receive upgrade

By Susan Burns / staff

With 40-50 different computer labs across campus, some computer systems need to be updated due to advancing technology, according to Carlos Coronel, director of KOM Computer Lab 252.

According to Lucinda Lea, director of the Office of Information Technology, computer upgrading is the responsibility of each department that

runs a lab.

"KOM Lab 252 will have to wait approximately three months on the upgrade to be made after approvals and delivery of equipment," Coronel said.

Coronel said he estimates the cost of upgrading his lab to be between \$48,000 - \$50,000 which will be allocated from the funds created by the student technology access fee. ●

Enrollment figures rising

By Charles A. Harrington Jr. / staff

With the release of the spring enrollment figures, MTSU continues to maintain its status as the fastest growing institution in the state, according to Dean of Admissions and Records Cliff Gillespie.

Since 1989, MTSU enrollment has risen by 32 percent. Only Tennessee State University has a higher enrollment increase this semester.

The official headcount for this semester is 16,263—down 1,161 from the fall.

"There are two reasons for [the decrease in spring enrollment]," Gillespie said. "We usually graduate a thousand students every fall. Add that to academic suspensions and students just dropping out, this figure will remain a constant." Enrollment figures usually fall in the spring.

Despite the spring decrease, MTSU remains the third largest institution in the state behind the

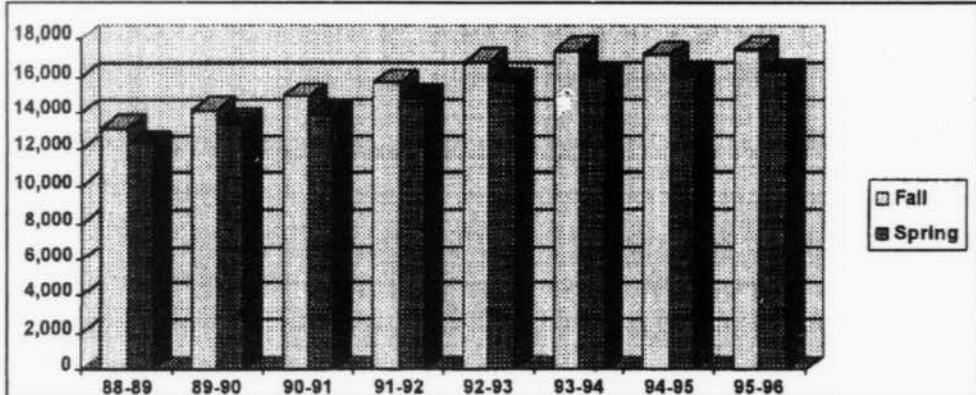
University of Tennessee-Knoxville and the University of Memphis.

"Continued growth is a positive thing," Gillespie said. "It helps to substantiate our budget for the future. The implication is that we need more space, buildings and faculty."

See related story on enrollment and classroom space, page 3

African-American enrollment for the semester registers at 1,660, compared to the Caucasian enrollment of 13,990. MTSU ranks fourth in black-to-white ratio (8:1) at predominately white institutions behind the University of Memphis, Austin Peay State University and the University of Tennessee-Chattanooga.

Females comprise 54.9 percent of the total enrollment, and 59 percent of the student body is age 24 or younger. ●



Family Housing gets satellite police office

By Mark T. Gibson / staff

President James Walker, Police Chief Jack Drugmand and Dean of Student Life Tom Burke were among those present at Married Student Housing when the Department of Public Safety opened its new satellite office.

The office will be staffed "approximately six hours a day" and will serve as a liaison between the police and the campus community.

"It will become a focal for community policing, a program which we initiated two years ago," Drugmand said. "This will bring police into the community."

"The idea is for police to not attempt to predetermine what the community needs, but for the community to tell us as police, what we can do to help them."

The new office is located in the Family Student Housing Center and will be staffed by officers Dustin Miller

and Laura Moulthrop.

"We want to get away from being a uniformed facade and get people to know us as individuals so that they will feel comfortable with calling us for help," Miller said.

Walker said he wants the community to "get to know the police as their friends."

"The people in the community can get to know the officers," Walker said. "The officers can get to know them, developing relationships and making sure that [residents] understand the procedures [of police] and how certain types of crime prevention are [implemented]."

"We think it creates a very wholesome environment where people are comfortable about where they're living and that they feel very comfortable about working with the campus police force."

Police spokesman Miller said he would be in the office as much as

Please see POLICE on page 4

Opinions

Debate continues on non-discrimination clause

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Weather

THUR

sleet/rain

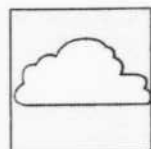
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cloudy

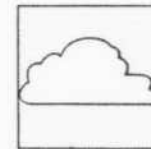
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THUR

cloudy

High: 20
Low: 12



Sports

Lady Raiders win 12th straight

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CAMPUS CAPSULE

Thursday, Feb. 1

You are invited to become a member of **Phi Beta Lambda**! Meet the members of Phi Beta Lambda in the KUC Room 305 from 4:30-6:30 p.m. Phi Beta Lambda is open to all College of Business Majors/Minors and has no GPA restrictions. Come join us in a relaxed atmosphere and casual attire to discover what Phi Beta Lambda can do for you. For more information contact: Penny Hunter-Davis at 895-0072, Taylor Thompson at 898-3709, or Dr. Robert B. Blair at 898-2036.

MTSU College Democrats will hold a weekly meeting at 5 p.m. in KUC Room 314.

The Alliance of Students for the Development of Professional Clinical Psychology will meet Feb. 1 at 11 a.m. and 2 p.m., and Feb. 2 at noon in the Adult Services Center, KUC 320. We plan to discuss meeting times, locations, proposals for topics and guest speakers or presentations. Please come and make your voice heard! We want everyone to be able to make it to at least one meeting.

Monday, Feb. 5

Honors Student Association will hold its first monthly meeting of the spring semester. All HSA members and any honors students interested in joining HSA are welcome. The meeting will begin at 4:30 p.m. in Peck Hall 108.

Gamma Beta Phi will be meeting Feb. 5 and 6, at 5 p.m. in LRC 221.

Tuesday, Feb. 6

Career Placement Orientation for Seniors and Graduate Students at 11 a.m., KUC 318. Learn about placement services, resume expert, campus

interviews and employment opportunities. Presented by the MTSU Placement Center KUC 328, 898-2500.

Wednesday, Feb. 7

Resume Writing Workshop will be held at 2 p.m. in KUC 318. Presented by the MTSU Placement Center KUC 328, 898-2500. Resume critiques available anytime.

Student Life is sponsoring a second session in their leadership development series, in KUC 314. Students will have the opportunity to participate in **Communication-Experimental Learning**. Participant will play games to show how we communicate verbally and nonverbally and will discuss what they have observed. Any student may attend, but participation is limited.

Social Work Forum will meet Feb. 7 and 8 from 1-2 p.m. in JUB Dining Room A.

The Red Cross will be conducting a blood drive on the 3rd floor of the KUC, Feb. 7-8 from 11 a.m. - 5 p.m. Each donor will receive a Red Cross T-shirt, and Domino's Pizza will supply pizza for refreshment. A floating trophy will be awarded to the campus organization supplying the most donors. All donors will be greatly appreciated.

The Women in Music Business Association will meet on Thursday, Feb. 8 at 7 p.m. in Room 101 of the Mass Comm Building. The guest speaker will be Entertainment Attorney/Adjunct Full Professor of International Recording Industry Deborah Wagon to present "The Mira Smith Story. Everyone invited!

Interview Preparation Workshops, Thursday, Feb. 8

at 11 a.m. and 4 p.m. in KUC 318 Presented by the MTSU Placement Center KUC 328, 898-2500.

Sigma Tau Delta English Honor Society is meeting at 7 p.m. on Feb. 15 at the Red Rose Cafe. In addition to a social time we will be discussing the short story "Cathedral" by Ray Carver. Any interested students are welcome. For more information call Candace Moonshower at 646-4527.

All May 1996 Graduating Seniors: As a condition of graduation, you are expected to take the ACT-Comp. The test will be given on March 5, 6 and 7 in the James Union Building-Tennessee Room. On these dates you may choose from the following test times: 8:30 a.m., 1 p.m. or 6 p.m. The test should take approximately two and one-half hours.

Women's Leadership Conference will be held at MTSU on March 8. Featuring Harriett Woods as keynote speaker, the conference will also include workshops, a luncheon and the 1996 Tennessee Women of Achievement Awards. Registration deadline is Feb. 15 with a conference fee of \$15; late registration is due on March 1 with a late fee of \$18. Registration forms and additional information is available at the June Anderson Women's Center, JUB 206, call 898-2193.

The Gamma Iota Sigma Insurance and Phi Kappa Phi Honorary Fraternities will sponsor the 1996 MTSU Quiz Bowl on Thursday, Feb. 29. The contest will be held at 6 p.m. in the TV studio of the LRC and is open to all clubs and organizations. Teams, up to four people, must pay an entrance fee of \$15. Interested organizations

should either stop by KOM 226A or call 898-2673 or 898-2534 to enter.

The Japan Center of Tennessee is sponsoring a "Japanese Netsuke Exhibit." Developed during the 17th and 18th centuries, netsuke were created in Japan to prevent a man's medicine box or tobacco pouch from slipping through his kimono's belt. These miniature sculptures were originally made of ivory or wood. They are less than 2 inches high and portray in detail the religion, legends and culture of Japan. The exhibit is on display in the lobby of the Cope Administration Building through March. The exhibit is open Monday through Friday from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and on Saturday from 8:30 a.m. to noon.

Application deadline for the **Alpha Delta Mu Social Work Honorary Scholarship** is April 12. Applications can be obtained in the social work office. Criteria are posted with the applications.

1995-95 MTSU Student Handbooks are available in KUC 122 and KUC 128.

Ongoing events

Codependents Anonymous (Coda) will meet Thursday's from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. at St. Marks United Methodist Church, Room 109 under the red handrail. Coda is a fellowship of men and women whose common problem is an inability to maintain functional relationships. The only requirement for membership is a desire for healthy and fulfilling relationships with others and ourselves.

Adult Children of Alcoholics (ACOA) will meet Tuesday from 6 to 7 p.m. at St. Marks Methodist Church, 1403 E. Main St., Room 109. ACOA is a

12-step support group for people raised in an alcoholic or other dysfunctional family.

Lambda, an organization for gay, lesbian and bisexual students, faculty, non-students, and their supporters, will meet every Tuesday in the Mass Comm building, room 103, at 6:30 p.m. For further information write to MTSU Box 624 or call 780-2293.

Intervarsity Christian Fellowship will hold its weekly meetings on Tuesday at 8 p.m. and Campus Prayer meetings on Wednesday at 9 p.m., in KUC room 312. All campus ministries and all individuals are invited to attend.

Sure I Can Cope! is a support group for adult women students sponsored by the JAWC. Issues such as balancing family, finances, school, and other topics will be discussed. The group will meet Thursdays at 12:05 p.m. to 1:40 p.m. starting Jan. 25. Bring your lunch! Facilitated by Lydia Sun, a Psychology Graduate student. Space limited, call Mary Glantz at 898-5725 to register. Confidentiality in groups is encouraged.

Looking Forward is a group for female survivors of rape and sexual abuse. Topics such as safety, boundaries in relationships, effectiveness of coping skills, and ending isolation will be covered. Meets Wednesday from 2 to 3 p.m. Space limited, call Mary Glantz at 898-5725 to register. All inquiries are confidential and confidentiality in groups is encouraged. Sponsored by the JAWC.

Seniors and Graduate Students: create your resume with Resume Expert Plus Software and register with the Placement Center in one easy

step! Contact Placement and Student Employment Center KUC 328, 898-2500.

Wesley Foundation will be hosting an hour-long ongoing study group on Human Sexuality in the Christian Faith, Mondays at 5:30 p.m. at the Wesley Foundation.

Wesley Singers rehearsals will be held Wednesdays at 7:30 p.m. at the Wesley Foundation. Anyone who loves to sing is welcome.

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

Anyone interested in being a tutor or getting tutored, please contact Tanisha Harris of the **NAACP (Educational Committee)** at 898-4056.

MTSU Equestrian Team will hold regular meetings every Monday night at 7:00 p.m. in the TLC Sales Arena. Everyone is welcome!

Inroads Nashville, Inc. plans to recruit Sophomore and Junior Minority Students in marketing, computer information systems and business administration. With a GPA of 2.9 or better, successful recruits will have the opportunity to do internships with such firms as IBM, Price-Waterhouse and Northern Telecom. Those interested should immediately call Prof. B. Favissa at 898-2385 or see him in KOM 322G.

The Gospel According to Dr. Seuss, a reflective book study, meets Sundays at 4 p.m. in KUC 305. All are welcome to attend. Sponsored by the Canterbury Episcopal Campus Ministry.

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For more information, contact
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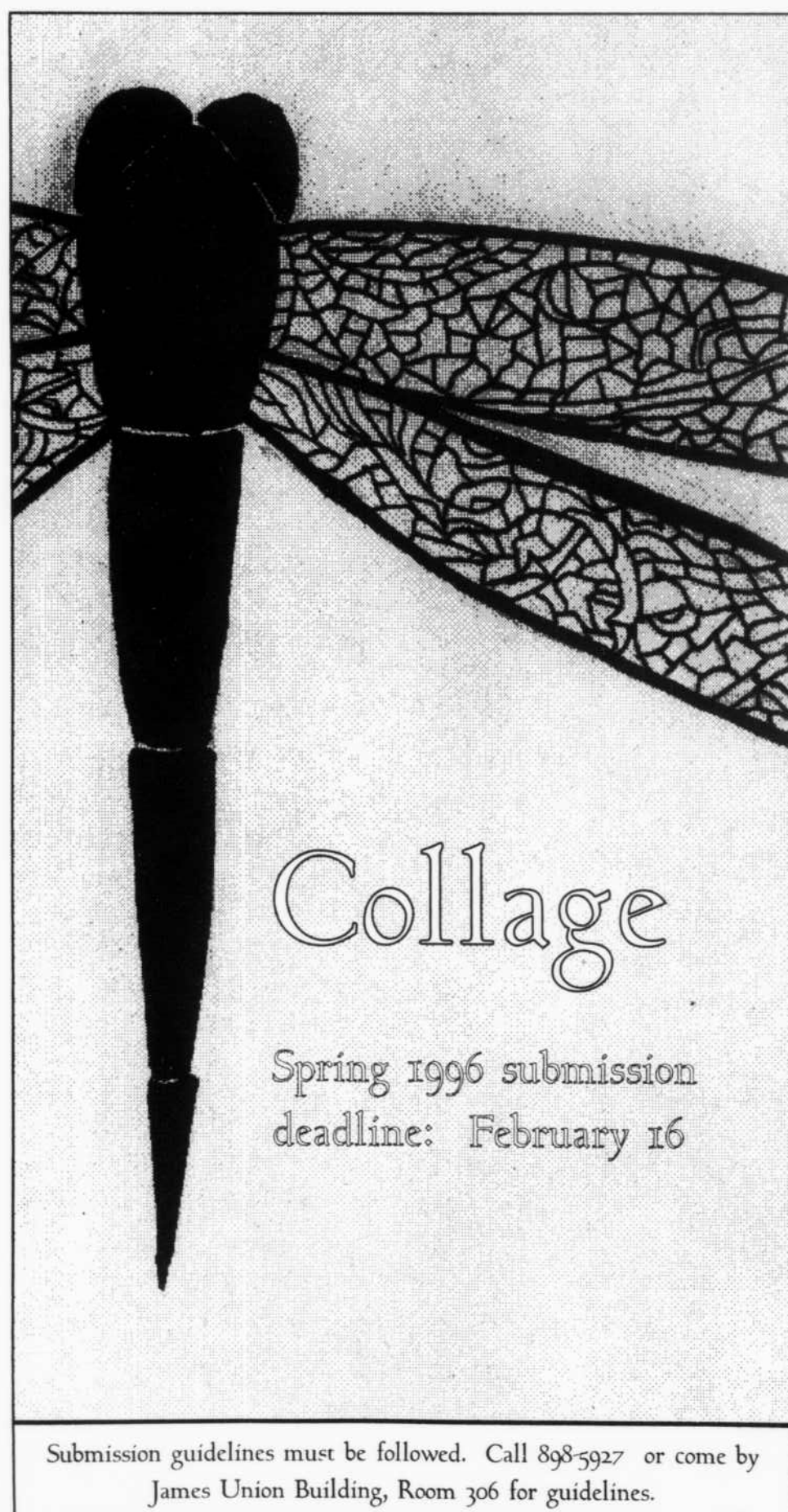
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Continuous enrollment growth creates scheduling challenges

Plenty of classroom space except in 'peak hours': Gillespie

By Lee Murphy/ staff

Many of us are all too familiar with the voice of TRAM giving us the bad news that "this section is closed." The odds are pretty good that this has something to do with MTSU's shortage of classroom space during the peak teaching hours.

The need for additional space was an area of recommendation made by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS) as part of MTSU's recent re-accreditation. The university responded with a follow-up plan and a commitment to pursue additional space, according to Faye Johnson, assistant to the provost and vice president for Academic Affairs.

"Space is generally a concern all over campus and has been," said Johnson, who directed MTSU's Institutional Self Study for SACS. "It's not something that can be changed overnight. These are long-term issues."

To put it in simple terms, the university needs additional space. However, measuring the current level of significance in classroom shortage isn't as simple.

"To say that we have a classroom shortage is true and not true, based upon your perspective," said Cliff Gillespie, dean of Admissions and Records.

According to Gillespie, various considerations such as the times classes are offered, the availability of faculty and student schedules all factor into the question.

"We have plenty of classrooms available, but it may not be at the time you want to go to class or the faculty wants to teach," Gillespie said. "I can provide classrooms any day of

the week after 2 p.m."

Problems arise because most students and faculty prefer the peak, or "primetime" hours, between 9 a.m. and 2 p.m., resulting in a shortage of classroom space during those hours. There are some "cramped" departments that need space no matter what time of day, like Psychology and the sciences.

"Some departments will tell you, and it is true, that if they schedule all of their classes in the afternoon, their enrollment will not be as good as some departments that schedule classes in the morning," Gillespie said. "This factors into the student's selection of courses and when they can go to school."

"Space becomes a problem because we want to have a schedule that is advantageous to the student's needs. It's in our best interest to schedule them during the hours they need, in order to fit it in with their work schedule, child-care schedule or commuting schedule."

Meeting the scheduling demands of students is complicated, according to Gillespie, especially for an institution that sees a high number of non-traditional and working students.

"We're not Harvard where everybody lives on campus and

walks to class. We're a very different kind of school," he said.

Gillespie feels that educating higher education officials and legislators about MTSU's unique student population is important when considering funding approval for additional space and faculty.

Aside from student schedules, Gillespie said that the physical space and structural differences of the classrooms and equipment must be acknowledged.

"Another very important factor is the ability of faculty to get to rooms," Gillespie said. "If we have someone who's handicapped or a student is handicapped, we need to take that into consideration. You want the classrooms to be as accessible as possible."

"Space becomes a problem because we want to have a schedule that is advantageous to the student's needs."

Cliff Gillespie
Dean of Admissions and Records

Additionally, the courses requiring maps and other necessary equipment must be taken into account when scheduling classrooms.

"There are a lot of things that go into the puzzle of sorting what is taught where,"

Gillespie said.

"The unfortunate circumstance is, for a long time, we had a lot of space, and then we grew so rapidly starting about six years ago, but we didn't build any new space. That's what cramped us."

The total student enrollment rose from 13,165 during the Fall of 1988 to 17,424 during the Fall of 1995.

The new \$22.2 million Business/Aerospace Building

currently being constructed should alleviate some of the university's cramping.

"The new building will certainly be a major improvement and give us some great relief," Gillespie said.

The new building will also free up a substantial amount of space in Kirksey Old Main, which in turn would free up additional space elsewhere, depending upon who moves where and what happens with the vacated space. This "surge" space has not yet been allocated to specific departments.

"It's sort of a domino affect. A lot of things will happen when Business/Aerospace opens up," Gillespie said.

The new building will add 32 general classrooms, eight computer classrooms and one lecture hall to the current 141 standard lecture rooms on campus, according to Campus Planning officials. In addition to the 141 standard lecture rooms, the university also has separate conference rooms, special equipment rooms and restricted space.

"We have a space problem right now, but once the new building is put in, it's going to make a huge difference," said Melissa Van Hook, director of the Scheduling Center.

The Scheduling Center utilizes "automated room scheduling software" which displays all the different classrooms and the courses taught in those rooms. According to Van Hook, the center tries to accommodate the needs of the various departments, but due to the level of demand, it is often difficult to satisfy everyone.

"The way that space affects classes that just can't be placed anywhere," Van Hook said. "The difficulty the center encounters is scheduling rooms for the "prime-time" classes because the demand is so high."

"We try to be fair in

Please see SPACE on page 4

MTSU Concerts presents

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Murphy Center

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\$55.75, \$45.50, \$35.50, and \$33.50.

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Call 898-2103 for more information.

MTSU Concerts presents

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Friday
February 9
8:00 p.m.

Murphy Center

Tickets are on sale now at Murphy Center and KUC Room 308. Reserved = \$24.25
MTSU students get discount with I.D.



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Friday, Feb. 2, 7:30 p.m. Murphy Center

All tickets reserved at \$14.50. Good seats still available.

For more information about ticket sales please call either 898-2103 or 898-2551.

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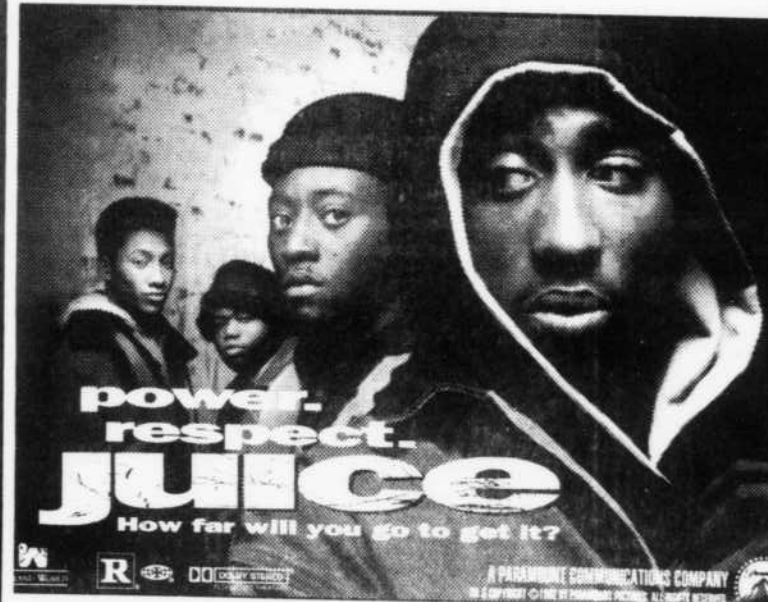
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SPACE: faculty-student ratio another concern

Continued from page 3

scheduling classes but sometimes we have to ask them [faculty] to change their time."

According to Van Hook, the departments change their teaching times each semester. The center encourages the departments to teach a certain percentage of their classes during the morning hours in order to free up space for other departments.

Van Hook said, that for the most part, the students who prefer 8 a.m. classes balance those who want to finish by noon.

"I could honestly say that if everybody wanted to teach from 8 a.m. until 10 p.m., or whatever the last time is at night, if they really spread their times out, it wouldn't seem like a space problem, but we have to consider when our students want to go to school, too," Van Hook said.

But it isn't just classroom shortage that plagues the scheduling of courses. The availability of faculty or the availability of money to hire the faculty is an issue as well.

"We're hoping the state will approve some funds but they always approve about half of what we think we need," Gillespie said. "We do

"We need our space to be modern, to be equipped with the teaching tools that you students deserve."

Cliff Gillespie
Dean of Admissions
and Records

nationally recruit and are able to hire very good people."

The tremendous volume of students in relationship to the number of staff and faculty was another area of focus during the SACS re-accreditation process. A committee has been implemented to address this issue along with the university's advising system.

Another major building that will improve the university's current space shortage is the new library.

"There are plans in the old master plan to convert the old

library to a student services area, where all the places that students need to go to get service would be in one location to serve students better," Gillespie said.

Some academic departments would like to convert the old library into a teaching facility. "The powers that be will have some tough decisions to make there," Gillespie said.

Duane Stucky, vice president of Finance and Administration, also acknowledged the university's "pressing space needs" and said that the new Business/Aerospace Building will make a huge difference in the number of classrooms available on campus.

"There are peak times when you can't find a room, so whether there is a shortage of classrooms is dependent upon your perspective," he said.

MTSU will be meeting with outside consultants in the near future to perform a space analysis using planning models.

"It will be very helpful to get a consultant in here to actually describe quantitatively what our space needs are," Stucky said.

Looking at other projected goals, Stucky said the university plans to submit

requests for two new buildings, an art center and a science facility, to the Tennessee Higher Education Commission, the body that makes funding recommendations to the state legislature.

Aside from the need for additional classroom space, there are administrative needs as well.

"It takes a lot of things to make the university function to serve students," Stucky said. "We have to have a records office, a dean of students office, a Sidelines office. All these things have space needs, and we try to consider them all."

"A lot of important things happen in the way people communicate, and so we want to try and maximize and improve our teaching space so the students and faculty will have the very best opportunity to interact with one another," Gillespie said.

"Is it a problem? We can live with what we have, but yes, it is a problem," Gillespie said. "We need more space, and in some academic areas, we need more and better space, such as the sciences."

"We need our space to be modern, to be equipped with the teaching tools that you students deserve." ●

University officials target library resource shortfall

By Mark Blevins/ staff

Gov. Don Sundquist has recommended that the state legislature fund a new library building for MTSU, but those funds will not affect the materials that go inside the library.

Library materials are currently deficient, according to university officials and the agency that accredits MTSU, the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS).

SACS recently evaluated and re-accredited MTSU, but plans to improve library resources had to be outlined before SACS granted re-accreditation.

SACS also said the space the new library will provide is inadequate. The library had to be designed smaller after university officials discovered that they could not get the original funds desired.

"If the university continues to expand, add new programs and increase its graduate enrollment, the proposed facility will be inadequate to accommodate a full library program when it is completed," stated a SACS report to the university last spring.

So the existing Todd Library will house some of the university's collection, according to Dean of the Library Don Craig.

It is not clear how much of the collection Todd will house because the plans for the new library will not be finished until the end of the semester, Craig said. However, he said the curriculum library, which primarily serves the College of Education, will probably stay in the older facility.

The library currently has about 600,000 bound volumes which 200,000 volumes less than institutions of

comparable size, Craig said. In a 1993 survey of 638 faculty members, 59 percent indicated that the 3,500 periodicals of which MTSU subscribes were inadequate to support graduate programs.

The library tries to make-up for the deficiencies by participating in an inter-library resource sharing program and utilizing electronic resources.

Last fall, the library subscribed to a commercial electronic database called the Expanded Academic Index. The index provides full text documents or abstract of a limited number of periodicals. That system can be accessed through the university computer server "frank."

The university outlined a three-year plan to boost library resources and told SACS that they would implement the plan.

In the first phase, expenditures per student will be raised to \$244 from the current spending of \$216, according to Craig. This phase will take five years to implement and will require annual increases of \$154,374.

The second phase, beginning in year six, will increase expenditures to \$281 per student and is contingent on the state's approval of the formula used to justify increases.

In the third phase, expenditures per student will be raised either to \$296 per student or to the level that the University of Memphis is funding its library.

"Dr. Walker has been very sensitive to the needs of the library and has made an effort to improve the situation," Craig said.

"One thing we have to remember is no library is going to have everything that every student or faculty member needs." ●

POLICE: police hope new satellite office promotes closer ties with residents

Continued from page 1

much as possible as would Moulthrop.

"We invite people to come in when they have a few minutes, talk to us, shoot the breeze," Miller said. "We always have a pot of coffee here, and anyone is welcome to come have a cup with us."

Miller said the satellite office cost the police department very little money.

"We owe this entire office to Tommy Wright and the folks at Housing. They gave us the space and built the room so that we can use it."

Georgiam Qiao, a resident for the last 4 1/2 years, said she was very happy to see the office open.

"I think the police are very good," Qiao said. "Sometimes at night when I go to check the mailbox, I see a police car cruise by, and it goes very slow,

and I know that they are checking on us. The office will help them do their job."

Angela Morrell, a nursing major, attended the opening with her two children, Cheyenne and Elijah. She said the satellite office is "a neat idea."

"It will give us some added safety and a resource to go to if we need it." ●


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OPINIONS

Thursday, February 1, 1996

SIDELINES

Page 5

Letters to the Editor

Homosexuality, freedom and criticism in debate

Homosexuality neither disease nor debilitating

To the Editor,

Okay. What's on my mind? Scott Link's opinion concerning discrimination and sexual orientation (*Sidelines*, Jan. 25). Scott claims to be interested in the improvement of the society in which we live. He argues that despite studies indicating a genetic tendency toward homosexuality, the issue of it being right or wrong remains to be determined in "the moral arena." Now I wondered, just *who's* moral arena does Scott think this issue belongs? Is it his moral arena? Well, he has the right to judge others if he chooses to do so, I guess. Is it the moral arena of a God he chooses to worship? Is it the moral arena of the mainstream society in which Scott lives? (Personally, I prefer to think for myself.) Just *who's* moral arena does he think this issue belongs?

I began to gain some insight into Scott's way of thinking when he begins to compare homosexuality to diseases such as alcoholism, AIDS, cerebral palsy and even the common cold. Scott argues that just because something is natural, does not make it "good." (Again, I am wondering *who* Scott considers ultimately responsible for this judgment?) Alcoholism may be genetically influenced. Society may consider it to be a disease, but this is because that is exactly

what it is, a debilitating disease, harmful to the individual suffering from it, as well as to those involved, and possibly to society as a whole. One may say the same about AIDS. Both of these conditions exist as opportunities for the development and realization of tremendous healing and compassion. As far as cerebral palsy is concerned, this is a condition brought on by damage to the brain before it has matured. Individuals with these conditions have just as much a right to life as others. They are beautiful people. The reason we try to cure disease, Scott, is because we realize that they are entitled to all the wonderful experiences life may have to offer them.

Homosexuality is neither a disease nor a debilitating condition. Gays and lesbians do not need a cure or compensation in order to live full, productive lives. What they do need, is what we are all entitled to, the freedom to live our lives in whichever manner we see fit, so long as we do not harm others, free of discrimination and judgment. To be included in the nondiscrimination clause is to have a sense of societal approval. Although this approval is not always important to an individual, it certainly alleviates any suffering entailed by a lack thereof. If sexual orientation is added to the clause at MTSU, its students may be proud to acknowledge their tolerance for diversity and their respect for all human beings, regardless of race, creed or sexual orientation. If this acceptance

cannot be found in a university composed of intelligent, reflective individuals, where can it be found?!

The state of society reflects those who make it up. Therefore, I think it is our responsibility, as individuals within our society, to evolve from out of the dark ages into an era of acceptance and understanding. All human beings are entitled to a life of freedom and individual preference. Personally, I think diversity is beautiful. I would never choose to live in a world in which we all held the same beliefs, opinions and preferences. I think [this is] to deny oneself of experience, culture and understanding. Wake up Scott, open your mind, this is 1996, and we are all human beings. Let's celebrate our diversity rather than discriminating on its basis.

Christa Pylant
Grad. Student Education

Criticism of opinion writer a cop out

To the Editor,

In response to Trey Hall's letter (criticizing Scott Link's "Opinions" column about homosexuality), Mr. Hall, you make the same mistake that many people do when presented with an opposing (and therefore offensive) viewpoint. You paint Mr. Link's column as a homophobic rant, and Mr. Link himself as a homophobe.

That is an easy cop-out. It allows you to totally ignore the validity of his argument, because if you can convince the public that he is a homophobe, no one will listen to him. It ain't that neat and tidy in the real world, kiddo.

Mr. Link makes no attack on homosexuals as individuals. He does not say that being homosexual makes any one person less valuable than the next. He is saying that he believes homosexuality is a harmful lifestyle, and is suggesting that it is a treatable condition. How is this a personal attack on you or any homosexual?

Everyone knows at least one alcoholic. The way most anyone would feel about that person is, "I love you, but I don't like to see you hurt yourself, and I want to help you get better." To accept a loved one's lifestyle that brings them harm is not a demonstration of love; it is the height of irresponsibility!

It is entirely possible to disagree with homosexuality, but still love and respect homosexuals. (In fact, didn't the last line to Mr. Link's column say this very thing?) Since there will always be those who consider homosexuality a sin, this attitude will become more and more prevalent. I suggest you get used to the idea, and stop labeling everyone of this opinion a homophobe. That kind of black-and-white oversimplification is the very thing gays have accused straights of for years, and it WILL NOT help the cause of acceptance in the least.

Dee Allen
Senior, Recording Industry

Prof. offers food for thought on UEC debate

To the Editor,

To Scott Link: I guess when you compare gay, lesbian, and bisexual people to diseases, junkies, thieves and murderers, WE KNOW WHERE YOU STAND. Mr. Link, NO ONE needs the love YOU offer at the end of your article and no one is asking for your approval (WHAT ARROGANCE!). Rather, what most gay, lesbian and bisexual people need AND DESERVE is common decency when they are addressed and the same measure of respect as other people.

Not wanting to dignify the SLANDEROUS article you wrote with any further comment, I nevertheless thought the *Sidelines* readership who are following the debate initiated by the UEC might find the following to be food for thought. In 1942, Agnes Elizabeth Benedict wrote in "Progress to Freedom":

Whenever someone speaks with prejudice against a group—Catholics, Jews, Italians, Negroes [or gay, lesbian and bisexual people]—someone else usually comes up with a classic line of defense: "Look at Einstein!" "Look at Carver!" "Look at Toscanini!" ["Look at Michelangelo!"] So, of course, Catholics (or Jews, or Italians, or Negroes) must be all right. They mean well, these defenders. But their

approach is wrong. It is even bad. What a minority group wants is not the right to have geniuses among them but the right to have fools and scoundrels without being condemned as a group.

Charles R. Jansen, Ph.D.
Professor of Art History

B-ball fanatics should show a little respect

To the Editor,

I'm a first year student, and I recently attended several MTSU basketball games in the past week or so. What I viewed during these games became very discouraging to me as a MTSU student and as a fan of basketball. As the visiting teams failed considerably, many other MTSU students shouted obscenities and gestures toward the visiting teams. As I watched these students make their gestures and shout their degrading remarks, feeling proud to be a MTSU student was not one of my emotions that I was feeling. I'm all for cheering and booing, but when one is representing this university, we need to do it with respect and pride.

As I sat near a Southern University fan in the student section, I really felt like apologizing for the majority of our student section after time had expired.

Michael Brooks
Junior, Elementary Education

SIDELINES

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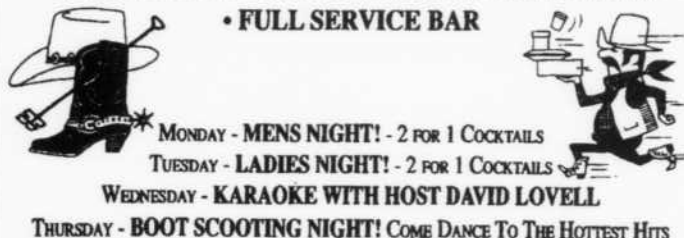
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FEATURES

Page 6

SIDELINES

Thursday, February 1, 1996

Jack Johnson delivers 'distorted soul'

Local band goes for the knockout with debut album

By Yanetra Mitchell / staff

Before you can free the Jack Johnson CD from its cellophane wrapper and set it spinning on the player, you must first read the message in bold purple letters typed across the front: "Free yourself from yourself. Put away any preconceived notions and emotions that developed when you picked up this recording. This is distorted soul. Open your mind to the world inside."

By the time you finish listening to all 14 tracks, you may actually find yourself redefining the whole alternative, mainstream and rhythm and blues thing.

Jack Johnson is the name of a band composed of not one, but four guys who both play instruments and sing: Paul Cochrane — lead guitar and vocals; Kurtis McFarland — lead vocals, guitar and loops; Tres Biles — loops and vocals; and Steve Hazelwood — bass. They acquired the name of their band from an actual black heavyweight boxer named, who other than, Jack Johnson.

As history reports from the early 1900s, Johnson was a world champion — the first black boxing champion. He won fights, drove fast cars and dated white women.

"Jack Johnson wanted to be accepted not just as a black man, but as a man," McFarland says. "He got a lot of flack for who he loved ... He was somebody who represented a lot of cool things."

Naturally, since white Americans did not share their civil rights with their black counterparts during this time, Johnson received criticism and endured imprisonment. But, according to McFarland, Johnson found a way to add humor to his misfortunes.

"He was very comical," McFarland adds. "When you've got so many people hating you in the world, it helps to have a good sense of humor."



Jack Johnson

However, Jack Johnson the band enjoys much more freedom of expression than Jack Johnson the man ever did.

In fact, you could say Jack Johnson is still in the ring ... making music. The debut album, "Round One," on the independent PC! Music label, features 14 lively tracks full of a mixture of musical sounds — none of which could be pitched into a certain categorical basket designating its type. Each one is unique, surprising and intense. This formula exemplifies the band's goal toward diversity and further explains the message on the album cover.

Although the members know the media's temptations to falsely classify them, they resist any attempts to do so. In fact, the only classification the band believes truly depicts their music is the one they have chosen for their blend of '70s funk and '90s alternative

grind: distorted soul.

"The only place we want to be classified under is distorted soul," McFarland says. "[But] there's no section for that in record stores."

Enclosed in its own line-drawn box on their press release is Jack Johnson's warning to listeners and media personalities alike: "Jack Johnson, the band, does not fit into some nice, neat little package of musical convention either." Furthermore, since the band includes men of two different races, it does not cater to one group of people, appealing instead to a multiracial audience. The band's members even have varying musical tastes and influences, ranging from Stevie Wonder and Art of Noise to the classical tones of Mozart.

"There are many perceptions of what this music could be," McFarland says. "Don't allow yourself to be inhibited by what you've seen before."

He adds, "We try to make music that we enjoy."

Most of the tracks on "Round One" display Jack Johnson's eclectic tastes, too.

"Hit," the first track, introduces the senses to a loud, yet mellow, voice surrounded by hard strikes from a bass guitar. Although most of the tracks concern general interests of life, "Hit" reveals the true fatal story of a 7-year-old girl from Bristol, Tenn., who was killed after a man shot her during a drug deal. The man later committed suicide after the incident.

Track 10, "Sunshine," a cover of a Bill Withers song, appropriately fits the musical tone of the band and track 13, "Do It For Love," resembles a ballad with a rock twist. The beat starts out soft but yields to a roaring finish.

"When you fall in love, you do things that you wouldn't do normally," McFarland says of the song.

Then, after nearly 40 minutes of bass, soul and funk, "Free," the last

track, ironically sets the mind at ease to a sentimental tune of a man killed by his spouse's lover.

If any of the band members' names sound familiar, each played in a group before finding each other in Jack Johnson. McFarland used to be a member of Dancing With Ellie and toured with both Me Phi Me and Arrested Development. After McFarland stopped touring with Me Phi Me, Biles later joined the group himself and would also play in UBU. Cochrane once belonged to Laughing Storm Dogs.

But it was not until 1992, when McFarland left Dancing With Ellie, that set things rolling for the future of Jack Johnson. He had met Cochrane at MTSU in 1986 and the two formed a musical interest. For three years, they recorded demos and performed in musical showcases with other local musicians.

In April of 1995, Cochrane, McFarland and original band members Ethan Pilzer and Simone White formed Jack Johnson and began recording various tracks. It took five days to record and mix "Round One." Over the next several months, they performed shows in Tennessee, Kentucky and even New York.

Furthermore, Jack Johnson has a couple of shows lined up in February. On Feb. 16, the band will play in the 1996 Nashville Entertainment Association Extravaganza, a celebration of various national, regional and local musical bands. They are also featured on the NeA CD sampler. On Feb. 23, they will perform at 328 Performance Hall in Nashville for "Black Friday," a show featuring black alternative music, but not solely geared toward African-Americans. The show, McFarland says, will serve as a guide for Jack Johnson to "conquer the world by storm."

Yeah ... the fight is only in round one. ●

"There are many perceptions of what this music could be."

-Kurtis McFarland

ENTERTAINMENT EXTRA!

TODAY

THE BORO (895-4800) Soul Satisfaction rocks the house at 8 p.m. Only \$4 at the door.

BUNGANUT PIG (893-7860) Lindsey plays live at 8 p.m. No cover. JONATHAN'S (895-1133) offends at 10 p.m. with Obscene Gesture. No Cover.

KUC THEATER (Student Programming 2551) goes ballistic with it's final showing of "Strange Days."

MAINSTREET (890-7820) kicks it with the Velcro Pigmies at 10 p.m. for 4 bucks.

SQUEEZER'S (896-8175) gets blessed by Godwater at 9 p.m.

FRIDAY

THE BORO hosts Hard Case at 9:30. \$3.

BUNGANUT PIG takes you to the river with Backwaters at 9 p.m.

CACTUS JACK'S (896-3609). Located at I-24 at 231S behind Bubba's Food Outlet) rocks when Wheatfeild blows into town. Party starts at 10 p.m.

JONATHAN'S welcomes back the Mud Brothers. 10 p.m.

MAINSTREET has some fun when Starbilly and Naked Sam get rockin'. It all starts at 10 p.m. for \$4.

SQUEEZER'S gets groovy with the Laughing Storm Dogs at 9 p.m.

SATURDAY

THE BORO rages with Old Mother Haggard. Show starts at 9:30 for \$3 at the door.

BUNGANUT PIG hosts The Bunganuts (No joke!) at 9 p.m.

CACTUS JACK'S let's Wheatfeild mosey in for another night. Same time; same price.

MAINSTREET welcomes the Beat Prophets at 10 p.m. with \$4 at the door.

SQUEEZER'S presents the vocal styling of Miranda Louise at 9 p.m.

SUNDAY

THE BORO gets shakin' as Alex Ogbourne takes the stage 9 p.m. No cover.

KUC THEATER drinks it up with "Juice" 4 p.m./ \$2.

SQUEEZER'S jams with Crosstown Traffic at 9 p.m.

MONDAY

BUNGANUT PIG welcomes the Warren Brothers at 8 p.m.

CACTUS JACK'S encourages male bonding with Men's Night and 2-for-1 cocktails.

KUC THEATER continues its run of "Juice." 6:30 & 9 p.m./ \$2.

TUESDAY

BORO hosts Rub at 9:30. \$3 at the door.

BUNGANUT PIG hosts Ladies' Night featuring Lisa Zanghy at 8 p.m.

CACTUS JACK'S gives it up for the sisters with Ladies' Night and 2-for-1 cocktails.

KUC THEATER shows "Carmen Jones" at 6:30 & 9 p.m./ \$2.

MAINSTREET kicks it with A Million Worlds, Fluid Ounces and the Rorrys. Everything rocks at 10 p.m. \$4 at the door.

WEDNESDAY

BORO hosts The Nationals at 9:30 p.m. for \$3.

BUNGANUT PIG welcomes the Columbia Highway Bluegrass Band at 8 p.m.

CACTUS JACK'S spotlights you! It's Karaoke Night with David Lovell.

KUC THEATER shows "Tuskegee Airmen" 6:30 & 9 p.m./ \$2.

JONATHAN'S rocks this and every Wednesday with Tall Paul.

MAINSTREET gets funky with Aggy Colored Karma. Show starts at 10 p.m. \$4 cover charge at the door.

Jazz legend to perform Friday

By Joey Butler / staff

A legendary jazz sideman will be making an appearance at MTSU Friday, Feb. 2.

As part of African-American History Month, Herman Green and the Green Machine will perform in the Mass Communications Building TV studio at 6 p.m. on Friday.

The concert will be broadcast live on Channel 8 and is being produced entirely by students in the Advanced Production Seminar class in the Radio-Television/Photography department. A signal will be sent via microwave from the Mass Communications Building to Channel 8.

In addition to being broadcast, the concert will be recorded and used for a possible live album.

Green recorded an album at MTSU last summer as part of a

faculty development project and several recording industry students took part in the recording and mixing process.

Green, a saxophone and flute player from Memphis, Tenn., has played with some of the biggest names in the jazz world, including John Coltrane, Miles Davis, Dave Brubeck, Milt Jackson and Clark Terry. He was also a member of Lionel Hampton's band in the late 1950s and early 1960s, where he recorded and performed with Hampton at New York City's famous Carnegie Hall.

Backing up Green is his Green Machine band, made up of guitarist Calvin Newborn, drummer Samarai Celestial and organist Tony Thomas.

All MTSU students are encouraged to attend the concert taping. ●



Dr. Judson solves your problems

Dear Father Judson,

I want you to know that I have faithfully read your columns with avid eagerness, pantingly awaiting each new edition of Sidelines so I can once again be impacted by your awesome scintillating advice such as that which you have already revealed. No matter how wisdom-seeking and crucial a cry for advice from a reader, or how infinitely stupid the reader's problem, you rise to towering response with utter bull s**t. What a paradox of a columnist you are! Always consistently full of s**t.

Paradox? Or is that a synonym? Yes! Keep up the fabulous work, Father Judson. You are the synonym man of my dreams!

Father Judson, are you celibate?

Fantasy Woman

Dear Fantasy Woman,

It was nice to get your letter. I'm sorry that we had to edit it, but this is a "family" newspaper and I can't just print the word s**t (see what I mean).

Hours and hours of gut-wrenching work goes into each column. It takes a lot of time and skill to mold each little globule of ideas and produce the end result.

In response to your question regarding celibacy, I am celibate. As mentioned in a previous column, I am not a priest, I just have a really hard time getting dates. Think about it, my first name is FATHER for crying out loud! Do you think women are going to beat down my door to get the opportunity of whispering, "Ohh, Father," into my ear during a moment of passion?!!

Thanks a lot for reminding me how much of a loser I really am!

Dr. Father Judson

Dear Dr. Father,

I'm very disturbed by recent events in the news. I have no life of my own, so I must live vicariously through the lives of celebrities. What am I to do now that Michael and Lisa Marie Jackson are no longer together? If there's no hope for such a wonderful couple as the Jacksons, what hope is there for some ordinary schlub like me? And who's going to get custody of Bubbles and the llama? Oh, Dr. Father, this is just a tragedy! First Julia and Kieffer, then Julia and Lyle, then Burt and Loni. Kathie Lee and Frank are all I have left. Help me, please!!

Inquiring Mind at MTSU

Dear Inquiring Mind at MTSU,

You're not the only one out there that doesn't have a life. Although you very well may be a "schlub" (nice word choice), you are still alive and breathing. That, my friend, is a good thing.

You just need to remember that there are some things in this world that you can't control. Michael and Lisa Marie is not one of those things! I bet you didn't buy the new CD did you? Did you know that financial troubles are one of the leading causes of marital trouble? Although I don't have any statistical support, it just seems like money could cause trouble in marriages.

So look at it like this: You didn't buy the disc. You didn't help them in their financial situation. YOU ARE TO BLAME FOR THE DIVORCE.

You could also apply the same theory to all of Julia's relationships. Your only hope for inner peace is to support Kathie Lee in anything she does.

I know you are a concerned fan and I'm sure that things will work out in your life. Just remember that even if you are a loser, you're not the only one. Winning isn't everything and neither is a good advice column.

Dr. Father Judson

* Dr. Father Judson is a licensed bulls**ter. If you must write him, please do so at: Dr. Father Judson, P.O. Box 42. ●

Lady Raiders run win streak to a dozen

By Sean P. O'Toole/staff

At some point in every season even the best of teams will go through slumps.

Up until Monday night's game against Murray State at Murphy Center, the Lady Raiders had not yet experienced one this season.

However, this changed Monday night versus the Lady Racers.

Despite a hard-fought 68-51 victory, head coach Lewis Bivens said he was not very pleased with his team's performance.

"I do not think we played very well tonight," Bivens said. "We were not very organized and we had too many people standing around."

This apparent lack of concentration may have been caused by the absence of Jessica Beaty in the Lady Raider line-up, who was injured during the UT-Martin game on Saturday night and has been lost to a torn ACL at least until the OVC tournament in March.

"Maybe we were trying to win it for her," senior guard Heather Prater said. "We just did not get it done tonight. I forced more shots tonight than I usually do, as did most of the team. It is going to be hard to play without her because everybody has to step it up a notch."

For the first time in seven games MTSU trailed when Murray jumped out to an early 5-0 lead before the Lady Raiders composed themselves and outscored Murray 28-4 over the next 12 minutes.

At the halftime mark, the Lady Raiders had held Murray to just 16 points on 7 of 29 shooting, the lowest first half point total by any team in the OVC this season.

The Lady Raiders eventually walked away with their 12th straight victory placing them just four wins away from breaking the school record set in 1987.

Prater led the team with 17 points, and hit three 3-pointers, to put her within four of breaking the all-time record, held by Kristi Brown (206, 90-93). Prater said the record is the furthest thing from her mind.

"I am not even thinking about it," Prater said. "It is a good feeling to be 8-0 in the conference and all, but we have a tough road trip coming up, and it is only going to get harder."

Buck scored 11 points and pulled down six rebounds but said she was disappointed that she did not play a bigger role in filling the void left by Beaty's injury.



Brian G. Miller/staff

Senior Lady Raider guard Trella Thomas flies into a Murray State defender during Monday night's 68-51 victory at Murphy Center. The Lady Raiders will be riding a 12-game winning streak into Clarksville Saturday when they face the Lady Governors from Austin Peay.

"I do not know what was wrong with me tonight. I needed to be more aggressive and grab more rebounds, and I just did not get it done," Buck said.

Carlita Elder, who started in place of Beaty, scored nine points and

grabbed five rebounds.

"Carlita can be as good as she wants to be. She battled tonight and she will be important while Jessica is out," said Prater.

Murray's superstar forward, Stephanie Minor, led the Lady Racers

Beaty out with injury, may return by tourney

Junior forward Jessica Beaty, one-third of the Lady Raiders "terrible threesome," alongside Heather Prater and Jonelda Buck, suffered a partial tear of her Anterior Cruciate Ligament (ACL), and will be out of action until at least the OVC tournament which will be held at the Nashville Municipal Auditorium March 2-4.

Beaty suffered the injury in the final minutes of the Lady Raider-UT-Martin game on Saturday night. While driving the lane, Beaty collapsed to the floor and began shrieking in pain. Later she told team doctors that she just felt the knee give out, according to team trainer Karin Whitaker.

"She does not know exactly how she hurt it," Whitaker said. "She just felt it give way."

Despite the injury, Whitaker said Beaty's chances are good to return by the OVC tournament. "She is going to rehab it, and depending on how the swelling goes up or down, she will be back."

Whitaker also emphasized Beaty's toughness.

"Knowing Jessica, she will do whatever it takes to get back out on the floor," Whitaker said. "She is the toughest kid in the world, the type who will be the hero, and she listens and follows directions. She would not cry when she hurt it, and I think she will tough it out."

Beaty was averaging 12 points and six rebounds a game before the injury. ●

with 18 points and 15 rebounds.

"We just need to be more aggressive," Bivens said. "We played great defense for 70 feet of the floor, but played bad those last 20 feet of it." "We put them on the line too much, too. We played a lot of touch basketball and we need to play more foot basketball."

Next up for the Lady Raiders is a trip to Clarksville on Saturday to face Austin Peay, who the Lady Raiders defeated at home back on January 6th, 72-56. Tip-off has been changed from 5:45 to 1:30, to accommodate for TV coverage of the men's game. ●

Despite loss, Murray game shows Raiders are fired up



Robservations /Rob Nunley

On the surface, Monday night's Blue Raider - Murray State game may look like just another loss to many people.

A lot of folks that weren't there will see the score on television or in the paper might say yes, it was a close game, but it's just another mark in the "L" column for the Raiders.

But if you were there, and a couple of thousand of you were, you know it was more than that. You saw for yourselves that this year's MTSU squad is world's apart from past teams in terms of depth, tenacity and mental toughness.

Maybe it was the fact that a win would put Middle a half-game out of first in the conference, when in the preseason most people predicted they would finish fifth. Or maybe it was because the veterans on the team remember being put out of last year's tournament in the first round by Murray. Then again, it could have been the pride of defending your home court.

I'm not on the team so I can't say what motivated the men in blue on Monday. But something certainly did, because they played as hard, if not harder, than I've seen them play in a long time, and I've been to a whole lot of games.

Eleven of the 12 Raiders on the active roster saw action in the first half of Monday's game. That's depth. And while the impact of some players' contributions won't be noted on the local evening news, I feel it's only fair to make note of them here.

Brent Secrest only played ten minutes of the Murray game, but they were ten of the most ferocious minutes I've seen the 6', 7" senior play in a long time. Scoring four points and grabbing five rebounds, Secrest was all over the place when he was in there, banging bodies, crashing the boards and making baskets inside, things that aren't easy when you're posting up against the defending OVC champion's big men.

Then there's Velvious Goodloe. Goodloe is only averaging seven or eight minutes a game, but while he is in there I don't think anyone has more impact on a game, whether it's running around in a motion offense, screwing up the opposition's zone, or leaping against seven-footers to clean the defensive glass. I hate to use that worn-out old cliché, but he really can jump out of the gym. I wonder if there's any truth to the rumor that if you put a quarter on top of the backboard, he can jump up, grab it and leave two dimes and a quarter.

Then there's the big man, David Washington. After the Southern game, when he played 23 minutes and only got three points and one rebound, a lot of people began doubting whether or not David was working as hard as he could have been.

Coach Farrar benched Washington for the entire UT-Martin game, and the coach's strategy certainly seemed to pay off Monday, when Washington came off the bench to rack up season-high tying marks of 14 points and eight rebounds in only 22 minutes of action. That's not to mention the fact that Washington hit a perfect four-of-four from the free-throw line (not an aspect of the game that is particularly stressed when you're 6', 10").

The point is that even though the Raiders came up short on the scoreboard, they proved a lot in the loss to Murray State. They showed that the entire team is committed to doing their part and working hard to bring Middle back to its former status as a basketball power.

And who knows, when we head up to Murray, maybe we'll be the ones coming out on top. And when the OVC tournament starts at the end of the month, maybe we'll be the ones sending the Racers home early. ●

Blue Raiders lose nail-biter to Murray, 73-72



Brian G. Miller/staff

Take it to the hole

Forward Aylton Tesch lays up a shot during Monday night's 73-72 loss to Murray State while teammates Brent Secrest and Roni Bailey block out defenders. The Raiders' game with Austin Peay will be seen on SportSouth (cable channel 33) Saturday at 4 p.m.

By Rob Nunley/staff

It was a tooth-and-nail battle all the way Monday night at Murphy Center but in the end the Blue Raiders found themselves on the losing end of a 73-72 decision to the OVC-leading Racers from Murray State University.

Three Blue Raiders scored in double figures in a game which saw five lead changes and nine ties. The last came with only 1:28 remaining in the game.

The loss moved MTSU's record to 10-8 (4-4 OVC) putting the Blue Raiders in a tie for fourth place in the conference. The Racers' record improved to 12-5 (6-1 OVC) giving them a one-game lead over Tennessee State in the conference standings.

"It was really a good game," Raider head coach David Farrar said. "I think Murray State's a really good team, they have the capacity to swell up and play harder as the game goes on."

Turnovers and poor field-goal shooting plagued the Blue Raiders throughout the game but especially in the second half. Despite these problems, Middle was able to stay within a few points of the Racers for the entire game.

"Our undoing was probably our turnovers that I don't think normally we would make, especially out of a couple of key people," Farrar said. "We played very hard and we played very well at times, but our inability to make almost unforced errors was about the only area that I was particularly disappointed in."

After Murray State took the initial lead, the Raiders battled back and tied the score at 11. Middle continued to work against the Racers' swarming full-court press and took the lead six times in the first half.

Junior guard Tyrone Barksdale missed a last second 3-point attempt as the first half was ending, but center David Washington grabbed the rebound and scored before the buzzer to give the Raiders a 38-33 halftime lead.

The Raiders shot 43 percent in the

first half to 39 percent for Murray and out rebounded the Racers 40-31, including 15-8 on the offensive boards.

"I thought we played smart, I thought we played hard, and out rebounding them in the first half I thought was the reason we were where we were," Farrar said.

The Racers quickly came back in the second half behind their big weapons, guards Vincent Rainey and Marcus Brown. Rainey scored 12 of the Racers' first 14 points in the second half. However, Middle stayed in the game with two consecutive 3-pointers from Tim Gaither allowing the Raiders to regain the lead at 48-43.

Seeing the lead slip away again seemed to fire up the Racers' intensity level. They went on a 10-0 run to take an advantage that they would never relinquish.

Rainey and Brown connected on four out of six free throws in the final minute of the game giving them a 73-69 lead with less than ten seconds to play. Tim Gaither buried a 3-pointer at the buzzer but it was too little and too late as Murray was able to escape with the one-point win.

Murray State's Rainey led all scorers in the game with 32. Teammate Brown added 20 points and eight rebounds.

Gaither led the Raider attack with 19 points, six rebounds, two assists and two steals. Forward Aylton Tesch added 13 points and 10 rebounds, and Washington contributed 14 points and eight rebounds.

Washington was making a comeback of sorts to the Blue Raider lineup coming in off the bench after sitting out last Saturday's game against UT-Martin.

"Coach gave me a second chance, so it was time for me to get in there and show him that it was worthwhile," Washington said.

"Games like that, when each team comes out and plays hard, it always comes down to the wire," Washington added. "We made some minor mistakes, but we can correct them." ●

Duke's 'Cameron Crazies', eat your hearts out

'Freewilly Gang' and 'Nod Squad' add zest to MTSU hoops

Joel Frey/staff

Followers of this year's Lady Raider and Blue Raider basketball teams have more than likely become familiar with two groups of students firmly entrenched in Section C of the Murphy Center.

While they may have not yet gained the national acclaim of a group like the "Cameron Crazies" at Duke University for instance, MTSU's "Freewilly Gang" and "Nod Squad" have nonetheless made their presence known at each Lady Raider and Blue Raider home game this season.

The Freewilly Gang started the season as a single student wanting to show support for Blue Raider basketball.

Brandon Burton, a junior psychology major from Fairfax, Va., said when the season began he just wanted to come out and see some quality basketball games.

"When I came to the first few games of the season, I really felt we looked good," Burton said. "I think both teams offer a lot of excitement to MTSU so I figured by bringing a big group out to the games it was the best thing I could do to show my school spirit."

Since then, the Freewilly Gang has evolved into a multitude of approximately 50 students adorned in MTSU



Brian G. Miller/staff

Members of the Freewilly Gang get rowdy during Monday's game against Murray State. The Freewilly Gang (so-named by Raider coach David Farrar) and the Nod Squad (named for Raider forward Nod Carter), are fixtures at every MTSU home game.

blue and white, faces painted, signs in hand, ready and eager to incite wrath into anyone claiming allegiance to teams other than the Blue Raiders.

Although it was Burton who played a major role in convincing fellow members of the student body to show more enthusiasm at basketball games, he was not responsible for the groups unique name.

"Actually we were given our name by Coach Farrar," Burton said. "None of us have really figured out what exactly it means, but we figure if

Coach Farrar wants to call us the 'Freewilly Gang' then that is what we will go by."

Fellow Freewilly Gang member, Michael Larkins, a senior Radio/TV major from Decaturville, said he wishes more fans would come and show school spirit for the basketball teams.

"Since Brandon got me to come out to the first game the Blue Raider bug bit me," Larkins said. "It is unfortunate this university is plagued by fair weather fans throughout the community and an

apathetic student body."

Situated above the scoreboard in the student section, the "Nod Squad" is comprised of mostly veteran MTSU fans who have followed the teams in both good and bad times.

Nod Squad member, Brandon Nichols, a senior Recording Industry major from Louisville, Ky. said both men's and women's teams have offered unparalleled excitement and competitiveness in comparison to recent years.

"Our group has followed

Blue Raider hoops for a long time and we all feel this year could be a breakthrough year for our school," Nichols said. "I really feel our women are THE best team in Tennessee and our men have played very well despite three heartbreaking losses at home."

Nichols said the group's name has a two-fold origin.

"Well, Nod Carter is one of our favorite players, of course," Nichols said. "He is a hometown product (Oakland High) and we really like to watch him on the court. But we didn't think of 'Nod Squad' until one game when we were all nodding in approval of his play and then someone suggested the name and it has stuck ever since."

Blue Raider center David Washington said he, as well as the entire team, appreciates the support and encouragement the Freewilly Gang and Nod Squad provide at home games.

"During the course of the game, admittedly, we are not really paying attention to what is going on in the stands," Washington said. "However, during time-outs it feels really good to hear those guys going crazy in the stands. It gives us an emotional lift."

What does it take to become a member of the Freewilly Gang or Nod Squad?

Both Burton and Nichols said the requirements are not strenuous.

"Anyone who can come out here and show some school spirit and enthusiasm for our teams is more than welcome to sit next to me at any game," Burton said. ●

Rec Center to host quad rugby tourney

Krys Spain/staff

The fifth annual Middle Tennessee Quad Rugby Classic wheelchair tournament will be held all this weekend at the Rec Center.

The three-day Classic, set to begin at 9 a.m. on Friday, is the second largest tournament of its kind in the nation with twelve teams from all across the United States competing, including five of the nation's top ten.

Quad rugby is described as a cross between basketball and ice hockey, with four players per team working to cross a goal line in their wheelchair with the ball.

"It's a fast-paced game, there is a lot of chair contact," said Jan Dodson, Rec Center aquatic director and organizer of the tournament. "All chair contact is legal, except spinning, but no body contact is allowed. It is like a demolition derby in wheelchairs."

Sponsors of the tournament include Sigma Phi Epsilon, Body Drench, Easter Seals and Eagle Sports Chairs, who provide the teams with racing wheelchairs.

"What we do is provide the manpower and chauffeuring around," Tim Harrell, a member of Sigma Phi Epsilon said. "The whole chapter gets involved. It is our biggest project."

"Sigma Phi Epsilon has been a godsend," Dodson said. "They pretty much run it for us. The guys really get into it, they get really fired up, and spend a lot of time and effort with it."

Volunteers are welcome to help out with the weekend tournament. Anyone interested in volunteering can contact Dodson at 898-2104. ●

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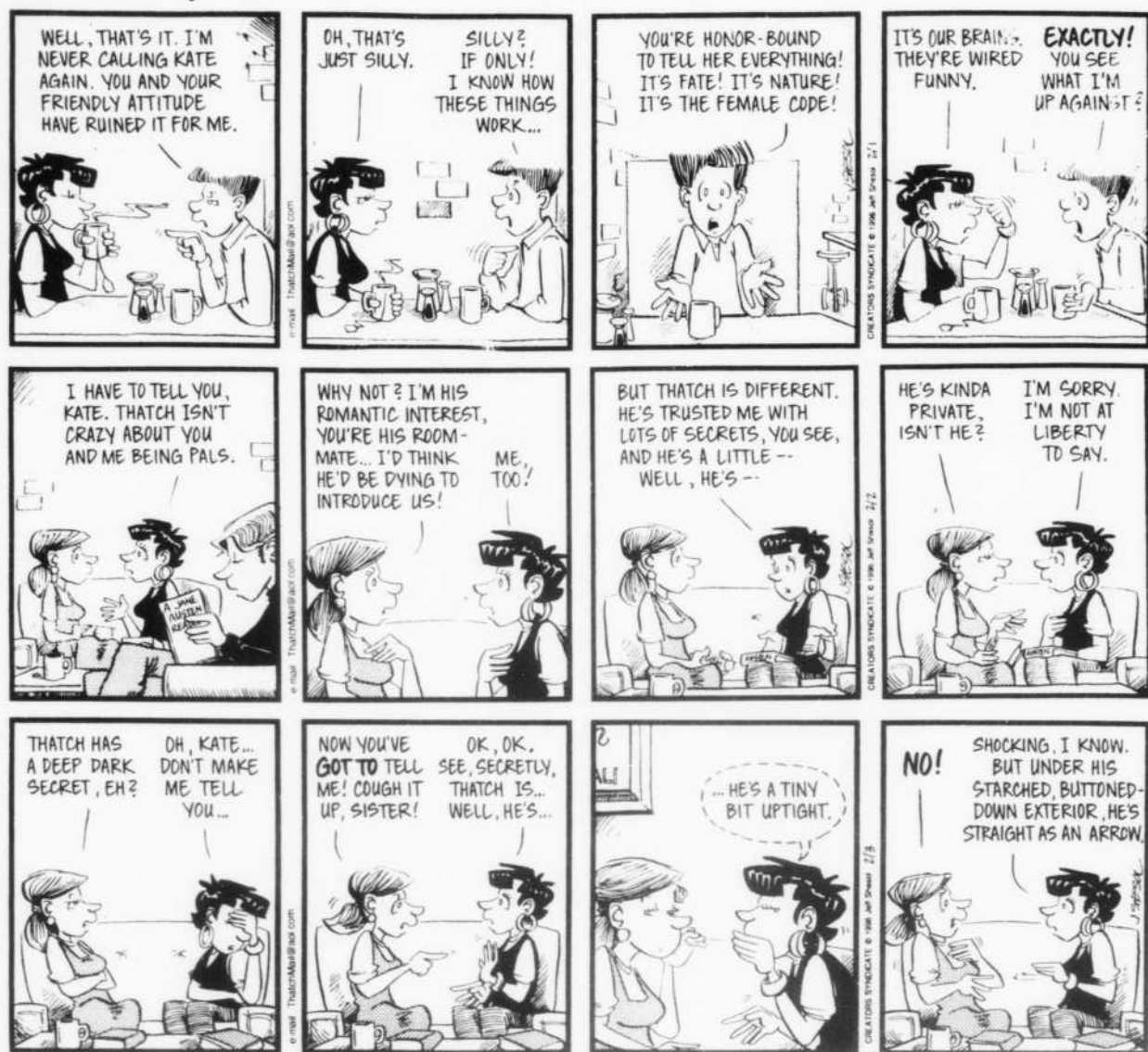
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THATCH by Jeff Shesol



New Housing Director speaks about future of housing

By Mark Gibson/staff

New Housing Director Debra Sells spoke with a group of students in Smith Hall Tuesday night about changing current campus housing conditions.

Sells said that she wanted to bring about changes, but that she has reservations.

"I think the most important thing I want to point out is that MTSU is not ASU (Arizona State University)," Sells said, who recently transferred from ASU. "What worked at Arizona State is not necessarily going to work in Tennessee."

"When I started at ASU nine years ago, it was then where MTSU is now, in terms of being ready for a huge growth period," Sells said. "It was exciting, and it was hard work."

The students who gathered in the Smith Hall Lobby were almost entirely Housing staff,

including resident assistants (RAs), hall directors, and David Stukbauer, housing coordinator in Area II.

The Housing staff present told Sells they would like to be able to plan weekend activities for residents.

Sells said that she would be looking at RA compensation.

"You guys [RAs] are paid unusually high rates," Sells said. "Normally RAs are given free room and board because that's a lot easier and cheaper for departments than taking it out of the till to pay you."

Many of the RAs said they would be happy to work without pay in exchange for free dorm rent and a meal plan.

Change is often a lot easier to talk about than to bring about, Sells said.

"The thing is, Scott may want to see some changes made, but that doesn't mean Scott wants to change. He wants Deb Sells to change. That's human nature. We're going to have to change ourselves, and that's not going to be easy."

Sells said that her goals include plans to help freshman get their college career off to a good start and improving the weekend culture for residents.

"One of the most striking things about MTSU is that students don't come here to

"One of the most striking things about MTSU is that students don't come here to party. They're here to work. They are very focused on getting that degree and getting a job, and there is very little interest in side activities."

Deb Sells
Housing Director

party," Sells said. "They're here to work. They are very focused on getting that degree and getting a job, and there is very little interest in side activities."

"Anything we do in Housing is going to have to reflect that fact." ●

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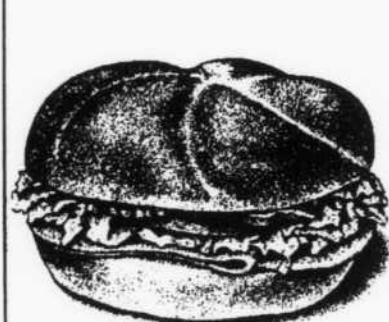
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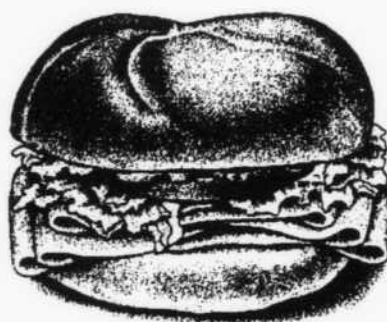
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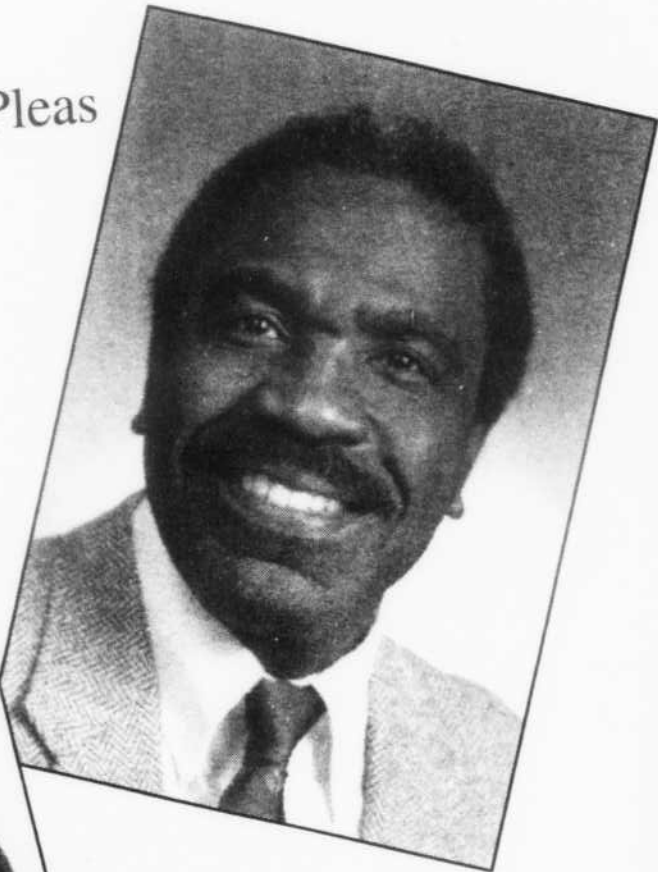
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SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
				1	2	3
				7:30 pm An Evening with Dr. Maya Angelou (Admission required) Tucker Theatre	11 am Jazz Master Class 8 pm Jazz Concert Saxophonist Herman Green and the Green Machine Music Hall, WMB	
	4	5	6	7	8	9
		6 pm Documentary and Dialogue "Roots Revisited" LRC Multi-Media Rm Delta Sigma Theta/ Omega Psi Phi	12 pm Luncheon (by invitation) Earl Graves Black Enterprise editor 6 & 9 pm Take Four "Carmen Jones" KUC Theatre	10 am Take Four "I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings" KUC Theatre 6 & 9 pm Take Four "Tuskegee Airmen" KUC Theatre	3 pm Fred Montgomery Curator, Alex Haley Museum, PH 109A 6 & 9 pm Take Four "Tuskegee Airmen" KUC Theatre	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
TBA Gospel Festival Kappa Alpha Psi	6 pm Documentary and Dialogue, "Race Against Prime Time" LRC Multi-Media Rm Kappa Alpha Psi Sigma Gamma Rho	3 pm Sam Howard 92Q owner PH 109A	4 pm Bakari Kitwana The Rap on Gangster Rap" Room TBA	3 pm Anthony Grooms author, <i>Trouble No More</i> PH 109A	7 pm Fashion and Talent Show Kappa Alpha Psi Music Hall, WMB	
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
	6 pm Documentary and Dialogue "James Weldon Johnson" LRC Multi-Media Rm Zeta Phi Beta Phi Beta Sigma	3 pm An Afternoon with the Author of <i>Walking Dr. John Pleas</i> Alumni Center 8 pm Musical Arts Com- petition, Music Hall, WMB	10 am Take Four "Mother of the River" KUC Theatre	12 pm Unity Luncheon "Honoring Our Elders" Tennessee Room, JUB 8 pm MTSU Jazz Ensembles, Music Hall, WMB	7 pm Jazz In the JUB Tennessee Room	
	26	27	28	29	Celebrate Diversity!	
12 pm School children's luncheon with actress Tremecca Doss, "Film Images of African- American Children," Tennessee Room	6 pm Documentary and Dialogue, "Inventing the Future: African-American Contribu- tions to Scientific Invention," LRC Multi-Media Rm Alpha Kappa Alpha Alpha Phi Alpha	7 pm Reginald Stuart Washington editor, Knight-Ridder News Mass Comm 103		10:50 am Dr. Aaron A. Smith "Sisterhood Replacing Victimization," 104 LRC 8 pm Bethune-Cookman College Choir in Concert Music Hall, WMB		