

MIDDLE TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY SIDELINES

Advertising 898-2533

Editor 898-2337

Murfreesboro, Tennessee

Thursday, March 28, 1996

Volume 71, Number 54

UEC releases state-wide report

Report analyzes climate towards sexual orientation

By Kris Wetzel / staff

The Uniform Equality Committee (UEC) is releasing its report assessing the campus climate toward sexual orientation today in a press conference followed by a symposium, according to committee chairman Michael Grantham.

The UEC was formed last June to facilitate the adoption of a sexual orientation statement in the university's non-discrimination policy. The UEC proposal would not affect Affirmative Action and ROTC non-discrimination policies.

The UEC is a committee under the Lambda Association, the campus organization for gays, lesbians and bisexuals.

The report is a 90-page examination in support of the adoption of a sexual orientation statement in the university's non-discrimination policy. The report includes the UEC resolution, 12 appendices and a request for the formation of a presidential task force for further campus assessment.

The UEC report was sent to President James Walker and Vice President for Student Affairs Robert LaLance. Grantham said LaLance should take the report to the Student Affairs Sub-Council, the organization under the Tennessee Board of Regents (TBR) for student affairs administrators.

The report will also be sent to David Esa, the chair of the sexual orientation task force formed by TBR in February to assess

whether a sexual orientation statement should be adopted into a system-wide policy.

"This report is the starting place for the university," Grantham said. "We hope that MTSU will publish their own report with 100 percent more research than we have done."

The UEC recognized the need for the report in November, 1995 in order to promote a more active involvement from the university administration, Grantham said.

"We have received three death threats in seven months," Grantham said. "If that is the going rate, I don't think we should wait any longer. No one should get hurt for the sake of politics."

"According to the testimony that we have collected, most people have been psychologically hurt instead of physically hurt," Grantham said.

UEC members will make statements regarding their proposal and take questions from the local media. A representative from the Human Rights Campaign will attend the conference, as well as representatives from Vanderbilt University, University of Memphis, University of Tennessee-Martin, University of Tennessee-Knoxville, East Tennessee

State University, MTSU and Western Kentucky University. Grantham said the UEC also received a call from a representative for MTV's "Unfiltered," a program focusing on college campus events, but it



File photo by Amanda McCadams

UEC members Michael Grantham, Martin Topping and Richie Smith speak to students about the UEC proposal.

has not been confirmed whether MTV will cover the event.

A symposium entitled "Homosexuality and Culture" will follow the press conference at 7 p.m. in the Multi-Media Room of the Ned McWherter Learning Resources Center.

The symposium will be moderated by K. C. Potter, dean of Residential and Judicial Affairs at Vanderbilt University.

The moderator will ask the four-person panel a question which they each have one minute to answer. Each question will be followed by a longer discussion

period that provides panel members an opportunity to debate.

Panel members are: David Zacker, assistant professor of philosophy; Charise Gendron, professor of English; Kim Sokoya, associate professor of management and marketing; and Bill Turner, co-chair of the Gay and Lesbian Coalition for Justice.

The panel will discuss five questions written by Lambda members and will field two questions from the audience. ●

Commuter bus to connect MTSU with Nashville

By Joey Butler / staff

Plans for the proposed commuter bus service between Murfreesboro and Nashville were unveiled Tuesday night at a public meeting at Murfreesboro City Hall.

Officials from the Regional Transportation Authority (RTA) presented plans for the demonstration project, which will include routes from Murfreesboro, Hendersonville and Mt. Juliet to Nashville.

RTA spokesman Eric Beyer said the busing system will help relieve the congestion from construction to widen I-24, which he says will only get worse until the construction is over. Beyer also said the system will help improve the air quality in that area.

The program will be funded for a two-year demonstration period and is tentatively set to start in August to coincide with the MTSU fall semester.

Federal funds from state legislature will pay 80 percent of the estimated \$220,000 cost with the remaining 20 percent being paid by an RTA matching fund.

The current proposal has allotted for two 40-45 passenger buses which will leave Murfreesboro at 6:15 and 6:30 a.m. and arrive in Nashville at 7:30 and 7:45 a.m. The buses will leave Nashville at 4:15 and 4:45 p.m. and arrive back at MTSU at 5:30 and 6 p.m.

The RTA and MTSU officials will meet with the SGA Monday to discuss the convenience the commuter bus will offer to students.

"Students won't have to search for spots on campus anymore," Roberts said. "Now they can simply take the bus and hook up with Raider Xpress without having to drive their own personal vehicles and still make their classes on time."

The bus route will start at the MTSU and Mercury Boulevard area, going northwest on New Nashville Highway (Murfreesboro Road) to I-24 and into downtown Nashville.

Fares will be based on a zoned structure, allowing for higher fares for longer trips. A one-way fare from zone one (within Davidson County) will cost \$1.60; fares from zone two (Davidson County line to Sam Ridley Parkway) will cost \$1.80; and fares from zone three (Sam Ridley Parkway to end of line) will cost \$2.00.

A 20 trip punch pass will cost \$32.50 from zone two and \$36.00 from zone three. In addition, reduced fares will be available for elementary students, senior citizens and disabled commuters at a 50 percent discount.

Although there are not any runs from Nashville to Murfreesboro at present, mid-morning or afternoon runs to accommodate students with earlier classes are being considered.

Please see BUS on page 2

Music chair resigns

Committee formed to find new chair

By Mark Blevins / staff

Music Department Chair John Bingham has submitted his resignation as head of the department.

Last week, Bingham submitted his resignation which is effective after the end of the 1996-97 school year, according to John McDaniel, dean of the College of Liberal Arts. McDaniel said Bingham has the option to remain with the Music Department as a faculty member. He is currently serving in his fourth year as chair.

A search committee will be formed and a new chair sought beginning in the fall, McDaniel said.

In a memo to faculty, staff and students of the Music Department, Bingham cited "personal and professional" opportunities as interests competing with his current position.

"Last fall, Dean McDaniel and I began discussing how these opportunities would affect both my interest and willingness to chair the department," the memo stated. "At that point, it became only a matter of timing. Dean McDaniel and I agreed that to provide the smoothest transition possible, it would be best for me to remain in the chair through next year."

McDaniel said Bingham was hired for a four-year term with a possible renewal and added that the department felt it was an appropriate time to look for new leadership.

"These leadership positions can absolutely burn you up, and the Music Department has had its ups and downs," McDaniel

said. "Dr. Bingham's decision was a culmination of a series of conversations we have had about this going back since last fall."

Now the department will begin to look to the future by determining what qualities a new chair should embody, McDaniel said.

"This is an exciting time for the department, and I believe the department - including Dr. Bingham - is genuinely looking forward to moving to a new phase," McDaniel said.

McDaniel said he recently administered an evaluation of Bingham's performance by asking department faculty to vote on renewal of Bingham's contract. A majority of faculty voted for renewal, McDaniel said. ●



Bingham

Construction to begin on new plant

By Christina Ginn / staff

A new self-financing, co-generation gas-fired power plant will begin construction within a year here at MTSU that will replace the coal-fired, steam-generating power plant now on campus.

According to Duane Stucky, vice president for Finance and Administration, the coal-fired plant that we are now using is obsolete. It generates steam for heating and cooling the campus, but not electricity. MTSU currently has to buy all of its electricity from the Murfreesboro Electric Department.

The new co-generation gas-fired plant will take care of all MTSU's steam needs and half of its electricity needs. When natural gas goes through a gas turbine, it creates electricity. While this is happening, steam is created by the exhaust from the turbine, Stucky said.

The new plant will continue to generate power even when there is a city-wide power outage.

Stucky described the new power plant project as both economical and environmentally safe.

"It is an extremely wise move on our part," Stucky said. "The plant is self-supporting. We are going to save money by building this plant. Our electrical expenditures are going to be cut

in half. How much better can you get?"

The plant, which will cost \$10 million, will pay for itself in 10 years. Neither the students nor the state will have to pay for this plant. The money saved will pay for the plant for the first 10 years. After that it will be pure profit, Stucky said.

A feasibility study was conducted two years ago by I.C. Thomasson Associates of Nashville. They found that it is economically feasible. This company has built several of these co-generation power plants, including one for Opryland. The park and hotel get all of their steam and electricity from this plant, Stucky said.

The new plant will be located where the chillers are presently. The chillers are next to the band practice field and MTSU's baseball field. The power plant the university now uses is located across from the football field next to the Voorhies Industrial Studies Complex. The present plant will be demolished, and the site will be used for a new building sometime in the future, Stucky said.

According to Stucky, the next step is to have the project reviewed by the State Building Commission in the next month. They will then appoint engineers and architects to complete the job. Construction should begin within a year and should last for about eight months. ●

FEATURES

Dr. Father Judson scares us all

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WEATHER

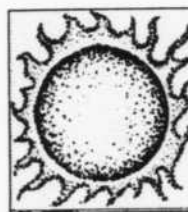
THUR
rain
showers

High: 63
Low: 47



FRI
sunny

High: 74
Low: 47



SAT
scattered
t-storms

High: 74
Low: 54



SPORTS

Softball sweeps Austin Peay in 2-game series

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BUS:

Continued from page 1

Director of Administrative Services Deborah Roberts said the RTA is waiting for feedback from students before planning an additional route.

Beyer said the reason for using Murfreesboro Road for much of the route was to utilize many existing Park and Ride lots, and there are many students who live in apartment complexes in that area.

The Murfreesboro to Nashville commuter system will be the second system implemented by RTA. Last fall, RTA opened a route between Franklin and Nashville which has been very successful, according to RTA Executive Director Marian Ott.

"There are higher levels of commuters from Rutherford County already so we know this system is an option," Ott said. ●

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THURSDAY MARCH 28

The Third Annual Nashville College to Career Fair sponsored by area universities and the Nashville Chamber of Commerce will be held from 1-7 p.m. at the Opryland Hotel. The Fair is open to seniors, graduate students and alumni of participating universities. MTSU students and graduates who are registered with the Placement and Student Employment Center may obtain free passes to the Fair. For more information contact the Placement and Student Employment Center in KUC 328 at 898-2500.

MTSU Student Ambassador applications are now being accepted for membership. The Student Ambassadors is a service organization that serves as hosts and hostesses for University activities. Applications may be picked up in the Public Relations office, Cope Administration Building, Room 205. Students must have been on campus for at least one semester and have a GPA of 2.5. Deadline for returning applications is March 28.

Sigma Tau Delta English Honor Society will meet at 7 p.m. at the Red Rose Cafe. Members Guests and all interested students are welcome. Call Candace Moonshower at 646-4527 for more information.

"The Rite of Dreams: An Awakening" an installation by MTSU Art Professor Janet Higgins at the MTSU Art Barn Gallery March 4-29. Special viewing times have been established when all aspects of this multimedia show will be working: March 27 from 11:30-12:30, March 28 from 12:30-1:30 and March 29 from 3:30-4:30. Regular gallery hours are 8-4:30 Monday-Friday.

The Japan Center of Tennessee presents a "Women of Japan" exhibit in the lobby of Cope Administration Building. The exhibit of photographs and dolls is free and open to the public on Monday-Friday from 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. and Saturday from 8 a.m.-12

p.m. A "Japanese Kite Exhibit" will be displayed at the LaVergne Public Library, 5089 Murfreesboro Road, LaVergne, TN. The exhibit can be seen Monday and Tuesday from 9 a.m.-8 p.m. and Wednesday-Saturday from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Volunteer State Community College will sponsor and "Origami Exhibit" in the lobby of the Library, 1360 Nashville Pike, Gallatin, TN. This exhibit may be viewed Monday-Thursday from 7:45 a.m.-9 p.m., Friday 7:45 a.m.-5 p.m. and Saturday from 8 a.m.-4 p.m. All exhibits will be displayed through March. For more information call The Japan Center of Tennessee at 615-898-2515.

TUESDAY, APRIL 2

Placement and Student Employment Center will offer a "Your Job Search" workshop from 11 a.m. to noon and from 3-4 p.m. in KUC Room 305. Learn about placement services, resume expert, campus interviews, and employment opportunities.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 3

Phi Beta Lambda (Collegiate division of Future Business Leaders of America) will hold a member meeting at 4:30 p.m. in KUC 322B featuring guest speakers John Helsley and Wendy Miller from Deloitte & Touche. For more information contact James Roberson at 898-3051 or Dr. Robert Blair at 898-2036.

Placement and Student Employment Center will hold a Resume Writing Workshop from 4-5 p.m. in KUC Room 305. Learn the basics for writing your resume.

THURSDAY, APRIL 4

Placement and Student Employment Center will hold an Interview Preparation Workshop from 11 a.m. to noon in KUC Room 305. This is a workshop for developing interview skills and professional dress.

The Military Science Department is presenting its Annual ROTC Spring Awards Ceremony on April 11 in KUC Theater at 11 a.m.

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.

The Middle Tennessee Cage Bird Club's 11th Annual Spring Fair and Sale will be held April 13 and 14 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. in the Creative Arts Building at the Tennessee State Fair Grounds in Nashville. Exotic birds, cages, feeds, toys and supplies will be sold. Admission is \$2 (children under 12 free).

The Fourth Annual East West Conference, "Effective International Managing and Marketing", will be held April 15-17 at the Marriott Hotel. For more information call Angie Ray at 898-2764 or email at ARAY@frank.mtsu.edu.

National Association of Environmental Professionals will hold the Earth Day 5K Race in front of MTSU's Alumni Gym on Saturday, April 20. Registration begins at 8:30 a.m. Registration is \$8 before April 13 and \$10 the day of the race. All registrants will receive a T-shirt and there will be drawings for door prizes. For more information contact Kathy Maurer at 896-4393.

ONGOING EVENTS

If you are interested in international relations and current affairs, and want to develop leadership, negotiation and debate skills, get involved in **MTSU's Model United Nations!** For more information, contact Tony Mathews at 223-8884 or Dr. Anne Sloan in the Political Science Department.

ENT on MTSU's Channel 8. Movies, Music and More. Monday and Wednesday night at 8:30 p.m. Questions or comments: entch8@frank.mtsu.edu.

Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA) meets every Wednesday at 8:30 p.m. in Dance Studio B. Everyone (athletes and non-athletes) welcome. Come for fun, fellowship,

and Bible Study.

Women's Clinic in the Academic Nursing Center offers the following gender specific assessments for \$15 initial and \$10 follow-up: breast exam, pap smear stool for occult blood, urine check, pregnancy test, blood chemistry profile, tests for infections if indicated and follow-up reporting and counseling. Blood Chemistry Profiles available the first Wednesday of every month from 8-10 a.m. at \$10 for the 18 component blood chemistry profile and \$10 for PSA (prostate cancer test). The clinic also offers free blood pressure screenings every Wednesday from 1-4 p.m. For an appointment call 898-5950.

Raiders for Christ will hold a devotional on Mondays at 7 p.m. in the Middle Tennessee Christian Student Center.

The MTSU Christian Faculty and Staff Fellowship will meet every 2nd and 4th Wednesday in KUC Room 312. Interested Faculty and Staff are invited to attend any of these meetings. For further information contact Kim Sokoya at 898-2352 or ksokoya@frank.mtsu.edu.

The MTSU College Democrats will hold weekly meetings in room 313 of the KUC at 5:00 p.m. Come and find out what we are all about.

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.

Lambda will be hosting a "Movie Night" every Thursday at 7 p.m. in Mass Comm Room 103. For more information call the Lambda Hotline at 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.

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 Wednesday 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. Fayissa at 898-2385 or see him in KOM 322G.

Canterbury Episcopal Campus Ministry meets Tuesdays at 7 p.m. for dinner and fellowship at St. Paul's Church, 315 E. Main St. and Thursdays for lunch in the KUC Grill. All are welcome. Contact Andrew Wright at 893-3780 for more information.

MTSU Raidersharks-Scuba Club will hold meetings on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of every month at 8 p.m. in the MTSU Pool. It is open to anyone interested in scuba diving or associated activities. All students are welcome. For more information call Tim or Jude at 895-6249.

Phi Sigma Pi will hold their weekly meetings on Mondays at 7 p.m. in the Stark Ag Building Room 125. Contact an officer if you can not attend.

DEADLINES FOR CAMPUS CAPSULE SUBMISSIONS:

MONDAY
EDITION:
4:00 P.M. FRIDAY

THURSDAY
EDITION
4:00 P.M.
TUESDAY

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Additional toppings 95¢ each
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Model UN team wins awards at national competition

By Todd R. Cruse / staff

The MTSU Model United Nations team brought home two national awards from the Scarlet Knight Model United Nations Conference sponsored by Rutgers University.

The conference, which was held March 7-10 in Atlantic City, allowed the team to compete against some of the most prestigious schools in the nation, such as Harvard, George Washington and McGill Universities, along with West

Point Military Academy.

"These conferences allow students to realize that they can compete with other students from Harvard, Yale and many other prestigious universities and hold their own weight," said Anne Sloan, associate professor of political science and the faculty advisor for the team.

The two awards received were captured by delegates Tony Mathews and Andrea Warren. Mathews and Warren brought home the first national awards for the MTSU

team.

Mathews won the best delegate award for his role as the permanent representative to the United Nations on the National Security Council of the United States, while Andrea Warren took an honorable mention for her role as the prime minister on the cabinet of Pakistan.

The Model UN team, which began over 30 years ago by organizing Model UN conferences for high school students, has come a long way.

The team attended its first

national conference six months ago at Georgetown University, and after performing successfully was invited to three other national conferences, including the one in Atlantic City.

The team also attended the Southeastern Invitational Model United Nations at Auburn University, where it brought home 11 awards, more than any other school in attendance.

Model United Nations is a simulation of the real United

Nations and other crisis management bodies.

Its purpose is to give participants a broader understanding of international relations through informative debates about international human rights, global economic trade, national political security and world crisis situations.

"We want other students to realize that certain skills can be obtained from participating in the Model United Nations such as negotiation, debate and diplomacy, all of which will be

important once we are out of school," Mathews said.

Although the Atlantic City trip marked the last official conference this semester for the team, students interested in Model United Nations are encouraged to attend a meeting or contact Tony Mathews at 223-8884.

The Model United Nations is a part of the Society for International Affairs and is sponsored by the Political Science Department. ●

Graduate students struggling under student loan debts

College Press Service

LAWRENCE, Kan.—Mark S. Luce poetically describes his student loan as a "golden time bomb."

"It's great to have the gold because it allows you to stay in school," explains the graduate student in American studies at the University of Kansas. "But eventually, no matter how much you defer or forbear, that bomb is going to go off."

Like a growing number of graduate students who choose to finance the increasingly high cost of education through student loans, Luce will graduate from UK this August with a master's degree and a pile of debt—in his case, about \$31,000 worth.

Even before he receives his diploma, he will start shelling out roughly \$400 each month to pay off the loans. He plans to do so each month for the next 10 years, slowly chipping away at the \$23,000 in loans he borrowed for graduate school, and the \$7,000 loan for his undergraduate education.

"Frankly, the situation scares the hell out of me," says

"I cannot stress enough how the spectre of loans hangs over the heads of graduate students—constantly."

Mark S. Luce
University of
Kansas student

Luce, who hopes to get a teaching job. "I am talented, I have a solid resume and have performed very well academically that does not guarantee me a job that will pay enough money to survive and not default."

For Luce, and countless others like him, paying for graduate school has become as much of a challenge as getting accepted. Between 1993 and 1994, the volume of government loans made to graduates

increased by a mind-boggling 47 percent, according to American Council of Education research.

The council attributes the explosive growth to the 1992 Higher Education Amendments, which expanded the federal student loan program and allowed more students to borrow even larger sums of money. But the council is troubled that the increase in the amount loaned by students has not been matched by fatter starting salaries.

Although often compared to families who take out mortgages, student borrowers often leave school without a clear idea of what they've gotten themselves into, as evidenced by the council's study of the most frequently asked questions by borrowers to two major student loan companies.

Luce, the graduate student at Kansas, adds: "Papers and presentations will always get done. Loans simply do not go away for 10 to 20 years."

"I cannot stress enough how the spectre of loans hangs over the heads of graduate students—constantly." ●

Bookstore theft brings felony charge

By Mark T. Gibson/ staff

On March 11 an arrest warrant was served on Andre Marc Taylor, 330 Byrd Avenue, Apt. D-43, Murfreesboro.

Taylor surrendered himself to MTSU police and was charged with felony theft from Phillips Bookstore.

Officer Daryl Collins said that the arrest was due to the "close observation" of Taylor by bookstore employee Jim Simpson, who suspected the ongoing theft and contacted police.

"Taylor was stealing books from the bookstore and then reselling them," Collins said. "He used to be a student at MTSU but isn't now. A cross check of his social security number revealed that the books he was selling back to the

bookstore did not match up at all with any classes he had ever taken."

Whenever books are sold back to the bookstore, a cross-check is made by social security number, Collins said.

Collins said Simpson had noticed Taylor was regularly bringing in books to sell, and suspected that the books were stolen. He then contacted police.

"They thought he was (stealing) but they couldn't figure out how he was doing it," Collins said. "I told them I'd come over there at the time that he usually comes in, and I'd watch him in plainclothes. I watched him steal a \$77 book. He slid it under his shirt."

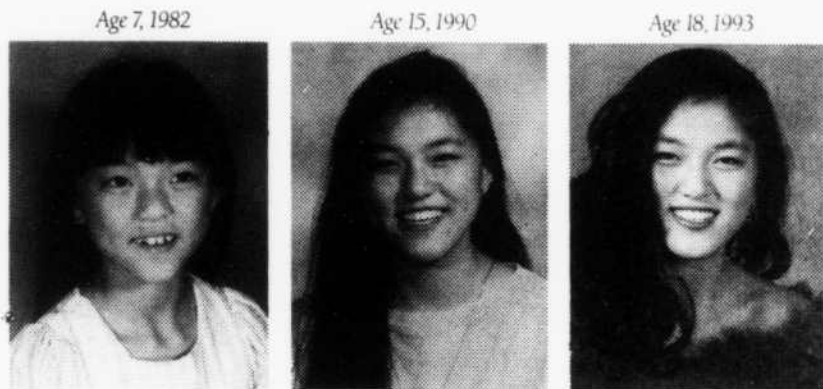
"The girls who work there were doing their jobs, and he'd catch

them when they weren't looking and scoot away," Collins said. "He didn't know I was watching him. I waited until he got past the checkout counter where he bought a sucker. He stepped out into the area in from of the post office and I identified myself."

"The first thing he said to me was 'Do you want the book?' I said 'I think you better give it to me,'" Collins said.

"All told he'd taken \$502.90 worth of books. The last \$77 dollar book put him over the limit for a felony. Subsequently he was taken down to the Rutherford County jail and charged with felony theft."

Tennessee state law states that theft over \$500 a felony. Taylor is free on a \$2,000 bond and is scheduled to appear in court April 2. ●



Elizabeth Suto.
Killed by a drunk driver on February 27, 1994, on Bell Blvd. in Cedar Park, Texas.

Look for COLLAGE next week

KUC, JUB, Peck Hall, Cope Administration, Todd Library, the Art Barn, Wright Music Building, and Jones Hall

Pick up applications for
Sidelines and Collage fall
staff Room 308, James Union
Building



Holy Week and Easter Worship Services

St. Paul's Episcopal Church
315 East Main St.

Palm Sunday
March 31, 11:00
a.m.

† Liturgy of the
Palms
† Dramatic
Presentation of
the Passion Gospel
† Holy Eucharist

Maundy Thursday
April 4, 6:30 p.m.

† Agape Meal
† Footwashing
† Holy Eucharist
† All Night Vigil

Good Friday
April 5, 6:30 p.m.

† Stations of the
Cross
† Good Friday
Liturgy
† Communion
from Reserved
Sacrament

Sunday of the Resurrection: Easter Day

6:15 a.m. Sunrise Service, Holy Eucharist

8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist

10:15 a.m. Easter Egg Hunt

11:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist



Canterbury Epsicopal Campus Ministry

A ministry of St. Paul's Episcopal Church and the Diocese of Tennessee
The Rev. Andrew Wright, Chaplain
315 East Main Street
893-3780

Last showings tonight!!

Jumanji

KUC Theater

March 26/27/28 Tues/Wed/Thur

6:30 & 9:00 p.m. Only \$2.00

MTSU Fine Arts presents

Shakespeare

Film Festival

Last feature today -

3:00 p.m. FREE!!



Thursday

March 28

Romeo

& Juliet

(Franco Zeffirelli)

KUC Theater 3:00 p.m.

FREE/OPEN to public.

MTSU Concerts presents

Southern Gospel Concert



TONIGHT!!!

Great tickets still available.

featuring The Cathedrals,

The Bishops, and McCameys

Thursday, March 28, 7:30 pm

Murphy Center

All tickets reserved - \$14.50

Tickets are on sale now at Murphy Center and KUC Room 308. Call 898-2103 for more information.

MTSU students get discount with valid ID.

MTSU Concerts presents



Music on

The Knoll

Friday, March 29

KUC Courtyard

3 pm FREE

World Music

Reggae Show

Orchestra Mondo Pingus

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COMING SOON

Rec Center to sponsor Fitness Week

By Jan Denovich

Fitness Week will begin with a mini-triathlon as the first of five contests of strength and endurance at the Campus Recreation Center's biannual event on April 15, according to Glenn Hanley, director of the center.

Tuesday is the aquatic scavenger hunt, and Wednesday is the push-up, sit-up relay. The roller-blade obstacle course is scheduled for Thursday, and the Mr. and Ms. Fitness contest will be held Friday. Each event will begin at 6 p.m.

Fitness Director Jocelyn Hill said the event has been sponsored in the past by the Timex Corporation, but this semester the Rec Center is sponsoring it at no cost to the participants.

There will be T-shirts given to all that compete and prizes for the winners.

"The mini-triathlon really inspires the competition for the week," Hill said.

"It's all done [at the Rec Center] on the rowing machine, stair-stepper and the stationary bike."

Workshop to assist career placement

By C. Anthony Hill

All students are encouraged to attend the last career orientation workshop of the school year to obtain information on employment opportunities, according to

Martha Turner, director of the Placement and Student Employment Center

The center will host an orientation titled "Your Job Search."

"April 2 is the date on which students, specifically seniors and graduates, will have a chance to learn about placement services, resume expert software and campus interviews," Turner said.

The workshop will take place in the KUC, Room 315 from 11-noon and 3-4 p.m. It is open to all students.

AmeriCorps faces spending reduction

College Press Service

WASHINGTON—The AmeriCorps national-service program will undergo cost-cutting changes in an effort to save the program from elimination, the program's head has announced.

Harris Wofford, chief of the Corporation for National Service, agreed to slash the average amount spent on each participant, from \$27,000 to \$17,000. He also promised to cut administrative costs and raise more funds from private sources.

AmeriCorps, the domestic equivalent of the Peace Corps, allows students to earn money for college by working in communities. The 2-year-old program—a favorite of

President Clinton's—has been under fire from Republicans in Congress, particularly since a General Accounting Office audit last fall criticized the program as too costly.

But Wofford's announcement drew the support of Sen. Charles E. Grassley, an Iowa Republican

who once called the program "an outrageous cost to taxpayers." He agreed to endorse the Senate appropriations committee's recommendation to provide \$383 million for the national service program for fiscal year 1996.

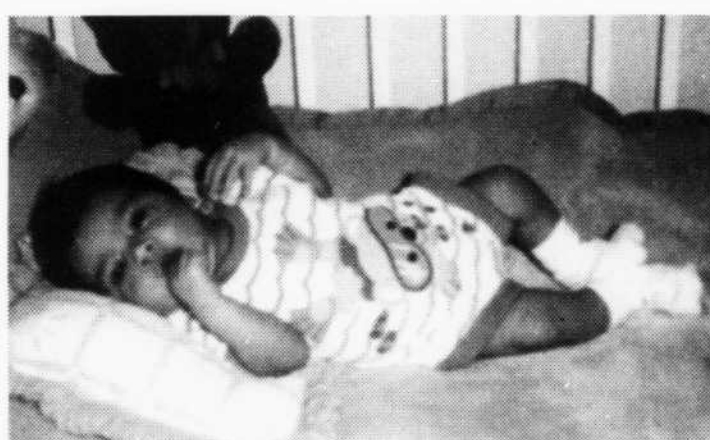
"Above all, I want tax dollars to be spent wisely..."

Sen. Charles E. Grassley R-Iowa

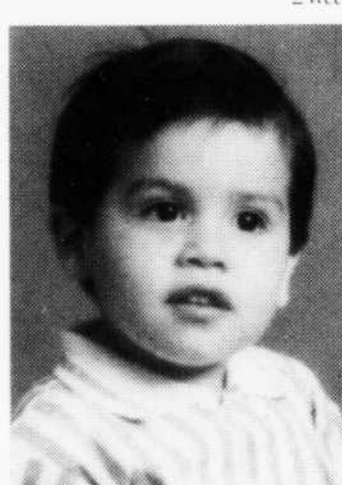
More than 25,000 AmeriCorps members are earning money for college in 438 communities. Among other services, AmeriCorps participants patrol streets, tutor high-risk youth and build affordable housing.

"Above all, I want tax dollars to be spent wisely..."


Sen. Charles E. Grassley R-Iowa



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1 year old, 1991



2 years old, 1992

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By Professor Charles R. McGhee

WARNING: This package contains 50 percent science, 25 percent biased blarney and 25 percent vintage creationism and other pure nonsense. Reading may be hazardous to your beliefs.

A creationist friend told me the other day that the laws of Thermodynamics prove that living organisms cannot change, especially from apes into humans. Creationists have been monkeying with this Thermodynamics thing a long time. We can all now rest much easier knowing that we have always been human and didn't just metamorphose from some big eared banana eating chump overnight. I've seen insects go through ecdysis (not entropy) many times. Ecdysis is that remarkable evolutionary event when a butterfly crawls out of an ugly caterpillar "skin" and flies away. No one is going to tell me that I just crawled out of an ape skin and walked away reading Darwin's Origin Of Species. Such buffoonery.

I looked up "Thermodynamics" in an old physics textbook. It seems that there are two laws of Thermodynamics. Law number one states, in part, that "energy (matter) cannot be created or destroyed, but can be converted from one form to another." I don't know much about energy, but it sounds a lot like none is coming in, and none is going out (assuming the universe is a closed system). I wonder if this is something we should worry about, because science predicts that our sun (old Sol) is going to keep on pumping out those electromagnetic wavelengths of "free energy" for several billion more years. Of course, if you live in a 6000 year old world that is doomed to end soon this takes on much greater importance.

Now, the Second Law of Thermodynamics restricts how energy is used in the universe (this is the law creationists like, but don't understand). The second law is, of course, dependent upon the conditions of the first law because of the "fixed amount" thing. Physicists like to use the word "entropy" (not ecdysis) to describe a state of "order"

in the universe. Entropy may be either "positive" (tending toward increasing disorder) or "negative" (tending toward increasing order). Creationists love the "positive entropy" part (they seem to prefer "disorder" for some reason). I have never heard one mention the "negative entropy" fact. Positive entropy means that if you have only a gallon of gasoline your car will stop after twenty miles (provided you have one of those efficiency models). It also means that if you don't use a little energy and elbow grease your "messy room" is going to become progressively disordered. Of course, anyone can prevent the "chaos" by expending a little "free energy" to put the room back in "order" (negative entropy). You could even change your room's appearance (a room evolution). Creationists should try to understand that entropy involves a "tendency situation" dependent upon the flow of energy in or out of a system. Entropy does not prove or disprove evolution. Neither does it prove their steady state (fixed) universe, nor their version of how the universe came to be. Small points they can't seem to grasp. By the way, if the caterpillar to butterfly metamorphosis doesn't blow the positive entropy argument away, nothing will.

There is another rather important point in the Laws of Thermodynamics which creationists consistently ignore. It states that energy and matter (since $E=MC$ squared according to some theoretician named Einstein) can be "CONVERTED FROM ONE FORM TO ANOTHER." Wait a minute. Doesn't

Laws of Thermodynamics drive evolution

Creationists' entropy-based claim has a false premise

"converted" mean changed into something else? Doesn't "change" come from a famous old Greek word "EVOLUTE?" What is this Thermodynamics law trying to tell us? That matter (energy) can evolve (change) from one form to another? I was beginning to think that change in anything is impossible according to my creationist friends. I'm going to be more careful who I listen to from now on. Maybe my science teachers were right after all.

An old biology teacher told me that everything observable is theoretically composed of matter and energy. Even living organisms. Even humans and apes. The way I see it, if

matter and energy can evolve, why can't the "things" made of matter and energy (everything), including humans and apes, evolve. I like to call this special talent of mine "logic." I doubt that anyone else has thought of it.

So now, I am stuck with their Thermodynamics "proof" against evolution. What my friend failed to mention was the part about the "transformation of energy from one form to another." He also didn't mention that old Sol is probably going to shine on for several billion more years, thus delaying the positive entropy problem until I can evolve into something else. It seems like a small omission, but I've concluded it's a "biggy."

This thing about everything tending toward a state of disorder and randomness only applies when you run out of energy. Old Sol is pumping a lot of energy into this planet every day (ever get a sunburn?). Plants soak up the solar energy, synthesize it into organic compounds and the "game of life" is on. Living organisms can do just about anything they desire with solar compounds. Some of their populations even evolve (it's usually a sex thing you know).

It's time to propose a "Theory." My teacher told me this is the way science works. Make an observation, get some "facts," draw a conclusion. So, here is my theory from the facts. I call it the "Thermoevolution Theory." I'm using the creationist definition of "theory" meaning "just a guess." Science would never buy this blarney in its present form. Thermoevolution

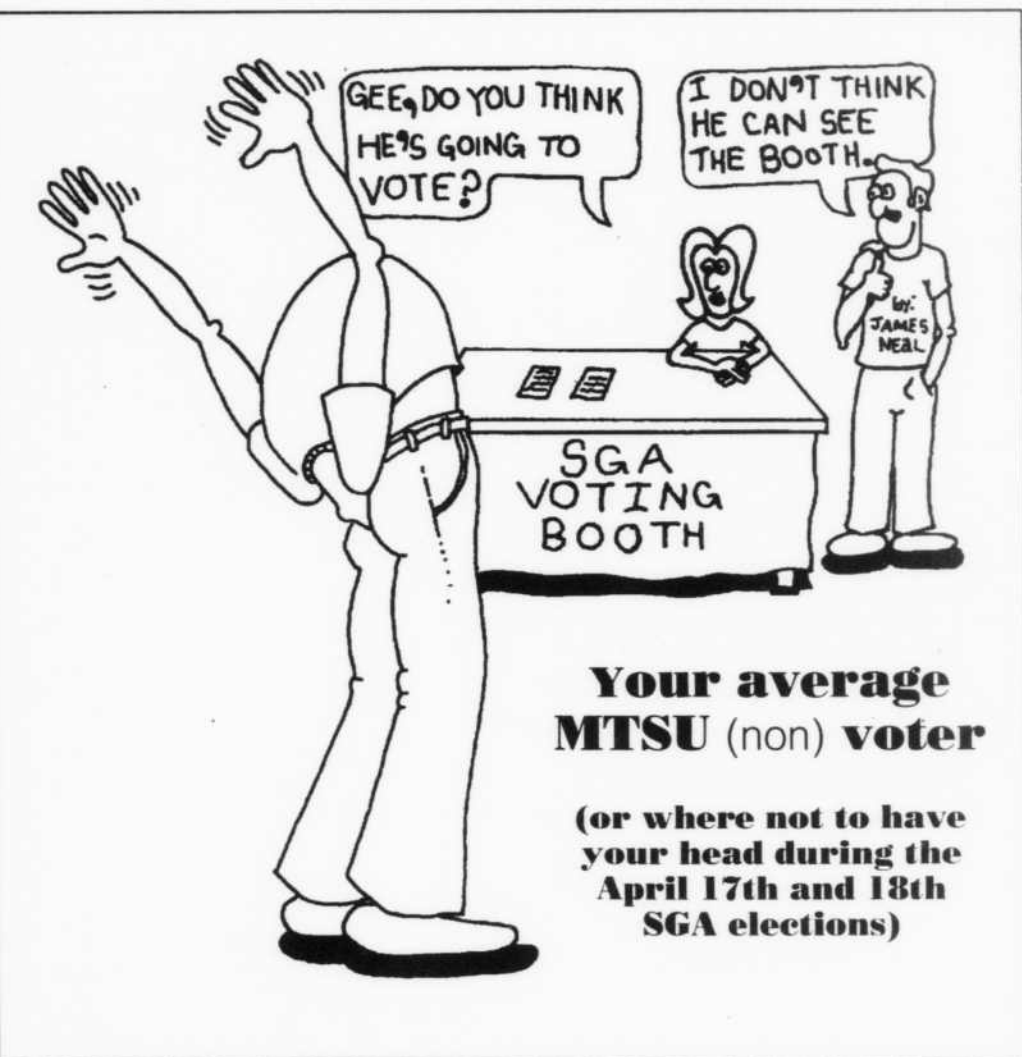
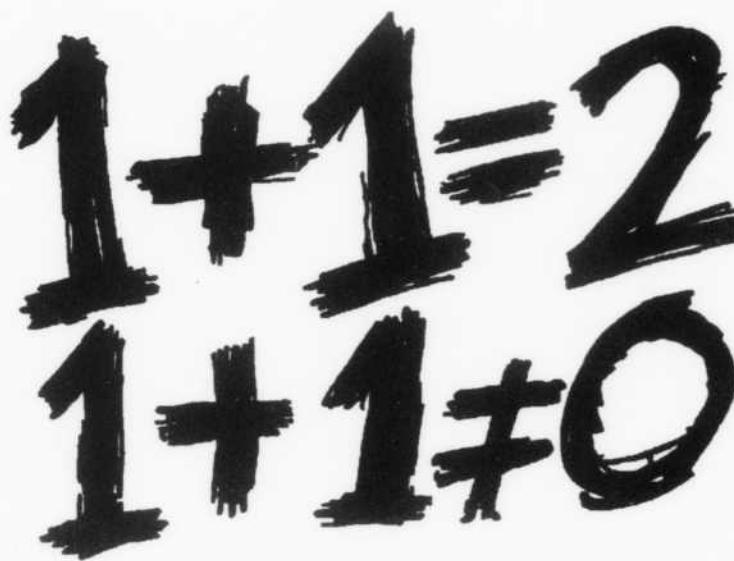
Theory: Old Sol zaps Earth with light energy which is trapped by chlorophyll molecules in green plants. The energy splits carbon dioxide and water molecules into carbon, hydrogen and oxygen atoms. The plants then convert (law of Thermodynamics) the carbon, hydrogen and oxygen atoms into new organic compounds. Some of the plant compounds are eaten (in plant form, eg. bananas) by animals. The animals obey the laws of Thermodynamics and again convert (evolute) new animal compounds from plant (banana) compounds. Some of the bananas eventually evolve into apes. Then, the apes convert (evolute according to Thermodynamics) their compounds into new compounds which end up being humans (even creationists and scientists). Conclusion: Apes can molt into professors and humans as long as the sun shines on banana trees.

There it is. A simple straightforward "theory." Ockham would be proud of me. The evidence (fact) is I have some ape compounds running through my genes right now. I've probably got a little plant (nut) in me also, which explains why I am writing this. Chemically I'm not that different from a creationist (chemically that is).

Creationists who believe that the laws of Thermodynamics prove that evolution cannot happen are "ascientia." I would not want to get into a poker game with them. The laws of Thermodynamics speak loud and clear about conversions (evolution) of matter and energy. Change is an absolute fact in this universe. Prove it wrong. (I wonder how many of their other "proofs" against evolution are wrong?)

I still can't figure out why they like the Thermodynamics Theory so well. It definitely states that "matter" cannot be "created." Isn't it their primary argument that anything which "literally contradicts" Genesis is a "false theory?" Quick, give me a large banana milkshake and I'll drink to your future before I evolve into an Orangutan.

Dr. McGhee is a professor of biology at MTSU.



Letters to the Editor

Disabled student seeks consideration at concert

To the Editor,

On Saturday night, I enjoyed the pleasure of attending the Rod Stewart concert. First of all I am upset because I had to pay extra money to attain seating in the wheelchair area. This is unlawful. Why should disabled concert goers be asked to pay more to see a show. It is not exactly their fault that they are disabled. Well, the seats were great, front row; well worth the money. However, 20 minutes into the concert, people came up and stood in front of us. This was unbelievably rude. I know that it is a common thing to stand up during a concert, but those of us who cannot stand have a hard time seeing through people. We asked them to move, plus we had security to ask them to move. They did move, but they always came back. As much money as we paid for those tickets, we deserved to be able to see. I feel it would be discriminatory to totally block off a section for the disabled. Not only would it block us off once again, but it would also hinder people's freedoms. My wish is that other people learn to be considerate and not hinder ours.

Heather Norman
Junior

Helpful 20-year-olds prove myth of slackers wrong

To the Editor,

I would like to take this opportunity to thank an unknown group of people who helped me Friday night. I had put my bank card into an ATM machine, when my car, unattended, began to roll away. A man came running up and did what I could not do; he jumped

into my car and stopped it before any damage was done to the ongoing traffic or the car. He and the two women with him stayed with me until they were sure I was OK.

These individuals appeared to be in their late teens or early twenties, possibly MTSU students. At a time when their age group is wrongfully known as Generation X or the generation of "slackers," it is worthy to note that these three were the only ones who stopped to help someone in dire need. I will be forever grateful.

Kim Harris
N. Maple Street

MTSU's horses should be protected from cold

To the Editor,

The purpose of this letter is to ask why the horses are not protected in the extremely windy, cold, wet, snowy weather we have had this past winter? Animals need to be provided necessary sustenance and be protected from the elements. It is unimaginable to me that intelligent people would keep horses and allow them to suffer in this way. If MTSU is not willing to provide adequately for them — why do we have them here??? Please find out what we can do to help. Do we need more people or barns or what? Hopefully the horses will not have to endure another cruel winter in the cold. Shame on MTSU!

Thank you for this opportunity of expression.

V. Dawn Shelar
Associate Professor, HPER

Many scientists don't take evolution as fact

To the Editor,

Assistant professor Stephen Howard's article (Feb. 29, 1996)

attempting to justify evolution is a classic example of the smoke screen believers in evolution use to cloud the issue. The issue is very simple — evolution is either a fact or it is not! Deciding this is not difficult.

If evolution is fact, then no one can deny it, just as no one can deny the fact of gravity. However, the sobering truth is that many well-informed, educated people reject evolution.

Literally thousands of scientists repudiate evolution, many having written books giving scientific reasons why. One recent example is the work of Australian microbiologist Dr. Michael Denton ("Evolution, A Theory in Crisis," Adler & Adler, Bethesda, MD), in which he shows evolution to be totally unscientific. How many scientists dispute evolution? The February 1988 issue of Industrial Chemist reported the results of their poll which showed that one-fifth of scientists reject evolution! This is a staggering number! In view of this, it is ludicrous for anyone to contend that evolution is fact!

Students deserve to know that many scientists reject evolution and the reasons why. If integrity is to prevail in the classroom, shouldn't this information be made available? Why do its supporters fear having students exposed to this information? If evolution is true, it should stand on its own merits. The truth is, it is only a PHILOSOPHICAL BELIEF masked in "science," proven in that it can be rejected without rejecting a single scientific fact. It is believed not because of evidence, but in spite of it.

If evolution is fact, it should be easy to demonstrate. Would Dr. Howard be willing to defend it in a public debate if such arrangements could be made?

Janice Clendenin
Senior, Nursing

SIDELINES

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Letters to the Editor

Federal workers are shirking on tax payments

To the Editor,

As you rush to get your tax return completed and shudder at the size of the bill, you will be interested to know about the federal employee method of dealing with taxes. The federal employee method is "don't file, don't pay."

That's right — Dan Rather reported on March 15 that federal employees have a very high rate of failure to file tax returns and to pay taxes due. The rate of non-compliance at the Departments of Education and Housing and Urban Development was almost 10 percent of the work force.

Remember, federal workers are so essential we just cannot do without them. Why, if the government shuts down someone might not be able to view the graves of Yankee soldiers!

Leona Helmsley said "only little people pay taxes." Apparently many federal workers feel they are above the law and better than the rest of us. It's time for Congress to substantially downsize the federal government and force these people to get a real job.

Sincerely,

Phil Harper
Associate Professor,
Accounting Department

Creation is metaphor for evolution

To the Editor,

I have been following the Evolution vs. Creation debate all of my life. Both sides have been fighting a battle that

seems unnecessary. I would like to offer a suggestion; Creation and Evolution are the same story told from different perspectives. It seems that Creationists expend a great deal of effort trying to discredit evolution when they are, in essence, tilting at windmills. To this Quixotic effort I submit that their argument is moot. Pure Evolutionists, on the other hand, go to great lengths to point out the inconsistencies of the Bible with the theories of science that we have discovered so far. So much mud slinging at a political rally.

Imagine that God (or the Creator or whatever impetus one ascribes to the cosmic scheme) attempts to explain the nature of things to, say, Moses or Adam, who obviously lack an understanding of physical laws or a basic comprehension of science, since it has yet to be discovered. Would God hold symposiums on physics or science so that humankind would understand how they got here? Way too much trouble. Parents often resort to metaphor when asked questions from children about the world. They aren't misleading their children, they are simply trying to explain things in a manner conducive to the level of understanding available. Why, then, should we be afraid to question those beliefs now that we have a more knowledgeable view of the universe? I have to believe that the Creator wants us to grow, and understand the mysteries set before us just as parents want their children to grow and understand what it means to be people. Why should God want any less? It has been said that we are His children. I propose that how we got here is irrelevant. WHY we are here is.

I find no compelling reason to refute or support either the Creationist or Evolutionist point of view. I can accept the pure scientific theory that

mankind is a random chain of events just as easily as the idea that there is a divine intervention to our existence. We are surrounded by examples of each, if we care to look. I prefer to see the commonalities in both. I also find this to be true when comparing differing religions, whether Jewish, Buddhist, Moslem, Christian, etc. It is the same song, different verse. The irony is that we are too busy turning up our volume to hear the other's song.

I am disturbed by the conceit of both parties. It would seem that it is more important to be on the winning side of the argument than to accept that there is, ultimately, no need for argument.

As to what should be taught in schools, the law intervenes. Separation of Church and State is a valid concept. We cannot ignore the evidence of our origins or make the findings fit into a nice, neat, religious package simply because it rocks the boat of our personal convictions. Nor can we discount that there may be things beyond our comprehension that brought us here, whether it makes us uncomfortable to know that we aren't totally in control of our destiny or not.

As a parent, I want my daughter to know both sides and make the decision for herself. I want her to obtain the science in school, and the religion in church. That is what these two institutions are meant to do. The moment we try to impose one or the other as absolute truth, we deny the possibility for growth. I think God would be disappointed if we did.

And, finally, to the question "WHY are we here?"; I have no idea. But it does make life interesting, doesn't it?

Davy Ray
Graduate Studies
Mass Communications,
Recording Industry Mgmt.

Evolutionists propagating higher evil

To the Editor,

In response to Clay Harris's March 21 article in *Sidelines*:

The philosophical nature of evolution does not allow one to be an expert of science. It relegates one from the title of scientist to the title of philosopher. Surgeons, plumbers, electricians, teachers, etc., possess a skill or trade — they can become experts in their fields. Biologists and geologists that leave the science of their fields to purport macro-evolutionary propaganda become puppets of a higher evil.

To be sure, a man or woman can imagine many different scenarios of life's evolution, but this is fantasy, philosophy, or religion. Its teaching in our public schools is a violation of our First Amendment. As many have pointed out, evolution is the exact opposite of the 2nd Law of Thermodynamics. It also calls for the creation of mass/energy by natural processes (i.e. without the Ultimate Law — God). Spontaneous biogenesis does not happen in even the most favorable conditions (recall Pasteur). Time degenerates—it does not create. Chance does not design—intelligence does. Mutations are the result of entropy in action — if the organism survives them, they only lead to genetic loads.

How can you defend evolution? Have you ever considered the ideological foundation for such men as Marx, Stalin, Freud, Mussolini and Hitler? Evolution was their foundation. Consider abortion and euthanasia—evolution is at their root. What about humanism? "We are progressing, improving, etc.

We have the potential to be gods." Satan told Adam and Eve the same thing in the Garden of Eden. Why do you think we have environmental extremists and animal rights extremists? How could someone cold-bloodedly kill someone or rape someone? Evolution is the why and how. Life is no longer a precious gift viewed through an evolutionary world-view. It is merely organized matter organized by nature alone. Nature becomes the god when in reality its very existence screams of a supernatural designer.

My friend, macro-evolution is unscientific. It is religious. It is mind-altering. It is deadly. It has no predictive value. It is undefendable. And to top it all off, every tax-paying citizen supports its teaching. This concerns experts and non-experts alike.

In conclusion, the "inexpert rhetoric" as you term it, is actually the true science. Thousands of scientists are coming to this conclusion all over the world. Also, in response to the question you pose "If you've no regard for expertise, why attend (or teach at) a university?" I pose another — if you value science and human life, how can you defend macro-evolution or teach it?

Joe Dowell
Freshman, Chemistry/Biology

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Sidelines encourages comments from readers. Letters to the editor should not exceed 300 words. Authors who want more than 300 words to express themselves should contact the editor. *Sidelines* keeps its pages open to all viewpoints and all members of the MTSU community. Authors should include their name, address, major, classification and phone number for identification purposes. (Phone numbers will not be published.) *Sidelines* reserves the right to edit for length, grammar, style and libel. Send letters to Box 42, MTSU, Murfreesboro, TN 37132 or drop them off at the *Sidelines* office in JUB Room 310. Letters can also be sent via e-mail to the editor at: m_c_008c@frank.mtsu.edu.

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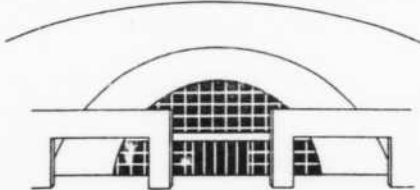


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SPORTS

Page 8

SIDELINES

Thursday, March 28, 1996

Lady Raider softball pummels APSU

By Lesli Bales / staff

A homerun and a 14-run first inning were the keys to the Lady Raiders big sweep of Austin Peay at the doubleheader here yesterday afternoon.

"Our goals coming into today were to score early and get ahead," coach Karen Green said. "I think scoring so many runs gave the girls some confidence."

Jamie Estepa's two-run homerun in the bottom of the first gave the Lady Raiders a 3-0 lead in the first game. The first MTSU homerun ever hit over the fence would prove to be the game winner as the Lady Raiders held on to win the first game of the afternoon by a score of 3-1.

The second game also got off to a spectacular start as the Lady Raiders scored 14 runs in the first. Kim Blair started the inning with a walk and a stolen base. Jamie Polsteen came up with a bunt single to advance Blair to third. After Polsteen stole second, Kandel Walker singled to center, scoring Blair and advancing Polsteen to third. The score was 1-0.

The score didn't remain there very long as Charlotte Peay (hitting for Pierrecia Lyons) bunted a successful suicide squeeze to score Polsteen from third and advance Walker to second. After a double steal, Holly Griffith drew a walk. With bases loaded, Estepa stepped up and singled to center, scoring both Walker and Peay and advancing Griffith all the way from first to third.

Estepa stole second allowing her to advance to third on a wild pitch that enabled Griffith to go home. Allison Cheatham then belted a double to center to score Estepa. Melissa Webb followed with a double to center to score Cheatham and took third on Brenda Bessinger's single to left. A wild throw back to the pitcher scored Webb and allowed Bessinger to advance to third base.

Lead-off hitter Blair came back up to the plate where she singled to left to score Bessinger. The Lady Raiders had batted around and there were still no outs.

Polsteen beat the throw to first after she tapped the ball right in front of the plate, and Blair sped around to



The girls of summer

The MTSU Lady Raider softball team swept Ohio Valley Conference foe Austin Peay State University yesterday, 3-1, 16-5. Top: Lady Raider pitcher Kim Blair delivers a high-speed pitch. Blair won the second game of yesterday's doubleheader, a game in which the Lady Raiders scored fourteen runs in the first inning. Right: Kristin Rawlins takes a cut in a recent game. The Lady Raiders hit the road this weekend, and will be back at home Tuesday, April 2 to face the Golden Eagles from Tennessee Tech. The game against Tech is scheduled to begin at 2 p.m. at the Lady Raiders' field located next to the Campus Recreation center.



Photos by Brian G. Miller/staff

third on the play. Another Austin Peay wild pitch scored Blair and advanced Polsteen to third where she would later score off Walker's single to center.

Peay followed with a single to left to move Walker to second. Griffith hit into a fielder's choice that forced Walker out at third, but Peay and Griffith were still safe on second and first respectively.

Estepa singled to center for the second time in the inning scoring Peay from second and advancing Griffith to second.

Cheatham slapped a triple to the right field fence to score both Griffith and Estepa. In a burst of excitement, Cheatham tried to stretch her triple into an inside-the-park the homerun only to be thrown out at the plate. With two outs, Webb struck out to end the explosive fourteen-run inning.

Austin Peay answered with one run in the second and four in the fourth to make the score 14-5. MTSU added two more runs in the bottom of the fourth.

Despite the continuous rain, Blair pitched very well, including a perfect

1-2-3 fifth inning to end the game. The final score was 16-5.

By the end of the second game, all of the Lady Raiders had gotten the chance to play. "It's always a team effort whether they are sitting or playing," explained Coach Green, "but it's always good to have a game like this where everyone gets some experience."

The Lady Raiders are now 10-14 overall and 3-3 in Conference play. Their next home game will be April 2 against Tennessee Tech at 2:00. ●

Tennis teams fall to South Alabama

By Joel Frey / staff

It wasn't pretty for fans of Lady Raider and Blue Raider tennis Monday afternoon at the Murphy Center courts, as both teams were beaten by the University of South Alabama.

In women's action, USA began the day with a sweep of the three doubles matches and rode that momentum to easy victories in singles as well, taking the match over MTSU 7-0.

"We really beat ourselves off the bat," said coach David Thornton. Although we stayed competitive in the doubles, I really felt we put entirely too much pressure on ourselves in singles."

The Lady Jaguars won all six singles matches in straight sets over the Lady Raiders.

Thornton's team now must focus attention on its final non-conference match of the season Sunday morning at the University of Alabama-Birmingham.

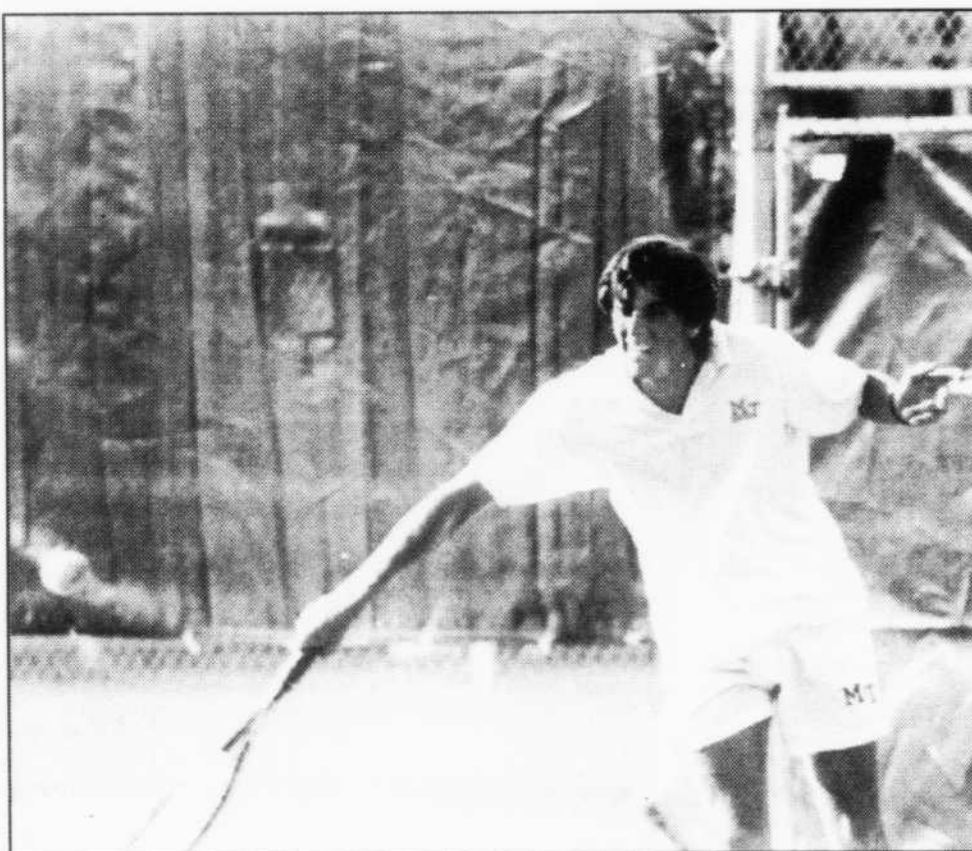
"We are really going to use the rest of this week to get out on the court and hit a lot of balls," Thornton said. "It has been encouraging to see our hard work in doubles paying off a bit, but we now must look to playing more competitively in singles."

Following this weekend's action, the Lady Raiders will then prepare for OVC play. The team will travel for its first conference match of the season April 4 against two-time defending OVC champion UT-Martin.

Thornton said he expects to see Lady Raider Kelley Bacich return to the line-up soon, although he is still uncertain how her recent foot injury will affect her play.

As in the case with the Lady Raiders, Thornton said he thought the men's team placed too much pressure on themselves against the 11th ranked men's squad from USA.

"I really think the guys thought this was 'the' match of the year for them," Thornton said. "It was definitely a big opportunity for them but I think Coach Short and the team realizes now there is a lot more tennis to be played and they still have to adapt to pressure situations if they are



Brian G. Miller/staff

Anthony DeLuise goes for a backhand return during a recent match. The Blue Raider tennis team will be competing in California this weekend at the Cal-Irvine Invitational, while the Lady Raiders will be on the road against Alabama-Birmingham this Sunday morning.

going to rise into the upper ranks of college tennis."

The Blue Raider team traveled to California on Tuesday to see action in the Cal-Irvine Invitational.

MTSU, ranked 23rd by the Intercollegiate Tennis Association, is the top-seeded team in the tournament. Short's squad received a first round bye and will play its first match on Friday.

In the 6-1 loss to South Alabama on Monday, MTSU was swept in the three doubles matches to begin the match, and was unable to recover as a team in singles play.

Sophomore Julius Robberts, playing at number four in the Blue Raider line-up, scored Middle's lone point of the day with a 6-2, 7-5 win over Johan Westburg of South Alabama.

Besides being ranked 11th as a team, USA also boasts the nation's seventh-ranked player in Jan Hermansson. Playing at number two for USA on Monday, Hermansson lived up to his billing in defeating Blue Raider Anthony DeLuise 6-2, 6-4.

"Hermansson is a tough player," Thornton said. "He hardly misses a ball the whole match and continually kept shots at Anthony's feet."

Thornton said this weekend's trip to Cal-Irvine will be a big test for Middle.

"The South Alabama match really doesn't hurt too much," Thornton said. "Sure it would have been big to beat them, but in California as the top seed they really will have to face the pressure, knowing a loss there will be a bad loss as far as rankings are concerned." ●

MTSU golfers travel to Alabama toumey

Middle Tennessee's men's golf team will be returning to the Southern Junior/Senior Intercollegiate in Alexander City, Ala., this weekend.

The tournament will be a homecoming of sorts for the Raiders for a couple of reasons. Homecoming number one comes for Blue Raiders Brian Higgins, a senior from Birmingham, Ala., and Maine Brock, a junior from Albany, Ga. Higgins and Brock both played for two years at Central Alabama Community College, which hosts the annual event.

Homecoming number two comes in the form of former blue Raider athlete and current Central Alabama Head Coach Maxie Boles. Boles has won numerous junior college national championships while at Central Alabama C.C.

The tournament is a three-day affair with the first round starting Friday and the conclusion coming on Sunday. ●

APSU coach leaves for UNLV position

LaDonna McClain, who turned around a struggling women's basketball program at Austin Peay, was asked Tuesday to do the same thing at UNLV.

McClain, who led APSU to the NCAA tournament for the first time this year, was named to take over a UNLV women's team that went 4-21 last season under Jim Bolla.

"The opportunities here to be successful are tremendous," McClain said. "It's obviously a big professional step for me."

The 31-year-old McClain has a record of 60-103 in six years at Austin Peay. However, she was 46-38 over the past three seasons and the team went 21-8 this year and won the Ohio Valley Conference tournament title.

McClain is a 1987 graduate of Missouri Southern State College, where she was a four-year starter. She was named a graduate assistant coach at Peay a year later and took over as interim coach in 1990. ●



Joel Frey
assistant sports
editor

MTSU tennis team deserves indoor facility

If ever the day comes when the Blue Raider football team is ranked 23rd in any Division 1-A football poll, do you think the team will still be playing home games at Floyd Stadium?

Of course not.

It would be a complete embarrassment to the team, coaches, student body and the administration of MTSU for a ranked Division 1-A college football team to be hosting games in a stadium which attracts more fans on Friday nights for high school games.

Unfortunately, such a situation presently exists for one Blue Raider Division 1-A team.

Coach Dale Short's Blue Raider tennis team has steadily risen in Intercollegiate Tennis Association polls from the beginning of the year to reach their present position of number 23 in the country.

The men's tennis program is ranked ahead of eight schools in the SEC, arguably the toughest tennis conference in the nation. Two of its players, Fred Niemeyer and Anthony DeLuise, are ranked nationally in the latest ITA poll. As a doubles tandem, Niemeyer and DeLuise are ranked seventh in the nation, are certain to be invited to the NCAA tournament and more than likely will gain All-American status.

What did I just say? Was that All-American? Has that happened recently to an athlete at MTSU?

As a matter of fact, two years ago Niemeyer, as a freshmen, and former team member Paul Goebel achieved such lofty status after beating the number one ranked doubles team in the nation twice, advancing to the NCAA tournament as the fifth seeded team.

Now it would seem to me, the MTSU athletic department and administration would want to REWARD a team for such achievements.

Besides, think of all the FREE exposure Short's teams give the university when they participate in national tournaments and road matches all across the country.

Short and women's coach David Thornton, however, are lucky to get to play in Murfreesboro five or six times a year.

Why is that? Have you ever tried to play tennis outside in January, February, even March amidst bone-chilling temperatures and six inches of snow?

Although some of you in an inebriated state may have, neither the men's or women's tennis teams have had the pleasure because, for some unknown reason, Short and Thornton can not convince other teams to drive to Murfreesboro to experience the thrill.

Regardless of the success either the men's or women's teams attain this season or in seasons to come on the court, it will be impossible for them to be seriously considered a major tennis power on the collegiate level until an indoor tennis facility is constructed.

I know, just what we need, a call to spend more money on athletics. While I do realize there are thousands of students who think it is a complete waste of resources to spend a DIME on athletic programs, an indoor tennis site would not solely benefit the tennis teams.

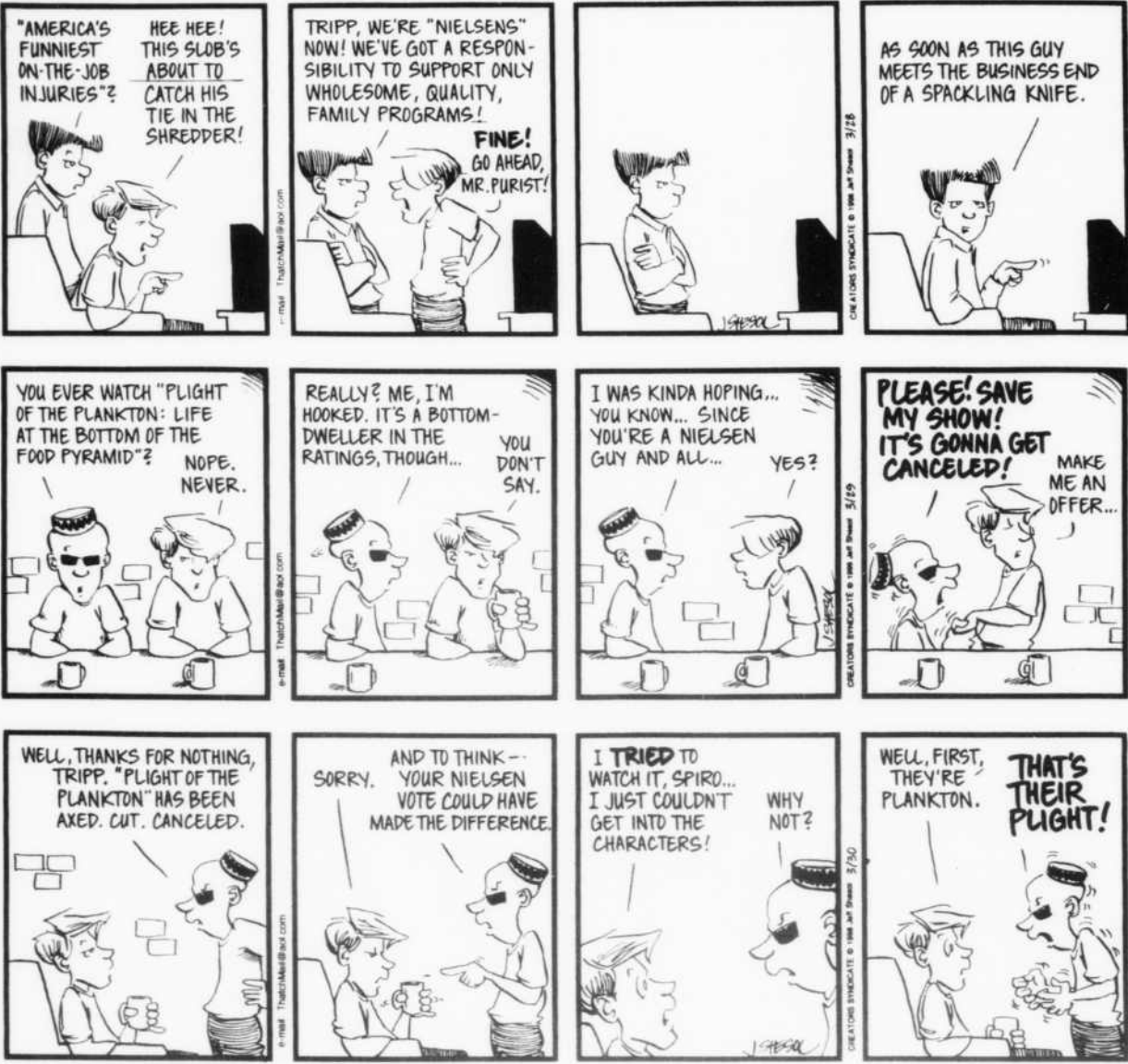
How many of you out there are enrolled in tennis classes this spring? What was your intent when you signed up for a tennis class? Naturally, to play tennis and to learn some of the basics of the game.

Now, how many of you out there enrolled in tennis classes this spring can count the days you actually were able to go outside and try to learn how to play tennis on one hand?

Considering all of the rain, sleet, snow, cold temperatures and generally God-awful weather the 'Boro has experienced this spring, I bet all of

Please see JOEL on page 9

THATCH by Jeff Shesol



off the mark



Raider baseball team swept by UAB

By Rob Nunley / staff

It was definitely a down week for the Blue Raider baseball team, as they suffered two devastating losses to the University of Alabama-Birmingham, 12-2, 17-6.

"They without a shadow of a doubt have proved they are the best team," said MTSU head coach Steve Peterson. "They're a good baseball team, and I'm not ashamed to say they're better than us."

The sweep dropped the Raiders to 15-11 on the season, while the Blazers improved their record to 15-7.

Tuesday night's game looked like it would be a classic pitcher's duel for the first few innings, as Raider starter Jamie Hill and Blazer Mark Gray locked horns for four scoreless innings.

But Gray would prove to be the more dominant of the two hurlers, as the Blazers touched Hill for five runs in the top of the fifth inning.

After walking the first two batters he faced, Hill gave up back-to-back hits allowing the Blazers to get on the scoreboard. George Oleksik came in to try and stop the bleeding, but wasn't very effective as UAB scored two more runs before Middle was finally able to get out of the inning.

"Jamie has had problems all season," Peterson said. "He's a good competitor and has had some good moments, but he struggles with the strike zone and tonight he just lost it. He was his own worst enemy."

The Raiders got on the board in the bottom of the fifth when Jordan Beddies, who had led off the inning with a single, scored on a base hit by Perry

Lyons.

Beddies was the only Raider with more than one hit on Tuesday, as the senior outfielder went two-for-four and scored Middle's only two runs.

The Blazers padded their lead even into the ninth inning, when they struck for four insurance runs off Raider reliever Craig Jones to take the 12-2 win.

Hill collected the loss for MTSU, his second of the season, as the Raiders were out-hit 12-2.

"UAB beat us in every phase of the game," Peterson said. "Defensively it's as poor an outing as we've had this year, and we definitely struggled offensively."

It was more of the same on Wednesday afternoon, as Raider pitchers' inability to find the strike zone was a major factor in Middle's eleventh loss of the year, 17-6.

The game started out well for the Raiders, as they tacked up four runs in the bottom of the first to take an early lead.

Middle's offense kept going in the second, when with two outs and Andrew Thompson on first third baseman Doug Barner blasted his ninth home run of the year over the left field scoreboard to put Middle on top 6-0.

But in the top of the third UAB proved they were still very much in the game, knocking MTSU starter Jamie Powers off the mound with five runs. The biggest blow came from designated hitter Charles McQuaig, who cranked a one-out grand slam to right field to close the Raider lead to one run.

The Blazers sent ten men to the plate in the seventh and came away with four runs on

four walks and only two hits, including a three-run double from outfielder B.J. Huff.

MTSU's batters struck out 12 times in Wednesday's game, while the Raider pitching staff walked eight UAB hitters.

"We're walking people all over the southeastern United States," Peterson said. "We've played over half our season now and we can't seem to get any better. Baseball is a game of consistency and adjustments, period, and there's got to be some changes."

As a misting rain started to fall on Smith field, Middle's chances of pulling out a win seemed to fall with them, as the Raider bats went cold and MTSU was only able to manage three hits in the final seven innings of the game.

Just as it did on Tuesday, the Blazer offense surged against Middle's relievers late in the game. UAB struck for eight runs in the ninth off MTSU's bullpen, more than enough to walk away with the victory.

Huff turned in the most impressive performance for the Blazers, going four-for-six with a home run and six RBIs.

The Raiders are scheduled to face Cumberland tonight at 7:00, and Peterson said that he and his staff are ready to make changes to turn the ball club back onto the winning track.

"We're going to do a better coaching job, and we won't quit," Peterson said. "But we know what it's like to be a good team and compete with good teams. But we couldn't even compete with UAB, and that's what hurts me the most."

MTSU will travel to Martin, Tenn. this weekend for a three game series with the UT-Martin SkyHawks. ●

JOEL: tennis accomplishments need rewarding

Continued from page 8

you potential tennis greats out there are feeling slightly gyped by your "tennis" class.

Now I realize tennis is not the glamour sport of college athletics. An indoor tennis complex does not potentially

generate the millions of dollars the administration and athletic department dream of when thinking about Division 1-A football at MTSU and home games with UT and Alabama.

I think, however, by rewarding a team for present

accomplishments, rather than fantasizing about visions that, in all honesty, may never occur, the administration of MTSU would take a big step in shedding the money-sucking reputation it has attained over the last several years. ●

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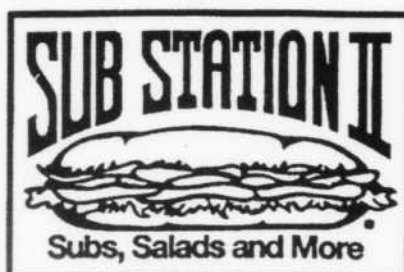
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