

Earle resigns job as head basketball coach

by Scott Adams
Sports Editor

Blue Raider basketball coach Jimmy Earle has announced his resignation yesterday, effective at the end of the current season.

Earle, who during his ten years as head coach has won over twice as many games as any other basketball coach in the school's history, will remain at MTSU in the Athletic Department under Athletic Director Charles "Bubber" Murphy.

Earle made the announcement at the weekly faculty-press luncheon in an emotion packed speech which followed a short video tape presentation which highlighted moments for this season.

"This move is something that has been on my mind for the past several years," said Earle. "I feel that every coach at some stage in his career reaches a point of saturation, and the stress and other factors involved in building this program from the doormat of the OVC to a place of respectability have taken their toll."

Earle said that he had been talking to Murphy about the situation for about a month and

that the decision was finally made some time last week. He met with the team early yesterday morning and made the announcement.

"We didn't really have any idea that he was gonna do this," said Leroy Coleman, a captain on this year's squad. "I guess everyone is just kind of shocked."

"I'm sure we'll think about it Saturday, but we all knew we had to win the game anyway," Coleman added.

"I can't say enough about Stan Simpson," Earle said. "He's been with me for a long time and I really think he deserves a chance at the job."

Earle, who earlier this year said that he wouldn't leave his post here at MTSU until he thought the job was done, said that just because he had decided to leave didn't mean that he has achieved everything he wanted to achieve here.

decade, his teams have won at least 15 games in eight of those 10 seasons, including the last six in a row.

In 1974-75, MTSU won the regular season OVC championship for the first time and represented the league in the NCAA playoffs. In 1976-77, the Raiders once again made the playoffs by winning the OVC post-season tournament.

Last season, they won the second regular season title in the school's history, sharing the championship with East Tennessee State.

After moving into Murphy Athletic Center in 1972, Earle's last seven teams have won a total of 80 out of 99 home games, including a streak of 33 in a row.

In 1975 Earle was named OVC Coach of the Year, an honor he won again in 1977.

Earle will remain at MTSU in a job that has yet to be determined.

"Coach Murphy has been the guiding force in building this program to the level that it is at now. During the times that were

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photo by GARY LONG

An emotional Jimmy Earle announces his resignation.

Sidelines focuses on some memorable moments in resigning Coach Jimmy Earle's 10 year career. See page 5.

One of the first questions that has to be answered now is who will be the next coach?

Both Earle and Murphy showed strong support of Raider assistant coach Stan Simpson, (who was away on a recruiting trip), who has been an assistant for seven years at MTSU.

"Basketball is just an obsession with me," Earle said. "I've gotten so wrapped up in it that I've let my family become secondary and you just can't do that. My family is too important to me."

Earle has a record of 163 wins and 102 losses during his nearly 10 years at MTSU. During this

Reception for Ingrams is planned

Sam H. Ingram, sixth president of Middle Tennessee State University, and his wife Betty will be honored at a reception in the Tennessee Room of the James Union Building on Sunday afternoon, March 4.

The Ingrams will be greeting students, faculty and staff members, city, county and state officials and other friends.

The reception will follow a Presidential Concert by MTSU Symphonic Band in the Dramatic Arts Auditorium. Both the concert and the reception are open to the public and will be in lieu of any formal inauguration ceremonies,

in accordance with the new president's wishes.

"When we are looking for ways to provide a margin of excellence in education with funds that don't go quite as far as they used to, it seems appropriate that we just get to the business at hand. I'd rather cut the thrills on a ceremony than on an academic program," Ingram, who was formerly state commissioner of Education, said.

"Mrs. Ingram and I hope to see many of our friends and friends of the university we've come to serve at the concert and at the reception which follows it."

The concert, under the direction of Joseph Smith, will feature selections ranging from opera to contemporary film scores. It will be at 3:30 p.m., with the reception to follow at approximately 5 p.m.

Ingram succeeded M.G. Scarlett, who resigned to accept a Board of Regents professorship which will begin at Memphis State University next fall.

Ingram was chairman of the department of education and then dean of education at MTSU before leaving in 1968 to accept the presidency at Motlow State Community College in Tullahoma.

Briefly

ASB student directories will be distributed today and next week in the UC basement.

Charge for the directories will be 25 cents to cover shipping and handling and to provide some funds for the next administration to have such a program, according to ASB president Mike McDonald.

Included in the directories are phone numbers of all administrators and phone numbers and addresses of all students.

There will be a meeting of all prospective candidates for the ASB spring elections at 4:30 p.m. Tuesday in the ASB office. Rules and regulations will be discussed. Everybody intending to run for an office should attend.

The MTSU Young Democrats will host a visit from Democratic leaders Keith Bissell and Tom Wheeler Monday at 11 a.m. in the UC Theatre.

Bissell, Public Service Commissioner and Wheeler, the state's youngest legislator, will speak on their roles in current issues in state and federal government.

Admission is free and open to the public.



Figaro and his bride sing of their love.

photo by GARY LONG

Figaro delights audience

by Jackie Gearhart

Wednesday night's preview performance of "The Marriage of Figaro" was a delightful comic opera which showed the magnificence of the art to a group of local high school students.

The audience was entertained not only by the comic plot and unusual characters, but also by the lovely voices of the performers. Probably the longest ovation was for the countess' (Jocelyn McDonald) cavatina in the second act.

Randie Blooding and Cynthia Perkins, both were voice instructors in the music department, played the roles of Figaro and his bride Susanna. At first it seemed

that they would steal the show, but as more characters appeared on stage it was difficult to point out the best voices or performers.

The audience was particularly entertained by William Mangham, who doubled as the limping assistant, Basilio and the stuttering judge, Don Curzio. It seemed anything he did would make the audience laugh.

Add to the list of unusual characters the drunk gardener Antonio, portrayed superbly by David Johnson, and you have to laugh after laugh from the audience.

Other comic scenes include the exchange of insults between Susanna and Marcellina, the some-

what broad old maid portrayed by Nancy Dinkins and the scene in which Susanna dressed the page boy Cherubin as a girl, especially since he is played by a girl, Debbie Cathey, to begin with.

The plot was filled with the usual comedy ingredients of mistaken identity and secret schemes that all seem to unravel themselves to a happy ending.

The cast was awarded a standing ovation, not to mention cheers and whistles from the crowd. If that doesn't make you believe that you can be turned on to opera, just find out for yourself tonight or Saturday at 8 p.m. in the DA auditorium.

Legislation will require ASB House attendance

A committee to draft a bill calling for mandatory attendance in the ASB House will be formed at the March 6 meeting, according to Mark Floyd, speaker of the house.

This action is being taken as a result of a recent membership drive which increased the house roll attendance but was not successful in increasing attendance.

"It's a sad commentary on the ASB and the student organizations that attendance will have to be forced," Floyd said.

Quorum (set at 26) was not reached at the Tuesday meeting of the house, stopping action on 12 pieces of legislation, already passed by the senate. These resolutions will not be acted upon by the house until March 6.

Although Floyd said there have been few times that notices have not been sent out, several house members said they have received only one or two notices all year.

Tom Duncan, speaker pro tempore of the house, said he thought notices and a copy of the minutes should be sent out between meetings. "It is suppose to be required, though it isn't set down in writing. Any good speaker would do it," Duncan said. He added that he had only received one or two notices all year.

Floyd said he thought a representative should attend meetings out of responsibility to their organizations and to the university. He added that it is the house's responsibility to make them aware of the meetings.

Senators named to office, eight resolutions are passed

by Faye Hale

Two senators were named to replace those who resigned this semester and eight pieces of legislation were considered in Tuesday's ASB senate meeting.

ASB president Mike McDonald named Doug Cole to replace sophomore senator Everett Stone and Mark King will replace freshman senator Cindy Howe. Both Stone and Howe resigned after missing three senate meetings, the maximum number senators are allowed to miss.

Legislation passed in the meeting included a resolution to designate April 2-6 as energy awareness week.

The senate also passed a resolution requesting that all housing director candidates be required to look at Smith Hall in order to see dorm life "at its worst."

Kent Syler, speaker of the house and sponsor of the bill, serves as the student representative on the committee to select the housing director. "We should get the finalist in there and make him promise that he will fix the lobby

before he takes the job," Syler said. "They should know exactly what they're getting into," he added.

A bill to create an office of commuter affairs was passed by the senate. The bill states that such an office is needed since commuters have unique problems such as missing classes due to inclement weather and having to schedule classes around jobs and family responsibilities.

Randy James, senate sponsor, said that the bill was a general statement to show concern.

Also passed during the meeting was a resolution to do away with paper cup machines on campus. Syler, sponsor of the resolution, asked that no contract be signed with any soft drink company who will install paper cup machines on campus. Syler also said that he had found widespread dissatisfaction with the cup machines among students.

James also sponsored a resolution asking for upright ash trays in the lobbies of High Rise and

[continued on page 2]



Children of the world are featured in Marotta exhibit.

Marotta exhibit planned

Photographs by Tom Marotta, featuring children of the world, will be on exhibit Feb. 25-March 15 in the MTSU photographic gallery located in the LRC.

The exhibit, which has been shown in France, Canada and various places in the United States was completed while Marotta was working with UNICEF on the International Year of the Child 1979, and will be dedicated to that organization.

A former photojournalist with the U.S. Navy, Marotta has had

photographs published in the New York Daily News, New York Times, Penthouse, Popular Photography and other magazines.

In addition, Marotta is the author of two books: "Who Needs Parks," a photo documentary on parks and "For They Are My Friends," a photo book on Rumanian people.

His exhibit can be seen during regular gallery hours, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday; 8 a.m. to noon Saturday; and 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. Sunday.

Ending is surprising

'Someone's Waiting' offers suspense

by Bill Ray

Combine a murder mystery with local actors and the end result is "Someone's Waiting," the current production at Murfreesboro Little Theatre.

Evolving around present day London, the plot consists of a father trying to avenge the unjust trial and subsequent execution of his only child.

Walter Fenn, a tutor in law, visits the Nedlow house to help Martin Nedlow pass his bar exam, but eventually plans the sole judge and jury trial of the real criminal, John Nedlow, Martin's father.

The rest is a "who-done-it" as the audience knows the murderer but helplessly waits for the execution.

Tom Harris, an MTSU English professor, does an excellent job as John Nedlow, the pompous owner of Nedlow Motors. His slow transition from boss of the household and magnate of the Nedlow Empire to the helpless pawn of Fenn is well done.

Mark Dunn, playing Walter Fenn, does a fine job of the calculating killer, planning each move as a chess game. Fenn is obsessed to avenge the wrongful execution of his son and his obsession is well-paced.

He appears at first as a bumbling and shy individual, unlike because "women don't go for failures." His intent drive carries him through a series of failures until he finally succeeds in ruining John Nedlow.

Andy Keenan as young Nedlow, however, is not as well-paced as his father and tutor are.

His extreme transitions, from clumsy kid to spoiled brat and finally crushed and disillusioned aide for Fenn, make him appear schizophrenic and a possible suspect instead of his father.

Vara Nedlow, played by Charlotte Gardner, appears to improve as the show continues. Her character, the protective wife of Nedlow, does not appear until late in the second and third acts.

One of the saving points of the play is the performance of Mary Jane Chrisman, as the maid Hilda. Although we don't see her much except to refuse the wishes of the overzealous Nedlow, her appearance in the second act, as the drunk off to the bar in Soho, is not overdone and is a welcome relief.

Others in the cast include Susan Pinkerton as the shy and timid secretary (at times too shy and timid), Shirley Robinson, Randy Brown and Maria James.

The overall tempo of the play is slow and one of its major problems is a complex scene in act one. We see young Nedlow explaining the events surrounding

the murder his father was involved in, but his explanation is somewhat confusing. The action picks up later in the second act as the audience waits for Fenn to commit his well-planned crime and the ending is a surprising turn of events.

The show, directed by Joe

Keenan, will open tonight and continue through March 3, with the theatre dark Feb. 26 and 27.

Curtain time is 8 p.m. and tickets are \$3.00. Reservations should be made by calling 893-9825. The theatre is located at 700 Ewing Boulevard.

Students perform in show; to feature jazz, ballet, tap

by Lisa Human

Modern, jazz, ballet, tap and even belly dancing will be included in the dance concert put on by MTSU's Performing Arts Company at 8 p.m. Feb. 26 in the DA auditorium.

The company, directed by MTSU dance instructor Anne Holland, consists of approximately 50 MTSU students who have choreographed most of the dances themselves.

Although it has no particular theme, the show features J.J. Jones, an MTSU student who has been selected for the Alvin Ailey dance company in New York.

Jones choreographed a fast moving jazz number and will be dancing to several songs.

"Fanfare for the Common Man," a modern dance choreographed by Holland is a dance that typifies modern man and ends with student dancer Mark Hallums eating fire.

Approximately 14 dances will be seen during the show, including a tap dance to "Greased Lightning," a fast moving jazz dance to "Get Off," a modern dance to "Afternoon of a Fawn," a jazz dance to "Ease on Down the Road," in which the dancers will be dressed as little girls and a ballet to "Love Story."

Students began putting the dances to music last fall and have been practicing several nights a week.

Admission is free and open to the public.

Attention: students interested in a good summer job, interviewing the elderly under a research project sponsored by the MTSU interdisciplinary program in gerontology. Good pay, travel expenses, and an opportunity for valuable academic experience and practical training. Interested persons should contact: Dr. Kendall Blanchard, PH316, or Dr. Carl Freitag, JH114.



photo by ROBIN RUDD

Mark Dunn

Senators

[continued from page 1]

Cummings Halls. James said that the carpets in these dorms were being ruined due to the lack of ash trays.

The senate also passed a resolution asking that two clocks be placed in the grill, for the convenience of the students and a resolution asking that the "pot-holes" on campus be filled.

The senate tabled a resolution requesting a financial estimate on the remodeling or repair of the lobby of High Rise.

Several senators said that since the university is already putting a plan to remodel the lobby into action the resolution would be a waste of time.

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Last chance this century

Solar eclipse Monday

by Jane Mier

If you forget to mark Monday's calendar with the words "solar eclipse," you'll have to wait until Aug. 12, 2017, for the opportunity to do so.

This Monday will mark this century's last solar eclipse visible from the North American continent.

Don't get your hopes up on watching it, warns Ralph Fullerton, chairman of geography and earth sciences department. "We'll barely be able to see a tiny, tiny bit of it," he said. "It will mainly be visible to the northwestern United States—Oregon, Washington, etc."

Total solar eclipses are rare. An eclipse occurs when the moon is said to be in conjunction with the sun.

"That is," Fullerton explained, "the moon's orbit carries it between the sun and earth. The moon throws a shadow and temporarily blocks earth's view of the sun. The blockage never lasts longer than five to seven minutes."

If you do plan to spend Monday scanning the sky, hoping to catch a glimpse, be very careful. "Although the sun is blocked from view, its rays are still quite potent and staring directly at the sun is dangerous," Fullerton said. "Sunglasses, even welder's glasses, do not offer enough protection to your eyes."

The best ways to observe an eclipse are either looking at it through a photographic negative or by punching a hole in a piece of cardboard and reflecting the image onto another sheet of paper.

Since you probably won't be able to see the eclipse, don't worry too much. Remember, the next one is due in August 2017!



The debate goes on. photo by BILL COOK

Infant formula controversy discussed in seminar debate

The importance of exposing all sides of the issue was stressed by all speakers at last night's "Crunch Nestles Quick" seminar debate.

Charles Mingle, a representative of Infant Formula Action Coalition; Naomi Baumslag, an Emory University professor and Douglas Gromer, a Nestles representative presented different views of the infant formula controversy at last night's debate which highlighted the three day seminar.

The unethical promotion of baby formula to mothers who do not know how to use it properly was cited as one of INFAC's major objections.

Nestles, however, pointed out that mass media advertising has been stopped. Gromer said that infant formula is not bad when used correctly and that mothers in third world countries should be educated in the use of it.

Baumslag, a neutral party that has lived in third world countries, advocated breast feeding and stressed the importance of pregnant women getting proper nutrition so they will be able to sufficiently breast feed their child.



photo by CHARLES CROSS

Tested for rabies

The dog being led away by Paul W. Ducker was captured after biting an MTSU student Saturday. The dog was killed and rabies tests were later run and found negative.

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Executive — Scouting/USA

Interviews for executive positions with the Boy Scouts of America will be held at MTSU on February 28. This is full time, challenging, worthwhile work with variety and purpose. Scouting experience helpful. Good salary and benefits.

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Machines are robbed in Gore Hall break-in

by John Young

Two vending machines were broken into and robbed Tuesday in the lobby of Gore Hall, leaving the machines extensively damaged, according to the Murfreesboro Vending Service.

The break-in occurred around 2 p.m., according to Detective John Driver of the campus police. No arrests have been made in relation to robbery at press time.

A spokesman for the vending company said an estimate of damages cannot be made until the machines are repaired.

"The doors were torn open and the glass was broken out," according to Larry Hill, Gore dorm director.

The machines were taken out of the dorm and returned to the vendor for repair.

"Anyone who hears someone breaking into machines should call the police and not touch the machines until they get there," Detective Driver said.

Vending machines are regularly broken into, according to an official at the vending service.

The vending service will prosecute anyone breaking into or damaging the machines.

Officials at the vending service warned that service has been stopped at other universities because of thefts and damage, and urged MTSU students to take better care of the machines.

If students are losing money in the machines, they should report it to the business office.

Calendar

FRIDAY

Opera: The Marriage of Figaro; 8 p.m., DA Auditorium

Mid-winter formal: 8 p.m., JUB Tennessee Room

SATURDAY

Hoop Shoot contests: athletic department and Tennessee Elks Association; 11:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m., Murphy Center; 3-5 p.m., swimming pool.

Banquet: athletic department and Tennessee Elks Association; 5:30-7:30 p.m., JUB Tennessee Room

Step show and presentation: Zeta Phi Beta; 2-6 p.m., AM Gym

Dance: Zeta Phi Beta; 10 p.m.-1 a.m., JUB Tennessee Room

Jr. Varsity Basketball: MTSU vs Edmondson Jr. College; 3 p.m., Murphy Center

Women's Basketball: MTSU vs Western; 5:15 p.m., Murphy Center

Varsity Basketball: MTSU vs Western; 7:30 p.m., Murphy Center

Opera: The Marriage of Figaro; 8 p.m., DA Auditorium

MONDAY

Student Teacher Seminar: 8 a.m.-3 p.m., UC 324

Film: Serpent's Egg; 3:30 and 7 p.m., UC Theatre

Dance Performance: MTSU Dancers; 8 p.m., DA Auditorium

Senior Recital: Nancy Barry; 8 p.m., JUB Tennessee Room

Meeting: Young Republicans; 7 p.m., UC 311

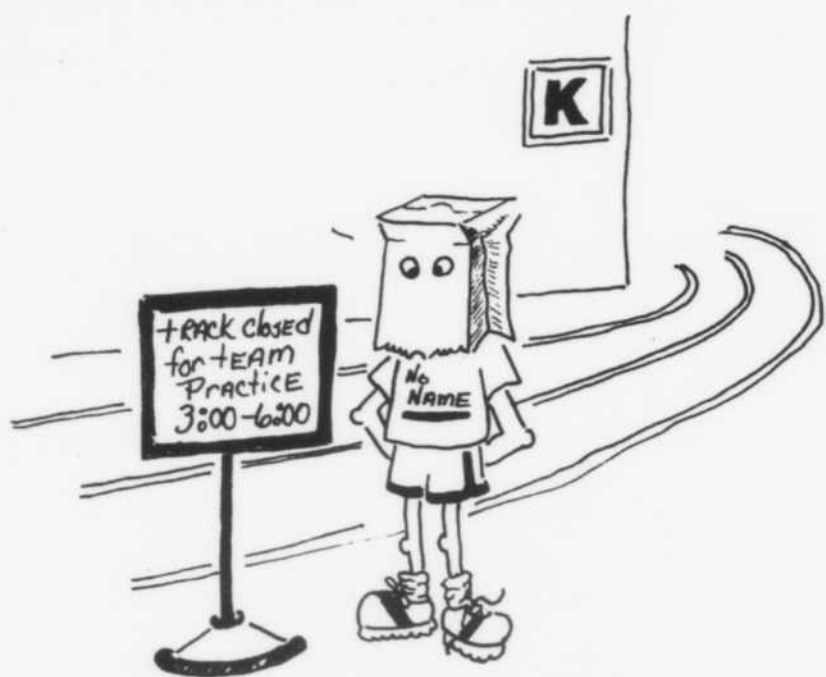
Meeting: ASB president's advisory council; 2 p.m., UC 301

Meeting: ASB cabinet; 4 p.m., UC 302

Speaker: Young Democrats; 11 a.m., UC Theatre

Winnowing

MTSU



"Shrug"

Guest Editorial

"In defense of logic"

I agree with Cathy Wood in lamenting the fact that "...anti-abortionists have abandoned logical arguments in favor of outright emotional warfare" (Sidelines Guest Editorial, Feb. 20). But it appears to me that Ms. Wood's arguments in defense of her own position (let us call it 'anti-abortionism') equally fail to serve the cause of rationality.

Ms. Wood suggests that the anti-abortionist ploy of asking "Aren't you glad your mother didn't kill you?" logically calls for the answer "If she had, I'd never have known it." I must confess that the "logic" of this answer escapes me—although I suppose there may be a principle of rhetoric according to which impertinent questions deserve impertinent answers. (If there is such a principle, then perhaps we should answer a question like "If you were a snail-darter, wouldn't you oppose the Tellico Dam Project?" with an irrelevancy like "If I were a snail-darter, I wouldn't be able to read the newspapers.")

In any case, one cannot pretend to have made the abortion issue more perspicuous by compounding irrelevancies with further irrelevancies; and it is particularly unhelpful to label this sort of maneuver "logical."

Almost invariably, discussions concerning anti-abortion legislation are shot-through with platitudes, emotionally-loaded terminology and plainly fallacious arguments from both sides—each side claiming its own position to be the "logical" one.

Ms. Wood's discussion is no exception. Although she denounces the non-logical tactics of her opponents (emotional slogans, tasteless exhibits and so on), she evidently sees nothing amiss in her own tactics—which include characterizing her opponents as "smooth-talking moralists" who "refuse to face reality" and whose "hit lists" have accomplished the untimely demise of many a good public servant.

All of this is asserted as though it were a matter of undisputable fact, clear enough to anyone who is willing to see it. And that's the way it usually goes. It appears, after all, that neither anti-abortionists nor anti-abortionists own the patent on "emotional warfare" as an alternative to rational discourse.

The resulting cloud of dust makes it quite difficult to locate the issue originally in dispute. In case anyone has lost sight of it, the issue was this: Is abortion ever justifiable—and, if so, how is it justifiable?

From the other side of the fence, the same issue might be posed thus: What reason, if any, is there for thinking that abortion is absolutely wrong in all [or nearly all] circumstances?

Ms. Wood's position, as I understand it, is that abortion is by no means absolutely wrong; the choice

to abort or not to abort should be counted among the inalienable rights of any pregnant woman; it is her life and her body, and so the choice should be entirely up to her.

If, however, one searches through Ms. Wood's essay for reasons in support of this view, one will find nothing that could withstand even a moment's quiet reflection. There is a suggestion that it would be unrealistic not to embrace abortion as a "by-product of our fast-food, conspicuous-consumption society"; there is a suggestion that changing morals ought to be regarded as a sign of social progress ("it means we're growing up"); and there is a suggestion that anti-abortionists would give up their position of only they could understand that women who have abortions "don't particularly feel good about it." Beyond this, there is nothing in the essay that deserves to be called an argument—let alone a logical one.

Ms. Wood's viewpoint may emerge seeming more reasonable than the opposing view, but only because the alternative (as she presents it) is clearly preposterous: "Typically," she says, "an anti-abortionist will argue that abortion is the root of all our evils and there'll be hell to pay if we don't stamp it out."

Of course Ms. Wood is right in suggesting that this argument is perfectly fatuous; and we can easily agree that such arguments needn't be taken seriously. However, intelligent anti-abortionists (yes—believe it or not—there are some) are inclined to put their case rather as follows: "There is no morally-relevant difference between abortion and infanticide. Infanticide is wrong; therefore, abortion is wrong." Now this argument may not be entirely convincing, but surely it warrants more serious attention than the silly one Ms. Wood uncharitably attributes to her "typical" opponent.

It is not my intention here to defend anti-abortionism. I wish only to make the following (very general) point: Whenever an issue involves strong emotions, one can anticipate that most of what is presented as "reasoning" will have precious little claim to that title. It doesn't matter what the issue is—it may be about 'human rights,' 'pornography,' 'abortion,' or even 'sex education.' As soon as feelings are polarized, "emotional warfare" is inevitable. But even though the result is predictable, it is never excusable, least of all when the battle is waged in the name of logic.

Paul J. Hamilton
Assistant Professor
Department of Philosophy

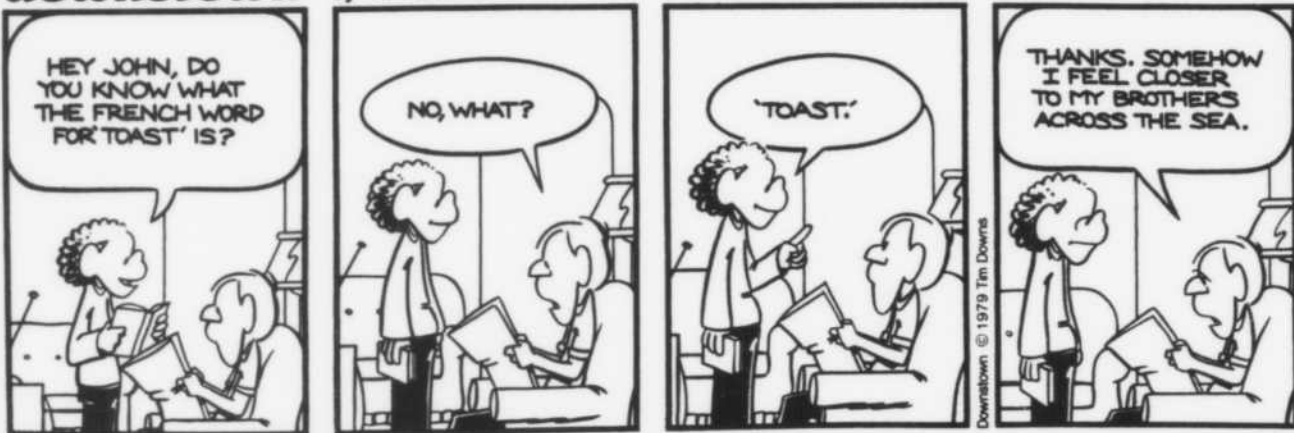
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Sidelines is published every Tuesday and Friday by the students of Middle Tennessee State University. Editorials and columns reflect the opinion of their authors and not of the MTSU administration, faculty or staff.

downtown

by Tim Downs



Newsroom Comment

Letter policy won't change

Although the track will now be closed during the track team's practice times (see letter to the editor by Dean Hayes, this page) "in response to 'Name Withheld by Request,'" Sidelines' letters policy will not be changed.

According to a letter by track coach, Dean Hayes, the practice areas for the track have been closed as of Feb. 20, as a result of a letter published in the Feb. 16 issue of Sidelines.

Although Hayes leads you to believe that there have been problems before with the track staying open, he says that "because of this point," ("that if I get run over, I'm not going to be the last to hit the floor," and "name withheld by request,"), the "time has come to completely close the tracks to recreational running during track practice and related activities.

It is disappointing to students and community of this university that the coach saw fit to change his policy as a result of one letter that appeared in Sidelines.

However, Hayes exclaimed yesterday that he felt the track closing was his only recourse in view of the physical threat that was made in the previous letter.

He also said that all the regular users of the track had been very understanding of his action. "I'll give them an A plus on that," he said.

Doubtless, some will blame this newspaper for the policy change. Admittedly, the threat which appeared in the Feb. 16 letter, was not taken seriously, or the letter would not have been printed.

Everyone has a right to write a letter to the editor without fear of repercussions, but nobody has the right to infringe upon the rights of others. The decision, made at the beginning of the semester,

to continue to print letters to the editor without a name was made to insure the rights of expression. Not only have we had reports of letter authors being harassed for expressing their viewpoints, we have also had reporters ostracized in front of classes for doing their job.

Every department on campus considers their department THE department, and when a news story does not shed a particularly favorable light, Sidelines is criticized. In fact, there have been cases this semester where reporters were made to wonder about their grades.

It seems appropriate at this time to clear up some confusion about the role of Sidelines—we are not a public relations organ for the university. We are a newspaper, first and foremost.

As a newspaper, we have a responsibility to you, our readers, to keep you informed about your community.

However, as a campus newspaper, we have a second responsibility. That is to provide a training ground for students—to prepare them for a professional media job when they leave the school.

As a newspaper that is completely run by students (all editorial decisions, production work, layout, etc. is done by MTSU students), there will be some mistakes made. We regret those mistakes, but at the same time try to learn from them.

The decision to continue printing letters to the editor without names when requested was not one of those mistakes.

All letters are verified as to the authenticity of the author before publication, but because of problems in the past, we will continue to withhold names so as to encourage the free expression of student opinion.

Letters to the Editor

To the Editor:

This letter is written in response to "Name Withheld by Request" in the Feb. 16 issue of the Sidelines. The letter was written concerning the use of the Murphy Center track.

The author of the letter complained about "verbal abuse several members (?) of the track team seem to get off on." Also the writer said "Lane one is not sacred ground."

During practice, the track team generally attempts to keep people out of lane one in an effort to know exactly the path that they can run without being tripped, etc., and so that they do as little "running over people" as possible.

We have had these things happen, including having members of the team and/or other people injured. Lane one is the "sacred lane" at most tracks. Some tracks even have signs up

telling joggers to stay out of lane one and two at all times.

In an effort to bring some understanding to this situation, look at it this way. Do you think that you would be allowed to shoot baskets while the basketball team practices? Can you play touch football on the Jones field while the football team practices? Can you take infield practice while the baseball team practices or play tennis while the tennis team is practicing?

I would guess the answers to all of these questions would be no—yet in my 14 years here, I have never closed the tracks to recreational runners during practice.

The track teams (past and present) and numerous other people have repeatedly asked me to close the facilities during practice and I have refused to because I do not believe in closing it.

The final point to be covered is "that if I get run over, I'm not going to be the last to hit the floor." We have a great number of people who really try to stay out of the way and do a great job staying out of the way. However, the time has come to completely close the tracks to recreational running during track practice and related activities.

I do not feel that I can chance having you run over (whoever you are) and the only way to prevent this problem recurring is to avoid it. Beginning Tuesday afternoon, Feb. 20, at 3:00 p.m. the practice areas for track (indoor and out) will no longer be available for use until we are finished practicing (6:00 p.m.)

I am sorry, because this is not what I would prefer, but I thank you for your past help and hope you will still support the track team and continue to run or walk at different hours.

Dean Hayes, track coach
Box 535

Et Cetera

by Bill Cook



Someone thought so much of a photograph taken by Lon Nuell, chairman of the art department, that they turned it into a paper airplane. How is that for art criticism? The office of Nuell and Son is Rm 115 of the Art Barn.

To the Sports Editor

The purpose of this letter is to receive aid and advice. It has come to my attention, as well as several of my friends who participate in athletics, that the weight lifting facilities at MTSU are grossly inadequate.

It is imperative that our university provide its athletes and students with proper instruction and facilities to physically build young men and women to their highest potentials.

Why hasn't MTSU organized a weight training program among the HPERS courses being offered? What can be done to obtain a sophisticated college level program dealing with weight training? How can students support a drive to secure an adequate lifting facility?

It is true that the university had invested some money toward free weights for the athletes; however, these weights are inaccessible to all university students except football players during winter training. Even if students were permitted to use the free weights, the poundage on hand would be inadequate.

It is my intention to make the Sidelines staff aware of this problem and to attempt to change the situation within the following year.

It is necessary to obtain your approval and your support toward improving our university. With your aid and a concentrated effort from the student body, we can succeed.

James M. DeLong

Focus

Ten years with Jimmy Earle



photo by FRED CARR



photo by ROBIN RUDD



photo by ROBIN RUDD



photo by ROBIN RUDD



Earle resigns

[continued from page 1]

hard, his support and encouragement meant an awful lot to the progress of our program," Earle said.

Earle, who currently has three books in print, began his coaching career at Smithville High School,

where he coached both boys and girls for two years before going to Martin Junior College. His combined record at Smithville was 73-17, while he was 74-29 at Martin.

Earle said he has had a few jobs offers lately but that he isn't really "considering any of them seri-

ously."

"As soon as the season is over I think I'll just relax and take it easy for awhile," Earle said.

Anyone who has followed the Blue Raider program for any length of time would have to agree—Coach Earle, you deserve it.

A look through Jimmy Earle's past ten years (clockwise from upper left). Earle discusses the game with Ken Riley who starred on the 1971 Raider team and still holds the record for career rebounds. Earle receives congratulations after winning the conference championship in Murphy Center. Hardly ever seated during a game, Earle directs traffic in the Raider's win over Austin Peay in the OVC tournament of 1976. A boyish looking Earle talks to his team during a time out during the 1972 season. Austin Peay's Otis Howard congratulates Earle after the Raiders beat the Governors in a regular season match up. Earle has one of his frequent confrontations with an official over a bad call. He usually lost the fight with the referee, but he always won the approval of the crowd.

MTSU educators aid Laotians in learning

Photos by Gary Long
Story by Doyle Parham

Ed. Note: This is part one of a series of three articles looking into the expanding Laotian community in Murfreesboro.

Distinguishing between the words man and woman comes early in most American lives.

For two 30-year-old Laotians now living in Murfreesboro, the words meant nothing until a week ago.

The words were learned in group session literacy classes at the First Baptist Church in Murfreesboro, where MTSU elementary education instructor Jane Poole and other workers are helping the Laotians learn to speak and write English.

Laotian families have been arriving in Murfreesboro since 1973 as refugees from the Communist movement into southeast Asia. Laotian refugees have been arriving more frequently in the past few months.

There are now approximately 150 Laotians living in Murfreesboro and many more are expected within upcoming weeks.

Why are they choosing Murfreesboro?

It seems to be a matter of knowing someone here and knowing that someone will help. Many families are now coming at the encouragement of families that have settled here.

Chantho Sourinno was a teacher in Laos when he met Diane Doochin, a Tennessee medical volunteer, in Laos in 1973. Chantho was interested in higher education and Tennessee seemed to be the right place for it.

Chantho came from Murfreesboro and then helped several others to settle in Murfreesboro. Most of the Laotians have a problem of not being able to speak English. Jane Poole helped ini-

tiate a literacy program for the new Murfreesboro residents.

"The experience of teaching the Laotians has been most rewarding for me because I have never seen people more enthusiastic and eager for knowledge," Poole said.

'The experience of teaching the Laotians has been the most rewarding for me because I have never seen people more enthusiastic and eager for knowledge.'

...Jane Poole

Because Poole has worked with nonreaders in the past, the social workers at MTSU thought she could assist the Laotians in learning English.

The Laotians meet for literacy class on Monday mornings and Wednesday night at the First Baptist Church. The church provides transportation, some food and other needed essentials for the families.

The adjustment has been easier for the Laotians with the help of the Murfreesboro Literacy Association, Delta Kappa Gamma honorary teachers society, Youth

Education instructor Harold Davenport and other interested persons.

Poole teaches the non-readers while Davenport teaches an advanced class. Both have found that instructional extremes are necessary at times to get a point

across.

Davenport found the best way to convey the meaning of stink was to take his shoe off for them to smell.

"The ideal that we have in mind in teaching the Laotians is to make them sufficiently literate to function in the U.S., and I believe we are accomplishing what we set out to do," Davenport said.

Three MTSU students, Dianna Smith, Lisa Jackson and Lewis Vega work as student administrators for the group. The three help find homes, food, clothing and other necessities.

"I feel we are accomplishing a lot, but so many are coming we are having trouble providing the sources they need to live an ordinary life here," Smith said.

The primary concern for most people involved with helping the Laotians is to teach them to read and speak English.

"We try to teach them how to speak their address and the customary greetings in the beginning of the program," Poole explained.

"If people keep helping like they have been, I believe we can open a new world to our Laotian friends through English as a second language while we introduce them to a new world of freedom," Poole said.



Learning English as a foreign language is a challenge.



A little boy hides under the newspapers his parents are learning to read [left]. Dianna Smith teaches Laotian children English.



Chantho Sourinno

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Sidelines Sports

Lady Raiders even record at UTM

by Scott Adams

First year head coach Larry Inman's Lady Raiders evened their record Wednesday night to 12-12 with a 73-69 come from behind victory over UT Martin in Martin, Tn.

"We never led until about a minute left in the game, and for us to come back and win like that on the road really helps us out," Inman said.

Ileana Portik led the way with 31 points and 14 rebounds, her season high in both categories.

"Ily was really super," Inman added. "We had a little trouble getting our offense started at the first of the game, and Ily really kept us in the game."

Sharon McClannahan added 20 points to the winning effort followed by Josephine Wright and Linda Perry with six apiece.

The Lady Raiders look to go over the 500 mark against Western Kentucky Saturday night in their last home game of the season, which will also be McClannahan's last game as a Lady Raider.

"I've been thinking about my last game in Murphy Center for a long time," McClannahan said, "and I guess all I can say is that it will be hard to leave behind something that has played such an important role in my life for the last ten years."

McClannahan, who is currently leading the team and the conference in scoring, said that she thought this year's team is different from any team that she has played on at MTSU.

"I think I've had a pretty good year so far, but I think that I have enjoyed the relationship with the team more than anything this season," McClannahan said. "It has been an unusual situation having to adjust to a new coach and new players this year but I've really gotten a lot out of it."

The game with Western Kentucky will also mark the last OVC game for the Lady Raiders.

The Lady Hilltoppers have won three of their last four games, after losing to Kentucky last Wednesday. WKU's Beth Blanton is currently the Lady 'Toppers leading scorer with a 13.3 aver-

age, while Alicia Polson is close behind tossing in 12.3 each outing. Shari Price is averaging 11 points and has a team-high of 95 assists. Polson is the team's leading rebounder with a 7.6 average.

Game time is set for 5:15 p.m. at Murphy Center.

Earle: 'If we win-we're in'

by Henry Fennell
Assistant Sports Editor

"It's up to us to control our own fate. If we win, we're in. It is as simple as that," head basketball coach Jimmy Earle said.

Those comments came earlier in the week when the Raiders season finale with Western Kentucky was the biggest news coming out of the athletic department.

Now that the initial shock of Earle's resignation is beginning to wear off, Raider followers' attention again turns to the task at hand for the Blue Raider basketball team. MTSU faces what is possibly a do or die situation in Murphy Center this Saturday night.

Although the conference has not yet decided to break what might become a four way tie for second place in the Ohio Valley Conference, the Raiders will almost certainly gain a spot in the OVC tournament with a win Saturday night.

A loss would leave the Raiders

fate in the hands of Eastern Kentucky. Eastern would have to beat Morehead for MTSU to stay in the play-off picture.

The Raiders enter the game with a three game winning streak. Those wins have come by a total of only five points and there is no reason not to expect more of the same against the Hilltoppers Saturday night.

The Raiders forced Western into two overtimes before losing, 72-70, in Bowling Green earlier this year. Greg Joyner had one of his better outings of the season against the Hilltoppers in that game, scoring a game high of 30 points.

"I'm afraid Joyner might have a super game against us Saturday," said Western coach Gene Keady. "He's going to be psyched and we had better be prepared, or he could pin our ears back."

Western enters the game with a 7-4 record in the OVC and an almost certain lock on a playoff position.

Western is led in scoring and rebounding by senior forward Greg Jackson. Jackson is fourth in the conference in scoring with a 17.3 per game average. He also leads the OVC in rebounding with 8.8 per game.

The game also matches the two teams leading the conference in team defense. Western leads the conference in team defense, allowing opponents an average of only 68.2 points per game. MTSU is second to Western while allowing opponents an average of 71.8 points per game.

The effect of Earle's resignation of the team's performance remains to be seen, but assistant coach Jan Stauffer stated he felt it would have a positive effect on the team's performance Saturday night.

"The players, especially the seniors, should want to go out winners," Stauffer said.

Game time for the OVC showdown is set for 7:30 p.m. at Murphy Center.

Blue Raiders set overtime record

by Scott Adams
Sports Editor

Well, it's nail biting time in the Ohio Valley Conference again, and you can bet your last fingernail that several Blue Raider basketball fans have picked up the habit this year. MTSU has already played in a record five overtimes this season.

With the regular season winding down to one game for every

team except Tennessee Tech, who has already finished league play, it is probable that there are more than a few anxious fans and players awaiting the final outcome of the conference race.

"We've got a tired ballclub on our hands right now," Blue Raider head coach Jimmy Earle said after last Monday's overtime win over Austin Peay. "But I'm sure that when Saturday night

rolls around everyone will be ready to go."

When the Blue Raiders hit the Murphy Center floor tomorrow night it could quite possibly be that last time that seniors Greg Armstrong, Greg Joyner, Cordell Haynie and Jimmy Riley take the floor as Raider basketball players. The only chance for a return trip is if MTSU is the conference representative in the NCAA Mid-East

Regionals to be held here March 9 and 11.

"Even though I've only played here for one year I know it's going to be an emotional day for me and for the rest of the seniors," Haynie said. "Sometimes I just sit down and think back about everything that has happened this season, and it really makes me hate to leave."

Hopefully Murphy Center will be packed to the rafters Saturday night when game time rolls around, but as MTSU is known as the suitcase college, it doesn't seem probable.

"It really makes it rough going to other schools to play when you know that they're gonna have a lot of people going wild during the game," Haynie added. "I'd really like to see our fans stay here this weekend and cheer us on."

Blue Raider assistant coach Jan Stauffer said that next year he and the other coaches would probably make trips to all of the fraternity houses and meet with a lot of campus organizations to help pep up the Blue Raider spirit.

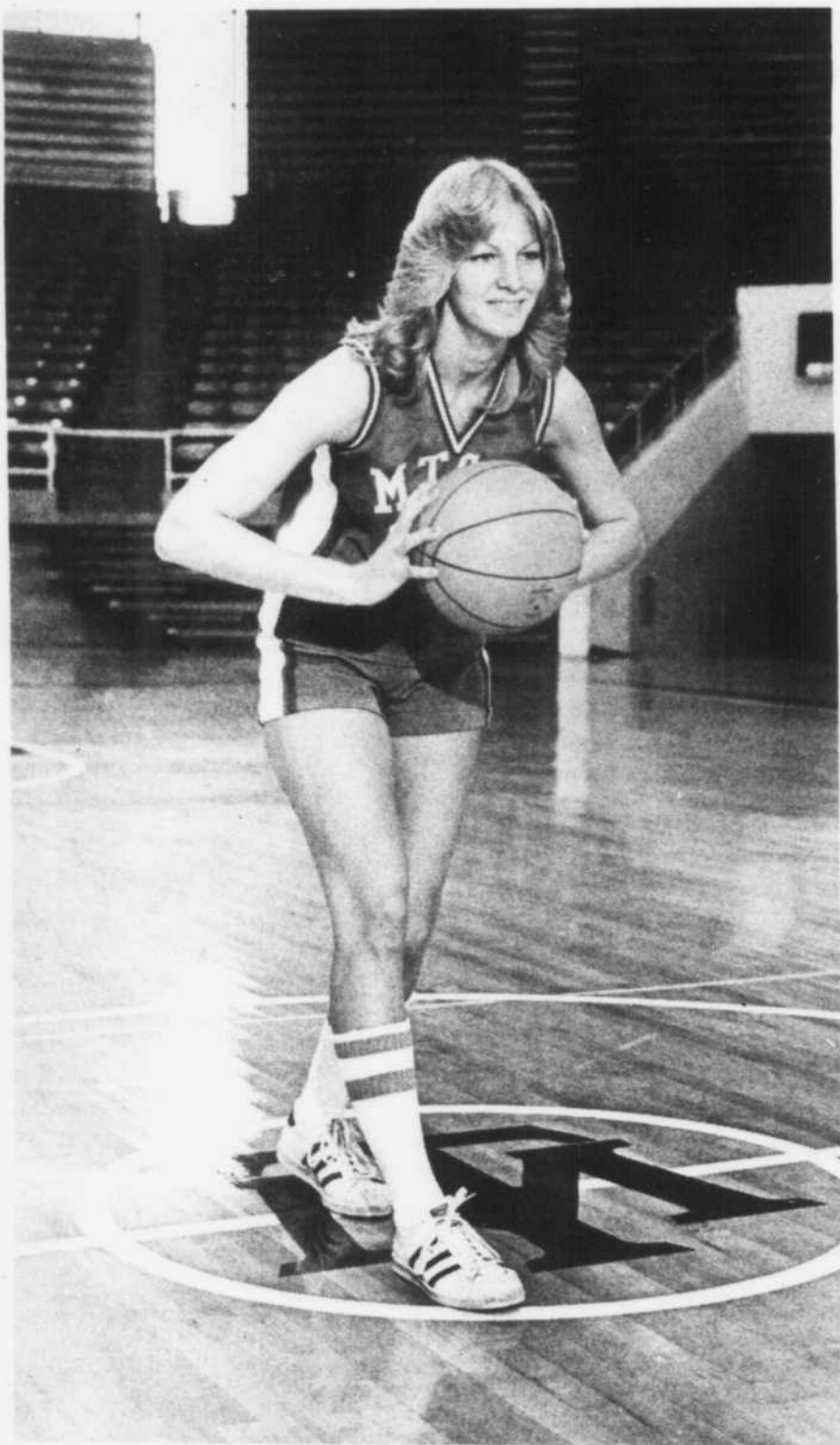
"I wish it wasn't necessary for us (coaches) to have to go around and visit organizations to get people to come out to the games and show a little enthusiasm, but if that's what it's going to take then I guess that's what we'll have to do," Stauffer said.

Anyone at the game with Murray State last Saturday would understand Stauffer's feelings.

The Racer fans stood for the entire ballgame waving shakers even though their ballclub is only 2-9 in the conference and don't have a chance for a berth in the upcoming conference tournament.

"I would like to have had a picture of the crowd at Murray last week," Stauffer said. "You just wouldn't have believed it unless you were there."

Gametime for tomorrow's match up with Western Kentucky is 7:30 p.m. and even if the gym is not filled to the rafters with people, hopefully those who do make it to the game will make it sound like it is.



Sharon McClannahan, a 6'0 senior from Centerville, Tn., is currently leading the team and the conference in scoring. McClannahan will play her last game in Murphy Center as a Lady Raider Saturday night.



Sports Talk

by Scott Adams
Sports Editor

Riley will be missed

Although the women's athletic department is trying to remain rather low key about the dismissal of junior star Kathy Riley, it would be absurd to think that the action could go unnoticed.

Riley was dismissed from the team last Monday afternoon before the team's game with Austin Peay for what coach Larry Inman called a "conflict between himself and Riley."

It has become evident, now that the situation has been brought out into the light, that there had been a running battle between Inman and Riley since the beginning of the season.

"I think I gave Kathy Riley every chance in the world, as far as going along with some of the things she has done," Inman said. "I think the world of Kathy as a person, but I felt it would be better for everyone involved if we just let her go."

Almost everyone in the athletic department was, and still is, very quiet about the situation for "several reasons," Inman said.

"The main reason I want everything to stay low-key about Kathy is mainly for her benefit. She still has two more years of eligibility left, and I would really like to see her go somewhere else and play ball," Inman said.

"The other reason was for recruiting purposes. If one of our prospective recruits looks in a paper and sees all of the controversy, they might think twice about coming to school here," Inman continued.

Senior center, Sharon McClannahan said that the team, as a whole, has not discussed Riley's dismissal at any length, but for the most part everyone felt a "little relieved."

"Everybody on the team really likes Kathy a lot and I would never say anything bad about her even though we've had our differences every once in a while, but all of us knew that something was going to have to be done," McClannahan said.

"I know that basketball is Kathy's life and I hope she can learn from this mistake and go on to another school and play well there too," McClannahan added.

In an interview with Riley after her release from the team, the junior said that she "really hated to have to leave MTSU."

"I know I could really make a big deal about this thing, but one thing Coach Inman is always talking about is having a little class, so I guess I'll try to show a little and just be quiet," Riley said. "I haven't really made up my mind what I'll do yet, but I do know that whatever it is it will have something to do with basketball," she continued.

"About the only team I would really like to play for around here would be UT (Knoxville)," Riley said. "I wouldn't mind going to Ohio State or somewhere like that either. I think I could probably play for either one of those teams."

About the only thing for sure right now as far as Kathy Riley is concerned is that she is a competitor—a winner and most assuredly one of the better women athletes to ever play in Murphy Center.



From left to right—Greg Joyner, Cordell Haynie, Jimmy Riley and Greg Armstrong. These four Raider seniors will be sorely missed next season, both for their leadership and ability.

Former Raider players to play in benefit

A number of former Blue Raider players will be featured in a benefit basketball game tonight beginning at 8:00 p.m. in the Alumni Memorial Gym.

The Willie Brown Memorial Scholarship Fund Benefit basketball game will feature former Blue Raiders Bob Martin, Sleepy Tay-

lor, Julius Brown, Donny Darcus, Sam Burrell and Tommy Brown. Their team, the Crimson Cats, will face a semi-pro team from Tuscaloosa made up of former college players from the Tuscaloosa area.

Willie Brown, the first black player at MTSU, still holds the record for most points during a

career (1,524).

Brown died this past summer from injuries suffered in an automobile accident.

Admission will be \$1.00 at the door plus any donation. Funds will go to the Willie Brown Memorial Scholarship Fund at MTSU.

photo by ROBIN RUDD

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