



THURSDAY, JAN. 7, 1999

SIDELINES



Volume 74, No. 29

Murfreesboro, TN



Photo by Derrick Wilson

Welcome back!

ON CAMPUS

To submit an announcement for On Campus, submit information in person at JUB 310, mail info to campus box 42 or fax 904-8487.

Due to space constraints, priority will be given to submissions with earlier deadlines.

Saturday, January 9th

Tau Kappa Epsilon Fraternity
what: "The Day the Past Meets the Future"-100th Anniversary
where: Atlanta, Boston, Kansas City, Los Angeles, New Orleans, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh
contact: Zane Shupp (898-4820), or Dennis Perry (895-555) in suite 200

Monday, January 11th and Tuesday, January 12th, 7:00 p.m.

Wesley Foundation
what: Spring Musical auditions, musical held on March 4-7
where: Wesley Foundation
contact: Bill Campbell (893-0469)

Wednesday, January 13th, 9:00 p.m.

Presbyterian Student Fellowship
what: Volleyball (a cross between volleyball and racquetball)
where: MTSU Rec Center Racquetball Courts
contact: Riech Zeigler 893-1787

Continuing

The Fellowship House
Wednesday 6:30 p.m.
what: Dinner and Bible Study
where: The Fellowship House 615 N. Tennessee Blvd. (next to the Baptist Student Union)
contact: Andrew Lee (893-1787) or Chris Nowlin (867-7370)

Presbyterian Student Fellowship
what: Cell Groups, Fellowship
when: every Tuesday 6:30 p.m.
what: Prime-Time, Fellowship and dinner
when: every Wednesday 6:30 p.m.
contact: Rich Zeigler (893-1787) or Andrew Lee (867-7370)

Raider Victory Fellowship
what: Bible Sessions
when: Tuesday, 7:30 p.m. at Corlew 719, Wednesday, 7:00 p.m. at Cummings Hall lobby and at 8:00 p.m. at Felder Hall 208
contact: Ricky Walters (317-4541)



Sidelines wants YOU!

We're looking for a delivery person.
If you have reliable transportation and free time on Monday and Thursday mid-mornings, stop by James Union Building 306 to apply.

Announcing the JSA Foundation Scholarships 1999-2000

Tuition Scholarships for MTSU Women

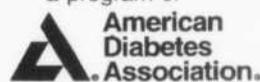
Applicants must be 23 years of age or older and majoring in nontraditional fields for women.

**Deadline for Applications:
February 1, 1999**

Applications are available at the June Anderson Women's Center, James Union Building, Room 206. Call 898-2606 for more information.

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MWF

7:00 a.m. - 7:50 a.m.
8:05 a.m. - 8:55 a.m.
9:10 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.
10:15 a.m. - 11:05 a.m.
11:20 a.m. - 12:10 p.m.
12:25 p.m. - 1:15 p.m.
1:30 p.m. - 2:20 p.m.
2:35 p.m. - 3:25 p.m.
3:40 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.
4:45 p.m. - 5:35 p.m.

TR

8:00 a.m. - 9:15 a.m.
9:30 a.m. - 10:45 a.m.
11:00 a.m. - 12:15 a.m.
12:30 p.m. - 1:45 p.m.
2:00 p.m. - 3:15 p.m.
3:30 p.m. - 4:45 p.m.
4:30 p.m. - 5:45 p.m.
6:00 p.m. - 7:15 p.m.
7:30 p.m. - 8:45 p.m.

MW

1:30 p.m. - 2:45 p.m.
3:00 p.m. - 4:15 p.m.

4:30 p.m. - 5:45 p.m.
6:00 p.m. - 7:15 p.m.
7:30 p.m. - 8:45 p.m.

Schedule change gives students more time

Staff Reports

With the start of the semester, students received more than just new class schedules: they received more time between classes.

The extra five minutes that was added to the break between classes gives students 15 minutes to get from one class to another. This 15-minute break recently replaced the 10-minute break that has been known to students in the past.

The resolution to increase the time between classes was passed by the Student Government Association during spring semester 1998 to accommodate the students' complaints that 10 minutes was not enough time to get to and from classes.

Connie Pimental, assistant director of registration and scheduling, said a new schedule needed to be designed because the campus is growing and distances between classes are expanding.

Although the new class schedule may be helpful for students taking morning and afternoon classes, it may have a negative affect on some students taking evening classes.

For example, a Tuesday/Thursday class that began at 3:05 p.m. and ended at 4:30 p.m. will now be moved to the 3:30 p.m. to 4:45 p.m. slot. Due to a 15-minute overlap, students will not be able to take the next possible class starting at 4:30 p.m.

"This is an example of the kind of thing the SGA can do. The scheduling came from the students, passed by the SGA and taken to the administration, and (SGA) worked with the administration," said Jason Lawmin, president of the SGA. "It is a victory for all of us."

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New library offers more space, higher copy prices

Randall Ford
Staff Reporter

It's taken years of planning, preparing and perfecting, but the University Library is now open.

The building houses most of the library's collection, but may hold small surprises for students making copies or trying to find the Curriculum Services collection.

The library re-opened Jan. 5, in its new 250,000 square foot building, which cost \$32 million to construct. The building, which will be called "University Library," has a capacity for 800,000 volumes. A formal opening ceremony is being planned for later in the semester.

Don Craig, dean of the library, said user response so far has been positive.

"I think everyone is very impressed," Craig said. "I think everyone is enjoying the ease of getting around the building—being able to walk right in the door and see where you need to go. I think it has to do with the additional space and uncrowded seating. The collections are better organized and arranged."

Library Relocation Consultants from Bloomington, Indiana, coordinated the library's move to the new building, which took place in December.

Craig said the firm hired a staff of about 30 local students to help transfer the 600,000 volumes from the Todd

Building to the new University Library.

The move was scheduled to last until Dec. 31 but was completed eight days early, just before the holidays.

Senior Sarah Bone was one of the students hired to help with the move. She assisted with re-shelving books in the new building.

"It was neat to see the building empty, because it's huge, and then to see it as it was being put together," Bone said.

Craig said most of the library's materials are in place, but some items have not yet been moved to the new building.

"Some furniture has still not arrived, and we're still installing some equipment," Craig said. "Those are minor things, though, that I don't think will pose problems for most users."

Craig said he's not sure when the Microfilm machines will be functional in the new library, and the printing equipment for the electronic database system has not arrived either. He said the staff is also waiting for remaining



Photo by Derrick Wilson

Derek Wiseman, left, and Mark Cappellino try out a computer in the new University Library Tuesday.

atlas stands, dictionary stands and chairs to arrive.

"For the most part, we are in good shape to open up for the students," Craig said.

One change that Craig anticipates will lead to negative reactions from library users is the new copy center policy. Single-page copies will cost ten cents, twice the price that was charged in Todd Library.

Craig said the new cost is necessary to cover equipment and staff expenses.

"Before, we always kept

enough equipment to just get by, so you could just make copies of materials," he said. "But now, we're going to offer a much higher quality copy service."

"We've never tried to make a profit on it. We just need to charge more to go to higher quality."

Craig said the copy center will still offer a discount to students who use Raider Funds to make copies. The amount of the discount has not yet been

See LIBRARY, page 6

	University Library Hours	Curriculum Library Hours (in Todd building)
Sunday	2:00 - 11:00	2:00 - 10:30
Monday	7:30 - 11:00	7:30 - 10:30
Tuesday	7:30 - 11:00	7:30 - 10:30
Wednesday	7:30 - 11:00	7:30 - 10:30
Thursday	7:30 - 11:00	7:30 - 10:30
Friday	7:30 - 5:00	7:30 - 4:00
Saturday	8:00 - 5:00	7:30 - 4:00

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Class closing due to snow announced several ways

Chris Crockett
Staff Reporter

In the past four years Middle Tennessee State University has closed for severe weather only on one occasion.

Rarely will school be closed for extreme weather such as ice or snow, but it can be important to be prepared in case such a situation arises.

In the event that weather conditions seem hazardous, MTSU sends out scouts to report on the conditions of roads to determine just how dangerous the roads may be because of the weather. If conditions seem too dangerous to risk traveling, the president of the school is notified and has final say in if school is to be closed.

If the school is to be closed due to dangerous weather and road conditions Nashville television stations 2, 4 and 5 as well as local radio stations will be notified.

Another way for students to receive this information is the MTSU web page. If school is to be closed it will be indicated under the events and news section of the MTSU home page. This information can be located at the web

address www.mtsu.edu/.

As a last resort Middle Tennessee State University has a snow phone number that can be called if no other means of determining if school is closed is available. The number for this service is 904-8215. This number is only to be used in emergencies to prevent it from being flooded with calls.

Despite an elaborate system for keeping students notified on school closings rarely will MTSU be closed because of weather conditions. Usually it will be left up to students discretion if the roads are too dangerous to drive to school. Each teacher has their own policies regarding absences, but most will excuse absences in cases of dangerous weather conditions. 0

In the midst of winter when extreme weather can occur at any time it is important to be informed in the rare case that school will be closed because of unsafe conditions. If such an event happens the University does all that it can to make sure that students stay informed. It is also important to realize that except for critical situations students will have to use their own judgment in determining whether or not the roads are safe. ■

New track completion postponed until summer

Bryan Brooks
Staff Reporter

With the arrival of winter weather the completion of the new track under construction on Greenland Drive will be postponed until this summer, said track coach Dean Hayes.

With no suitable place to practice, injuries have plagued the team. But recruiting is another serious problem, Hayes said.

"Injuries affect the track team day-to-day," said Hayes, "but recruiting problems will affect the team for the next few years."

When track athletes visit campus and see there is no track, other schools appear more attractive to them he said. As a result of track prospects passing over MTSU, the track team could be weakened in following years.

Cold weather has driven track practice indoors to the Murphy Center track. Hayes said the indoor track is fine to hold meets on, but repetitive practicing on the hard surface causes injuries. When weather allows, the team opts for the

softer surface of President Walker's front lawn, but the unlevelled surface and holes pose problems.

"We really have to be careful when we run out there, and we don't get to practice to our potential," said Christian Nsiah last semester. Nsiah is a senior business administration major from Ghana, West Africa.

The outdoor track will have a rubber-like surface which is easier on the joints and reduces injuries. Unfortunately, the surface which the track team looks forward to practicing on is causing the holdup.

A disagreement over the quality of the asphalt on which the reddish surface would be applied is the source of conflict between two construction companies. Martin Surfacing of Texas refuses to surface the track until Turner Construction Co. of Nashville has the asphalt redone. Turner Construction, which was contracted by the Tennessee Board of Regents to build the track, sub-contracted the Texas company to apply the surface.

In late November lawyers from

See TRACK, page 6

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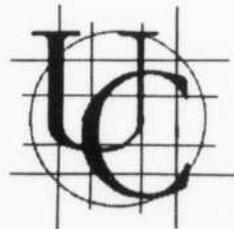
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Garrison honored



Photo by Claudia Lombardo

Kay Garrison, center, is honored by the Chorale Society for her 20 years of service as general manager. Treasurer Toni Lockhart, left, and Donna Swick, president, help in the celebration.

Hickman County land sold to TWRA

Staff Reports

The MTSU Foundation Advisory Committee is anticipating over \$1 million to be received for the sale of more than 900 acres of land in Hickman County to the Tennessee Wildlife Resource Agency.

The committee voted on Dec. 11 to possibly sell the land to the TWRA. Until the vote, it was uncertain how the Foundation would use the land.

"There's not much else we could have done," said George Gardner, advisory committee chairman. "It was either sell it or not."

The land was given to the Foundation after the late Clifford Stark, former agriculture department chair and his wife donated land to the Tennessee Board of Regents in 1969. Almost two years ago, the land was transferred from

TBR to the Foundation for \$10.

Now, committee members are working on the financial terms of selling the land to TWRA.

"I think it will bring over \$1 million," Gardner said.

The TWRA is prepared to make annual payments for around \$250,000, Gardner said. He said the first installment is already in the TWRA budget and has been approved. Under this proposed plan, the land would be paid off within five years.

MTSU will be keeping approximately eight acres for school use and will possibly construct a building where MTSU students can do research.

Charlie Myatt, Foundation president, said a complete proposal from the TWRA is not expected until April. The Foundation's next

meeting is scheduled for May.

If TWRA agrees to buy the land, the state will do two appraisals, and MTSU will be offered the average of the two.

There is some controversy among the committee about selling the land.

"I'm planning on devoting my life to this university. I want to know where my money is going to go," said biology professor Padgett Kelly. "We're going to recommend to the Foundation, but they can do whatever they want, and that scares me."

"It's sort of like we're getting shipped out to sea before we know where we're going," she said.

Kelly said she thinks the committee should decide where the money from the possible sale would go before deciding whether to sell the land. ■

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1999  Bull Challenge

Professor dies after battle with cancer

Staff Reports

Timothy Patrick Rouse, associate professor of sociology and criminology, died at home Dec. 24 after an extended battle with cancer. He was surrounded by family and friends.

Final services were held Tuesday, Dec. 29 at 4 p.m. at

St. Rose of Lima Catholic Church in Murfreesboro. A memorial fund has been established in his name and contributions can be made to the Department of Sociology and Anthropology, P.O. Box 10, MTSU.

Rouse was born in Escanaba, Mich., on Aug. 2, 1950. Immediate survivors include his wife Velta Straube and son

Tarik Brian Richards of Murfreesboro, mother Frances (Lynaugh) Rouse, of Escanaba, Mich., and brother H. Peter Rouse of Loveland, Co. He was preceded in death by his father, Harry Joseph Rouse, in 1989.

His humor, intellect and sense of adventure will be greatly missed by his family, colleagues, students and friends.

Rouse earned a doctorate in sociology from Colorado State University and was an accomplished scholar, teacher and researcher.

He continued his intellectual pursuits until the end of his life by utilizing his illness and its treatments as a new area of research.

Honorary pallbearers included Michael Donnelley,

Ron Aday, Michael Hallett, Richard Osborn, Paul W. O'Brien and Steve Helmricks.

The family wishes to acknowledge the faculty and administration of MTSU, Dr. John Barton and the staff of Tennessee Oncology and the nurses of Hospice of Murfreesboro who both lightened and brightened his last days. ■

TRACK

continued from page 4

the New York and Atlanta offices of Turner Construction, a national company, attempted to apply legal pressure on Martin Surfacing in an attempt to end the stalemate.

Two directives, which are stern mandates to honor a contract, were sent to Martin Surfacing, said director of

athletic relations, Larry Counts, in November.

At that time, he said if a solution wasn't found, the matter would end up in court, and, "lawyers would have a big time, but we wouldn't have a track in the meantime."

Due to a clause in the contract with TBR, Turner Construction is being fined \$1,500 every day the project is over deadline.

Bill Smotherman, director of

construction administration, said the track is approximately a year overdue. But after delays for bad weather — which are allowed without penalty — it's trimmed to seven months, equaling approximately \$315,000 in fines.

Smotherman said after negotiations the total amount probably won't be collected from Turner Construction.

The track around the

football field was destroyed in the fall of 1996 for the expansion of Floyd Stadium, also done by Turner Construction.

The track — and soccer field which runs around it — was incorporated into the contract for the stadium project.

Of the \$25.2 million package, the soccer field, which is already finished, and track amounted to little over \$1 million. ■

LIBRARY

continued from page 3

as not yet been decided.

The new building offers study-area seating for 2,500 students, 2 instructions rooms and 350 public access computers.

"When we began working on this building, the plans had to be downsized, and we weren't able to house everything we had wanted" he said.

"One unit was not able to move with us. The curriculum library will remain in the Todd Building."

Craig said access to that collection will be through the Todd Building's old entrance, facing Peck Hall.

The curriculum library will have a new operating schedule, but Craig said hours for the main collection will remain the same as in past semesters. ■

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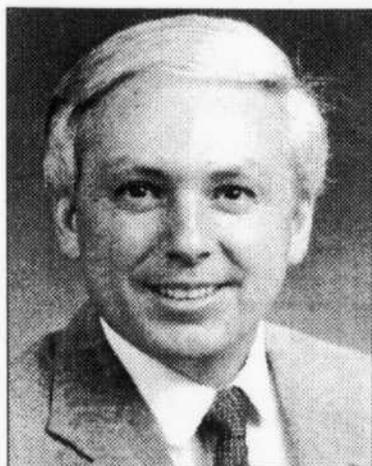
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Mathis receives award in science by NSTA

Randall Ford
Staff Reporter



Phillip Mathis

An MTSU biology professor said it's "the capstone of my career."

Phillip Mathis is being awarded the 1999 Outstanding Undergraduate Science Teacher Award, given by the Kendall/Hunt Publishing Company and The Society for College Science Teachers (SCST), an affiliate of the National Science Teachers Association (NSTA).

Mathis, who has been teaching at MTSU since 1973, has long been lauded by administrators, students and other instructors. Many of them, such as biology assistant professor Deborah Clark, speak of his dedication to the field.

"Phillip is truly an outstanding teacher because he is a devoted scholar," Clark said. His love, enthusiasm and excitement for teaching are evident to all who know him.

One of Mathis' former students agreed with Clark, saying Mathis' course affected his learning style as a whole.

"I changed from a passive listener into an active learner," the student said. "I became excited about a subject that had previously held no interest for me. The excitement he shows for his subject is highly contagious and spreads easily to others."

Mathis wrote of his teaching philosophy that "effective teaching takes place where the teacher is knowledgeable, but is more than a mere disseminator of knowledge; where students are active participants, ask questions, and freely contribute to discussions; where skepticism and critical analysis are encouraged; where debates sometimes arise; and where minds are honed 'blade against blade.'"

Dr. George Murphy, chair of the Biology department, said Mathis demonstrates excellence in his teaching, and he can't think of anyone more deserving of the award.

"Dr. Mathis has been more than a disseminator of information," Murphy said. "He has made serious contributions to the knowledge base of science teaching, as well as in discipline based research."

Mathis has always been a strong supporter of undergraduate involvement in research. He led the

development of "Scientia: The Journal of Student Research," an electronic journal featuring research of students in the College of Basic and Applied Sciences, in May 1997.

He has also made important research developments of his own, proving that certain lichens can be used as bio-indicators when assessing pollution levels. Mathis also combined his love for history and biology with a study of Tennessee and Kentucky scientists of the 1700s and 1800s.

Mathis published his research of the 1925 Scopes Trial and little-known information about John Thomas Scopes.

He's also co-authored ten laboratory manuals for general biology and genetics, and, under the sponsorship of the Tennessee Academy of Science, has served as a visiting scientist in many area classrooms.

Mathis holds a doctorate in education from the University of Georgia, a doctorate of science from Peabody College, a Masters degree from MTSU, and a bachelor's degree from Murray State University.

He received a Foundation Outstanding Teacher Award in 1985 and, in the following year, was elected a Fellow of the Tennessee Academy of Science. In 1987, he was named one of the American Men and Women of Science.

Every year since 1991, Mathis has been selected by the vice president of Student Affairs as a professor who "makes a difference."

Mathis will receive the award at the NSTA's 47th National Convention in Boston, the world's largest gathering of science educators. More than 20,000 instructors are expected to attend the conference in March. Mathis will be the speaker at the SCST luncheon at the Boston convention. ■

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Former Sen. Al Gore Sr. dies Dec. 5 at age 90

Keith Ryan Cartwright
Staff Reporter

Former Tennessee Sen. Albert Gore Sr., the most celebrated graduate of MTSU, died of natural causes at age 90 on Saturday, Dec. 5, 1998.

The 1932 graduate served for five decades in Congress, having been elected to House of Representatives in 1938. He was then elected to the Senate in 1953, where he remained until 1971.

A liberal ahead of his time, Gore was the key force behind the 1956 passing of a bill laying ground work for the interstate highway system. Gore, a Democrat, promoted the bill as "a national defense network."

He is, however, best remembered in Washington, D.C., for his strong opposition of the Vietnam War, a view which is blamed for his 1970 defeat by Republican Bill Brock.

"He was one of the most committed public servants I've known in the 50 years I've been in journalism and observing politics," said John Seigenthaler Sr., chairman emeritus of The Tennessean, who also worked for Sen. Robert F. Kennedy (D-Mass) as an administrative assistant in the justice department.

"He had his feet firmly planted in Tennessee soil, but his mind had a universal reach."

Upon his retirement, Gore remained outspoken, vowing "the truth shall rise again."

Along with his successful career in politics, Gore had just as much to be proud of when it came to the political savvy of his son, Al Gore Jr.

Currently in his second term as vice president, Gore Jr. was first elected to the House of Representatives in 1976.

Seigenthaler describes Gore and his wife Pauline, both lawyers, as astute politicians who taught their children about politics from the beginning of their lives. Gore's daughter Nancy was active in the early days of the Peace Corp.

"His greatest legacy is to be found in the public service of his son," Seigenthaler said. "The highest tribute a son could pay is to pursue his father's career."

After Gore Jr. was nominated by the Democrats for president in 1988, the elder Gore was quoted by The Washington Post saying, "I would never want to deny any man, when he holds his baby son for the first time, the right to look at him and think he might grow up to be president of the United States."

MTSU is the home of the Albert Gore Research Center located in the Learning Resources Center. The university received Gore's political papers in 1971 and moved into their current building in 1993.

The center is a manuscripts repository which



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Provided by the Albert Gore Research Center

This poster from 1938 announces Al Gore's first campaign for the House of Representatives.

makes available for research materials that document the history of MTSU, its students, its faculty, its alumni and the region.

Although visited by many scholars from across the United States and abroad, the center serves two primary missions.

One is to give students hands-on experience with materials that document their heritage; while the other is to provide the many constituents of MTSU with materials to facilitate development of appropriate public policy.

"He was a Middle Tennessee type of congressman," said Dr. James H. Neal, director of the Albert Gore Research Center. "He was an advocate of the voices who weren't normally heard in Congress."

"The people he met at MTSU were the ones who worked for him behind the scenes."

Gore employed such MTSU graduates as his former roommate Rollie Holden as his campaign manager and Jack Robinson Jr. as his chief of staff.

An overlying sentiment by those who knew Gore best describe him as a down to earth guy who enjoyed people, especially those from Tennessee.

"I really enjoyed going up to Carthage to visit with him," Neal said. "To talk about his life, Congress, his views on politics. To just listen to him. He's a wonderful story teller, an enjoyable person to be around." ■

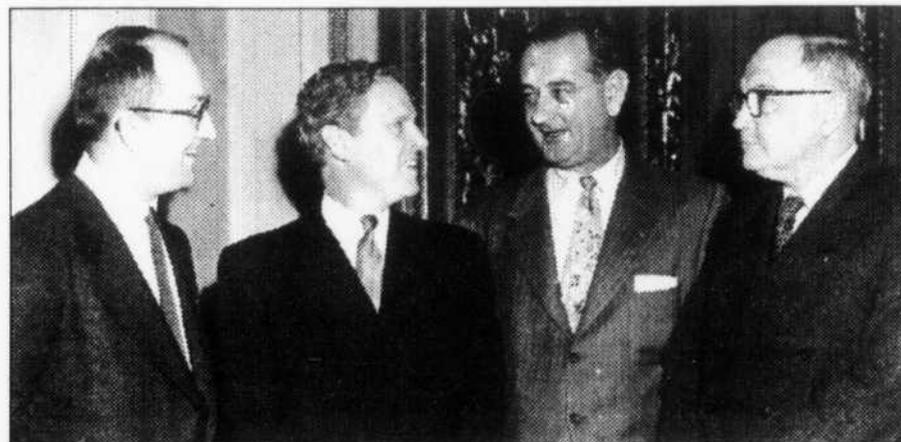


Photo provided by the Al Gore Research Center

Albert Gore Sr. talks with Joe Howell, Lyndon Johnson and James Eastland.



Photo by Angela K. Skala

Al Gore Sr. addresses the audience at "Albert Gore, Tennessee and the New South," a conference on his career in the Senate. The conference was held Nov. 8, 1997, in the usiness/Aerospace Building on campus.

Excerpts from 'Our Risks to Take'

MTSU's Commencement Address by Albert Gore Sr. • June 4, 1948

The high honor of addressing you upon this auspicious occasion gives me very genuine pleasure and I am grateful for the honor and privilege.

On last Saturday, I had a very pleasant visit with the Honorable Cordell Hull. In his usual kindly manner, he extended felicitations upon the birth of a son into our household. He said, "He comes upon the planet in an exceedingly interesting if not propitious time."

I paraphrase his remark by saying to the members of this graduating class that you are graduating "in an exceedingly interesting if not propitious time." Living upon our planet at any time is a challenge but it would seem particularly so for Americans now. In no past age could life have been as interesting and productive, yet never were the responsibilities of a nation greater than is now ours.

During the recent debate on the European Recovery Program, one of my colleagues turned to me and said, "This sounds like 1939."

And I replied, "Yes, it does but the news from Europe also sounds ominously like it did ten years ago."

It was ten years ago now that Hitler was annexing Austria, and the Sudeten Germans in Czecho-Slovakia, with Hitler's backing, were insisting upon autonomy. Meanwhile, Mussolini was pressing the yoke upon his weaker neighbors and the Japanese militarists were not only pressing their aggression against China but were ambitiously preparing for mastery of the Pacific.

It is a significant world fact that only the United States has the power and influence to give effective world leadership against the onrushing scourge of despotic communism. Either we lead the great majority of nations on the road to recovery, prosperity and peace for them and for us or we abandon them to strangulation and our own inevitable involvement in the resulting chaos.

In the sisterhood of

nations America is a youngster. Our growth has been phenomenal. In a period of time so brief as to be a speck upon the spectrum of mankind's history, a nation preeminent has been carved and molded from a wilderness. With only about 6 percent of the world's people our industrial production last year will compare with the combined industrial production of all the remaining 94 percent of the world's people. Our standard of living is so much higher than that of teeming millions of our fellowmen that in most cases contrast is easier to make than comparison. Many of the things which lift the burden of living for humanity are almost monopolized by our people. We Americans today live in the richest and most highly productive economy and are enjoying its benefits more fully and equitably than any people we have ever known.

Yes, we have reached the highest peak of social and economic progress that God has ever permitted man to

know. Who can deny that down through the ages not only men but nations and whole peoples have been chosen by that great divine power that is beyond human understanding for specific purposes and missions? How is it, I ask you, that we have so prospered unless it be that we, too, have been one of God's chosen people in the unfolding drama of mankind's progress? Unmistakably, world mankind looks up to us for leadership through this Garden of Gethsemane.

As individuals, Americans are unexcelled in individual resourcefulness. It is a characteristic of our citizenship that just ordinary people, given responsibility, rise to the test. In two world wars, the American soldier has won renown for his individual resourcefulness, for the ability of a sergeant, for instance, or a corporal or a private to pick up the battlefield command of a fallen captain and rise fully and heroically to the responsibility of the emergency. ■

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OPINIONS

"Were it left for me to decide whether we should have a government without newspapers, or newspapers without a government, I should not hesitate a moment to prefer the latter."

—Thomas Jefferson

10 ■ SIDELINES

Murfreesboro, TN

COLLEGE PRESS

Editorial

University Library is well deserved

Few students realized how massive the end result would be when ground broke on a new university library two years ago. But as the building began to take shape, students started noticing how massive the structure is and what it would mean to the university.

We waited with anticipation for the day this amazing facility would open.

While most students spent the break relaxing with friends and family, a dedicated group of students and workers spent their break moving books, hauling equipment and preparing for opening day Tuesday.

Now opening day has passed, and those workers can be proud of their efforts — everything about the library has improved.

MTSU finally has a library building worthy of its recent growth spurt.

Todd Library was packed with the 600,000 volumes it contained. The new library will hold 800,000 volumes.

The opening of the new University Library was a great day for MTSU because it represents MTSU's commitment to academic excellence.

MTSU is now one of the fastest growing and largest universities in the state. And if university officials want to continue this growth, they should follow this course of action. Building and improving academics will cause further growth for the university.

MTSU should be a school known for its academic excellence. University officials like to brag that ACT scores are rising and MTSU is the choice of many high school valedictorians.

They have every right to brag — MTSU has come a long way.

It's no just longer a state teacher's college, and that's why more students are enrolling.

The facilities here are rapidly improving and there are several great and well-known academic programs here.

The shiny new buildings and top-notch facilities only make a good program stronger.

With a brand-new library just opened and more buildings on the drawing board, MTSU is taking one huge leap in the right direction.

TO HELP POLISH HIS IMAGE, CLINTON WORKED AT A SOUP KITCHEN



'98 wasn't all that bad

Jerry Large
Knight-Ridder Newspapers

As years go, this has been a pretty good one for most folks. I know it didn't always seem so swell. Enough bad stuff happened this year to give a person a pretty good idea why the Chinese adage "May you live in interesting times" is a curse rather than a blessing.

It has been a year of hurricanes and blizzards and bombings and tragic deaths, of political nastiness, social silliness and looming economic distress.

But it couldn't have been all that dire, because when I looked back at a bunch of magazine covers, little windows on the year, it seems we had plenty of time to think about gossips and semen and a sporty little beret.

Our big crisis has been a yawner, compared to much of history.

Just look back a bit. Eighty years ago, World War I was in its final year of carnage. Seventy years ago,

we were headed into the Great Depression, which would begin officially with the New York Stock Exchange crash of 1929.

Sixty years ago, Hitler annexed part of Czechoslovakia and prepared for the next year's invasion of Poland.

In 1948, 50 years ago, we were recovering from World War II, and a couple of years ahead of us lay the Korean War.

Forty years ago, we were in the midst of the Cold War.

Thirty years ago, the Vietnam War was consuming lives, assassins altered history and riots tore cities across the country.

Twenty years ago, disco was the rage, and I still owned a leisure suit. That was really embarrassing, but so is watching the government fixate on Monica Lewinsky and Bill Clinton's tawdriness when there are real issues lying around waiting for someone to get a handle on them.

This year we were supposed to figure out

whether workfare worked, talk about race in some constructive way, make education a national priority. But we had other business.

These are interesting times and curious times. I was despairing of finding the silver linings - until the night at the dinner table when my son raised his eyebrows at the thought that a person should have to look hard for good things that happened in 1998.

He's 6, so his perspective is a bit different. He hadn't been looking for goodness in headlines. "There were lots of good things," he said, and then he listed some of them: "My birthday, Halloween, Christmas."

Indeed. Millions of people came to the end of their lives in 1998, and we will miss those we knew and those who added to our lives, but in 1998 millions were born whose lives hold the potential for great brightness.

Amid the disasters, the

See '98, page 12

SIDELINES

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



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Gift of life, love best present to give

Aaron Cooper
The Daily Nebraskan

I had it all figured out. This was going to be a brilliant, carefully crafted column about why Christmas gets tainted more and more each year by capitalist pitfalls and what we should do to avoid them.

My column was going to be filled with words like "consumerism," and "materialistic." It was going to take the usual route of asking readers not to simply see dollar signs in every store.

I decided not to choke on those cliches but to chew on a couple of others instead. That's right. You didn't hear it here first: Christmas is not about gifts, but about the act of giving and the ability to look beyond oneself in the process.

It's another tired saying, I know, but one that changed the world forever about 2,000 years ago with the birth of Jesus Christ. There's something incredibly hopeful in knowing

that an event that happened so long ago still matters more than Bill Gates' net worth or detailed sexual lingo about a presidential affair.

But what about this giving stuff anyway?

I remember watching a home video showing two of my younger cousins opening their presents a few years back. One of them ripped into a box containing a Super Nintendo.

There's no way to describe the look in their eyes upon seeing the gift — the absolute, pure joy on their faces, coupled with a state of shock and disbelief.

To them, it appeared to be the Holy Grail of presents.

For only a second, I was inclined to side with the masses who

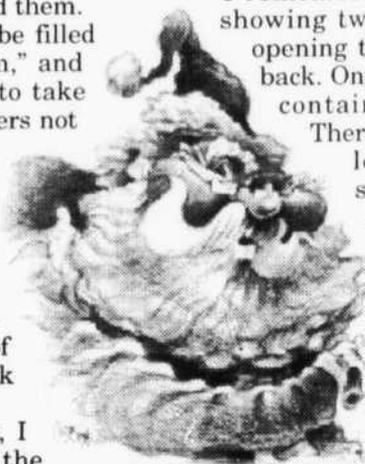
would watch that scene and say that Christmas for those children had boiled down to nothing more than a video game

system. And then I realized that I wasn't looking at that home movie with the proper perspective. Because behind that coveted, and what some people would call "superficial" item, were two parents who had envisioned that perfect moment as they struggled through shopping centers to find that gift. They didn't care that their children would have the toy of the season. They gave what they did because they knew it would make their children happy.

I didn't find the true meaning of Christmas until I was driving around last year and happened to land on an Omaha-based radio station that was replaying excerpts from its morning show. The DJ had been hosting a make-a-wish program where people who were especially needy could call in and get help from the community.

One boy, probably 5 or 6 years old, told the DJ his younger sister had recently died. Apparently, his mom wasn't financially able to properly memorialize the girl, so he asked the DJ if he would

See GIFT, page 13



'98

continued from page 10

headlines held twinklings of good tidings.

The nation's crime rate dropped again. The FBI reported major crimes were down an average 5 percent through the first half of the year. Several horrendous crimes caught our attention — school shootings early in the year, for instance — but most of us passed the year untouched.

Seattle schoolchildren benefited from the largesse of some very wealthy people who were smart enough and good enough to wield their money wisely, donating large sums to the school district.

NASA spent a good sum to let John Glenn ride into space again. It was part publicity stunt, but a nice one for those of us who are old or who are going to get old.

Best of all, my son says he likes his new teacher. That is a good year. ■

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Learn basic use of UNIX, email, and the Internet at this free hands-on workshop for MTSU students on January 28, 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon. Call 898-5345 to register.

Download training software from the Web and learn how to use a variety of software programs. Find out more at <http://www.mtsu.edu/cbtweb>.

Computing accounts on MTSU's academic computing system (an HP UNIX machine that we call frank) are available to all currently enrolled MTSU students.

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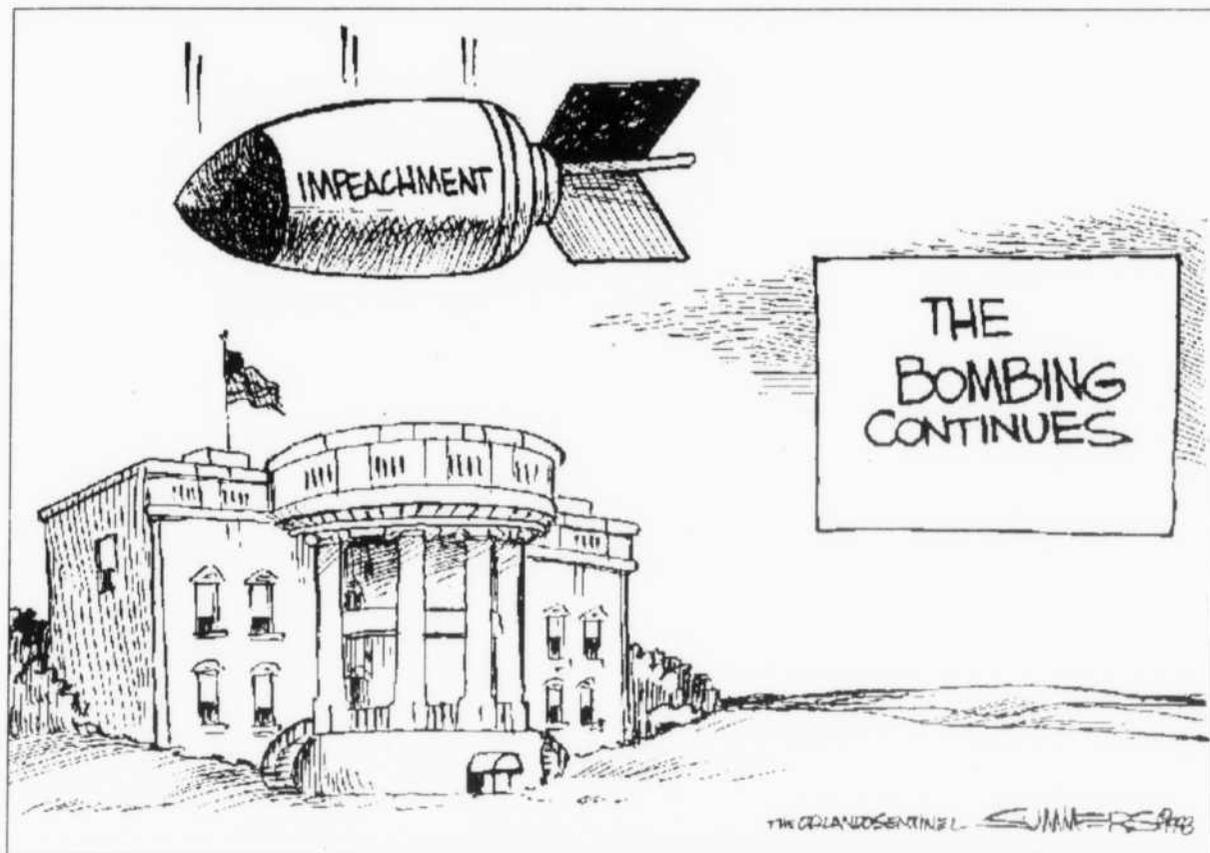
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digital planet



GIFT

continued from page 12

help them obtain a headstone for her grave.

That affected me like few things before. I was, and still am, tired of seeing the same old faces on television and in the newspapers. I wanted this boy to be an international hero and for everyone to know what he had contributed to the human race.

All he did was look beyond himself and have the simple courage and heart to ask for the one thing that mattered to him more than what toy he was going to get.

He demonstrated something I call Cooper's Law: The heart is worth more than we could fit under one billion Christmas trees. Inside it lies the world's most valuable treasures. ■

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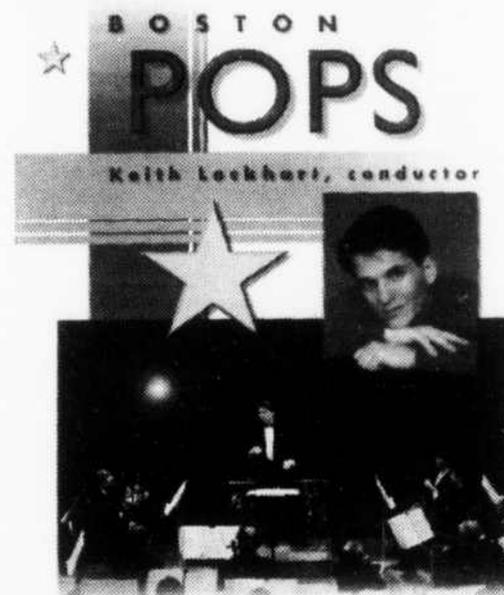
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Two hour program to include popular selections from "Titanic," John Williams' score to "Hook," a set with guest vocalist Robin McElhatten, selections from "Runnin' Wild: The Boston Pops Plays Glenn Miller" and a medley of Elvis Presley favorites titled "Long Live the King."

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FEATURES

14 ■ SIDELINES

Murfreesboro, TN

Beat the winter blues in 1999

Amanda Virgillito
Staff Reporter

Sometimes the chill of winter can encourage one to hibernate. However, there are many interesting activities to try this year. Ring in the new year by discovering something new.

Maybe there's something you enjoyed as a child, or something you've never been brave enough to try. Whatever the reason, go for it this year!

Here are 99 suggestions for making this year an enjoyable one.

99. Rent your favorite childhood movie
98. Try a video scavenger hunt with friends
97. Volunteer for charity work
96. Go ice-skating
95. Get a pen-pal
94. Take a road trip
93. Become a super hero
92. Baby-sit for a family member or a friend (you WON'T get bored)
91. Learn a new sport
90. Visit a museum and pretend to analyze the paintings (make others wonder what you're thinking)
89. Write a poem
88. Attend a concert
87. Write a fan letter
86. Indulge on holiday leftovers
85. Actually follow through with New Year's Resolutions
84. Find a new hobby
83. Audition to be the new Spice Girl
82. Make a difference in someone's life
81. Make prank phone calls (harmless fun, of course)
80. Put on a talent show with friends
79. Wash the winter grime off your car
78. Go to karaoke night and sing a Hanson song (only for the brave)
77. SLEEP
76. Catch a Broadway show
75. Look for springtime's first robin
74. Drink a different beer every day for the entire year
73. Call your mom WITHOUT asking for money
72. Play backyard football
71. Take pictures of your friends and their best milk mustaches
70. Take a self-defense class
69. Watch a game other than one played by UT (MTSU hint, hint)
68. Audition for MTSU's spring production
67. Watch "The Wedding Singer" and be glad that decade is over
66. Rent any Monty Python movie- you'll laugh for hours
65. Host a bonfire and eat smores until you're sick
64. Audition to be on a game show
63. Get into a snowball fight
62. Start saving money for a Spring Break trip
61. Go skydiving or bungee jumping or something equally life threatening
60. Learn to speak a foreign language
59. Read Sidelines every Monday and Thursday
58. Remember high school and why you're glad it's over
57. Remember high school and the things you miss
56. Bake cookies with a significant other
55. Set up a lemonade stand this summer
54. Meet someone new every day
53. Go to MTSU basketball games
52. Get a part-time job
51. Check out the new library
50. Go sledding
49. Think of clever April Fool's jokes to use later this year
48. Do something nice for someone
47. Contact your favorite teacher from high school and let them know how you're doing
48. Go hear some of the local bands play
47. Learn to swing dance
46. Watch a classic movie
45. Stop and read posted fliers to see what's going on around campus
44. Go camping
43. Wear MTSU colors on game days
42. Make a homemade Valentine for someone special
41. Watch your favorite movie until you've memorized the words
40. Go to a public place and people-watch
39. Go for a long walk by yourself
38. Test drive your favorite car just for fun
37. Look at your parents' high school yearbooks
36. Invest in a new hat, gloves, and scarf
35. Sit at a fireplace with a good book
34. Be the first person to celebrate August Fool's Day (make everyone wonder)
33. Spend the rest of winter planning your fun summer vacations
32. Watch a hockey game and enjoy the violence
31. Buy yourself something you've always wanted
30. Fly a kite, by the time you figure it out, hours will have passed
29. Buy some of those socks that look like gloves for your feet
28. Go hang gliding
27. Meet someone on top of the Empire State Building on Valentine's Day
26. Make a list of things you'd like to do before you die
25. Accomplish everything on that list
24. Play on a playground
23. Listen to an oldies station
22. Go to the movies
21. Get your Christmas shopping done early
20. Get up early and watch Saturday morning cartoons
19. Collect leaves of all colors this autumn
18. Plan a creative Halloween costume
17. Visit the ocean
16. Make exciting New Year's Eve plans for the big 2000
15. Start a workout routine
14. Wish on a star
13. Call your crush and ask him/her out
12. Invent something
11. Watch fireworks on the Fourth of July
10. Read the novel before watching the movie
9. Plant a garden
8. Attend a children's performance
7. Eat ice cream right out of the container
6. Visit New York City at Christmas time
5. Try to water-ski
4. Spend time with siblings/ family
3. Actually STUDY this semester
2. Call a friend you haven't talked to in years
1. Become a Sidelines staff writer

The New Year provides endless possibilities for entertainment. Whether it's an old hobby, a new find or something you haven't done in years, enjoy yourself this year and live life to its fullest. ■



American Music Awards airs Monday

Staff Reports

The 26th annual American Music Awards will air live on ABC from the Shrine Auditorium in Los Angeles, California. The program takes place Monday, January 11 from 8-11 p.m. (Eastern and Pacific Time). Hosting the event will be Melissa Joan Hart and Brandy.

Many of today's top stars will present twenty awards in eight categories, including Pop/Rock, Country, Soul/Rhythm and Blues, Rap/Hip Hop, Latin Music, Adult Contemporary, Alternative Music, and Soundtracks. The American record buying public votes for the recipients of the awards. The results are not revealed until the presenters open the envelopes during the telecast.

Billy Joel will receive an additional award, the "Award of Merit," for his "outstanding contributions to the musical entertainment of the American public."

Artists scheduled to perform are the Backstreet Boys, Burt Bacharach & Elvis Costello, Blondie and Coolio, Brandy, Garth Brooks and Trisha Yearwood, Cher, The Dixie Chicks, Goo Goo Dolls, Whitney Houston, Los Tigres Del Norte, Master P, and Third Eye Blind. ■

"Getting back to Basics"

Michele Conklin
Staff Reporter

Was your New Year's resolution to lose weight, or to start an exercise program? No one likes to talk about it, but when the new year rolls around, everyone is thinking about all of those extra pounds that magically appeared on the bathroom scales right after the Holidays.

In this speed of light society, everyone is looking for a quick fix when it comes to weight loss. According to the experts, the only way to lose weight and keep it off is to get back to the basics.

The American Dietetics Association says that weight loss should be refocused to weight management which means achieving the best possible weight for overall health. The ADA defines weight management as, "The adoption of healthful and sustainable eating and exercise behaviors indicated for reduced disease risk and improved feelings of energy and well-being."

According to the ADA's

Position paper on Weight management that was published in January 1997, all weight management programs should at the very least include training in lifestyle modification using the following goals:

- ❖ Gradual change to a healthful eating style with increase intake of whole grains, fruits, and vegetables.

- ❖ A nonrestrictive approach to eating based on internal regulation of food (hunger and satiety).

- ❖ Gradual increase to at least 30 minutes of enjoyable physical activity each day.

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration says that losing weight doesn't have to be complicated to be successful. The goal is to achieve long-term results by avoiding quick-fix schemes and regimes.

According to the FDA, focusing on making modest changes to the daily routine, eating a balanced, healthy, and sensible diet, and regular exercise are the basic building blocks to controlling and maintaining the ideal weight. Here are some of the FDA's basic

guidelines for losing those unwanted pounds:

- ❖ Consult with your doctor, a dietitian, or a qualified health professional to determine your ideal healthy body weight.

- ❖ Eat smaller portions and choose from a variety of foods.

- ❖ Load up on foods naturally

See BASICS, page 16

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Boston Pops perform at MTSU

Staff Reports

The Boston Pops Esplanade Orchestra will perform at MTSU's Murphy Center this Saturday, January 16 at 8 p.m.

The show will feature popular selections from movies such as "Titanic," and John Williams' score to "Hook." The performance will also offer a set with guest vocalist Robin McElhatten, selections from "Runnin' Wild: the Boston Pops Plays Glenn Miller," and a medley of Elvis Presley songs titled "Long Live the King."

This concert is part of a seven city tour of the southeastern United States. Murfreesboro is the first stop for the Boston Pops, and they will continue on to South Carolina, Kentucky, and four cities in Florida.

MTSU concerts sponsors this show, along with the Tennessee Performing Arts Center. Steven J. Greil, TPAC president and CEO says, "I have worked with Harold Smith [MTSU Concerts director] and MTSU for almost 30 years. It is a pleasure to work with him again, this time in my capacity at TPAC."

"We are honored that MTSU recognized our expertise in performing arts presentation, and we are proud to be

associated with such a prestigious event," says Smith.

Media sponsors for the event are The Tennessean, WLPN and WJXA radio, and WSMV Channel 4.

The first performance of the Boston Pops Symphony Orchestra took place July 18, 1885. The Boston Pops Esplanade Orchestra consists of free-lance musicians from Boston, and is organized by the management of the Boston Symphony Orchestra.

The conductor for the Boston Pops is Keith Lockhart, who has been the conductor since February 1995. He has conducted over 200 shows, including 26 television shows such as "Evening at Pops" on PBS and the annual "Pops Goes The Fourth" on A&E.

Arthur Fiedler led the Boston Pops for decades, beginning in 1930. He was the eighteenth conductor and the first to be American-born. In January of 1980 John Williams was appointed conductor, and presently holds the title of Laureate Conductor.

Tickets for the event can be purchased by calling TicketMaster at 255-9600 or 255-ARTS. Ticket prices range from \$35-\$50. ■

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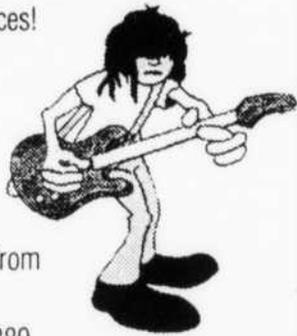
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BASICS

continued from page 15

high in fiber: Fruits, vegetables, legumes, and whole grains.

❖ Limit portions of foods high in fat: dairy products like cheese, butter, and whole milk; red meat; cakes and pastries.

❖ Exercise at least three times a week.

Registered Dietitian and Instructor in the Department of Human Sciences at MTSU, Lisa Sheehan-Smith reiterates the FDA's guidelines by stating that, "High fiber, not no fat, but low fat is the way to lose weight."

Sheehan-Smith said that taking personal responsibility for gaining the weight by not blaming some program or product is one step that seems to be forgotten when attempting to lose weight. "Most people want to blame some product or program when the weight doesn't stay off or come off at all," said Sheehan-Smith.

Smith.

Sheehan-Smith also said to remember that the weight wasn't gained fast therefore, the weight won't come off fast. Sheehan-Smith said that with any kind of change, such as weight loss and quitting smoking the change has to be a personal choice. "Lose the weight for yourself, not for anyone else," said Sheehan-Smith.

The weight loss industry is a booming business. According to the FDA Americans spend more than \$30 billion a year on all types of products, programs, foods, and drinks, most of which claim a quick-fix. However, the FDA states that:

❖ Any claims that you can lose weight effortlessly are false. Experts recommend that reducing calories you eat and increasing calories you burn off through exercise.

❖ Very low-calorie diets are not without risks and should be pursued under medical supervision.

❖ Fad diets rarely have any permanent effects and typically cause a "rebound effect."

❖ To lose weight safely and keep it off requires long-term changes in daily eating and exercise habits.

Approximately 8 million Americans a year enroll in some sort of structured weight-loss programs that involve using liquid diets, special diet regimens, or medical or other supervision with relatively little long-term success.

Before you sign up with a diet program, the FTC suggests that you might ask the following questions:

1. What are the health risks?
2. What data can you show me that proves your program actually works?
3. Do customers keep off the weight after they leave the diet program?
4. What are the costs for memberships, weekly fees, food, supplements, maintenance, and counseling? What's the payment schedule? Are any costs covered under health insurance? do you give refunds if I drop out?
5. Do you have a maintenance program? Is it part of the package or does it cost extra?
6. What kind of professional supervision is provided? What are the credentials of these professionals?
7. What are the program's requirements? Are there special menus or foods, counseling or exercise plans?

Also according to the FTC, Americans spend more than \$6 billion a year on fraudulent diet products. The FTC claims that it is important that consumers are aware of the claims that sound too good to be true. The FTC recommends that consumers should be particularly skeptical of claims that contain the following words or phrases:

- ❖ easy
- ❖ effortless
- ❖ guaranteed
- ❖ miraculous
- ❖ magical
- ❖ breakthrough
- ❖ new discovery
- ❖ mysterious
- ❖ exotic
- ❖ secret
- ❖ exclusive
- ❖ ancient

Obesity is a condition that puts a person at health risk. According to the ADA, "Obesity-related medical conditions are the second leading cause of death in America, resulting in 300,000 lives lost each year."

The Federal Trade Commission, the American Dietetics Association, and the U.S. Food and Drug Administration all agree that successful weight management for adults requires life-long commitment to healthy lifestyle changes emphasizing eating practices and daily physical activity that are sustainable and enjoyable. It's not just those unwanted Holiday pounds or that New Year's resolution, it's a life-long commitment to staying and being healthy.

To help you get started on your new lifestyle, the MTSU recreation center offers many programs and activities, at a variety of times. Some of these programs include personal one-on-one training, aerobics, water exercise, and a weight management and fitness program. Some of these programs are at an additional cost. ■

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THURSDAY, JAN. 7, 1999

SPORTS

18 ■ SIDELINES

Murfreesboro, TN

New football coach named

Michael Edwards
Staff Reporter

Welcome aboard! The Blue Raider athletic department, headed by Lee Fowler, hired their first new head football coach in 20 years on December 8, 1998.

The Blue Raiders have named John Andrew McCollum of Waco, Texas, as their new head football coach.

When the three finalists were announced, former Tennessee offensive coordinator and present Ole Miss head coach David Cutcliffe was on the list. However, while in the process of making the final decision, Cutcliffe took the job with the Rebels. The Blue Raiders' next choice was Andy McCollum.

"I'm just so glad to be here," McCollum said. "I thank Coach Fowler and Dr. Walker for giving me the opportunity to replace a man like Boots Donnelly, who means so much to me."

McCollum played at Austin Peay during the years of 1977-80. In 1979, McCollum received honorable mention All-OVC at the wide receiver position. After his playing career, McCollum joined Donnelly's staff as an assistant coach in 1982.

He remained with Donnelly until 1989 when he was hired by the University of Texas at El Paso. He

coached their through the '93 season and then moved on to the University of Baylor in Waco, Texas.

At Baylor, he served as the linebackers coach. While at Baylor, McCollum's career began to blossom.

In 1994 and 1995, he was named by Max Emfinger as one of the top 10 recruiters in the country. In 1996, he made the recruiting hat trick by following up his performances in the previous 2 years with a top 5 campaign in '96.

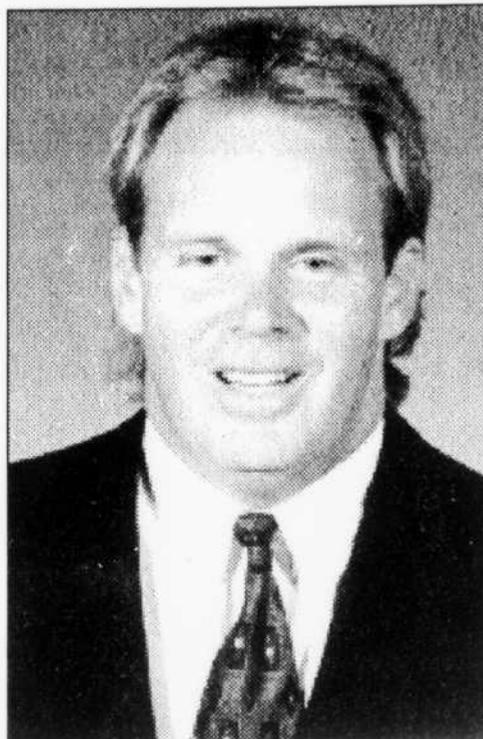
He has coached eight All-Americans and 26 All-Conference picks and 22 players that have continued their careers in the NFL.

"You can talk from the heart when you truly love your school as you walk into a kid's home, and I can do that again," McCollum said.

McCollum plans to keep four coaches of Donnelly's staff. These include Alex Robins, Tom Fiveash, Floyd Walker, Dom Green.

Robins, a 16-year veteran of the MTSU system, will remain in charge of the quarterbacks. Some of the fruits of his labor have been Jacksonville Jaguars quarterback Jonathan Quinn and Indianapolis Colts backup Kelly Holcomb.

"Alex is one of the best quarterback coaches in all of football," McCollum said. "He has been loyal to this



John Andrew McCollum

program. I would have gone after Alex for this position no matter where he had previously been."

Fiveash will move from the defensive coordinator position to the job of director of football operations.

"Tom will be a lot of things to me and this staff," McCollum said. "He will help

with scheduling and act as our high school liaison and organize recruiting weekends to name a few. Tom will be the backbone to this operation."

Walker will stay on the staff although the position that he will handle has not yet been determined.

Green is the fourth and final coach that will stay on the staff.

Last season, he was the defensive line coach under Donnelly and it is uncertain what role he will fill at this point.

"Dom is one of the coaches that I do not know as well as the others, but he comes highly recommended," McCollum said. "He is an outstanding recruiter, a hard worker and very knowledgeable of the game."

"Lots of people talk about dreams and goals and this was mine. I always wanted to replace Coach Donnelly. His footsteps are huge, but I am proud to get the opportunity to fill them."

McCollum's first game as head coach will be in Starkville, Miss.. The opponent will be the Southeastern Conference's western division champion, the Mississippi State Bulldogs.

"I just want to say how proud I am to be here. I'm so proud to represent this school, and I am very proud to replace Coach Donnelly and all he stands for." ■

Blue Raiders off to rough start

Michael Edwards
Staff Reporter

Will the real MTSU men's basketball team step forward?

After being heartbroken by East Tennessee State in the season opener, the Blue Raiders picked up their first win over Erskine College. The next game was in Poughkeepsie, N.Y., against Marist. Marist somehow pulled out all the stops and upset the Blue Raiders. MTSU obviously lost some confidence with the defeat. They then went on the road to ETSU for the teams second meeting. Unfortunately the Blue Raiders were taken to the woodshed for a beating. MTSU was beaten by 16.

The University of North Carolina

came to town with their shiny new ranking of third in the Associated Press poll. MTSU didn't play very well in the first half and found themselves down by 18. However, the second half looked like a different team. MTSU roared back into the game and with about 10 minutes left in the game, they trailed by only 11. Although they ended up losing that game, a fan couldn't help but gain a little MTSU pride.

The next game was against Western Kentucky, who are known nationally for the appearance of the Hilltopper on an ESPN Sportscenter commercial. The Blue Raiders did not play well and lost to the Hilltoppers by 6 in front of 2,700 people in the Nashville Arena.

Two days later, the Blue Raiders

bounced back and beat up on their first Ohio Valley Conference opponent, Tennessee Tech. The Blue Raiders beat the Eagles by 13 and appeared to get things together. However, the Belmont Bruins came to town one week after that game.

The Bruins had been waiting to get over the proverbial hump. With one-point losses to some nationally ranked teams, the Bruins were on the verge of breaking through in Division 1A basketball. 79-72 was the final, and Belmont had beaten MTSU.

With hearts in hand, the Blue Raiders traveled to Puerto Rico to play the North Carolina State Wolfpack. Unlike the game against UNC, MTSU didn't show up for this game and were drubbed by 32 points in the first round of the Puerto Rico Christmas Classic.

The University of Alabama-Birmingham Blazers awaited the loser of that game, who happened to be the Blue Raiders. Once again, MTSU couldn't seem to find the enthusiasm or intensity that they once possessed. The Blazers won the game by 25 points. That was definitely not the real MTSU team.

The next game was against the host school, the American Pirates. This team had been involved in a fight earlier in the tournament and ended up having to forfeit the game. MTSU was able to win that game by 25 while scoring 93 points.

MTSU came back to the United States to take on the Sky Hawks of UT Martin. In their second OVC game,

See BASKETBALL, page 23

Lady Raiders start season strong

Michael Edwards
Staff Reporter

The Blue Raider women's basketball team started the season on fire. With five wins in the first six games the women's team looked very sharp.

They opened with a cupcake in Erskine College. In front of an eye-popping 438 people at the Murphy Center the Raiders stomped Erskine by 42 points.

Five days later they traveled to Birmingham, AL to take on the Blazers of University of Alabama-Birmingham. MTSU defeated the Blazers 73-63 en route to a 2-0 record. The next team that would fall victim to the Raiders would be Furman. From the MAC, MTSU had no problem with Furman and won the game 81-75.

Western Kentucky finally tripped up the Blue Raiders with a 21-point win in Bowling Green. Western later went on to beat up on the Vanderbilt Commodores.

The first Ohio Valley Conference game of the year was against the Tennessee Tech. Golden Eagles. With a record of 3-1, MTSU had no

trouble with Tennessee Tech. MTSU beat Tech 74-63.

With a full head of steam, the Blue Raiders went to Asheville, N. C. The opponent was UNC-Asheville. MTSU took it to UNCA with a barrage of players having good games. MTSU ran away with the game 77-63.

MTSU played the best team they had played all year in the Auburn Tigers. MTSU was no match for the Southeastern Conference opponent and lost the game by a score of 73-53.

With the loss under the belt the Blue Raiders were brought back down to earth. With a 5-2 record, MTSU took on Maine in the Tulane Invitational. Maine was too good. Maine's Cassidy scored 41 points on her own. The final score was 92-78 in favor of Maine.

Even though the Blue Raiders had beaten Furman earlier in the year, they couldn't handle them the second time around. Furman pushed around MTSU and won the game 83-66.

MTSU had hit a losing streak due to tough teams. However the teams didn't get any easier against UTM. Martin was picked by the coaches to win the conference,

and they showed the Blue Raiders why. MTSU led for part of the game. However, late in the contest, UTM took the lead and never relinquished it. MTSU began to foul and the score got out of hand. UTM won the game 90-70.

Monday, the Raiders went to Murray State and spanked the Racers. In front of 289 strong, MTSU won the game by 4. The final was 72-68. The win ended a four-game skid and set the team with a 2-1 conference record.

Bama Burrel is leading the team in scoring with 10.6 a game. The rest of the team is contributing every game. Courtney Neely is shooting 48 percent from three-point range and freshman Erica Lufkin is 33 percent.

Burrel also leads the team in rebounding with 5 a game. As a team the Blue Raiders are shooting 43 percent from the floor and 33 percent from three-point range.

With the meat of the schedule remaining, the hopes are high for this team. If they continue to play with enthusiasm and are consistent, they are going to win the conference. ■



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NFL teams vie for Super Bowl slots

Michael Edwards
Staff Reporter

As the 1998 NFL season comes to a close, the best teams are vying for the chance to play in the final game.

The game where almost everyone that is breathing will attend a party to anoint the two teams that have fought and sacrificed just for the opportunity to win the world

championship is almost here.

This is the game that every player in the NFL has been dreaming of since the beginning of the season.

This is the game where commercials cost \$30,000 per second and take center stage in the second half, when only the die hard fans are actually paying attention. This is the Super Bowl.

The NFL playoffs began last week with the wild card rounds.

The Arizona Cardinals, who haven't won a playoff game in my lifetime, beat the Dallas Cowboys on Saturday. In the other game of the day, the Miami Dolphins met their match against the Buffalo Bills and Doug Flutie.

All NFL fans know of the year that Flutie had with Bills this year. He won a Heisman trophy in college with Boston College. After not getting signed by an NFL team because he was too short, Flutie made a name for himself in the Canadian Football League. He won Grey cup after Grey Cup and became known

to many as "Mr. CFL." Flutie is the CFL's equivalent of Joe Montana. He finally got his shot in the NFL with the Bills. As luck would have it, the starting quarterback was injured early in the year and Flutie took over the helm. He led the team on a winning streak and eventually into the playoffs.

However, the clock struck twelve on Flutie and the Bills. The Miami Dolphins, led by Dan Marino, beat the Bills thanks to a Flutie fumble on the Miami 7-yard line with just a few ticks left on the clock.

On Sunday, the Jacksonville Jaguars, who were led twice this year by former MTSU standout Jonathan Quinn, beat up on the "tunaless" Patriots. While Bill Parcells sat at home, and he laughed at the very idea that a team thought that they could survive without him on the sidelines.

At one time, Parcells was an assistant at Vanderbilt, and we all know what happened to that football program or lack their of.

Parcells took his show to

New York and coached the Giants football team. While doing extremely well, he managed to win one championship in Super Bowl XXI.

Just a few years later, he won another one against the Buffalo Bills. This was perhaps the most exciting Super Bowl ever.

While trailing 19-13, Phil Simms, the Giant quarterback, drove the team down the field and scored with just a little time left on the clock. The Bills then answered the call with a drive of their own. Led by halfback Thurman Thomas, the Bills drove within the range of kicker Scott Norwood. However, with time almost gone, Norwood hooked the kick wide right.

Following that game, Parcells, the "Tuna", left the team to pursue a short career in broadcasting.

The Giants went down hill from there. The next coaching job would be with the New England Patriots. In just a few seasons with the team, he led them to a Super Bowl.

Although they were beaten by the Packers, it was still a step up from where they once had been.

Due to some problems with Bob Kraft, owner of the Patriots, Parcells took a job with the New York Jets. The Patriots have been a disappointment ever since.

The Jets will take on Jacksonville on Sunday in the Meadowlands.

The other game on Sunday features the Minnesota Vikings and the Arizona Cardinals.

My prediction is that Randy Moss will be running for the game winning touchdown, but he will trip over his ego and the Cardinals will win.

On Saturday, the heavily-favored Denver Broncos host the Dolphins, while Atlanta hosts the San Francisco 49ers. The Falcons' joy ride will come to an end, and the 49ers will show exactly why they have won more Super Bowls than any other franchise in the history of the world. ■

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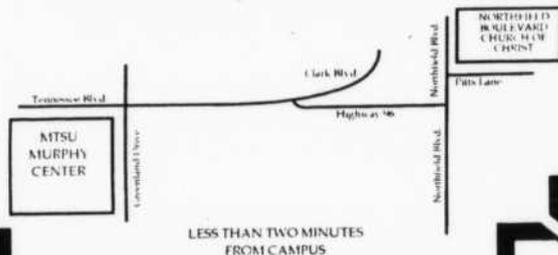
Wednesday
Bible Study...7:00 PM

Preacher: Kyle Campbell
Office Phone: 893-1200
Home Phone: 849-5924

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"Blessed are those who hear the word of God, and observe it..."
Luke 11:28

Come And Study The Bible With Us!



Raiders to play SEMO

Michael Edwards
Staff Reporter

On Thursday night, the Indians of Southeast Missouri State will come to town to take on the 4-9 Blue Raiders.

MTSU is starting to put things together as a team. On Monday, MTSU went to Murray, Ky., to take on the Racers. Murray State is powerhouse in the Ohio Valley Conference, and they have been for the last 20 years. The Blue Raiders played one of the best games that they have played this year but came up short.

Currently, MTSU's record is 2-1 in the OVC, while the Indians have won their first three conference games. Led by senior Bud Eley, the Indians are returning all five starters from last year. All five averaged in double figures last year. Eley led the team in scoring with a 15-point per game average. Cory Johnson is second with a 14.5 scoring average.

In the front court, the Indians boast 6-foot 10-inch Eley. If Lee Nosse returns for

the Blue Raiders, that should be a great matchup on the low post. Another big man for SEMO is senior David Montgomery. Montgomery is 6-feet and 8-inches tall. He averaged 12 points and 5 rebounds last year as a starter.

The Indians could go with a three-guard offense. Led by Johnson, the back court includes Kahn Cotton and Nathan Owen. Cotton is the point guard and should match up well with Richard Duncan. At the 2-guard spot should be Johnson. Johnson was second on the team in scoring a year ago. Johnson will probably match-up with Ali McGhee. McGhee will have a big height advantage over the 6 foot tall Johnson.

Owen is the final piece of the Indian puzzle. He is a 6-foot 2-inch guard that will end up guarding Cedric Wallace. Nosse has not been starting lately due to a personal absence. Ellious Swanigan has done a adequate job of filling in for Nosse.

However, if Nosse is available, he will probably start due to the tremendous size of

Eley. For the Blue Raiders, Duncan will start at the point guard spot while either Kevin White or McGhee will round out the back court. McGhee brings more offense and size to the lineup, while the pesky White will not back down on the defensive end.

Nosse should start at the center position. At the small forward will be Cedric Wallace, who finally may be breaking out of a slump. At the power forward spot will be either Dale Thomas or Swanigan.

One Blue Raider will not be in action for the rest of the season. Freddie Martinez was re-injured and will miss the remainder of the season.

For the Blue Raiders to win they will have to play better defense than they have been playing. The Raiders are giving up only 70 points per game, but they are allowing their opponents to shoot better than 47 percent on the year.

The Indians are playing very well this season. For MTSU to pull off the upset, they cannot

See INDIANS, page 23

Public Service Award Recipients

- 1990-91 Dr. Patrick Doyle, Biology Department
1991-92 Dr. Faye Johnson, Sociology & Anthropology Department
1992-93 Mary Goldsack, Nursing Department
1993-94 Dr. Jim Neal, History Department
1994-95 Dr. James Huhta, Center for Historic Preservation
1995-96 Dr. William Ford, Weatherford Chair Finance
1996-97 Dr. Padgett Kelly, Biology Department
1997-98 Dr. Ann Campbell, Elementary and Special Education Department

- ▼ Faculty must be nominated by their peers.
- ▼ Nominations must be submitted by February 12, 1999.
- ▼ Nomination ballots can be obtained from the Division of Continuing Studies, 113 Cope, 898-2177.
- ▼ The Outstanding Public Service Award is presented during University Convocation in August.
- ▼ Up to three Public Service Awards will be given in the amount of \$3,000. These are funded by the MTSU Foundation.

Middle Tennessee State University
Division of Continuing Studies and Public Service

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1993-1994



1994-1995



1995-1996



1996-1997



1997-1998



Lady Raiders face SEMO tonight

Josh Ezzell
Staff Reporter

The Lady Raiders host the Lady Otahkians of Southeast Missouri State University today. The Lady Otahkians enter the contest with an overall record of 9-2, and a conference record of 4-0.

The Lady Raiders, on the other hand, enter today's contest with an overall record of 6-5, and a conference record of 2-1. Their conference victories are over Tennessee Tech and Murray State, while their lone conference loss occurred at the hands of UT-Martin.

At this point in the season, "Bama" Burrell leads the Lady Raiders in scoring with 10.6 points a game and rebounding with 4.9 rebounds a game. Carlita Elder and Jamie Thomatis are second and third

in scoring respectively.

On defense, the Lady Raiders are giving up an average of 72.6 points per game; and are only scoring 72.2 points per game. The Lady Raiders have been outscored 799-794.

Coach Stephany Smith believes that defense will be the key to the game.

"Lately, we have been struggling defensively and this had caused let-downs in other aspects of the game. If we can play better defense, then other aspects of the game will improve and we will stand a better chance of winning," she said.

The game begins at 5:45 p.m. at the Murphy Center. Next, the Lady Raiders will host Eastern Illinois on Jan. 9 at 5:30 p.m. at the Murphy Center. ■

BASKETBALL

continued from page 18

MTSU played well defensively but couldn't manage much on the offensive end. However, despite not having Lee Nosse, the Raiders beat UTM 56-50 and moved to 2-0 in the Conference.

On the fourth day of the new year, MTSU took on OVC power Murray State. The Racers are without a doubt the best team in the OVC. They are legitimately a top-40 team in the country. MTSU played very tough throughout the whole game. At the end of the first half, a Racer tossed a desperation shot at the buzzer. The shot proved to be big late in the game.

Late in the game MTSU was battling with the Racers. The matchup was like David versus a mini-Goliath. The

commentators painted a picture in my head like the trenches of a war. Like two championship fighters, the teams gave shot then immediately took a shot. Late in the game with about three minutes left, the game began to turn in favor of MTSU. The Raiders began to make a run and eventually cut the Racer lead to 4.

However, that is as close as MTSU would get. Murray State went on to win the game by 10 points.

Currently, the Blue Raiders have a 4-9 record and they are 2-1 in the OVC.

MTSU has a good enough team to win at the highest level in this conference. The thing that holds them back is consistency. When MTSU finds that, they will be very tough to beat when March rolls around. ■

INDIANS

continued from page 22

give SEMO more scoring opportunities on account of turnovers. Winning the rebounding category is also imperative.

MTSU has been giving up about 14 offensive rebounds per game. That cannot happen against SEMO.

MTSU will have a shot at the win. Their personnel is too talented for the 4-9 record that

they currently have. Even though they lost to the Racers on Monday, the team should have gained some confidence after hanging tough with a good team.

The Blue Raiders did not back down. If they play the same way against SEMO, they will win.

However, even though the game is at home, SEMO will come out with a 5 point win over the Blue Raiders. The final score will be 74-69. ■

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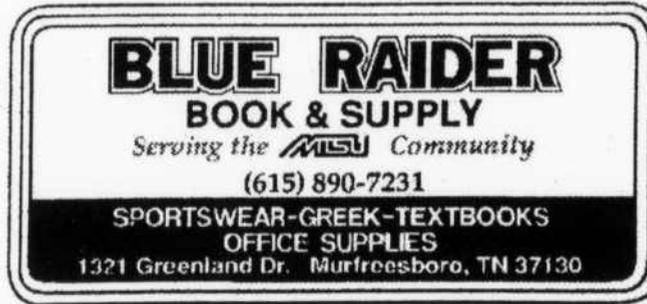
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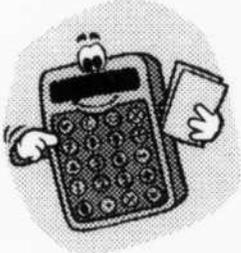


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