

SIDELINES

Volume 75, No. 17

MIDDLE TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY

Murfreesboro, TN

Fee supports technological equipment

Ruth Peltier
Staff Reporter

The charge shows up on your bill every semester, but what exactly are you paying for with the "technology access fee"?

The fee provides training with state-of-the-art technology in whatever field an MTSU student chooses, according to a representative of the MTSU Academic Affairs Staff.

This fee comes directly from the pocketbooks of students and for 1999-2000 will amount to \$3.235 million. Full-time students at MTSU pay \$100 every semester, and part-time students pay \$8 for each credit hour they are taking.

According to K. Watson Hannah, the university's financial marketing analyst, the fund gives students the chance to use state-of-the-art, discipline-specific technology regardless of their chosen field.

The Academic Affairs home page at <http://www.mtsu.edu/~pvpa>, lists the technology access fee as one of Hannah's responsibilities.

"Without this money, we could not provide students what they need to compete in the marketplace," Hannah said.

Hannah pointed out that one of the first uses of the technology fee was to update the facilities in the engineering technology department. Before the addition of machinery purchased with this money, MTSU was training engineering students with equipment that dated back to World War II.

Special lighting equipment for theater arts, computers and software for the art department, and access to a legal database for the criminal justice department are other examples of items this money has provided for students.

Technology access fee money also purchased the computer-assisted telephone interviewing software used in the Middle Tennessee Poll currently under way in the College of Mass Communication.

In addition to providing students with hands-on experience in poll taking and the analysis of the data they collect, this poll serves to enhance

See TECH FEE, page 4

Sign me up!



Russell Elam signs his group up with Justin Harris (sitting) for Up 'Til Dawn. Registration was held Wednesday in the KUC courtyard.

Photo by Derrick Wilson

Statewide income tax could help higher ed

Staff Reports

MTSU officials say the university's budget crunch can be alleviated if legislators vote to restructure the state's tax system, which could include the creation of a statewide income tax.

Representatives of the state Democratic Caucus brought a listening tour to the MTSU campus Monday morning. Administrators and faculty members spoke to the delegation.

MTSU representatives at the meeting included James Walker, university president; Barbara Haskew, vice president of Academic Affairs; Duane Stucky, vice president of Finance and Administration; and Diane Miller, president of Faculty Senate.

Gov. Don Sundquist has said that without a tax-reform plan, the state's

The Bottom Line

- ◆ The state's budget will be \$382 million in the hole by July.
- ◆ MTSU could see continued budget cutbacks.
- ◆ There will be a special legislative session on tax reform in November.

The Income Tax Debate

- ◆ Advocates say it will offset the state deficit and shift tax responsibility to the rich.
- ◆ Opponents say the state should curb spending or create a state lottery instead.

budget will be \$382 million in the red by July. The budget shortfall led to a decrease in the amount of higher-education funding available this year.

That increased MTSU tuition by eight percent.

Walker told representatives that MTSU staff members "didn't have a good taste in

their mouth" about the raise.

Walker also cited budget cutbacks as an obstacle to capital projects he says the university needs to complete, such as new art and science facilities.

Because of the funding decrease, the general assembly increased higher-education spending by only \$2.7 million

this year, an amount that ranks 12th highest out of the 16 states in the Southeast, according to Miller.

Haskew told the delegation MTSU would need about \$3 million just to raise faculty salaries enough to make the university competitive with other institutions.

"We have strong concerns," Haskew said. "We are currently 60 faculty understaffed."

Stucky told legislators that MTSU has the least amount of space per student of any university in Tennessee.

Sundquist has called a special legislative session in November to discuss the state's tax system.

This session could lead to more budget cutbacks in Tennessee's higher-education funding.

Lawmakers are expected to discuss the possibility of creating a state income tax.

Unlike sales taxes, which account for 55 cents of every state tax dollar, an income tax would theoretically require that the wealthy pay a larger portion of state taxes.

Opposing groups have been waging a battle over tax reform. Citizens for Fair Taxes, a group formed after the latest legislative session to push for tax reform, is headed by Nashville businessman Clayton McWhorter and has a budget of \$1.8 million for its campaign.

The group has been airing television ads saying: "The budget crisis is real. It's time to fix it."

Meanwhile, groups such as the Tennessee Family Institute and the Free Enterprise Coalition have devoted their energies to attacking an income tax. They say the state needs spending reform rather than tax reform.

Sundquist has not proposed a specific plan.

Back at the ballots



Giovonni Coleman, a junior elementary education major, votes for Homecoming Queen. See page 1B for more information on Homecoming.

Photo by Derrick Wilson

Career Day brings employers to campus

Kelley Ferguson
Staff Reporter

Looking for a job?

The annual MTSU Career Day will take place on Sept. 28 from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. in the Murphy Center track area.

Career Day will host about 125 employers and graduate schools who will be on site to answer questions and help students learn about possible career fields.

"This is a great opportunity to get basic career information and to find opportunities in your chosen field," said Martha Turner, director of the MTSU Placement office.

According to Turner, the career fair is for everyone.

Freshmen and sophomores can find part time jobs and possible internships.

Juniors can also look into internships and find information on their career field. Seniors can make connections with future employers.

Students can come dressed casually, although seniors are recommended to dress professionally and have resumes prepared to show employers, Turner said.

**Don't miss
Sidelines'
complete Career
Guide 1999 in
Monday's issue.**

This is the 18th career day and is probably the largest Career Day so far, said Turner.

There are many employers that have attended Career Day for many years and are returning this year.

The American Red Cross, Calvary Banking, Coca-Cola Bottling Company Consolidates, IBM Global Services, Saturn Corporation, TN Treasury Department and the US Federal Bureau of Investigation have all attended Career Day in the past.

Students can find a complete listing of the employers attending Career Day on the placement center website at www.mtsu.edu/~stuaff/placement.

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SPORTS

Blue Raiders travel to Louisiana to take on the Ragin' Cajuns. See page 5B.

FEATURES

The Golden Raiders remember MTSU in the good old days. See page 7A.

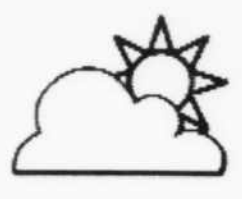
WEATHER FORECAST



THURSDAY
SUNNY
HI 77/LO 43



FRIDAY
PARTLY
CLOUDY
HI 78/LO 51



SATURDAY
PARTLY
CLOUDY
HI 79/LO 53

On Campus

compiled by
Wesley Bush

To submit an announcement for On Campus, come by the James Union Building Room 308. Due to limited space, some announcements with later dates may be held.

Sept. 23

The Placement and Student Employment Center will hold a series of placement orientation meetings for seniors and graduate students regarding their career plans, the job search, resume writing, interview preparation and placement services. The sessions are on Tuesday at 11 a.m. and Wednesday and Thursday at 2 p.m. For more information, call the Placement Office at 898-2500.

The department of chemistry is welcoming Dean Nelson Strother and other representatives from The University of Tennessee-Memphis Health Science Center in KUC Rooms 324, 322-A, B and C, 312 and 314 to talk with students about dentistry, medicine, pharmacy, cytotechnology, dental hygiene, health information management, medical technology, occupational therapy, physical therapy, graduate health sciences and the Tennessee Preprofessional program from 9 a.m. to noon.

Sept. 28

Career Day will be held from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on the Murphy Center track. All students and faculty are invited and encouraged to attend. Approximately 100 employers and graduate schools will participate. For more info, call the Placement Center at 898-2500.

Sept. 30

The Office of General Studies is sponsoring an open forum, "Current and Future Trends in General Education." The speaker is Dr. John Hinni, dean emeritus of Southeast Missouri State University. The forum will be held from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. in the State Farm Lecture Hall, BAS S102. For further info, call the General Studies Office at 904-8416.

The June Anderson Women's Center will begin "Looking Forward," a support group for survivors of

sexual abuse or rape. The group will meet on Thursdays at 3 p.m. in the Cason-Kennedy Nursing Building, Room 124. Call 898-5725 for more info.

ONGOING

Lambda Association welcomes new students and invites all to attend meetings every Tuesday night at 7 p.m. in BAS S118. Contact Talia Elwell at 907-2195 or visit the website at www.mtsu.edu/~mtlambda.

MTSU Rugby Football Club invites interested students to attend practices every Tuesday and Thursday at 5:30 p.m. at the intramural fields. The Moosemen were the 1999 SEC Champions and were ranked ninth in the nation last year. Call Evan or Todd at 907-5075 for further information.

MTSU Women's Rugby invites interested students to attend practices every Tuesday and Thursday at 6:30 p.m. at the intramural fields. For additional information, contact Stacey Venzano at 893-1786.

Campus Crusade for Christ will hold CRU, its weekly meeting, on Thursdays at 7:30 p.m. in LRC 221. Everyone is welcome to attend. For more information, call Rich Humphrey at 896-2039, or e-mail him at rich.humphrey@uscsm.org.

June Anderson Women's Center is hosting "Looking Forward," an ongoing support group for women who are survivors of sexual abuse or rape. The meetings will be held every Thursday in CKNB 124 at 3 p.m. beginning Sept. 30. Contact Mary Glantz at 898-5725 for additional information.

Who's Who applications can now be picked up in KUC 122 and 208. The due date is Oct. 15 at 4:30 p.m. in KUC 122 or mail to Box 61. Interested students should apply now or contact Gina Poff at 898-2454.



World News

Man kills wife, lawyer and judge in courtroom

ZAGREB, Croatia (AP) — A man shot to death his former wife, her lawyer and a judge in a fit of anger Wednesday during a divorce hearing at the Zagreb municipal court, police said. A man, identified as Mato O., 28, opened fire during the hearing, instantly killing the three, said Jakob Bukvic, head of the Zagreb police. A typist, who also was shot, was taken to a hospital with serious injuries, he said. Authorities did not immediately reveal the shooter's last name. The man was apprehended soon after he tried to cross the border into neighboring Slovenia, Bukvic said.

Peacekeepers calm hungry looters; journalist killed

DILI, East Timor (AP) — Struggling to keep the situation in East Timor under control, peacekeepers stopped crowds of hungry refugees from looting Wednesday, collected weapons from pro-Indonesian militias and sent an advance team into the territory's second-largest city. But in the first show of defiance toward the international force, armed men killed one Western journalist and attacked two others. Many Indonesians accuse the foreign media of stirring up problems in East Timor and conspiring with the United Nations to rig the outcome of the Aug. 30 referendum.

Police warns Diana Ross after London confrontation

LONDON (AP) — Singer Diana Ross was arrested Wednesday after a confrontation with a security guard who searched her at Heathrow airport. The pop diva was detained at a police station for more than four hours before being given a warning and released. The 55-year-old star was not charged. Police said no further action would be taken. The problems started shortly before Ms. Ross was to board the 10:50 a.m. Concorde flight to New York.



National News

Medicare recipients to lose free prescription drugs

WASHINGTON (AP) — More than 1 million Medicare recipients in HMOs will lose their zero co-payment coverage for prescription drugs next year, Vice President Al Gore said Wednesday in arguing for the administration's Medicare legislation. According to a Health Care Financing Administration review of HMO plans for 2000, annual dollar caps on drug coverage will also be imposed more widely. This year, only 21 percent of the managed care plans that serve Medicare beneficiaries had a per enrollee drug limit of \$500 or less. Next year, nearly one-third of such plans, 32 percent, will have such limits.

Student arrested in shooting of Alabama A&M freshman

HUNTSVILLE, Ala. (AP) — A 21-year-old Alabama A&M University student from Memphis turned himself in to authorities Wednesday in the shooting death of an 18-year-old freshman on campus earlier this week.

Bobby Tamir Brooks II was arrested and charged with capital murder in the death of Eric Jamari Kimball of Birmingham, Huntsville police spokesman Wendell Johnson said. Kimball died after being shot in the back near the campus' historic gate. He and Brooks exchanged words shortly before the shooting, police said.

Police received a call from Brooks' attorney, who said his client wished to surrender, Johnson said. Brooks apparently lived off the A&M campus, he said.

Florida man waives extradition in shotgun killing

TAVARES, Fla. (AP) — A central Florida man has waived extradition from Tennessee to face a charge of murdering an alleged drug dealer last week with a shotgun blast. Daniel J. Brown, 37, of Mount Dora signed the waiver Monday and was to be returned to Lake County where he is accused of killing Tony Harrison, 20, of Umatilla on Sept. 12, authorities said Tuesday. Sheriff's deputies found Harrison's body in the trunk of his car in a Mount Dora restaurant's parking lot Thursday. Brown was arrested the same day at a state recreation area outside Maryville, Tenn.



State News

Reid gets death penalty for ice cream shop murders

CLARKSVILLE, Tenn. (AP) — A man already facing execution for killing two fast-food workers in Nashville was sentenced to death again for murdering two ice cream shop employees. Paul Reid's murderous crime spree terrorized fast-food restaurant workers across Tennessee in spring 1997. The jury deliberated for about four hours over two days. Reid, 41, was convicted Saturday of premeditated murder, felony murder, especially aggravated kidnapping and especially aggravated robbery.

Fumes send 11 elementary students to hospital

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP) — Eleven elementary school students and an adult were sent to the hospital Wednesday after complaining about fumes. Nashville schools spokesman Craig Owensby said the fumes were apparently exhaust from a diesel generator outside a door at Whitsitt Elementary School. The generator was being used at a school construction site next door. Those who became ill complained of headaches and nausea. Owensby said one student who is asthmatic was being kept at the hospital overnight for observation. The rest were being released.

Highway Patrol to resume DUI roadblocks

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP) — The Tennessee Highway Patrol announced Wednesday that it will set up roadblocks over three weekends to try to catch people driving under the influence of alcohol. The THP said it will resume its "CheckPoint Tennessee" program in every Tennessee county during the weekends beginning Oct. 1, Nov. 5 and Dec. 17. "DUI roadblocks have proven to be a powerful tool in reducing the number of highway deaths caused by drinking and driving," state Safety Commissioner Mike Greene said in a prepared statement. Greene said the portion of traffic deaths that were alcohol related dropped from 44 percent in 1993, the first year of the program, to 37 percent in 1997.

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HOT FACT #3

Students consider using the Internet to be one of the top ten "hottest" things to do on campus, along with _____.

A. using a cell phone B. listening to music C. going to the movies D. going to fraternity parties

Now that you've spotted this week's Hot Fact, log onto **www.coolcore.com** to answer the question. Once you've completed all four Hot Facts you will be automatically entered for a chance to win in the Hot Facts Sweepstakes. If you missed one of the previous Hot Facts, don't worry. Just log on this week and you can answer the question you missed.

Be sure to look in next week's paper for the **FINAL Hot Fact!**

Open to U.S. residents, who, as of 9/6/99, are enrolled in a U.S. college. No purchase necessary to play. Void in Florida and where prohibited. To enter via Internet: Access the "COOL FROM Nestea Hot Facts" Web site at www.coolcore.com starting 12:01 AM (ET) on 9/6/99 through 11:59 PM (ET) on 10/3/99 to see that week's Hot Facts on screen. Every time you log on, you will be instructed to complete the on-screen entry form, including your name, the name of the college you are attending and the letter A, B, C or D, representing the words which complete the Hot Fact(s) for that week. Answer(s) need not be correct to be eligible but you must submit your answer to each of the four Hot Facts (one Hot Fact published each week as described in Rule #1 of the Official Rules) to be entered into the sweepstakes. Starting 12:01 AM (ET) on 9/27/99 through 11:59 PM (ET) on 10/31/99, all four Hot Facts will appear on screen in case an Internet participant misses one or more of the Hot Facts that were featured. While you can, if you wish, log on each day, only one sweepstakes entry per e-mail address that includes all four answers will be entered into the sweepstakes drawing. To enter via mail: On plain 3" x 5" paper, hand print your complete name, address, zip code, (optional) daytime and evening telephone numbers and the words "COOL FROM Nestea Hot Facts". Mail your entry in a hand addressed 4-1/8" x 9-1/2" (#10) envelope, with first-class postage affixed, to: COOL FROM Nestea Hot Facts Sweepstakes, P.O. Box 4941, Blair, NE 68009-4941. Limit one entry per envelope. Entries must be received by 11/15/99. IMPORTANT: On the lower left-hand corner of your mailing envelope, you must indicate the name of the college you are attending. For Official Rules, by which entrants are bound, including a list of participating colleges, send a SASE to: Hot Facts Rules Request, P.O. Box 4948, Blair, NE 68009-4948.

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Photographer shares his experiences

Pam Hudgens
Staff Reporter

Award-winning photographer Lou Jones will give a slide-lecture presentation Monday, Sept. 27, at 7:30 p.m. in the Mass Communication Building, Room 104.

The photographs will include many of the pictures he has shot on assignment all over the world — in the United States, trouble spots and travel destinations. His slide presentation will include pictures not featured in his exhibit on display in the Baldwin Photography Gallery.

Jones will speak about difficulties he has faced and lessons he has learned traveling around the world. He plans to explain how he has become more aware of the differences in the many cultures of the world.

"It's clear that the most significant lessons I've learned were during my travels," Jones said. "Photography is the most powerful method of self-awareness and enlightenment that I've come across."

"With my camera, I can understand the many differences [of the world] and am better able to deal with them."

Jones will speak about the many personal experiences he has encountered in his travels and explain how they have had profound effect on his work.

He says his travels have made him look at things in a completely different light.

While covering the wars in Central America, Jones was investigating a massacre with a congressman. They found a woman who had seen her husband and son killed by soldiers right before her eyes.

Until that point, Jones says that he had always thought of the people and soldiers who commit these kinds of atrocities as "them." But this experience made him realize that he should think of them as "we."

"In the right set of circumstances," Jones said, "it could be me causing this pain. My government also contributes to these wars."

Jones explains that he seeks out the people of the truth and tries to bring a little back to the people.

He wants people to become more aware that the problems Americans have aren't always significant when compared to those of people in other parts of the world.

Jones says that he uses photography as a way of discovering everything around him.

He said, "Ultimately, it's my personal journey on the walls."

Lecture:
"Parallax" Photo Exhibit
Lou Jones
September 27
7:30 p.m.
Mass Comm 104

Dean of Mass Comm to lecture on surviving changes in technology

R Colin Fly
Staff Reporter

Dr. Deryl Leaming, dean of the College of Mass Communication, will deliver the lecture "Surviving the Technological Revolution" on Monday in the John Bragg Mass Communication Building as part of the Honors Lecture Series.

Leaming will describe changes in technology, discuss strategies for coping with change, and show how technology will fit into our lives.

"We need to navigate through the information age and make the best use of technology," Leaming said. "We need to take advantage of technology instead of allowing technology to take advantage of us."

Theodore Roszak, author of "The Cult of Information," illustrated Leaming's point.

"The computer has been cast in the wishful role of a benign angelic protector that will relieve us of adult responsibilities that have become too burdensome," Roszak wrote.

"We must not think that technology is a god," Leaming said. "Technology is a very powerful tool."

Leaming also stresses the need for a common moral compass when making decisions about technology. Technology must not fall in the hands of the wrong people. However, technology will only stop advancing if the people restrict it. The advances that will come along in the next 50 years will be as unimaginable as

Lecture:
"Surviving the Technology"
Deryl Leaming
September 27
3:40 p.m.
Mass Comm 149

the advances in the last 50 years. The sky is no longer the limit.

Leaming has been the dean of the College of Mass Communication since 1993. He received his doctoral degree from Syracuse University. Leaming also served as the Dean of the Liberal Arts College at Marshall University.

"I love to teach. It is fascinating to get paid to think," Leaming said.

Leaming has had various communication positions including working in journalism, public relations and broadcast radio.

The lecture will take place Monday at 3:40 p.m. in Mass Comm 149.

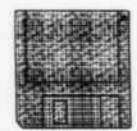
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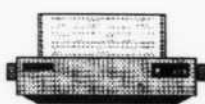
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Clinton must decide whether to veto popular defense bill

Tom Raum
Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — With only five dissents, the Senate voted final approval Wednesday of a \$288.9 billion defense bill that would overhaul the Energy Department and tighten security at nuclear weapons labs. It also contains the biggest military pay raise since the early 1980s.

Energy Secretary Bill Richardson, viewing the proposed energy reorganization as a congressional overreaction to allegations of Chinese nuclear spying, has said he might recommend a veto of the bill to President Clinton.

But other administration officials said such a veto could be a problem, given the 4.8 percent across-the-board pay raise and other politically popular military readiness increases embedded in the huge bill.

"There're obviously things in the bill that we like — the pay raise,

some readiness things," said White House spokesman Joe Lockhart. "So we're going to look at this; and when we have a decision, we'll let you know."

In any event, margins of passage in both House and Senate were far above the two-thirds needed to override a veto. Wednesday's Senate vote was 93-5. The House approved the measure 375-45 last week.

The legislation would set up a separate, semiautonomous agency within the Energy Department — the National Nuclear Security Administration — to oversee the government's nuclear weapons program. Critics said it would undermine the authority of the energy secretary.

It is the first overhaul of the Cabinet agency since it was created 22 years ago during a time of long gasoline lines and other energy shortages prompted by an Arab oil embargo. The department at that time also became custodian of the government's three nuclear labs.

The 4.8 percent pay raise, which

would take effect next Jan. 1 for the nation's 1.4 million active-duty military, is 0.4 percentage points higher than a military pay increase President Clinton proposed in the fiscal 2000 budget.

The bill also improves pension programs and increases retention benefits in an effort to help the Pentagon ease severe problems in recruitment and re-enlistment. Overall, the bill earmarks \$8.3 billion more in spending for the fiscal year that begins Oct. 1 than Clinton had recommended.

The measure "would do more for our men and women in uniform than any other bill considered by Congress in at least a decade," said Sen. Carl Levin of Michigan, the senior Democrat on the Armed Services Committee.

Levin agreed with criticism that the bill could undermine efforts by Richardson to manage nuclear research programs.

Still, Levin added, "I believe that a strong secretary of energy may be able to overcome these difficulties and address the department's problems in an effective manner."

Richardson plans to meet with Clinton to discuss shortcomings in the bill, said Energy Department spokeswoman Brooke Anderson.

"Congress had the right idea, it

passed the wrong reorganization plan," she said. "This proposal damages environmental protection, threatens worker health and safety and jeopardizes national security and counterintelligence reforms."

Sen. John Warner, R-Va., chairman of the Armed Services Committee, said later that, given the lopsided vote in both chambers, "Secretary Richardson should cease and desist running around saying the sky is falling in."

"The people of this country have spoken through their elected representatives, and they want this tough legislation," Warner said in an interview. "In my judgment, the president will not veto this bill."

Earlier, Sen. Pete Domenici, R-N.M., a sponsor of the reorganization, said the change would enhance national security, not blur lines of responsibility.

Domenici said Clinton should sign it "so we can soon look back on this day and say we finally did something to move DOE and our national security in the right direction."

The reorganization plan grows from months of controversy about lax security at the Energy Department and the alleged theft by China of nuclear warhead secrets from U.S. weapons labs, dating back 20 years. ■

TECH FEE

continued from page 1

image of MTSU as a major university, according to Ken Blake, operations director of the poll.

Blake also said that the fund provides a technician who maintains the computer labs and other equipment in the journalism department to keep it available for student use.

According to Hannah, each university department has the opportunity to submit proposals for the use of the technology money. Hannah stressed that the proposals must be for things intended for the direct use of students.

All proposals undergo review by one of two university committees. The Academic Computing Committee deals with the proposals under the original \$15 technology fee.

The Technology Task Force deals with proposals under a more recently added \$85 fee.

According to Hannah, these pools of money have slightly different rules that determine what they can fund.

For example, the first pool cannot fund projects costing more than \$25,000 each.

When the committees are sure that all proposals meet the requirements for funding by the technology access fee, they rank them in order of importance and send their recommendations to the Tennessee Board of Regents.

TBR has the responsibility of making the final decisions, Hannah said, but the recommendations of the committees have been accepted without changes for the last two years.

Hannah added that her office tracks the purchases to be certain that the departments buy the exact things listed in the proposals and that the technology remains accessible to students.

The TBR also audits the technology-access fund yearly to determine compliance with the rules for use of the money.

Two students serve on the Academic Computing Committee. The Student Government Association appoints them with the approval of the university president.

Andrae Crismon, SGA president, said that he has forwarded the list of the SGA appointments to President James Walker.

According to Crismon, Walker determines whether the students have the correct grade-point averages and course loads before he makes the final appointments.

Tammie Allen, executive secretary in the president's office, said the president has approved the appointment of students John Marshall and Barbara McIntyre to the Academic Computing Committee. ■

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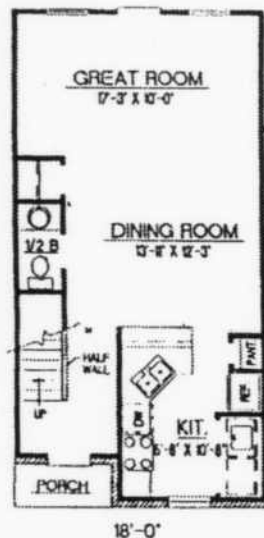
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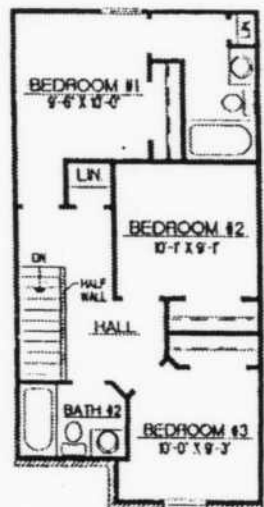
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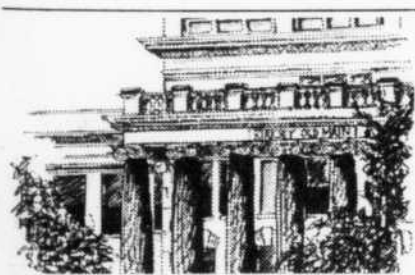
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5A ■ SIDELINES

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 1999

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

Murfreesboro, TN

Editorial

Income tax sounds like good plan after all

At the legislative listening tour that took place Monday morning (see page one), Tennessee Speaker of the House Jimmy Naifeh admitted that lawmakers' budget for this year "didn't provide higher education the funding we should have."

Naifeh and other legislators know that more money is needed. They also understand higher-education funding is an important investment in the state's economy — a chance to train the professional-level workers who will help fuel the state's economy for decades to come.

The best and fairest way to make sure the state's problems get fixed soon is by implementing a statewide income tax. Only nine other states still have no income tax. Lewis Donelson, a former state finance commissioner, proposes this:

- a 4% income tax
- a reduction in the state sales tax, from 6% to 4%
- the repeal of sales tax on grocery purchases
- a \$10,000 exemption for each taxpayer
- a \$2,500 exemption for every child

Currently, more than half of every state tax dollar comes from sales tax revenue. An income tax would shift the tax burden; middle- and lower-class residents will be responsible for fewer tax dollars and the state's wealthy elite will be forced to pitch in more.

I do not look forward to handing over an extra income tax every year. But here's what I know:

I am tired of tuition increasing at rapid rates because our state-supported school isn't receiving enough financial support from the state.

I would like to see faculty-salary funding increased enough that I know our instructors' qualifications are competitive with those of faculty at other institutions.

I like the sound of a decreased sales tax and a repealed grocery tax.

I do not wish to maintain current high tax cuts for the wealthy.

Another option is to implement a state lottery. Kentucky — a lottery state — was able to budget \$25 million for higher-education funding for this year. That's almost 10 times as much as Tennessee offered its colleges and universities.

I am not opposed to instituting a lottery, which is often called a "tax for the willing."

However, the lottery idea seems to be better as a supplemental plan, an additional income for a government that already has a solid tax system.

Randall Ford
News Editor

Modern Dysfunction by Rob Evans, Staff Columnist

Meal plans leave students hungry

I have a dilemma. I would like to know where the \$500 of my high interest unsubsidized loan that I spend on meals is going.

Surely it cannot be going into my stomach. Because out of the 15 meals that I bought, roughly 9 of those get eaten. I guess it's the bane of being busy or just that fact that I don't know how the system works.

So far this fall semester I have dealt the best one can with the institutionalized meal plan. I mean how much can I expect? What about not being hungry? Is that too much to ask? Do I get any variety, or do I have to eat the same thing everyday? I have been trying hard not to complain, but events that occurred the other day changed my mind.

I was headed out of town and thought I would pick up some dinner to eat on my drive. You know, something like a sandwich.

But the rude response I got from the machine was, "Already eaten." What, you mean to tell me I cannot get a meal in the same time period of another? Even if I have a balance of 14 meals and I feel hungry? I am supposed to shell out extra

dough for the already overpriced food? We already have to do that at the JUB if we go over our allotted sum.

Back to variety. It seems like every time I walk into McCallie it's the same - pasta, sandwiches, pizza and mashed potatoes.

Maybe some people need stability in their life right now, but I am tired of Subway, Toxic Hell and McCallie.

I would like to know what those lucky people who go into the Grill and Cyber Cafe get to buy with their "flexidollars."

Can there be an allotment for the other cafeterias similar to the JUB, just to make life interesting? Please. I understand the difficulty in feeding several thousand people, but it cannot be too hard of a task.

The attitude is, why go somewhere else when you can eat all you want (until you blow) buffet style at McCallie and that Taco Bell and Subway should satisfy our fast food needs at the JUB. Well I am not. The trips to Kroger are now a weekly ritual.

It's pathetic that I have to supplement my meals with \$25 a week in groceries. ■

Parking on campus just lovely

Steve Cagnina
Staff Columnist

There's plenty of parking at MTSU. That's right. I said it. And it is clear to me that the people who complain about parking have severe psychological problems.

For instance: the other day I was talking to Ed. Ed is a nice guy who drives a very fast corvette. He likes to show off his ride. He likes to let everyone know that his car is an extension of his libido. So, naturally, Ed wants to park in front of Peck Hall. Ed yelled at me about the parking situation at MTSU and then proclaimed, "MTSU stinks because they don't care that I can't park near my classes!"

Well, I told Ed the truth, and you better believe he did not like it. Yep, I told Ed that he has sexual problems, and he is blaming parking for his own failure as a man. And my fellow Americans, Ed is not the only one.

I have researched over and over again the parking situation at MTSU, and all I can say is bravo MTSU! There's plenty of parking; there's even plenty of convenient spaces! I mean, if you ask me, walking for twenty minutes to get to class is convenient. It gives one a chance to see the wonder of our campus, and damn it — our world!

But then there are those who hate the world. Yes, those who like to park right in front of the world and run into their little cave so they do not have to see it. And yes, these people have sexual problems, financial problems, and television addictions. And yes, as shocking as this may seem, some of these people even drink beer.

It's obvious MTSU knows what's best for us. Walking a mile to get to class is a mile not wasted; it is a mile gained by seeing our fellow man. So, remember, those who complain about parking, it is not parking that bewitches you, but the darkness of your soul.

God bless MTSU parking, and God bless those long walks to class!!!!!! ■

Defying Darwin: Kansas schools close eyes to theory

Linda Gorman
University of Colorado

From the coverage, one would think that the Kansas Board of Education voted to require Kansas schools to indoctrinate the kiddies with the notion that the world was created in 4004 B.C. by angels dancing on the head of a pin.

Claiming that the board voted to "delete virtually any mention of evolution from the state's science curriculum," news articles portrayed the vote as "one of the most far-reaching efforts by creationists to challenge the teaching of evolution in schools."

To Randy Moore, the editor of the magazine of the National Association of Biology Teachers, it was the return of the dark ages.

"It's going on everywhere, and the creationists are winning," he said.

Letters-to-the-editor pages around the country were filled with missives pitying the unwashed uninformed who would presume to question the "fact" of evolution. But evolution is a theory, not a fact. And when it comes to the "facts" that the theory can explain, the Kansas Board of Education has a point.

Micro-evolution takes a short-term perspective and focuses on intraspecies variation. It assumes that natural selection operates on existing variations in populations to bring about relatively small changes in population characteristics. Changing beak sizes of Galapagos finches, color changes in Manchester moths, and bacterial antibiotic resistance are the classic examples. Because scientific observation and experiment support the theory of micro-evolution, it is not controversial. It is included in the Kansas standards.

It was the Board's decision to downgrade the theory of macro-evolution that caused the furor. Serious scientists

have been critical of it for years. Macro-evolution posits that eons of random events produced small changes that were conserved if they increased an organism's probability of survival. Step by gradual step complex, structures were constructed from a few elements floating around in the primordial soup.

The critics point out that macro-evolution has never been observed. There

organism's probability of survival. Hence the story that creatures with light-sensitive spots ultimately evolved into creatures with complex eyes. But the ability to sense light depends on a complex chain of specific biochemical steps. If one of those steps is missing, the light sensitive spot does not work.

Making proteins with no function wastes energy.

mechanism, even if "the universe's ten-billion year life were compressed into a single second and relived every second for ten billion years."

The odds against natural selection acting to preserve the new molecules constitute a further hurdle. A number of calculations suggest that the astrophysical estimates of a universe that is 10 to 20 billion years old simply leave too little time for a random process of natural selection to produce the results that we see around us.

At present, DNA discoverer Francis Crick's speculation that life began when aliens seeded the planet with bacteria seems to explain the known facts as well or better than the theory of macro-evolution.

This means that the intellectually honest response to the question of how life occurred on earth is that no one knows.

Yet macro-evolution is everywhere presented as fact. Watch the movie at the Denver Museum of Natural History, and you will be told that two molecules become one and, in a flourish of uplifting music, that life began.

Why the apparently unscientific claim in a museum of science? Perhaps the reason lies at the heart of the culture wars. Those who embrace naturalistic beliefs deny the existence of a supernatural creator.

Evidence supporting intelligent design would shake their faith to its foundations. They cling to the notion of macro-evolution because it provides a comforting story in which nature creates life.

But stories are the stuff of religion, not science.

By differentiating between micro- and macro-evolution the Kansas Board of Education has made great strides in freeing school children from indoctrination with a religious dogma. It deserves a round of applause from those who believe in the separation of church and state. ■

4 guys needed, talent optional

Joe Florkowski
California State - Fullerton

To: Jeff Spin/Talent Scout
From: Rick Record/ Manager of The Blandstreet Boys

I've noticed that there aren't enough bands out there for teenage girls. Although I haven't checked MTV today to see what new boy band has popped up, I do know that my band will be perfect for your record company. There's just one problem- I don't actually have the band yet. However, I have developed a formula so you can scout out the guys needed for this band. So here's what I'll need for my band:

A white guy with blonde hair (dyed or not-preferably natural). We'll dress him up and he'll be the preppy guy. You may want to search local fraternities for a guy like this- I believe there's an abundance of them.

They are also known to shop at the Gap.

I'll need a black guy next. He can grow his hair in dreadlocks or shave his head- either one is okay. He will be the urban guy.

Okay, now I'll need a white grungy guy. He can't be blonde and piercing would be nice. He also has to wear really beat-up clothes and look somewhat dirty. He also has to be mysterious; he can't use drugs but he can hint that he does in interviews.

Finally I need an athletic guy- any ethnicity would be nice, but he has to wear either A) a baseball cap backwards or B) a basketball jersey. We need to make sure that everyone knows this guy is an athlete.

Okay, all these guys have to be able to have some kind of harmony, and if not, at least two have to, and the rest of the band can stand in the background and look pretty and be quiet.

So, boom, we've got our band-we'll work on talent later. We'll also find some local studio to do the background music for these guys- they don't have to play instruments.

As soon as you find these guys, we need to get them to the studio to shoot their music video and photos for their album covers and books. I need two guys to take their shirts off, and of course, they can't take their shirts off unless they look like champion body builders. There'll be no sunken chests or pot bellies displayed in these photos. So, remember when scouting these guys out- look for great physiques!

After they've shot their video, we need to create their songs; they can't be too complicated since our guys will probably be able only to pronounce monosyllabic words. Also the songs can't have too much substance and they must be about love.

Sample verse: I want you to be mine; That would be just fine. Let's go driving in my car; We'll go real, real far.

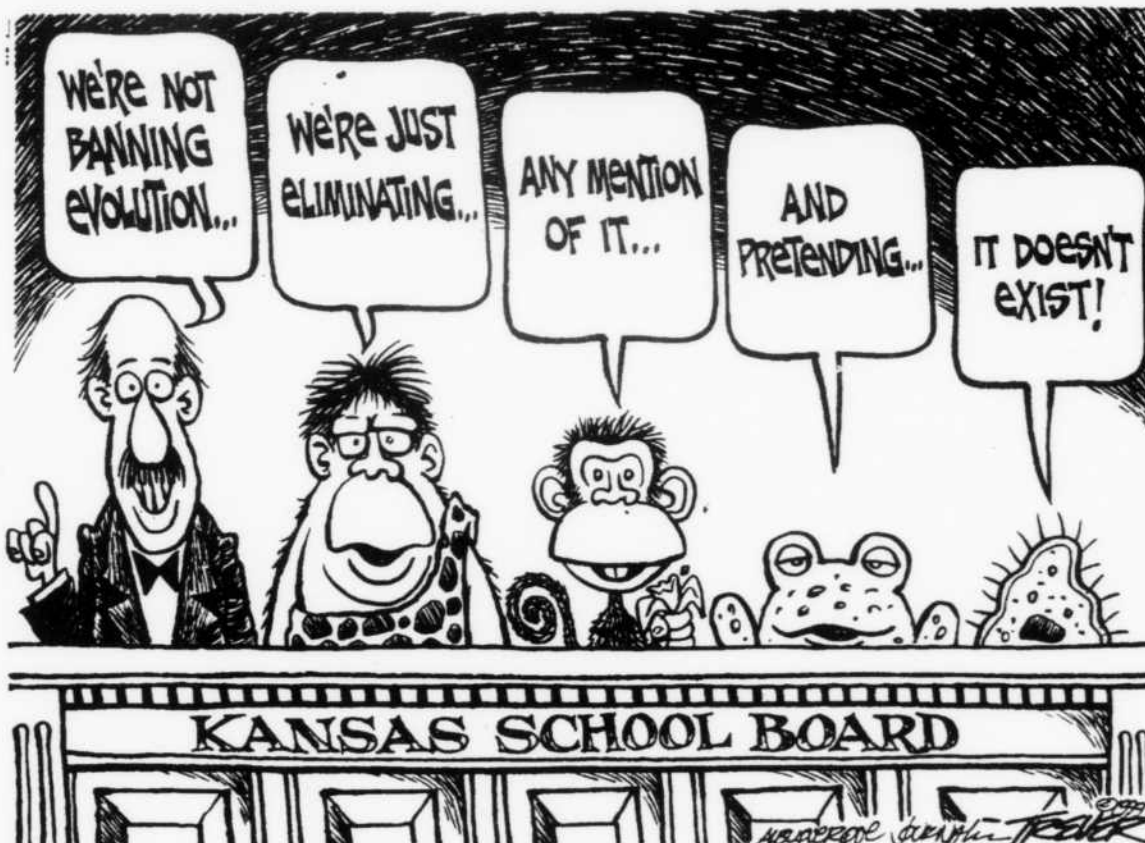
(Chorus)

You'll be mine today; You'll be mine (Warning to band: Polysyllabic words coming up) tomorrow; or else I'll have nothing but sorrow. So be with me tomorrow. (Insert sound of teenage girls screaming at concerts.)

Speaking of concerts, we'll need to work on dance moves for these guys; all the movements need to be the same, and we'll need a choreographer with very limited dance moves. Call Paula Abdul- she doesn't have a career anymore; I think she'll help us.

Also, at concerts, my band will have no problems since every song they sing will be lip-synched. (Which does make me wonder where N' Sync got their name, but that's a question for another day).

So, that's my band; I want it that way. ■



is little support for it in the fossil record, and geneticists find that the genes that obviously vary within populations apparently do not cause major adaptive changes. The genes that could cause major changes are very hard to change.

Then there is the problem of irreducible complexity. Macro-evolution theorizes that complex structures like the eye result from a series of small changes that were conserved because they increased an

Natural selection presumably operates to eliminate such waste. So how, specifically, could natural selection develop the biochemical building blocks underlying any of the complex systems that animate living creatures?

Biochemist Michael Behe, author of "Darwin's Black Box," calculates that one could not expect to randomly arrive at TPA and its activator, just two of the may molecules that make up the blood clotting

it provides a comforting story in which nature creates life.

But stories are the stuff of religion, not science.

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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.

The Codebreaker's Almanac

by Dylan Ross, Staff Columnist

Texas church shooting calls for hard questions

Addressing the Congressional Black Caucus last Sunday on the latest in a series of mass murders, President Bill Clinton took the easy way out by attributing the death of eight people in Fort Worth last week to the availability of guns.

According to an Associated Press report, Clinton said: "Of course something horrible happened in that man's heart when he walked into that church in Texas. But we cannot use that as an excuse."

This remark indicates that there is at least one thing to Clinton's credit: unlike his Republican opponents and their powerful National Rifle Association lobby, Clinton is at least acknowledging a social dimension in the causes of this year's wave of public shootings. But his insistence upon the standard argument that the growing frequency of public violence is due to a widespread availability of firearms is evidence that neither Clinton nor his Democratic allies (for whom he is the mouthpiece) are willing to probe very deeply into the social and cultural layers where an answer to these atrocities might be found.

Let me begin by disavowing any sympathy for the dominant, conservative argument that crime and violence are purely personal moral failings — and that the availability of firearms is in every case a public good, a God-given

right reflected by the all-knowing Founding Fathers in our Constitution.

I can think of no reason to see the widespread ownership of firearms as being, in and of itself, any sort of good.

And it seems as though the strident right-wing defense of Second Amendment rights at the expense of every other political concern is a disconcerting sign of the sort of cultural tendency that plays itself out as more explicit violence in the social realm.

This tendency runs parallel with others, and these lie in the places most of the public figureheads of American government and morality will not look; in the places where Americans, young and old, are assured that violence is a legitimate solution to complex problems.

And it is not as though this claim faces us once or twice in our lives, to take or leave as we will.

The tens of thousands of violent images bombarding the average television viewer yearly form the basis upon which more subtly persuasive arguments rest.

As if the ambient brutality pulsing through the air were not enough, we are occasionally faced with the opportunity to witness around-the-clock coverage of the latest round of bombing "in our country's interest," or footage of police officers beating an unarmed man to a semi-reggae soundtrack.

I think it is safe to say that the saturation of most popular channels of information by violence is no coincidence.

There must be a reason that the media of the United States, in particular, are so suffused with this imagery, which takes the "half-hour happy ending" formula of sitcoms to an absurd extreme.

Perhaps the profit motive drove violence into an already-existing niche, intensifying and broadening the quantity and quality of casual atrocity. Or, possibly, the niche was artificially produced, and the public taste for violence provoked.

But whatever the origin of the situation, one fact can't be denied: violence is epidemic in American popular culture.

If we take Marshall McLuhan's lead and consider the various radio waves carrying our television and radio broadcasts as the thoughts of our culture, it would seem as though our collective mind is obsessed with gangsterism, gunplay and brawling.

It is difficult to say whether this is the case, however.

The nature of the relationship between what we want from the media and what they actually give us is not nearly as tidy and



equitable as some would have us believe.

The assumption that the entertainments with which the media provide us are accurate reflections of American culture is just as problematic as the assumption that American politicians actually represent the will of the people.

We can't deny, however, that both the media and politicians have a great deal of influence when it comes to setting the cultural and moral agenda of the American people.

So when atrocities erupt in the

midst of everyday life and are treated as commodities by a sensationalistic media — investing senseless, desperate and brutal acts with a massive, though vague, significance — we might wonder why the noise never quiets itself to the sensible level of a conversation. And when our leaders assert that our interests are served by launching another salvo of cruise missiles, we might wonder why they never started talking before pressing the button.

There is an eerie parallelism between the simple solutions offered in the face of horrors like

last week's shooting in Texas, and the world view of violent conflict-resolution many of our society's leaders and commentators force upon us.

Both ignore the fact that problems are complex, and that they are problems for precisely that reason.

And both insist time and time again, in the face of all evidence to the contrary, that the simple solution will work this time.

So in most cases, our society never has the chance to begin the public debate on its own values that is needed so badly. ■

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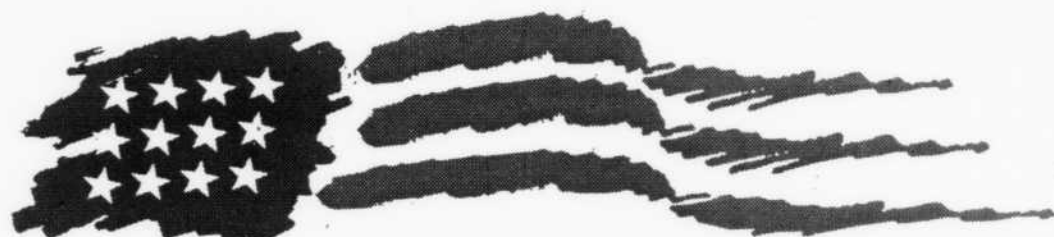
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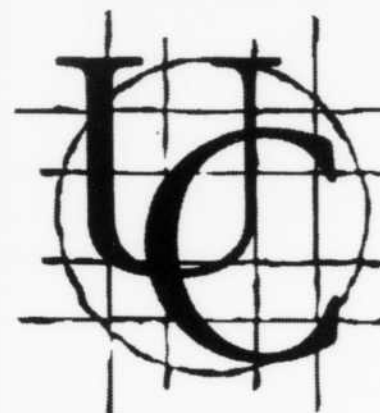
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FEATURES

Golden Oldies

Inaugural Middle Tennessee Golden Raiders reunion brings together past college graduates

Robin Wallace
Staff Writer

In a typical long lunch line at the James Union Building, sarcastic remarks were returned with wisecracks and topics drifted from professors to wild dorm parties.

For some, the waiting was just too much, so they maneuvered their way up the line by flirting or by jumping into conversations as the "class clown."

What sets this particularly lively lunch line apart from the others that form each day in all of the campus cafeterias is that this line happened to be in the Tennessee Room on Saturday.

The MTSU Alumni Relations office held the 11 a.m. luncheon as the dawn of a new tradition — the inaugural MTSU Golden Raiders Reunion that honored all those who attended or graduated from the university during the years of 1911-1949.

The nostalgic tunes played by pianist Dot Harrison, created an ambiance of warmth accented with hearty laughter that only waned when master of ceremonies Tom Tozer, the director of media relations, began the induction ceremony.

Before all 50-year graduates of MTSU were inducted into the Golden Raider Society, Faye Brandon, class of 1949, recited an inspirational and equally reminiscent invocation. President James Walker and David Cullum, president of the National Alumni Association and 1955 MTSU graduate, presented nearly 50 alumni with a special lapel pin and a Golden Raiders Society diploma that can only be received by graduates of 50 years.

Most graduates were from the class of 1949, although attending alumni ranged from the class of 1949 back to the class of 1932, as represented by Elijah (Lige) Harris.

Well, that pretty much sums up the whole event — rather boring, wouldn't you agree? Seriously, how much fun can a room full of people three times your age and who move three times as slow as you do possibly be? You would be surprised — from the shenanigans performed on stage while receiving diplomas to the clever pick-up lines used to "work the room," this group, despite wrinkles and gray hairs or the lack of hair, behaved as any MTSU undergrad would today.

Although the campus has drastically altered in the decades since 1949, certain things never change. "Some called this a



Elijah Harris receives his diploma from Tom Tozer at the Golden Raider reunion.

suitcase college because people would go home for the weekend. So we always tried to have interesting activities like movies, square dances or combos to get people to stay," recalled Bob Couch, class of 1949.

To relieve weekend boredom, "We would get in the dorms and have parties. A bunch of girls would get together eat, talk and smoke — a lot of smoking went on. Then just to make some noise and to cause a stir, someone would roll a garbage can down the stairs — but I never did that," Blanch Cook McClure, class of 1946, emphatically claimed with a gleam in her eyes that would say

otherwise.

If they were lucky enough, some had cars to get to town, while everyone else hitchhiked or occasionally called a taxi. "Some of the fellows had real old cars — clunkers, all named 'Shasta,' cause they would say, 'Shasta get some oil,' or 'Shasta make it to town-Shasta, Shasta, Shasta,'" chuckled Couch in a boyish manner.

But what brought a schoolgirl's smile to the lips of Miss MTSU McClure, came from remembering her college days here during World War II, when the enrollment stood at only 136, most of whom were coeds.

"Some happy times came when a

group of Air Force cadets moved on campus. Ah yes, that brought dances and such," McClure recounted with a dreamy sigh.

At the mention of dances, Couch, a regular Fred Astaire, piped up, "The last real big show here was when the Glenn Miller Band played in the Tennessee Room."

Besides having good times and making close friends, what these Golden Raiders treasure most of all is MTSU itself.

"The friendship and camaraderie is still here," reflected Couch. While McClure feels as if she has never left, "There is a lot of caring for former students here. It

is so nice to come back and be received so warmly every time. It makes me feel so happy, as if I am still part of the university."

Yesterday's students, today's graduates and tomorrow's alumni are the university. One cannot be taken from the other, since each builds upon another.

As Walker so elegantly stated during the induction ceremony, "The 19,000 students here this fall are standing on the shoulders of those in this room. We are what we are today because of these graduates."

Thus, we are the roots for tomorrow's Blue Raiders and the flowers of yesterday's. ■

Photo by Robin Wallace



Photo by Robin Wallace

Elijah Harris enjoys the company of a guest at last week's reunion.

Drought may dry up autumn splendor

Nick Peay
Staff Writer

The rain pelted the window at approximately 4 a.m. on Monday morning, Sept. 13. For the first time in at least two weeks, MTSU and Murfreesboro got a good soaking.

Since then it has rained twice more, and both times were earlier this week. The rain made plenty of puddles on the sidewalks, but it may have been too little too late.

Freshman Matt Hallace said, "I am already tired of the rain." But the fact is, we need it, and we need it bad.

You may have thought that grass only looked that dead in the winter. But with this summer came extreme heat and not enough rain. Even with the recent downpours, the heat has already taken its toll.

The grass from Tennessee to Kentucky died off quickly. Campgrounds in both states have banned campfires, and the ban is still in effect despite the rain.

The secretary of the Brentwood Fire Department said, "Two weeks

ago we had a large brush fire in Brentwood. Over 200 acres burned." Although there have been a few brush fires like the one in Brentwood, many idiots still insist on throwing their cigarette butts into dead grass.

Even with the lack of moisture, this fall promises to reveal many

as brilliant because of the lack of moisture."

Many students, like Brandon Deal, thought that the leaves would just die and fall off the trees. "The leaves are just going to be brown this year," Deal commented.

A pigment molecule known as chlorophyll is what makes the

pigment no longer masks the other colors, and the yellows, reds and oranges we associate with fall are displayed.

"Hot days and cool nights also affect the shut down process. Since



we have not had as many cool nights, it will not bring out the colors as well," Bonicamp explained.

The past few nights have been cooler, which signals the fast approach of fall. But like the rain, it may not be enough to brighten the colors of the leaves.

This year, however, the heat and the lack of moisture will affect the leaves colors but not their changing. As Bonicamp said, the lack of cool nights tends to affect the brilliancy of the leaves in fall. All of these factors may result in a less colorful fall than some are used to. Not to worry though, we will still have a fall. The leaves will still change colors this autumn before they fall off the trees.

However, instead of shades of red and orange, they may just be shades of yellow and brown. What the colors of the leaves will be this fall, we will not know for sure until they change. ■



colors. Many shades of brown, that is. You can already find many leaves on the ground. Especially by Smith Hall where you might find boxers scattered among the browns and yellows.

Dr. Bonicamp from the Environmental Education Center says, "Yes, the leaves will still change colors, but they may not be

leaves green. Bonicamp says, "The trees shut down due to day length and moisture, and they stop producing chlorophyll."

Most plants destroy and resynthesize chlorophyll all year round.

As the days get shorter, trees break down chlorophyll faster than they resynthesize it. The green



Just for the Health of It

Bone Up on Calcium

Kelley Dodd
Staff Reporter

The popular "got milk?" advertisements are relaying a very important message: calcium is essential for optimum health. According to the American Dietetic Association, calcium is a mineral needed for building and maintaining strong bones and helping the muscles contract, the heart to beat and also regulating nerve function.

Getting adequate amounts of calcium can aid in the prevention of osteoporosis, a disease that weakens the bones, making them more susceptible to breakage. Calcium deficiency has also been linked to high blood pressure, strokes, kidney stones and colon cancer in both men and women, states the National Institute of Health.

The ADA's recommended daily intake of calcium for those age 19-50 is about 1,000 milligrams, which can easily be achieved by eating at least three servings of calcium-rich foods and beverages. Such foods as yogurt, which has 400 mg per eight-ounce serving, and cheese, containing up to 320 mg per ounce, are good sources of the much-needed mineral.

Here are a few ways to help reach your daily dose of calcium:

- Sprinkle shredded mozzarella cheese on a toasted English muffin.
- Drink a glass of chocolate milk or get a quick charge from a cafe latte.
- Top a cup of plain yogurt with crunchy granola cereal.
- Have a scoop of ice cream or frozen yogurt.
- Drizzle a small amount of cheddar cheese on fresh steamed broccoli.
- Enjoy a bowl of calcium-fortified cereal with milk.
- Choose calcium-enriched orange juices over regular juices.
- Chew on a calcium-fortified antacid tablet.
- If dairy and vegetables are not included in your regular diet, consider taking a calcium supplement after consulting with a medical professional.

Although reaching your calcium requirements may be the last thing a college student wants to worry about, early action leads to early prevention of osteoporosis and other diseases linked to calcium deficiency. ■

Thrifty but nifty

Thrift stores offer the latest trends at affordable prices

Heather Glass
Staff Reporter

As we approach the new millennium, students are becoming more frugal and trendy by shopping at thrift stores.

Peoples' attitudes are changing towards thrift stores because of the need for inexpensive clothing and other items.

Freshman Anna Gibson, a worker at the Goodwill store on Broad Street, said, "The majority of our customers are older people and college students."

Many older people and college students have a set budget to keep up with. They are used to making their small pocketbooks go a long way.

Shopping at thrift stores is a perfect way to achieve a solution to this unfortunate predicament.

Luckily, some of the older clothing found at thrift stores is coming back into style. Many new trends are being set as we enter into the next century. A lot of these can be found in local thrift stores. For instance, corduroy pants, old style jeans, bell bottoms, stack shoes, clogs and embroidered shirts are among fashionable used items.

Many college students can't wait to start searching for such cheap finds. The thrift store is becoming just as popular and visited as our local mall.

Tina McMahan, head processor at the Goodwill store, said, "The drama club and dance team have visited the store looking for costumes."

Some may think that thrift stores are only good for Halloween costumes or dress up days like hippie day at school, but they are good for so much more than that. Thrift stores are like another department store ready to help fill your closet, living room or kitchen with cheap treasures.

Some people use the thrift store as their multipurpose store.

Sara Baykin, a regular shopper at the Goodwill store, says, "I hardly ever miss a day; everyone is

so friendly."

Thrift stores not only have clothing but also carry furniture, jewelry, appliances and shoes all for great prices.

Junior Brian Smith got his couch for his apartment at the Goodwill store.

"When my roommate and I moved in together it was hard starting out with nothing, but we knew that Goodwill had couches for a small price," Smith said. "I was amazed at the price of the huge couch we bought."

Shopping at thrift stores is not something new. People have been donating and buying from them for years, but recently the market has really picked up. People are realizing the trendy items they can get for such little money.

"I was shopping at thrift stores before it became so popular. I have a friend who got a Versace shirt for around \$5 and a full Armani suit for around \$15," freshman Zaylan Goodwin commented.

You can usually find many brand names at thrift stores for up to one-fourth the regular price in a department store.

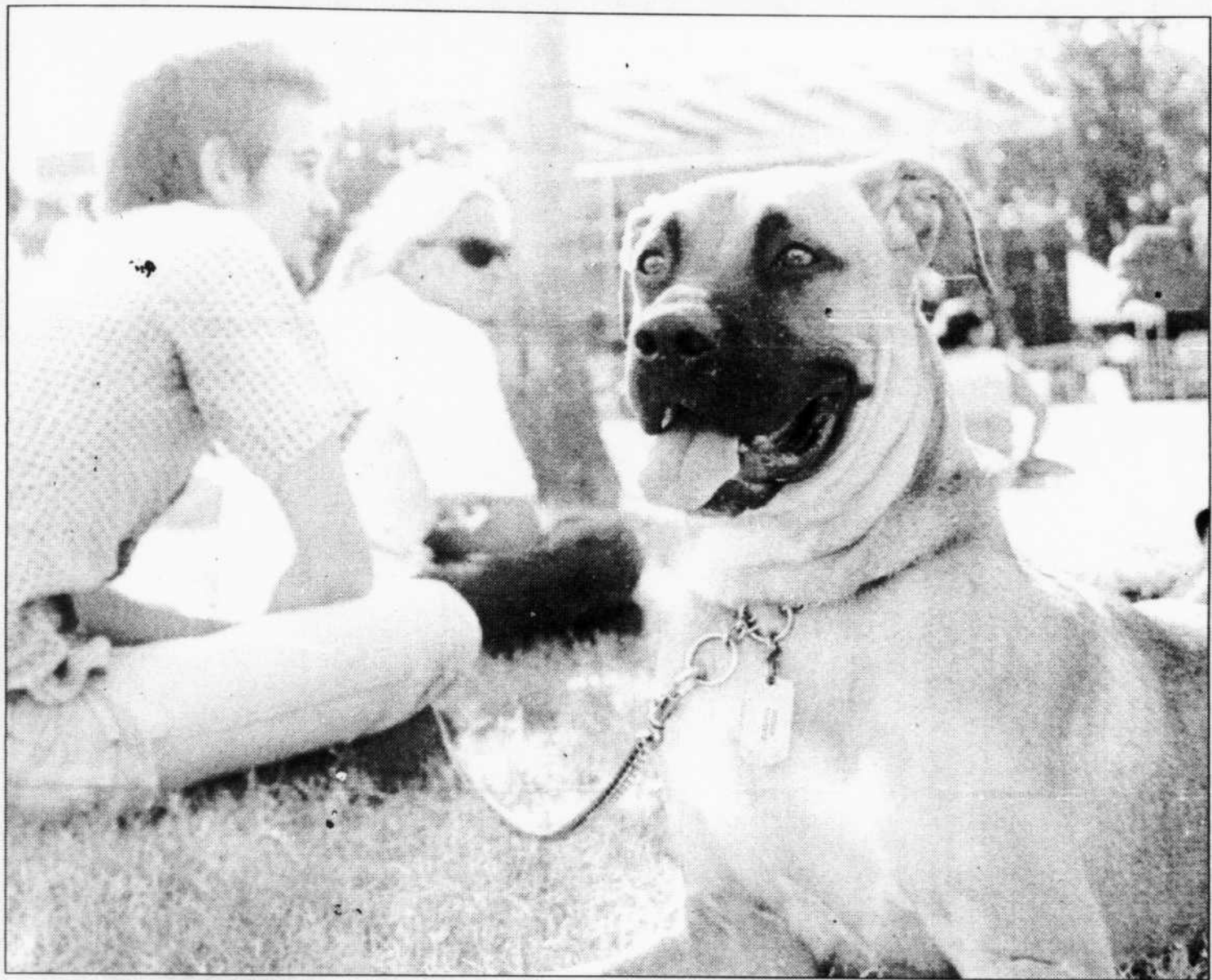
It was reported in the 1998 Goodwill Annual Report that the total revenue in 1994 was \$5,768,598. The total revenue jumped almost three times that amount last year, hitting \$13,313,823.

Goodwill and other thrift stores, such as Outreach Thrift Store and the Salvation Army, are a great way to give and take from your town. Goodwill on Broad Street is a non-profit organization. You can help others by donating your unwanted stuff, and you can help yourself by taking advantage of some of the great trendy clothes and appliances.

The other thrift stores, Outreach Thrift Store located in Jackson Heights Plaza and the Salvation Army located on Mercury Boulevard, also offer many treasures waiting to be discovered.

So get out there and start digging. Remember, one man's junk is another man's treasure. ■

Dog'gone good music



Shiloh, the dog, enjoys relaxing on the knoll listening to 2 Skinnee J's last Friday.

Photo by Zack Millican



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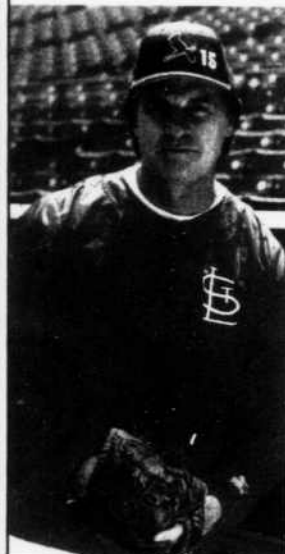
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HOMECOMING

1B ■ SIDELINES

Murfreesboro, TN



Something Fun for Everyone Homecoming features more than football

Kelley Dodd
Staff Reporter

To celebrate MTSU's move into the Division I-A football program, the Student Government Association has geared the 1999 homecoming activities towards supplementing this landmark occasion. The theme for the final homecoming of the century is "Football Fiesta: 1-A All the Way!"

Scheduled for Sept. 26 through Oct. 2, the various homecoming events will include a carnival and movies on the Knoll, a treasure hunt, chili cook-off, pep rally, fight song and window painting competitions and the annual parade as well as several Alumni-sponsored events. New activities to be included this year are a kickball kick-off tournament, chili cook-off decoration competition and the Raider Walk. A Homecoming King and queen will be chosen this year to escort the queen and her court.

The SGA's Homecoming Committee is seeking participation from both students and the Murfreesboro community. "Our goal is to get as many organizations involved as possible," said Julia Grave, homecoming director.

"We have also sent letters to many businesses in the community to get them involved in homecoming and have gotten a good response. Businesses are decorating their store front windows and are donating more prizes this year."

In addition to strengthening both university and community involvement in this year's homecoming, the SGA is donating all proceeds from the events to Special Kids of Murfreesboro, a nursing and rehabilitation service center for handicapped children.

A canned food drive benefiting the Rutherford County Food Bank will also be a part of homecoming activities this year.

Events will commence on Sept. 26 with the "Kicking off Homecoming Kickball

Tournament" at 4 p.m. on the intramural fields. All organizations participating in homecoming activities will play each other in single elimination, bracketed games. Free pizza and disc jockey music will be provided at the tournament. In case of rain, the games will be moved to the



Recreation Center.

On Monday, Sept. 27, Starflicks, a karaoke entertainment business, will videotape students exhibiting their musical talents in the Keathley University Center lounge from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Entertainment will be provided Tuesday, Sept. 28 on the Knoll with a carnival from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and a movie festival beginning at 7:30 p.m. The band Digital Underground will visit Tucker Theatre at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, Sept. 29, for a free concert.

Thursday, Sept. 30, students will have the opportunity to participate in a treasure hunt throughout campus after acquiring clues from the SGA office. Various

prizes will be awarded to participants who are successful during the hunt. The "Wild West Chili Fest" is scheduled to begin at 6 p.m. in the Murphy Center with tickets available for \$5. Organizations will be judged separately on chili and booth decorations this year, with a written recipe required, according to Candace Dillard, homecoming committee member.

Following the chili cook-off, the annual fight song competition will take place at 7:30 p.m. in the Murphy Center along with a pep rally complete with the Blue Raider football team and Head Coach Andy McCollum.

The tradition will continue at 10 a.m. Saturday, Oct. 2 with a parade and the organizational float competition beginning at East Main Street.

Various homecoming events sponsored by the Alumni Association for both the community and university alumni will be offered this year. According to Terryl Williams, alumni homecoming director, a combination of recent university growth and the excitement of the move to Division I-A have resulted in the expansion of alumni activities. A golf tournament at the Old Fort Golf Club will begin at 8 a.m. on Friday, Oct. 1 with a Pigskin Pre-game Party that evening at the Foundation House on Thompson Lane hosted by the Rutherford County Alumni Chapter.

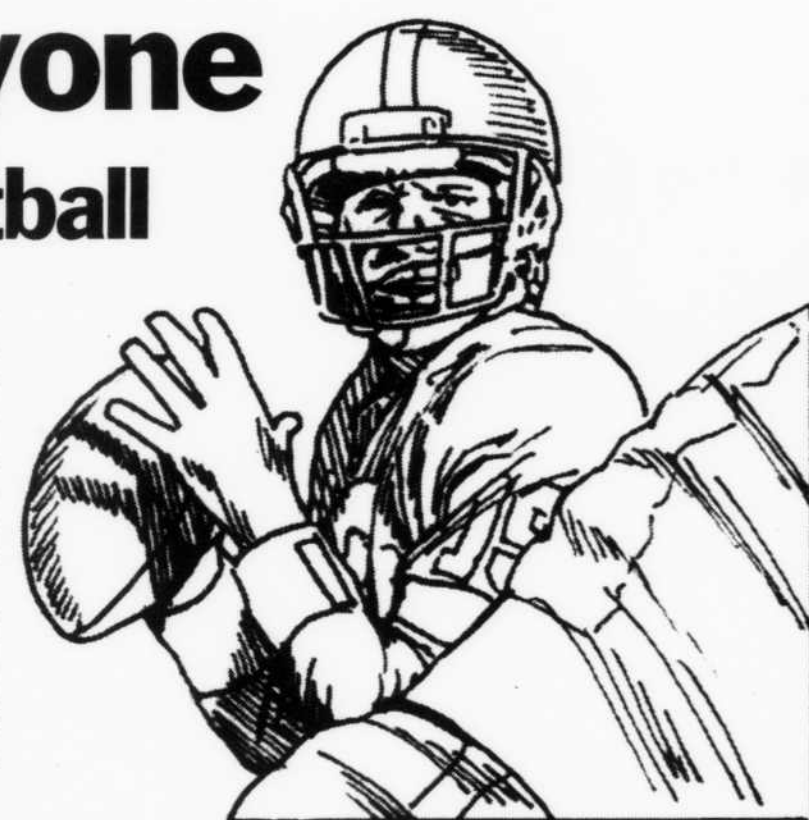
The Alumni Association will be welcoming alumni who graduated during the 1960s back to the university for homecoming 1999 during a reception at the Alumni Office on campus and a luncheon and campus tour following the parade on Saturday. Former homecoming queens and MTSU cheerleaders will also return to the university and will be recognized during the game.

Pre-game tailgating activities for alumni and students will take place at 3 p.m. in the grass areas adjacent to the Murphy Center. The band Groove Addiction will

provide entertainment, and an all-you-can-eat barbecue dinner will be provided for ticket holders. Tickets for the dinner must be purchased in advance at the Alumni office.

The Raider Walk from the Murphy Center to Floyd Stadium will begin at 4 p.m., led by the alumni cheerleaders and the former homecoming queens.

Homecoming 1999 will conclude with the 6 p.m. game against Troy State with the crowning of the homecoming queen and king, as well as the announcement of overall organizational competition winners at half-time. ■



Festivities planned for first MTSU 1-A homecoming week



**Sunday
September 26**

Kicking off Homecoming
REC Center 4 p.m.

**Monday
September 27**

Starflicks
KUC Lounge 10 a.m.

**Tuesday
September 28**

"Carnival"
KUC Knoll - All Day

Movie on the Knoll
KUC Knoll - Dusk

**Wednesday
September 29**

Special Guest Production
Murphy Center 7 p.m.

**Thursday
September 30**

Treasure Hunt
SGA office 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Wild West Chilifest
Murphy Center 6 p.m.

MTSU goes to Hollywood
Pep Rally/Fight Song
Coach McCollum and
MTSU Football Team
Murphy Center 7:30 p.m.

**Friday
October 1**

NPHC Step Show
AMG 7 p.m.

**Saturday
October 2**

Homecoming Parade
East Main Street 10 a.m.

Alumni & Student Tailgate

Homecoming Game
MTSU vs. Troy State
Floyd Stadium 6 p.m.

Presenting the MTSU 1999 Homecoming Queen Candidates

There are 17 candidates for homecoming queen this year.

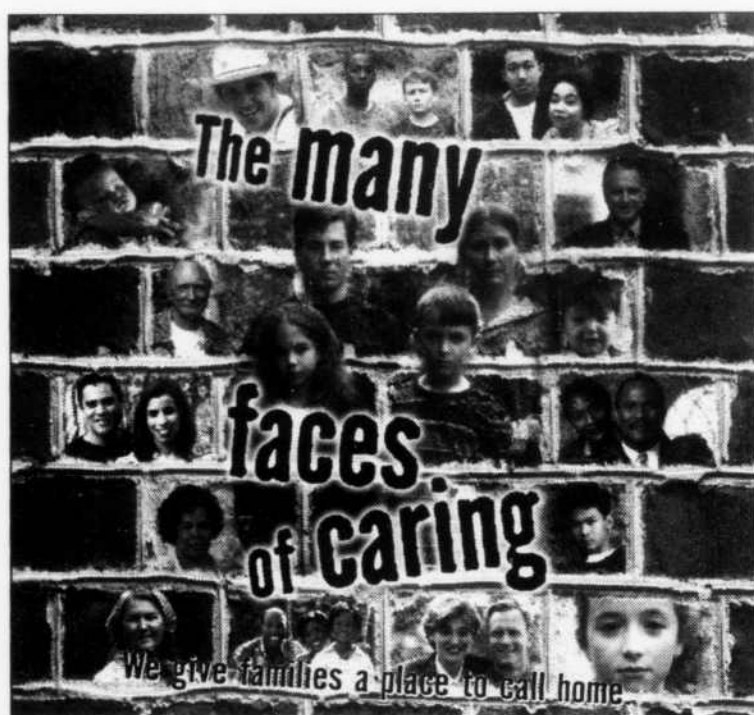
Upon petitioning for queen, the candidates were asked by the Student Government Association to respond to two questions.

The candidates' responses to the following question is included with their photos.

The new homecoming queen will be announced during the Homecoming 1999 ceremonies at the football game.

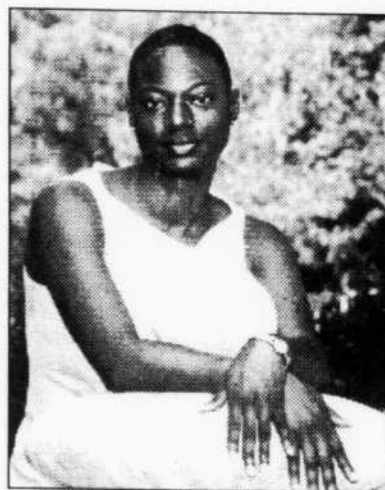
Question:

What do you think the ideal qualities should be in a Homecoming Queen?



Grace Awokoya

A homecoming queen should possess the characteristics that define the essence of individuality and also her unsurpassing knowledge of interpersonal relationships.



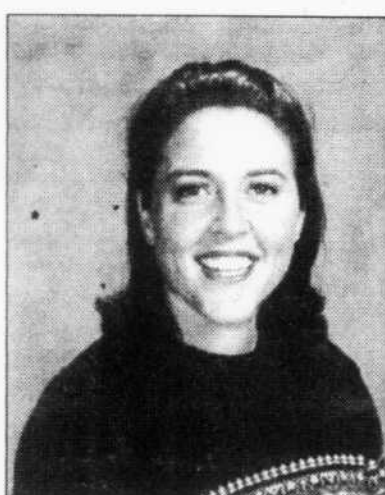
Chelle Bradburn

MTSU's homecoming queen should have a genuine interest in the university. Someone who is active both on campus and in the community would make an ideal candidate. A student that is well rounded by being involved in student organizations, community service, academics, etc. Also, she should be someone who actually participates in homecoming. Finally, I feel the homecoming queen needs to conduct herself in a way that reflects a positive image on the university and its students.



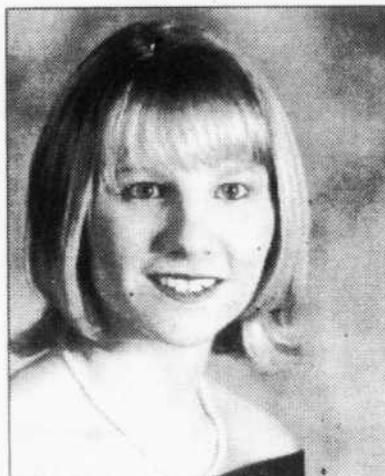
Kristie Burton

I think that a homecoming queen should be outgoing and extremely involved in student life as well as her community. She should also be sincere and approachable to all students. A homecoming queen should be proud of her university and should represent the university with grace and integrity.



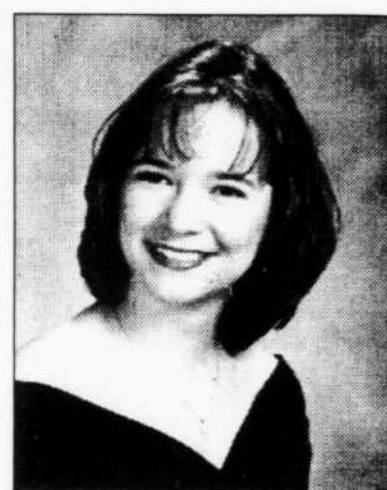
Amanda Coatney

The homecoming queen of any university should be one that can represent and show pride for the university. At MTSU, the queen should indulge in the success and progress of this university, along with her own success. She should be one with intelligence, benevolence, inner beauty and integrity. The homecoming queen should be a lady who can uphold standards of excellence, leadership and involvement in her university.



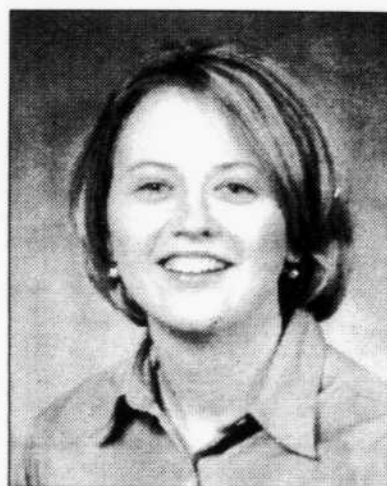
Lisa Farmer

When I think of the qualities a homecoming queen or any other person should have, there are many. I think the way I can describe it best is a quote by Ralph Waldo Emerson, "Make the most of yourself, for that is all there is of you." I feel that as long as a person strives to be their personal best, then they already possess all the qualities needed in life.



Kealie Frazier

I feel a homecoming queen should possess numerous qualities besides beauty and popularity, as many would assume. A homecoming queen should be genuine, personable and honored to be nominated for this position. This person should be involved in campus activities, serve as a leader and possess a joy and school spirit for MTSU and the events this university sponsors. The queen should uphold the qualities and respect of the school and students who selected her.



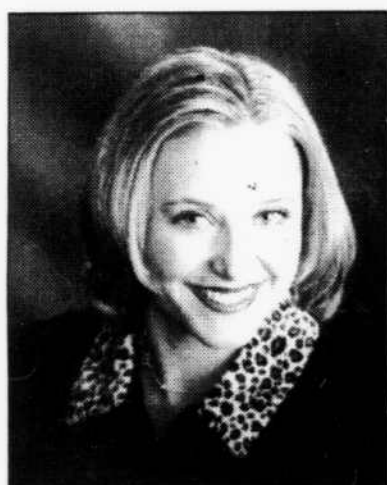
Kela Henderson

I think some ideal qualities a homecoming queen should possess are intelligence, personality and beauty. One is no more important than the other is, but together these qualities make a solid candidate.



Kerry Lane

A homecoming queen should be a very well rounded individual. She should be someone who is involved both on the campus through organizations and off-campus throughout the community. A homecoming queen should proudly represent the university, not only during the week of homecoming but throughout the year as well.



Tanea McClean

The ideal qualities of a homecoming queen should be a well rounded student recognized on campus for her dynamic positive self image. She should be friendly and exemplary in her deportment. The homecoming queen should also be outgoing and studious while maintaining and motivating others in academic excellence.



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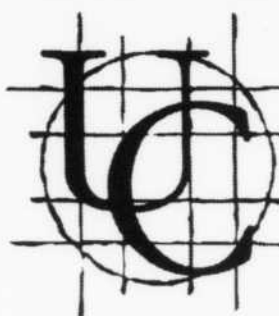
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Homecoming queen offers advice to new candidates

Pam Hudgens
Staff Reporter

Carmen Jones loved the experience of being elected homecoming queen and is looking forward to this year's homecoming game.

"It was very exciting to have the honor of being homecoming queen," Jones said. "It made me feel like I could accomplish anything I put my mind to; nothing is beyond my reach."

Jones said that being homecoming queen is a great opportunity and she definitely recommends that anyone considering running in the future should go for it.

"You can do it," Jones said. "Even if you don't win, it's a wonderful experience."

She points out that "it proves

you're not someone who sits back and lets the world pass you by."

Jones was featured in "Ebony" last April along with other African-American homecoming queens from all over the world.

Jones was born in Toledo, Ohio but moved to Nashville at an early age. She is 22 years old and the daughter of Brenita Reid and the late Ronald Jones. She has two younger sisters, Kim and Brennan, who are both in high school.

Among other campus activities, she has been vice president and president of area government and was the Student Government Association representative for the NAACP. She has been a contestant in the Miss Black and Gold Pageant and was a resident assistant in Cummings Hall last year.

Jones received a Scholar's Award from INROADS, a minority

internship program, and last summer she received a Nashville City Civitan Scholarship. She is also in Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges.

Jones is an accounting major and intends to graduate this May. She plans to stay at her current job with Nortel Networks where she has had an internship for the past five years.

She eventually wants to own a financial advising business focusing on the black community.

Although she feels her time as homecoming queen went by too fast, Jones is eagerly anticipating crowning the new queen. She is anxious to see who will win.

Jones advises the new queen to be a good representative for our school.

"Be humble, and don't get a big head," she warns. ■



Photo by Hugh Scoggins/MTSU Photographic Services

Carmen Jones, escorted by President James Walker is crowned 1998 homecoming queen by Saran Dunmore.

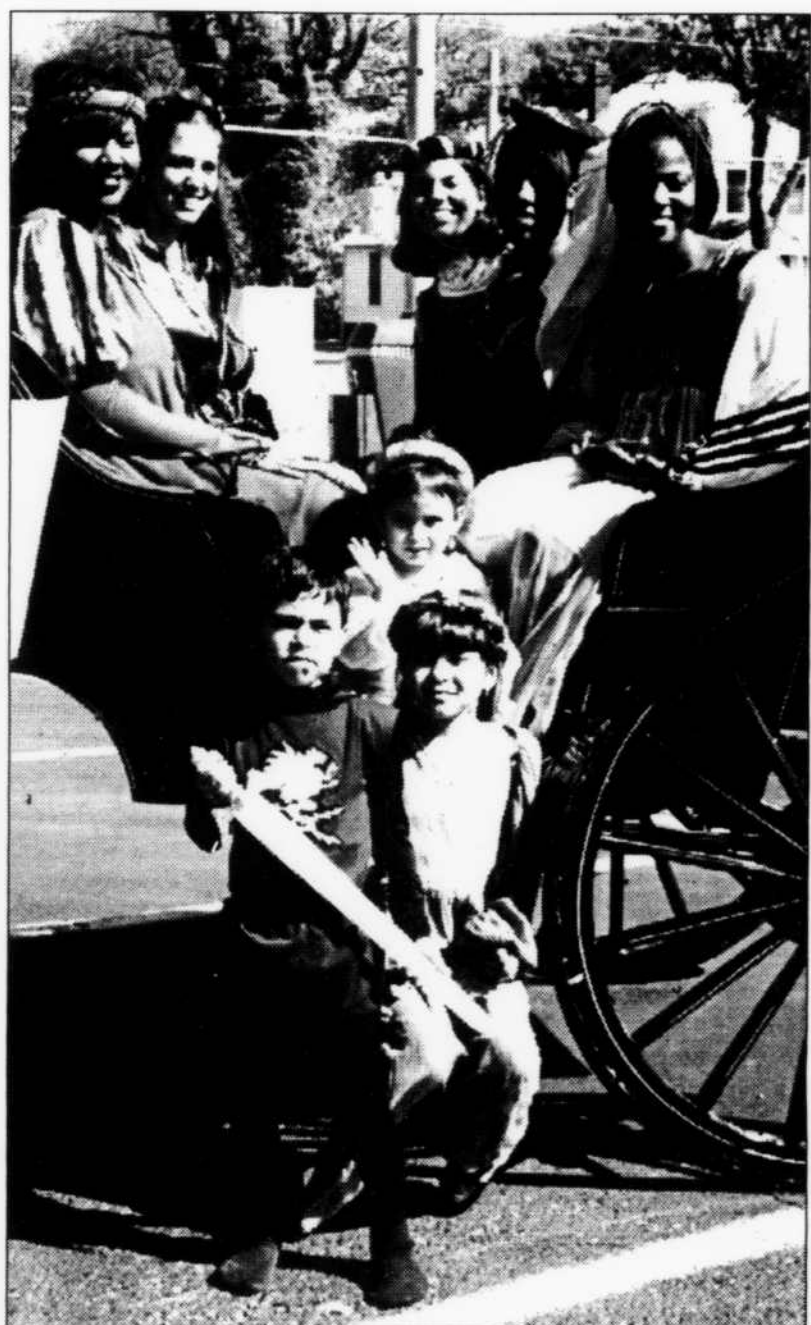
Medieval Memories Scenes from Homecoming 1998



(Top) The Blue Raiders and fans celebrate after defeating Murray State 21-7 in the Homecoming game of 1998.



(Center) Murfreesboro residents look on as parade participants celebrate down East Main Street.



(Right) The Queen candidates pause in their buggy ride to smile for the camera.

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5B ■ SIDELINES

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 1999

SPORTS

Murfreesboro, TN

Blue Raiders try to prevent Ragin' Cajuns from notching first victory

Michael Edwards
Staff Reporter

Coming off his first win as a Division I-A head coach, Andy McCollum will lead the Blue Raiders to battle on Saturday against the Ragin' Cajuns of the University of Louisiana at Lafayette, formerly Southwest Louisiana. The Raiders have high aspirations for Saturday's game following the win they took last week.

"We feel pretty good coming in to this game," Walker said. "Coming off this win, it's going to feel good, so that tempo should be high."

The Raiders are 1-2 and are looking to go 2-2 against a lesser team in ULL. The Raider offense began to roll last week against Wofford and there is no sign that MTSU will lose any steam this week. The Raiders have no injuries that look to be serious and should be at full strength. Cornerback Jermaine Francis is the only Raider probable for Saturday's game. Keith Dollar filled in last week for Francis and made four tackles. MTSU forced four turnovers last week which led to 21 Blue Raider points.

This week, however, ULL comes in as MTSU's third I-A opponent. They should give MTSU a better test than Wofford did. The Raiders will have to make a quick turn around on defense and not allow the same yardage that Wofford ran up.

The offense Cajun' offense is similar to the Raiders' in that many of the formations are the same, but they will not open up the offense as much as MTSU.

The Cajuns have played three very tough teams to start the season. They opened the season at Oklahoma State and lost 24-7, then

followed with Texas Tech and lost 38-13. The third game for ULL was at Houston, and they were beaten 45-0 again. The Cajuns have Wofford on the schedule for the last week of the season.

"Sometimes you basically know what's going to happen by that formation. Their offense is a lot like ours," Charlie Walker said. "When you see it everyday you feel comfortable."

The Cajun offense starts, as all offenses do, at the offensive line. Their line averages 6 feet 4 inches 277 pounds and is anchored by left guard Jason Boyer. Boyer is 6 feet 3 inches and weighs 288 pounds and is the lone senior on the line. At left tackle, Jonathan Raush starts in his freshman year. Raush is 6 feet 7 inches, but weighs only 265 pounds. The center is occupied by David Gaar who is 6 feet 2 inches, 264 pounds as a junior. Ryan Childers is the right guard. As a junior, Childers weighs 265 pounds and stands 6 feet 2 inches. Finally, Harry Hellestine takes the right tackle spot.

He is the largest of the quintet at 6 feet 6 inches, 303 pounds.

The Raider's defensive line is close in size, but as was seen last week, size may be a little overrated. Their line has given up 12 sacks in three games this season.

In the backfield, the Cajuns will dress out four quarterbacks, three of which earned letters a year ago. Barton Folse has started all three openers and will start Saturday. Folse has completed a mere 47 percent of his passes and is averaging only 44 yards per game. The running back position is occupied by tailback Darren Brister and fullback Blake Bourque. Brister is averaging almost 13 carries per game but only 34 yards per game. The team is averaging only 36 yards per game.

The Cajuns are dead last in rushing in the country. Folse will have a long day if the offensive line does not give him adequate protection.

"They've been moving the ball. There have been some lost yardage plays that make [the stats] look worse than it really is. They've got some weapons, so we've got our hands full," head coach Andy McCollum said.



The Cajun 'receivers haven't seen much action in the first three games; they have only caught 24 passes combined. The Raiders caught 26 last week alone. Marcus Wildridge leads the Cajun receivers in catches and yards with 10 for 125 yards. Wildridge is averaging 42 yards per game. Desmond Williams and Jeremy Joshua round out the corp.

Defensively, the Cajuns will have to stop the fun n' gun offense of the Raiders. They use a 4-3 defense with four down linemen and three linebackers. The Cajun line features no starter over 260 pounds, but they average 6 feet three inches in height. Danny Scott and Eugene Chambers have

combined for 3.5 sacks.

In the defensive backfield, Dwayne Viator, Travis Schwartz and Gerald Stewart are the linebackers. The three have combined for 66 tackles and five of them have been for a loss. They also have two interceptions. Schwartz leads the defense with 30 tackles and one interception. He has also forced one fumble. Curnell Schumack, Matt Cleslack, Kyries Hebert, and Charlie Woods are the defensive backs. The quartet has combined for two interceptions. The Cajun defense has given up an average of 260 yards per game rushing which is 112th in the NCAA.

With a win in the books and the spirits high for the Raiders, it's always possible to overlook an opponent that they should beat. Troy State, next week's opponent, beat Cincinnati who turned around and beat a top team in Wisconsin. The Raiders also have Arkansas two games down the road.

"We can't overlook anyone," Walker said. "We always have room for improvement."

The Raiders have one win and are looking for more. After playing their first two opponents tough and winning a third game, MTSU has high hopes for the remainder of the year. The ranking of 114 has been a little motivation for MTSU as well.

"A lot of people that saw the Mississippi State score really don't know what happened. The people that were there know we really didn't play that bad. Then we went out to Arizona, and they were supposed to have one of the best tailbacks in the nation, and we just went out and played. I think we shocked a lot of people," Walker said. "Hopefully, this weekend we are going to prove to some people that we are not a 114 ranked team." ■

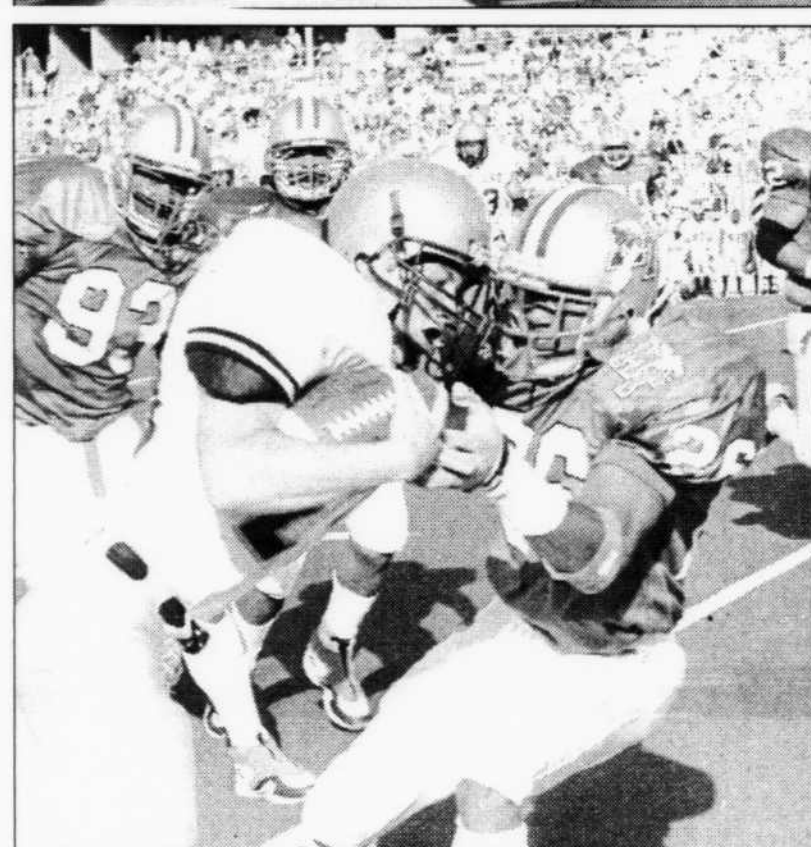


Photo by Derrick Wilson

The Blue Raiders got their first I-A win Saturday against Wofford (Top) Keith Pauldo knocks a Terrier out of bounds (Bottom) Mario Kelso attempts to wrestle ball carrier down

Here is who's hot and who's not

View from the Top
A sports commentary



Michael Edwards
Columnist

For the second straight week, you, the reader, will have the opportunity to be enlightened by my opinions and unmatched knowledge in the world of major sports. This week I will review the recent past and tell you which people or groups of people are hot and who's not.

* Let's start with the bad news first. This one hits home for me, a guy that's seen many games from the seats of the stadium that houses the rowdiest fans in the country, Tiger Stadium. We head down to the Bayou and specifically Baton Rouge. If you're talking Louisiana your talking LSU football, and head coach Gerry Dinardo has been at LSU for five years. Things started great with the Tigers; they came out in his first year and won six games on their way to an Independence Bowl victory over Michigan State.

Dinardo continued his winning ways at LSU and took the Tigers to a preseason ranking of six. However, Dinardo hired his buddy Lou Tepper as the defensive coordinator and Sweet Lou ruined what Dinardo had begun. Now with Dinardo's reluctance to fire Tepper and revamp the defense, Dinardo may not see the end of this season. LSU has a storied football program. The Tiger fans are tired of losing games, and they won't tolerate it any more. If you lose football games, there is not a

more ruthless group of fans in the country. I like Dinardo, and I love the Tigers.

* Secondly, the New York Jets are definitely hurting. This is a heartbreaking story for football fans. Vinny Testaverde had the best year of his career last season and was well on his way to a better year this season. Unfortunately for him, he ruptured his achilles and is out for the year. Instead of probably being 2-0 at this point "The Tuna" Bill Parcells are 0-2, and Rick Mirer is their starting quarterback. Rick Mirer being their starter pretty much sums up the season for them at this point.

* The defending Super Bowl champions aren't hot either. The Denver Broncos have started 0-2, and they have a quarterback controversy on their hands. Brian Griese and Bubby Brister are battling it out for the chance to hand the ball to Terrell Davis. The good side of this is the Broncos system. The west coast offense is still the best system in the NFL, and Mike Shanahan is a great coach. When the quarterbacks are set and they pick up the system, the Broncos will be back.

* In New York, the Yankees are coming off the best season in baseball history after winning 125 games on their way to their second World Series victory in three years. I know the Yankees are in first place in the American League East, but they are leading the Red Sox by only a couple of games, and the Red Sox have the tie breaker over the Yankees. If the Yankees were in the National League, they would be fifth in the playoff race. The Braves, Mets and Astros have better records, and the Diamondbacks are tied. The Braves have the best record in baseball.

* Although the Tennessee

Volunteers are still 1-1 and ranked seventh in the country, Tennessee was looking to go for a second straight undefeated season. However, they had to go to the swamp to play the Gators and the best coach in college football, Steve Spurrier. Tee Martin talked trash before the game and Spurrier agreed with Martin. I heard on many college football shows how Tennessee would lay the smack down on Florida.

The Gators had struggled defensively in their first two games, and the Vols had destroyed their first two opponents. Anyone who said Tennessee would beat up on the Gators drastically underestimated Spurrier and his coaching abilities. Spurrier prepared his team and did everything but admit that Tennessee was better. That was his plan, build up the Vols ego, and then surprise them.

That is exactly what happened. Steve Spurrier out coached Phil Fulmer, and Florida won. Tennessee goes back to the drawing board this season.

* Finally, there was some good news in the world of sports this week and one instance of that is the National League East pennant race—The Braves and the Mets. The Braves have a one game lead going into the final 12 games, and they are matched with the Mets in six of those final 12. This is a race that will probably go down in history as one of the best ever.

The Braves have taken four of six from New York this year, but the past does not matter any more. Pure and simple, the team that wins these last few games will win the division; the other will be the wild card team from the National League. If Atlanta wins the division, it will give them an amazing run of eight straight

divisional championships.

* Another team that is hot right now is the Florida Gators. Beating Tennessee set them up for a run at the National title. There are two teams left that have a chance to beat them, and that is Georgia and Florida State. However, the Gators proved to the world why they are the team of the decade, and they will win the last national title of the millennium.

* How about "The Tuna's" portage, Drew Bledsoe. This guy is one of the best, if not the best quarterback in football. He has proven twice this year that he can fill the shoes of John Elway. Bledsoe has made two comebacks in two games. The Patriots look like the Rams without him, and that is why he will win the NFL's Most Valuable Player.

* The final team that is hot right now is the MTSU offense. That's right, our own Blue Raiders. MTSU scored three touchdowns against one of the best defenses in the nation, Arizona, and scored 52 points at home on Saturday.

Wes Counts is ranked seventh in America in passing accuracy, ahead of that guy in Knoxville. He is also 25 in total passing and 24 in total offense. Jamison Palmer rushed for 183 yards against Wofford. That's a personal best with plenty more to come.

The offensive line gave Counts time this week and he showed why he's starting at MTSU. Tyrone Calico and Kendall Newson may be the best receivers in the state. The two have owned opposing defenses this year, and they don't just catch passes. The two are also good blockers for the Raider tailbacks. They are 31st and 36th nationally in receiving respectively. If you miss a chance to see this offense play this season it's your own fault. ■

MTSU Volleyball win streak at three



Josh Ezzell
Sports Editor

The volleyball team dominated Tennessee State Tuesday in three straight sets (15-3, 15-2, 15-6).

Led by Kelly Smith and Ku'uipo Simeona, the Lady Raiders jumped out to a quick 9-0 lead. Smith had a dig and a kill while Simeona contributed two aces during the run.

The Lady Tigers never got close in the first set. Lindsay Pritchard and Erin Hillstrom finished off the first set with consecutive kills, making the final score of set one 15-3.

"In the first match we had a positive ace to error ratio," head coach Lisa Kisse said. "This was a strange game. I really expected TSU to be fired up but they weren't."

Behind the play of Kelly Smith and Katie Thiesen, the Lady Raiders jumped out to a 4-0 lead. Smith had a kill and an ace while

Thiesen contributed two kills.

After TSU failed to do anything with its side out, the Lady Raiders went on an 8-0 run, making the score 12-0. Simeona and Jennifer Hignite led the charge for the Lady Raiders. Simeona contributed two aces while Hignite contributed a block and a kill.

After TSU scored two points, the Lady Raiders got the advantage and scored three straight points, making the final score of set two 15-2.

Unlike the first two sets, set three was close in the beginning. TSU battled the Lady Raiders, staying within two points at 4-2.

At this point in the match, the Lady Raiders started to pull away. Led by Thiesen and Simeona, the Lady Raiders stretched the lead to five, at 10-5. TSU would not get any closer. The Lady Raiders won set three 15-6.

"I am very pleased that the girls didn't take TSU for granted," Kisse said. "I always want them to take opponents seriously."

Thiesen led the Lady Raiders with eight kills while Simeona contributed five aces.

The Lady Raiders next play Belmont Tuesday at 7 p.m. in the Murphy Center. ■

On Nov. 14, a personal computer will be given away at the Southeast Missouri volleyball game, courtesy of Phillips Bookstore.

To be eligible to win, a student must attend seven out of ten of the following games and register with his/her student ID.

Sept. 17, volleyball vs. Eastern Kentucky, 7 p.m.

Sept. 22, soccer vs. Tennessee Tech, 4 p.m.

Sept. 26, soccer vs. Southeast Missouri, 1 p.m.

Sept. 28, volleyball vs. Belmont, 7 p.m.

Oct. 16, volleyball vs. Austin Peay, 2 p.m.

Oct. 24, soccer vs. Arkansas-Little Rock, 1 p.m.

Oct. 27, soccer vs. Chattanooga, 4 p.m.

Oct. 27, volleyball vs. Murray State, 3 p.m.

Nov. 4, volleyball vs. Tennessee Tech

Nov. 14, volleyball vs. SEMO, 2 p.m.

The winner will be announced at the Nov. 14 volleyball game.

Offense is gaining confidence

Josh Ezzell
Staff Reporter

After struggling in the season opener against Mississippi State, the Blue Raider offense is starting to come together.

The Blue Raiders only scored seven points in the season opener, and those came with only a few seconds left in the game. In the second game of the season against Arizona, the offense remained stagnant during the first three quarters. In the fourth quarter, however, the Blue Raiders scored nineteen points.

"In the Arizona game we realized we can play with anybody in the country," wide receiver Kendall Newsom said Monday. "We just realized it a little too late."

Jamison Palmer emerged as a go to guy, rushing for 73 yards on only 10 carries.

Palmer's success continued in the Blue Raider's 52-42 victory over Wofford. He rushed for 183 yards on 28 carries, averaging 6.5 yards per attempt. Currently, he is number 26 in the country in all-purpose yards with 151 all-purpose yards a game. He leads the Blue Raiders in rushing with 255 rushing yards.

"Our confidence level has gone up," running back Jamison Palmer said following the Wofford game. "We just have to keep working."

Jamison Palmer is not the only player putting up big numbers. Quarterback Wes Counts was 26 for 31 in the Wofford game, throwing for 362 yards and three touchdowns. Counts has thrown 74 passes without an interception, and he is currently ranked number seven in the country in passing percentage with a 70.8 percent completion rate.

"We really started clicking at the end of the Arizona game,"



Photo by Derrick Wilson

Kendall Newsom hopes to make big plays against Ragin' Cajuns

Counts said after the Wofford game. "The running game has made it easier to pass the ball. It has opened up screen passes for us."

Wide receivers Tyrone Calico and Kendall Newsom have also played well for the Blue Raider offense. Calico is tied for 36th in the country in receptions per game

and Newsom is tied for 36th.

Calico leads the team in receptions with 19. He had seven receptions for a career high 131 yards and two touchdowns in the Wofford game.

"Wes [Counts] has been finding us and throwing the ball to us," Calico said after the Wofford game.

Newsom is second on the team

with 18 receptions, and he is tied for 36th in the nation in perceptions per game. In the Wofford game, he had a school record tying 11 catches for a career best 162 yards and two touchdowns.

"We are really getting in an offensive groove," Newsom said, Monday. "The pass is really opening up the run. The running game gets stronger as the passing game gets stronger."

Head coach Andy McCollum is also pleased with the offense's performance.

"The thing that's pleasing me is the effort. The wide receivers are blocking downfield and everybody is hustling." ■

Rugby Team routs Fort Campbell

Staff Reports

The MTSU Moosemen romped Fort Campbell 72-0 on Saturday.

Adam Kibler opened up the scoring by finishing off a back-row move that involved no less than five players. Jo Jo Deguire put through the conversion kick. The Moosemen kept the pressure, displaying moments of brilliance.

Cayo Nicolau set down the next try in the corner and Deguire later slotted a penalty kick. Captain Evan Bone was justly rewarded with a try of his own, which Deguire converted. At the end of the half Deguire scored a try of his own, but missed the corner kick. The first half ended 27-0.

The forwards had a nice rolling-maul that saw Kibler take the ball in the final pushover to score a try and open-up the second half. Minutes later, Kibler put down another try for a hat trick. Nicolau had taken over the kicking duties and missed the first two conversions. He then went on to convert the next two tries, which he converted and added three more conversion kicks from other tries later in the half.

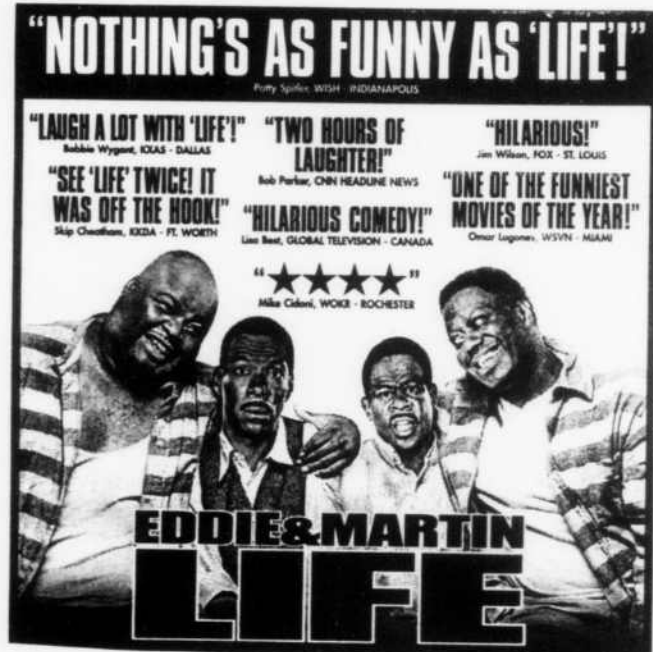
The first try came from a nice countering movement that saw the ball go from wing to wing, then back to the outside-center. Lance Houia played his usual quality game, distributing the ball and punching through the defense to set up others.

Houia's play was rewarded as he scored the next two tries. Jason Farmer scored the final try of the game.

The Moosemen play next week at Georgia Tech. ■

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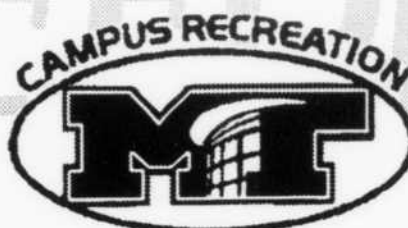
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A look at the SEC East

Associated Press

FLORIDA

Steve Spurrier has another entry in his glossary of "excuse words."

The newest word is "letdown," and the possibility of one is a prime concern with the No. 3 Gators (3-0, 1-0 SEC) going into Kentucky after their emotional victory over Tennessee.

"We train year-round for 12 or 13 games," Spurrier said. "How can you not be excited for your only 12 or 13 hours of the year? That's our 12 or 13 hours to try to play the very best we can, simple as that. Those other coaches can worry about flat and letdown. We don't worry about that."

The Gators have a 12-game winning streak in the series. The closest call during that stretch was a 24-20 victory in Lexington in 1993.

GEORGIA

Georgia's next opponent, Central Florida, has not only played and lost all three of its games to teams ranked 13th or higher, the Golden Knights have also faced three of the top quarterbacks in the nation.

But UCF coach Mike Kruczek thinks the Bulldogs' Quincy Carter may be the best his team will face.

The Golden Knights already have gone against Heisman Trophy candidates Drew Brees of Purdue, Florida's Doug Johnson and Georgia Tech's Joe Hamilton. UCF lost to No. 13 Purdue, 47-13, to No. 3 Florida, 58-27, and to No. 10 Georgia Tech, 41-10.

"Quincy Carter potentially can be better than all three of the ones we've already faced, simply from an athleticism standpoint," said Kruczek. "He's 6-2-plus, he's 215 pounds, he's got greater speed than any of the three we just saw and

his arm strength is better. The only downside on Quincy is he's still only played a year and a couple of games, which isn't a whole lot of time in an offense. But I can see on film that he's more comfortable with what they're doing and the decision-making process in general."

Carter has completed 45 of 73 passing attempts for 571 yards and three touchdowns in victories over Utah State and South Carolina. Last year, as a freshman, Carter threw for 2,484 yards.

The Bulldogs (2-0, 1-0) host the Golden Knights on Saturday.

KENTUCKY

The last time Dusty Bonner saw Alex Brown, Bonner was a star quarterback at Valdosta (Ga.) High School and Brown a standout linebacker at Hamilton County High in White Springs, Fla.

The two were among four local prep standouts who posed in boats in the middle of a swamp for a picture that ran with The Valdosta Daily Times' 1996 high school football preview.

"They had two little boats and they put us in camouflage pants and we had our jerseys on," Bonner recalled this week. "I hadn't met Alex before, but he seemed like a nice guy."

Chances are, the two won't be shaking hands if they come face to face again Saturday night at Commonwealth Stadium, when Kentucky (2-1, 0-0) hosts Florida.

That's because Brown, a sophomore defensive end, has emerged as the Gators' top pass-rusher. Last week against Tennessee, he tallied five sacks of quarterback Tee Martin in Florida's 23-21 win.

Meanwhile, Bonner is Kentucky's sophomore successor to Tim Couch, and has thrown for at least 300 yards and three touchdowns in his first three games

as starter.

Kentucky coach Hal Mumme hopes to come up with a plan to neutralize Brown.

"I know one thing," he said. "I don't want him hitting Dusty the way he hit Tee Martin."

SOUTH CAROLINA

Coach Lou Holtz is sticking with embattled starting quarterback, Phil Petty - for now.

"That won't win many football games," Holtz said after Petty threw three interceptions and passed for only 134 yards in a 21-3 loss to East Carolina. "We led the nation in turnovers last year, and we're well on the way to leading again this year."

For the season, Petty has thrown six interceptions and only one touchdown. The Gamecocks are 0-3 (0-1 in the SEC) and their losing streak now stands at 13 games, the second-longest in Division I-A.

Holtz was particularly mystified by Petty's performance because it followed what he called "as fine a week of preparation for a quarterback as I've ever seen."

Though Petty is expected to start for the Gamecocks on Saturday at Mississippi State, Holtz said he planned to give freshman Mikal Goodman more practice time this week. Holtz believes Goodman would run the option well, which he thinks might benefit his outmanned team.

"(Goodman) makes good decisions," Holtz said. "He's got good eye-sight. He's got a knack for making plays."

TENNESSEE

A broken hand wasn't about to keep center Spencer Riley out of Tennessee's game against Florida.

"I know it was in the first series. I think it was the second or third play of the ballgame," the senior

See SEC, page 8B

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SEC

continued from page 7B

said this week, trying to recall when he got hurt in Saturday's 23-21 loss at Gainesville.

He doesn't remember exactly how he broke the bone that leads from his right ring finger up the back of his hand - his snapping hand.

"I thought I just jammed it and I tried to pull on it," the 6-foot-3, 305-pound lineman said. "And THAT was the wrong thing to do."

Though line coach Mike Barry asked him if he wanted to come out, Riley didn't think twice. He was staying in against the Vols' top divisional rival.

By Tuesday, Riley's hand was swollen and taped with a splint and he was practicing snapping the ball with his left hand in anticipation of Saturday's home game between the Volunteers (1-1, 0-1) and Memphis.

"I've played with worse pain than that before. I've torn triceps to the bone and it hurt worse than that," he said.

Riley was asked why he was willing to push an injury.

"Cause this is what I am here for," he said. "This is my job. Playing football here at the University of Tennessee is my job. This is how I get my scholarship paid for."

VANDERBILT

As Vanderbilt (2-1, 1-1) prepares to travel to Duke for Saturday night's game, Jared McGrath has regained his starting spot at tailback.

McGrath, a junior, is back in the starting lineup for the fourth time. Through the Commodores' first three games, he split playing time with Rodney Williams.

Over the last two games, McGrath has gained 134 yards on 28 carries, to just 74 rushing yards for Williams.

"I think he (McGrath) deserves the chance," coach Woody Widenhofer said. "He's worked hard and deserves the opportunity to be on the starting team again."

Widenhofer said Williams will still see plenty of action as the two rotate. ■

Kearse embarrassed by agent scandal

Eddie Pells
Associated Press

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. (AP) - Former Florida linebacker Jevon Kearse says he was embarrassed by accusations, and his eventual sworn admission, that he took money from a sports agent while he was still with the Gators.

"I was kind of embarrassed after I left the University of Florida," the Tennessee Titans linebacker said Wednesday in a telephone interview. "It's something that shouldn't have happened, and if I

went back, I wouldn't do it again."

In a sworn affidavit, Kearse has admitted to taking payments from Professional Management Inc., the South Carolina company owned by agent Tank Black, while he was playing for the Gators last year.

Black has denied wrongdoing. The NFL Players Association has recommended revoking his license for three years. University police at Florida have an investigation ongoing.

Gators coach Steve Spurrier has banned Kearse and two other players implicated in the case, Johnny Rutledge and Reggie

McGrew, from campus.

Kearse said he has not tried to talk to Spurrier since the allegations surfaced.

"When the story broke, I was busy with camp and things up here," Kearse said. "I think Johnny Rutledge went back to the school to try and work out and he was told not to be down there. I've never even tried to go down there and talk to him. Because it would be in the middle of their minds and it may not have made a difference if I go try to talk to him or whatever."

The Titans play the Jaguars in Jacksonville on Sunday, marking

Kearse's first public appearance in Florida since the accusations. He said he still wants Gator fans to appreciate his contribution.

"I still have very strong feelings for the Gators," Kearse said. "I always will. I watched them on Saturday after I got out of our media event. I was like, man, I miss that. I wish I was out there. I'm still a Gator and I always will be."

He even did the Gator "chomp" after making big plays Sunday in Tennessee's victory over Cleveland. ■

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