

MIDDLE TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY

SIDELINES

New Student Edition

Summer 1997

Welcome New Students



From the editor's desk...

Greetings new students! Welcome to Middle Tennessee State University. We at *Sidelines* are excited to have you and wish the best for you as you enter your college years.

It won't take you long to realize how fortunate we are to be attending a great university like MTSU. Many don't get this opportunity. We should be thankful and make the best of everyday while we are here.

As you've already noticed, we are growing at a rapid pace. At one time this past semester, fourteen different construction projects were under way on campus, including the new Todd Library, a massive stadium renovation to accommodate the football program's move to Division IA, a new telecommunications building, and the list goes on. While these construction areas may cause inconvenience or just an eye sore, it is important that we are understanding and that we keep a good attitude. Let us remember, these changes are for us. They are to make our university better for the present and better for the future. All major universities go through growing pains, it just happens to be our turn!

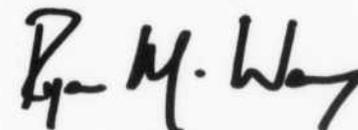
Be sure to keep first things first. You and I are here to STUDY! Your overall college experience is supposed to be a fun, learning experience. However, don't get too bogged down in the social side and forget the books. An extremely wise man once told me, "Son, for every hour you spend in the classroom, you ought to spend two outside studying." It took me a couple of years to realize how true my father's words were. But once I did, things took a turn for the better and the G.P.A. went up. (As your college years go along, you'll begin to realize how great mom and dad really are. Trust me.)

I also encourage you to support the many activities that take place on our campus. MTSU men's and women's sports are active throughout the year, the theater department puts on several plays, numerous religious organizations hold weekly events, and, once again, the list goes on. In order to make the most of your time here, it is imperative that you participate. Not only does it make you more well-rounded, you are getting the opportunity to help support fellow students and the university as a whole.

Finally, take the time to develop friendships. Don't ever let competition in the classroom or the stress of class work keep you from reaching out to others and shedding a positive light on campus. Remember, we are all in this together. In order for our university and us as individuals to be successful, we must work together and help each other the best that we can.

In closing, I am confident that you will find MTSU and the Murfreesboro community to be a comfortable, enjoyable place to further your education. College is exactly what you make of it. Invest yourself, and you will find that there are great returns for your efforts.

God bless each of you,



Ryan M. Werner, editor

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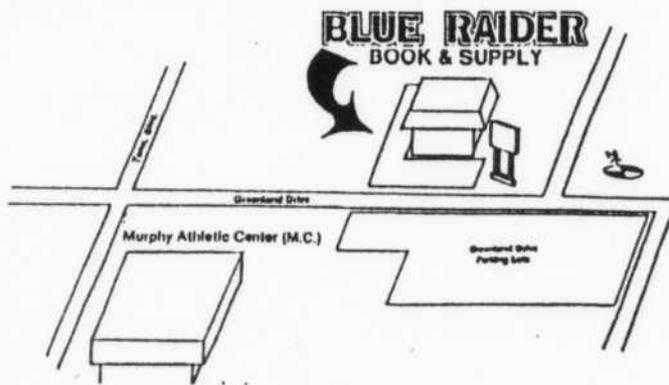
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Dates you might want to remember for fall 1997

Sidelines

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

August 17	Last day to make schedule adjustments.
August 20	Classes begin.
August 20-21 on	Late registration and drop/add TRAM.
August 25	Fee payment deadline.
September 1	Labor Day Holiday - no classes.
September 18-October 15	Students may drop a course on TRAM and receive a "W".
October 6-11	Mid-term.
October 16-18	Fall break - no classes.
November 27-28	Thanksgiving Holidays.
December 6-12	Final examinations.
January 7	Spring semester begins.

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Welcome Week Events

Sunday, August 17

12 p.m. **Residence Halls Open**
6:30 p.m. **Summer Picnic and Concert at Tucker Theatre featuring Grover Levy and Sarah John.**

Monday, August 18

10 a.m. **Greek fair in the KUC Courtyard, showcasing fraternities and sororities on campus.**
12 p.m. **Matinee movie in the KUC Theatre: "Jerry Maguire"**
6 p.m. **Evening movie in the KUC Theatre: "Jerry Maguire"**
8 p.m. **Jazz Fest, sponsored by the Honors' Department, in front of the KUC**

Tuesday, August 19

4 p.m. **President's Picnic on the President's lawn, featuring games, free food, and music by the MTSU Steel Drum Band and the Band of Blue**

Wednesday, August 20

CLASSES BEGIN!
7 p.m. **Greek Fest in the Recreation Center, featuring the 80s band Ronnie RayGun**

Thursday, August 21

6 p.m. **"In-the-House" sponsored by the Residence Halls. A chance for freshmen to learn where they live.**
9 p.m. **Drive-in Movie in the KUC Courtyard**

Friday, August 22

3 p.m. **Music on the Knoll (bands not yet determined by deadline)**

Saturday, August 23

11 a.m. **"Rites of Passage" Welcome Symposium sponsored by Multicultural Affairs, featuring guest speaker Henry Parker, a professor from UT-Martin, in the JUB Tennessee Room.**

GO GREEK!

**With over 25
fraternities and sororities,
the Greek community
at MTSU is thriving!**

**To join in on the fun and
community service, call 898-5996
or come by the office of Greek Life in the
Keathley University Center room 310.**

Greeks important part of MTSU

by Nikki Bagwell and
Cynthia Ryan
staff writers

Out of over 180 organizations on campus, 14 of them are Greek social organizations.

According to a recent poll, Greek organizations amount to only seven percent of this campus population, however, they participate in a considerable amount of campus sponsored activities.

The three national Greek councils; Interfraternal Council (IFC), United Greek Council (UGC), and National Panhellenic Council (NPC) offer guidance to the Greek organizations.

UGC-

The sororities and fraternities under the direction of UGC are: Alpha Phi Alpha, Delta Sigma Theta, Omega Psi Phi, Sigma Gamma Rho and Zeta Phi Beta.

These organizations have what is called passive recruitment. During passive recruitment, members of UGC sororities and fraternities participate in activities geared towards public consumption.

They organize programs to assist the community according to Ralph Metcalf, director of multicultural affairs.

The programs include charitable activities, educational programs, community service, academics (personal, tutorial), and social activities.

"We do the programs to assist the community. In turn we get a chance to show what we are about," Metcalf said.

Those who are interested are welcome to inquire. To qualify for pledgeship, students must have completed at least 15 university hours and a 2.5 grade point average.

IFC-

The Interfraternity Council handles national fraternities. They are: Alpha Sigma Phi, Alpha Gamma Rho, Alpha Tau Omega, Beta Theta Pi, Delta Tau Delta, Kappa Alpha, Kappa Sigma, Pi Kappa Epsilon, Sigma Alpha Epsilon, Sigma Chi, Sigma Phi Epsilon, and Sigma Nu.

The IFC fraternities hold rush twice a year, one for fall and one for spring. The rushees are invited to come to the houses and see what fraternity life has to offer.

Clayton Arrington, IFC president, said that this year they plan one participating in more New Student Week activities.



photo by staff

Members of a fraternity at MTSU participate in last fall's Homecoming Parade. MTSU's Greek community is very active in campus events like Homecoming, Customs and intramural sports. The Office of Greek Life encourages all students to participate in rushes held on campus.

"We are hoping to get about 450 men to sign up for IFC rush. This year we are working on more publicity to get our name out there," Arrington commented.

The fraternities plan to have a sign up table in the grill before rush. IFC rush begins September 10th and last through September 19th. During rush the houses are open and various parties are planned. The schedules of the fraternities have been worked out so that the rushees can attend parties at different houses.

NPC-

The National Panhellenic Council directs the Panhellenic sororities. There are six panhellenic and one associate panhellenic sorority on this campus. Alpha Delta Pi, Alpha Omicron Pi, Delta Zeta, Chi Omega, Kappa Delta, and Chi Omega, are the NC sororities.

Phi Chi, a local sorority, was recently named an

associate of panhellenic. As associates of panhellenic, Phi Chi is obligated to follow the same rules and standards that the NC sororities do, but they do not have to participate in all of the events.

Mandi Whaley, president of panhellenic said that they hope to get over 400 prospective rushees interested.

"The sororities are participating more in New Student Week. We are attending the President's Picnic, Greek Fest and Greek Carnival," Whaley added.

This year's goal for panhellenic is to promote Greek life in a positive light. The activities are not only for Greeks and those who want to be Greek, it's for everyone to have fun.

Greeks in general-

Greek life in general has a lot to offer. For example, in the 1996-97 academic year Greeks held all the executive offices in Student Government, according

to Felts.

Fraternities and sororities, through are labeled as social organizations, excel in scholarship. In a study, it was found that Greeks make higher grade point averages than non Greeks.

Greeks also excel in community service and philanthropic events. A philanthropy is a donation of time, materials, or service for the good of mankind. The philanthropies range from The United Negro College Fund to The Children's Miracle Network.

Greeks are highly intricate parts of such campus activities as Intramural Sports, Homecoming, New Student Week, and All Sing.

Currently, the planning committee is looking at the construction of a Greek Row for all of the sororities and fraternities.

"The site will be located on Rutherford Boulevard behind

the Rec Center," said Vic Felts.

Nine lots have been designated for fraternities and seven organizations have made commitments.

They are making plans for the sororities housing. David Hays, assistant vice president for Student Affairs said that the row will be structured more like townhouses. They expect six sororities to participate and they are looking at a total of 14 to 15 groups on Greek Row.

To truly understand the purpose and benefits of the Greek experience, the office of Greek Life encourages everyone to participate in rush. "When Greeks were started, they were shunned by the campus community. Greek organizations have done very much to help the campus community," Metcalf said.

If you have any questions concerning NPC or IFC rush or UGC passive recruitment, call The office of Greek Life at 898-5996.

To find out
what's
happening
on campus:

Web Site
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Sidelines
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...or come up and see us sometime!!

Join us in an adventure! As a Special Events member you can impact the focus and direction of extracurricular programs and the cultural experience of the MTSU campus and community. You will be part of a growing family of individuals interested in increasing their developmental experiences and life skills through learning by doing. Academics comes first, but there is room and a need for both!

If you are interested in finding out more or becoming involved, please come up and see us in Keathley University Center Room 308. All students, including freshmen and new students, are eligible and welcome to participate. The Student Programming staff will be glad to discuss membership and answer any questions you may have.

Welcome!! Students!! Fall '97

**FREE Special Events starting on
Monday, August 18...**

**August 18 -
Monday**



KUC
Theater
7 p.m.

Feature Movie

Street Dance

KOM Porch 8:30 p.m.



August 19 - Tuesday

The Prez's Picnic

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Street Music

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KOM Porch
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August 21

- Thursday

Residence Hall
Programming and
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present



KUC Knoll 8:30 p.m.

>>>>>>>

August 22

- Friday



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MTSU isn't just place to learn for many

by Susan McMahan
news editor

MTSU is not just a place to learn for many students; it's also a place to live.

About 3,230 students live in 22 halls of campus housing, according to Debra Sells, director of housing and residence life.

Most of the halls are designed to house two people in one room, but there are other options.

Abernathy and Ezell Halls are apartment-style dorms usually reserved for upperclassmen. Sells said that exceptions can be made for special cases.

There are 348 spaces for students in Abernathy and Ezell halls.

Family housing is open to students who are married and/or have children. At least one person living in one of the 198 apartments must be enrolled in classes at MTSU.

"I believe that living on campus is an important part of an MTSU education," said Sells. "There are more opportunities for getting involved on campus."

She said studies have proved that students who live on campus are more likely to graduate because they have better resources and are more likely to get involved in school

activities.

Sells said that one of the better resources are the computer labs. Labs are located in Smith, Corlew, Lyon and Wood Halls.

Room assignments for students who want to live on campus have not all been completed. There are some limited dorm spaces still available.

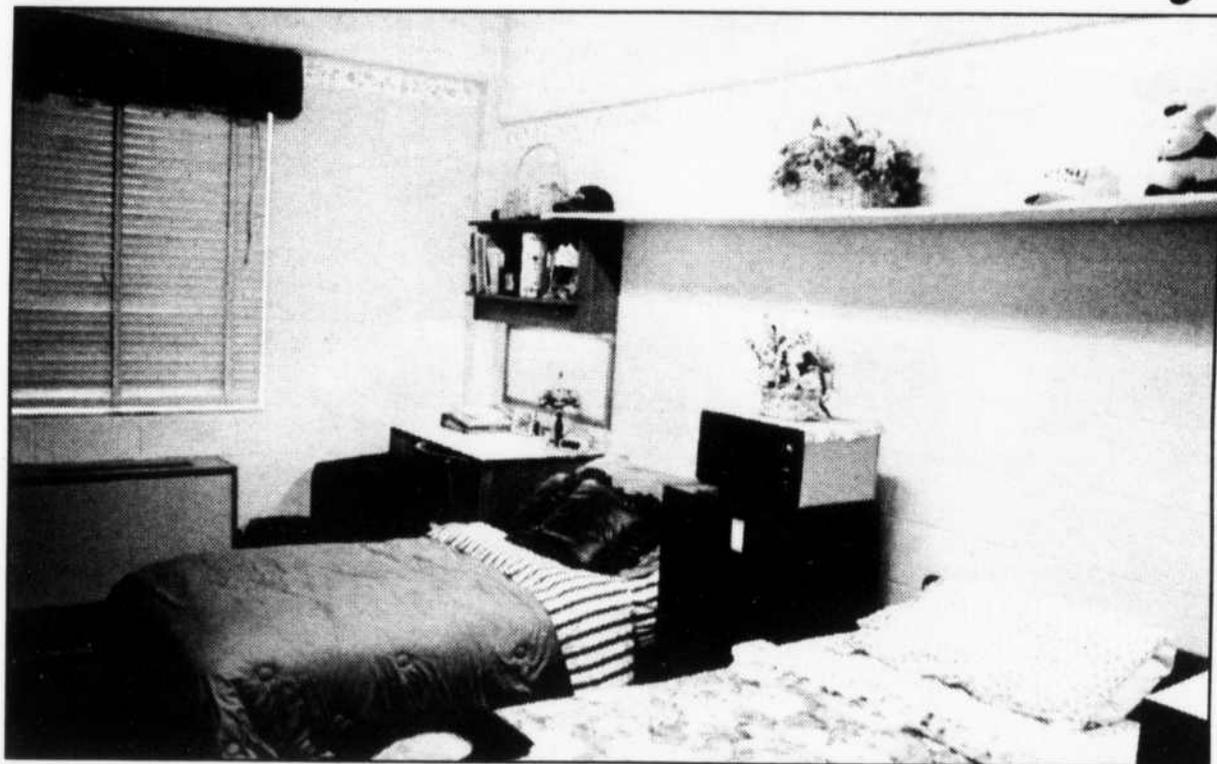
Sells said residence life does a "little juggling each year" about the percentages of male and female students, depending on who makes the most requests.

If they demand is greater than the number of spaces, students will be placed in overflow housing, which are specific areas of housing that hold three students instead of the usual two.

Sells said after a few weeks, most overflow problems are solved because students will sometimes change their minds about living in housing or attending college.

She said that "it's always been true in the past" overflow problems will be solved. However, there are higher numbers of students than ever applying for dorms this year.

Sells said it is never too late to apply for a dorm, but students requesting a specific hall should apply as soon as possible.



A typical dorm room at MTSU is pictured last fall.

photo by staff

Last year, Sells said housing had to turn down applications for housing, but this year they have made arrangements to house overflow students in local hotels.

It will cost more than normal dorms, but Sells said it is still cheaper than living off campus.

"The university would hate to know there are people who want to live on campus, but can't," Sells said.

Soon, students will have one more choice for dorms. Sells said work begins later this fall for "garden-style apartments" that will house about 400 students. The apartments will each contain a kitchen, living room, four bedrooms and two bathrooms.

Sells said the apartments, which will be more expensive than present dorms, will probably be built in the horse fields area across from the

recreation center.

Students who want to get more involved in campus housing can become a part of Residence Hall Government (RHG) and Universal Residence Hall Association (UHRA).

Sells said that RHG and UHRA both play an important part of residence life policies.

Incoming students will be sent brochures in the summer about hall government and information flyers will be

Helping hand

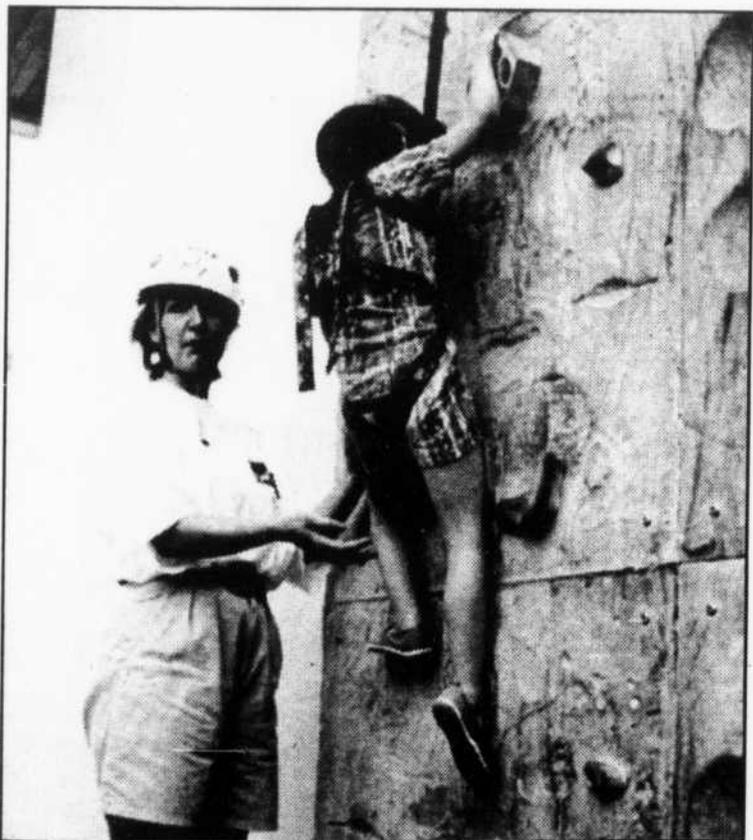


photo by Steve Purinton/ staff

A Rec center employee helps a young child climb the rock wall last Thursday night.

Public Safety works to ensure well being of MTSU student population

by Susan McMahan
news editor

For many new students and their parents, campus security is a concern when enrolling in a college.

At MTSU, 27 commissioned police officers and about 10 student officers are on campus to ensure student safety.

The department offers many services to students.

In addition to the mobile and foot patrols, Public Safety also hosts crime awareness seminars, a bike registry and provides an escort service for students alone on campus at night.

According to John Wagoner, assistant chief of Public Safety, the seminars make students "aware of what can happen" on campus.

One example is a Rape Aggression Defense Systems (RAD) self-defense class for women only hosted earlier this year by Public Safety.

Public safety is planning to hold another RAD class in the fall.

Wagoner said the bike registry is ongoing, but early in the fall, tables will be set up in areas like Family Housing and Keathley University Center to allow students to more easily register their bike.

Students who register their bike at other times should go to the Haynes-Turner Building after 4 p.m. to register their bike.

The escort service is ran by the student patrol and lasts every night from 6 p.m. until 12:30 a.m.

Students interested in this service should call Public Safety at 2424 from any campus phone and an escort will walk them anywhere on campus.

Wagoner said that students should not be ashamed to call the escort service for help.

MTSU is "about as safe as you can be" on a college campus

according to Wagoner.

He and Public Safety Chief John Drugmand will be speaking to all students attending Customs this summer to pass out Public Safety calendars and give new student safety tips.

The safety tips for new students include:

- Don't walk alone on campus and always let someone know where you are going.

- Call for an escort if you are walking alone at night.

- Park vehicles in well-lit areas.

- Don't bring expensive stereo and computer equipment to campus.

- Always keep dorm doors and possession locked up and keep backpacks in the lockers when visiting the book store. Opportunistic theft is the most common crime on campus.

- Always lock bicycles to the bike racks provided on campus.

Student journalists provide MTSU community with three independent and unique publications

by Cynthia Ryan
staff writer

Student Publications, located in the James Union Building, consists of three autonomous and unique publications: *Sidelines*, the newspaper; *Collage*, the literary magazine; and *Midlander*, the yearbook. Each publication is editorially independent and student operated.

"Student editors make all decisions regarding content of their respective publications," said Jenny Tenpenny Crouch, student publications director. "They also hire and fire staff as they deem necessary."

While the publications are produced by students, they are supported by the student publications director and an accounts clerk. Together they oversee the financial end of the operation. Professional advice is provided by Crouch.

"Administratively, we supply the editors the journalistic and management framework through which they can make the decisions demanded by their jobs,"

Crouch said.

Collage is printed each semester. The magazine, which is distributed free on campus, offers an outlet for MTSU students to have their poetry, fiction, non-fiction, art and photography published. Material is submitted by anyone who is interested. The *Collage* staff selects what will be printed in each issue. All students are encouraged to submit any literary works.

Midlander is published once a year and may be purchased for \$30. All students may have their portraits included in the yearbook free of charge. Portraits will be taken on campus during designated times and will be advertised on bulletin boards and in *Sidelines*.

Sidelines is published twice weekly during fall and spring semesters and once weekly during the summer semester. The newspaper has a long history of journalistic excellence and is distributed free on campus. There are several positions available in the editorial, advertising and production departments.

"We are proud of each of our publications," Crouch said. "They each serve a different market and serve as outlets for various forms of creativity."

According to Crouch, "each [publication] has been recognized for their individual excellence from a variety of organizations over the years, and we are proud to continue the tradition and hope to continue improving the credibility and viability of each."

"A general training session is scheduled for publications staff members on Aug. 18 and anyone interested in joining either staff is encouraged to attend," Crouch said.

Student Publications is one of the departments of the Student Life Unit of the Student Affairs division. This division exists because the administration has recognized that there are many important aspects of education which fall outside of the classroom. For more information on Student Publications department, call 898-2815.

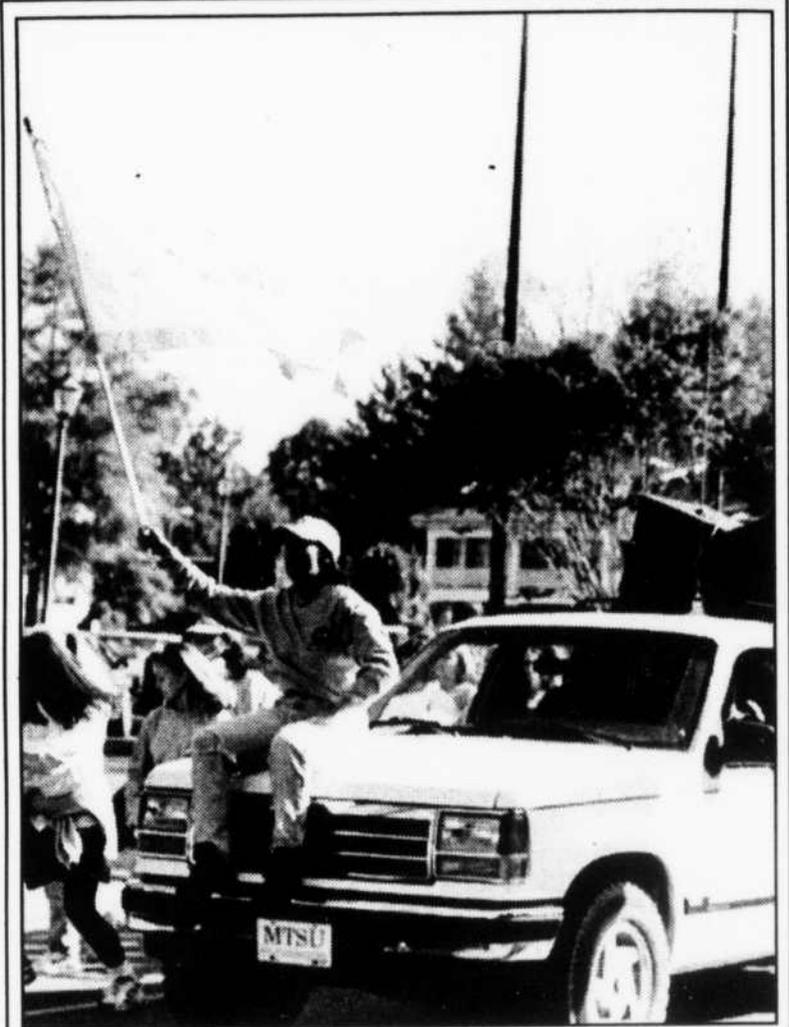


photo by Brian G. Miller

Members of one of MTSU's social fraternities participate in last fall's Homecoming parade.

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Performing arts offer many opportunities

by Cynthia Ryan
staff writer

The MTSU Speech and Theatre department offers many opportunities for students wishing to involve themselves in the performing arts. Students in this department have the option of working with the theatre or on the debate team.

There are five shows per year to be produced. Performance and behind the scenes opportunities are available for students in each of these shows.

"It's a great creative outlet whether you're a performing artist or a graphic artist..." said Dr. Jette Halladay, assistant professor and director of the annual children's show.

Halladay teaches Children's Drama and Speech and encourages educators and education majors to see the shows and be involved in the productions.

"Using theatre in education can be very helpful because theatre captures every element of our lives," she said.

The auditions are open to anyone interested and are posted on the call board in the first floor of Boutwell Dramatic Arts building. Everyone is encouraged to audition and no prior experience is necessary.

For students who shy away from the performance aspect, there are many behind the scenes positions available as well. All backstage jobs are handled by students during a

performance. The scene shop, also located in BDA, is the site of all construction work for the sets, as well as the props, sound and lighting for shows. The shop maintenance and inventory are handled there as well.

There are some hired positions in the scene shop as well as volunteer work and classwork to be done. Steve Jones, technical director for the department, said that he will "put up a sign for applicants on the theatre call board the week before school starts" and "the shop will open the next Monday."

"I'll take as many volunteers that want to do it, but I generally don't have enough money to pay everyone who would like to work here," he added.

The costume studio handles the preparation of all costumes for all shows in the theatre department. Costume Director Virginia Donnell oversees all costume and make up work in the department.

"We build everything, and anyone can volunteer," said Donnell. "Also there are independent credits that can be earned." No prior sewing experience is necessary. Training is available and there are other things that need to be done.

"People leaving the costume studio with experience can go to jobs in all venues; television, soaps, theatre, even a consultant to the video game designers," said Donnell.

There is work available in

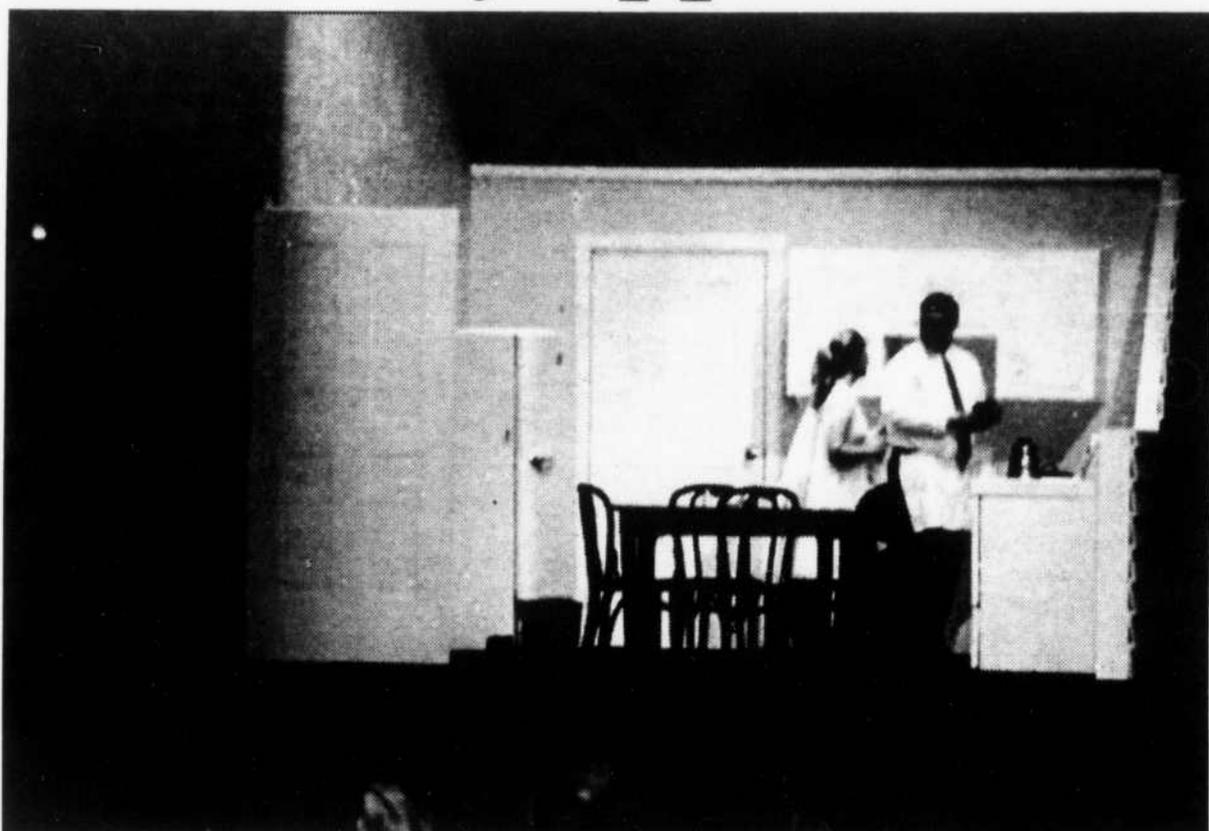


photo by staff

MTSU students participate in a production of "Come Back Little Sheba" held last fall in the Tucker Theater.

both the costume studio and the scene shop all semester. Both areas are open Monday through Friday in the afternoons.

"Theatre makes us laugh, makes us cry, makes us think, and gives us hope," Halladay said. Students should check the call board in BDA or call 898-2640 to get involved in the theatre department.

The debate team is a

cocurricular activity "which means you can do it as an extra curricular activity or in conjunction with your course work," said Director of Debate, Dr. Russell Church. The experience can be taken for credit, but does not have to be.

"Students have the opportunity to debate about significant national and international controversies," said Church. "We travel to 10-

15 competitions per year, both regional and national competitions."

Church added that the trips are at university expense and no experience is necessary.

"It is excellent training for graduate school or law school or public life, getting involved in politics or social issues," said Church. "We will have an open house sometime in August," to recruit new students.

Campus post office provides students with convenient mail delivery service

by Celeste Castillo
staff writer

The Post Office located on the bottom floor of the Keathley University Center works very hard every year to provide students with convenient postal service.

Window service is open 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday thru Friday.

Any student considered full time, which means taking 12 hours or more per semester, has an automatic five dollar postal fee added onto their registration fees.

Full time students also are issued a campus post office box in the fall of their freshman year.

If the student is taking under 12 hours but lives on campus the student must pay individually after registering.

During the first several

weeks of each term, every student not previously registered will be on general delivery—which means going to the service window to receive mail.

When the staff and boxes are ready to set up a post office box, the student will need a valid student identification card, class schedule and fee payment receipt.

Inter-campus mail service is free as long as the sender and addressee's name and address are clearly marked.

Types of mail not allowed in inter-campus mail are material pertaining but not limited to: election materials; solicitation; lotteries; chain letters; or obscene/lewd language.

Any questions may be directed to Elizabeth Patty, post office supervisor, at 898-2459.

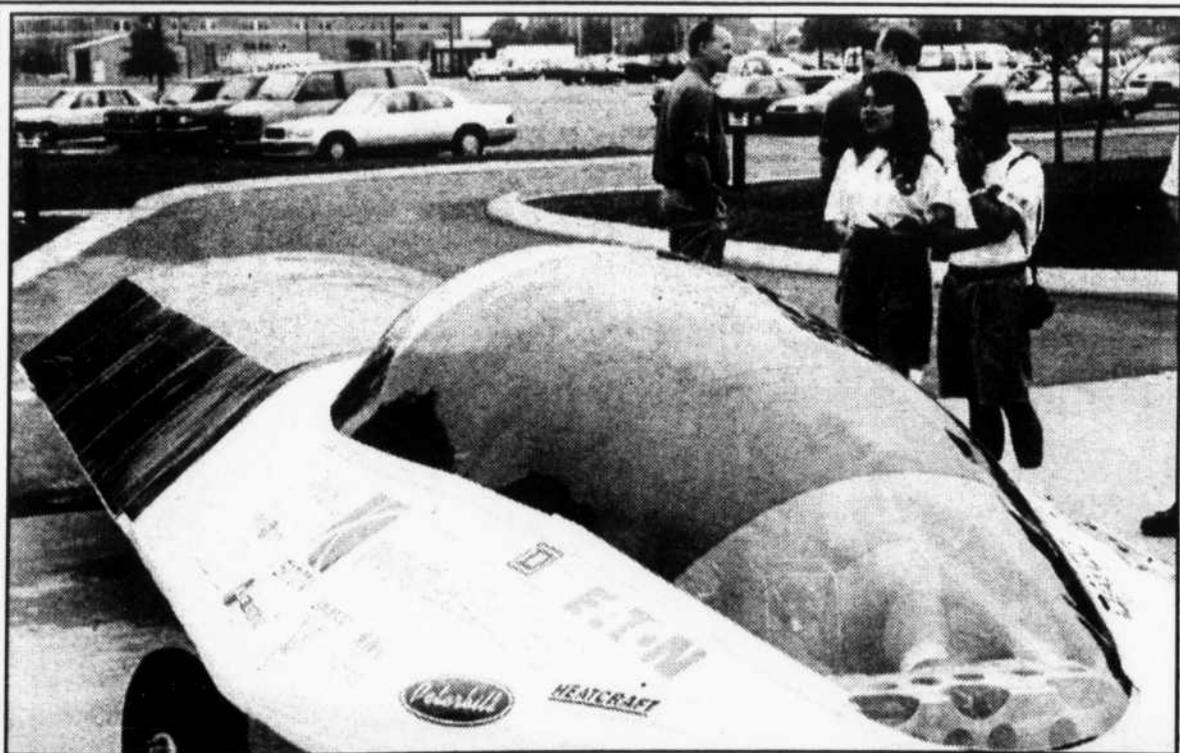


photo by Steve Purinton/ staff

Members of the MTSU Solarraider team await its unveiling at the Recreation Center earlier this month. Solarraider was MTSU's entry in Sunrayce 97, a solar-powered car race held every two years. Solarraider was unable to finish qualifying because of a misunderstanding with race officials.

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by Cynthia Ryan
staff writer

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"Student editors make all decisions regarding content of their respective publications," said Jenny Tenpenny Crouch, student publications director. "They also hire and fire staff as they deem necessary."

While the publications are produced by students, they are supported by the student publications director and an accounts clerk. Together they oversee the financial end of the operation. Professional advice is provided by Crouch.

"Administratively, we supply the editors the journalistic and management framework through which they can make the decisions demanded by their jobs,"

Crouch said.

Collage is printed each semester. The magazine, which is distributed free on campus, offers an outlet for MTSU students to have their poetry, fiction, non-fiction, art and photography published. Material is submitted by anyone who is interested. The *Collage* staff selects what will be printed in each issue. All students are encouraged to submit any literary works.

Midlander is published once a year and may be purchased for \$30. All students may have their portraits included in the yearbook free of charge. Portraits will be taken on campus during designated times and will be advertised on bulletin boards and in *Sidelines*.

Sidelines is published twice weekly during fall and spring semesters and once weekly during the summer semester. The newspaper has a long history of journalistic excellence and is distributed free on campus. There are several positions available in the editorial, advertising and production departments.

"We are proud of each of our publications," Crouch said. "They each serve a different market and serve as outlets for various forms of creativity."

According to Crouch, "each [publication] has been recognized for their individual excellence from a variety of organizations over the years, and we are proud to continue the tradition and hope to continue improving the credibility and viability of each."

"A general training session is scheduled for publications staff members on Aug. 18 and anyone interested in joining either staff is encouraged to attend," Crouch said.

Student Publications is one of the departments of the Student Life Unit of the Student Affairs division. This division exists because the administration has recognized that there are many important aspects of education which fall outside of the classroom. For more information on Student Publications department, call 898-2815.

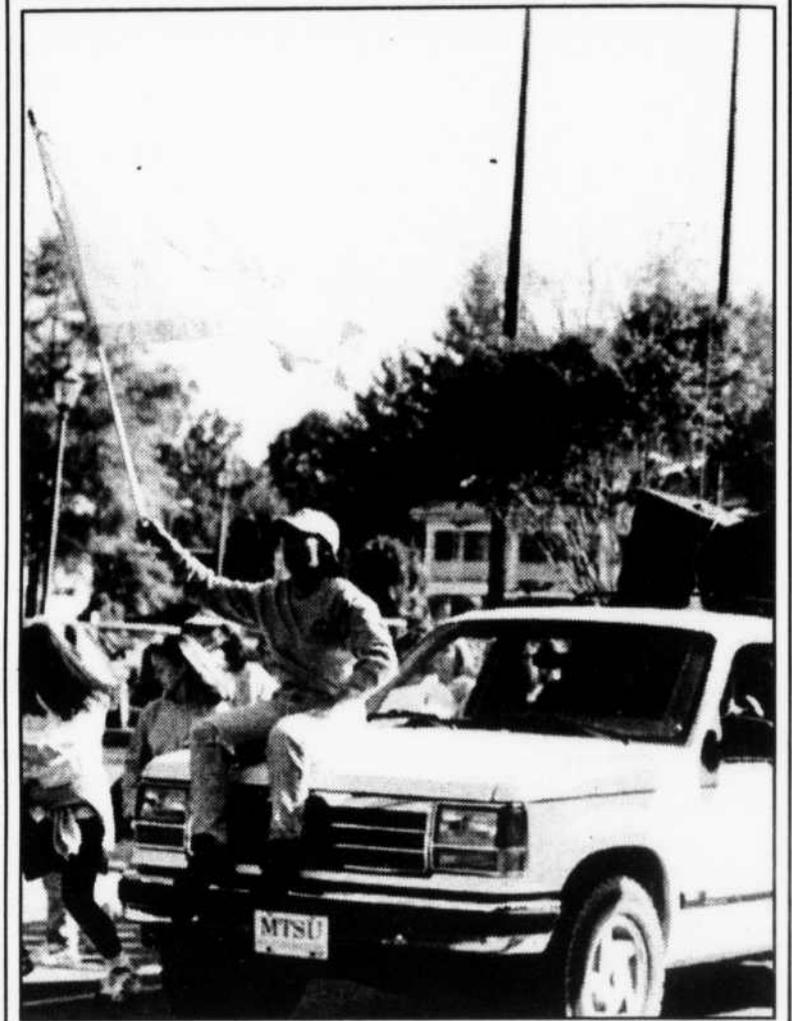


photo by Brian G. Miller

Members of one of MTSU's social fraternities participate in last fall's Homecoming parade.

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Performing arts offer many opportunities

by Cynthia Ryan
staff writer

The MTSU Speech and Theatre department offers many opportunities for students wishing to involve themselves in the performing arts. Students in this department have the option of working with the theatre or on the debate team.

There are five shows per year to be produced. Performance and behind the scenes opportunities are available for students in each of these shows.

"It's a great creative outlet whether you're a performing artist or a graphic artist..." said Dr. Jette Halladay, assistant professor and director of the annual children's show.

Halladay teaches Children's Drama and Speech and encourages educators and education majors to see the shows and be involved in the productions.

"Using theatre in education can be very helpful because theatre captures every element of our lives," she said.

The auditions are open to anyone interested and are posted on the call board in the first floor of Boutwell Dramatic Arts building. Everyone is encouraged to audition and no prior experience is necessary.

For students who shy away from the performance aspect, there are many behind the scenes positions available as well. All backstage jobs are handled by students during a

performance. The scene shop, also located in BDA, is the site of all construction work for the sets, as well as the props, sound and lighting for shows. The shop maintenance and inventory are handled there as well.

There are some hired positions in the scene shop as well as volunteer work and classwork to be done. Steve Jones, technical director for the department, said that he will "put up a sign for applicants on the theatre call board the week before school starts" and "the shop will open the next Monday."

"I'll take as many volunteers that want to do it, but I generally don't have enough money to pay everyone who would like to work here," he added.

The costume studio handles the preparation of all costumes for all shows in the theatre department. Costume Director Virginia Donnell oversees all costume and make up work in the department.

"We build everything, and anyone can volunteer," said Donnell. "Also there are independent credits that can be earned." No prior sewing experience is necessary. Training is available and there are other things that need to be done.

"People leaving the costume studio with experience can go to jobs in all venues; television, soaps, theatre, even a consultant to the video game designers," said Donnell.

There is work available in

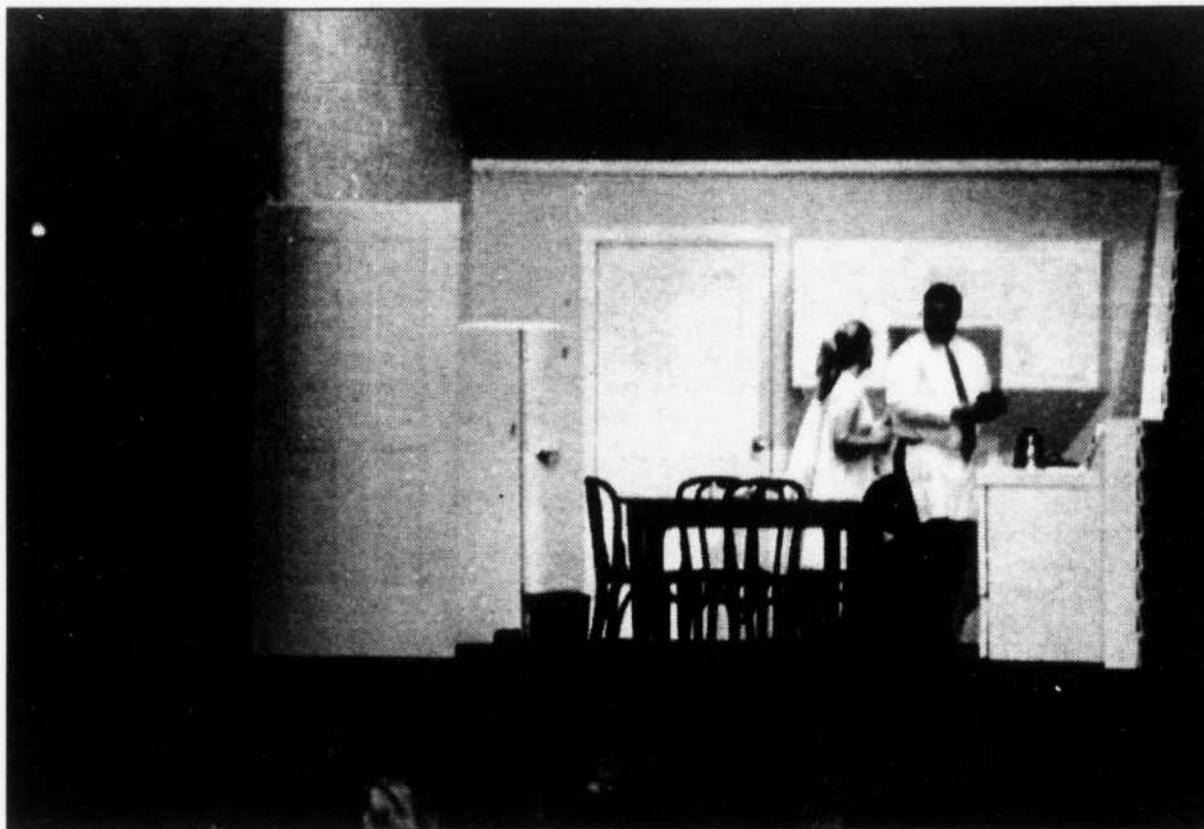


photo by staff

MTSU students participate in a production of "Come Back Little Sheba" held last fall in the Tucker Theater.

both the costume studio and the scene shop all semester. Both areas are open Monday through Friday in the afternoons.

"Theatre makes us laugh, makes us cry, makes us think, and gives us hope," Halladay said. Students should check the call board in BDA or call 898-2640 to get involved in the theatre department.

The debate team is a

co-curricular activity "which means you can do it as an extra curricular activity or in conjunction with your course work," said Director of Debate, Dr. Russell Church. The experience can be taken for credit, but does not have to be.

"Students have the opportunity to debate about significant national and international controversies," said Church. "We travel to 10-

15 competitions per year, both regional and national competitions."

Church added that the trips are at university expense and no experience is necessary.

"It is excellent training for graduate school or law school or public life, getting involved in politics or social issues," said Church. "We will have an open house sometime in August," to recruit new students.

Campus post office provides students with convenient mail delivery service

by Celeste Castillo
staff writer

The Post Office located on the bottom floor of the Keathley University Center works very hard every year to provide students with convenient postal service.

Window service is open 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday thru Friday.

Any student considered full time, which means taking 12 hours or more per semester, has an automatic five dollar postal fee added onto their registration fees.

Full time students also are issued a campus post office box in the fall of their freshman year.

If the student is taking under 12 hours but lives on campus the student must pay individually after registering.

During the first several

weeks of each term, every student not previously registered will be on general delivery—which means going to the service window to receive mail.

When the staff and boxes are ready to set up a post office box, the student will need a valid student identification card, class schedule and fee payment receipt.

Inter-campus mail service is free as long as the sender and addressee's name and address are clearly marked.

Types of mail not allowed in inter-campus mail are material pertaining but not limited to: election materials; solicitation; lotteries; chain letters; or obscene/lewd language.

Any questions may be directed to Elizabeth Patty, post office supervisor, at 898-2459.

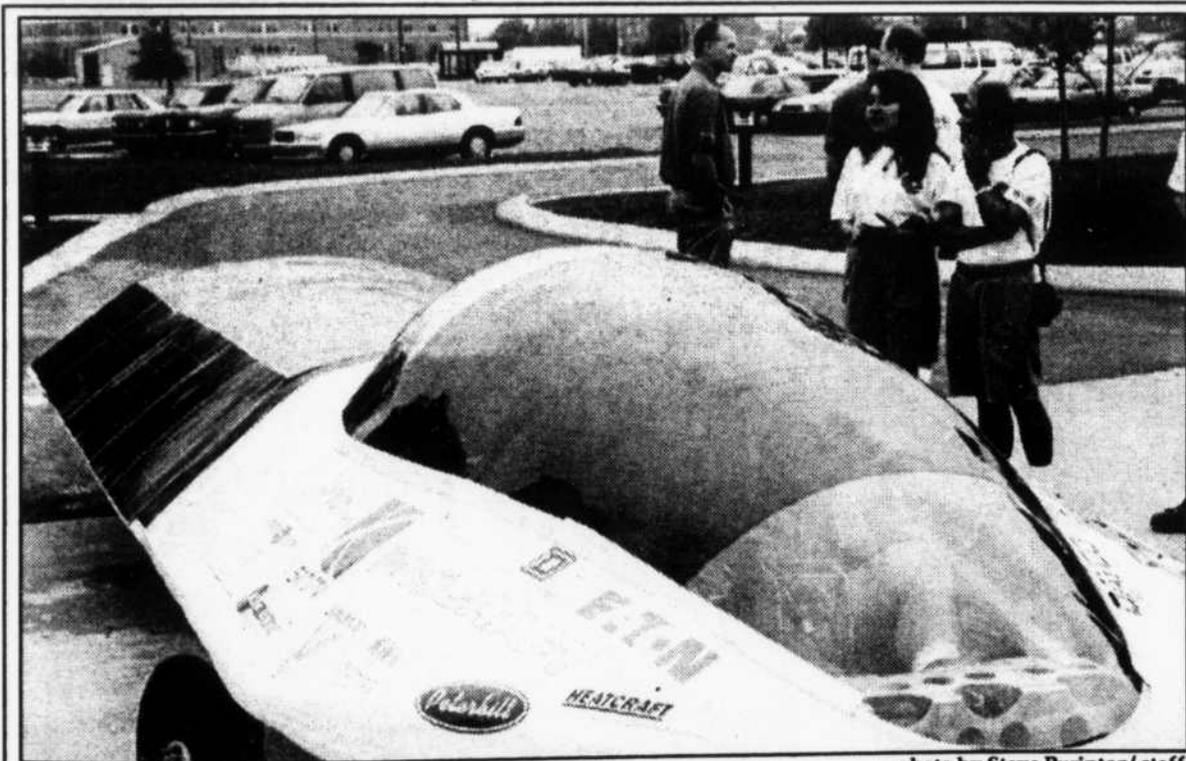


photo by Steve Purinton/ staff

Members of the MTSU Solarraider team await its unveiling at the Recreation Center earlier this month. Solarraider was MTSU's entry in Sunrayce 97, a solar-powered car race held every two years. Solarraider was unable to finish qualifying because of a misunderstanding with race officials.

Honors dorm is a new option

by Susan McMahan
news editor

An alternative to conventional dorm life is now available to students participating in the Honors program.

The pilot Honors Living and Learning Center opens this fall in Wood and Felder Halls.

According to John Paul Montgomery, director of the Honors program, 200 students total can be housed in the new center. So far, about 90 students have signed up to live in the center this fall.

Only students meeting the requirements of a 3.0 GPA and enrollment in at least one Honors class section are allowed to apply for the dorm on a first-come, first-served basis.

Also included in the center is a lobby with a computer lab and a classroom, which will be used only for Honors class sections.

Montgomery said he is "interested in seeing classroom and residence hall intersect."

He said he sees "tremendous potential" in the new center, which he hopes will become a freshman dorm in the future.

Montgomery wants juniors and seniors involved in the Honors Program to be mentors for younger students living in the center.

The center will be a "total learning environment" for the students involved, according to Montgomery.

"We're going to create an intellectual community where the poet, recording industry major, and the accountant can share ideas and experiences," said Montgomery.

Honors Program events, including faculty and student mixers and discussion groups will be moved into the center, according to Montgomery. Weekend events will also be planned for students living in the center.

Debra Sells, director of housing and residence life, said that she thinks the center will be a "pretty lively place" because of the activities.

Montgomery will be speaking to every Customs group about the Honors Program and the Living and Learning Center.

He said he expects enrollment in the program to be 450 to 500 students. There were 400 students involved in the program last year.

The Living and Learning Center will house 100 males and 100 females. Females will be housed in Wood Hall and males will be housed in Felder hall. The two sides are connected by the central lobby.

Sells said she has not had problems with students that formerly lived in Wood and Felder halls. Sells said that the residence life department spent hours talking with students in the dorm before the changes were made.

All displaced students were given priority for other dorms and all eligible students were told they could remain.

Sells said, "We spent time talking with students about their goals and acknowledging it meant a disruption to them."

Court of appeals

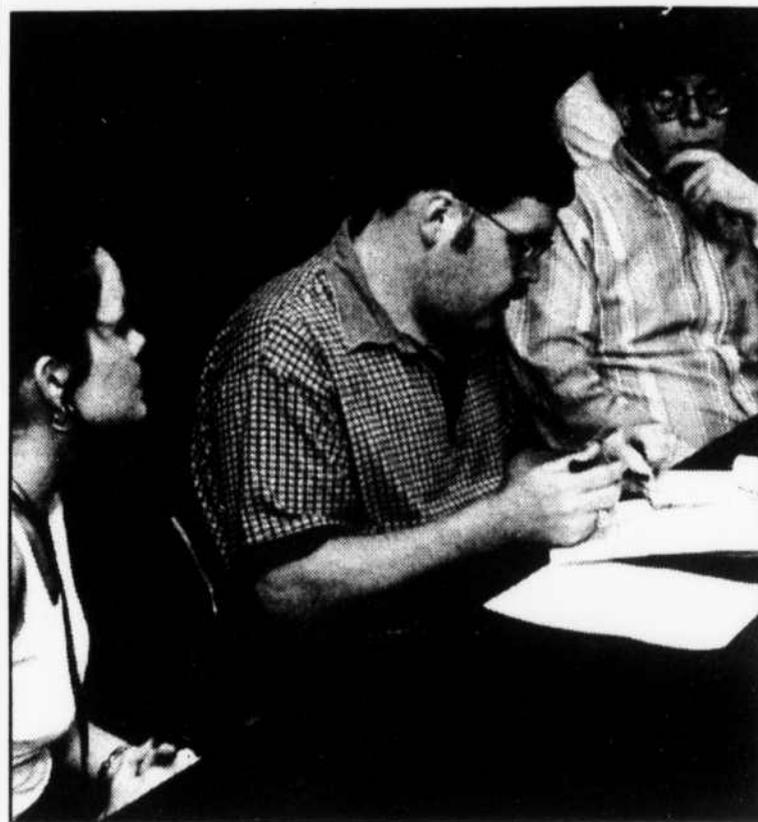


photo by Steve Purinton/ staff

SGA traffic courts listens as a student tries to appeal a campus parking ticket this summer. The court consists of students and meets year round to listen to appeals.

FRESHMEN: The only time success comes before work is in the dictionary.

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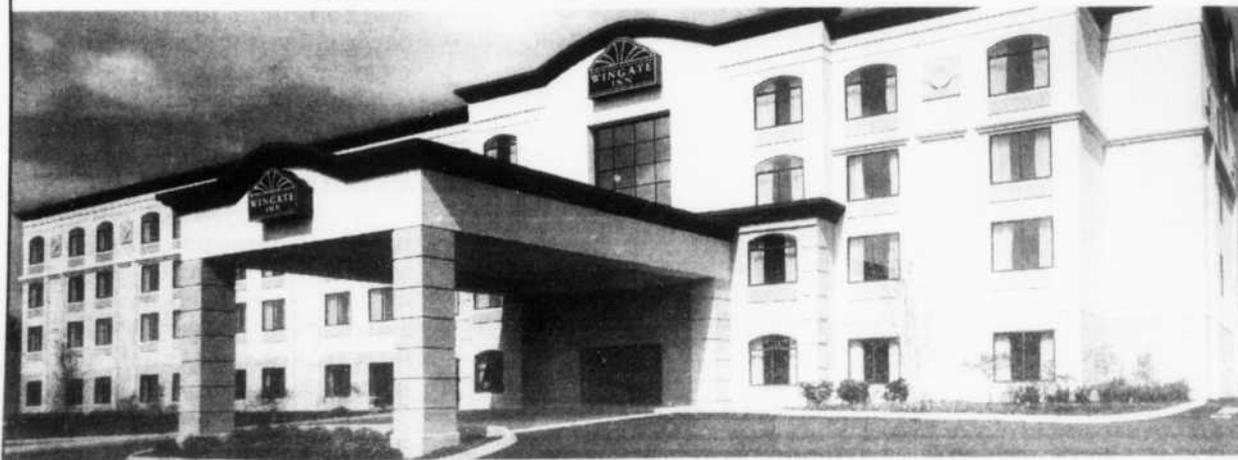
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Freshman at MTSU have meal plan and dining room options

by Celeste Castillo
staff writer

There are several different options for campus food, including 4 dining areas with various meal plans able to fit any schedule or preference. The plans (with tax) include 19 meals/week for 17 weeks for \$825.95, 15 m/w Sun. dinner to

Fri. lunch for \$592.13, 10 m/w includes the weekends and you select 10 out of 19 for \$558.57, 5 m/w any 5 including weekends for \$300.94. There is also a 15 m/w any 15 for \$668.99 and a MANDATORY freshman meal plan of 15 m/w for \$517 and optional for \$68 more, totaling \$585.

Campus Dining Facilities

Keathley University Center Grill (Sunday-Saturday)

Monday-Thursday: 6:30 a.m.-10 p.m.
Friday, Saturday: 7 a.m.- 8 p.m.
Sunday: 3-10 p.m.

Corlew Hall Cafeteria (Sunday-Saturday)

Monday- Friday : Breakfast: 7- 9:30 a.m.
Lunch: 10:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.
Dinner: 4:30- 6:30 p.m.
Saturday: Brunch: 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.
Dinner: 5- 6 p.m.
Sunday: Brunch: 11 a.m.- 1 p.m.
Dinner: 4:30- 6 p.m.

James Union Building Cafeteria (Monday-Friday)

Breakfast- 7- 9:30 a.m.
Lunch: 11 a.m.- 1:30 p.m.
Dinner: 4:30- 6 p.m.

Woodmore Cafeteria (Monday:Friday)

Breakfast: 7- 9 a.m.
Lunch: 11 a.m.- 1 p.m.
Dinner: 4:30- 6 p.m.

Me, myself, and I



photo by Steve Purinton/ staff

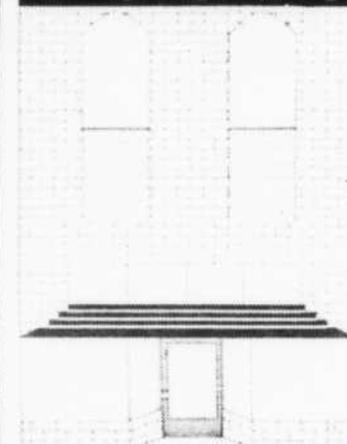
Gene Wrenne, a senior management major, studies in the peace and quiet of the KUC Grill June 10. The KUC Grill is the only cafeteria on campus that does not accept the freshman meal plan. However, the Grill does allow people to use Raider Funds.

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MUSIC AND ELECTRONIC MEDIA

digital planet

¿ What Goes On ¿

In the quest for a social life many new college students find themselves wondering about the avenues and possibilities located near their campus. Here goes the list.

by Chad Gillis
features editor

After much deliberation in Customs, conformation of fall attendance, payment of fees: via credit card, check, or cash, and readjusting their entire lifestyle, many new students find a brief moment to wonder about Murfreesboro.

What, in the geographical center of Tennessee, could one do to pass the next 4 to 6 years of their life? **NOTHING!**

Of course, as always, there are interesting actions of nothingness occurring daily in the Mecca that is Middle Tennessee State University.

For one, this is one of the hottest recording industry schools in the free world. And studios attract musicians, therefore there are many around you. Local music seems to thrive in this region, and is quite contrary to the Nashville stereotyped country scene.

Local staples of bohemian atmosphere such as Dr. Gonzo, the Laughing Storm Dogs, and The Fun Girls from Mt. Pilot demonstrate interpretations of life and liberty on a daily basis.

The stage on which the majority of non-contemporary acts act is located across from Murphy Center at the 'Boro Bar and Grill. The 'Boro offers the best selection of draft and bottled beverages in town.

Local talent is not alone. Many area and national acts participate in the arts. Bands such as Roland Gresham Jazz and Godwater have migrated to this quickly rising musical avenue.

Not long forgotten are the antics of former living performance artist G.G. Allan at 527 Mainstreet. This is an ever changing venue that sees a new administrator every couple of years and is more west side of town.

Other places of musical interest include Johnathan's on the square and Sebastian's—just a few doors down from Spongebath Records on Maple St., and the Bunganut Pig on

Northfield Blvd.

For those interested in theater and television productions Murfreesboro Little Theatre produces 4 works per year. The performances range from straight dramas, to musicals, to comedies. The Murfreesboro Little Theatre is located on the east end of Ewing Blvd. Occasional MLT offers weekend workshops at the Rutherford County Center for the Arts located on College Street next to the square.

The Center for the Arts provides Murfreesboro with a gallery and stage adaptable to musical acts as well as dramatic performances and comedy. The Center for the Arts offers a chance for local and national artist to display works for sale and provides musical acts and various other artists an alternative location to display themselves or their work.

Tucker Theatre produces around 5 plays a year. On the fall list is "Roar of the Greasepaint, Smell of the Crowd" and "The Hostage." For listings of theater productions and auditions check the callboard located in the first floor lobby of the Boutwell Dramatic Arts building.

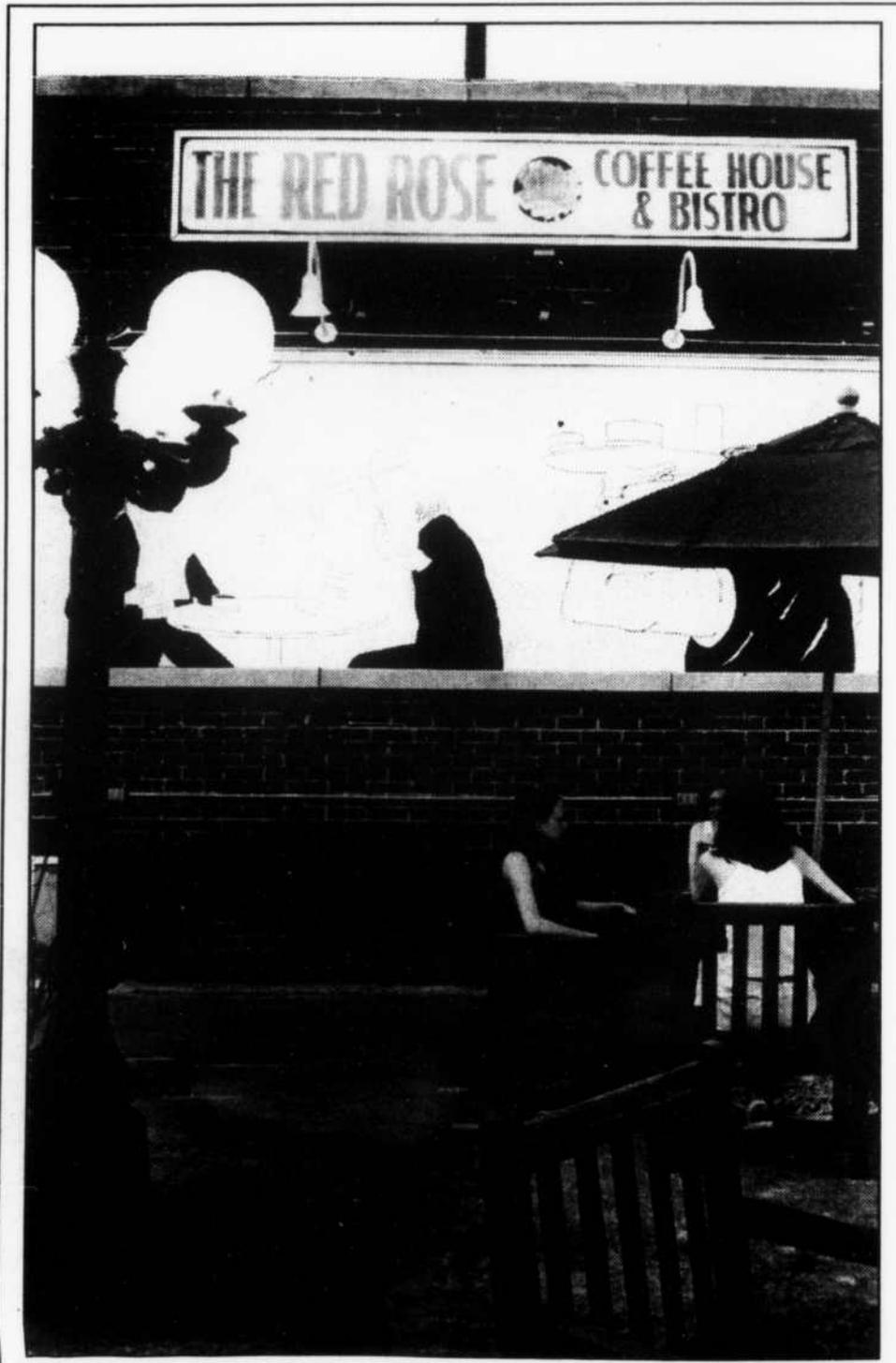
MTSU also has a local television station. Channel 8 is grounded in the Learning Resource Center on campus. Channel 8 has really exploded onto the local television scene and hopefully will continue with programming as it has in the past. Studios A and B of the Center are administered completely by students with a faculty advisor. Channel 8 holds interest meetings at the beginning of each semester where students can express their concerns and ideas, and maybe even get involved.

WMTS 88.3 has recently gone stereo and proves to be one of the best stations in the area: with the addition of "college radio." Students DJ's have the opportunity to program a radio station and while gaining the attention of the campus. MTSU also has a jazz station by the label WMOT 89.5. WMOT is a first

Please see WHAT, page 14



Above: The 'Boro Bar and Grill: haven for local musical acts and keeper of fresh beverages and burgers. The 'Boro is located across from Murphy Center and is open daily until the wee hours. Below: The Red Rose Coffee House and Bistro houses this areas finest selection of caffeine related products. Many MTSU students spend evening hours here studying, chatting and just relaxing. Located on West College Street, the Red Rose is a staple of the Murfreesboro community and is a must see for anyone who is planning to live in the area. photos by Steve Purinton



WHAT (from page 14)

class traditional station that offers soothing sounds at reasonable hours. Both are located in the LRC; WMTS is student oriented with WMOT hiring and offering internships.

MTSU also sponsors Music on the Knoll. The grassy area located behind the Keathly University Center is the area in references and hosts around 5 shows per semester. Local, regional, and national acts perform on a weekly basis with weather permitting. When shows are scheduled and disturbed by uncontrollable conditions the venue is moved into the KUC. Bands, comedians, and more bands perform, with weather permitting, each Friday afternoon after school. Middle has often been cited as a 'suitcase' school and Music on the Knoll is another attempt to change that condition.

Movie buffs will be glad to know that a VCR is not necessary to provoke images of the silver screen. Occasionally on the KUC courtyard features full-length films. Students are encouraged to bring blankets and lawn chairs for free entertainment under the stars. Tucker Theatre offers popular films regularly for students throughout the semester, as well as comedy acts, local musical acts and regularly scheduled programming.

For those of you looking for a quiet atmosphere with a slight intellectual approach, Murfreesboro has an adequate facility. The Red Rose Cafe, located on West College Street, is the Mecca for caffeine enthusiasts. The Rose offers the best coffee, and related items, in town and also owns a bakery next door. For the best in bagels, Boston creams and blueberry muffins try this little venue.

Please see WHAT, page 16



Above: Pronto's is located on the corner of East Main Street and Baird Lane about two blocks south of Sims and Judd Hall. They offer traditional and Mediterranean foods including hamburgers, gyros, platters and sandwiches, submarine sandwiches, veggie burgers, cheese jalepenos, fries, salads, and a good selection of alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages. Pronto's also offers video games, pinball machines, jukebox and a television for local customers and students.

WAZZ

WMOT-FM 89.5

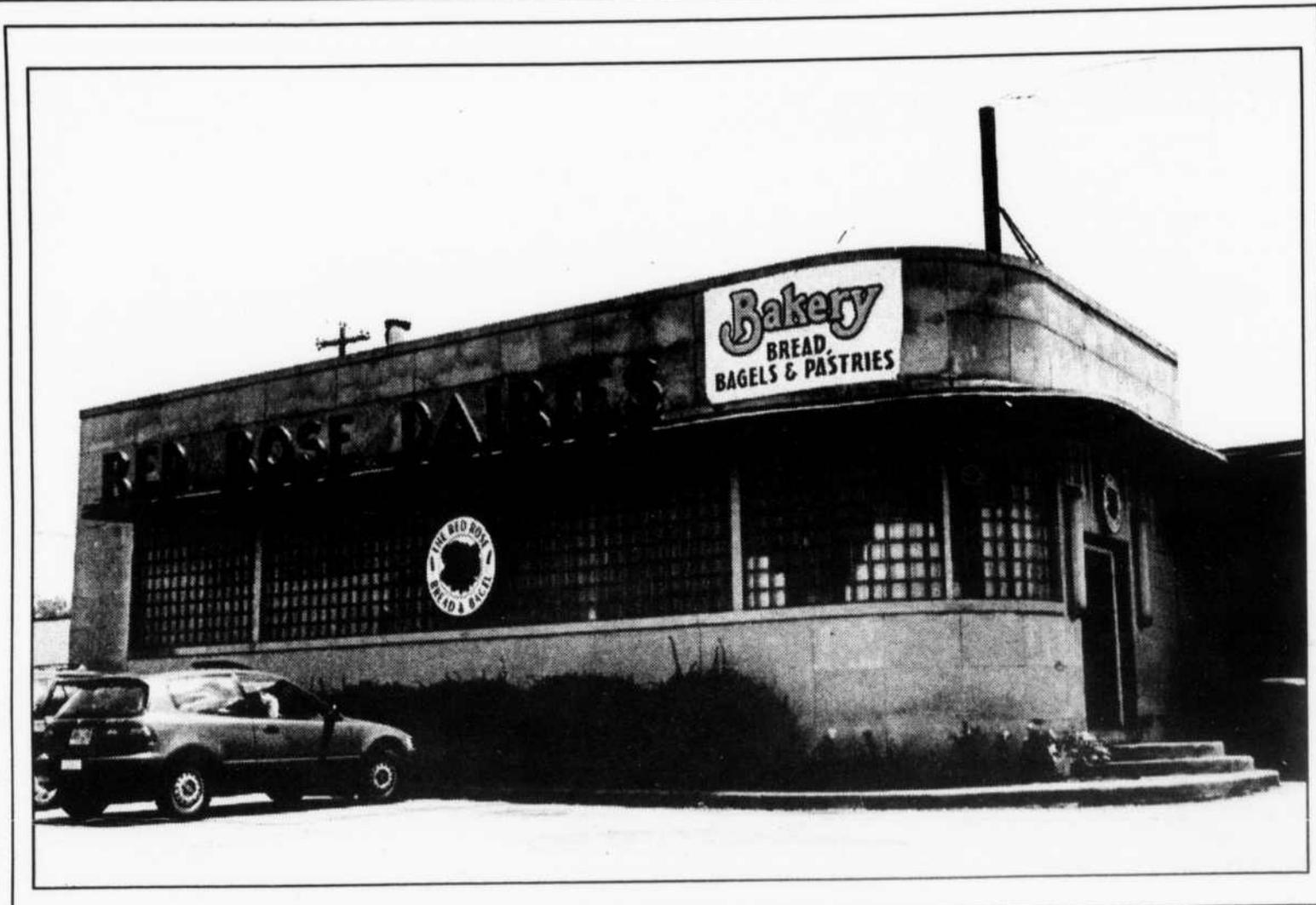
MIDDLE TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY

WHAT (from page 15)

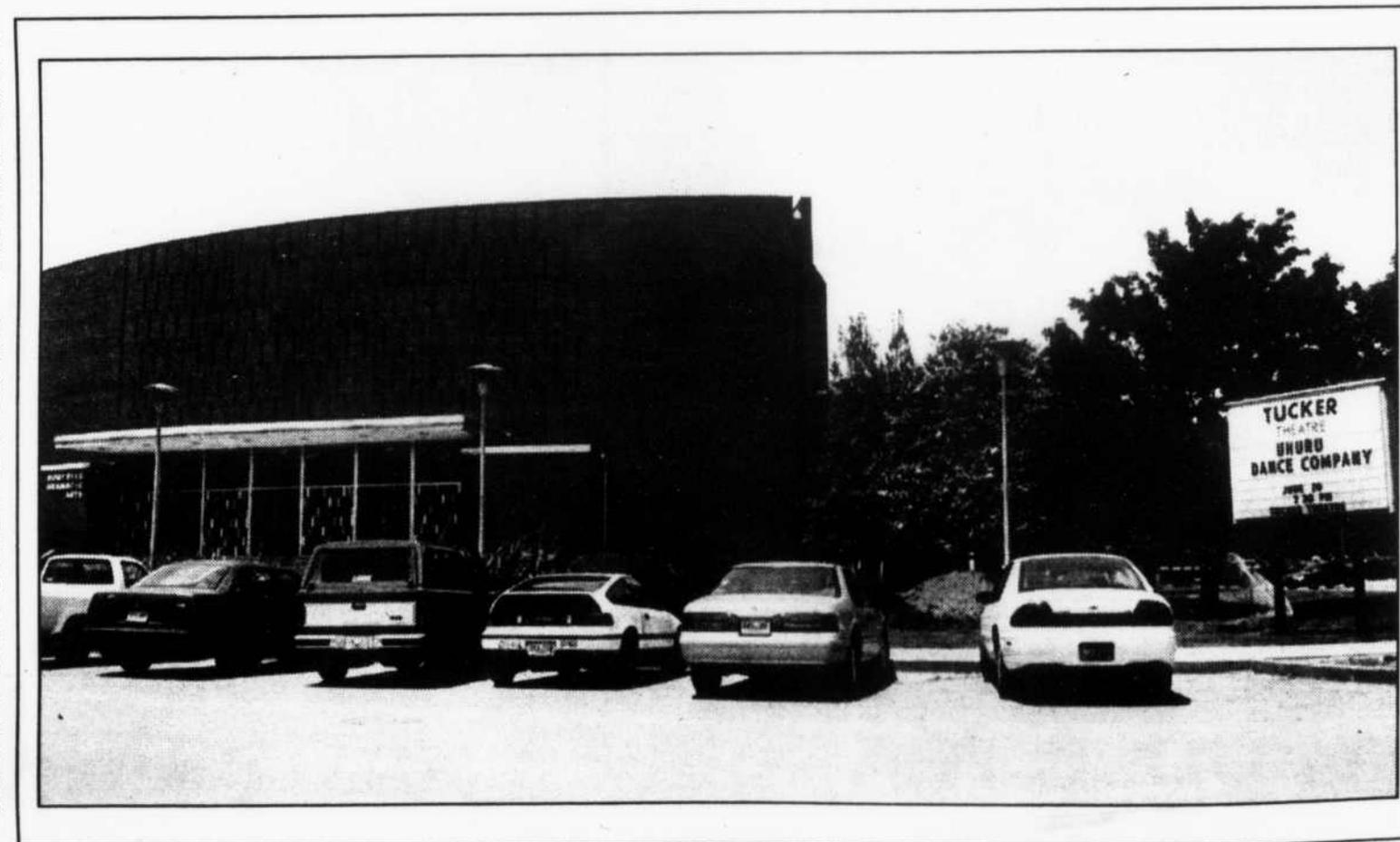
If it is night life you are after and the above is not your cup of tea, Nashville might fulfill your needs. The capitol city offers many art and musical venues appealing to most genres. Lucy's Records on Church St. is an all ages club/record store that houses local and national acts every weekend. Last February Doo Rag held a show in the street, with patrons leaping on and off of Ryder truck as a crowd gathered for blocks. There is also 328 Performance Hall and The Bongo After Hours Theatre, located at 2007 Belmont Blvd.: offering the best in spoken word, independent film, and comedy. 12th&Porter—114 12th Avenue, Zanies comedy club—2025 8th Avenue South, 3rd & Lindsley—818 3rd Avenue South, the Station Inn (Bluegrass)—402 12th Avenue South, Springwater—115 27th Avenue North, Guido's New York Pizzeria—416 21th Avenue South, and the Exit/In—2208 Elliston Place round out this shallow but slightly admirable list.

The trendy cliché term around MTSU lately has been apathy. Students can avoid being labeled this by attending the normal array of activities such as: football games, poetry slams on campus, Greek week, student government, homecoming, rush, or you could just get involved in student publications and write. MTSU offers a unique experience in Middle Tennessee. The best times in this town often occur at a friends house, a party on say Halloween, or sometimes, God forbid, on this very campus. The tuition is cheap and the atmosphere is laid back, so make the most of it and do not ever mention the word apathy.

Even though this is definitely not a college that offers the utmost in social life, free time is as happening as you make it and often the best times are had at unexpected times with unexpected people. Beside, where in the world would 'freshpeople' get the notion that free time exists. Social life is reserved for those who don't plan to set up permanent camp at Todd Library, and surely that is what every MTSU student is after in the long run. Good luck finding an outlet for the stresses this university is bound to bring upon your shoulder's. Get involved.



Above: The Red Rose Bakery, located on West College Street next to the Red Rose Cafe and Bistro. The Bakery offers the best selection of handmade breads in Murfreesboro. Visitors can find pies, cakes, muffins, bagels, Boston creams, cream cheese and various loafs and bagged edibles. Parking is available surrounding the location, but do not park at Ryan's Upholstery. Ryan's is famous for adding a \$60 charge for students by having their vehicles towed. **Below:** Tucker Theatre houses most artistic ventures on campus. Students can expect as many as three full productions per semester, with comedy acts, classes, acting workshops, and other musical and artistic activities filling out the calendar.



MTSU offers much for students interested in radio and television

by Cynthia Ryan
staff writer

Mass Communications' Radio/TV department provides two FM radio stations and a cable television channel for students' learning experience.

WMOT 89.5 FM, also known as Jazz 89, is a professional station located on the second floor of the Learning Resource Center. WMOT has recently completed a signal improvement project which increase their broadcast signal from 50,000 watts to 100,000 watts.

"During our daytime hours, evening, etc., we utilize students in the DJ capacities," said Laura Dunn, development coordinator.

They complete their 24-hour operation by using an overnight satellite service out of Chicago. WMOT has paid positions available as well as internships and work scholarships.

"Some students volunteer just to get experience," said Dunn.

To inquire on working with WMOT, call 898-2800.

WMTS 88.3 FM is a student radio station operating at 200 watts. "WMTS is on a strictly volunteer basis," said production manager and engineer Matt Lane. "We are a free-form alternative radio station which means we play just about anything."

"We try to shy away from Top 40 because there's enough of those stations out there, and we want to provide a different service," Lane said.

The station has an automation system which allows them to combine live and automation to broadcast around the clock.

No broadcasting experience is necessary, "but if you've been in radio before, you're one step ahead of the rest. Everyone is encouraged to volunteer," said Lane.

"People consider student radio to be unprofessional and goofy, but at [W]MTS we try to overcome that and keep it sounding professional," Lane added.

According to Lane, the station would like to get more involved with the student body "because that's what the station is for - the students."

To volunteer for a shift at WMTS call 898-5051.

MTSU's student run cable station, Channel 8, is broadcast from the Mass Communication building. All shows are filmed and edited in the studios of the Learning Resource Center.

All shows are student produced.

The station management team, made up of students has a programming meeting at the beginning of every fall and spring semester. At this time the show propositions are reviewed and decided on.

All student ideas are welcome and encouraged. Channel 8 airs mainly locally styled shows.

This includes skits, news and public affairs. Students wishing to work with a show on Channel 8 should call 898-5050.



photo by Steve Purinton/ staff

Family housing employee Kristy Breed examines baby clothes at a family housing yard sale held last Friday. Family housing is home to almost 200 families. At least one member of the family must be a student at MTSU.

THE BROTHERS OF SIGMA NU FRATERNITY WOULD LIKE TO CONGRATULATE ALL OF THE INCOMING FRESHMEN ON THE DECISION TO ATTEND MTSU. ALL INCOMING FRESHMEN ARE INVITED TO COME BY THE HOUSE ON SEPTEMBER 18-19 FOR FALL RUSH.



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When parents pay, students spend more

By Marco Buscaglia
College Press Service

Students who count on Mom and Dad to foot the bill for school spend a lot more money in college than students who are paying their own way, says a new study by the U.S. Census Bureau.

According to the report, "Dollars for Scholars: Postsecondary Costs and Financing," independent students spend an average of \$1,923 per year, compared to the \$4,387 spent by students who depend upon their parents for money.

Additionally, dependent students are more likely to attend college full time at more expensive universities, while independent students struggle to fit their classes in between work schedules at local and state schools.

Both independent and dependent students rely on the government for financial help, as more than half of today's students use financial aid, the study said. The average monetary amount of aid for each student was \$2,919.

More than 3 million students took out loans during the 1993 academic year to help

pay for their education. The loans averaged \$3,155 per student. But many of those students receiving loans and financial aid also were forced to take part time jobs to fund their education.

"For many students, finding a way to finance postsecondary education may be as much of a challenge as the academic training they will have to master," said Rebecca Sutterlin, one of the report's authors.

That's not exactly news to many college students.

"Any time you have to work to put yourself through school, it's going to cut into your classes," said Lester Birden, a sophomore at Wayne State University in Detroit. "I have to completely adjust my class schedule to my work schedule. Most people can do it the other way around."

Birden, who delivers pizzas and works as a telemarketer, admits that he sometimes misses class because he's too tired from work.

"But it's something I have to deal with," he said, adding that his student loans don't cover all of his costs. "I have to make a choice between missing some notes or losing money. I'm not in the position where I can

lose my job."

While Birden said he sometimes gets bitter over students who have their education paid for by their parents, he thinks he is already learning valuable lessons both in and out of the classroom.

"I always hear people say that they deliver pizza for beer money," said Birden. "That's fine, but I do it to pay for my classes and my rent. People talk about the 'real world' when you get out of school, but I feel like I'm already in it."

Birden also understands that since he's paying for classes, he's might as well get the the most from them.

"I don't want to get a D in a class I spend a few hundred bucks for," he said. "I want to get the most for my money."

According to the census report, the average student makes \$979 a year from employment. Birden said he makes that in a month.

But despite the 30-40 hours of work he puts in a week, he claims that his classes really don't suffer. "I've really learned how to manage my days more effectively," he said. "I just don't spend a lot of time sitting around."

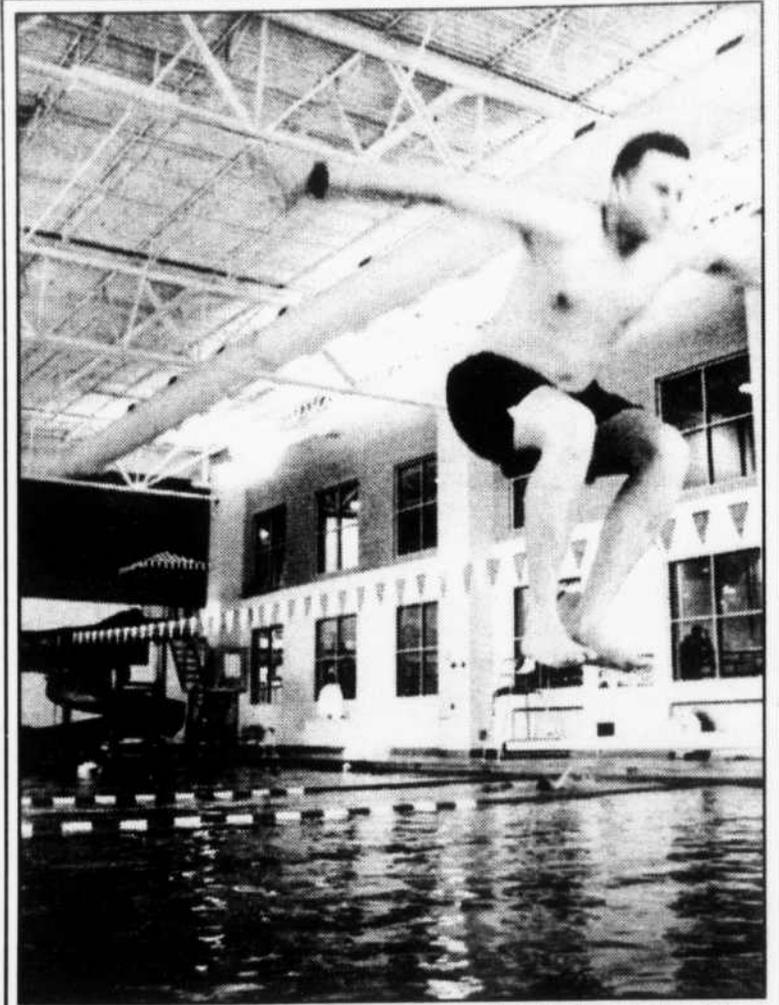


photo by Steve Purinton/ staff

Michael Rogerson, Jr., a recording industry major, escapes the heat and practices his backflips June 19 at the Rec Center swimming pool.

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Rec Center offers something for everyone

by Ramona Stubblefield
staff writer

The Middle Tennessee State University Recreational Center, located near family housing, offers something for everyone. If you want to work out, relieve stress, play in the sand, relax in the sun or swim in the pool, you can do it here.

The center has everything you need for total body fitness, including a walking track (6.5 laps equals a mile), six basketball courts, four sand volleyball courts, six racquetball courts (by appointment only), the cardiovascular room, which includes treadmills, Nordictacks, and stairmasters among other machines, an aerobics room, a climbing wall, a sun deck and a pool with different depths (up to 13 feet) and a slide. Lockers are provided if you need them. You can also rent equipment for use while you are there.

There is no fee for use of indoor equipment, but there is a charge for use of outdoor equipment. Some of the items available for checkout are: golf club sets, racquetball equipment, softball equipment, tennis balls and racquets, volleyball equipment and weight belts among other things.

Trying to get in shape after a summer vacation? Look no farther! The Rec Center offers personal trainers. The cost is only eighteen dollars an hour. You can set your own schedule.

The center also offers many classes for adults and for children. Swimming classes are available at the moment, and in the fall life guarding classes will be available.

If you're new to MTSU and don't know anyone here, but want to participate in activities, there are two



photos by Steve Purinton

Many people enjoy the facilities at the Rec Center. They offer step aerobics and weight training.

programs in which you can get involved. If you need a partner for an activity, just look in the form rack adjacent from the front desk and fill out a "Hey! I'm looking for a partner!" sheet. Fill out the form and turn it in at the front desk, then check the board near the cardiovascular room for other interested individuals.

If you're looking for a team,

you can check out the "Free Agent Program". All you have to do is sign up on a free agent list and come to the team captain's meeting to talk with teams in need of players. They will either let you know then if they need players or you can call the team captain after playing begins and volunteer to assist the team.

The Rec Center also offers

employment opportunities such as officiating games. Intramural sports is constantly in need of officials for basketball, flag football, volleyball, soccer, softball, road races and other activities. All you need is a knowledge of sports, to be dependable and have a "cool head". They will

please see REC, page 22

Rec Center Fall 1997 Schedule

August

9-18- Appalachian trail hike

25 - SB, Tennis, Soccer, Sand volleyball, Flag football; Mini Tri opens

October

4-5 - BP/Rappell @ Sipsey

15 - Fall break begins
Smokies
Backpacking coop
w/UT-Martin
Bicycling on Natchez Trace

September

6 - Ocoee day trip

7 - Canoe the Harpeth

13 - Sea Kayak

14 - Sea Kayak @ Land
Between the Lakes:
Ocoee day trip

21 - Ocoee raft day trip

24 - full moon canoe -

26-28 - rafting

29 - RB, Golf, VB, 3 on 3 opens

October

4-5 Backpacking/Rappell Sipsey

15 - Fall break begins
Smokies back
packing coop
w/ UT Martin
Bicycling on Natchez Trace

20 - 3 on 3 opens

27 - TIRSA opens

November

3 - pre season BB & Whiffle ball

15 - caving with UT-Martin

25-26- TG Hoiliday Grand Canyon

December

12- last day of class

14-20 ski steamboat

January

1 - Everglades canoe trip

Reflecting back on a year of Middle Tennessee State University sports

by Doug Malan
staff writer

The calendar has flipped through ten months of Blue Raider sports since last August, completing the 1996-97 athletic year and bolstering Middle Tennessee's image as an Ohio Valley Conference behemoth.

During that span, some sports surprised students with success,

others disappointed by failing to meet expectations and some continued to foster their winning traditions. Overall, Blue Raider athletics provided the university with a feverish excitement that transcended the seasons.

The men's tennis team continued its time-honored practices of pasting opponents, capturing the seventh consecutive OVC title with an undefeated mark. Head coach Dale

Short, the 1997 Region III Coach of the Year, guided the Raiders to a 24-5 overall mark, matching the school's best record reached in 1996, and a number-17 final national ranking.

Senior Fred Niemeyer garnered Region III Player of the Year honors while advancing to the quarterfinals of the NCAA Singles Tournament. He ended the season ranked fourth nationally among singles players.

Junior Anthony DeLuise also qualified for the Singles Tournament and finished ranked 39th in the nation.

The junior tandem of David McNamara and Julius Robberts reached the NCAA Doubles Tournament.

Middle began its season

please see YEAR, page 24

Rec Center gears up for a new season of intramurals

by Nikki Bagwell
sports editor

As the new year begins, so does the new season of intramural sports.

The Rec Center organizes, facilitates and sponsors the MTSU intramural sports.

Intramural sports offer the

student body a chance to play in team or individual sports within the campus community. Annually, over 500 students, faculty and staff participate in some form of exciting sports activity.

Wayne Taylor, Assistant Director of the Campus Rec. Center, said that participation varies from sport to sport. They offer 14 sports to choose

from, including Sand Volleyball, indoor soccer and Wallyball, which is a variation of volleyball.

Greek organizations, departments and housing form teams to play in the variety of sports offered.

According to Taylor, intramural sport popularity coincides with the professional seasons. Those sports most

popular are softball, basketball, volleyball and flag football.

They offer a free agent program that helps students to find a team to play in and at the same time it puts students in the position to meet new people.

Of course, there are rules and procedures teams have to adhere to for participation. For

those who are interested, the rules will be provided.

With the participation numbers ranging from 10-12 teams in some sports and 30 to 40 teams in others, the intramural program still proves to be successful.

For more information, contact the Rec. Center at 898-2104.

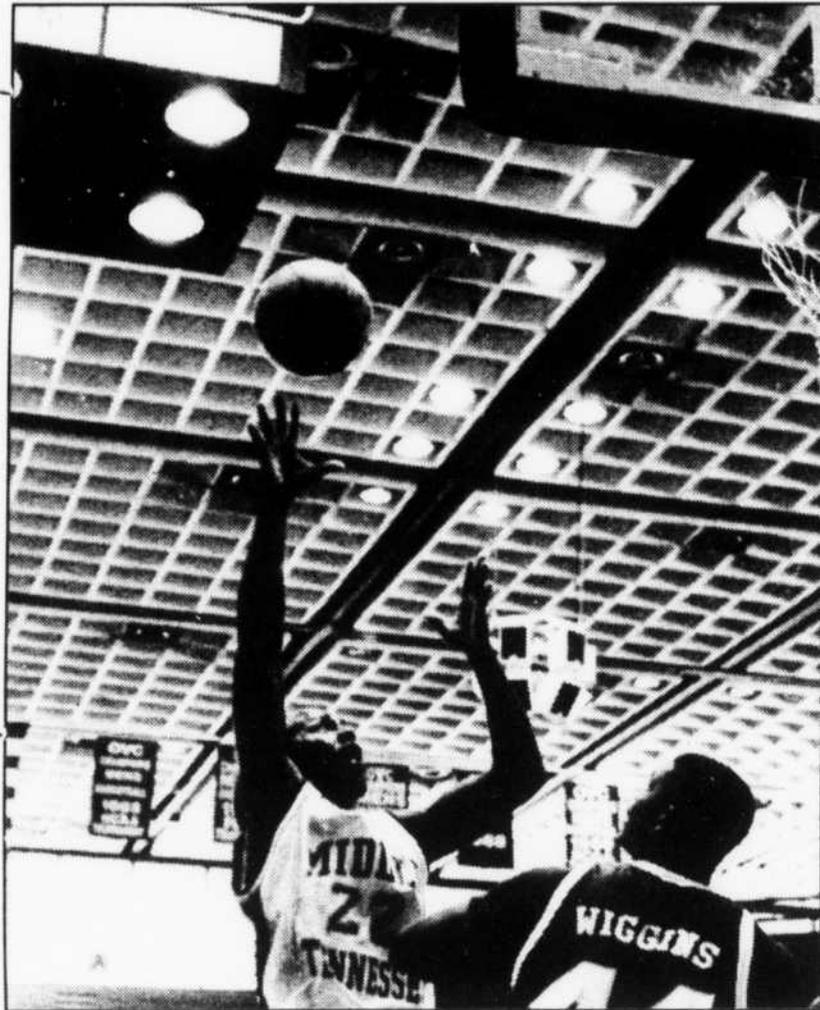


photo by staff

Blue Raider Men's Basketball player shoots over his opposition

Rugby team seeks support

by Nikki Bagwell
sports editor

The Rugby team at MTSU earned the title of the number one Rugby team in the Mid South for the second year in the row.

Why aren't they known on campus? Despite their unprecedented title, the rugby team can't seem to gain fair access to student activity funds.

Jason McAfee, an experienced rugby player, said that much of their funding comes from the Old Boys, which is an organization of MTSU Alumni that played Rugby during their collegiate years.

Dace Schuck, a former MTSU rugby captain, said they normally have a variety of fund raisers. "We are going to plan more philanthropic events," Schuck said.

Schuck is now affiliated with the Nashville Rugby Club, but still remains active

with the MTSU team.

Schuck said that maybe the reason they do not get campus support is that "I don't think they see Rugby as a big sport."

Since 1980, the MTSU rugby team has had a winning season every year, but they are still last on the list of priority sports. The players have no field to call their own therefore, they cannot keep a constant practice schedule. The lack of support has helped motivate team members to defend their status and gain recognition.

Schuck told us that they are not complaining, but they would like a little more campus support. "Rugby is an organized sport and organization takes time," said Schuck.

The current team players are working hard to dispel the campus conception of the rugby team, club and its members. This coming year the team plans to work more on fund raising for charity and hopefully gain funds to purchase new uniforms.

MTSU Fall 1997 Football schedule

Sept. 6	Tennessee State, 6 p.m. *#
Sept. 13	at UT Chatt., 6:30 p.m.
Sept. 27	Murray State, 7p.m. *
Oct. 4	Jacksonville State, 2 p.m. @
Oct. 11	at UT Martin, 1 p.m. *
Oct. 18	at Eastern Ill., 1:30p.m. *
Oct. 25	Southwest Mo., 2 p.m. *
Nov. 8	Austin Peay, 2 p.m.
Nov. 15	at Eastern Ky., 12:30 p.m. *
Nov. 22	at Tenn. Tech, 1 p.m. *

#at Vanderbilt; * OVC game; @ homecoming. These games are subject to change

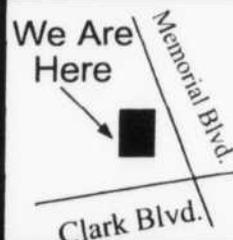
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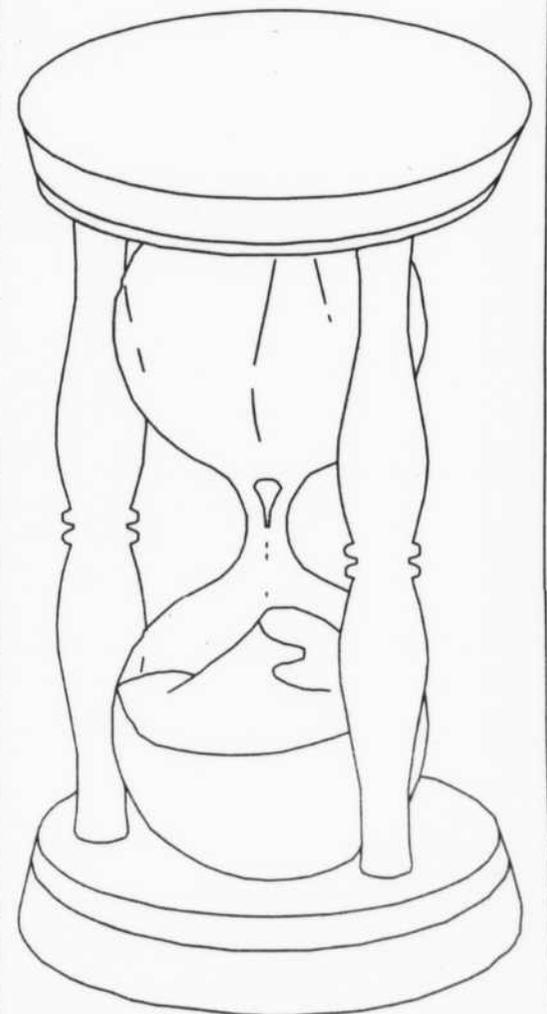
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YEAR (from page 21)

season playing nationally ranked non-conference foes in tournaments where success allowed them to surge toward the top of the rankings.

Ranked 20th in the preseason, MTSU upset tenth-ranked South Alabama number-four Boise State in the first two months of the season, along with other schools ranked in the top 60.

The apex was a March 29 match-up at number-one ranked UCLA, a match many in the sport called the best of the year. At the time, MTSU was ranked fourth in the nation, its highest ranking in history.

The Blue Raider baseball team showed its resolve by winning eight of its last nine conference games to secure a share of the OVC title and the tournament's top seed. In the process, Steve Peterson's squad one of the school's most prolific offenses, posting a school-record .323 team batting average.

However, inconsistent play caused them to lose the first two games of the tournament and their season ended with a 31-24 mark. It marked the second consecutive year that MTSU failed to win a game in the OVC Tournament.

Senior shortstop Clay Snellgrove batted .393 with eight homeruns, 56 RBI and a 20-game hitting streak. The four-year starter left as the holder of a litany of records and now plays in the San Diego Padres farm system after being drafted in the 24th round.

Freshman Brad Howard emerged as the ace of the pitching staff with a 7-2 record and a 3.80 ERA, both team highs. Howard was named to the Louisville Slugger Freshman All-American team.

Andrew Thompson led the team with a .409 average and 13 homers from his catcher position.

The Blue Raiders faced two teams, Auburn and Alabama, that advanced to the 1997 College World Series in Omaha, Neb.

First year coach Randy Wiel inherited a previously underachieving men's basketball team and turned in a surprising 19-12 record.

Wiel has been lauded for his rebuilding of UNC-Asheville as well as his work under North Carolina coach Dean Smith.

Seniors Nod Carter, Torrey Moore and Roni Bailey were the backbone of a team that scrapped the half-court game for a more explosive full-court attack.

During the year, Middle picked

up victories over Sweet 16 participants Providence and Chattanooga while making a road trip to face the Tar Heels in Chapel Hill.

The season ended with a second-round loss to Murray State in the OVC Tournament.

The Lady Raiders tennis team equaled the men by winning the OVC title and finishing with a 19-7 overall record.

Clare Seveir and David Thornton received OVC Player and Coach of the Year honors.

MT didn't lose a match after February 23, ending the season on a 17-match winning streak.

The football team rebounded from a 1-3 start and won its final three games to finish the year 6-5.

Ronnie Gordon and Jonathan Quinn split quarterback duties while battling to achieve consistency in moving the ball.

Lady Raider basketball finished an uncharacteristic 10-20, backing into the conference tournament with victories in the final three OVC games.

Head coach Lewis Bivens, who guided the Lady Raiders to an NCAA Tournament appearance in 1996, resigned at the end of the year.

Perhaps the most poignant story involved the golf team, which finished third in the OVC golf tournament.

Halfway through the season, freshman Johnny Warren was diagnosed with cancer and he died within weeks of the announcement.

The team rallied behind him and finished its season shooting a collective 1-over 865 in the tournament, five shots behind champion Eastern Kentucky.

Individually, Maine Brock placed third at 4-under, three shots back of the leader. Richard Spangler broke par at 1-under and placed sixth.

Brett Alexander finished tied for eleventh at 1-over par, Steve Ressler tied for 19th and Whit Turnbow tied for 44th.

The Lady Raider volleyball team ended the season 16-19, a year removed from a 32-7 mark and an NCAA appearance in Coach Lisa Kisse's first season.

Losing setter Nidza Castillo to injury early in the year forced the team to make strategical adjustments and use players, which at the time, were unproven.

The squad finished the season losing six of its last seven matches, with the only victory coming over Tennessee State in the OVC Tournament.



Above: Blue Raider baseball in the Spring. The Raiders later went on play in the College World Series in Omaha, Nebraska.

Below: Lady Raider Soccer in it's second year.

Photos by staff



Marijuana smokers lose recall abilities, study finds

by Colleen DeBaise
College Press Service

BELMONT, Mass.-College students who smoke marijuana daily have a harder time taking tests or remembering something just explained to them, even if they haven't smoked the drug in 24 hours, according to a new study by hospital researchers.

But whether their abilities are impaired simply from lingering effects of the drug or more seriously from longer-lasting effects on brain function still is not clear to researchers.

Two groups of college students, 65 "heavy" users who smoke pot daily and 64 "light" users who smoke two days a month, volunteered to undergo a battery of tests on their verbal abilities, attention and memory.

Researchers monitored the students for 24 hours before the study began to assure that none smoked the drug during the testing period.

"The heavy users had more trouble paying attention," said Dr. Harrison G. Pope, chief of the biological psychiatry laboratory at McLean Hospital, whose study recently appeared in the *Journal of the American Medical Association*.

The heavy users made significant, repeated mistakes in card sorting and showed reduced learning of word lists, Pope said.

"It's not so much that their memory was affected," he said. "It's that they could not pay attention to the material well enough to register the information in the first place so that it could be repeated later."

The study, funded by the National Institutes of Health, provides some of the most conclusive evidence yet that cognitive abilities are impaired more in heavy pot smokers than light smokers, even after a day's abstinence from the drug. Despite these findings, the question still remains as to what exactly causes the

impairment.

Scientists have yet to understand if abilities are impaired because of the drug's "hangover" effect or as a result of "a more ominous, neurotoxic effect on the brain," Pope said.

"It is remarkable that marijuana has been consumed for thousands of years and studied for decades, yet we still don't know the answer to that fundamental question," he added.

Deborah Yurgelun-Todd, director of neuropsychology at McLean Hospital, co-conducted the study and said more research is needed.

"Only by further study of these issues can it be judged whether . . . impairment with marijuana should be considered a public health problem," she said.

A new study is planned at McLean to determine whether long-term, heavy marijuana users still have impaired abilities up to four weeks after stopping drug use.

Health

Healthier ways to relieve the stress of summer jobs and summer school

by Jennie Treadway
special to *Sidelines*

Now that summer is here, one would expect to feel a little relief from the school-year stress. However, a nine-to-five working day, even during the summer months, can bring on the same stress as a 17 hour semester workload.

No matter the month or season, the quirks of day to day life can grow a gray hair on anyone. Managing stress is not only essential to sustain sanity but to prevent damage to the body. Excessive stress is known to cause headaches, stomachaches, neck pain, insomnia, irritability, high blood pressure, and back pain. A low-stress lifestyle, as impossible as it may sound, can help prevent such related physical problems.

While some feed off the adrenaline of excessive stress, a majority of the working population want to avoid a high-stress situation.

"Unwinding with a glass of wine or an entire pint of ice cream might give you temporary relief, but if they become the primary means of coping, they can actually make things worse," according to Rachel Dobkin and Shana Sippy, authors of *The College Woman's Handbook*.

Pinpointing the cause of stress is a key step in eliminating the chances of a mental or physical breakdown. Alleviating stress begins with focusing on what causes the most stress and learning to manage that specific problem. For example, if the problem lies at home, deal with it at home and avoid bringing outside stress into the workplace.

After deciding what causes the frown lines and tummy aches, it is important to recognize the problem as highly stressful. When a strenuous situation arise at work or home, take a deep breath and a step back before focusing on a solution. Stress leads to irrationality as well as irritability.

Aside from recognizing and learning to manage a source of stress, relief is on the way. There are a million and one ways to break away from the jagged course of a stressful day. The key is to know how much stress is too much.

Taking time alone for a favorite hobby or pastime is always a stress-reliever. If reading or painting is a hobby of the past, revive it. Take an hour out of the day to page through a magazine or channel surf. Play with the dog or write a letter to close friend or relative.

"Exercising is not only one of the best ways to release stress, it's also an important aid in its prevention," say Dobkin and Sippy. According to researchers, a physically fit body is a better mechanism of managing the symptoms of stress. A brisk walk outside or quick swim in warm pool may be the boost your body needs.

"Movement during the day is important to the body," says Laura Welsh, M.D., director of occupational and environmental medicine at the George Washington University Medical Center. Walking away from your desk at work for a few minutes or take a break outside the house may prevent stress from accumulating inside your neck and spine, which then leads to those awful headaches.

Since it is summer, take advantage of the warm weather and spend time outdoors. Visit the community pool or go rafting down a river. Take a walk in a park or work in the garden for a few hours. If allergies or preference keep you indoors, take a yoga class or try a home workout video to get your body moving. Do a few laps around the mall or join a local gym.

Recall your grammar school summers and how they were spent. Make the effort to rest and relax. The fall, along with the next batch of semester hours, will be here far too soon.

Just horsin' around

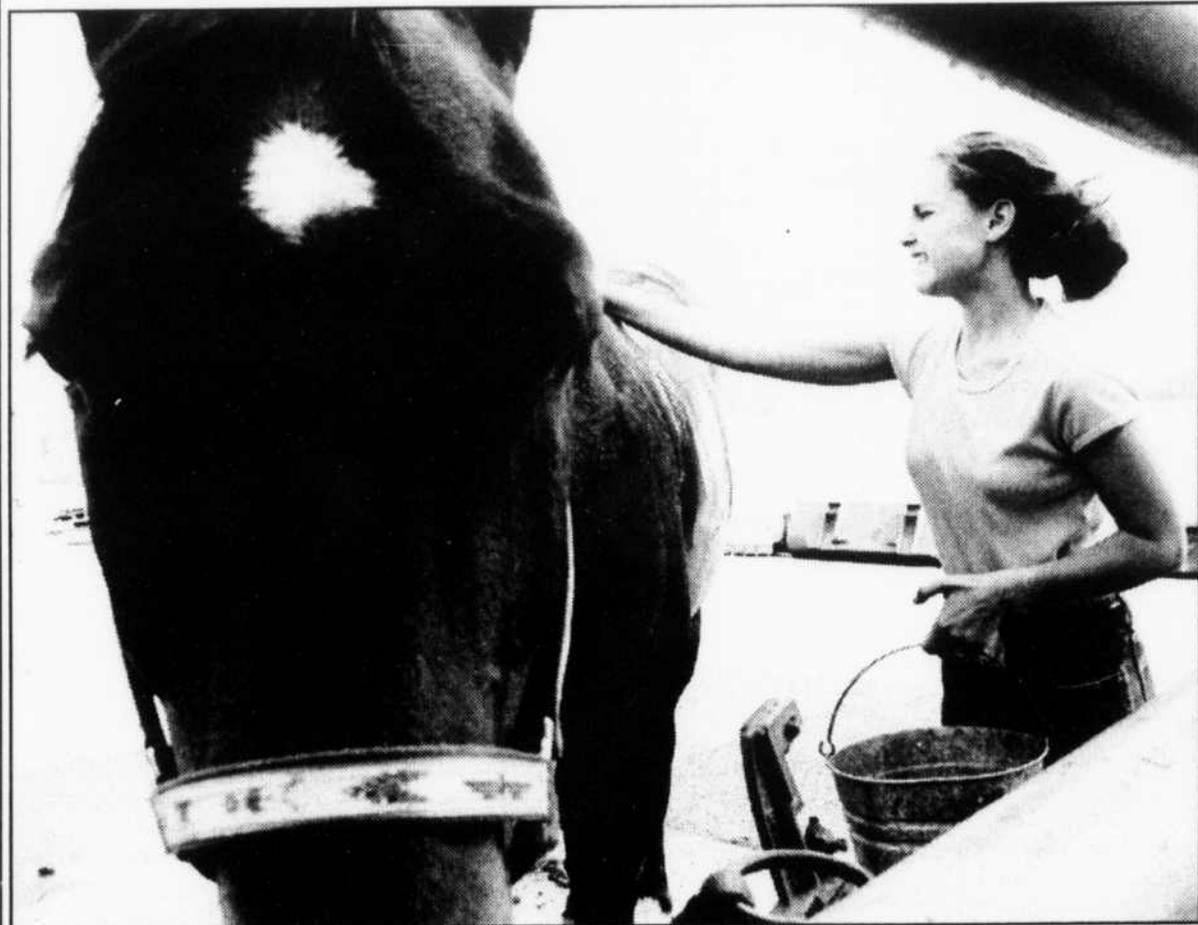


photo by Steve Purinton/staff

Corinne Gould of Rhea County bathes her horse, Bo, at a 4-H Horseman camp that was held on the MTSU campus. Gould, 16, is the president of the Rhea County 4-H Club. She said that 4-H stands for "Head, Heart, Hands, and Health, but I think it stands for Horse, Horse, Horse, Horse."

More freshmen arrive than expected

by Marco Buscaglia
College Press Service

When Melanie Lubbers arrived at Northwestern College in Orange City, Iowa, she couldn't wait to meet her new roommates—all seven of them.

Lubbers is sharing a converted student lounge with the other women after a record number of freshman arrived on campus this year, causing a housing crunch. But despite the crowded quarters, Lubbers isn't complaining.

"It's a lot of fun. I don't want to leave," she says. "I've gotten to know a lot more people this way."

Lubbers' situation isn't that uncommon. This fall semester has provided colleges across the nation with a bumper crop of freshmen, leaving many officials scrambling to accommodate their new students.

For example:

- Freshman overcrowding at Knox College in Galesburg, Ill., caused school officials to house students in a motel and faculty offices. Meanwhile, a few faculty members are serving time in temporary office space at the town's abandoned jail.

- Some freshmen discovered their temporary housing included maid service. Forty-four University of Minnesota freshmen were shipped to Stadium Village Days Inn just off of campus until space opened in the dorms, while 90 freshmen at Drury College in Springfield, Mo., are spending their first semester away from home living at an off-campus hotel.

- And some colleges are offering cash incentives to students who move off campus. California's Claremont McKenna College offered \$1,000 incentives to upperclassmen to give up their residence halls rooms.

"We were definitely surprised at the amount of students," says Jerome Reed, dean of undergraduate studies at Clemson's University, which welcomed a freshmen class nearly 10 percent larger than last year. "We weren't planning on the numbers being so high."

So why did Clemson, like many schools, find so many freshmen arriving to campus this year? Educators say there are likely many reasons.

One is simple demographics. Approximately 2.55 million students graduated from high school this year, up from 2.47 in 1994, according to the U.S. Department of Education.

But Reed says other factors

help as well. For instance, a competitive job market has led more people to pursue higher education degrees, he adds.

"More students, young and old, are realizing the true importance of an education," Reed says. "Schools are seeing more students that are looking for opportunities."

"It's not uncommon that when the economy is slow, people go back to school," adds Matt Fissinger, director of admissions at Loyola Marymount University in Los Angeles, which has enrolled its largest freshman class—801 students—in 10 years.

Success on the athletic field doesn't hurt either, says Matt Winston, a Virginia Tech spokesperson.

"We'd like to think that we received a lot of applicants because we have low tuition and an excellent academic reputation," says Winston. "But the fact remains that our football team went to the Gator Bowl and our basketball team won the NIT. That probably helped us out quite a bit."

Winston says nearly 500 more freshmen showed up on the first day of class than were expected by Virginia Tech officials.

"Schools generally accept more students than they have room for because so many choose to go to other schools, decide to wait or just decide to stay home," Winston says. "That didn't happen this year. Everyone came."

Since new students are required to live in on-campus housing, Virginia Tech first had to deal with finding ways to house all of their freshmen.

"We offered buyouts to our upperclassmen who lived in the dorms so they could go get an apartment," says Winston.

Those upperclassmen who moved off campus were refunded all residence hall payments, including deposits, and provided students with \$150 in dining hall credits.

About 350 students took the school up on its offer. The remaining 150 slots were opened up with the help of "some very creative ways of housing," says Winston.

A few years ago, the University of Nebraska had problems filling the dorms.

This year, after the Husker's took the No. 1 spot last year in college football, it's a different story. The University of Nebraska's freshmen class increased by more than 500 from last year, leaving many new students in temporary quarters.

"We have students tripling up in rooms and living in

lounges in the residence halls," says Doug Zatechka, UN's director of housing. "As rooms open up, we fill them with those students first. But when you get a few hundred extra students, it's really hard to keep everyone happy."

At Penn State, which made headlines last year with an undefeated football season and a Rose Bowl victory, school officials were caught with insufficient dorm space when 4,263 freshmen—or 750 more freshman than last year—showed up.

The new students piled into study lounges until other housing opportunities opened up.

"It was a drag when I first got here because I got stuck in this lounge with three other guys and all our stuff," says freshman Steve Crotteau. "But it's not that bad now. You kind of get used to it, you have to."

College rankings also can have a dramatic effect on admissions, as many colleges that make the "U.S. News & World Report" or "Money" magazines' "Best Of" lists can testify.

"It's hard to quantify what rankings truly mean but certainly the value list has increased our pool of applicants," says Jim Feeney, director of special projects at the New College of the University of Southern Florida, one of the top-ranked liberal arts schools in the nation.

New College, the public honors college for the State University System of Florida, has a "larger-than-normal" freshmen class, according to Feeney, but has been able to handle the extra students because of its close proximity to the University of South Florida campus.

"We're a small school that is able to take advantage of a large campus," Feeney says. "Any overflow we would have had can be taken care of relatively easily."

Although Northwestern College officials have no concrete proof of why their enrollment is increasing, they say they believe that the school's location plays a big role. Located in a quiet Iowa town of about 5,000 "where people leave their houses unlocked," Northwestern offers parents a safe place to send their children to get an education, say school officials.

"Families are looking for a college that offers students a solid academic program, but also a school and location that stresses traditional values," says Ron De Jong, director of admissions.

Does college pay?

by Colleen DeBaise
College Press Service

WORCESTER, Mass.—First as a waitress, then as the manager of an appliance repair store, Kristen Ross took some time off from college so she could earn some extra cash.

"In both cases, I learned very quickly that there is no money without education," she said.

At the repair store, she made roughly \$14,400 a year.

"After a few months on that salary, I couldn't wait to get back to school and finish my mechanical engineering bachelor's degree," recalls Ross, now a graduate engineering student at Worcester Polytechnic Institute. "They make about \$30,000 a year shortly after graduation."

What Ross has observed about the economic rewards of a professional degree is affirmed in a recent U.S. Census Report on the value of higher education.

While a high school dropout could expect to make only \$508 a month, a person with a bachelor's degree averaged almost five times that amount, or \$2,269 in 1993, the study reveals. A person with an advanced degree can expect to make even more, about \$3,331 a month, the study found.

For those in pursuit of a degree, there's more good news. Compared to a similar Census Bureau report conducted in 1984, the 1993 average earnings of high school graduates have gone up 22 percent, while the salary gains of college grads were almost double that, or 47 percent.

The reports seems to confirm what teachers, parents and high school guidance counselors have always said: it pays to get a degree.

"If it weren't for my amazing undergraduate experience," said Jacqueline L. Gordon, a graduate sociology student at Princeton University and the first in her working-class Kansas family to finish college, "I would probably be back in Hays [Kan.] working at Walmart trying to support three kids."

Still, many young Americans investing in what is increasingly a costly college degree are dubious about its value in an economy that often seems overshadowed by downsizing and cutbacks.

"I have mixed feelings about the value of education,"

said Melanie Smith, a graduate psychology student at Arizona State University. "I know if I can get a job I will make a lot more money than someone with less education, but lately it seems the key word is 'if.'"

Although she still thinks education is valuable, "we will have to be more flexible in the future as to what kinds of jobs we will take," she added.

Flexibility is only part of the 1990s job search, said Kevin Boyer, executive director of the National Association of Graduate-Professional Students.

While the statistics are encouraging, students should not be fooled by them, Boyer added. It's up to each student to make his or her degree valuable, he said.

In the last few years, "there has been a real significant change in psychology in the way people view their job prospects," he said, adding that he has witnessed "real anxiety that seems to cross every degree boundary."

Boyer, who works mostly with students who are earning advance degrees, said he hears "horror stories of people who go to interviews, and there are 15 positions opening up in the whole country for their academic discipline, and 150 people show up for the interview."

What all this means, he added, is that students can't assume that simply getting a degree will assure them the job they want. "The answer to all this is for each student to do their research," he said. "Begin the job search well in advance."

Not only should students become more flexible about what jobs they'll accept, but they should develop what Boyer calls an "ends-result" mentality.

"The purpose of this process you're going through is to get a job," he said. Even freshman in college should "prepare as if you're looking for the job immediately."

Because of the often fierce job market, students should constantly check help-wanted ads in newspapers and job listings on the Internet to determine what the market is like for their chosen field.

If there aren't many employment opportunities, then students "need to switch [their focus] in a rather short period of time," he said.

Binge drinking common among freshmen

By Marco Buscaglia
College Press Service

CAMBRIDGE, Mass.- University of Illinois freshman Andrea Salow says she woke up with a hangover her second day away at school.

"The first night there, a bunch of us ended up in someone's room doing shots of Goldschlager," says Salow, 18. "Nobody knew each other yet, so we just sat around drinking, talking about high school and stuff."

Like many new students, Salow's first campus experience with liquor came before she was fully unpacked.

"I was sick the next two days," she remembers. "It wasn't exactly the way I wanted to start out at school."

Most college freshmen get drunk their first week on campus and begin a steady drinking routine that lasts throughout their stay at the university, according to a recent survey by the Harvard School of Public Health.

"The study indicates that college students drink early and

often," says Henry Weschler, author of the study, which is the second part of a survey on binge drinking. "They find a routine and latch onto it rather quickly."

Drawing on data from the first study, which surveyed 17,592 students from 140 colleges across the nation, Harvard researchers questioned 720 freshmen from the 13 unidentified schools with the strongest levels of binge drinking.

According to Weschler, binge drinking is defined as consumption of five or more drinks in a row for men or four or more drinks in a row for women on one or more occasions during a two-week period.

The survey revealed that 68 percent of freshmen went on a drinking binge at some point during their first semester, with 54 percent doing so within the first week of school.

All of the freshmen surveyed said that alcohol was very easy to get on campus, and 96 percent said campus drinking rules had no effect.

"It's pretty easy to get beer or something whenever you want it," said Linda Arlington, a sophomore at Ohio University. "It was easy in high school, and then you had to rely on someone's older brother or something. Here, you just walk down the hall and give someone money."

In addition to academic programs and student opportunities, 54 percent of the freshmen said they considered the social scene of the university when deciding where to go to school.

The study also found that:

- more than half of the students said it was "appropriate" to get drunk with friends or at parties.
- 54 percent said they sometimes regret what they do when they get drunk.
- The same percentage said they sometimes can't remember things they've done after drinking.
- male and female freshmen binge at the same rate.
- 84 percent said alcohol consumption was a problem on campus.



photo by Steve Purinton/ staff

Students decorate the sidewalk in front of the Keathley University Center earlier this year.

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AUGUST 17

PICNIC - 6:00pm

C O N C E R T



Grover Levy

and

Sarah Jahn



Tucker Theater - 8:00pm

sponsored by campus Christian organizations and local churches

AUGUST 20

welcome back party

5:30pm - ΑΩ house

food & music

featuring



Mercy Machine

AUGUST 24

IN CONCERT:

SMALLTOWN POETS



&

plumb



Tucker Theater 7:30pm

AUGUST 26

Jehovah Java

9:00pm - JUB cafeteria

music, people, coffee



featuring: CHRIS RICE

AUGUST 27

InnerSession

6:00pm

BELLE AIRE SANCTUARY

SUNDAY

SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:15 am

CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP 11:30 am

(casual dress, drama, praise band)

TUESDAY

Jehovah Java 9:00pm

WEDNESDAY

InnerSession 6:00pm

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