

SIDE LINES

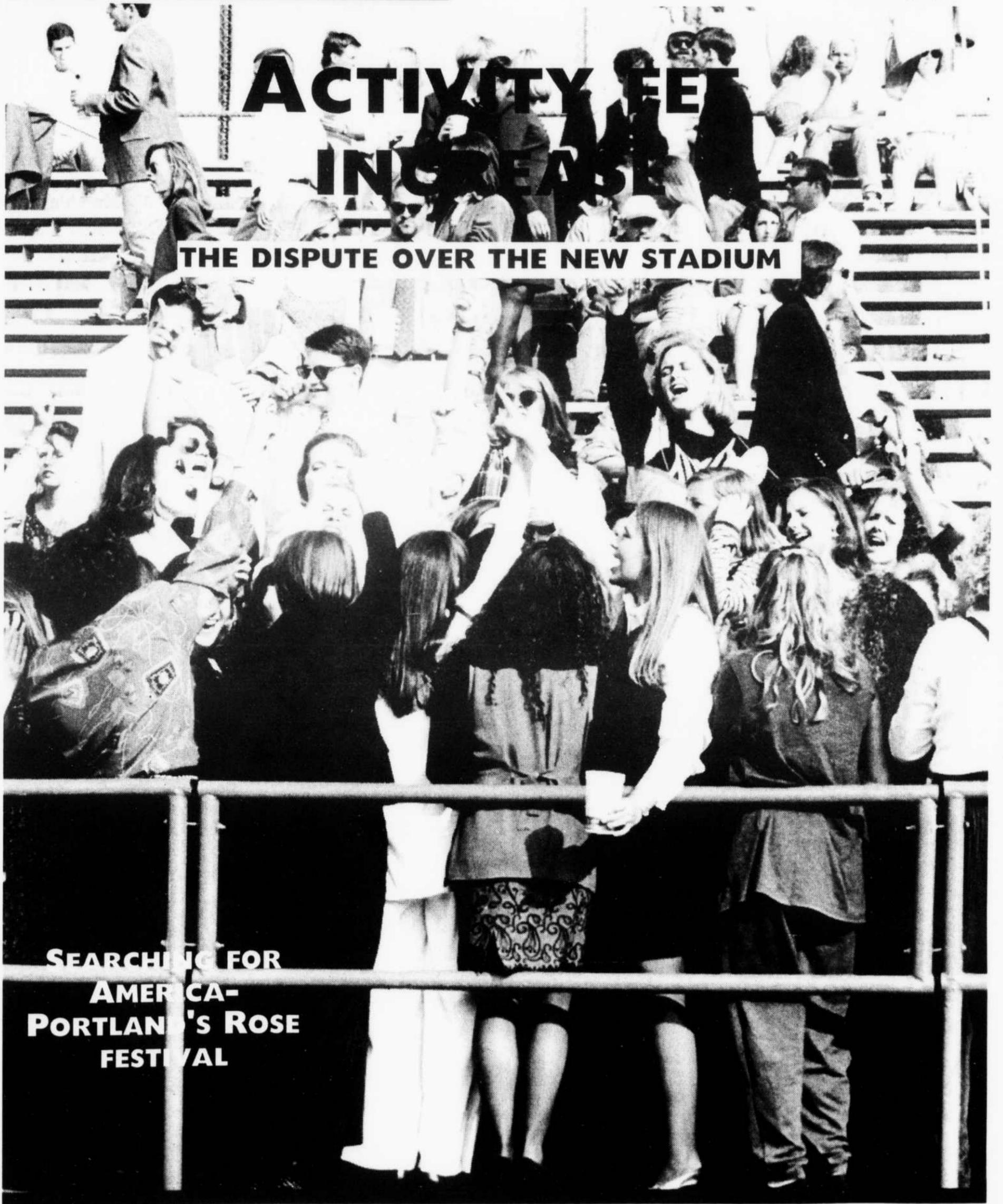
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Stallone's movie is dreadful

New parking spaces

School Daze
Warren Wakeland calls for a truly open forum.



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ACTIVITY FEELING INCREASES

THE DISPUTE OVER THE NEW STADIUM

**SEARCHING FOR AMERICA-
PORTLAND'S ROSE
FESTIVAL**

INSIDELINES

Letters Policy

Letters to the editor should be no more than 200 words long, and should contain sender's name, campus box number or e-mail address. *Sidelines* reserves the right to edit

letters for clarity. Send letters to MTSU Box 42 or e-mail to one of the addresses listed in the box at right. Please clearly mark all electronic correspondence "letter to the editor."

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"I'LL JUST BRACE MYSELF WITH THE STEERING WHEEL"



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News & Notes

In Brief

MTSU may get a Chair of Excellence in Urban and Regional Planning within the next several years. Jennings A. Jones is providing up to a half-million dollars for the chair, and the university will seek additional private dollars, all in anticipation that the state will provide matching funds, according to MTSU officials.

Jones is the namesake of the already established Jennings A. Jones Chair of Excellence in Free Enterprise.

The Chairs of Excellence program was begun in 1985 by the Tennessee Legislature. It provides a \$1,250,000 irrevocable trust for each Chair of Excellence.

A minimum of \$625,000 in private funds is required, which is then matched by state funds.

SGA senators hold special meeting; unanimously oppose fees

CINDY WOLFE
Sidelines

In a special SGA Senate session held last Thursday night seven senators unanimously voted to pass two resolutions concerning the student activity fee increase.

The first resolution passed asked that President James Walker and the Tennessee Board of Regents (TBR) be persuaded to postpone the implementation of the fee increase until the MTSU population can be effectively educated about

the issue.

The resolution asks that a more aggressive effort be made to effectively educate the students. Then, a campus-wide vote could be taken and based on the results, a decision rendered as to whether or not to adopt the fee increase.

However, TBR has a policy of not allowing students to vote on matters of how their activity fees will be used. Walker said he was reprimanded by TBR after allowing students to vote on the student recreation center.

Funding for the library or other academic buildings are not in competition with funding for the stadium, according to officials at TBR. State funds are not used for athletic programs and activity fees cannot be used for academic programs.

In the second resolution a special SGA Senate Committee of five persons was selected to thoroughly investigate the circumstances surrounding the implementation of the increased activity fee.

The committee hopes to be able to clear up any questions as to the effort of the administration and SGA officials to inform the student body and to gauge an



A few of the senators listening to the debate. From left are Jennifer Jones, sophomore senator, Glenda Hawkins, sophomore senator, Chad White, junior senator, and Jarrod Marshall, sophomore senator.

accurate account of student opinion.

Nearly 25 concerned students, faculty members and administrators were present at the meeting Thursday. There were several students who supported the fee increase as well as those who opposed it.

One student in favor of the fee increase was former SGA President Woody Ratterman.

Ratterman felt that if

given all the facts the majority of students would support the fee increase. Although the stadium renovation will not be completed in time for most MTSU students currently enrolled to use, Ratterman feels it is a good legacy for students to leave for future students.

"The building we're in now probably wasn't used by those who helped pay for it while they were here either. But it has to start somewhere, and it starts now," said Ratterman.

Those students who were opposed to the increase were mainly concerned about not being informed about the plans or asked how they felt about paying more money. Of those students present none of them had heard of the plans to restore the stadium or the fee increase before it was passed by TBR.

"I feel that the way it was passed was very underhanded and suspicious," said graduate student Jonathan Lampley.

Speaking on behalf of President James Walker was Dr. Earl Thomas, executive assistant to the president.

Thomas explained that the stadium renovation is only the first step in a series of improvements planned for the university. In 1991, Walker's first year as President, a master plan for MTSU was drawn up with hopes that the changes would create a new level of pride within the university, Thomas said.

"The stadium renovation is only one piece of the bigger puzzle, we're talking about a total vision of improvement," Thomas said.

MTSU Junior Noella Goodpaster disagreed with the plan.

"I don't feel that I have to pay an extra \$65 in order to increase my school pride," Goodpaster said.

Thomas said that students had been informed of the university's plans through a series of meetings over the years held at the President's house.

Ginger Sullivan, a past SGA senator, was present at some of these meetings with the president. She said she did not hear of the stadium renovation or anything about

see SGA, page 4

Clarification

Last week, *Sidelines* reported that MTSU's Academic Advising Program received the Outstanding Institutional Advising Program Award for 1995 from the National Academic Advising Association. In fact, it was only MTSU's Developmental Studies department which won the award. *Sidelines* regrets the error and congratulates the department.

Campus Capsule

Students Against the \$65 Activity Fee Increase have planned a kickoff for a referendum in the fall to gauge student opinion regarding the fee increase. Petition drive begins Thur., July 6 at 8 a.m. in front of the KUC. Students or faculty who want to help should call Ed Oglesby at 896-7334.

Dr. Gary Wulfsberg of the Dept. of Chemistry will be hosting a visit by five foreign scientists from Japan and Russia to MTSU on Wed., July 19. They will meet with students here to discuss research on Nuclear Quadrupole Resonance before proceeding to the International Conference at Brown University the next week.

Looking Forward is a free on-going group for female survivors of rape and sexual abuse. Topics such as safety, relationships, effectiveness of coping skills, and ending isolation will be discussed. The group meets Weds. 3-4:30 p.m. To register call Mary Glantz at 5725. Space is limited. All inquiries are confidential and confidentiality in groups is encouraged. Sponsored by the JAWC.



Students, administrators and faculty listening to the debate at the special SGA senate meeting last Thursday.

Parking lots added, lost; Raider X-press adds route

NICKI JOHNSON
Sidelines

New parking lots in front of the Cope Administration Building and another between the Mass Communications Building and Nicks Hall will add over 150 new parking spaces this fall, but other lots will go.

Meanwhile, the Raider X-press will also extend its green route to include the students who have classes in the buildings along Tennessee Boulevard.

"We have been receiving requests for the X-press to include that side of campus every since the bus system

started. I'm glad that this year we can accommodate those students too," said Gary Hunter, director of parking and transportation.

The bus route will add a stop behind the Ellington Human Sciences Building and possibly a stop on the Faulkenberry side of the Alumni Memorial Gym.

Along with the added parking spaces will be the loss of over a 100 spaces in the lot between Cummings and Corlew Halls and the lot next to the Health Service Center.

"The aerospace building and the new library will sit partly on parking

lots. Unfortunately, whenever plans come up to build, the first sites [they] look at are parking lots," Hunter said.

With construction on the business/aerospace building beginning in the fall, the intersection that meets at Second and C Street between Cummings and Corlew Halls will be closed.

Parking and Transportation will also focus its concentration on safety. After the apparent attack on a female student in one of the outer campus lots, the Baird Lane lot and the Health Services lot will receive added lighting.

see parking, page 4

Horse coliseum project gets chairs of excellence

KRYS SPAIN Sidelines

The MTSU Foundation has gotten final approval for \$1.25 million to establish two chairs of excellence in the equine sciences for the Miller Horse Show Coliseum. The approved Chairs of Excellence will be in Reproductive Physiology and Horse Health.

The facility sub-committee members are currently looking into buying property to build the coliseum on.

"The size of the coliseum can not be determined until the land is purchased," said Dr. David Whitaker, director of the Tennessee Walking Horse Association.

The Miller Estate was left to the MTSU Foundation in 1994 when Mary Miller passed away. John C. Miller passed away in 1984. The Miller's left their estate for MTSU to build a Horse Coliseum. The estimated worth of the estate is between \$17 to \$20 million dollars.

Miller had a farm on the Tennessee/Kentucky state line in Sumner County; the 10-Tucky Stables in Lewisburg; and property in Alaska. Lewisburg is the site of his Tennessee Walking

Horse operations. Miller was one of the founders of The Walking Horse Owners Association. The Association had annual shows at the Tennessee Livestock Center at MTSU.

"The committee is trying to operate at this point that it could spend no less than \$15 million," said Charlie Myatt, committee chairman, according to an article in the May 31 issue of the DNJ. "That sounds like a lot, but this is going to be an expensive project and we could spend a lot more than that."

"We are still in analysis stage and not many decisions have been made. We have hired a firm to help with the what, when, where, and how as to this building and what we need to build."

"To my knowledge there have been no firmly set dates as to when the coliseum will be built, Whitaker said."

The deadline for the consultant's report had been set for mid-July but that may not happen.

"I'm not sure that we are going to press on and comply with it. There are some issues that may not move that fast," says Myatt.

"Our desire is to do it right, not fast." ■

SGA

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a fee increase.

A few of the students at the meetings questioned the need for a football stadium over such things as a new library or classrooms.

"The primary goal of this school should be to provide its students with a top-notch education. I see no need to enlarge a stadium that is already half empty," said Lampley.

Fee increase supporter B.J. Denning said he feels the stadium will not be just

an asset to football fans but to all students.

"The football program will help MTSU become a more recognized name which will help graduates get jobs in the future," Denning said.

"I don't see how our degrees will be enhanced by a football program. MTSU has several programs such as Mass Communications and Aerospace that are nationally known. If you come from a good program that says a lot more to potential employers than your school's ranking in the AP polls," said graduate student Bill Meehan. ■

PARKING

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The gravel lot by the new Recreation Center will be paved and the Baird lot will also be repaved.

Funding for all these additions are paid for by the sales of parking decals, meter collections, Raider Express Charter trips and largely from parking citations. Between July of 1994 and May of 1995, The Parking and Transportation Department collected \$745,000 from these four funding sources.

"We are not out there to get people. We are out there to enforce the rules and to ensure that everyone has a parking spot," Hunter said.

This fall will also see

changes in parking decal design. An influx of decal theft and counterfeit decals has led the department to a yearly design change. New decals will have a candy-striped background and a solid middle to make alterations more difficult. Parking decal prices will still remain the same at \$15 for black and white decals, which allows parking in most outer lots, and \$25 for a blue and white decal that will allow access to student spaces on the interior of campus.

The Parking and Transportation Department will also be busy this summer restriping and repairing lots, and re-painting curbs in preparation for this coming school year. ■

Vanderbilt University Medical Center

Vanderbilt's Center for Fertility and Reproductive Research is seeking women (ages 21-35) interested in donating human eggs to help infertile women achieve pregnancy. Financial compensation will be given. Confidentiality assured.

For additional information, please contact Stephanie Bryan, R.N.C., at 322-6576.

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Recycle.

Portland lures with the Rose Festival

Searching for America

BRENT ANDREWS
Editor

After 19 hours of hard driving, we reached Portland, Oregon. We were delirious from lack of sleep, and things were getting worse by the minute. We had come to Portland in the middle of the Rose Festival, the city's biggest annual celebration, and hotels all over the city were booked solid. Our plan has been to stay at the Portland Inn (recently turned Best Western) but that fell through because no rooms were available. It was 2:00 a.m., and while the city slept around us, we pleaded with the hotel manager to find some last minute cancellation and provide us with a bed to crash in. He did have one room that was not occupied, but he had to hold it just in case the folks showed up. Promising to call back at 3:00, we began to scour the city for a room.

Hours passed and we grew more tired. We drove the streets of Portland, not knowing where we were going, but hoping that we would find a place to rest. We barked angrily at each other in our exhaustion, laughing hysterically the next minute at something that was barely funny. I began to fear that we would go crazy.

At 2:45, we found a hotel near the Willamette River, an expensive looking Hilton or something like that. I

went in to find a room, and they had one available for around \$100 a night. We couldn't afford a room that expensive on our budget, but that wasn't important at the time. I decided to get the room.

Before I got the room, I tried the first hotel again where the rates were much more reasonable. It turned out that the people who had made the reservations had not shown up, and the manager told us to be there at 3:00 to claim the room. We left the Hyatt or the Hilton, whatever, and in seconds we were standing in front of the manager.

"I can't give you the room until 3:00 am," he told us. "But that's only seven minutes from now. Just have a seat over there [he pointed to a section of seats along one wall] and I'll be right with you."

We sat and waited, feeling not the least bit guilty at our hopes that the people with the reservations might have a wreck or be detained in other ways. It was too late for our consciousness to bother us. We were at the point where we would have cheated our mothers for a soft bed to lie in. With our voices low and our heads turned close to each other, we decided that if the people who had the reservations showed up at the last minute, one of us would run from the room, screaming "fire" while the other secured the room.

It turned out that wasn't necessary. We had the room at 3:01, and were pulling our luggage into the lobby when we saw the people with

reservations arguing with the manager at the desk. Feeling a bit guilty (but not guilty enough to give up the room) we boarded the elevator and rose several flights to our place of rest. Wishing luck to the people who had lost the room, we fell into a deep sleep.

The next morning we enacted our particular plan, peering into storefronts and sauntering along tree-lined

The husky voices of the women on stage were husky for a reason. They were men dressed up as women.

boulevards. We went to the Saturday market (which is held on Sunday) under a bridge that spanned the Willamette, and watched two men jump from the riverbank into the water 30 feet below. We found nothing of particular interest for sale at the market, but we did not enjoy the people there, the activity. In a park by the riverbed, not far from where the men were jumping off, a public wading fountain provided cool place for children to play. In the market area, several drummers beat out a loud rhythm, while others played along with various instruments. The whole place hummed with activity

and was vibrant with a feeling of community.

As the booths began to close for the day, we went back to our cars and drove to Washington Park, where the Japanese Rose Test Garden attracted flower lovers from around the world. We had seen the park a year before and wanted to see it again, but when we got there, it seemed like the rest of the world had the same idea. There were cars parked in every available space by the gardens. Others were parked along the grass and along the street. People were walking everywhere, walking in the roadway and hanging out in the shade, dressed in everything from gothic punk to Laura Ashley. There were grandparents, little children, teen-agers. Moms and Dads carried babies in the air, and dogs pulled at leashes while their owners talked to friends. Music was in the air, coming from the direction of the gardens, someone singing as the band played along and people cheered. We found a place in the park at last and went to see what the fuss was about.

Topping a small rise from which we could see down into the rose garden, we saw a large crowd of people. Some were sitting on lawn chairs. Others were standing in tight groups, smiling at friends and strangers. All were looking at the stage in the park below the gardens, where several costumed women sang and kicked their legs and strutted about smiling. Their costumes were bright and colorful, with plumes of feathers reaching from the tops of

their heads towards the sky. There were pinks and yellows, blues and greens and other assortment of colors. The dancers wore thickly applied make-up, here and there a fake mole adorning a rouged cheek. They kicked their high heels in the air and kept on singing in deep, odd-husky voices while the crowd cheered around them. Everywhere people were smiling, happy on this warm, happy day, laughing at the sheer joy of the moment under the flawless sky. In the distance the glass buildings of Portland gleamed brightly. Farther on, presiding over the city like a white-bibbed king at a great dinner feast, was Mt. Hood, the highest point in Oregon at 11,240 feet. While the crowd cheered on in the warm sun of this June day, Mt. Hood was playing hoist to another host of happy Oregonians, the summer skiers who were taking advantage of the clear weather.

Taking in the scene, we stood atop the rise in silence for a while. I watched the dancers who looked like they would be better placed on a wide, brightly-lit stage in Las Vegas. I suddenly figured out that this was some sort of a drag show, and that the husky voices of the women on stage were husky for a reason. They were men dressed up as women.

We stayed for a while longer and learned that this was the annual Peacock Festival. We watched one more song before we left for the Oregon Coast. ■

Line dancing combines two important activities

KRYS SPAIN
Staff Writer

Don't like routine exercise? Jogging isn't much fun? Do you like to socialize? Get into line dancing.

Line dancing is a good form of stress relief, and it gives you a good workout. It is one of the best cardiovascular workouts you can get, and most consider it more enjoyable than other forms of exercise.

"Exercising for 20 minutes burns fat stores, but most people don't have the time to exercise. When the weekend comes, they go out and socialize with friends. If they go dancing, they usually dance more than 20 minutes. That's their workout," said Shirley Loudon, MTSU Nursing student.

There are many places you can go to get that workout. There are currently over 800 country dance clubs

throughout the country, and several offer free dance lessons for the whole family.

"If you can count to eight, then you can do just about any kind of country dance except the two-step," said Jim Daddio, deejay at the Southfork Saloon. "It is just four steps put into six beats of music. The two-step is a bit more complicated because of the variations."

Besides being more complicated, the two-step has a tradition in country dances. The Sweetheart Schottische is also real popular and considered a bit easier.

"The Sweetheart Schottische and the line dances are the most popular basically because they are not as advanced as the others," Daddio said.

Many dances can be enjoyed alone. The Cotton-Eyed Joe, Electric Slide and the Rebel Strut are considered the easiest to

learn. Other dances include the Reggae Cowboy, Cowboy Hip-Hop, Watermelon Crawl, Tush Push, Boot Scootin' Boogie and Baby Likes to Rock It.

All forms of dance is beneficial to toning your legs, and the Texas Twister is excellent for your abdominal muscles as well.

Southfork Saloon, located in Nashville, has a huge dance floor and a wide range of customers. It employs 15 bouncers; five carry radios and ten operate undercover. If a fight occurs, security usually breaks it up in less than two minutes. Anyone that causes trouble is banned for 30 days.

Occasional fights do occur, but security takes care of them.

"It is safe, but a few weeks ago we saw 20-30 people fighting in the parking lot," says Carol Reed, regular customer.

Security will make sure you get to your car safely.

"If someone asks to be escorted to their car, one of the security guys will walk them out and make sure they leave safely," said Pat Little, security personnel. "If there is someone who gets overly intoxicated, then we make them sit on a bench outside and call them a cab."

People can feel comfortable at the dance clubs.

"This is a friendly environment. You can be comfortable here. Security is good, and there is not a lot of chaos," said Cameilla Hudson, a regular patron of Southfork Saloon.

There is a regular group of customers that come in.

"I know about 90 percent of the people that come in here. We know who causes problems. It is a friendly group that comes in here," Little said.

Children are allowed to come with their parents anytime for free because they serve food every night until 2:00 am.

Southfork Saloon is an 18 and over club that has a strict policy on under-age drinking. Cover charges are \$3 except for Free Beer Night which costs \$5.

The club sponsors many different contests including Tight-Fitting Jeans, Little Miss Honky-Tonk, Line Dance Contest, Bronco-Bustin Contest and Wrangler Butts Drive Me Nutts. Cash and prizes are given to the winners.

Denim and Diamonds, located in Manchester, Tenn, has two large dance floors. The large floor is for the line dances, but the small stage is open for anyone who wants to dance. They have several bouncers and few fights.

See Dance, page 6

ATTENTION STUDENTS RECEIVING FEDERAL FINANCIAL AID

New federal regulations related to the disbursement of title IV financial aid funds prohibit applying any credits against charges assessed to students in a prior term. This means that to receive any financial aid for the fall semester you must not have any balance outstanding prior to fall fees and charges. Any existing balance from any source including parking tickets, telephone charges, returned checks, housing rental charges, and short-term loans must be paid before you may have your new aid applied to your fall charges. To alleviate delays for you during fall fee payment, be sure your account is clear of any outstanding charges. You will not be able to use any 1995-96 financial aid to clear your account of charges assessed from prior terms.

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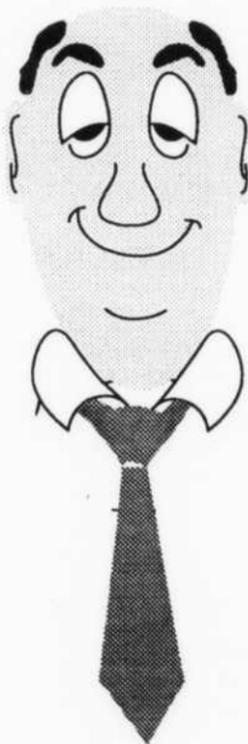
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DANCE

continued from page 5

They also have a strong policy against under-age drinking.

D & D has lots of line dancing and free style as well as couple dances. They have dance lessons and family night on Sundays from 2:00-6:00 PM. After 6:00, it is \$5 for 18 and up, and \$3 for persons 21 and over.

Located in Murfreesboro, City Limits offers the same advantages as the Nashville bars. When there is not a live band, the music is

handled by a deejay. Occasionally, they have guest appearances. In February, Tim McGraw got on stage and sang *Refried Dreams*.

Country dance clubs have a variety of customers in a wide age range. The majority of customers are there to dance and meet people. With line dancing, there is not much pressure to dance with a partner.

"You get more respect in country bars than you do in pop bars. I'm there to dance and the guys usually respect that," Loudon said. ■

Pre-Med students dissect literary works

DAVIDSON, N.C. (CPS)—In addition to studying cell structures and human anatomy, pre-med students at Davidson College are dissecting and analyzing such literary works as Kafka's "Metamorphosis" and Fitzgerald's *Tender Is the Night*.

Dr. Bill Porter, a real-life medical doctor, is teaching "Medicine and Literature" this spring at Davidson College. And if Porter has his way, students will leave the class with something more than they might ever gain in a routine medical class.

"I want to teach them the true meaning of being a doctor," says Porter. "I want to give them some insight into a wonderful profession."

The idea for the class began when Rosemarie Tong, Medical Humanities director at Davidson College, was looking for a way to help pre-med students grapple with the human, as well as the clinical, nuances of being a doctor. A literature course seemed like a great approach, she says.

"I wanted them to understand the human side of the profession," Tong says. "I wanted students to know more about the actual art of practicing medicine before they began studying the technical aspects."

That's when Tong thought of Porter. Tong, who teaches philosophy courses on medicine, had used Porter as a guest lecturer in the past.

She also knew that Porter read extensively and often had discussed literary comparisons to medical instances with him. Therefore, the coupling of the doctor and the course seemed like a natural.

But when Tong offered Porter—who admits he has a "deep love" for literature—the chance to teach the course, he politely declined.

"I didn't think I was qualified enough," Porter says. "I didn't know if I'd be able to convey what I felt was important to the students."

After re-reading some of his favorite books, however, Porter decided that the course would give him a

chance to help cure some of the potential ills that faced his own profession.

"It was a chance to help people get some insight into what they want to do with the rest of their lives," Porter says. "There are a lot of ways for doctors to avoid professional and moral pitfalls and be more successful agents of change for their patients, and I realized this would be a good chance to help teach that."

"There's something that happens in med school that destroys the idea of a beneficial relationship between doctor and patient," says Porter, who also practices internal medicine and teaches medical students at Carolina Medical Center. "The patient must always remain a priority."

Porter's class studies a variety of writing, from personal written accounts of illness to F. Scott Fitzgerald's *Tender Is the Night*. The reading list also includes short stories by William Carlos Williams, Kafka's "Metamorphosis," Camus' "The Plague" and others.

Although the course he teaches at Davidson is for undergraduates, Porter points out that some medical schools—including Harvard and Yale—already are incorporating literature into their curriculum.

"These stories contain so many examples of what can happen to a doctor who believes himself to be above his patient and reality," Porter says. "Students reading the material can pick out a lot of warning signs of greed, vanity, sexual attraction and many other vices that doctors often must deal with."

Porter's hope is that through the study of literature, students will come to a broader understanding of what it means to be a doctor.

"The technical stuff becomes routine and fairly boring after a while," Porter says. "The best part of being a doctor is getting to know your patients. You learn their stories, and you help them maintain their histories." ■

Students watch soap operas for class credit

(CPS)—College students have been fans of soap operas for years. At most colleges, it's routine for dorm dwellers to pile into TV rooms between classes and devour the guilty pleasures of "The Young and the Restless" and other daytime dramas.

But for a growing number of students, watching the soaps isn't just a leisure-time indulgence anymore. It's homework.

"Soaps have been a very important area of media studies for the last 10 years," says Robert Allen, a professor at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Daytime serials are a regular feature in his courses analyzing television.

Soaps operas—where intrigue, romance, betrayal and occasional bouts of amnesia are all grist for tomorrow's cliffhanger—have hooked some academics. They say the tune-in-tomorrow plotlines of soap operas often mirror society's larger concerns and anxieties.

"I think it's essential for students as American

citizens to try to achieve some critical self-awareness of the culture they live in," says Laurie Schulze, a University of Denver mass communications professor.

Schulze teaches an array of media courses, including one called Television Culture that analyzes daytime serials. On her office walls hangs a poster of Susan Lucci, star of "All My Children." Across the room is a poster of Sigourney Weaver, wielding a flame thrower.

"I have my students read some critical work about soap operas and how they are structured differently from the rest of television. We take a look at the social and cultural meanings of (the plots)."

Schulze tells students to pick their favorite soap opera and work with that. "They seem to like 'The Young and the Restless' the most. It's a little more like 'Melrose Place' than the others. They said they liked it because it was about being young."

Her own favorite is "All My Children." "They've done

some good storylines. It actually had a plot involving a lesbian when no one was doing that. The show deals with social issues without being stodgy."

What do students learn by watching "All My Children" and other daytime weepies? "Soaps really are a feminine narrative form," Schulze says. "They're circular and open-ended and more concerned with relationships and feelings. They show the mundane everyday domestic stuff that we all grind through. Because we're not all homicide cops in Baltimore or doctors in a big-city emergency room. But we do all have to deal with broken relationships and insecurities."

"Most people in academia consider soap operas to be very frivolous, and there is a small group of us who are trying to change that," says Jane Feuer, a professor of film studies at the University of Pittsburgh. Her research into soap operas has led ABC Daytime to hire her as a consultant.

Lisa Francesconi, a senior

at Pittsburgh, used to think of soaps as simply fluff. Then she took Feuer's course on television analysis. "Since then I've gained a lot of respect for them," she says. "I thought their lack of seriousness was because of poor quality. Now I see they're highly stylized."

"It used to drive me crazy. Real people aren't that phoney." But taking a course on soaps made her understand it's all part of the art of melodrama.

"I've learned that the intent of soap opera is to be as they are. They reflect what people want."

Profs who teach soaps point to what they say is the dramas' unique narrative form.

"Aristotle said every good play should have a being, a middle and an end," Feuer said. "Unless a show is canceled, soap operas only have a middle."

"It is the only story form I know that presumes it will never end," said Allen. He's edited two academic books on soaps: *Speaking of Soap Operas* and *To Be Continued:*

Soap Operas Around the World.

Peter Lehman, who teaches at the University of Arizona in Tucson said the soaps and pop culture first appeared in the college classroom in England and Australia. "Americans have resisted it for years," he said.

One reason why soaps have been ignored is because the shows traditionally have been targeted at women, say some academics.

"Soap operas are disparaged and disdained because of the relationship between them and gender," said Allen. People say things about women watching soap operas they wouldn't say about men and sports, he adds. "We don't talk about men being addicted to NBA basketball."

Yet pop culture profs say that young, male or female, who watches prime-time network television is now watching soap operas. "Daytime serials," says Allen, "have shaped TV." ■

Cliff Notes puts out guides for multicultural literature

LINCOLN, Neb. (CPS)—If anyone doubts academic multiculturalism has arrived, maybe they should take a trip to the campus bookstore and scan through the Cliffs Notes titles.

Alongside such dyed-in-the-wool staples as *Beowulf* and *Great Expectations*, the familiar black-and-yellow study guide's newest titles include *The Autobiography of Malcolm X*, *Bless Me, Ultima*, and 20 other "minority" titles.

For years, the study guide has offered desperate students notes and plot synopses of the "best books never read." Yet while Cliffs

Notes offerings were once limited to the classics, a proliferation of African-American, Hispanic and Asian-American-centered literature courses has opened up a whole new marketing opportunity to the publisher.

"It was like a domino effect," said Cliffs Notes Editor Gary Carey. "If you're teaching American literature, you're mandated to teach books written by women, Asian-Americans, African-Americans, Mexican-Americans and Native Americans. And so these are the kinds of authors being taught."

Carey said teachers

begged the company to come out with guides to the books their students have been studying, such as *The Joy Luck Club* by Amy Tan and *I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings* by Maya Angelou.

Of the eight titles the Nebraska-based publisher will release for the 1995-96 school year, only one—the science-fiction classic *Fahrenheit 451* by Ray Bradbury—was written by a white man.

Yet Carey said the decision to expand its title selections has nothing to do with the company's desire to portray itself as politically correct. "It's where the

money is," he added.

Cliffs Notes has published guides to books by ethnically and racially diverse authors in the past, but they were few. Those titles include Lorraine Hansberry's *A Raisin in the Sun* and Gabriel Garcia Marquez's *One Hundred Years of Solitude*.

The new guides, in addition to filling the Notes' multicultural void, try to reach today's TV-saturated readers by containing more visuals, such as maps and genealogy charts. They have become heavy on analysis and less dependent on plot. And glossaries galore explain

unfamiliar terms, which are especially useful in books laden with foreign words, idiomatic English and Biblical references.

And what about the millions of students who buy only the familiar yellow-and-black stapled booklets, rather than using them to supplement their assigned readings?

Teachers tell Carey that those students tend to do poorly because they rarely crack open the Cliffs Notes, either. ■

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Reviews & Events

In Brief

The 18th annual Uncle Dave Macon Days "old-time" music and dance festival will take place in Murfreesboro's own pioneer village of Cannonsburgh July 7-9.

Uncle Dave Macon Days will be home to three National Championships: Old-Time Banjo, Old-Time Buck dancing and Old-Time

Clogging.

Other activities for the weekend include a craft show, a bicycle road race, a historic photo exhibit, gospel singing, heritage activities for kids and great food.

Vice-president Al Gore and his wife Tipper will also be making an appearance on Friday night for the Buck dancing contest.

Judge Dredd just like the rest

If you've seen any Stallone film, you've seen this one

CHRIS PATTERSON
Reviews and Events Editor

My friend who attended the "Judge Dredd" preview with me summed up Sylvester Stallone's new film in two words "Incredibly Predictable."

"Judge Dredd" is set in a changed world during what is supposed to be the third millennium. The climate of the world has become harsh and violent, forcing humans to find refuge behind the protective walls of huge mega-cities.

The mass populations of these mega-cities has become more and more violent, turning on each other. Then a solution to the increasing crime is brought forth. A new, efficient police force is introduced to the mega-cities. These guardians serve as law enforcers, jury and executioner all in one. They are called the Judges.

The story centers around Mega-City One where the population is in turmoil with deadly block wars breaking out daily. The justice system itself is in danger of corruption.

Then like in any other Stallone movie there is the hero, Judge Dredd. Ready to fight for justice and get rid of everything standing in the way.

Judge Dredd is seen as the ultimate in this new form of relentless justice. He is a legend in his own time both the other judges and to the criminals.

When corrupt Council Judge Griffin played by Jurgen Prochnow devises a plan to take over Mega-City One, he knows he must get Judge Dredd out of the way to do it. Dredd is framed for the murder of a prominent tv reporter and his wife.

Despite the efforts of his aging mentor Chief Justice Fargo played by Max Von Sydow and fellow judge Judge Hershey played by

Diane Lane, Dredd is sent to prison for life.

On the way to the prison, Dredd's plane shot down over the barren, Cursed Earth. This enables Dredd to make his way back to Mega-City One to seek revenge on those who framed him and to save the city from being dominated by Rico, played by Armand Assante.

Rico is a mad, genetically-mutated clone who is also a former friend of Dredd's. Dredd, of course, battles it out with him Rico and saves the mega-city.

"Judge Dredd" was based on a popular British comic book hero.

I lost count of the people killed or injured in the opening scenes of this movie.

Worse of all about the film was the predictability of this film because everything that was done in this film has been done before. Action movies need to be fresh and new or they tend to look like the same recycled junk that we've all seen before.

If you like violent action movies, you might enjoy this one. Don't expect anything new or very exciting from it.

I give "Judge Dredd" two lawgiver handguns out of five. ■



RICHARD BLANSHARD/Special
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Events Around Town

Tonight

-Janie Grey at the Boro
-The Pig Band at the Bunganut Pig

Thursday

-Solomon Grundy and Confessed Folk Singers at 527 Mainstreet
-The Nationals at the Boro

-Columbia Highway Bluegrass Band at the Bunganut Pig

Friday

-Diablo Smile, Doug Cook and the Hogheads, and Dirty Dog at 527 Mainstreet
-Highwater at the Boro
-Dawne Gee and Tim Northern at Comedy on the Square

-The Pig Band at the Bunganut Pig

Saturday

-Janie Grey and Turnip Seed at 527 Mainstreet
-Dawne Gee and Tim Northern at Comedy on the Square
-Uncle Daddy and Binder at the Boro

Short, Sweet and Dread gives hip literary genre

RICK ANDERSON
College Press Service

Poetry is the new hip literary genre (don't ask me what the old hip literary genre was); coffee houses in college towns across the nation feature poetry "slams" and spoken-word albums which once came out only on tiny independent labels are now finding nationwide distribution. It's hard to say which social forces have precipitated this upsurge in interest, but it's tempting to think that the rap renaissance has had something to do with it. Of course, rap has some of its deepest roots in reggae, and

that brings us to On-U-Sound, which brings us to this new Little Annie release.

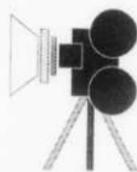
Neither On-U-Sound nor Restless (On-U's U.S. distributor) markets Little Annie as a spoken-word artist, which is surprising given the current hipness of spoken-word performance and the undeniable fact that that is exactly what she does—though she does occasionally lapse into a sort of cool, European chanteuse thing. *Short, Sweet and Dread* features primarily spoken-word pieces performed against a deeply funky instrumental backdrop, which is provided

by the fearsome Keith Leblanc/Skip McDonald axis (some will recognize these two as the basis of the avant-funk supergroup known as Tackhead).

In typical incestuous On-U sound fashion, they are also the core members of a funky reggae crew known as Strange Parcels. The upshot of all this is that Little Annie's domestic debut album sounds, by turns, an awful lot like a Tackhead or Strange Parcels album with cold, laconic female vocals. Annie's lyrics are mostly quite clever and fairly interesting—song titles like "If Cain Were Able" and "10 Killer Hurtz More" are a

good indication of her mindset, and when, in a bored tone of voice, she invites the listener to "Give it to me gently/Give it to me fiercely/Give it to me phonetically," you know you're in good hands.

But the real star of this disc is the bone-deep Leblanc/McDonald groove that underlies every moment and defies you to keep your attention on the words. The generous 75-minute length of the album bargains to work against it after the 12th track or so, but skip around if you get tired; this one is worth working for. ■





JEFF TISMAN/Special

Ugly Music from Ugly Kid Joe

WARREN WAKELAND
Staff Writer

Ugly Kid Joe, the band that took one of the most beautiful pop music ballads ever written (Harry Chapin's "Cat in the Hat") and made it into metal rock garbage, has released a new CD called *Menace to Sobriety*.

Maybe the band should change its name to Ugly Music Joe.

From the beginning of this CD, each song sounds the same: guitars turned up too loud for the sound board to control, lyrics that are hard to understand and instruments that blend together into noise rather than music.

The last song on the CD, "Candle Song," is their attempt at a ballad. It is a poorer effort than most metal bands make at this type of song, which is to be expected after listening to the other 12 tracks on the CD.

When are heavy metal

bands going to learn that, almost without exception, they cannot play ballads.

I always thought heavy metal music was supposed to have the drum kit stand out as it leads the band, a trait consistent in heavy metal giants like Metallica, Guns 'n Roses and Motley Crue. They don't stand out here as they should. You have to find the kit while you listen to the rest of the songs.

Of course, it is hard to listen to the song when all parts of the compilation are either so loud or so jumbled they hurt your ears.

Lead vocalist Whit Crane sounds harsh to the point of unintelligible at some points. Guitarists Klaus Eichstadt and David Fortman need to learn they don't have to turn the amps up to 10 to be loud. Drummer Mark Davis either needs to learn how to mic his own kit or find some roadies who can do it.

What you get from *Menace to Sobriety* is blaring guitars so distorted they must be in the red on the

sound board and a bass and drum kit that don't get a chance to complement the guitar work. A general mish-mash of noise they try to pass off as work.

Perhaps they should not consider sobriety such a menace. Such guitarists as Pete Townshend, Eric Clapton and Keith Richards have found that sobriety can have a sobering effect on their music. It makes the music **sound** better.

Ugly Kid Joe need to learn the difference between creating notes that blend together as music and creating noise, because noise is all that comes out in *Menace to Sobriety*.

I listened to this CD twice and could not find one redeeming quality in it. On a scale of one to five guitars, give it a really big zero. Now, you'll excuse me while I apologize to my ears for subjecting them to this trash. ■

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to all session 2 students.

Viewpoints & Opinions

Letters Policy

Letters to the editor should be no more than 200 words long, and should contain sender's name, campus address or e-mail address. *Sidelines* reserves the right to edit

letters for clarity. Send letters to MTSU Box 42 or to the e-mail addresses listed on the second page. All letters should be marked "letter to the editor" so that they can be distinguished from other correspondences. *Sidelines* will print letters as space allows.

"The first rule of marketing is. . .you go to the client."

Open forums do not seem so open



Warren
Wakeland

School
Daze

I've got a feeling this subject is not going to go away.

Last Thursday night the SGA Senate held an emergency meeting to discuss the new student activity fee increase. Among those in attendance were Dr. Robert LaLance, vice president for Student Affairs, and Dr. Earl Thomas, assistant to President Walker.

It was very gratifying to see these two gentlemen in attendance. For years the administration has avoided SGA meetings like the plague, evidently believing that their presence would be a hindrance to the process of student government.

Hopefully, Thursday night showed them that their presence is encouraged and welcomed.

The Senate drew up two resolutions to be considered at the meeting: the first to suspend implementation of

the fee increase for one semester and hold a student vote on the increase, the second that a Senate committee be formed to investigate the process by which this increase came about. Both passed unanimously by acclamation.

One thing apparent from this meeting was that there was no real research done to find out whether students wanted to pay this extra fee.

Dr. Thomas said there were a number of open forums held all around campus to gauge student opinion. Dr. Walker personally hosted several meetings with student leaders at his home to discuss with them the idea of the increase.

A problem there is that no one who could spread the word to the student body was at any of Dr. Walker's shindigs. As spring editor of *Sidelines*, I never received an invitation to one of these meetings. As far as I can tell, no editor of this paper has ever received an invitation to these meetings.

Does it not make sense that when you are trying to get information to the student body you contact the student newspaper?

As I recall, at least some of these open forums were

held in the middle of the school day, when students are either in class or at work and are unable to attend. Also, few of these forums were announced through *Sidelines* because the paper was not always informed when there was a forum scheduled.

Doesn't it make sense to have these meetings in the evenings, when students are not in class? Also, shouldn't they be announced to the students? Last spring *Sidelines* was made aware of two open forums. According to Dr. Thomas, there were more than two forums.

As I go around campus and talk to various people on the subject, it is evident that very few students were aware of the fee increase. Dr. Walker intimated that the lack of knowledge was the students' fault because they "were either not at those meetings or fell asleep at those meetings."

The first rule of marketing says you don't rely on the client coming to you, *you go to the client*. This obviously was not done here.

Going to the student body does not mean you announce a meeting and hope some people show up. It means drawing up brochures, pamphlets and flyers

detailing the fee increase and sending them to campus boxes and students' permanent addresses. It means handing them out to students in front of KUC and in the Grill. It means asking faculty to distribute them to their students in their classes. It means making them available in every campus building.

It means hiring telemarketers to do student and parent polling. It means drawing up detailed surveys and questionnaires and sending them to students, alumni and parents. If Dr. Walker has to stand on top of Peck Hall with a bullhorn in his hands and shout the information to students, it must be done.

It means PR—it means making an effort. It means generating interest, not hoping interest happens. Asking students to come to meetings and mailing 1,000 surveys about whether or not we should have I-A football without mentioning the fee increase does not constitute a marketing effort.

This student body has such a history of apathetic behavior that the need to put the information into their hands rather than asking them to come get it should have been glaring. It

obviously wasn't.

So what happens now? I believe the increase should be suspended for the fall semester to allow time to make students aware of what the money will go toward building. There is a voting referendum scheduled in October. Take from now until the vote to educate students and parents as to why the increase is necessary. Then let the students decide whether or not they want to pay an extra \$65.

The Tennessee Board of Regents (TBR) says letting students decide on this issue is against their rules. If this is so, this is a bad rule and needs to be changed. A precedent for voting on these issues has been set, with the vote on the fee for the new rec center two years ago. It is time to take advantage of this precedent and tell TBR their rules are in need of revision.

The marketing effort for this product has been so poor that no one knows what is going on. The students must be informed and allowed a say in this matter before the fee is put into effect. ■

Letters to the Editor

Activity fee increase spurs conflict

Dear editor:

ATTENTION SUITCASE OWNERS:

This letter is regarding the activity fee increase in order to expand our stadium to a capacity of 30,000 plus, the necessary requirement to bring MTSU to division I-A status. I would first like to express my concern for the apathy and lack of school spirit on our campus. I think that everyone is missing the point of what our University is trying to accomplish. Sure it does have something to do with football but it also has something to do with wanting your school to become a better place for the

future. A lot of people are saying that MTSU is a commuter school, "that's the way it's been that's the way it's going to be." MTSU stands for Middle Tennessee State University, not Middle Tennessee Commuter School. That "U" is in there for a purpose. It signifies that we are a University! If you don't like going to a progressive school, Motlow is thirty minutes down the road. Better yet, if you want to stay at home and never experience what this University has to offer, purchase a "how to video" by Sally Struthers and watch your football team on TV between class breaks. If this still doesn't give you an option TSU is \$55 dollars per semester cheaper than we are.

Now I know this is going to offend a lot of people, but it is time that we decide

where we want this place to go for the future. If the students are tired of being known as the fastest growing and most progressive University in the state, then as Doctor Walker was quoted, "lets go back to being the Middle Tennessee Normal School." If you are not happy with that, lets pay the fee increase and try to make this University a better place. A place where there are more MTSU hats and shirts worn around on campus than that of the University of Tennessee. A place that a high school senior is not ashamed to attend. And a place that alumni come to on the weekend instead of traveling 200 miles to see their favorite football team.

This is a vision that I believe that most of the students have for this campus. It is just a shame

that the SGA senators that I voted into office don't feel the same way the students do. Those politicians need to realize we voted you in to represent a progressive University, not one we wish to digress. I want to say that I am in full support of Doctor Walker, Lee Fowler, and SGA President Shane McFarland. They have a vision that I am proud to pay \$65 dollars for.

MTSU through and through,

D.J. Denning
P.O. Box 7473

To the Editor:

My purpose in attending the meeting was to find out which students knew about this increase, when they knew it, and what opportunity to hear about it

did I have but missed.

While my questions have not been answered fully, I learned that this fee increase might have been mentioned at invitation-only "public" forums at President Walker's home.

So, the question now is "Did President Walker mention that the renovations would be paid from the student fees, but without stating explicitly that the fees would be raised to do so, or did he indeed mention a \$65 increase?"

If the latter, then he is right in saying the students at the forums were not paying attention. If the former, then those students did not ask the obvious question.

Woody Ratterson, former SGA President who spoke in favor of the increase at the meeting, might be right in

See Letters, page 11

OPINIONS & CLASSIFIEDS

LETTERS

continued from page 10

saying that this will not be reversed. I hope, however, that the Senate investigation will provide answers to our questions, and I wish that all of us had had the chance to meet with Dr. Walker.

Further, any member of the campus can be proud of the students at the last night's meeting. With the exception of my speaking out of turn in response to a highly fallacious argument, the statements were articulate, reasoned ones, and they contained the key qualities of Aristotelian persuasive discourse.

The quality of their statements indicates that these students are well educated and that they are indeed employable. It is being reported, however, that MTSU's athletic director believes that all of us need a I-A program to get a job. If so, then he insults not only all students here to obtain a degree, but also the faculty who educate us.

Bill Meehan
1214 Old Lascassas Rd, E-13
Murfreesboro, TN 37130
895-6893

To the Editor

\$65 more from me a semester to pay for a stadium hoping to be

finished by the year 2000? I don't know about the rest of the student body, but I certainly don't plan to be here in 2000—and if I were, it would be graduate work, constituting more study and work time, not an increase in my football game attendance. I highly object to paying \$65 more a semester for a stadium I won't be here to use—I didn't like paying the extra money for the Rec Center that I also won't be here to use, but they managed to squeeze that out of us, didn't they? I avidly agree with Wakeland on filing a suit opposing this increase—put my name on that petition, Warren. The Administration should use their brains to do something constructive and beneficial to all the student body (like renovate our poor library or find a way to cut the prices of books) instead of tacking on some sort of "non-active until 2000" Activity fee. I don't see a "Music Fee" on our bills to help buy new equipment for the RIM majors, or a "Medical Fee" to fund that new nursing building. Maybe the university should better allocate their funds if that's their big priority, or as one student suggested, maybe the football team should have a bake sale.

Noela Goodpaster
Box C245

Classifieds

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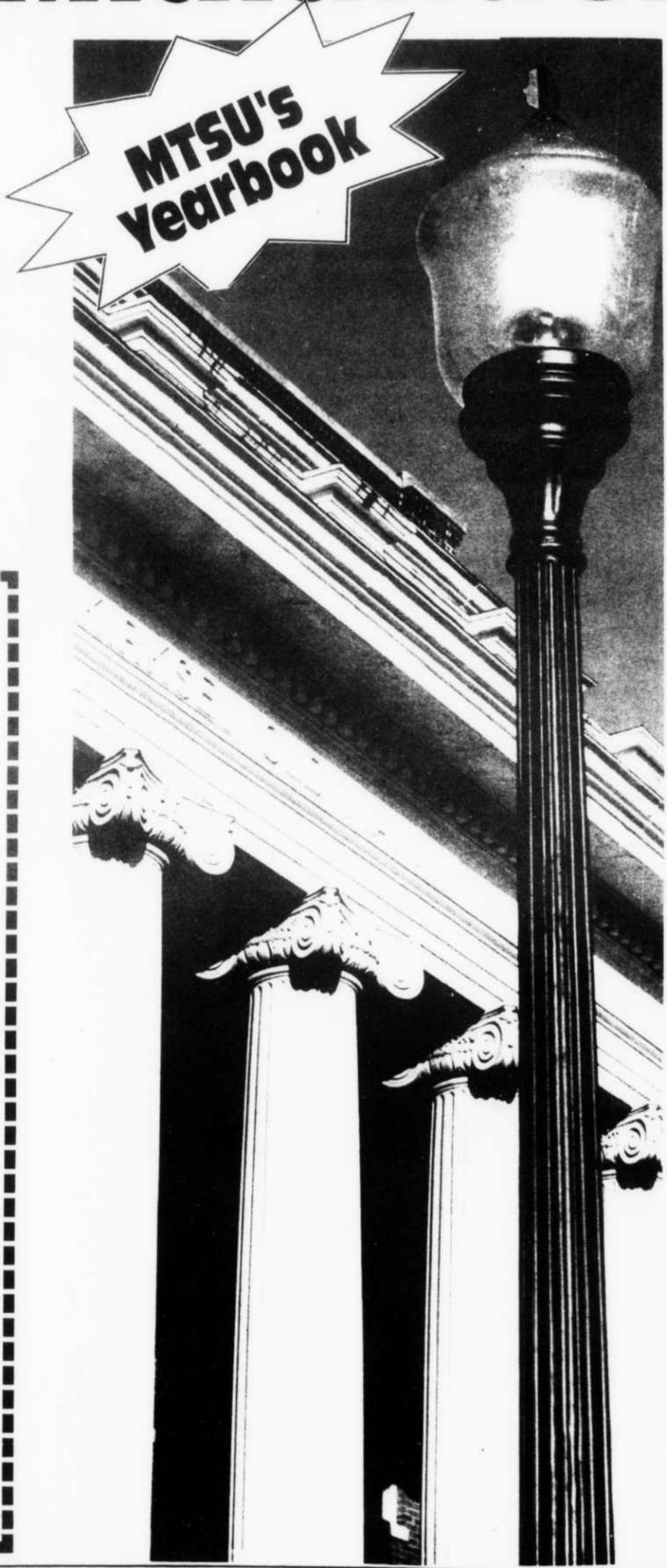
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