



Vice President of Academic Affairs Jack Carlton, left, and Speech and Theatre department chairman Larry Lowe, respond to

questions at Ralph Hillman's hearing in front of the faculty grievance committee. See related story, P.2.

Protest march set for Thursday

A protest march is scheduled Thursday at 2 p.m. in front of the University Center by a coalition of 12 students that met yesterday protesting the denial of tenure of Ralph Hillman, associate professor of speech and theatre.

"Ralph (Hillman) has become a symbol of quality education versus quantity," said Doug Cole, spokesman for the student group. "We think that the students can pressure the administration into giving Ralph (Hillman) tenure and that is why we are having this protest."

And, to increase the number of speech and communication majors, members of the group have planned a mass change of majors. Originally, there were 21 majors in the speech and communication sequence, however, the student support of Hillman has increased the enrollment figure to 31.

"The administration has used the (small) number of speech

and communication majors as an excuse not to give Hillman tenure," Cole said.

"We are not trying to fool anybody by becoming speech and communication majors. We are doing this as a form of publicity to protest the administration's treatment of quality education," Daniel Brown, another group spokesman remarked.

Also discussed was the wearing of black arm bands to show student disapproval of the administration. "Black arm bands have always been a symbol of protest, especially since Vietnam," Cole commented.

"This is an effort to coordinate and put into function all of the student's efforts in Hillman's favor," Brown said. "We want the administration to see that we want quality education at MTSU, not an education based on quantity of students enrolled in classes."

Four proposed pesticide ideas approved by president

By JANE MIER
Sidelines Managing Editor

MTSU President Sam Ingram has approved several recommendations made to him concerning the use of pesticides on campus.

Ingram said yesterday he has decided to okay the recommendations proposed to him by Archie Sullivan, safety director.

Sullivan's ideas were 1) to continue the use of the two pesticides presently used on campus (Oxford 514 and 777), 2) instructions on the cans' labels be "strictly adhered to," 3) sprayers should be closely supervised by "competent, trained personnel" and 4) one person should be selected and held accountable to this.

"Mr. Sullivan was supposed to have checked with experts on these pesticides. He also feels that the instructions in using these were not strictly adhered to," Ingram explained.

A small controversy arose in March over the use of pesticides in dormitory rooms after MTSU sophomore George Davis charged pesticides used on campus are "very dangerous and accidental misuse or information could result in serious consequences."

The pre-forestry major became worried about the chemicals after experiencing "mild toxic symptoms for four hours" after his room had been sprayed. He also said he knew

several other people who had become ill after rooms had been sprayed.

Harold Jewell, director of maintenance, halted all dorm spraying and fogging at the beginning of the month until the dangers of the chemicals could be determined.

Sullivan reviewed the processes the maintenance department uses in spraying the rooms and made his recommendations to Ingram at the beginning of the week.

"I don't feel like there's anything really dangerous (with the procedures or the pesticides)," he said several weeks ago, adding, "I think we need to tighten things up a bit, but there's nothing really dangerous."

Ingram said he feels it is "safe to use these pesticides and follow the procedures" now.

"Obviously, when we resume the spraying and if the pesticides still present problems to students we'll change things," he added.

Davis, however, was quoted in *Sidelines* several weeks ago as saying: "It will be over my dead body if they do start using the sprays again. I have evidence to charge them with three counts of negligence. I am not charging them at this point, but if 777 or a similar substance is used again I will be forced into such a situation."

Davis was unavailable for comment at press time.

Faculty Public Service Awards announced

By LIBBY WILLIAMS
Sidelines Staff Writer

Finalists for the Faculty Public Service Award and the Research Award were announced last week by the Office of Vice President for Academic Affairs.

The MTSU Foundation will present a \$1,000 check to the winner in each category at the Alumni Banquet on April 26.

Finalists for the Public Service Award are Ralph Fullerton, chairman of the geography and earth science department; Aubrey Moseley, professor in

youth education and Beryl West, psychology professor.

Finalists for the Research Award are James Gibson, associate professor of art; James Lea, associate professor of mathematics and computer science; Robert Prytula, psychology professor; Marion Wells, professor of biology; and A.E. Woods, chemistry and physics professor.

Earl Keese, chairman of the Public Service Award Committee, said that finalists were chosen for this award by their public service work contributed to MTSU. Three names were

sent to the Foundation and will be announced at the banquet.

"Each has a uniqueness about them. It's like picking an Oscar," said Keese. "They're all winners, but unfortunately we can only give one award."

Robert Aden, dean of graduate school and acting chairman of the Research Committee, said 11 people were nominated for their research work at MTSU.

"Each individual had to be nominated by two faculty members and had to send their research work to us to be viewed," he explained.

"Each piece of work is kept in the graduate office and was read and looked at there. Then the five top people voted upon names were sent to the committee chairman.

"Two members from our committee — Bella Higdon, assistant professor of elementary education, and R.B. Campbell, assistant professor of criminal justice administration — will be on the deciding committee, along with Jack Carlton, vice president for academic affairs, and two members from the Alumni Committee," Aden said.

About 200 attend banquet

James sworn in; Syler reflects on past year

By LISA HUMAN and JANE MIER
Sidelines Staff Writers

On the right side of the table, yesterday's administration leaned back in their chairs, perhaps reflecting on the similar incident that took place about a year ago.

To the left, newly elected officers nervously fumbled through their notes, anticipating their swearing in ceremony.

"I do solemnly swear that I will defend and support the constitution of the Associated Student Body and that I will faithfully discharge my duties of the office to the best of my ability."

Randy James began his official term as Associated Student Body president after being sworn into the office last night before some 200 people at the annual ASB Banquet in the Tennessee Room of the James Union Building.

"In order that the coming year might realize its productivity, it is important that our student government refuse to accept complacency in any instance. Ensuring adequate representation is not the sole responsibility of those people elected to serve; input is a dual process," he said, challenging the MTSU student body to make the ASB "realize its potential."

Syler, in his farewell address, told the audience the key to his administration's success was the people he worked with. He reflected on his administration, citing such issues as organizational row ("my enthusiasm has not dimmed"), voter registration ("you will see that students have not taken over Murfreesboro as some of more illustrious local leaders had predicted") and financial woes ("it's important that we not sacrifice academic quality for financial parity").

"Tenure has been the focal point of much controversy," Syler continued. "Many students are asking 'Is the tenure process

keeping politics out of education?' I regretfully answer with a loud and resounding 'No!'

Syler and James' speeches were preceded by the swearing in of Byron West, speaker of the house, and Martha Hammond, speaker of the senate.

West claimed he was excited about the coming year. "Some say we don't do anything — just sit up there (in the ASB office) and go through the motions. This is not true and I think the attitude (of most people) is changing," he said. "I feel the climate is right for a very successful year. I intend to make the ASB a more efficient ASB."

(continued on page 2)

Inside

• Alpha Delta Pi, Sigma Alpha Epsilon and the Wesley Singers win first at All Sing. P.3



• Reader gives tips on conserving energy during the "cooling season." P.5

• Raider Rally day brings former stars home. P.8

Two students found not guilty on assault charges

Two MTSU students, charged with aiding and abetting assault and damaging state property against MTSU student Harry Majors, were found not guilty in a closed hearing of the ASB General Sessions Court Wednesday night.

Michael K. Curtis and Leamon Bratton were arrested after Majors was reportedly beaten by 30-40 people last Dec. 1 in his room at K-Apartments and suffered several lacerations.

According to police reports, Majors was attacked in his K-apartment room and hit with bats, sticks and canes. He was supposedly thrown

through a window after being beaten. Once outside, Majors said someone in a car tried to run him down.

"I just don't think it should have been that way," Majors said, referring to the verdict. "It's just not right."

Another hearing will be held in Murfreesboro courts soon, he claimed.

All campus hearings are closed to the public and press to protect the defendants, according to Louis Holiday, chief justice of the court. He explained that the hearings could be opened if the defendants permitted.



John Hood, emcee for the ASB banquet, introduced incoming president Randy James at the annual dinner last night.

photo by David Mudd

Sidelights

Ambassador applications taken

Applications are now available for MTSU Student Ambassadors for the coming year. Ambassadors host banquets, dances and seminars, man information booths and serve in a general public relations capacity for the university.

An applicant must carry at least a 2.5 GPA and be a second semester freshman.

Deadline is Monday, April 21, and applications can be picked up in the university public relations office, Room 205 of the Administration building.

Night Owl Madness nets \$1,000

About 900 people showed up for "Night Owl Madness" Thursday, April 10, at the Kappa Sigma Barn, netting \$1,100 for the Andy White Memorial Fund.

The concert, presented by MTSU's recording industry management program and co-sponsored by Murfreesboro's WMTS 96-FM, proved to be very successful.

White was a senior RIM major killed in an automobile accident on his way home from school for last year's Thanksgiving holidays.

"The fund is set up to primarily to finance the recording studio and the RIM program in general," explained Dennis Buss, RIM instructor.

"Generally, the money for the fund is from privated pledges and other student projects. We also received a \$2,500 donation from Andy White's parents, because of his interest in the program."

Lowe claims charges unfounded

By LISA HUMAN
Sidelines Editor in Chief

Speech and theatre instructor Ralph Hillman's charges of being denied due process are "without foundation," his department chairman Larry Lowe said in an open session of Hillman's hearing Wednesday.

"I never said or implied Hillman was not an effective teacher," Lowe said. "He is (an effective teacher), but there are many factors that must be considered in determining tenure and promotion."

Lowe said he made a recommendation to the promotion and tenure committee, and the committee recommended the same way.

In Wednesday's hearing, Lowe, Vice President of Academic Affairs Jack Carlton, Dean of Liberal Arts Robert Corlew and speech and theatre instructors Pat Lane and David Walker answered questions posed by the faculty grievance and appeals committee.

Carlton said his recommendation to the university committee on promotion and tenure against Hillman's tenure

and promotion was "strictly on the basis of staffing."

He explained the university has been systematically trying to cut down on faculty in various departments for several years because of the predicted drop in enrollment.

"Home economics had 10 faculty this year, and will have nine next year. The English department was 34 when I came here and is 31 now," Carlton said and is 31 now," Carlton said and continued to describe similar situations in other departments.

"The situation in the speech department has been watched officially and rigidly for the past two or three years," he said.

Carlton asserted the reason for termination is enrollment decline.

Carlton was then asked if Hillman's position would be filled by someone else when he left.

"Next year it (Hillman's position) will be filled by him, but the next year I could not say. I would have to look at enrollment." He added the position would not be filled by a doctorate.

"Then there may be enrollment to justify a PhD?"

"If there is, it would be a big surprise," Carlton said. "By the formula we operate there is a mixture of PhD's and instructors with master's degrees. That is the most economical way you can teach."

Later during the hearing, Lowe said, "In our department if a person leaves or is not tenured, the current faculty will absorb the courses taught by that person. The courses Hillman teaches could be absorbed by other faculty."

Questions arose as to whether teachers in the various sections of a department could teach courses in another section.

"If a teacher was given a semester to prepare they should be able to teach the courses," Lowe said.

"There would be no student needing a course who could not get that course because of Dr. Hillman's leaving," he said.

After Carlton was questioned, Walker read a prepared written statement. "My contention is that Ralph Hillman has been denied due process..."

Walker said Lowe should have excused himself because of a bias that existed in the department and that Lowe was not able to give an un-biased opinion because of split that had developed in the department.

A split occurred allegedly last year when members of the department asked President Sam Ingram to evaluate Lowe. Seven members were for the evaluation, five against. Of the seven, three were on the departmental grievance and appeals committee. Those three voted for Hillman's tenure and promotion, the other five voted against it.

Walker also said he feels Hillman was denied due process because there was inaccurate information at higher levels.

He concluded his speech saying that Hillman should be tenured on his merits. This was followed by applause from the approximately 25 students present.

After the meeting, the committee deliberated in private. No decision has been reported.

James

(continued from page 1)

Hammond spoke on the need for students to work together and the need to realize quality education. "I sincerely hope I can live up to the expectations of the students. Next year the senate should work together," she stated. "We are constantly struggling to promote and/or

receive quality education.

"We must not let standards of education lessen because of rising costs. The education we receive today will affect the way we handle problems tomorrow."

Dean Judy Smith, associate dean of cheerleaders, introduced all the cheerleaders, stating they had "come into their own this year." Capt. Leah Norris and Richard Walker were given bags of candy to pass out to the squad since a Nashville company failed to produce trophies in time.

Smith and Ivan Shewmake, associate dean of students, awarded 32 students Who's Who Among Students in American Colleges and Universities. Over

100 students applied for the distinction and were selected by an ASB committee composed of faculty, administrators and students.

Outgoing Speaker of the Senate Mark Eaton presented Outstanding Senior Awards to Robin Crossing, Susan Denny, Jeff Ellis, Mark Floyd, Martha Kelly, Ruth Martindale, Kent Syler, Elizabeth Turner, Dawn Vaught and Jackie Wadell.

Smith, also advisor to the General Sessions Court, handed out certificates of merit and gavels to eight members of the court.

Dot Harrison, public relations

director, honored all MTSU Student Ambassadors. John Raulston was voted Most Outstanding Ambassador by the veteran members of the group.

Shewmake made a special unexpected presentation to Dawn Vaught, attorney general. "This award has no name and no tradition. But occasionally there is something that should be taken note of," he explained.

Vaught was given a candle in a brass candlestick because, as Shewmake said, "she has spread light."

Paul Cantrell, advisor to the ASB, reflected on the past year.

"It has been an interesting year," he said. "This has been an S & S year — Syler and Sidelines. I don't know if either won; I think it came down to a draw."

"The accomplishments during the year were tremendous," he continued. "Kent has been fair and democratic. We'll miss him."

As the banquet ended, the right side of the table mingled with the left, each congratulating the other and fondly laughing over things that had been said and done. And possibly wondering who would be on the left next year.

Job hunting speech topic

Kirby Stanat, author of "Job Hunting: Secrets and Tactics" will present a lecture sponsored by the Ideas and Issues Committee in the University Center theater Monday at 8 p.m.

His lecture will focus on how to get the job you want, answering such questions as how to effectively use the resume and how to project a positive attitude.

Stanat is currently the director of student placement at the University of Wisconsin in Milwaukee.

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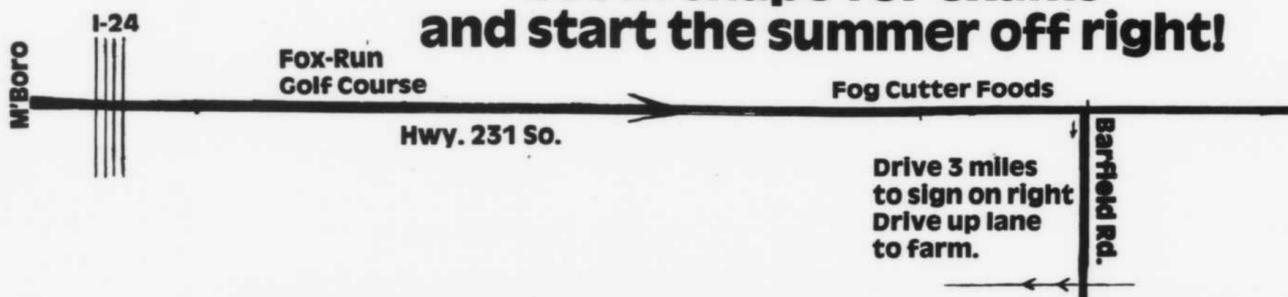
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Time extension set for dorm revisions

An additional 100 days has been agreed upon informally for installing air conditioners in six dorms by the consulting engineer's office and Charlie Pigg, director of campus planning.

The contract had originally stated that the job was to be completed in 160 days, but Pigg said that was too short of a time span to finish the job.

"We decided to do it (increase the number of days), but not officially. It has been tentatively agreed upon by me and the consulting engineer. He has to make an addenda to the contract documents," he explained. "The

contract can only be changed by addenda."

He added the cost would remain the same — \$1.7 million.

Pigg explained the situation to David Bragg, director of housing, and Robert LaLance, vice president for student affairs. He said they told him to do what was best.

Last week he stated, "The reactions we got from some contractors was the time we allotted was not enough to do the job. They were concerned over that."

"First, the bids will open April 24 to see if there is a

favorable response. The bid will go to the lowest and best qualified bidder," Pigg said.

"After that, the contract has to be signed by the president of the university, the Board of Regents and the state architect. A notice to proceed will be sent to the contractor and from that date, construction will start."

He said it will take about two weeks after getting the bid and awarding the contract to take care of all of the technicalities before the contractor can begin. "We make sure everything is legal," he said.

The 260 days of construction would take until February or

March 1981 to complete the job, Pigg said.

Installing air conditioners in Rutledge, Smith, Beasley, Sims, Judd and Gracy dorms will not be the only construction done with the money.

Smith and Rutledge will have the windows changed and a complete new heating and cooling systems will be installed. These dorms will probably be worked on first.

Other changes made to all of the dorms will include new roofs, new ceilings and new lighting installed in the corridors except Gracy and Judd, which do not have inside corridors.

Dorm rates go up, but those without air conditioning will not be charged \$30

Even though dorm rates will increase next fall, students will not be charged the extra \$30 for air conditioning if installation has not been finished in their dorm, David Bragg, director of housing, said.

Dorm rates are expected to go up eight to 10 percent due to renovations and fire code modifications that have to be made.

"It would obviously be hard to charge someone for air conditioning when they don't have it," Bragg said. He added they would have to adjust the price to reflect the actual case.

"Say for example, if Rutledge

got finished by fall, then they (the residents) would be charged the \$30. But if Smith didn't, they wouldn't be charged," he explained.

He added if the dorms under construction were finished in the spring, the residents would be charged with the increase then.

Present dorm rates are \$260 for non-air conditioned room, \$290 for air conditioned, and \$136-163 per month for Married Student Housing, Bragg said.

If the rates go up 10 percent, the cost would be around \$290 for non-air conditioned rooms and \$320 for air conditioned ones.



photo by David Mudd

Kappa Delta sorority saluted the year of the child at All Sing Tuesday night with a medley of kid songs.

ADPi, SAE, Wesley win first place in All Sing

By TERRY MEACHAM
Sidelines Staff Writer

Alpha Delta Pi, Sigma Alpha Epsilon and Wesley Singers received top trophies in the 13th annual All Sing presented Tuesday night in the Murphy Center.

In the female chorus category ADPi sorority took first place for their medley of songs entitled "The Clown Review." Dressed in brightly-colored clown suits, the sorority sang "Send in the Clowns," "Make 'Em Laugh," "Be a Clown" and "The Tears of a Clown."

Chi Omega sorority received the second place trophy for their "Sound of Music" medley.

Also entered in the female division were Delta Zeta, Kappa Delta, Alpha Gamma Delta and Delta Sigma Theta.

The "roaring twenties" were saluted when SAE, winner of first place in the male chorus division, sang a medley entitled "Twentiana." Songs performed were "I Want to Be Happy," "Looking Over a Four-Leaf Clover," "Nothin' Could Be Finer," "Bye Bye, Blackbird" and "Tea for Two." Kappa Sigma fraternity received second place for their "Salute to Motown."

Returning for the third time as first place winners in the mixed chorus category, Wesley Singers inspired the audience with "The Part That You Wrote for Me" and the a cappella song "Precious Lord." The Baptist Student Union Choir received the second place trophy.

Tau Omicron, an honor society for junior and senior women, sponsored the event.

Return rate up

Fall assignments given at checkout

Students who plan to live on campus again in the fall will receive their housing assignments when they check out from their dorms, David Bragg, director of housing, said.

"One of the procedures to checking out is signing or rejecting the contract," he said.

Bragg added that students who are scheduled to live on campus have until the last day of checking out to cancel their contract and get back their full \$30 room deposit. "If they do want to cancel, July 15 is the last day to get back only \$15. After that, they will not get any back."

He said there was a higher return rate this year over last year's which will create a tighter need for space than anticipated.

"We have to generate more space. I expect some cancellations at the end of the year," he said, "and those who do cancel will hopefully do it as soon as possible."

Bragg added there may have to be some three-to-a-room situations at the beginning of the year.

"We had estimated a return rate of around 80 percent. That was four to eight percent over last year," he said.

Eighty-five percent of the

females and 87 percent of the males now residing on campus have re-applied for the fall. This was compared to the 72 percent females and 76 percent males who returned last year.

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from the editor

No space: *All stories can't run in newspaper*

Every group, organization and student on this campus is important.

Each outing, campaign, banquet, seminar, donation, and project has been important to many people. Unfortunately, we have not been able to give each of these activities a place in *Sidelines* for various reasons.

And these reasons are not unique to *Sidelines*. Most papers face many of the same problems we do, but since you, the reader, may not be aware of why your dance, outing or work of merit was not published in the paper, let me attempt to explain.

We have a limited number of reporters who could not possibly cover everything that takes place on campus, although we try. If we did cover everything, there would not be enough room to print it all in our limited space.

And if we filled the paper with the results of *everything*, we would no doubt lose many of our readers to boredom.

Therefore, we cover what we feel would benefit the majority of our readers.

Sometimes, in the hustle and bustle of production night, we find ourselves with six or eight small stories that we would like to run in the "Sidelights" section of our paper, but we have to sacrifice several of these items because of space limitations.

Often, it is our intention to run a story, but if there is questionable information contained in it or if it is untimely, the story does not run.

Stories here go through many phases before they are printed. There are numerous reasons why a story is not ran. Yes, legitimate stories are often not ran because of these reasons.

We understand your concern and disappointment when the events you are involved in fail to appear in the paper, but hopefully you will now better understand our position on the matter.

However, we strongly encourage you to continue to call or drop by and let us know about your events and activities.

Thanks: *MTSU authors deserve tribute*

In lieu of "National Library Week," April 13-19, *Sidelines* would like to pay tribute to MTSU faculty members who have written books and had them published.

Over 65 instructors and administrators here have had books published, most of which are available in Todd Library.

Writing a book is a long and difficult task, but one that contributes much to society. These professors, knowledgeable and experienced in their field of study, have written books that provide us with information on the history of MTSU, sports, psychology, literature and other subjects.

Ofttimes a book, whether it be fiction or nonfiction, reveals a side of the author that a student sometimes may not be allowed to see. Books allow us to experience things we may otherwise not have a chance to.

The theme of this year's week is appropriately titled "America's Greatest Bargain" for it is the readers who get the best end of the deal.

A list of books by faculty members and administrators will be available at the circulation desk. In addition, copies of books by MTSU will be on display.

We thank them for putting their knowledge and research into print for others to read.

from cell block F

A cordial invitation

From: Maryann Archy to the State of Confusion

After many mournings of pulling my cells out of bed, dressing my student body in academin, and driving around with my parking stickher, I am pleased to announce that the Middle Tennessee State University Bored Board of Untrusting Trustess might and just maybe afford me my diplowma (ma will ya be

there\$\$) I am simply filled. When I walk down that aisle in Murphy's center of law for my gravitation ceremoany, I will feel like a knew, enlightened stewoodent, for I will be sporting an indoor-outdoor mortarbored with goon to match. This outfit is very symbolic. It means I will receive some piece of mind from a peace of paper. Gosh, am I

glad. The hiredarchy and maybe even the presentense will tell me at that ceramoany what my fewture will fold. Everyone will applaud when I sit down and tell them how I stood up and met their crytearia. I'll have to tell them all about the valuable words I learned like chauvenishim, plagerisn't, atheisn't and Fraudian foun-

ation. After a sitting ovation, I will tell them about the numerous semesster hours I spent studying fulllassofee, and how history and herstory helped me to better overstand words like nationalschism, and our all-American't, patrichaotic, Christiain'tity way of life. Maybe my bachelorette's of sighence in Engleash and Sighcence will really pay off when I enter the real world with my daughter and wallet during a time of deflation and remission. Maybe, just maybe, I can even break into a higher institoot of yearning by writing a disHERtashun on social dwarfinism and what the future holds for little fingers, little toes and little minds. Then I can teach others at a university, hold them under a Doctoral regime, become a good sitin'zen and get at least a good tenyear. I just hope then I will be able to spel so I can get a credible card. What a "Sir-prize" I will be to some lucky man. I'm sure he'll go farr.

by Mary Ann Richards

on the wall

by Jackie Gearhart

Bible, Darwin get equal time in schools

Three weeks ago, the Georgia state legislature passed a law requiring that Genesis be taught side by side with evolution. In 15 states, bills have been introduced that would give the Bible equal time with Darwin. In 27 states, textbook selection committees are under pressure

to accept books which teach Divine Creation — not as theology, but as biology.

It seems like I've heard this somewhere before. Let's see, wasn't that guy's name Copernicus? Why, he had the gall to say that the sun didn't revolve around the earth. Then

there was Mr. Scopes, poor fellow. He lost out in that open-minded, intellectual center of the universe, Dayton, Tenn.

Let me re-cap the scene for you: Clarence Darrow asked William Jennings Bryan (the man who wrote the Bible), "Do you think the earth was made in six days?"

Bryan replied, "Not six days of 24 hours. My impression is they were periods. . . It might have continued for millions of years." Thank you, Mr. Bryan, wherever you are.

As columnist Ellen Goodman stated in an article that appeared in *The Tennessean* yesterday, "Now the people who blame sex education for sexual activity — who claim that history textbooks have produced disrespect for our history — have turned to science. They blame the 'teaching of evolution' for 'animal behavior.'" There's nothing like cold, hard logic.

Another example of this logic

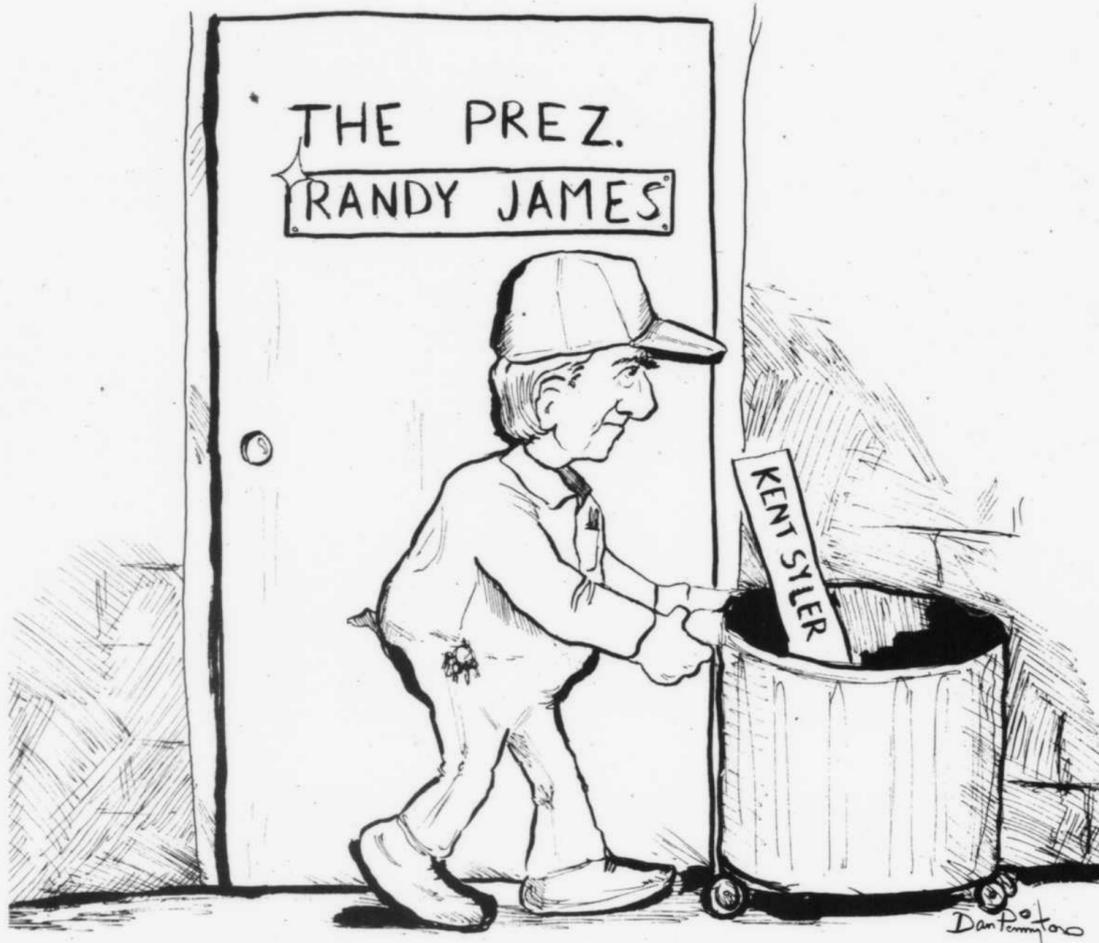
came from the mouth of Chief Judge Braswell Deen of the Georgia Court of Appeals, who stated that "the teaching of scientific creationism as evidenced in the book of Genesis would significantly reduce crime in America."

It sure makes sense to me that since I, as a human being, am somewhere between the angels and God, and will not steal, lie, commit adultery or murder because it would make a monkey of me. Let's face it, folks. We do not rule nature, so we must therefore learn to live within it. In that sense, we could do worse than remember that we are animals.

The problem with the creationists is that they are not opening their eyes to the possibility that science and the Bible go hand in hand. They are so afraid that scientific theories might prove them wrong, they don't give them a chance to prove them right.

Friday, April 18, 1980

Viewpoints



Sidelines

- | | | |
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Letters Policy

Sidelines welcomes all letters to the editor. Letters must include the author's name, MTSU box number and telephone number. The telephone number will be used for verification purposes only and will not be printed with the letter. Names will be withheld upon request.

We reserve the right to edit all copy for space, grammar and libelous content. *Sidelines* will give priority to those letters which are in disagreement with our stated opinions.

Please address all letters and other inquiries to: *Sidelines*, MTSU Box 42, or come by our newsroom on the third floor of the James Union Building.

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

Perspective

Friday, April 18, 1980

from our readers

Can comics replace drugs as stimulator?

To the editor:

In regards to Danny Tyree's column in the April 15 *Sidelines*, I share most of his opinions that a lot of people who would enjoy comics don't get the chance because society has already judged the medium as a childish product. Unfortunately, I'm not as optimistic about the medium as he seems to be.

He seems to think that comic books can replace drugs as the ultimate fantasy stimulator. I don't know what Tyree rolls in his comics when he smokes them, but I can safely say I've never gotten even a slight buzz from them.

Before you assume I'm some high-brow, literary type, I'd like to assure you that I've read comics as long as I've been able to (which means I'm not the literary type, right?) and I still find them fun to read. But I'd hate to think Tyree has given anyone a false hope about a field that I like to do work in once in a while.

I don't want anyone to suddenly jump up and say "Holy

Use energy wisely

Follow helpful conservation practices

To the editor:

First, let me commend all individuals who are doing their part to conserve energy on campus, and ask that you keep up the good work. However, we must all remain vigilant to keep energy use to a minimal level without adversely affecting comfort or productivity.

The following is a partial list of actions we all should take during the cooling season:

- Turn off all lights in your offices, classrooms, dorm rooms when you leave.
- Be sure to turn off all electrical devices when they are not needed.
- Keep windows and doors closed while area is air-conditioned.
- Try to limit the use of hot

First try at tanning proves revealing

To the editor:

I hope my story doesn't sound weird to you. Each of us, every once in a while, comes in contact with experiences other people consider peculiar.

I've been in MTSU for five years now, changed my major six times. Besides, I don't go to summer school. Well, what I mean to say is that I'm finally graduating this semester. I'm carrying a nine-hour load, and I have only one class on TTh and it's an 8 a.m. class. Ugh!

Yes, today is Tuesday. Hot Tuesday. What's the temperature, 75 degrees? Yes, I overheard the wizard of M-96 radio station say so.

Got to find something worthwhile to do with this sunshine. I'm going for a tan — a nice, beautiful tan. I look at my watch. It's 1 p.m. Hopefully I'll be through before 3.

I put on my raspberry bikini, carry my leisure mat (with inflatable pillow, that is) and borrow Peggy's Avon Sun Seekers Tanning Butter. I stand at the door to ensure that I have everything I need. A novel! I scan my bookcase and choose John Jakes' "The Seekers" (Vol. III) — a Kent family chronicle. I open my refrigerator and take a cold can of Mello Yello.

I shut my room door and instantly realize that my keys are inside. I don't even have a roommate. Well, I'll find a way when I get back. I carry my load to the roof of Monohan Hall.

shirt! (That's a phrase I got out of a comic just last week. Nifty, huh?) What have I been missing!?! Then rush out, buy a truck-load of comics, sit down to read them and come to the realization that they would like to find Tyree in a dark alley at midnight.

Y'see, comics were becoming mature at one time. It was way back in the early fifties that a publisher named William M. Gaines decided to dump his line of romance comics and come out with a new, more commercially successful line. His company was called EC (Entertaining Comics), and it soon became the leading comic publisher of the fifties with a very innovative line of horror, science fiction and war comics. No company, before or since, has ever put out a better quality line of comics than EC Comics.

You may have heard of some of them: "Tales from the Crypt," "Haunt of Fear," "Two-Fisted Tales," "Weird Science," "Weird Fantasy" and "Mad"

were the most prominent. Of course, "Mad" still exists as a magazine but at times the comic seems more mature than the current version! EC Comics have also inspired current professional writers, like Stephen King and his EC-type macabre stories. And the artists who worked for EC have become very successful in other fields of illustration, such as Jack Davis and the work he's done for magazines like "Time," "TV Guide" and so on.

Anyway, because of a growing fear (caused by EC's and other companies' horror and crime comics) that comic books were twisting their kids minds, mothers started a movement against EC Comics that ended up with two results: EC Comics was promptly kicked out of the business (it was then that "Mad" became a magazine) and a censoring monster called the Comic Code Authority was created.

While not all comics are bad (Tyree has made that point clear), most turn out to be

nothing but mindless drek, caused by being in thrall of the Code. While the Comic Code Authority does keep them "from being as racy as soap operas," as Tyree has noted, it has kept comic books underfoot for such a long time that their growth has been stunted.

It's really too bad. I don't know of any other medium which provides such a unified combination of words and drawings. It has a clear promise to be a unique outlet for expression, but it's doomed to be only "entertaining" and "fun" no matter how many of them try "mature" material.

But, hey, I'm all for *everyone* reading comics (if everyone did, then there would be more mature stories and less cliched drek), but I hope that those who do try Tyree's suggestion will be selective and boycott the trash. I also hope this letter has saved Tyree from any midnight meetings in a dark alley.

Alan Sissom
Box 3669



Student working on doctorate intends to be called 'doctor'

To the editor:

Please pass along the following message to Henry Fennell of the next to last word:

Dear Henry,

This note deals with your article, "Sweeny changes name to fit self" (*Sidelines* April 11).

I am working towards my doctorate at MTSU and I had to explain the following to members of the history department:

1. I do not know you. Further, I did not put you up in writing the article.
2. I am NOT related to Albert Stephen Sweeny. (I do have a brother, Steven Matthew Sweeny, and at last check he is alive and well.)
3. If and when I received my doctorate it is my intention to have people call me either "Doc" or "Doctor."

I have one question. How did your "Sweeny" go from S w e e n e y to S w e e n y? In other words, how did Albert Stephen lose the third "e"? I lost my third "e" through a great grandfather.

Michael Joseph Patrick Sweeny

P.S. I am having your article framed. Thanks for the publicity.

water in lavatories and showers.

- Unplug refrigerators when you will be away for more than 3 days.
- Turn off all fans in all areas when you leave (cooling units in many dorm rooms and offices).
- Try to use task lighting, or sun light, rather than ceiling lights when studying or doing office desk work.
- Inform maintenance or housing if you notice steam leaks or water leaks.
- Close blinds in dorm rooms during the day when no one is there.
- Use stairs rather than elevators, when possible.
- Keep wall registers clear of obstructions (don't set plants or books on vents).
- Try washing clothes in cold

water, using detergents designed for that purpose.

- If electric baseboard heaters are in your areas, be sure they are off.
 - Where appropriate, leave blinds open at night to help dissipate the heat built up during the day.
 - See that thermostats are set no lower than the present Federal guideline of 78 degrees (F) for general academic building cooling.
- Once again, awareness and action is the key. Energy conservation is a "thinking man's/woman's" game in which we all can be winners.

J. Gray Padfield
Director of Energy Management
Box 44

you imagine how I look? Ugly and funny like an out of space creature. And even the tan doesn't look any good on me.

While under the shower I promise myself that I'll never undergo this flesh-scorching experience again, and I plan to wear sunglasses every day until my skin is back to normal.

Eucharia K. Ohanenye
Box 1446

Thanks, donors

To the editor:

Thursday from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m. I sat at a typewriter at the UC and watched over three hundred students who donated blood. I have worked as a Red Cross Volunteer at campus bloodmobiles for more than 10 years and I always come home with the same feelings of pride in the MTSU student body.

On behalf of the Red Cross a special big thank you to three hundred very special people at MTSU. On behalf of the families and friends of the individuals receiving your blood donation as a life saving gift. Thank you.

Thank you also to Capt. Ellis and your ROTC cadets who so willingly assisted Red Cross volunteers and professionals in making our campus drive a success.

Mary Pockat
Red Cross Volunteer

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MIDLANDER
MTSU

A CLOSER LOOK



photo by Brain Wright

Dardin Shadrack, Jeff Chaplin and Reginald Sweatt went through the motions of throwing hand grenades yesterday.

'Scapino!' not as good as previous ones done

By TERRY MORROW
Sidelines Staff Writer

"Scapino," a comedy performed by the university theatre, made its debut Wednesday night at the DA and will continue through Saturday with no charge to MTSU students.

The play is not a bad play. Far be it for Dorethe Tucker, the veteran play director, to give the public anything bad. This is just to say she has done better plays in her time.

In case the plot of "Scapino" eludes any one who wishes to see it (and how many people read classic Italian farces anymore?), it revolves around the sometimes-funny-sometimes-not-so-funny love affair between two lovers (Shirin Sohrabi, Bill Jones) whose parents disapprove of their relationship.

Anyway, the rascally Scapino (Martin McGeachy) plots to help the star crossed lovers. In the course of this, Scapino does more zany things than can be found on 100 episodes of "I Love Lucy."

Still, the play does have some going for it in all that insanity. Elements that can be labeled "good" or "bad" about "Scapino" are divided by a thin line.

For instance, the acting in this production was not up to par with most of the other season's plays (case in point: "The Curious Savage"). Acting, especially on the part of some of the major characters, was a little rough.

A major stepping stone to the success of "Scapino" was the slapstick. It was all too staged, and it seemed as if the actors seemed uncertain about a fall, a slap or a tumble.

In one part in the play, Octavio (Barclay Randall) and his sidekick Leandro (David Cummings) were involved in on the countless chase scenes in the play. When the two meet each other in the course of the running, they lock arms and swing around each other as a revolving door.

Not to be counted as a loss, "Scapino" did have some positive points also.

Barclay Randall and David Cummings worked well together as the play's "Laurel and Hardy" team. Though the slapstick did leave something to be desired, these two have fun at it and make it bearable.

Another veteran theater actress, Cindy O'Brein, added some to the play as cast in a small role as a nurse. This production was O'Brein's last play for MTSU and her talent will be sorely missed. Too bad that "Scapino" was not the type of vehicle that fits O'Brein's talents.

Allen Barlowe seemed to fit into his role as Sylvestro, a schemeing Scapino-like character. In one scene, Barlowe comes on a tough motorcycle gangster who threatens to turn on a society bigwig. He made his role funny.

To add a little more spice to the play, the characters walk on to the stage from the audience. This was an interesting and nice touch.

All in all, "Scapino" is a bearable play. One does not get bored. The university theater is not a troop of professionals, but they are capable of better. The play does have some good points and should be seen.

Communication seminar to help supervisors

MTSU's speech and theatre department and the Office of Continuing Education are again offering "Communication for Supervisors and Managers" on May 9 from 8:30 a.m.-noon and 1-4 p.m. in Room 322 of the University Center.

David Walker, director of the division of speech communication and a consultant for West Publishing Company and Holt-Rinehart-Winston, will be conducting all activities. Those offered include "Some False

Assumptions About Communication," "Your Verbal Messages," "Your Non-Verbal Messages — Body Language and Leadership" and "Communications with Your Subordinates." As a result of the evaluation forms from last fall's seminar, "Games People Play in Organizations: Conflicts Solving" has been added.

Walker encouraged business supervisors and managers, educational administrators and

anyone else in a supervisory or managerial position to enroll, adding bankers, medical supervisors, educators and insurance people are among those who have responded so far.

"This seminar is vital because of the low morale in the business world and in the universities," Walker said. "Because supervisors are unable to get across

their messages or receive and understand feedback from their subordinates, there is a tremendous amount of frustration on both sides."

Only 30 spaces were available for the seminar, but 15 have already been filled. Entry forms can be picked up at the Office of Continuing Education, Room 117 of the Administration Building.

Finalists go to area meet

The Sigma Club, winners of the campus-wide Quiz Bowl sponsored by men's residence hall programming, will travel to Austin Peay State University Friday to compete in an area Quiz Bowl.

"This is the second straight year the Sigma Club has won," said Greg Denton, head of residence hall programming. "The International Relations team came in second and some of them may be going as alternates."

Each Quiz Bowl team is composed of four members and two alternates, he added, and must supply 30 questions to the competition.

The bowl will be held Friday and Saturday, with an awards banquet Saturday afternoon.

Thirty-one teams competed in the original Quiz Bowl held here on campus, Denton explained. "I was very pleased with the participation because this year more dorms entered."

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Bearden, Galloway new fall publications editors

Vivian Bearden was selected to serve as editor of *Midlander* and Angie Galloway was chosen *Sidelines* editor for the coming fall semester by the Student Publications committee Tuesday afternoon.

Bearden is current *Midlander* editor and was selected to continue to serve as editor of next year's book. A junior from Lynchburg, Tenn., Bearden wishes to maintain production costs through various conservation measures and hopes that it will not be necessary to raise the cost of *Midlander*.

"I'm hoping the book will

grow and that it will reach its full potential," she said.

Frank White, student publications advisor, said students are currently paying less than half the actual cost of the book. "As the budget gets tighter and the cost of printing goes up we will have to increase the cost of the book, he stated.

Galloway has been with the *Sidelines* staff since the fall of 1978. She has served as copy editor for this year's fall and spring semesters. She plans to enforce stricter deadlines and carefully screen all staff applicants.

Midlanders to arrive Mon.

Midlander yearbooks will be distributed Monday from noon until 4:30 p.m. and Tuesday from 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m. in the University Center lounge across from the grill.

I.D. cards are required in order to receive the *Midlander*. After Tuesday the distribution location will be moved to the *Midlander* office on the third floor of the James Union Building and distribution times will be posted.

"We tried to keep a unity in the book which is represented by

the theme, 'MTSU: A Closer Look,'" *Midlander* editor Vivian Bearden said.

"More features have been included, and the section on academics has been divided into schools instead of departments this year. The sports section has been expanded into more pages and larger pictures," she explained.

An opening and closing section of several pages is adding a new and different touch to this year's *Midlander*, Bearden added.

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Raider Rally Day

Several former star athletes look forward to return

By EDDIE GOSSAGE

Sidelines Sports Editor

Bobby Tillman and Chuck Taylor. Many people don't know that these two former major league standouts played collegiately at MTSU before starring in the big times.

Yet they recall their roots well.

Tillman and Taylor will be just two of the many former

after a popular television series of the time which featured one black, a white and a blonde. The defensive backs were Ken Coffee and Ray Bonner, two blacks, Ed Miller, a white, and Oldham, the blonde.

But Tillman and Taylor gained perhaps the greatest amount of notoriety following the playing days at MTSU. Taylor played for both the St.

the university on a basketball scholarship but played football. He left college after one year to play professional baseball.

He had an interesting story to tell about his football experience which may have, at least in part, convinced him to pursue a pro baseball career.

"It was the second game of my first year on the team and I was playing quarterback behind Bobby Hallam, who became an All-American," Tillman recalled. "I wasn't getting to play too much. Anyway, we were playing Eastern Kentucky and beating them pretty bad."

"Coach Murphy threw the second team into the game and the first play I called an option left," he laughed. "I went right."

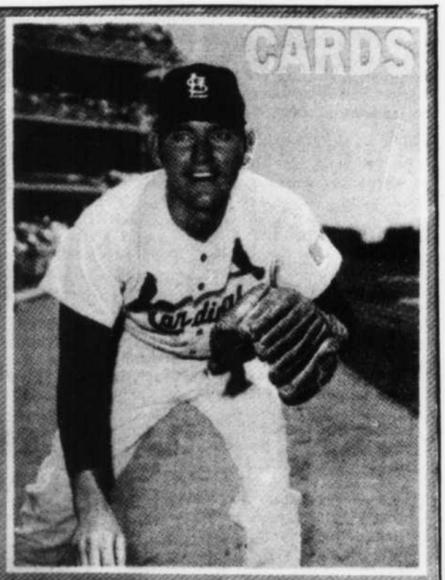
"The best part, though, was Monday morning," he went on, laughing all the way. "We were running through some plays and I was taking some snaps from the center, Glenn Eden. There, on his butt, he had the words 'left' and 'right' taped."

While Taylor couldn't quite match Tillman's story, he did have something to say about a former teammate, John Stanford, who is now the Raider skipper.

"We had some really good road trips," Taylor smiled. "We always made trips in vans because we didn't ride the buses back then. On the way back from games we made a few beer



Bob Tillman CATCHER



Chuck Taylor PITCHER

Bobby Tillman and Chuck Taylor, seen here on bubblegum cards, will be just two of several former MTSU athletes that will be returning for the first "Raider Rally Day."

stops along the way.

"Big John could put it away," he said of Stanford. "I tell you what, too. He hasn't lost that touch."

Tillman and Taylor look forward to swapping more yarns about the good ole days when Raider Rally days rolls around in a week from tomorrow.

MTSU ticket manager Jim

Simpson, organizer of Raider Rally Day, said he wanted to stress that current MTSU students are included in the day's plans.

"We are hoping a large number of students will turn out for both the baseball game and the intrasquad football game we have scheduled in the afternoon," he said. "It will be a good chance for the students to

meet the stars from yesterday and recent times."

The baseball game, a doubleheader with OVC foe Eastern Kentucky, begins at noon. The Blue/White game, which will make its reappearance after a five year absence, will begin at 2:30 p.m.

Admission to the games are free.

Sports

Friday, April 18, 1980

MTSU athletes that will return to campus Saturday, April 26 for the first Raider Rally Day.

Among the others are Ray Oldham, former Pittsburg Steeler and Baltimore Colt now playing defensive back for the New York Giants in the NFL, Sharon Maclannahan, the first former women's player in the professional basketball ranks with a year's experience with the Dallas Diamonds, Tommy Haynes, who placed fifth in the triple jump in the 1976 Montreal Olympics, the Mod Squad, a group of hard hitting defensive backs as well as several recent Blue Raider stars.

The "Mod Squad" was a group of four defensive backs that played for MTSU in the early 70's. The group was named

Louis Cardinals and Montreal Expos while Tillman caught for the Boston Red Sox and the Atlanta Braves before retiring. Both are looking forward to returning for the day of festivities.

"It's really going to be fun," said Taylor, who now lives and owns the Western Auto store in Smyrna. "It will really be great getting back together with some of the guys."

"I think it will be great to get to see some of the old guys," said Tillman from his home in Gallatin. "I have talked with a couple of them recently and they may come back if it fits into their schedules."

Tillman ironically never played a single inning of baseball at MTSU. He attended

Eagles hand MTSU doubleheader loss

By CAROL A. STUART

Sidelines Sports Writer

Morehead State handed the Blue Raiders a double dose of misery yesterday at Blue Raider field.

Sweeping the afternoon twinbill, the Eagles came from behind in the second game to pounce on Middle Tennessee 9-4, after edging them 1-0 earlier.

MTSU held back on the scoring until the fourth inning when Tommy Blankenship singled in rightfielder Dave Collier, advancing Randy Starkey to third. Catcher Mike Norment followed with a long

sacrifice fly to rightfield to score Starkey and give the Blue Raiders a 2-0 lead.

Once again in the fifth inning, MTSU eked out a couple of runs on RBI singles by Collier and Starkey. The Blue Raider base running efforts were aided by Morehead catcher Dave Gaunce who allowed three stolen bases in that inning and six in the game.

Morehead finally got their bats moving in the sixth. Backed by a 4-0 lead, Middle Tennessee pitcher Mark Novack, with an unblemished 5-0 record, had a one-hitter going until Jody Hamilton stepped to the plate.

The lanky first baseman for the Eagles and 1979 OVC Player of the Year, poled one out of the park in right center, approximately 400 feet, with John Combs on first.

The sixth inning was not the Blue Raiders' downfall, though. Gaunce led off the seventh with a shot down the middle that started a seven-run rally. Once the Eagles started swinging, there was no stopping them. Reliever Tony Dawkins came on with two men on base, but was charged with five of the runs and the loss.

By the time the Eagles had finished pounding the ball, they

had batted around and Gaunce and shortstop John McVane had faced the mound twice. Besides the seven runs, five hits and three walks were chalked up by Morehead in the inning.

Winning pitcher Joe Martin, who relieved starter Mike Mattox in the fifth, quickly downed the Blue Raiders 1-2-3 in the bottom of the seventh to secure the victory.

"We hit well one day and pitch well the next," MTSU head coach John Stanford said, "but there's got to be a combination. We just don't have that right now."

In first game action, the Eagles' Walt Terrell got his first win (1-3) in shutting out Middle Tennessee 1-0.

Both teams remained scoreless until the fifth inning when things got a little wild in Morehead's favor. Steve Duncan, whose record fell to 3-2, walked the first batter, Chris Auer. McVane and leadoff hitter Glen Jones both bunted safely, sending Auer to third. Before Duncan could take charge of the situation, a wild pitch in the dirt got past Norment, and Auer scored.

Duncan and Terrell both went the distance in the contest in which pitching and defense was the norm.

"We had both games won until the last inning. Any kind of base hit would have won that first ballgame in particular," Stanford said.

Collier, who just recently replaced Bob Fuson who has left school, had a good day at the plate, going four for eight, including a double. Shortstop Mike Yarotsky also was strong for MTSU with a three for six mark in the doubleheader.

With the series sweep, Morehead runs its OVC record to 7-1 and overall mark to 14-9. The double victory allows the Eagles to take the league lead ahead of Murray, who split with Austin Peay yesterday to drop its former undefeated OVC record to 5-1.

Middle Tennessee's conference record now stands at a low 4-10 while maintaining a .500 (18-18) seasonal average. The losses for the Blue Raiders give them a five-game losing streak and make the eighth and ninth times they have been defeated in the last eleven outings.



photo by Don Harris

Raider pitcher Steve Duncan delivers a pitch to catcher Mike Norment in yesterday afternoon's doubleheader action against Morehead. Duncan's record fell to 3-2 with yesterday's loss in the first game. MTSU lost both games to the Eagles, losing 1-0 in the first and 9-4 in the second.

Neal's Lady Raiders see OVC tourney as second chance at successful season

By SCOTT ADAMS

Sidelines Sports Writer

With a chance to make everyone forget about their rollercoaster season which netted them a record of 6-8, MTSU's Lady Raiders tennis team headed for Cookeville yesterday for the OVC championships.

Admittedly, head coach Sandy Neal and her team don't have a realistic shot at the overall title but several individuals have a good chance in their respective singles positions. And the doubles team have

made drastic improvement from last year so MTSU could challenge there, also.

The Lady Raiders played their last home match of the season Wednesday afternoon against the powerful Lady Vols of Tennessee and were blasted, 9-0. But the teams only senior, Kaye Wrather said the loss will probably help their performance in the OVC tourney immensely.

"Good competition like that always helps your game, and to say the least UT was good competition," Wrather said. "I honestly think we've got a pretty good chance this weekend."

There was a blind draw for the tournament held last night with all seven girls in each singles positions and the three doubles teams from each quad thrown into a hat.

First round competition will begin Friday morning and will conclude Saturday afternoon with the finals. All matches will be played on the Tennessee Tech courts.

The Lady Raiders will finish their season Monday in Clarksville when they will take on the Lady Governors of Austin Peay in a match that was rained out earlier this year.



SPORTS SPOTLIGHT

by Eddie Gossage

The official word

It is common knowledge that Jimmy Earle is taking a leave of absence from MTSU to become supervisor of officials for the Southwestern and Atlantic Coast Conferences.

But you won't here Earle say those words — exactly.

Earle admitted in a roundabout way the other day he is leaving MTSU by saying he would have a comment after he signs the contract. Lawyers for the two conferences are currently working on the contract and Earle expects to sign it within the next ten days.

The position Earle is taking is similar to the one former Alabama basketball coach C.M. Newton took with the Southeastern Conference earlier this week. The duties involve assigning and evaluating officials and generally overseeing the basketball competition in the two conferences.

The two organizations are pooling their officials in order to assure one team does not see the same official more than twice a year. In the OVC, for instance, Middle Tennessee may incur the same official five to seven times a year. The ACC and SWC hope the new plan will end the charges of "home cooking" many universities are faced with.

Granted, the new idea will cost a great deal more money, but the two conferences, the ACC in particular, are as powerful and wealthy as any in college basketball.

Earle will not maintain an office at MTSU. He will, however, have an office in downtown Murfreesboro from which he will work. The job should force Earle to be out of town for three to four days a week.



Jimmy Earle

The real reason for Earle taking the job, one which he did not apply for, is to make contacts and to see how some major universities run their athletic departments. It is assumed that Earle will take over the athletic director's post when the one year leave of absence ends. Current athletic director Charles "Bubber" Murphy is nearing retirement and Earle is his handpicked successor.

Before deciding to take the job, Earle conferred with university president Sam Ingram who opposed the idea and forced the former basketball coach into a selling situation.

"Jimmy is a very competent and talented person," Ingram explained. "My first impression was that if he leaves MTSU, we would lose him for good. Later, as he got into more detail and told me that it was only for a one year duration."

"At that point, it became obvious that if he left, he would come back," the president went on. "Jimmy is invaluable to the university."

Rumors circulated around the sporting community on campus that Earle had been asked by Ingram to take the leave as a budget cutting move. Ingram is currently looking over every part of the university budget, trying to cut the fat. However, both Ingram and Earle denied that the move had anything to do with cutting the budget.

"Sure it will save money, but his leaving has nothing to do with the cutting of the budget," Ingram emphasized. "Right now, anyone who leaves, we are looking to see if we can do without the position."

The leave of absence will begin June 1. At that time, both the SWC and the ACC will be gaining, as the president said, a very competent and valuable person.

Despite personality, Gregory 'most improved'

By EDDIE GOSSAGE

Sidelines Sports Editor
FROM JUST looking at Charles Gregory, it is assumed he is the typical All-American college student.

From talking with Charles Gregory, he is found to be a quiet, unassuming person.

He is polite and courteous. He answers elders with a quick "yes

sir" or "yes maam." He is clean cut, well built, simply an overall nice guy.

And that has proved to be a problem.

You see, Gregory is a football player. He stands about 6-4 and weighs 215 pounds. But the personality is holding him back a little, or so says Boots Donnelly, MTSU football coach. The

football coach is trying to make Gregory a little meaner.

"That (his quiet personality) hurt him a little last fall because he was very shy," Donnelly said yesterday afternoon just prior to the Raider's workout. "He was almost withdrawn from the team because he is so shy. But he is starting to develop a mean streak in him."

The mean streak, as Donnelly termed it, has pushed Gregory from a spot player last fall behind former All-OVC player

Reggie Bell to a member of the first unit. "He's there right now and that's where he's going to be next fall," Donnelly emphasized.

"I just try to be the way my parents taught me to be," Gregory explained, his voice revealing the demeanor Donnelly says he needs to defeat. "I guess when it comes to football I am too soft and don't use enough pressure at times."

"But," he quickly added, "I'm learning. I'm going to do all right."

The quick addition that exudes self confidence is a good indication that he is on the right track to becoming a good college football player.

"Charlie is probably the most improved football player on the team," Donnelly said of the Nashville product from Goodpasture Christian School. "He has come further than we had anticipated. He plays hurt, he plays tired and just never gives up. He has developed into a good player."

But Donnelly is quick to point out that Gregory still has a way to go.

"Charlie will go through a rough fall next year because of his size and his personality," the second year coach said. "But he's

going to be tough when he is a junior and a senior. You see, Charlie has so much personal pride that he won't give up. He wants to please us."

Gregory played noseguard in high school and his freshman year in college. This spring he has moved to defensive tackle, a spot where he is willing to try.

"Charlie is the kind of football player we want at MTSU because of his character and he is a morally sound type of person," Donnelly said while eyeing Gregory during a drill. "He is the kind of player we need to become stable. He is dependable and very conscious of what he does."

"We are going to be all right if we have more players like him," he added.

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photo by Brain Wright

Charles Gregory, right, works out at yesterday afternoon's practice against an unidentified opponent. MTSU football coach Boots Donnelly said Gregory is the most improved player on the team.

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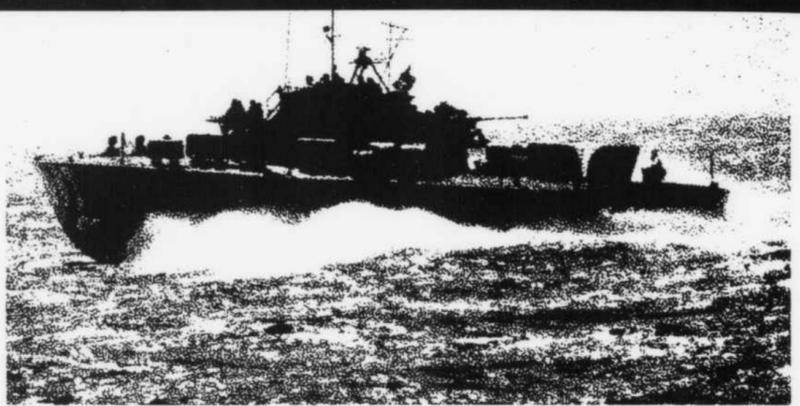


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