

97 things to do in '97

Sidelines offers ways to make your life better in the new year

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A little home cookin'

Blue Raiders host four home games at Murphy Center. Preview inside.

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Murfreesboro, Tennessee

MIDDLE TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY

Sidelines

Thursday
January 9, 1997
Volume 72, Number 39

DELAY OF GAME

University will not move to Division I-A until 1999

By Lesli Bales/ staff

Despite much publicity and anticipation for MTSU to move into Division I-A for the 1998 football season, it now seems fans will have to wait one extra year. The decision — based on financial discrepancies and architectural changes — was made the week before Christmas.

The Tennessee Board of Regents had approved \$21.4 million for renovations to Johnny "Red" Floyd Stadium, but the lowest bid came in from Turner Construction Company of Nashville at \$25 million.

This dilemma sent architects back to the drawing board to calculate how they could build a Division I-A stadium for less money. Finally, last December, some architectural changes were made so that the stadium could hold 30,700 spectators instead of the 35,000 that had been planned originally. The university did its part by adding another \$1.8 million to the stadium budget.

In the original plans, stadium construction was to be completely finished by the start of the 1997 football season. However, the architectural and financial changes put construction on hold for over a month. In order to finish the stadium by the original date, construction crews would have to have had to work straight through from December to August, costing the university more money. Because of the problems of getting the project in under the budget, the decision was made to extend the amount of time in which the



stadium would have to be built.

Unfortunately, this decision conflicted with the criteria for moving to Division I-A. One stipulation is that the stadium must hold 30,000 people in addition to averaging the required 17,000 spectators per game one year before moving into the division. MTSU's current stadium only holds 15,000 spectators, and by delaying construction, it will now be impossible for MTSU to meet those two criteria in the 1997 season.

With these changes finalized and the new budget of \$23 million approved by the Board of Regents, construction is scheduled to start on Monday, Jan. 13, and is projected to be completed by Aug. 25, 1998. If MTSU can boost its attendance from an average of 11,000 spectators a game to an average of 17,000 spectators a game in 1998, the Blue

Raiders will be cleared to move into Division I-A in 1999, said athletic director Lee Fowler. Despite the delay, Fowler said he is still positive about the move to I-A.

"There are only 106 schools that are Division I-A, and most of them are household names," Fowler said. "In the South especially, schools are known for their football programs. Going to Division I-A is just another way that MTSU is striving to get to the top level. I think the move will help tremendously with publicity and the image of the university as a whole."

Because the stadium will still be under construction during the 1997 football season, all fans will be seated on one side of the stadium while the other side is being renovated.

New stadium closes Faulkinberry

By Christi Underdown/ staff

Many students' walking and parking habits will be drastically affected on Jan. 13, the date beginning the expansion of MTSU's Johnny "Red" Floyd Stadium.

The walkway running north and southeast of the stadium and west of the baseball field will be closed. Those parking in the Greenland lots will reach the campus inner core by walking around Murphy Center and south along Tennessee Boulevard, or east toward C Street, then south toward Faulkinberry Drive.

Faulkinberry Drive will be closed from January through the duration of the project, eliminating related parking spaces and (perhaps only temporarily) access south into the lot by the Midgett Business Building.

The west portion of the Jones Field

parking lot will be closed for staging of construction equipment.

Raider Drive will be closed to pedestrian and vehicular traffic, as well as the parking lot on the east side of Murphy Center.

The southwest corner of Murphy Center will be closed to pedestrian traffic and standard and handicap access to classrooms will be coordinated with Disabled Student Services and Murphy Center.

The sidewalk running north to south, east of the baseball field and west of the chilling plant, will be closed due to Baseball Fieldhouse construction.

To deal with future parking problems, MTSU Parking Authority have hired a parking consultant. According Charlotte Hunt, the consultant will "look at what we can do now with what we have in regards to parking, and also look five and ten years

down the road to tell us what we can and should do."

The study will last for about four months and then a report will be made to the MTSU administration. Ideas that may or may not materialize include a rumored parking garage.

To lessen the traffic tension at present, the gate on the east side of Loop Drive is now open to all through traffic. To take the parking that was available on Faulkinberry, a temporary lot is being graveled on the S Curve. Also, two lots, behind the Mass Communications Building and beside the Recreation Center, can be accessed.

For those who ride the bus, a new Raider Xpress shelter station will be located in the northwest corner of the Tennessee Livestock Center parking lot off Greenland Drive.

Male housing overcrowded once again

By Heather Hybarger/ staff

Male housing is in demand this semester, with many students in overflow and some on waiting lists.

As of Tuesday morning there were 73 men in overflow and 25 on a waiting list, however, according to Debra Sells, director of residential life, there are 12 vacancies in women's housing.

Sells said it is, "hard to tell" if the overflow this semester was caused in part by upholding student housing contracts. Last semester Sells announced students were bound by contracts signed at the beginning of the Fall semester. The contracts state students are required to live one year in campus housing.

Students may only leave campus housing with approval of the Housing and Residential Life office.

"We've been more lenient this year than we will in future years, this being a transition period," Sells said.

Students who are getting married, graduating, withdrawing from the university, working on an internship that takes him out of the area, or if the student has a health issue that is verified by a medical doctor may be excused from his housing contract. However, Sells granted many students this semester an exemption due to special circumstances.

This semester any request by a male wanting an exemption from his housing contract will be granted until there are no more men on a waiting list for housing, said Sells. Women will not be given the same consideration because there are no women in overflow.

In addition, there are plans for a new housing facility on campus. The facility will be an apartment-style housing and will house 400 students. The committee overseeing the project is considering several sites on campus.

"We are looking for a place that is convenient, attractive and yet won't cost too much to build," Sells said.

One of the sites being considered for the new building is the Pascal property located on Main Street, facing Pizza Hut. A meeting will be held Thursday at 3:30 p.m. in room 305 of the KUC for students to voice their opinions on this site.

Construction will slow down Xpress, add new stop sign

Staff Reports

There will be a few changes in campus transportation this semester, including an additional three-way stop sign near Tucker Theatre as well as an extra 10-12 minutes added to the Raider Xpress Green Route, according to university officials.

Because of the construction on campus, the Green Route will now leave the C Lot on Greenland, turn south on Tennessee Boulevard, turn west on Eaton Drive (serving Ellington Human Sciences and EHS Annex), come back around to Tennessee Boulevard and head south to Main Street, according to Ed Barlow, manager of Motor Pool and Transportation Services. This change adds an extra 10-12 minutes on the Green Route's run.

The Green Route will no longer service the west side of

Please see TRANSPORTATION page 2

Offering a helping hand



photo provided by Photographic Services

Last year the Murfreesboro Salvation Army raised more than \$40,000 and helped more than 12,000 needy people. President Walker, serving as this year's Salvation Army honorary Christmas chairperson, accepts a special plaque/ bell from Lt. Edward Lee, commander of the Salvation Army Center of Hope. They are pictured with Bill Stevens (left) and John Minter.

New officers hired with federal grant

By Randy Ford/ staff

A grant from the U.S. Department of Justice is making MTSU safer, according to public safety officials.

The MTSU department of public safety has hired eight new security officers because of a \$526, Community Oriented Policing (COPS) grant. That brings the university's total number of train officers to 27.

"MTSU badly needs these officers to offset the problems that come with record-high enrollment and the increased size of the campus itself," said Tennessee congressman Bar Gordon when he announced the grant last December.

"These funds will allow officers who are committed to community policing to get out on campus and fight crime," he added.

MTSU Public Safety Chief Jack Drugmand said the grant was "a godsend for us."

Drugmand added that increased staff will help fill the department bicycle patrol component: a five officer

team that will patrol the campus from 5 p.m. to 1 a.m. each evening.

He said the new bicycle component is important because MTSU is "becoming more of a walking campus as a result of increased traffic congestion."

The funds have also allowed the department to hire a COP specialist to develop its community projects. Last year, public safety participated in Special Olympics an organized the Angel Tree for children living in MTSU's family housing.

The department of public safety has not yet estimated how the university's crime rate will be affected by the additional staff, but Drugmand said he is sure that students and faculty will be safer.

COPS Universal Hiring Program grants are designed to cover 75 percent of the total salary and benefit of each officer for three years. The remainder is paid by state or local funds. According to Drugmand, contingency of the grant requires that the officers be maintained after the three years.

Selective service enters on-line world

Staff Reports

For the first time ever, young men can initiate a registration with Selective Service using a computerized on-line service.

"This will make registration even easier for men in millions of computer households," said Gil Coronado, director of the Selective Service System in Arlington, Virginia.

Young men must register within 30 days of turning 18 in accordance with Federal

Law. The Selective Service Agency is working together with CompuServe to provide the on-line registration. Young men can register by first accessing <http://www.sss.gov>, then utilizing GO MILITARY. The registration form can be requested from this page.

Once the information is entered on-line, the information is forwarded to Selective Service for processing. Within 30 days the new registrant receives a personalized registration card

in the mail. After checking the information on the card for accuracy, signing and dating it, the registrant mails it back to Selective Service.

"Being able to offer an on-line means to help men register is just another way to further our goal of providing a wide range of military-related services to our CompuServe members," said Dan Meeks of CompuServe Inc.

More than 35 million men have registered since 1980, however none has been drafted. The last draft ended in 1973. •

No kissing at UK college

College Press Service

LONDON—In an effort to combat a deadly meningitis outbreak, students at a British university were ordered Nov. 30 to avoid kissing and all other forms of intimate contact.

The rather unusual command follows the recommendation of health officials, who say a recent cluster of extremely rare meningitis cases at the University of Wales warrants a speedy and serious reaction.

"Everyone is behaving very responsibly. I have certainly not

seen any panic among the students," said Dr. Bill Smith, chief medical officer for Bro Taf Health Authority, in a Reuters report.

Vaccinations were planned for about 800 students following the death of a 19-year-old female student. Four other students have so far been affected, according to Reuters.

Meanwhile, at the campus at Cardiff, 140 miles west of London, bars have been closed and parties canceled on health officials' advice. One student described the atmosphere as "morbid." •

TRANSPORTATION:

continued from page 1

Loop Drive because of the pending closing of Faulkinberry Drive, according to Barlow.

Also, the following stops are being eliminated due to the changes: James Union Building, Kirksey Old Main, the stops along Faulkinberry, as well as the stop on C Street.

Secondly, the Blue Route will serve a new stop in the northwest corner of the Tennessee Livestock Center parking lot, according to Barlow.

Access to the lot is off Greenland Drive just east of the C Street traffic light. Administrators encourage students to use this lot and take the shuttle to the campus inner core.

There will be no shuttle service from the D Lot off Greenland Drive. Commuters will need to walk to the C Lot shuttle stop, according to Barlow.

In addition, a three-way stop sign will be established at the corner of Faulkinberry and B Street by Tucker Theatre, according to Jack Drugmand, director of Public Safety. Some parking will be preserved at the east end of Faulkinberry, and a three-way stop will allow those people access onto B Street.

For the most current information available about construction and transportation matters, call the News and Public Affairs News Hotline at 904-7000. •

On Campus



THURSDAY, Jan. 9 - Jan 22

Todd Library orientation classes will be held at various times during these days. See the schedule in the library for specific times. Call Sharon Parente at 898-2817 for more information.

TUESDAY, Jan. 14

Sigma Tau Delta English Honors Fraternity will hold its meeting at 7:30 p.m. at the Red Rose Cafe. All English majors and minors with a 3.0 GPA are welcome to join.

WEDNESDAY, Jan. 15

Older Wiser Learners will host a drop-in meeting from 12 p.m. to 1 p.m. in the Adult Service Center KUC 320. The meeting will focus on new ideas for upcoming activities. Call Dr. Bailey

at 898-5989 for further information.

Deadline for applications for Student Orientation Assistants (SOA) and clerical workers are due by 4:30 p.m. in KUC 122. For further information, contact Gina Poff at 898-2454.

FRIDAY, Jan. 17

Deadline for Activity Fee Application for the Spring Semester. Applications may be picked up in KUC 122 and must be returned to the same office. For further information, call 898-2454.

FRIDAY, Jan. 24

The Japan Center of Tennessee announces a performance by the Tokyo String Quartet from Tokyo, Japan at the Tennessee Performing

Arts Center (TPAC) in downtown Nashville at 8 p.m. in the Polk Theatre. Call TicketMaster at (615) 255-9600 for tickets.

GRADUATING SENIORS

All May 1997 Graduating Seniors are required to take the **ACT-COMP**.

The test will be given three times during the fall semester: **March 4, 5, and 6**. On these dates, students may choose from three different test times: 8:30 a.m., 1 p.m., or 6 p.m. All test administrations will be held in the Tennessee Room of the James Union Building. No pre-registration is necessary. The test should take approximately two and one-half hours. If there are questions, please contact Ruth Watson at 898-2854.

California's Prop 209 blocked in court

College Press Service

SACRAMENTO, Calif.—While many Californians believed the fight over affirmative action was to be won at the ballot box, the final battle may ultimately be in court.

A federal judge has blocked enforcement of California's Proposition 209 that bans affirmative action, saying there is a "strong possibility" that the measure is unconstitutional.

On Election Day, 54 percent of Californians voted in support of Proposition 209, which, among other things, stops college admissions offices

from considering an applicant's race or gender.

Proposition 209's passage was hailed as a major victory by opponents and sparked a string of protests on several university of California campuses. With the issue now in the courts, the heated exchanges over the divisive issue could be far from over.

U.S. District Judge Thelton E. Henderson issued a temporary restraining order Nov. 27 prohibiting the state from implementing the measure, at least until a hearing is held Dec. 16.

"Courts must look beyond the plain language of an

enactment," Henderson wrote. "The relevant question is whether, in reality, the burden imposed by a law necessarily falls on minorities and women."

Henderson's ruling was applauded by a coalition of groups, including the American Civil Liberties Union and the National Organization of Women, that had sued to block enforcement of Proposition 209.

In arguing their case, ACLU attorney Edward Chen told the judge that proposition 209 "turns the glass ceiling for women and minorities effectively into an iron cage."

Please see ACTION page 3

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PG-13 PARENTS STRONGLY CAUTIONED
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DIRECTED BY STANLEY TONG

JANUARY 10

GOOD NEWS FOR ADULT STUDENTS

Evening School Office (898-5611) Peck Hall, Room 101D

Hours: Monday through Thursday, 4:30 to 6:30 p.m.
Saturdays, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

Stop by for schedule books, drop/add forms, intent to graduate forms, and identification cards.

Spring 1997 Telecourses

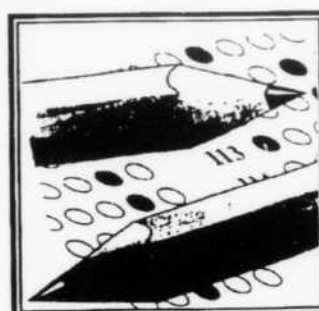
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HPER 0310-31 HPER 0310-32
HPER 0310-33

Spring 1997 Correspondence Courses

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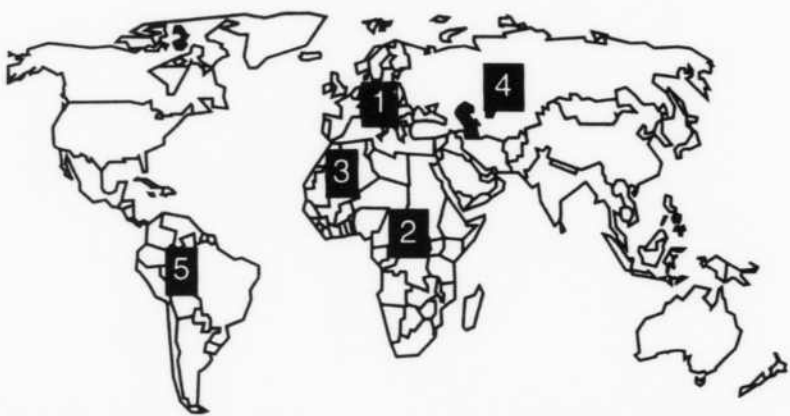
Presented by the Division of Continuing Studies at Middle Tennessee State University. All courses will be held on the MTSU campus in Murfreesboro, Tennessee.



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Around the World



Serbian opposition keeps pressure on Milosevic

1 BELGRADE, Yugoslavia (AP) — With riot police again blocking their marches, opposition leaders Wednesday tried to orchestrate another paralyzing traffic jam in the capital to keep the pressure on Serbian President Slobodan Milosevic.

Hundreds of riot police, wearing bullet-proof vests and shields, prevented about 3,000 students from marching on Belgrade street Wednesday morning.

Opposition leader Vuk Draskovic called on the demonstrators to converge on Belgrade this afternoon in their cars in a replay of Sunday's gridlock action. Then, protesters mocked the official reason for the ban, driving downtown slowly and faking car problems to create traffic chaos. They then went ahead with their march on foot.

Students and leaders of the political opposition have been marching daily since Milosevic-controlled courts annulled local election victories won by the opposition on Nov. 17.

A court in the small central town of Lapovo ruled in favor of the opposition Tuesday, giving it control of the town council. A ruling on an appeal in Nis, Serbia's second-largest city, was expected today.

Students leaders said that, as

when confronted by police, raising the prospect that the protests could again turn violent.

UNICEF alarmed over child death toll in Zaire

2 GENEVA (AP) — Desperately undernourished children are dying daily in makeshift refugee camps in eastern Zaire, the United Nations children's agency said Wednesday.

The death toll is growing at a remote camp in Tingi Tingi near Lubutu, where 23 deaths were reported on Monday, UNICEF said. Twelve of the deaths were children under 5 who were in a hospital but failed to respond to emergency intravenous feeding, the agency said.

The death toll is likely to be even worse at two other camps that most international aid agencies have been unable to reach, said Peter McDermott, the agency's deputy director for emergencies.

Blast rocks downtown Algiers

3 ALGIERS, Algeria (AP) — An explosion rocked downtown Algiers Wednesday, a day after a car bomb killed at least 13 people and wounded 100 others.

It was not immediately clear whether there were any injuries in the 4:30 p.m. blast at the Salembier quarter of the Algerian capital. Ambulances converged on the site.

Attacks on civilians are increasing in the North African nation

bloodied by an Islamic insurgency that began five years ago this month.

Yeltsin to be hospitalized, showing signs of pneumonia

4 MOSCOW (AP) — President Boris Yeltsin is returning to the Kremlin hospital two months after his heart bypass surgery because he has developed the first signs of pneumonia.

The president's press service said Wednesday that doctors decided after a routine evening examination to hospitalize the 65-year-old president for several days.

Pneumonia is an inflammation of the lungs caused by bacteria or viruses and can be potentially life-threatening if not detected and treated early.

Brazilian baroque city threatened by floods

5 OURO PRETO, Brazil (AP) — Torrential storms in southeastern Brazil have killed at least 71 people and have driven more than 34,000 from their homes. Floods from 18 swollen rivers have deluged 175 cities. In many areas, residents remained without drinking water, electricity or telephones Tuesday.

Late Monday, President Fernando Henrique Cardoso authorized emergency funds for the state government to purchase food, blankets, medicine and materials to rebuild destroyed homes.

ACTION: continued from page 2

Lawyers for the state, however, had argued that Proposition 209 actually bans discrimination. The measure states: "The state shall not discriminate against, or grant preferential treatment to, any individual or group on the basis of race, sex, color, ethnicity or nation origin in the operation of public employment, public education or public contracting."

Gov. Pete Wilson, a leading advocate of Proposition 209, criticized Henderson's decision, calling it "an affront to the majority of California voters who passed Proposition 209."

"The absurd consequences of this ruling is that California can constitutionally only prohibit discrimination against some races but cannot constitutionally prohibit discrimination against all races," he said. "I am confident that the will of the voters will ultimately prevail."

Last month, after Proposition 209's passage, the University of California's nine-campus system changed its admissions policy so that an applicant's race and gender would no longer be considered.

The court ruling comes just as the university closes its application deadline for fall 1997 undergraduate admissions. For the time being, the UC's new admission policy will stand, said UC spokesperson Terry

Lightfoot.

The temporary restraining order, which names the governor and Attorney General Daniel E. Lungren, does not specifically include the UC system, he said.

"We hope sometime between now and [the Dec. 16 hearing] to get some clarification from the court on whether this would apply to the University of California," Lightfoot said. The measure, he added, is expected to be tied up in the courts for some time, perhaps a year or longer.

In any event, the university plans to bide its time before making undergraduate admissions decisions. "We're a long way from reviewing applications," he said.

Proposition 209's Election Day passage had ignited a number of stormy protests on UC campuses across the state. At UC-Berkeley, about 300 angry students took over the school's bell tower to protest the ban on affirmative action a day after its passage. But in the hours after the court ruling, the campus remained quiet, with no celebration from affirmative-action supporters or demonstrations by opponents. Most likely, that's because students already had left for Thanksgiving break, said Larry Luong, a UC-Berkeley junior.

... "The court case hasn't riled up any response as of yet," he said. "No one has noticed any protest of any kind."

Sidelines welcomes you back for the Spring semester. Good luck!

NOW HIRING

Sidelines is now taking applications for the following positions: copy editor, staff writers and photographers. Apply in person, JUB 308A, or call 898-2337 for further details.

Faulkinberry Drive will soon close; commuters asked to use Rutherford Blvd.

The contract is signed, and the expansion of Johnny "Red" Floyd Stadium will soon begin. Contractor is Turner Construction Co., of Nashville. The following are anticipated immediate changes on campus due to the stadium expansion project. The date is approximate and may vary according to weather and other factors.

As early as mid-January:
(Please refer to map for corresponding lettered areas.)

A. The walkway running north and south, east of the stadium and west of the baseball field will be closed. Those parking in the Greenland lots will reach the campus inner core by walking around Murphy Center and south along Tennessee Blvd., or east toward C Street, then south toward Faulkinberry Drive.

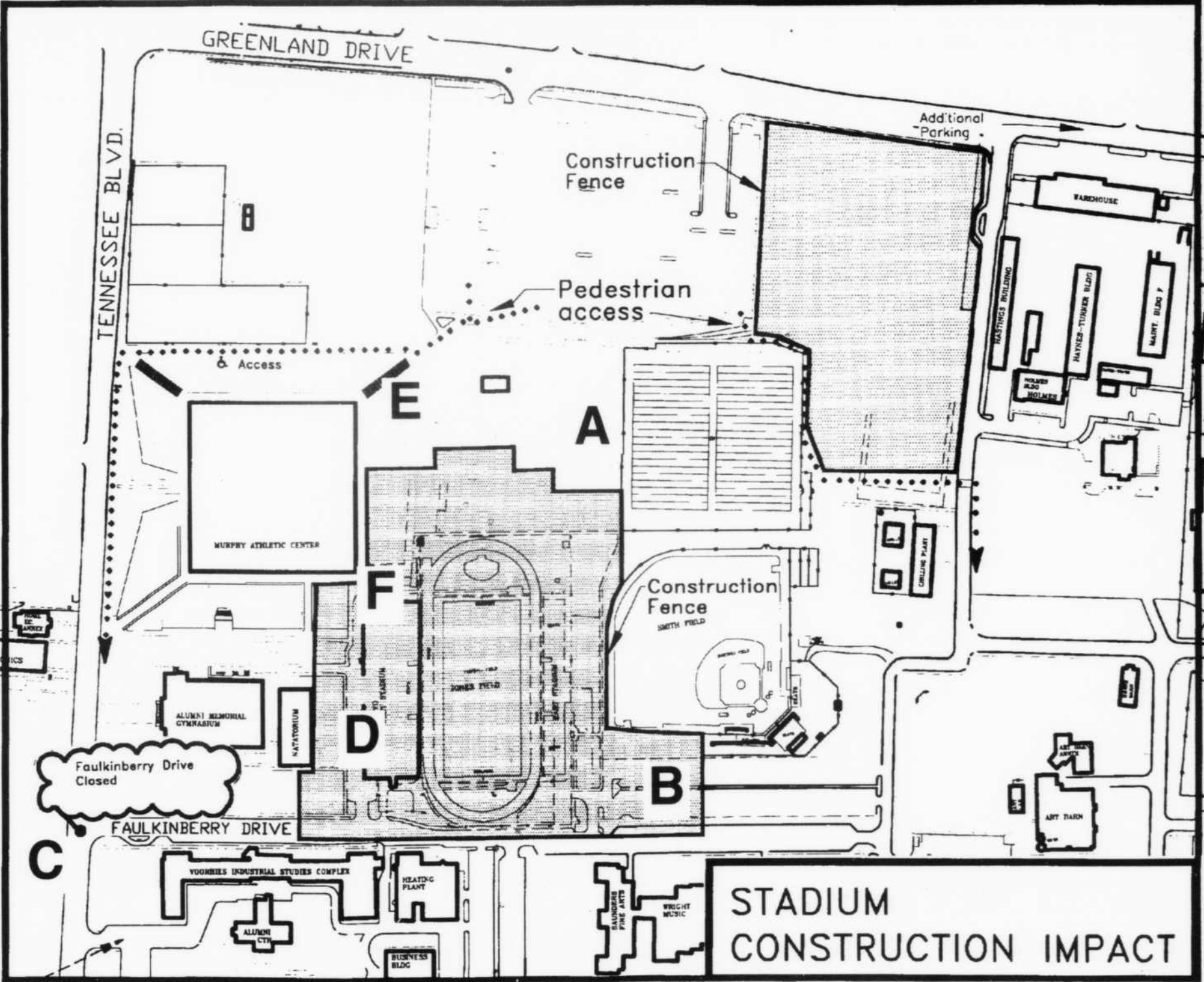
B. The west portion of the Jones Field parking lot will be closed for staging of construction equipment.

C. Faulkinberry Drive will be closed from January through the duration of the project, from Tennessee Blvd. to just east of Saunders Fine Arts, eliminating related parking spaces and access from Faulkinberry into the parking lot by the Midgett Business Building. However, within the next two weeks, the gate on east Loop Drive (east side of Cope) will be lifted and traffic will be permitted through there to reach the parking lot adjacent to KOM and the Business Building.

D. Raider Drive will be closed to pedestrian and vehicular traffic.

E. The parking lot on the east side of Murphy Center will be closed.

F. The southeast corner of Murphy Center will be closed to pedestrian traffic—and standard and handicap access to classrooms will be coordinated with Disabled Student Services and Murphy Center.



IT WILL HELP GREATLY IF COMMUTERS ENTER THE CAMPUS ON THE EAST SIDE FROM RUTHERFORD BOULEVARD.

Call the MTSU News and Public Affairs HOTLINE—904-7000 (Press 3)—to receive periodic campus construction and traffic updates.

If you have a question, please call Bill Smotherman at 2967. Thank you.





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Opinions

Thursday, January 9, 1997

Sidelines

Page 5

In our view

Sidelines name change on hold

What's in a name, Juliet asks of her fair Romeo. Doesn't a rose smell as sweet by any other name?

Apparently not.

After a long semester of searching for a new name for *Sidelines*, amid some criticism from faculty and students, it has been the decision of the *Sidelines*'s staff not to change the name at this time.

Many faculty and students felt the name *Sidelines* is an enduring tradition, one that shouldn't be hastily changed. Some complained changing the name would cause confusion for new students, as well as alumni returning to the campus to do research. And still others felt the name *Sidelines* is already unique, not needing to be changed.

On top of those criticisms, *Sidelines* didn't receive any names that seemed worthy of changing its name.

Sidelines will keep a close eye on the ever changing campus. Things might be changing all over the place, from the mascot, to the school colors, to the name of the university itself.

If the times do change, therefore, then our name might have to change with them. Under any name, however, the staff at *Sidelines* will strive to provide the best possible news coverage in the years to come.

Best of luck to all students, faculty and administration for a successful and exciting new year.

The *Sidelines* Editorial Board

Sidelines

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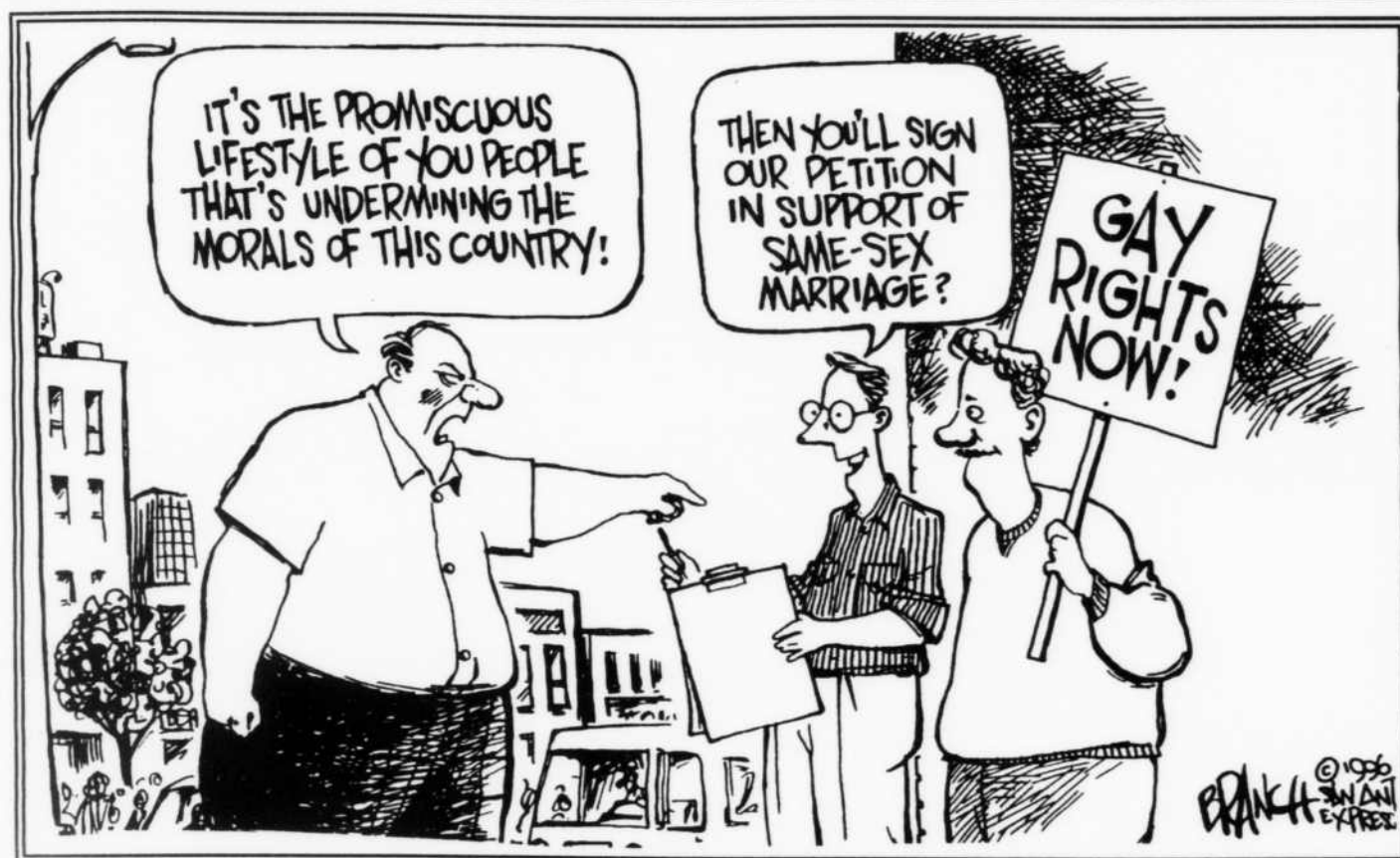
Student Publications Director
Jenny Tenpenny Crouch

Sidelines is the non-profit editorially independent student newspaper of MTSU and is published every Monday and Thursday. The opinions expressed herein are those of the individual writers and not necessarily those of *Sidelines* or the university.

Letters Policy

Sidelines encourages comments from readers. Letters to the editor should not exceed 300 words. Authors who want more than 300 words to express themselves should contact the editor. *Sidelines* keeps its pages open to all viewpoints and all members of the MTSU community. Authors should include their name, address, major, classification and phone number for identification purposes. (Phone numbers will not be published.) *Sidelines* reserves the right to edit for length, grammar, style and libel.

E-Mail letters to Stupubs@frank.mtsu.edu. Send letters to Box 42, MTSU, Murfreesboro, TN 37132 or drop them off at the *Sidelines* office in JUB Room 310.



Letters to the Editor

Professors disconcerted by non-discrimination policy

To the Editor:

I write to laud the individual (group? committee?) responsible for the masterfully worded "Statement of Community Standards of Civil Behavior." It undoubtedly took much courage, great ingenuity, and long hours to compose. Best of all, it arrived just in time for the holidays and the last *Sidelines* of the fall semester.

Now that we are all going to tolerate diversity, practice personal honesty in ALL matters, have regard for the dignity of each citizen, show respect for individual rights, disdain bigotry and hatred, tolerate the opinions of others even when they differ from our own, recognize mutual needs and concerns, etc. etc. - there is obviously no longer a need to specifically say that we (the university) do "not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, or age...or 'against veterans or individuals with disabilities.'" We are now in a position to scrap the entire MTSU nondiscrimination statement. This is great, since the current statement is probably offensive to someone. Besides, to quote Dr. LaLance, "the rules are adequate to deal with problems that arise out of uncivil behavior."

It is also comforting to learn from Dr. LaLance (I'm paraphrasing from a Dec. 3 article which appeared in the *Tennessean*) that the university is unlikely to change its policies unless the state mandates change. Knowing this, we ought to be able to disband all the time-consuming committees on this campus and simply wait for the "state" to tell us what to do. This way, we'll all have more time for teaching, research, and public service.

Seriously, I hope we all can agree with the opinion so lucidly expressed by the editorial staff(?) in the Thursday, December 5 issue of *Sidelines*. "The decision to include the 'Statement of Community Standards of Civil Behavior' in future university publications instead of changing the university's nondiscrimination statement is an amenable compromise which satisfies all for which the UEC should be demanding as well as appease those groups fearing gay and lesbian students would receive undue recognition and 'special treatment' if the statement were changed." Phew! So come on UEC, stop your "whining" and "self-aggrandizement." Don't "waste university officials' valuable time" in the

future.

Wayne C. Rosing
Professor of Biology
Faculty CO-advisor to MTSU Lambda

To the Editor:

Journalistic responsibility requires that, even in editorials, you get the facts right. An editorial in the December 4 issue proclaims that adding sexual orientation to the non-discrimination policy of MTSU is not necessary, because there is already a law in Tennessee that protects gays and lesbians from discrimination. What law would this be? In fact, there is no such law. Nationwide, such laws are rare and have been passed, as far as I know, only at the city level, not by states. And there is no federal law protecting gays and lesbians. So, in spite of your editorial, gay and lesbian students can be denied admission to MTSU, faculty, staff, and students employees of MTSU can be fired for being gay and lesbian, your professor may even discriminate against you or harass you for being gay or lesbian, and there is nothing in the law or the university's legally-binding non-discrimination policy to prevent these things. You may wish to believe that we are all nice, good people here, and that such things won't happen. But the same things happened time and again to blacks, women, and other groups on this campus until the university included them in its non-discrimination policy so that they now have legal remedies if discrimination should occur. President Walker's "be nice" policy has no legal standing, and therefore it does not close the case for gays and lesbians who fear for their jobs, safety, and happiness on this campus. You are entitled to your opinion, but please base your arguments on the correct information.

Sincerely yours,
Jim Williams
Assistant Professor of History

More reaction to Carlisle

To the Editor:

My name is JD Easley and I am a freshman here at MTSU. My major is pre-medicine and my minor is Spanish. I started out thinking that I needed to write a long, sobbing story like the others in your paper. Now I decided that I can state what I have to say like this: Who cares?

Obviously some people do care about what is happening on campus. I was surprised, shocked even, when I read what Sharon E. LaBonte said, "Would a speaker be able to get a permit to speak in the middle of campus if that speaker preached against 'niggers' and 'kikes'?" Hold up, wait a minute, what the hell is a nigger or a kike?

Why are some people so opposed to Tom Carlisle being here anyway? If he said something that offended you then you should have left. Besides, nobody grabbed you and forced you to stay and witness the insanity. I personally stood there in the drizzling rain so that I could voice my opinion. I just sat back and tripped off of what was being said at the moment. I like to argue, and that was one of the reasons I stayed there. Whenever I felt Brother Tom got "out of line," I confronted him. I did agree with a few of the things that he said, but he kept contradicting himself. I was impressed with the number of students that actually knew what they were talking about. Among Brother Tom's crowd were many believers of different denominations, Atheists and even Satanists.

As for the "fire and brimstone" sermon, I didn't agree with the way it came across to the campus. Where was the love? That was what my friend Christy asked him all the time.

I was intrigued (even by me) when he said something that didn't sound right. Students were able to voice their opinions right along with Brother Tom, so it wasn't a one-way beating or anything. Many students felt that he had no right to condemn us students. The reason was because he had no right whatsoever to judge.

What was wrong with Brother Feslun, who said, "Even though I have to agree with Mr. Carlisle on what he said about the Lambda Association?" He also said, "The campus lets the Lambda's hold meetings and put up about 2 flyers in every classroom, but the heterosexuals can't have a forum to express their views?" Sounds to me that he has a grudge against the popularity of the Lambda Association. I heard women be called "whores" and homosexuals be called "faggots." By Webster's dictionary the definition of a whore is a prostitute which is a woman who engages in promiscuous sex for PAY. Webster also defines a faggot as a bundle of sticks or twigs, especially for use as fuel.

This society is now being corrupted in many ways, but that is a different topic. I feel that anyone that the University gives a permit to should be allowed to speak. I don't care who the presenter is. If I get upset from what is being said, most likely I will leave. I am sure I can find something better to do with my time. But like I said, I like to argue, so then again I might stay there and fight (verbally that is) for what I believe in.

Thank you for taking the time and listening to what I had to say.

JD Easley

To the Editor:

I am writing in response to Thomas Redfern and his article in the December 5th issue of *Sidelines*. I did not see the controversial Tom Carlisle preach either, but I am really concerned for you. Please give God a chance. Like billions of Christians, I believe God came to Earth and died for you and me and Tom Carlisle. With that, the Bible can be summed up in just one word: "agape." What's that? I'm glad you asked. "Agape" is the most beautiful kind of love in the world: God's love.

God is someone you can trust, too. The Bible is full of controversial evidence, but not one word has ever been disproved. The facts all bear witness to its truth. Today, Noah's Ark is sitting on top of Mount Ararat in Turkey. The population curve starts just 4,400 years ago. The oldest trees are about 6,000 years old. Evolutionists do not have any real transition fossils. Chariots have been found in the bottom of the Red Sea, where God parted the waters and saved the Jews from their Egyptian masters. People witnessed Peter walk on water. Jesus Christ is the most well documented figure in history. He lived, performed miracles, died on a cross, and rose from the dead on the third day. Hundreds witnessed his resurrection. Even a Roman historian wrote about the event. And there are thousands of other miracles in the Bible. I will be happy to furnish much more proof. Just e-mail me at <area009b@frank.mtsu.edu>.

But the best thing about Christianity is that it is free. You do not have to live perfectly to go to heaven. After all, Christians make mistakes just like everyone else. The only difference is that Christians are forgiven. And not by our own acts, but by God's grace. All you have to do is ask for it. Like I said, it's free. God loves you, Thomas Redfern. Don't ever forget that.

In Christ's love,
Brian Mathers, Christian



Features

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Sidelines

Thursday, January 9, 1997

How to have a happy and productive year

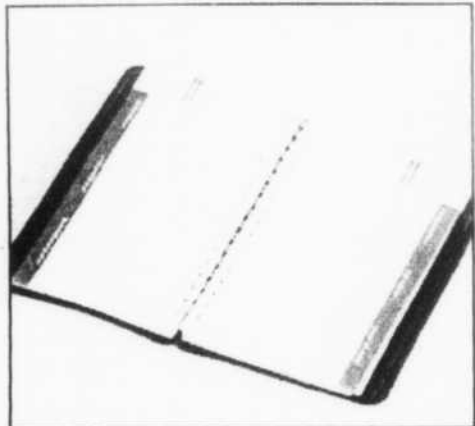
97 simple suggestions on how to improve your life for the new year

Sidelines Staff

Now that all the Christmas decorations have been stuffed back into the attic, and the leftovers from the New Year's Eve bash are finally gone, it's time to look ahead to 1997 and make plans to insure that your life won't be the same haphazard mess it was in 1996.

How, you ask? By following the helpful hints listed below, all of which were carefully contrived by the *Sidelines* staff, with a little help from the *Sacramento Bee*. Follow these suggestions, and you will be a happier, healthier and more organized person than you ever thought possible.

1. Clean out your closet.
2. Update your address book and Christmas card list.



3. Organize your personal organizer.

4. Take those old clothes that you haven't worn since 1992 and donate them to charity.
5. Walk through your house, apartment or dorm and survey it for needed repairs. If you are an apartment dweller, make a list of repairs you've been putting off asking the landlord to make: water pressure problems, chipping paint, cracked windows, etc.
6. Check the batteries in the smoke and carbon-monoxide alarms. If you don't have alarms, get them!
7. Hang the pictures or rearrange your existing art.
8. Make a list of gifts you gave for Christmas this year and jot down gift ideas that have occurred to you. File the list where you can find it next October.



9. Roll all the loose change on your desk, on your nightstand and in your drawers. Use the money to do something fun, like see a movie.

10. Weed through your video collection and donate unwanted tapes to a school, day-care center, nursing home or shelter. (After all, do you really still want "The Care Bears Movie"?)



11. Get on-line. Learn how to use E-mail and the World Wide Web.



12. Begin a regular workout schedule. Try out the facilities at the Rec Center — that's why it's there!

13. Dust that inconvenient shelf.
14. Dust the blinds too, while you're at it.
15. Then dust off your resume and update it.
16. Check the ceiling corners for cobwebs and clean them away.
17. Dust the books on your bookshelves (a new soft paint brush works great for this). But don't blow on the books; the moisture in your breath is harmful to them.
18. If you're already a Web junkie, update that Web page you created in August '95.
19. Get those financial aid forms!
20. Keep your fish's home clean, too. Scrub the walls of the aquarium and change the water.
21. Replace your toothbrush.



22. Make your spring break plans early.

23. Check out your kitchen cupboards and take inventory of casserole dishes and storage containers. Get rid of all the lids with no dishes and the dishes with no lids.
24. Clean out your junk drawer(s).
25. Clean the soap scum of the shower doors and tile. (Use half a cup of water softener and half a pail of water; or half a cup of white vinegar and a quart of water.)
26. Clean out the freezer. (What the heck is that stuff in the plastic bowl, anyway?)
27. Defrost the refrigerator. Clean out the drawers and shelves.
28. Throw out your leftover Halloween Candy. It's time to let go.
29. Deal with the loose recipe you've been collecting. Copy or paste those that you've tried and liked onto recipe cards and alphabetize them. Throw out the rest.
30. Take inventory of your cleaning supplies. Throw away what's old or unused.
31. Turn the mattresses.
32. Make a plan to start recycling old bottles, soda cans and newspapers.
33. Take the time to read a good book, one that you'll enjoy.
34. Go through your hosiery/sock drawer. Throw out anything with holes or no mate.

35. Take care of those upper division forms.

36. Get to know your dorm/apartment neighbor.

37. Get pictures of your family and keep them on your desk or dresser.

38. Get a new tattoo.

39. Replace the laces in your running shoes or hiking boots.

40. Treat yourself — buy new underwear.

41. Clean out the car trunk and the glove box.

42. Wash the car and vacuum the inside.

43. Change the oil in your car — have it changed every three months or every 3,000 miles.



44. Call your grandparents. They miss you.

45. Get in contact with an organization that you've been meaning to join.
46. Stock up on extra food and supplies for the winter.
47. Try out a classical CD — you just might like it.
48. Then learn an Irish drinking song.
49. Get your picture made for the *Midlander* yearbook.
50. See a play at Tucker Theatre.
51. See a movie at the KUC Theatre.

52. Clean out the medicine cabinet. Throw out the old prescriptions, gummy nail polish, strange-colored ointment and more than six-month-old eye make-up and cologne that no one likes. Jot down a list of needed supplies: plastic bandages, pain relief pills, antacids, etc.



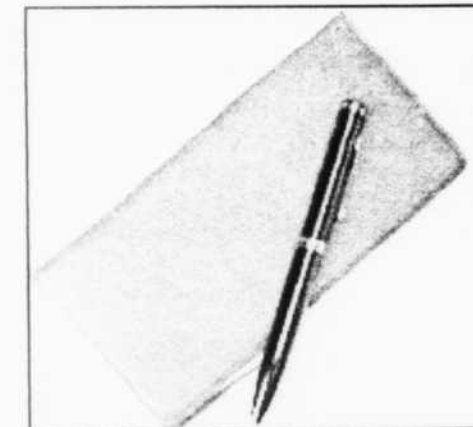
53. Start preparing for your retirement now. If you think you'll be able to count on Social Security, you've got a lot to learn.

54. Visit someone in a nursing home.
55. Support the Blue Raiders and the Lady Raiders! Come to the athletic events and cheer on your home team!
56. Spend a week without watching TV — you'll be amazed at what you can get done with that extra time.
57. Write your congressman. See what the government is doing that affects you.
58. Start writing down all your assignments and meetings in advance, don't get left behind.



59. Learn about at least one religion other than your own.

60. Repot indoor plants so they have fresh soil and more room to grow if they need it.
61. Try a new hairdo.
62. Read a newspaper — see what's going on in the world.
63. Compliment two people every day, sincerely.
64. Go on a program with Campus Rec.
65. Buy a small house plant to help brighten up your home.
66. Sit down with your 1997 calendar and mark all birthdays, anniversaries, and other special occasions. If they fall at the beginning of a month, put a note at the end of the previous month to remind yourself.



67. And it wouldn't be a bad idea to balance your checkbook, too.

68. If you missed the '96 election, get registered to vote! Your voice matters.
69. Make a scrapbook with all your keepsakes.
70. Use your financial organizer software and put all your finances on computer.
71. Clean out your desk and/or your computer.
72. Carefully dust or vacuum all the electronic equipment, including your keyboard, monitor, TV, and VCR.
73. Change the ink cartridge in your printer.
74. Set up a file to organize receipts and statements for the upcoming year for easy reference when doing your taxes.
75. Take a friend out to dinner.
76. Keep a dream diary.
77. Start a study group.



78. Write down the numbers of all your credit cards; then get the phone numbers to call to notify the company if your cards are lost or stolen. File the list in a safe place.

79. Apply for scholarships. You can't get them if you don't try.

80. Visit the Career and Student Placement Center. While you're there brush up on your interviewing skills.

81. Then brush up on your etiquette skills — they are more useful than you think.

82. Think twice before you go home with someone.

83. Get a handle on those basics of life — insurance policies, bank accounts and auto titles, for example. Make sure they're up to date, then put them in a safe place. Make a list and indicate the storage location.

84. Take an inventory of your valuable belongings. Make a list of what you have, when you got it and what it cost. Take snapshots or a video. (This will be invaluable help if the items are damaged or stolen). Store the information in a safety deposit box.



85. Wash the dog.

86. Write down in detail something from this past year that you wish you could forget because it made you feel terrible. Then put a burning out or your memory. Even the soul needs housecleaning.

87. Does your pet have all its shots and a valid license? If not, schedule an appointment with a veterinarian.

88. Eat chocolate — it's still politically correct.

89. Write a letter or call a long-lost friend.

90. Program your speed dialer.

91. Record a new message on your answering machine.

92. Get those photographs out of their boxes and envelopes and put them into albums.

93. Take inventory of your values — be prepared to have them challenged.



94. Nominate your favorite professor for Faculty Member of the Year.

95. Collect all the pencils and pens you can find in your house. Sharpen the pencils and throw out the pens that don't work.

96. Laugh at least once a day

97. Read *Sidelines*.

Of course, there is no guarantee that following these suggestions will actually improve your physical or mental health -- you never know what effect an exam will have -- but they will make you a cleaner, more organized and more involved member of the campus and the community. •

Layout design by: Adam Smith

The Loony Bin

News Bytes From The Associated Press

SEATTLE (AP) — It's made of plastic and fits in the hand of a G.I. Joe action figure, but the little toy gun that 10-year-old Jeffrey Parks got for Christmas got him kicked out of school. Jeffrey took the gun to John Rodgers Elementary School and pulled it out with some classmates around, KIRO-TV reported Tuesday. Students complained and the principal expelled the boy under the Seattle School District's strict no-tolerance policy on guns of any kind. Sid Parks told the station that he couldn't believe it when the school called him to come pick up his son. "In no way is this piece of plastic harmful or dangerous," Parks said. "I don't even think another child could think this could be dangerous." But school district spokeswoman Dorothy Dubia defended the expulsion, noting the district's zero-tolerance policy on guns — real or toys, large or tiny — to make sure students feel safe. "I understand policies, but somebody has to be intelligent enough to look at a one-inch toy and realize that does not break policy," Parks said. *

COLUMBIA, Mo. (AP) — A 9-year-old boy learned the hard way that Dalmatians — the spotted box-office sensations — come with a sharp set of teeth. Justin Page and his cousin were playing outside with a Dalmatian named Spot during a holiday visit to relatives. "My cousin was hitting him on the back while I was petting him," Justin said. "Then he just bit me." Justin ran into the house, where his mother and father were stunned to see he was missing about half of his ear. The piece of ear was found on the sidewalk where the boys had been playing. The family took Justin and the piece of ear to the hospital. A plastic surgeon reattached the ear during a four-hour operation. *

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. (AP) — Getting bitten in the face by a Rottweiler was bad enough for state Sen. Mario Diaz-Balart. The jokes, though, have been the worst part of the ordeal. "Obviously the dog didn't like Cuban food. One bite and that's all it wanted," the Cuban-American legislator said. "I've heard them all." One legislator visited him after the pre-Christmas dog bite to drop off a box of milk bones. Diaz-Balart, a Miami Republican, put his own face on the box. The dog belongs to a friend that he declined to identify. He said they are still friends. In fact, he's still friends with Mack the Rottweiler, although he's being much more careful now. *

Grammy nominations announced

Associated Press

Kenneth "Babyface" Edmonds proves that a smooth, soft-soul approach and versatility count these days in recording industry recognition. He was nominated for 12 Grammy Awards — four as a producer, seven as a songwriter and one as a singer. Smashing Pumpkins earned the second-highest number of Grammy nominations Tuesday — seven. Tracy Chapman and Vince Gill each had five. Edmonds' 12 nominations tied the dozen that Michael Jackson got for 1982's "Thriller." Jackson won eight that year. Babyface, as he is known, won his sixth Grammy last year when he was named producer of the year. His nominations this year include one each in the three big categories: best record, best album and best song. He produced and wrote all but one of the songs on the "Waiting to Exhale" soundtrack, which was nominated for album of the year, including Whitney Houston's song of the year nominee, "Exhale (Shoop, Shoop)." Babyface produced Eric Clapton's "Change the World," nominated for record of the year, and Toni Braxton's album, "Secrets," which earned a best pop album nod. He was also nominated for producer of the year. Nominations for record of the year went to Ms. Chapman's "Give Me One Reason," Clapton's "Change the World," Celine Dion's "Because You Loved Me," Alanis Morissette's "Ironic" and Smashing Pumpkins' "1979." Critical favorite Beck's "Odelay" was a surprise nominee for album of the year, along with Ms. Dion's "Falling

Into You," the Fugees' "The Score," Smashing Pumpkins' "Mellon Collie and the Infinite Sadness" and the "Waiting to Exhale" soundtrack. Garbage, Jewel, No Doubt, the Tony Rich Project and Ms. Rimes were nominated in the best new artist category. The Beatles, who won only four Grammys during the 1960s, were nominated for best pop performance by a group for "Free as a Bird." Surprise nominees included veteran folk-rocker Shawn Colvin, in the best female pop vocal performance and best pop album categories, and Bruce Springsteen's near-whispered "Dead Man Walkin'" for best male rock vocal. First lady Hillary Rodham Clinton, nominated for best spoken word album, could spend time in the winner's circle with Los Angeles Laker Shaquille O'Neal, part of a group nominated in a rhythm and blues category. The category best pop collaboration with vocals will feature some strange pairings: Frank Sinatra and Luciano Pavarotti; Natalie Cole with her late father, Nat King Cole; and Burt Bacharach and Elvis Costello. Signs times have changed: Jakob Dylan — instead of his more famous father, Bob — nominated for best folk song, and formerly full-throated rocker Springsteen nominated for best contemporary folk album. The televised Grammy Award ceremony will be held in New York's Madison Square Garden on Feb. 26. Ballots will be sent next week to the 9,000 voting members of the National Academy of Recording Arts & Sciences, who determine the award winners. *

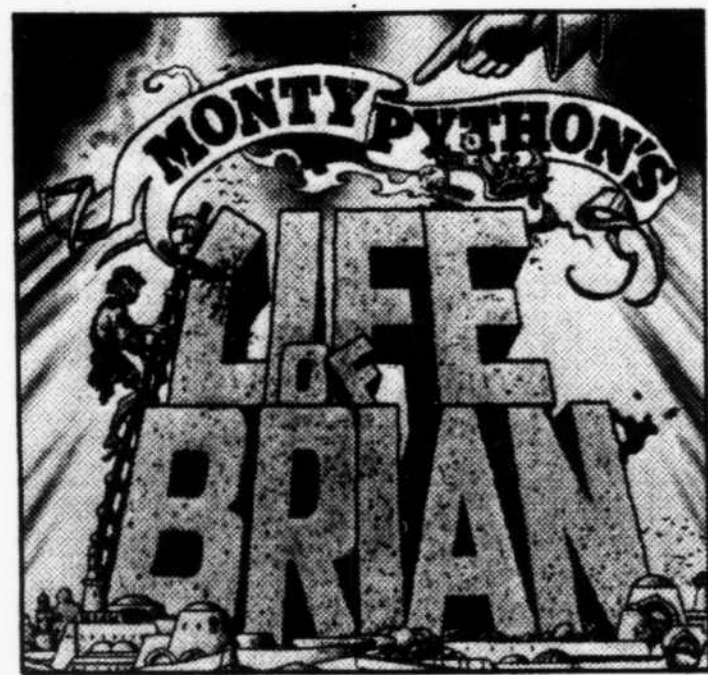
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Sports & Recreation

Page 8

Sidelines

Thursday, January 9, 1997

TSU, Tech come to town

Teams renew rivalries on Murphy hardwood

By Doug Malan/ staff

First place could be up for grabs Saturday afternoon when Middle Tennessee hosts Tennessee Tech at 2:30 in the opener of a men's and women's double header.

Randy Wiel's club currently stands at 9-4 overall and in second place of the OVC with a 2-1 mark, pending tonight's home game against 2-8 Tennessee State.

The Golden Eagles play at home tonight against Austin Peay with a 6-4 overall record and an unblemished conference slate after two games.

The Raiders went 4-2 during the holiday break and find themselves a last-second basket short of sitting atop the OVC. They lost to Eastern Kentucky 79-77 five days ago.

Wiel has used a ten man rotation in the first three conference games and forward Nod Carter continues to lead the team in scoring with 16.8 points per game-18 PPG in the OVC- and nearly five rebounds.

Fellow senior Roni Bailey leads the team in rebounding (6.6 per outing) and total steals (23) while being second to point guard Richard Duncan in total assists with 42. Duncan has 45. Bailey is also second in scoring with 14.2 points per game.

Middle Tennessee will attempt to continue mesmerizing opponents at home where they are 5-0 thus far. Thursday's TSU game commences a four-game Raider home stand.

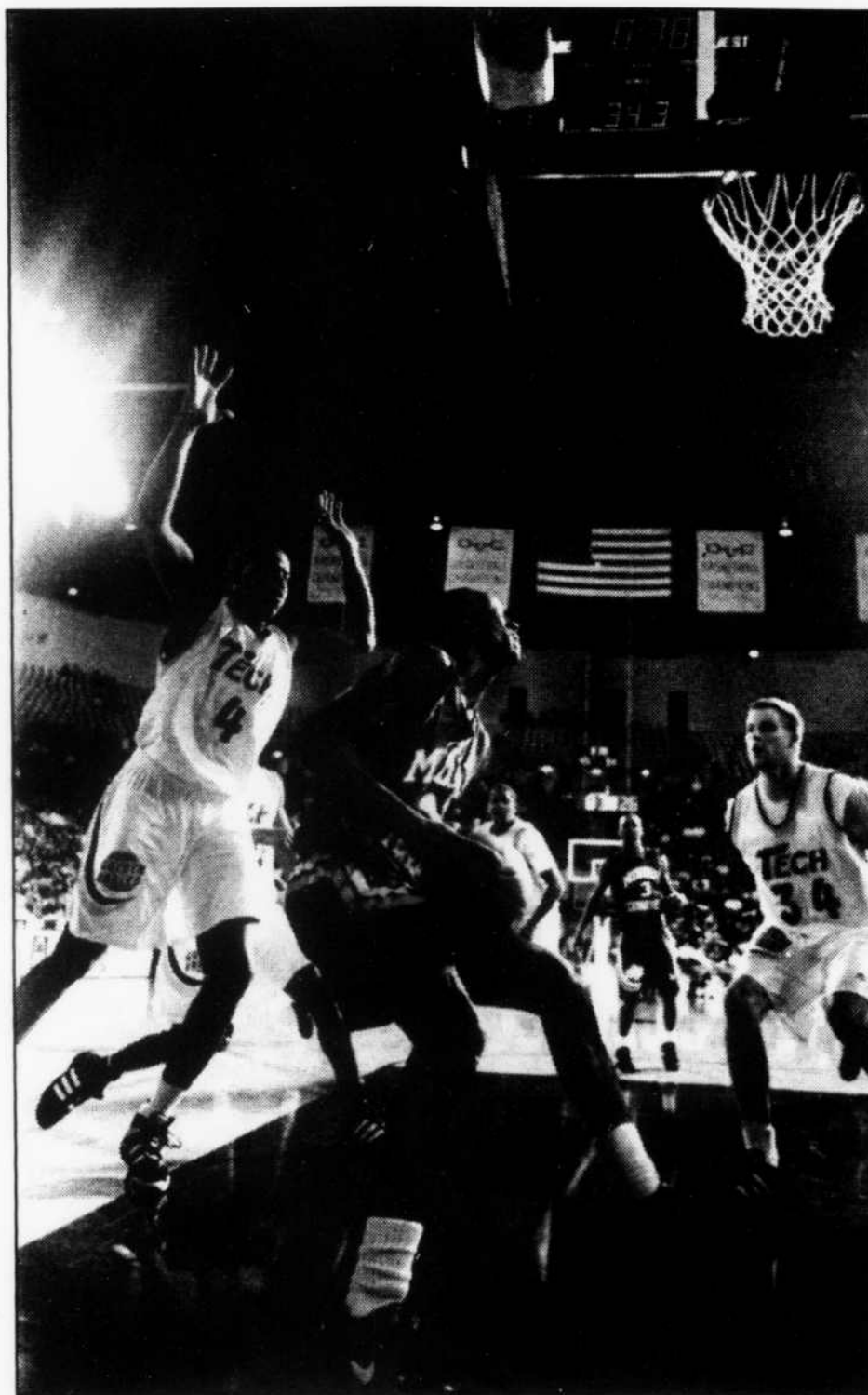
The Tech game is scheduled to be televised on WNAB-TV.

Following the men's contest, the Lady Raiders tip-off against the Golden Eaglettes at approximately 5 p.m.

Depending on their performance against Tennessee State late Wednesday night, the Lady Raiders will bring a sub-500 record into the Tech game. At press time, Middle Tennessee was 4-8 overall but only a game out of first place in the conference at 2-1.

Lewis Bivens' squad had a rough holiday stretch against some rather formidable opponents, posting a 3-5 record with three of the losses coming against Missouri, West Virginia and Hawaii in Honolulu. Most recently, the Lady Raiders notched a 78-72 win Jan. 6 at Morehead State.

Thus far, Jonelda Buck, Jessica Beaty and Carlita Elder have been a productive trio with each averaging nearly 15 points per game in conference play. Tanika Smith is the fourth Lady Raider to average double figures at 11 points a game. •



Brian G. Miller/ staff

Nod Carter goes up for a shot in a game last season versus rival Tennessee Tech. The teams meet once again Saturday.

MTSU track sweeps

By Rachel Parrish/ staff

While the majority of campus was preparing for Christmas break, the first men's and women's indoor track meet was held Sunday, Dec. 8th in the Murphy Athletic Center. The day long event proved to be victorious for both squads with MTSU blowing out Vandy, TSU, Murray State and Western Kentucky.

Before a recurring strained hamstring injury, junior Nekeya Ralls was first in the long jump with a mark of 19-08 and freshman Maronda Harris put in an fourth place effort of 18-05. Jahez Salahuddin, Rashad Haynes and Boniface Amuzu made an MT sweep of the men's long jump. Salahuddin's mark of 25-04 was an NCAA qualifying standard. He was also first in the high and triple jumps. Also placing in those events were Haynes and Torrence Riley.

Freshman Blitha Piles was first in the women's high jump while Bianca Conley was third in that event.

In the women's shot put, Shelly Johnson was second with an effort of 45-07 to add to the women's score.

In the running events, freshman standout Bethany Brent made her debut with a first place time of 7.05 in the 55m dash, while Rachel Parrish was third. Brent was also second in the 200.

Pounding out a first place time of 6.40 in the men's 55m was senior Dave Creary. For the high hurdle competition, Carlos Clardy and Dana Dixon added second and third place times of 7.56 and 7.59 respectively.

Competing in the 400m dash were sprinters Rachel Parrish and Shane Heavener. Both placed third in their respective events.

Another not-so-surprising sweep belonged to Christian Nsiah (21.57), Jahez Salahuddin (21.82), and Boniface Amuzu (21.97) in the 200. Nsiah also anchored the winning mile relay.

The Blue Raiders will be competing at the University of Kentucky's annual invitational on Jan. 18. •

SCORES OVER THE BREAK

Blue Raiders

Date	Opponent	Score	Site
Dec. 7	Southern	W 91-67	Baton Rouge, LA
Dec. 14	UT-Chattanooga	W 83-73	Murfreesboro
Dec. 16	Belmont	W 94-76	Murfreesboro
Dec. 19	Indiana State	L 66-92	Terre Haute, IN
Dec. 29	Sue Bennett	W 127-70	Murfreesboro
Jan. 4	Eastern KY	L 77-79	Richmond, KY
Jan. 6	Morehead St.	W 78-72	Morehead, KY
Overall Record:	9-4		OVC Record: 2-1

Lady Raiders

Date	Opponent	Score	Site
Dec. 7	UT-Chattanooga	W 56-51	Chattanooga
Dec. 15	Southern Illinois	L 72-91	Carbondale, Ill.
Dec. 17	Murray State	W 84-68	Murfreesboro
Dec. 20	Missouri	L 55-61	Honolulu, HI
Dec. 21	West Virginia	L 60-77	Honolulu, HI
Dec. 23	Hawaii	L 63-82	Honolulu, HI
Jan. 2	ETSU	W 92-81	Murfreesboro
Jan. 4	Eastern KY	L 73-91	Richmond, KY
Jan. 6	Morehead St.	W 84-58	Morehead, KY
Overall Record:	4-8		OVC Record: 2-1

Lawsuit alleges SAT standard unfair to NCAA black athletes

Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — Hundreds of young black athletes have been discriminated against because the NCAA uses SAT scores to decide who can play college sports, a legal group said Wednesday in suing to block the practice.

Trial Lawyers for Public Justice, based in Washington, D.C., is seeking an injunction against the NCAA, which defends the standards as a protection for student-athletes.

The NCAA also released a report showing that the number of black athletes enrolling in Division I schools was increasing, and that black athletes' graduation rates increased after the adoption of the rules.

Those standards set a sliding scale of SAT and grade point standards for college freshmen athletes on scholarships.

For years, black coaches and educators, along with many whites,

have maintained that standardized tests are racially and culturally biased and do not accurately predict the ability to do college work.

Two 1996 graduates of Philadelphia's Simon Gratz High School are the plaintiffs: Tai Kwan Cureton, a freshman at Wheaton College, and Leatrice Shaw, at the University of Miami.

Cureton was 27th in his class of 305; Shaw was fifth. Both were recruited for track teams at many schools, but said the overtures stopped after they received low scores in the SAT.

At Wheaton, an NCAA Division III school that doesn't give athletic scholarships, Cureton competes in sprints and the long jump, but says he was robbed of the chance to compete against the best college track athletes.

Shaw, in complying with the standards, is sitting out her freshman year at Miami and should be able to compete on that Division I school's track team in her final three years. •

AP top 25 college B-ball poll

Associated Press

Kansas' first tight game of the season and Wake Forest's impressive wins over ranked teams combined to bring the teams the closest they have been in the six weeks they have held the top two spots in the college basketball poll.

The Jayhawks (13-0) were still the runaway No. 1 choice Monday, but the 62-59 victory over Kansas State, their first game this season decided by less than seven points, cost them five first-place votes.

Those in the national media panel who switched opted for Wake Forest (10-0), which beat then-No. 7 Utah 70-59 and then-No. 11 North Carolina 81-57 last week.

Kansas received 59 first-place votes and 1,739 points, while the Demon Deacons had 11 No. 1 votes and 1,685 points.

Kentucky, Iowa State, Clemson and Cincinnati held third through sixth, while Arizona, Villanova, Utah and Duke rounded out the Top Ten.

Minnesota and Xavier, Ohio led the Second Ten with their highest rankings of the season and in Xavier's case, its highest ranking in 38 years.

Minnesota (13-1) jumped four

spots after opening Big Ten play with wins over Wisconsin and Michigan State.

The Musketeers (10-0) moved up from 17th after a 35-point victory over Virginia Tech to open Atlantic 10 play.

North Carolina dropped two spots to 13th and was followed by Louisville, Indiana, Michigan and Texas Tech. The final five ranked teams were Stanford, Texas, Boston College, Georgia and Illinois.

Georgia (11-2) was the week's lone newcomer to the Top 25, replacing fellow Southeastern Conference member Arkansas, which had been No. 22.

The Bulldogs enter the rankings off a loss to Mississippi but that followed an overtime victory over Maryland in the championship game of the Rainbow Classic. Their other loss was to Georgia Tech early in the season.

The week's biggest drop was Michigan's fall from No. 8 to 16th. The Wolverines (10-3) lost two of three games last week. Michigan had been ranked as high as fourth this season before losing to Memphis in the opener at the Rainbow Classic. •

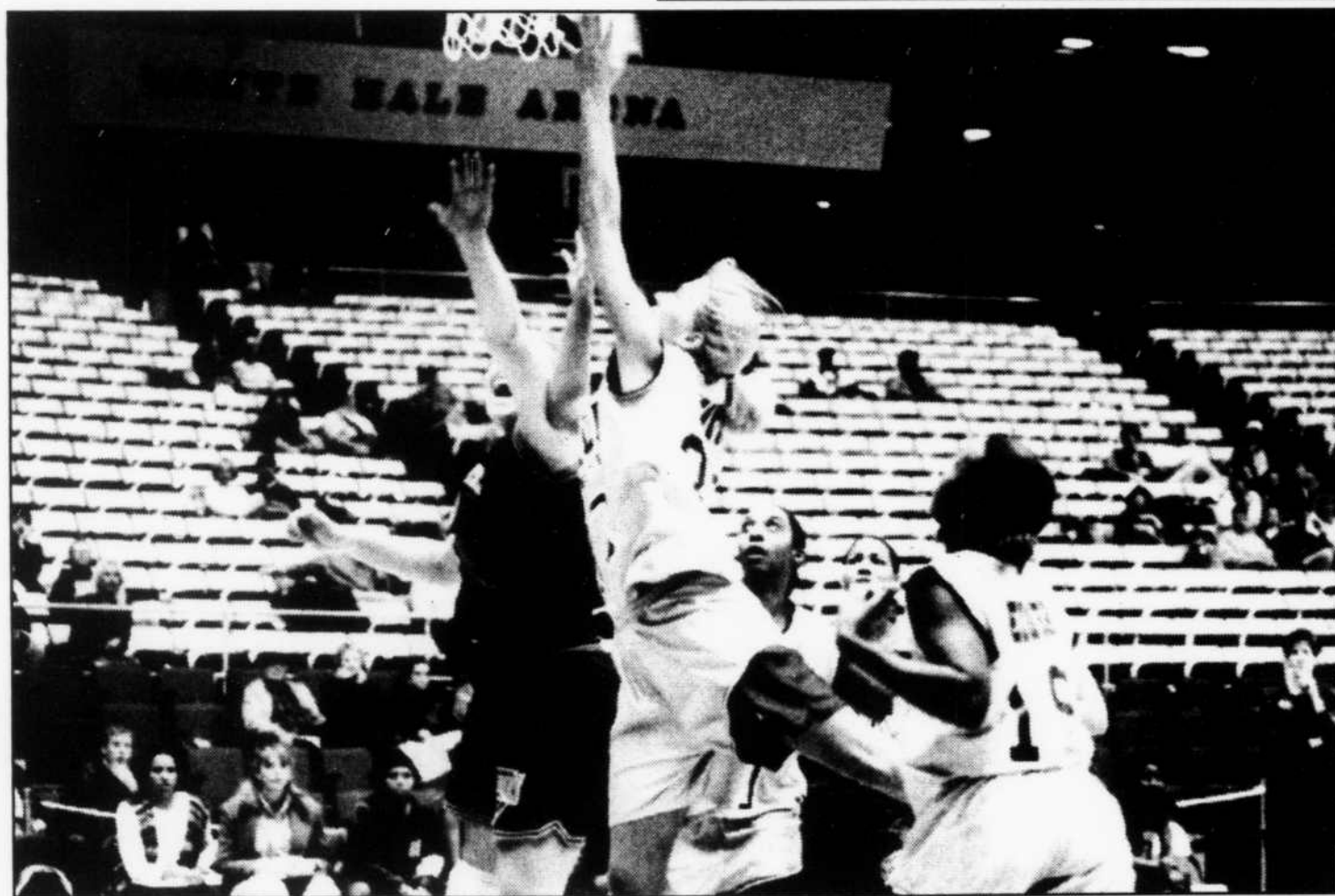


photo provided

Jessica Beaty (center) scored 24 points to lead MTSU to a win over Morehead St on Monday.

Hoops squads escape Death Valley with splits

By Lesli Bales/ staff

MTSU's basketball teams started 1997 with an extended road trip in Kentucky. The Lady Raiders and Blue Raiders faced Eastern Kentucky on Jan. 4 and Morehead State on Jan. 6.

Eastern Kentucky handed the Lady Raiders their only OVC loss with a score of 91-73. Sophomore center Jonelda Buck led the MTSU women with 18 points against Eastern Kentucky, while sophomore guard Carlita Elder came off the bench to toss in 12 points of her own, the second highest point total on the squad. Junior guards Natalie Sneed and Tanika Smith also had good games, racking up 11 and 10 points respectively.

Although the Blue Raiders outscored Eastern Kentucky in the first half, the Colonels came back to

toss in 54 second half points to squeak by MTSU 79-77. This is also the Blue Raiders' only OVC loss. Senior forward Nod Carter led the MTSU squad with 23 points while senior guard Roni Bailey connected for 16 of his own.

Two days later, the MTSU women made the Morehead State ladies regret their mistakes by scoring 29 of points off of Lady Eagles' turnovers. Senior forward Jessica Beaty led the Lady Raiders with 24 points while Buck racked up 18. MTSU won by a final blowout score of 84-58 to bring their overall record to 4-8.

The Blue Raiders saw yet another close game in the bluegrass state, but this time, the MTSU squad came out on top, beating Morehead by a score of 78-72. Sophomore guard Richard Duncan came off the bench to lead the Blue Raiders with 16 points while Carter tossed in 15.



Again, turnovers played a part as MTSU scored 23 points off Eagles' turnovers. Freshman Freddie Martinez connected for 12 points in just 17 minutes while senior center Chad Wampler scored 11 points of his own.

The Lady Raiders were back in action last night as they took on the Tennessee State's Lady Tigers. TSU comes to Murfreesboro again tonight as the Tigers pair up with the Blue Raiders at 7 p.m. at Monte Hale Arena in Murphy Center.



Don't miss the exciting games Saturday when rival Tennessee Tech comes to town. The men play at 2:30 p.m. with the women's game at 5 p.m. If you can't make it to the game (due to snow or some other unforeseeable circumstance), the men's game will be televised live on WNAB (Ch. 15 in Murfreesboro and Ch. 58 in Nashville). •

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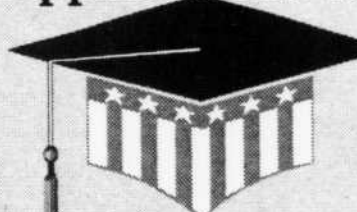
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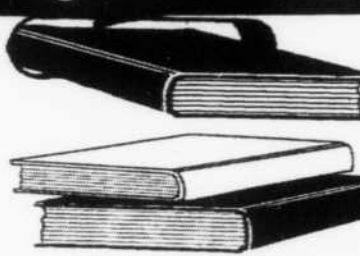
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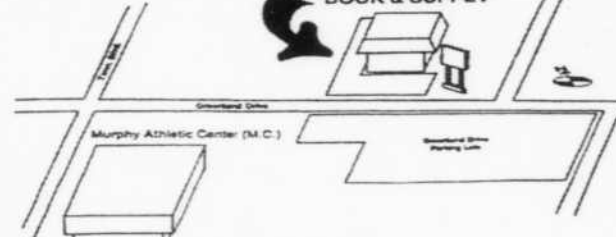
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