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# SIDELINES

March 1, 1991

Middle Tennessee State University

Volume 65, Number 49

## College students taking time

Universities across the nation are seeing a change in student attitudes concerning course loads and their commitment toward graduating in four years.

The University of Maryland, College Park, and North Carolina State University are examples of schools struck hard by what's often tagged the "fifth-year senior syndrome."

Far less than half the first-time freshmen at the Maryland campus graduate in four years; the probability of completing a bachelor's degree there in four years is 19 percent for males, 35 percent for females. On the North Carolina campus, barely more than half—51 percent—of the students graduate in four years.

According to U.S. Dept. of Education records, a 1980 national sample of more than 1,000 entering college freshmen indicated that 22 percent graduated within 4.5 years; a

similar survey conducted in 1972 showed that 31 percent graduated with the same time.

Institutional research departments at Texas Tech University and the University of Missouri both have correlated students' longer stays in college and what they call the "lazy" student attitude: a reluctance to enter the working world, legitimized by extending the college career.

However, Mike Lynch, a member of Kansas State University's institutional advancement staff, doesn't think laziness is the root of the problem. Instead, he points to the fact that students have more distractions than ever before.

The most commonly cited reason for this "conservative approach" toward college is the need for students to work while still in school. And it applies to both traditional and non-

traditional students.

Tom Nauman, who works at the institutional research office at the University of Colorado, has noticed older students entering college with more responsibilities, including families and jobs. They can only commit themselves to part-time class schedules, he said. Part-time students usually take less than 12 hours, or four courses, a semester.

"I have to work to pay for my living expenses," said student Laura Porter. "My tuition is paid, but it's still a lot of money for the rest of my bills."

But for some students, staying in school longer means a better education, which translates, they hope, into better jobs.

"I am staying longer to take additional marketing and computer courses," said Kim Engroff, another student. "I decided it would be best to do it now, even if it meant staying an

extra semester."

Another factor administrators cite as leading to students staying in school longer is that they continue to enter college without knowing what to declare as their major.

This could be a backlash from the encouragement colleges nationwide have been giving students, by offering "non-preference programs" to wait until they are certain of what academic avenue they want to travel before declaring a major.

However, administrators at participating schools, including the University of Arizona, say they tout their non-preference programs because of the high numbers of times students change their majors before graduation, ultimately keeping them in school longer.

At UA, the average student changes his major 2.3 times before ever getting a diploma,

said Dean Beresciani, who works in the Office of Undergraduate Admissions.

Cynthia Flynn, who works in the Dean of Students Office at Oregon State University, said the school is losing federal and state funding because fewer full-time students are enrolled.

She said the decrease in funding is putting a strain on faculty and campus services, which are provided to all students, not just full-timers.

Kay Caballero, a Texas Tech institutional research staffer, said many students seem unconcerned. "Students who are not paying for college tend to take advantage of staying another year."

Student Maureen Mahoney agrees. "I really don't care that I have to go another year," she said. "I don't pay for it and my parents can afford to send me the extra time."

## MTSU's Grill plans put on back burner

The plans for the expansion and refurbishing of the Keathley University Center's cafeteria, the Grill, is being delayed by the Fire Marshall and is waiting to be reviewed.

"There is no way for us to start construction before April 1," said Charles Pigg, director of Campus Planning. "The Fire Marshall has been backlogged."

Pigg said that 99 percent of the plans were complete and are waiting to be approved.

Once the university gets an approval, it will start advertising for bids on the construction in local newspapers such as the *Daily News Journal* and the *Tennessean*, Pigg said. The university will advertise for 30 days during this period.

If the university receives favorable bids from the construction companies during the 30-day period, it may only be a matter of weeks before construction starts, Pigg said. But that will still put them behind their deadline.

"We are looking for the construction contract to be in the neighborhood of \$750,000," Pigg said. "The cost for the equipment for the Grill itself will

### Master Plan

be about the same."

The total cost for the entire project is \$1.45 million. This million-dollar expansion will also change the format in which the students can get their meals. The grill will be divided into a "food court" with different food stations. These stations could include:

Grille Works- burgers, fries, fried chicken and fish.

Sweet Things- desserts, cookies, cake and ice cream.

Cafe Features- deli sandwiches.

Sandwich Board- submarines and sandwiches with choice of bread and toppings.

Beverage Station serving coffee, soft drinks and juices.

Salad Garden- salad bar.

Kettle Classics- individually packaged fast food

## Black History Month ends with Hilliard speech

Black History Month was filled with an array of educational programs and was concluded Wednesday night with guest speaker Dr. Asa Hilliard, professor of Urban Education at Georgia State University.

Held in Wright Music Hall, the theme of the program was "The Mother of Mankind", a controversial discussion of the defamation of Afro-Americans in the media and history. In the past, television and media have portrayed Afro-Americans as weak, decrepit individuals under strong majestic white actors. It has been only recently that television has depicted such

positive black role models as Bill Cosby and Oprah Winfrey.

Hilliard focused on how historians have misled society about historical events that date back to ancient Egyptian times. Hilliard used a slide presentation to demonstrate how fossils and melanin testing, which is a device used to decipher a mummy's actual skin pigment, have proven that Africa is truly the "Cradle of Humanity." He presented pictures of Egyptian tombs, pyramids, African kings and queens, and stressed his hopes that one day Afro-American historians will be recognized in American history.

## Campus Capsule

### KUC THEATRE

# GONE WITH THE WIND



**SPECIAL FEATURE  
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**TUESDAY/WEDNESDAY/THURSDAY  
MARCH 5 and 6 and 7  
7:00 P.M. ADMISSION \$2.00**

**PLEASE NOTICE CHANGE IN  
FILM SCHEDULE TO 3 DAYS  
TUESDAY/WEDNESDAY/THURSDAY**

On March 4, 1991 at 4:30 p.m., the **Society for Human Resource Management** will be holding an **Interviewing Skills Workshop** in Peck Hall room #109. SHRM will be presenting Eileen Connelly from Citicorp Insurance Services and Ellen Hingst from the First American Center speaking on interviewing skills needed in today's job market.

The **MTSU College Republicans** will be having an organizational meeting on March 6 at 5:00 in Peck Hall, 212. Officers and committee

positions will be confirmed. Call 849-8243 if you have any questions.

**RIM Writers** will hold a listening session on March 6, at 7 p.m. in COMM 149. Bring a cassette and lyric sheet of your tune(s) and get some constructive feedback from your peers. Call Tim at 895-1811 or Steve at 898-3430 for more information.

The **Placement Office** will conduct **career placement orientation** for seniors and graduate students on March 4 at 3 p.m. and March 5 at 2 p.m. in the Keathley University Center in Room 324. Students interested in participating in the campus interview program should attend one of the meetings.

The **MTSU Criminal Justice Society** will have a meeting Tuesday, March 5, in the KUC Room 318 at 7:00p.m. Dues will be collected at this meeting.

The **Spring Honors Lecture Series** continues March 4, with Jan Leone speaking on the topic "History of Women in War."

The secret password for the **Sigma Phi Epsilon** is Metz paw.

On March 6th, 1991 there will be an **ASB Joint Session Meeting**. The meeting will be held in the LRC Building, Multi-Media Room, at 6:00 p.m. Please try to be present.

The **Gamma Iota Sigma Insurance Fraternity** and the **Sigma Club Honor** challenges all clubs and organizations to the 1991 Quiz Bowl! Your team (up to 4 people) will go head-to-head at 6pm, March 7th, 1991, KUC 324. It costs \$10 per team. Call Jeff McSweeney(893-3728), Dr. Hollman(898-2673), or stop by the Insurance office at KOM-226A.

**Hike the Appalachian Trail** during Spring Break! Campus Recreation will hold a meeting to discuss details of the trip on March 4 at 5:30 p.m. in AMG 219. The cost of the trip is only \$30 per student, \$35 for guests. Space is limited to 10 people!. Hurry and sign up! For more information, call 898-2104.

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## Application deadline for next year's Midlander and Collage Editor is March 15, 1991

Qualified candidates:

1. Fulltime graduate or undergraduate student
2. Have a cumulative GPA of 2.5
3. Submit 3 letters of reference
4. Submit a current transcript

Applications are available in the James Union Building, Room 308. For more information, contact Jenny Tenpenny Crouch at 898-2815.

# MTSU's Trophy Case

Sigma Alpha Epsilon presented the 15th Annual Miss MTSU Scholarship pageant 7 p.m. Feb. 21 in Tucker Theatre.

Crystal Sue Coleman was named Miss MTSU 1991.

Coleman will represent MTSU at the Miss Tennessee Pageant 1991 in June. The 21-year-old junior from Trenton, Tenn. is vice-president of Chi Omega Fraternity and is majoring in psychology. A dramatic monologue was Coleman's entry in the talent division. The Queen's Court consisted of first runner-up Angel Bateman, second runner-up Heather Thomas, and fourth Kathie Gentry.

Master of Ceremonies was Ian Case, of KDF 103.3 Radio.



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# Collage

wants your submissions, today!!!

Bring your paintings, sculptures, jewelry, clothing, stories, poems, and anything else you consider art to

**JUB 306 by March 8.**

Collage is also sponsoring a film contest. Anyone may submit any film made with a video camera as long as the film is less than 30 minutes in length.

**MICHAEL J. FOX**

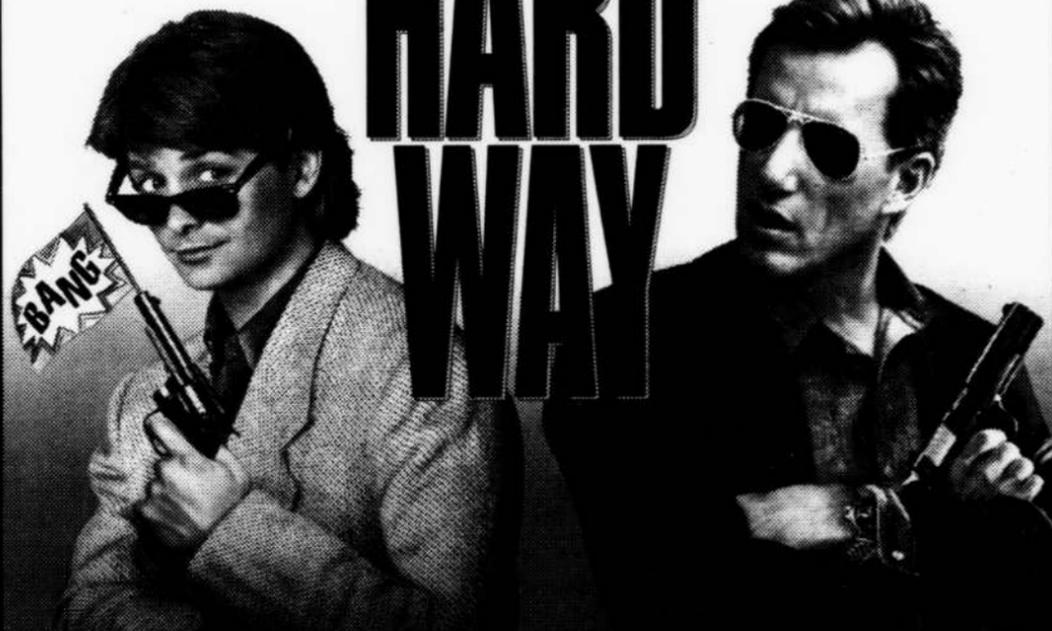
AS HOLLYWOOD'S MOST SPOILED MOVIE STAR.

THERE'S ONLY ONE WAY THESE TWO ARE GOING TO GET ALONG...

**JAMES WOODS**

AS NEW YORK'S ANGRIEST COP.

# THE HARD WAY



UNIVERSAL PICTURES PRESENTS A BAHAM/COHEN GROUP WILLIAM SACKHEIM PRODUCTION JOHN BAHAM THE HARD WAY STEPHEN LANG  
 ANNABELLA SCORRA AND PENNY MARSHALL MUSIC BY ARTHUR B. RUBINSTEIN STORY BY LEM DOBBS AND MICHAEL KOZOLL SCREENPLAY BY DANIEL PYNK AND LEM DOBBS  
 DIRECTED BY ROB COHEN CASTING BY WILLIAM SACKHEIM EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS JOHN BAHAM A UNIVERSAL PICTURE UNIVERSAL  
 R RESTRICTED UNDER 17 REQUIRES ACCOMPANYING PARENT OR ADULT GUARDIAN  
 SOUNDTRACK AVAILABLE ON TAPE, CASSETTE, CD, AND CASSETTES TITLE SONG PERFORMED BY LL COOL J. WARRABLE ON DEF JAM RECORDS READ THE LOVE BOOK

**OPENS FRIDAY MARCH 8TH AT A THEATRE NEAR YOU**

# Opinions

## Staff Comment

### ASB senators--show up!

Every year the students of a university, such as MTSU, get together and elect student representatives to represent them in the Associated Student Body.

The students put in applications for the student senate and go campaign. Then, we vote on the candidates we feel will best represent us in the ASB.

However, there is one problem that our ASB is experiencing here at MTSU: poor attendance of both the Senate and the House.

I carefully researched the attendance records of our current 16 senators and found that six of them had an attendance record of less than 50 percent. I ask you, how can you properly represent the people that voted for you, if you're not there to even vote and discuss issues?

In the House of Representatives the story is the same. There are 120 house members and each is selected by the club or organization that they represent. Since they are not elected by the student body they are in effect letting down that group and not allowing their voice to be heard by the ASB.

These students who have poor attendance must appear before the Senate. If their absences are not excused, they can be removed from office.

In the House, I feel that if a group's house officer is not present to at least half of the meetings, then that group should lose their seat for the remainder of that semester and the next semester as well.

At the last meeting, the important issue of the new recreation center was to be voted on, but not even half of the officers were present to vote on the subject.

If you campaigned for Senate and won, great. Now start doing your job. If you're one of the members of the senate that shows up at the meetings and has a good attendance, then talk to those that don't.

Remember the ASB is not like high school; this is not a just a popularity contest — it is a job.

Please, for my sake and the other students at MTSU, be at the meetings and help better the ASB.

\*\*\*Note that there will be a Joint Session of the ASB on March 6 at 6:00 p.m. in the LRC Building's Multi-Media Room. Please be there\*\*\*---Tony Kirk

## Letters to the Editor

### ASB responds

To the Editor:

This is in response to Greg Adkins' opinion concerning the recent action of Todd Burnett and the ASB House and Senate on the proposed athletic facility.

Mr. Adkins neglected to mention the entire situation. The original resolution allowed students the opportunity to vote whether or not to increase their activity fee in order to fund a new athletic facility at MTSU. Although the ASB Congress repealed the original resolution, their actions were truly justified. The first concern of Todd Burnett was that an athletic facility funded by students should be used only by students

and not for academic purposes. President Burnett stated that buildings used for academic purposes should be state and federally funded and not come from students' pockets. He suggested that a committee be formed to meet with administration to devise a guarantee that classes would not be allowed in a student-funded athletic facility.

This was not an act by President Burnett or the ASB Congress to deny students the privilege to vote on this in the spring election. Instead, it was an action to protect student rights. This committee's goal is to meet with administration and resolve the problem in time for

the spring ballot.

Mr. Adkins also stated that the ASB House and Senate had no justification to make a decision of such importance for the students. Once again Mr. Adkins stands corrected. He evidently forgot that the ASB House and Senate are made up of elected representatives chosen by the students with the confidence that we are capable of making decisions of this nature.

Kevin Ragland, Freshman Senator  
Box 6406  
Libby Hockett, House of Representatives  
Box 5354

## Waging peace is the real challenge

Waging war is child's play in contrast to waging peace. The task before the allied coalition is far more difficult than the one just finished. And I believe the greatest danger lies ahead, in the aftermath of war.

Two such national dangers are those of jingoism and indifference. Jingoism defined as "extreme nationalism marked especially by a belligerent foreign policy". In a competitive culture such as ours, how hard it is to think of helping "the enemy" get back on their feet. Get them down, and keep them down. Get to the top and stay on top.

After a stunning victory, how easy it is to gloat and to glut ourselves with our own sense of superiority (superior troops, training, weaponry, technology, and so on). Patriotism is at an all time high, as is support for Pentagon spending. It's big business. And big business usually means the little people get crushed or forgotten.

Meanwhile, we as a nation are in grave danger of being besieged by an epidemic of arrogance. This is especially true amongst those who wrap their Bibles in the flag, who equate our national military power with God's will.

The "Christian" crusades

### DAVID ROBINSON PSF Campus Pastor

were marked by such a confession. In direct conflict with the teachings of Jesus, armies blessed by Pope and Prince marched off to overthrow the "infidel". They were motivated by a hunger for power and fame, by economic and political advancement at the expense of human rights, and by a national and religious spirit of superiority; all in the name of God.

This same crusade mentality is alive and well in our nation today. What the U.S. claims as her manifest destiny is to be THE DOMINANT SUPER POWER IN THE WORLD. This is what I call jingoism, bloated (and before God, idolatrous) nationalism.

The other danger in the aftermath of war indifference. The news shows have become boring. All they report is this stuff about widows and orphans, rebuilding homes and cleaning up water sources. Who cares? I've got my classes to study for. I've got my life to live. OUR TROOPS are no longer in danger so what do I care about that far away desert world?

That world of sand is OUR world and we've got our heads stuck in it. Yes, reports on humanitarian aid are not as dramatic as footage of cluster bombs exploding, SCUDS being destroyed, Tomahawk cruise missiles fired, multiple rocket launchers, Apache Helicopters and the latest developments in the war. We kids have always loved those scenes of war. But, waging war is child's play compared with the far more difficult task of waging peace.

Now's the time to "beat our swords into plows." We are now called to wage peace. This is not some distant effort. It is our task. And you can play a vital role in this rebuilding effort in the aftermath of the gulf war.

HOW? Be creative. Do your research. Get involved. Refuse to succumb to the spirit of indifference and arrogance. Volunteer with the Red Cross to serve this summer on a team in the Persian Gulf. Or give \$5 to Church World Service (P.O. Box 968, Elkhart, Indiana 46515) to buy a blanket for a war refugee. Join the new army needed now to comfort the widow, heal war wounds, feed the hungry, house the homeless, rebuild broken roads and bridges. Build some new bridges in your own life into a hurting world.

## SIDELINES

### STAFF

Kay Hilton-Editor-in-Chief

Tony Kirk-News Editor

Rusty Gerbman-Assistant News Editor

Angela Bonds-Features Editor

Tony J. Arnold-Sports Editor

Amy Adkins-Photo Lab Technician

Gregory Adkins-Production Manager

Patricia Tenpenny-Assistant Production Manager

Suzanne Woodard-Advertising Manager

Jenny Tenpenny Crouch

Student Publications Coordinator

### Opinion Page Policy

Unsigned editorials represent the viewpoint of the paper's editorial staff, while signed columns reflect the views of the author. All letters to the editor must be accompanied by the author's name, campus address and phone number. The author's identification will be verified, and unsigned letters will not be printed. Editors reserve the right to edit for libel, news style and length. Address letters to: **Sidelines, Box 42, MTSU, Murfreesboro, TN 37130.**

# Features

## Rising rockers come to Nashville

"If you feel like a little rock n' roll, then come out to the show because we are gonna rock," promises Tim Nielson, bass guitarist and vocalist for the band Drivin' N' Cryin'.

And rocking is something this band is serious about.

### ANGELA BONDS Band Review

Drivin' N' Cryin', which is made up of Tim Nielson (bass and vocals), Kevn Kinney (rhythm guitar and lead vocals), Burn Fowler (lead guitar) and Jeff Sullivan (drums), has been together for five years and they have four albums and a long list of fans to prove it.

Nielson also explains that the band has "never had any doubts" about its future.

Kinney and Nielson formed the band in Atlanta in 1985 and had signed with Island Records by 1988.

Based in Atlanta, this band has been touring the South East underground college circuit for some time now. They have been focusing on a "slow, steady rise" to fame and Nielson feels the band has been through every phase of music a band could possibly explore.

Drivin' N' Cryin' attribute the musical influences on the band to the entire history of rock with a little bit of country.

Their style is very versatile,

going from hard rock to straight country to alternative and R&B. With search diverse interests, the band has also attracted a diverse following.

The band also writes its own music and most of the material is based upon the life of Kinney, the lead vocalist. Past experiences and social consciousness make up a large part of the topics they cover in their music.

The band is currently promoting the music off its newest album, "Fly Me Courageous." The album examines the romantic lives of loving couples as well as the rest of the world and has 11 songs. It is one of the band's best efforts yet.

Political issues are covered in the title tract, the message is fierce, but timely: "Mother America is brandishing her weapons/She keeps me safe and warm by threats and misconceptions."

Kinney has been quoted as saying, "'Fly Me Courageous' is the first really good representation of what Drivin' N' Cryin' is-a powerful band."

In the future, Drivin' N' Cryin' hopes to stay on the road and keep up the momentum they have going. This momentum includes their rising success with their music videos which are regulars on MTV.

The band is also scheduled to perform on "Late Night with



**READY TO ROCK:** Atlanta -based band Drivin' N' Cryin' plan to rock Nashville's 328 Performance Hall tomorrow night. The band is promoting its latest album, "Fly Me Courageous," which was recently released. The band has a long list of achievements including filling the opening slot for R.E.M.'s "Green" tour. The band is (from left to right) Burn Fowler, Kevn Kinney, Jeff Sullivan, and Tim Nielson.

David Letterman" sometime in the future.

As veteran performers in Nashville with shows at Vanderbilt, The Cannery, and The Exit Inn, Drivin' N' Cryin' have a big performance planned for Tuesday night, March 4,

when they are scheduled to play 328 Performance Hall in Nashville.

Drivin' N' Cryin' is a band that will attract a large following with a large range of musical interest. The diversity in the band's style is a definite strong point.

If you like rock 'n roll, a little country, and little bit of everything else, then you need to be at 328 Performance Hall tomorrow night. This is one show that has the makings for an exciting night full of rock 'n roll and a lot of wild energy.



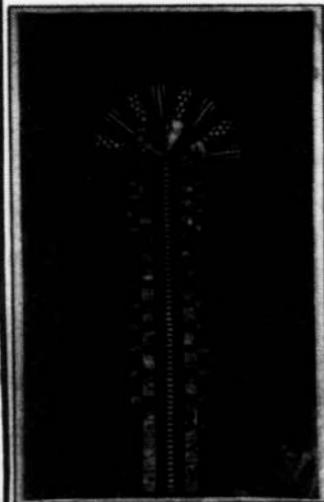
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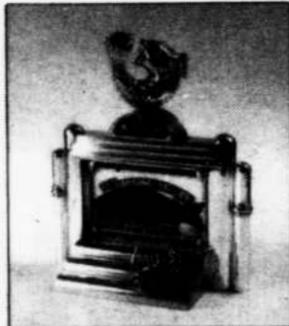
Gloria Crouse



Susan Webb Lee



Bill Griffith



William H. Strickland



Michael Benning

## Art exhibit opens National Women's History Month

"Currentworks '91", an art exhibit by winners of the Crafts Triennial will open today in the Art Barn Gallery.

Feting the opening of the collection is a reception from 4 to 6 p.m. The exhibit will run through March 29 and will be closed the week of Spring Break.

Exhibiting in the show are fiber artists Gloria Crouse of Washington, Pilar Coover of Rhode Island and Susan Webb Lee of North Carolina; clay artists I.M. Widiapradja of Iowa and William Strickland of Johnson City, and painter Sharon Orr of Nashville.

Slide presentations will be made by the the artists during the exhibit. Benning will speak on "An Artist's Process" from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. on Tuesday, March 5.

On March 11 at noon, Orr will lecture on "Art as Transformation." And "Hooking Rugs: New Materials, New Techniques" will be presented by Crouse from 12:15 to 1:15 p.m. Thursday, March 14. Her video, "Hooked on Texture" will be shown after the lecture.

Exhibits and lectures by Orr, Crouse, Lee and Coover are in conjunction with the celebration of National Women's History Month.

The Barn Gallery is open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Saturday from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., and Sunday from 1:30 to 4:30 p.m.

**CURRENTWORKS '91:** The Art Department is now sponsoring the exhibit "Currentworks '91" which features new work by award winning artists from the 10th Crafts Triennial, Currents '89. An opening reception will be held today in the Barn Gallery from 4-6 p.m. The exhibit will run through March 29 and will be closed the week of Spring Break.

# Sports

## MTSU rips off coffin lid

### Raiders come back from dead to shock Governors

TONY J. ARNOLD  
Sports Editor

Who says there isn't life after death?

For all practical purposes, MTSU's basketball season was dead Saturday night at Austin Peay. The nails were in the coffin as Peay led by 15 with under six minutes left in the contest.

However, the Blue Raiders managed to find that one last gasp before getting their breath back and steamrolling the shocked Governors 87-83.

"We were dead in water," Raider mentor Bruce Stewart said. "But our guys were gritty enough and found enough heart to come back. None of them quit. They never gave up and they kept their heads up."

Middle now advances to the second round of the OVC tournament which will be held at Murray State in Murray, Ky. The Raiders will face Eastern Kentucky Wednesday night, who made the final four by virtue of a 91-70 win over TSU Saturday.

Murray, who had a first-round bye, will square off against Morehead State. Morehead was victorious over Tennessee Tech, 88-83.

With 5:56 left Saturday, MTSU trailed 74-59.

After trimming a point off the lead, the momentum shift began as Peay's LaMonte Ware was whistled for a technical for shoving a Raider.

"We knew we had a chance when we got it to

ten," Robert "Cat Eye" Taylor said. "But how much the technical helped, I don't know. I'm just glad we get to practice Monday afternoon."

Slowly, but surely, MTSU crept back into the contest as the defense clamped down. Taylor nailed two shots sandwiched between a Warren Kidd short-jumper and a Chris Ingram lay-up to close the gap to five.

But it continued to look bleak as Peay's Goeff Herman knocked down two free throws seconds later to push the lead to 77-70 with 3:45 remaining.

"I really thought the season might be over," Kidd admitted. "But we just hung in there, huddled up and got after it."

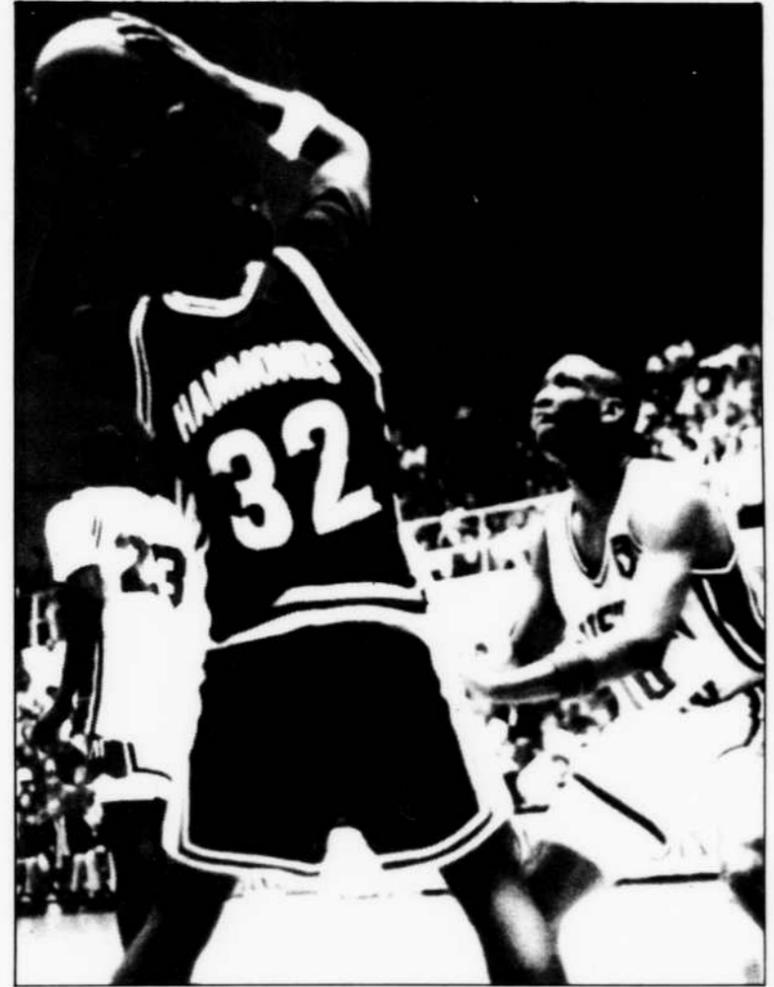
Taylor especially got after it.

The sophomore guard nailed two freebies to trim it back to five. Shortly thereafter, he chipped it to two with an NBA three-pointer. Although Peay added two freebies of their own, Taylor cut it to one, 79-78 with 2:25 left as he knocked down another three-pointer while being draped by a defender from the sideline.

"Robert Taylor hit two tremendously big three-pointers down the stretch," Stewart acknowledged.

Finally, the surge was completed as point guard Greg Christian picked the pocket of Herman and hit Kelvin Hammonds on a lay-up.

See **DEAD**, page 7



Amy Adkins/photographer

**LOOKING FOR THAT COMEBACK:** MTSU's Kelvin Hammonds looks for something to happen during Saturday night's game. The Raiders beat Austin Peay in a thriller to advance to the OVC tournament's second round.



Tony Kirk/photographer

**OVC GREAT:** MTSU's Priscilla Robinson looks for the ball in a recent game. Robinson, who is only a freshman, leads the Lady Raiders in scoring with a 17 point average.

## Modest but mighty MTSU's Robinson top freshman

DIANNE DEOLIVEIRA  
Staff Writer

Being voted as the OVC women's freshman basketball player of the year is considered to be a great honor by many, but to freshman Priscilla Robinson, it's no big deal.

To understand why Robinson values this accomplishment so lightly, it must be mentioned that this remarkably talented athlete had no idea she could even play basketball. Little did she know her career would evolve out of an eighth grade gym class and the driving influence of her mother.

"Me and another girl were really the only two in the gym class that could play. The teachers were saying that I should try basketball, but I said no, I can't play. I didn't want to play really, I guess because I was basically a home-bound child," said Robinson.

Unlike most children, Priscilla preferred being at home with her mother.

"My mother said playing basketball might be good for me,

and she supported and encouraged me. I liked it, but would have rather been at home with her. She said I needed to play, so I did."

Robinson continued playing ball in high school where her coaches recognized her ability to play on a college level. The possibility of a free education through a basketball scholarship sounded appealing.

Once again, Priscilla wanted to fulfill the inspiring expectations of her mother.

"My mother said God has blessed me by giving me talent to play. She too had played some basketball in high school, but didn't get to finish because she got pregnant. Finishing high school and being able to come into college to play basketball was something she wanted to see me doing, so whatever makes my mom happy."

Robinson was recruited by several colleges besides MTSU, such as the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga. See **MODEST**, page 8

## Big Blue notebook

TONY J. ARNOLD  
Sports Editor

**BLUE RAIDER TENNIS:** Clarksville wasn't only good to the basketball team this weekend. It also treated the tennis team quite nicely.

The Raiders dominated Austin Peay and Southern Illinois 9-0, 8-1.

With the impressive wins, the Raiders' record improves to 4-6 after a tough early season schedule.

"We needed a little breather at this point," head coach Dale Short said. "These were some needed wins and I think they're a much needed confidence builder."

MTSU will travel to Kentucky Wednesday. Saturday, they will face Samford in Birmingham.

**MTSU BASEBALL:** After being rained out Friday, the Blue Raider baseball team split a double-header with Louisville

See **NOTES**, page 8

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**DEAD** —————  
 continued from page 6  
 Hammonds banked the shot home and was fouled on the play, hitting the free throw and giving the Raiders the lead for good, 81-79, with 2:04 left.

MTSU's defense only allowed Peay one field goal in the final five minutes although they did score seven points off free throws.

The Raiders' offense, which has been struggling from the line of late, toed the line down the stretch making all five of their attempts.

While his teammates did more than their share, it was Taylor's night that brought the big one home.

"Cat Eye" scored a career-

high 37 points while setting a Dunn Center record with, a career record, eight three-pointers.

"They sagged and fronted our big men because we hurt them inside Monday night," Taylor said. "It was just one of those games when everything seems to go in at the right time."

Other double-digit scorers for the Raiders included Kidd with 13 while Quincy Vance and Ingram each added 10.

"We got what we wanted - a trip to Murray Wednesday night," Stewart commented with a grin.

**OVC Semi-Finals**  
**MTSU vs. EASTERN KY.**  
**Wednesday, March 6**  
 -at-  
**Murray, Ky.**

**LADY RAIDERS vs. EASTERN KY.**  
**TONIGHT!**  
**6:00 P.M.**  
**Cookeville, TN.**

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**MODEST**

continued from page 6

Eastern Kentucky and the University of Kentucky. A few other schools had also been trying to recruit her until she had torn some of the ligaments in her knee her senior year. Some of the colleges backed off and wanted Priscilla to wait to sign.

After having microscopic surgery and rehabilitation, she was ready to play again a few months later. A knee brace saved her from having to get a reconstructive operation, and from having to miss her last year of high school ball.

Robinson said she chose to continue her career at MTSU because of its atmosphere.

"I was pleased with the facilities when I came up here, and the coaches and player were people that I could get along with."

After Priscilla had signed with MTSU, she was expected to come in as a big boost for the team. An unexpected pregnancy in the end of her senior year called for a slight change of plans.

"I didn't want to believe I was pregnant, and I kept denying it for awhile. When I told Coach Bivens he was very understanding, unlike some

coaches that would have probably taken my scholarship away. He just told me to take that fall semester off, and then if I wanted, to come back and play if I could."

Robinson did just that and made this fall her first successful season of eligibility. She now has a one-year-old son, Frederick, who has not only become an added inspiration to her life, but has also given her a new incentive to stay in college.

"I guess if I stayed in college for any reason it would be because of him. Not just to play basketball, but to get a college education as well, so I will be able to get a good job to support him. Basketball is the way I am going to have to go about doing it."

Priscilla has proven her determination to fulfill her goals and expectations. The offensive post forward has become the Lady Raiders' leading scorer, averaging around 17 points a game.

At the rate she's going, she could become MTSU's all-time scorer before she graduates. For her season's efforts, this modest player was recently picked as the OVC freshman of the year, an honor she feels is nothing to be boastful about.

"It's no big deal. I guess it feels pretty good because I've accomplished something, but it's not really any big deal. It's just something that happens in life."

"Priscilla is one of the greatest," says head coach Lewis Bivens. "She can do things you can't teach. She combines speed with quality, and she has excellent hands."

Although Priscilla feels her overall performance has been pretty good, she would like to improve her defense which she considers to be weak. As far as the improvement of the team is concerned, she says, "You know what you have to do regardless of whether or not you like it. Everybody tries to do what's best for the team, and what is best for the team, is best for me."

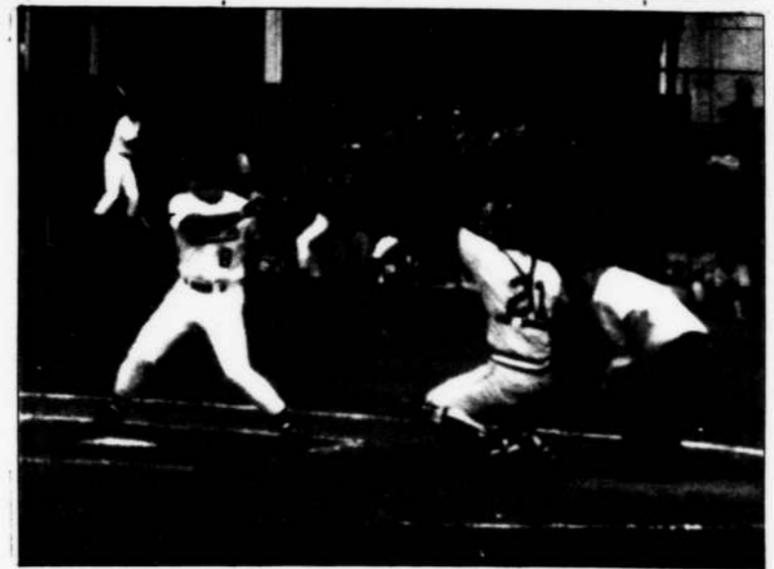
Robinson's modest unselfish attitude seems to be a key to her success which will open the door to future accomplishments.

**NOTES**

continued from page 6  
Saturday afternoon.

MTSU took the opening game 9-2 behind a solid outing from pitcher Chris Crabtree who tossed a five-hitter. He also struck out 12 Cardinal hitters.

Jason Maxwell, Phil Edwards and Jeff Browning each picked up two RBI's in the game.



Sharon Eaves/photographer

**BALL ONE:** This pitch to a patient Blue Raider is a little off target. MTSU split a double-header with Louisville this weekend winning the opener, 9-2 but losing the second game, 1-0.

The Raiders dropped the second game 1-0 as their bats were silenced for two hits. Greg Raffo pitched a good game despite picking up the loss.

MTSU's record is now 3-1 as they head to Oxford to play Ole Miss Tuesday and Wednesday afternoon.

**LADY RAIDER BASKETBALL:** MTSU's Lady Raiders will have their hands full tonight when they play Eastern Kentucky in the opening round of the OVC tournament.

The Lady Raiders and Colonels split their two contests this year with each team winning on its home court.

EKU is led by Angie Cox, 19 point average, and Kelly Cowan, 16.3.

Tennessee Tech will face TSU in the other contest and the winner will face the winner of the MTSU-EKU matchup for the OVC championship and the automatic bid to the NCAA tomorrow night.

Both games will be held in Cookeville at Tennessee Tech. Tip-off for MTSU's game tonight is 6 pm.

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