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MIDDLE TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY SIDELINES

Volume 58, Number 51

April 6, 1984

House to be eliminated by bill?

By CYNTHIA FLOYD
Sidelines News Editor

Changing the ASB from a bicameral system with two legislative houses to a unicameral government with only a senate is a possibility being considered by a constitutional revision committee to make the ASB more effective.

House Speaker Geoffrey Herring, at the request of ASB

President Mark Ross, is drafting legislation proposing such a change. Ironically, under Herring's bill, which is not yet completed, the house of representatives and Herring's own would be abolished.

IN ADDITION, the senate would be revised to include 35 members, with two senators from each class (including the graduate class), five senators representing each of the four academic schools and five

senators elected at large. Currently, the senate includes five senators from each class and two from the graduate school.

Although the house speaker post would be

eliminated under the proposal, an additional administrative office, the executive vice-president, would be created. This elected official would serve as the ASB president's representative in all legislative

meetings, but would not vote in the legislative process.

The changes are being proposed to speed up the legislative process and to increase participation, John Gilbert, chairman of the

committee, said yesterday.

BECAUSE THE house has experienced attendance problems over the past few years, some legislators feel that the ASB would work more efficiently as a unicameral system.

"I'm totally neutral on the issue," said Herring. "If the house works, there is no sense in abolishing it. But if it doesn't work, maybe we should."

Acting chief named

Morris heads psych

By BARBARA BROWN
Sidelines Staff Writer

Larry Morris, who has served as interim psychology department chairman since August, has been named permanent chairman of that department, an appointment that will officially take effect in August.

In retaining his post, Morris will succeed Marlyne Kilbey, who resigned last July to head the psychology department at Detroit's Wayne State University.

"ONE OF THE reasons I was interested in this job was I felt we had a strong, broad-based faculty that could accomplish a lot of things," Morris said yesterday. "I'm even more convinced of this now after working closely with them this year."

The faculty is strong "because of the research they do and their interest in quality teaching," Morris said, adding that he is looking forward to being a part of it.

An additional faculty member will be hired to begin in the fall, the chairman said, and the focus of the department will be "strengthening undergraduate teaching areas



Larry Morris

that have been left weak."

MORRIS SAID he feels the department's attempts to upgrade the graduate degree program by making all areas two-year, 45-semester hour programs and improving the advising system for students have worked nicely.

Next year's budget for the psychology department is still being formed, Morris said.



Who's that lady?

Photo by "Flash" Kimbrell

She's Cathi Cook, Miss MTSU 1984! Cathi, a senior from Antioch, Tenn., majoring in public relations and sponsored by the Chi Omega Owl Pals, defeated some 22 other contestants to win the title and scholarship. See next Tuesday's Sidelines for the complete story.

Elder Gore visits to tape ed. project

By BARBARA BROWN
Sidelines Staff Writer

Former U.S. Sen. Albert Gore Sr. visited MTSU Monday to participate in a videotaping series of Middle Tennesseans who have played a significant role in history.

Representatives of the university and old friends of Gore from Murfreesboro, including his former roommate from his college days here, attended a luncheon for the senator. Gore graduated in 1932 from Middle Tennessee State Teachers' College.

GORE AGREED in November to participate in the project, "Recollections: Middle Tennessee Voice of Their Times Series," which was initiated last year.

Robert Bullen, MTSU professor of youth education, is director of the program.

"I wanted to cooperate with the project and the school to develop the series of interviews with people in the wool and warp of government," Gore

(continued on page 2)

'Disproportionate' funding ends film program

By LARRY PAREIGIS
Sidelines Staff Writer

"We were spending a disproportionate share for film in relation to the mass communications department's other needs."

With those words, Alex Nagy, chairman of the mass communications department, explains the apparent death of the film emphasis within the Radio/TV/Film sequence—at least under that department.

WHEN SUMMER arrives, the cameras, lights and other miscellaneous equipment that

were the tools of the creatively-inspired probably will be packed away.

In order to place this event in perspective, one must understand the road of development that the emphasis took.

That road begins, says Edwin S. Voorhies, dean of the School of Basic and Applied Sciences, with the arrival of Mel Scarlett as president of the university in 1968.

"SINCE HE [Scarlett] had a background in journalism and the university was, and is, so close to a major media center,

he became interested in developing a mass communications program," Voorhies said.

At that time, the only degree available in that area of study was a minor in journalism under the School of Business and Industry.

With the hiring of Edward M. Kimbrell as mass communications department chairman in 1971, Scarlett set the developmental course for the new program and established the School of Basic and Applied Sciences.

"THE INITIAL GOALS

were to develop majors in mass communications along with recording industry

management too, and the program grew to about 1,200 majors over the next 10 years."

Voorhies said.

When movement toward

(continued on page 2)

Celebrity auction set for Tues.

By DEBORAH LILLY
Sidelines Staff Writer

Thirty-nine celebrities have donated items for Wednesday's ASB-sponsored auction to benefit the emergency student loan fund.

Dean of Students Paul Cantrell, adviser to the ASB, will auction off items, including a key chain donated by

Burt Reynolds, Barbara Mandrell's tamborine and Wayne Newton's silk scarf, in the University Center's second floor lobby at noon.

ASSORTED T-SHIRTS, belt buckles and autographed photos donated by Robert Redford, Charlie Daniels, O.J. Simpson and Tom Selleck will also be for sale.

"We've never done anything

like this," said Lisa Johnson, director of the fundraiser.

Johnson said she felt this type of unique project would be very effective and popular among the students.

THE ASB received the donations as a result of "a lot" of letters being sent to celebrities, she said. Many responded to MTSU's need for the loan fund.



Photo by "Flash" Kimbrell

The television sequence in basic communications, unlike the film sequence, is still alive and kicking, as members of the basic TV class videotape in front of the University Center. Junior Cody Marley, left, and sophomore Julio Lopez, center, ask freshman Bob Thurman, "Who is the vice president of the United States?"

Campus Capsule

TONIGHT

TONIGHT IS THE last night of "Rock Collage," a dance show sponsored by the MTSU Performing Arts Company. Tickets are \$2 in advance, \$3 at the door. Call Jeannine at 890-3264 for more information. The show will begin in the Boutwell Dramatic Arts Building auditorium at 8 p.m.

THE 16th ANNUAL Southeastern Regional Conference of Undergraduate Student Chemists resumes today with the presentation of chemistry research papers in the James Union Building throughout the day. Any interested persons are welcome to attend.

SATURDAY

A MOCK LSAT will be offered by the Pre-Law Society at 8:30 p.m. in Room 208 at Peck Hall. Registration fee is \$3.50 for Pre-Law members and \$10 for non-members. Register in the political science office by April 4.

SNEAK A PEEK, for high school seniors, will be from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. If your organization is interested in setting up a table for the event, contact the MTSU public relations office at 898-2919 to reserve a table.

SUNDAY

FREE FILMS, SPONSORED by the Fine Arts Committee, will be shown each Sunday this month in the University Center Theatre at 7 p.m. Today's show is *One Sings, the Other Doesn't*. The 1977 French film is subtitled in English, written and directed by Agnes Varda with Valerie Mairesse and Therese Liotard. The film "follows the friendship of two young women over a period of 14 years, a time when each seeks to take control of her destiny and eventually finds contentment," according to a news release.

TUESDAY

A RESUME WRITING and Job Interview Workshop will be conducted by Ms. Martha Turner, Placement Office director, from 3 p.m. to 4 p.m. in Room 322 of the University Center. The workshop is sponsored by the Office of Student Information and Minority Affairs in conjunction with BSA.

THE 18th ANNUAL ALLSING will begin at 7 p.m. in the Murphy Center. Admission is \$2. Ten groups will be competing with a wide variety of music. Trophies and cash prizes will be given.

THE JAPAN CENTER of Tennessee, in conjunction with the Office of International Student Services at Belmont

College, will sponsor an "Evening in Asia" program at the Massey Auditorium on the Belmont campus. Music and dance from the various Asian countries will be featured. An exhibit of drawings by Japanese schoolchildren from Tsuru, Japan, the sister of Hendersonville, will be on exhibit at the Leu Gallery of Williams Library at Belmont from April 9 to April 14. The program is free and open to the public. For more information, contact the Japan Center of Tennessee at 898-2229.

THE PSI CHI HONOR Society and the Psychology Club will meet at 3:30 p.m. in Room 305 of the University Center. Dr. Bauer will speak.

TODAY IS THE DEADLINE to submit applications for the Outstanding Senior Award. The applicant must have completed 90 credit hours to be eligible. Applications should be submitted to the ASB office, Room 304 in the University Center.

MTSU STUDENTS AND faculty will be showcasing their songwriting talents from 8-10 p.m. at The Club on Mainstreet. Writers Nights are semi-annual showcases sponsored by RIM Writers, a campus songwriting organization. Admission will be \$2 for ARMS members and \$3 for nonmembers.

NOTICES

GRADUATE STUDENTS enrolled for fewer than 12 hours and undergraduate seniors who plan to attend graduate school the semester following graduation must notify the post office by Tuesday, May 1, of their desire to retain their present post office box.

THE JSA FOUNDATION is currently taking scholarship applications for summer school. Forms are available at the MTSU Student Financial Aid office in Room 212 of the Cope Administration Building or in the Psychology Dept. office in Room 103 of Jones Hall. Women students who are at least 23 years of age are eligible for JSA scholarships. Completed applications are due by April 15.

IN ORDER FOR YOUR organization to be properly registered with MTSU for the spring semester, you are required to complete by May 1 three forms: the self-evaluation report, the statement of assurance and the financial report. All forms should be returned to Room 124 of the University Center. Any organization which fails to file the proper forms may be denied the use of University services and facilities. Please notify the Minority Affairs office of any presidential or advisorial changes.

'Disproportionate'

(continued from page 1)

establishing a film emphasis began, there were no film programs in the state tied to production, but to aesthetics and history, Kimbrell, now associate professor in the department after stepping down from the chairman's post in 1982, said.

"We established the emphasis to be a stretch in all three directions—aesthetics, history and production," he said.

CLASSES WERE slowly added to the program and, to cement the creation of an

emphasis in film, Kimbrell hired Ann R. Hahn in the fall of 1979 as a mass communications instructor to teach film production and movie history.

Hahn's goals were to develop a curriculum, acquire and maintain equipment, and advertise the program once it was firmly established.

She began by changing the basic and advanced film production courses into Film I, II and III.

FILM HISTORY classes, internships with film production companies in

Nashville and "individual projects done for credit" were added to the emphasis by Hahn.

Equipment was acquired from the LRC after they had ceased producing films, and the maintenance was generally done "one piece of equipment at a time, per semester," Jamie Miner, a 20-year-old junior and Hahn's lab assistant, said.

Editor's note: this is the first in a series on the "death" of the film sequence in the mass communications department.

Elder

(continued from page 1)

said during his visit, "and to preserve something on tape for the future. I think it enlivens history."

"MUCH OF WHAT I am telling here is anecdotal," the senator added, "and I'm telling about a lot of things that I didn't even put in my own book."

In almost three hours of taped interviews over the course of the day, Gore reflected with Bullen and former Murfreesboro Judge Wilkes Coffey Jr. on his early years as a teacher and superintendent, his first trip to Washington, D.C. which sparked his interest in politics, and many personal experiences as a representative and senator. Gore represented Tennessee's 4th District in the House

from 1938 to 1952 and served in the Senate from 1952 until 1970.

The senator told stories ranging from playing the fiddle while campaigning to attending the dinner party where President Kennedy first met his wife-to-be. Gore recounted many other experiences with Kennedy, a close friend whom he considered the "best hope for presidential leadership in my lifetime."

IN LOOKING toward a new century for Tennessee and the country as a whole, Gore said he thinks "with the coming of industry and economic growth to the Southland, and the achievement of greater equality and justice between the races, Tennessee is more a part of the national pattern than it has ever been...I'm

hopeful for the future, for Tennessee and America."

One thing Bullen said he found interesting was that Gore drank plain hot water before they did the interview, something the senator apparently learned from Franklin Roosevelt when the president began to lose his voice during one of his famous fireside chats.

"I think we really sparked his interest with the type of questions we had," he added. "We got him thinking about days and times he had not thought about in a long time. The nature of the interview struck some cords in his memory, and he seemed to enjoy himself. He treated us very well, and he was just a pleasure to be around."

Chemistry conference set today

Charles G. Overberger, professor of chemistry at the University of Michigan, will speak here today at the 13th annual Southeastern Regional Conference of Undergraduate Student Chemists.

In an attempt to show how the process of pursuing a research problem can be a logical one, Overberger will speak on the topic "The Development of a Research Problem—Hydrophilic Poly-

mers With Nucleic Acid Side Chains."

A POLYMER IS a substance, either natural or synthetic, which is composed of giant molecules formed from smaller molecules of the same substance. The components of the giant molecules often have a definite arrangement.

Overberger, president of the chemistry section of the American Association of Science, primarily conducts research in

the fields of synthetic organic reaction mechanisms and polymer chemistry. He is also a past president of the American Chemical Society.

The conference will begin at 9 a.m. in the Tennessee Room of the James Union Building.

A banquet, to take place tonight at 8 p.m., will feature as speaker Leon Mandell, dean of the college of natural sciences at the University of South Florida.

Tau Omicron plans All-Sing

Ten campus organizations will compete Tuesday night in the eighth annual All-Sing competition, sponsored by Tau Omicron.

Fraternity and sororities, the Baptist Student Union and the Wesley Center are among the participants who will compete for trophies and cash prizes.

IN THE PAST, most groups participating have performed a medley of songs, ranging in style from classical to Top 40,

Melanie Perkins, a member of Tau Omicron, said.

"Most of them have been training since the end of January, so they put a lot of work and effort into this competition," she said.

Mearl Purvis, of Channel 4-TV, will emcee the competition. Judges will be from various Tennessee colleges, Perkins said.

There will be a \$2 admission charge for the competition,

which will begin at 7 p.m. in Murphy Center.

Tau Omicron, sponsor of the event, is an honor society for outstanding university women.

"Quitting is a snap!"

American Cancer Society

a Message to American College Students:

WOULD the administration of this educational institution have allowed Joseph Goebbels, Adolf Hitler's chief propagandist, to speak on campus in the 1930s?

This April, the Soviet Union's chief propagandist, Vladimir Posner, will be speaking on this campus!

Posner was originally scheduled to speak at American college campuses last Fall, but cancelled after the criminal massacre of 269 innocent civilians aboard KAL flight 007! Apparently, the Soviets think that the Youth of America have forgotten this and other Soviet atrocities!

WE have not forgotten!

Vladimir Posner,
the youth of America demand to know:

IF the Soviet Union is a nation of peace, why did they invade and continue to occupy the nation of Afghanistan?

IF the Soviet Union is a nation of peace, why do they continue to use outlawed chemical weapons to subjugate the people of Afghanistan and South East Asia?

IF the Soviet Union is a nation of peace, why did the KGB attempt to assassinate Pope John Paul II, a man of peace?

IF the Soviet Union is a nation of peace, why did they shoot down a civilian airliner killing all 269 passengers on board including U.S. Congressman Larry McDonald?

IF the Soviet Union is a nation of peace, why did they walk out of the Geneva nuclear arms control talks?

Vladimir Posner, the youth of America will not be fooled by your amiable smile,

We know what you represent!

If you are interested in finding out about the true nature of the Soviet Union, rather than engaging in wishful thinking, then call or return the attached form to:

Mike Boos, Program Director
Young America's Foundation
Suite 812,
11800 Sunrise Valley Dr.
Reston, VA 22091
Phone: (703) 620-5270

NAME _____
ADDRESS _____
CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____
PHONE _____
CITY _____

Tau Omicron presents the

**1984
ALL SING**

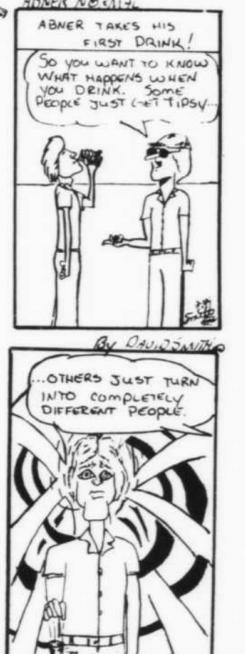
**Tuesday, April 10, 1984
7:00 p.m.**

**Murphy Center
Middle Tennessee State University
\$2.00 admission**

**Join us for an evening of
fun and entertainment!**



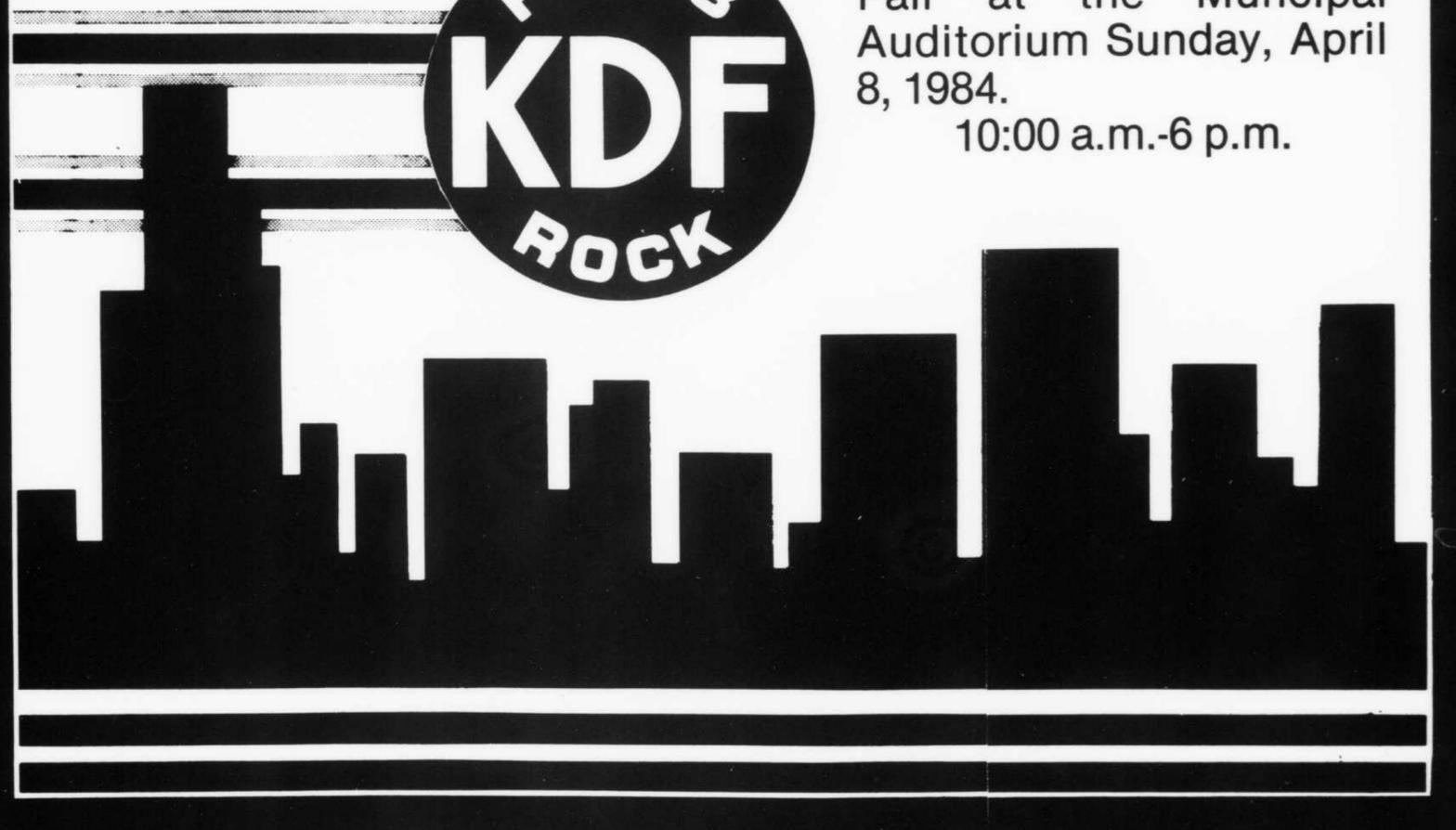
Friday Funnies



NOW Loud & Clear In MURFREESBORO Tennessee's No. 1 Rock 'N' Roll



Don't miss the WKDF/KDA Half-Price Fair at the Municipal Auditorium Sunday, April 8, 1984. 10:00 a.m.-6 p.m.



MIDDLE TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY SIDELINES

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

Drinking age 'war' not over yet

By MARTIN D. WATT
Special to Sidelines

Senator Ernest Crouch (D-McMinnville) really had his act together Monday night.

The proposed bill to raise the drinking age in this state—Senate bill 4—passed 29-0. Four representatives abstained.

In my many journeys around this campus, I hear one thing: "How could they do this to us?"

Actually it's quite simple. They know one simple fact: 18- to 21-year-olds don't vote. Ask yourself: "Did I vote in the last election?" If you answer "yes," pat yourself on the back, call yourself a great American, and continue to gripe. For the rest of you...

Well, things can change. The war's not won. Heck, the battle hasn't even started yet. The bill still must get out of the House Judiciary Committee, then onto the floor of the House.

It would appear that the bill has gained momentum to pass. However, the House at least has some sort of opposition in Rep. Dana Moore of Bristol.

If this opposition gains strength and gets organized, tremendous changes may take place in the bill. It may not even pass.

Possibly, some of the House members will realize the good sense of some amendments to the bill, especially ones proposed by Senator John Ford (D-Memphis). The Senate passed the amendment to exempt members of the Armed Forces. But don't sign up for ROTC yet. Only soldiers on

active duty are exempted.

The amendments that failed, however, made better sense than the ones that passed.

Argument: Other states are raising their drinking age, so Tennessee should too.

Amendment: Tennessee's drinking age of 21 will take effect when all surrounding states raise their drinking age.

Action: tabled by Sen. Crouch.

Argument: if a 19-year-old may not buy alcohol, he should not be able to sell or handle alcohol.

Amendment: No one under the age of 21 may sell alcoholic beverages.

Action: tabled by Sen. Crouch.

Argument: If a person 18-21 is caught with alcohol, and he or she is not an adult in this matter, he or she shouldn't be tried in adult courts or suffer adult penalties.

Amendment: A person between the ages of 18-21 shall be considered a juvenile for alcohol-related arrests and trials.

Before I continue, let me state that, in my mind, that makes more sense than anything, and is quite logical. Should pass, right?

Action: tabled by Sen. Crouch.

Sen. Ford even tried to adjourn the senate.

"I can see that this body is going to be unreasonable. And if this body is going to be unreasonable, we might as well adjourn and go watch the national basketball championship game." Thank you, Sen. Ford.

That was probably the most reasonable thing said all night.

But, as I said earlier, the war is by no means over. If you have a viewpoint, write or call your state Rep. Pro or con, let your feelings be known about SB-4. Or better yet, before you trek to Nashville for an evening of controlled, responsible partaking of alcoholic beverages, stop by the Capitol and have a little chat with your elected official.

Either way, let them know that you will vote and you will remember their position when you enter the booth. Tell them if they must raise the drinking age, at least exempt people who currently have the privilege (and it is a privilege—not a right). Tell them that, as Sen. Ford noted, "Our young people will turn to dope instead of alcohol."

Tell them that when Minnesota raised the drinking age from 18 to 19, traffic deaths rose to the highest level for that age group in that state's history. Explain to them that Tennessee's DUI law will reduce traffic deaths. Raising the drinking age won't. But most of all, explain to them that you will vote in November. And don't just sit there saying "it's not fair." Do something!

Act responsibly, and responsibilities will follow.

P.S. There will be a liquor by the drink referendum on the ballot in Murfreesboro city elections April 17. If you are registered in the city of Murfreesboro, which if you live on-campus you can be, vote.

boring, stupid, too difficult, unfair, etc. So what?

So, what if the students were in a position to sue the instructor for malpractice? Some of the charges that instructors could be cited for include being boring, uninformative, unchallenging and a waste of time and money. What a can of worms that would be!

For how long would students prove that in court? Ah, but perhaps the possibility of it might encourage some instructors to brighten, revise or update their act.

On the other hand, what if teachers were allowed to drop students who never came to class, made no attempt to

fulfill the course's requirements and never tried? No more second, third, fourth chances. No more headaches and ulcers. Now there is a can of worms for students.

In order to be able to sue for malpractice, students would have to make an appearance in class and attempt to fulfill the course requirements.

"All any red-blooded American student wants is that degree; teachers, another buck." Not necessarily and not always. Students can continue to be "boring" for years to come, since no one dares to challenge the present system.

No one challenges 'the system'

By DEE PARKER
Sidelines Staff Columnist

So you don't like the way the present system is being run. The teachers don't know anything, and the students are too lazy to learn.

That is the way it is, isn't it? Or could it be students want bonafide instruction that will eventually help them track down the jobs they desire? Or could it be that teachers only want students who are willing to get out and get it: concerned, dedicated, involved, inquisitive, etc.

Nonetheless, students come charging out of the classroom complaining the instructor is



Many issues bugging Williams

By PHIL WILLIAMS
Sidelines Columnist

This is one of those weeks when so many issues are rushing around in my mind that it is difficult to decide which to expand upon. Instead, I will take the cop-out and briefly touch on several. If you read far enough, I am positive you will find something with which to disagree with me:

Thirty-nine-year-old Ronald O'Bryan insisted to the end that he had not murdered his eight-year-old son by putting cyanide in his Halloween candy. But a jury had convicted him and dictated that he die by lethal injection.

And that is what happened this past weekend. O'Bryan was strapped to a hospital gurney, while a hand belonging to an unseen executioner put the deadly drug into his veins. The inmate became sleepy, yawned and then suddenly let out a loud gasp. His lips and face turned blue, and he died.

By this act, the state really made its point that it would not tolerate criminals.

But it also proved its belief that murder is appropriate in certain situations. And it proved that it has little regard

for the distinct potential that an innocent man might be executed. (After all, it was in that same state a few weeks ago that a television news program revealed that an innocent man was being held in prison.)

More than 1,300 people, most men and most black, now await the same fate as O'Bryan. Does not the fact that no other Western country has the same record say something about the humanity of capital punishment?

Race relations on the MTSU campus are difficult to assess. But one sure sign that all is not well is that we have witnessed this semester two black beauty contests—Miss Black-and-Gold and Mr. Black MTSU—as racial counterparts to the Miss and Mr. MTSU competitions.

Why is it necessary for us to have a dual system on this campus? Does either race want to be separate? Or are the two traditional contests so racist in nature that a dual system is necessary?

I am not sure of the answers, but there is definite cause for concern.

As to beauty contests themselves, nothing could be more ludicrous. I did not attend the Miss MTSU contest last night, nor will I attend any

other flesh competition. Neither did I vote in the homecoming election, and I refused to applaud the winners at the game.

When will we learn that there is more to being a human than white teeth, long legs and nice boobs?

After all, there is nothing to be ashamed of in being attractive. But to pick a human on the basis of appearance and exalt him or her above the rest is the ultimate insult to the human race. I even question how women can expect to achieve equality as long as they participate in the merchandising of themselves as something to be valued for what is on the outside.

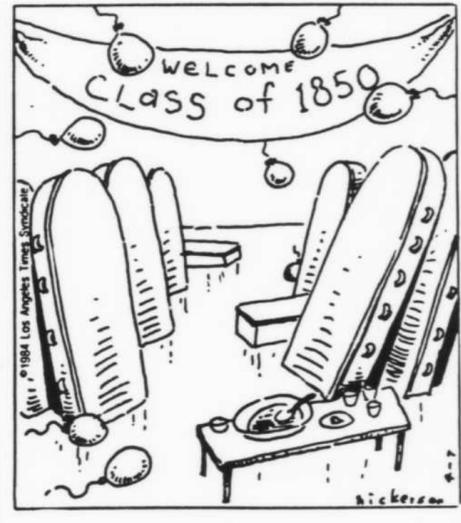
Perhaps there is some latent benefit in beauty contests, but I am not convinced.

Finally, an airing of a pet peeve about the university library: if it is supposed to be open until 11 p.m. each night, which is only reasonable, why do they start ringing bells and flicking lights 15 or 20 minutes early?

Do we students who want to use the facility late at night not have the right to expect that we will not be run out until closing time? Oh, that's right! I sometimes forget that we are only students. No one ever gave us any rights.



"Look, dear! He has your eyes and my nose."



features

Herring goes to 'old lady' Smokies for new book



Photo by Randall C. Kimbrell

Despite the fact Robert Herring's second novel *McC Campbell's War*, is only halfway finished, it has been bought by Viking Press.

By RANDY BRISON
Sidelines Staff Writer

When MTSU English Professor Robert Herring recently visited the Mississippi River island on which his novel *Hub* is set and on which he played as a child, he could sense the characters from his book running through the brush.

"I stood on the bank, listened real hard, and I could almost hear those little boys talking," he said in reference to *Hub*'s main characters.

HERRING, WHO has published short stories and won various awards for his fiction, recently sold his second novel to Viking Press, although the book is only "two-thirds" finished.

McC Campbell's War is a "contemporary story" of Proffitt McC Campbell's fight to keep a trans-mountain highway from going through

He doesn't have to create the story; it just happens.

the Smoky Mountains and over an old graveyard." Like *Hub*, *McC Campbell's War* includes characters that are "so real" to the author that he doesn't have to create the story; "it just happens."

"That's what I do as a writer," he said. "I create characters so real I don't have to fabricate."

"WHEN I CAN do that," he continued, "the story starts and I just try to get it down on paper. Whole scenes come out as I write, sometimes faster than I can keep up with them."

Like *Hub*, *McC Campbell's War* is set in an area with which Herring is familiar: the Smokies. "I love that old lady," he said, referring to the East

Tennessee mountains, and the idea for his novel is a result of his penchant for hiking there.

"I was going up to Porter's Flat, a place about 3,500 feet up the mountain, when I noticed some steps off the path," he said. "I followed the steps back to an old graveyard, really ancient, with tombstones dating back to 1700."

"ON EACH GRAVE was a brand new store-bought plastic flower," he continued. "I doubt if the park service even knows those graves are there, but each time I've been back there have been new flowers."

From this discovery came the concept for *McC Campbell's War*. Herring added he'd never attempted to find out who placed the flowers, "but I know who's doing it: Proffitt McC Campbell."

The experience of writing and selling his work has given Herring new perspectives on the creative process and its

relationship to the audience. He says he is not comfortable with the philosophy of "writing the best you can and selling it anyway you can," adding he planned on doing less public relations work for *McC Campbell's War* than he did for his first book.

A writer is not just a writer anymore: he's a writer, entertainer and businessman.

"SOME APPEARANCES are written in your contract," he explained. "That goes along with it. A writer is not just a writer anymore: he's a writer, entertainer and businessman."

"But, as much an ego-maniac as I am, it took a lot less of all that—speaking engagements and television appearances and a review in the *New York Times*—to satisfy me than I thought," he said.

"I'd rather be working anyway," he added, "because those activities take out a kind of essential energy that I have learned needs to be protected."

HERRING ALSO feels "less nervous" than when *Hub* was first accepted for publication, although he noted the incredible odds which face any new author.

"A publisher said recently he received 40 to 50 new manuscripts each week," said Herring. "Why should I be lucky?"

He finally realized, he said, that "sure I had luck, but it happened because I was caught

up in the process [of writing]."

"IT CAN'T HAPPEN if you're not available and committed."

Like many people, Herring has had experiences he "wouldn't change, but wouldn't live through again," and he feels this commitment and his success in writing has given a new sense of "validity" to both his past and present life, although he was quick to point out "there's no work so lonely."

"You're out on a limb," he said. "There are no precedents for the writer: no one is there

to tell you if you're doing right or wrong."

"But if as Robert Herring," he said, "I can now as a writer give a kind of form and order to my years and experience, I validate my experience."

It is his desire to stay "in the process" and to continue giving "a kind of sense and form" to his life that keeps Herring writing, and with characters like *Hub* and Proffitt McC Campbell he should continue finding success in his career as a writer.

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Personals

David Pierce, Today is your day. Beware from 8-12.

The Clay Flower Pots and The Mark Robinson Memorial Fund

To the spineless individual who left the unsigned note in the red VW by the JUB Tuesday—look wimp! If you have a comment about my parking habits come to Room 310 JUB, my name is Bob. That is if you have nerve!

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Sports

Donnelly feeling sick about team's complacency

By MIKE JONES
Sidelines Sports Writer

Go into Boots Donnelly's office and you won't be hit with the pungent odor of rumination, but you will be surrounded by the aura of a sick man.

Donnelly isn't deranged or anything like that, but he has become somewhat ill since the Blue Raider football squad began spring practice.

"SICKNESS" is the way Donnelly described his feelings about how the team has performed after the first spring sessions. What makes the coach so under the weather is the inordinately high amount of

complacency among the older players on the team, the same ones who'll be looked to to provide leadership when the Blue Raiders open their 1984 schedule in September.

The coach made it clear his 1983 unit, which went 8-2 and was ranked among the nation's top teams, "didn't win anything," (referring to MTSU's failure to make the NCAA Division I-AA playoff field after a loss in the season finale to Tennessee Tech), and should be hungry to come back and prove themselves capable of bettering last year's mark.

"We've got a complacency problem from upperclassmen and we've got a non-aggressive

problem with all of them," Donnelly snapped. "We have no enthusiasm whatsoever and it looks like that's what they [upperclassmen] want to be noted for."

"IT LOOKS LIKE players are satisfied with going out there and floating around and acting like they are getting by with that."

Donnelly added a complacency problem is usually faced at least once every year during spring practice, but the annoyance is especially hard to swallow this year. MTSU's loss to a hapless Tennessee Tech squad in that last game of the '83 season is seen as one of the low points in Blue Raider

sports history by many people.

"We felt like they would want to get the bad taste out of their mouths," Donnelly said. "Complacency and satisfaction are the worst things we could have and it looks like we've corralled a complete team of it. We're looking for aggressiveness and enthusiasm."

THE SPRING DRILLS to date have been highlighted by work on base defenses and offenses, but the coach said no individuals were currently worth talking about. Donnelly warned if things don't improve in terms of attitude, it could be "see you later" for some players.

"We're not going to have a lot of them here in the fall," said Donnelly in reference to players who continue practicing complacency. "If they're not going to give us effort, they're not going to be here long. We don't want someone here who doesn't have the same attitude the coaching staff has."

Also: Donnelly said Wednesday the remaining open date on the schedule will probably be filled by a road trip to Jacksonville State. JSU would come to Murfreesboro the following year, meaning MTSU will only have five home games in the upcoming season.

The squad will conduct intra-squad scrimmages each Friday during practice, culminating with the Blue-White game April 26. Fifty percent of the money raised from ticket sales for the 6 p.m. contest will go to the Special Olympics program, Donnelly said.

Prices for tickets and details of the festivities surrounding the scrimmage are currently incomplete, but admission will include free food and beverages on the field before the game. Spectators can also meet and have their pictures made with their favorite Blue Raiders before the scrimmage.

Tracksters to host first outdoor meet of season

By CARLTON WINFREY
Sidelines Sports Writer

The MTSU men's track team hosts its first outdoor dual meet of the year this afternoon against Western Kentucky University at Johnny "Red" Floyd stadium at 1:30.

After the meet here, the Raiders will travel to Cape Girardeau, Missouri for Saturday's SE-Motion Relays, hosted by Southeastern Missouri.

TODAY'S MEET will bring steep competition to the Raiders, including the duel between high jumpers Linwood Harris and WKU's Danny Anderson. Anderson has cleared 6-11 this year while Harris has jumped 7-0, tying the school outdoor record originally held by Rosco Kidd in 1978.

MTSU's Steve McQuiston and Jeff Sims will have their hands full in their respective

events. McQuiston will be challenged by WKU's Perry Thomas in the shot put and the discus, while Sims takes on Phil Fossee in the javelin. Sims received first place last week at Austin Peay in the event.

Twenty-seven schools will be participating in the SE-Motions Relays, including Illinois, Purdue and Marquette.

RON DAVIS AND Kenny Nesbitt, who will not compete in the WKU meet, will represent MTSU in the high and the intermediate hurdles. Davis and Nesbitt will also be running the shuttle-hurdle relay along with Mike Dedman and Deric Haynes.

Kenny Shannon, Mike Pittman, Dwight Johnson and John McDowell will run the 400-meter relay, while the 800-meter relay team will feature Shannon, Nesbitt, Johnson and either McDowell or Gary Mitchell.

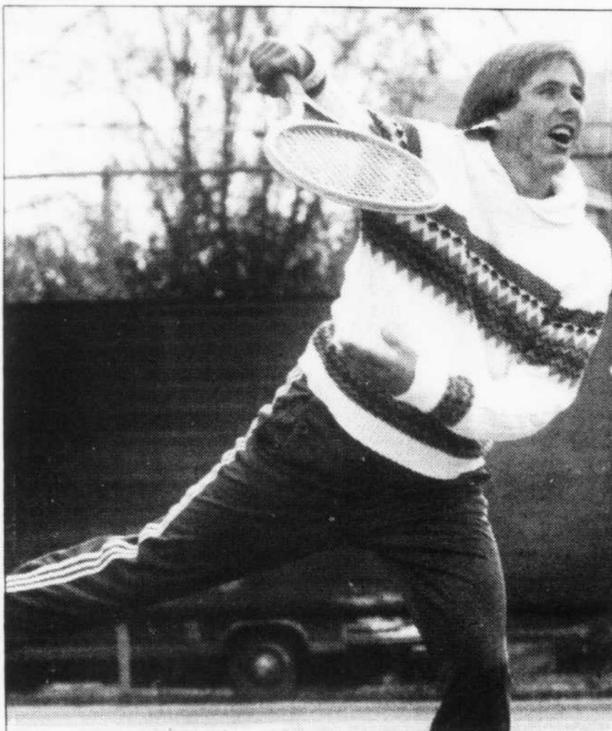


Photo by Mike Poley

Sophomore tennis ace Anson Chilcutt follows through on a return during a recent practice for the team's match against Austin Peay this afternoon at 1.

Netters crush J.C. Calhoun

FROM STAFF REPORTS

MTSU's men's tennis team whipped J.C. Calhoun 7-2 yesterday at the varsity courts. Coach Dick LaLance's team faces Austin Peay today at 1:00 and Vanderbilt Sunday afternoon at 2:00.

The women's team faces Louisville and Union University tomorrow at the varsity courts. Coach Sandy Neal's troops battle Louisville at 9 a.m. and Union at 2:30 p.m. On Monday, the team will battle rival Tennessee Tech here at 2 p.m.

Raider baseballers win twice

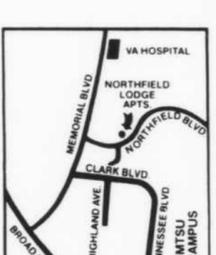
Allen "The Jugbeast" Colburn's home run and four RBIs led MTSU to a 9-7 win over Cumberland College last night at Smith Field. The Blue Raiders take their 17-9 record to Lexington, Ky., for a doubleheader tomorrow.



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