

# Middle Tennessee State University SIDELINES

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Monday, September 29, 1997

## Parking alternatives considered

□ Jamie Evans/staff

The Student Government Association held a Parking Town Hall Meeting last Monday to open the lines of communication between the students and the administration in an attempt to discover new alternatives to the parking situation on campus.

"Yes, we have a parking problem we have to define," said Duane Stucky, vice president for finance and administration.

One of the many questions that was asked dealt with the construction of a parking garage on campus which has been in discussion for a while now.

The main obstacle that stand in the way of the parking garage is funding.

Stucky said that MTSU is currently looking into other universities in Tennessee to see how they approach parking on their campuses.

The parking services office at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, said that they have plenty of parking for commuters and faculty, but residential parking is very tight.

They are also looking into constructing a parking garage in the next two years.

They plan to pay for it through bonds, which is usually how it is done. However, they are also receiving funding from the athletic department in exchange for use of the parking garage during sporting events.

The University of Memphis already has a parking garage.

They charge students or visitors each time they use the garage. A visitor can park for the entire day for \$2.50, while a student can park for a discounted rate of \$1.50 a day.

"If you ask us," said Kelly Lacy of the parking authority at UM, "we have plenty [of parking]. If you ask the students, we don't."

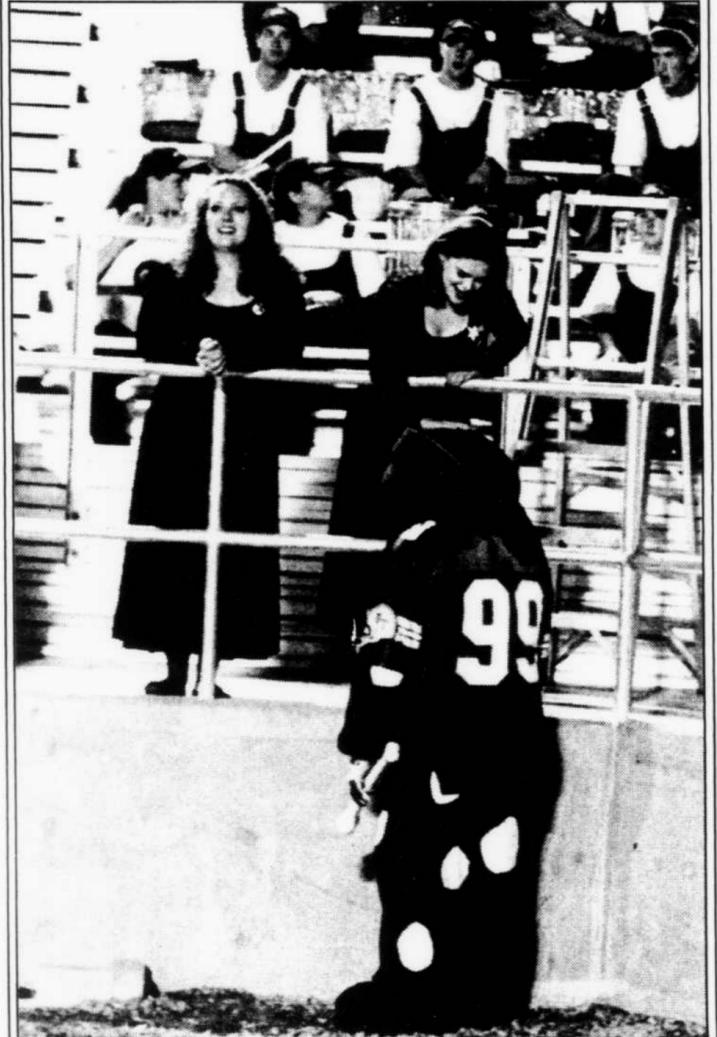
Stucky is also looking into an agreement with another local church to allow students to park there Monday through Friday.

Joe Fischer, supervisor of Parking Authority, said that another idea they are seriously considering is asking construction workers to park in the Tennessee Livestock Center parking lot so students could use the interior lots that the workers are now using.

Parking Authority is also changing the time that ticketing ends for the day in certain lots. In particular, cars parked in the ROTC lot will not be checked for parking permits after 5:30 p.m. instead of 6:30 p.m.

Some of the other ideas that are being tossed around are more efficient bus intervals, buying more land for more parking lots and changing the ratio between faculty spots to student parking areas so that the daily turnover is more balanced.

## Chattin' with Ole Blue



Steve Purinton/staff

Band of Blue field commanders Patience Long, an undeclared sophomore, right, and Dana DePollo, a senior music education major, talk with Ole Blue during MTSU's Saturday night home game against Murray State University.

## Two Student Life positions added

□ Lesli Bales/staff

With the August departure of Gail Stephens as an associate dean of students, the MTSU Office of Student Life has undergone several organizational changes. While Rodney Bennett will continue to be the only associate dean of Student Life, two new administration positions have been added.

Gina Poff, formerly the Director of Orientation, has been promoted to the Director of Student Development. This new position, effective Sept. 19, encompasses the leadership development part of Student Life. Poff will be focusing on programs related to the freshmen experience, alcohol abuse and sexual assault. She will also be looking into creating a campus-wide honor society.

"Stephens [was in charge of] leadership, student organizations and the activity fee committee," said Tom Burke, dean of student life. "This position will be less administrative and more hands-on with students."

Another one of Poff's duties will be supervising the Coordinator of Orientation and New Student Programs and the new position of Coordinator of Student Organizations and Community Service. The Coordinator of Student Organizations and Community Service will deal with the SGA House of Representatives, Homecoming and the Raider Assistance Program (RAP) in addition to other community projects.

"Having this new position will benefit students by doing more programs with and for the student organizations," Burke said.

Both coordinator positions are entry-level in student affairs and are currently vacant. Burke hopes to start interviewing applicants by early November. However, it may be spring semester before the positions are filled.

The reshuffling of titles and duties comes after the departure of two associate deans in two years. Holly Lentz-Karstens left for Philadelphia's Temple University in the fall of 1996 and was replaced by current associate dean Bennett. With Stephens recent departure for the Mississippi University for Women, Burke decided to "start shifting things around." Another change was this semester's addition of Gene Fitch as Assistant Dean for Judicial Affairs and Mediation Services.

"We think that the changes will help us to be more efficient and more

## Spring legislative internships available

□ Bryan Brooks/staff

When the Tennessee State Legislature convenes this Spring, MTSU students will have the opportunity to participate in The Tennessee Legislative Internship Program serving as interns with members of the legislature.

The internships are open to juniors, seniors and graduate students in law, political science, social work, journalism, administration, history, sociology, economics and other related fields. To be eligible for the program, the applicant must be registered to vote in Tennessee. In addition, applicants must also have at minimum a 3.0 grade point average. The deadline for applying is Oct. 3.

Political science professor Mark Byrnes is overseeing the application process and said interns do research, clerical work and deal with constituents. The internship program offers a weekly salary and advance payment is also granted for relocation or adjustment purposes such as clothing.

Participation in the Tennessee Legislative Internship Program gain 12 hours of academic credit. Six hour count as Political Science hours, while the other six count as elective hours. Participants are not allowed to enroll in classes during the length of the internship.

The period of the internship is from January 8 until May 31, unless the legislature adjourns prior to that.

In that case, the internship ceases one week after adjournment. The work hours are Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., at the Legislative Plaza in Nashville. The internships are available only in the Spring when the Legislature is in session.

MTSU also has an internship program with the State Legislature. Participants are assigned to work for legislators who represent areas in and around Rutherford County. The deadline for the MTSU program is Nov. 14. Pay and hours are identical to the state program, but the minimum required GPA is 2.5.

Byrnes said the internship program has been real successful. One female student that served as an

intern in this program has gone on to become a lobbyist, while others have received jobs with the state government.

Others that have participated in the internship program have gone on to law school, and a few have unsuccessfully run for the State Legislature.

Byrnes interned with the State Legislature during his graduate years. He was placed with the House Finance Committee, then chaired by John Bragg.

Interested students should contact Dr. Mark Byrnes in the Political Science department at 898-2351. His office is located in room 247 of Peck Hall.

## Bone marrow sought for a MTSU student

□ Sara Salyer/staff

An MTSU student, possibly one of your own classmates, desperately needs your help.

Derrick Jackson, a 21-year-old African-American nursing student who would have been in a senior this year, has been diagnosed with a pre-leukemia disease which can only be cured with a bone marrow transplant.

"Hopefully he will be able to come back and graduate," said Sheila Marquart, a member of the school of nursing faculty. "Derrick is a very compassionate young man and always has a smile on his face."

Jackson is searching for a matched donor who can offer him the "gift of life." And you could be this person. A bone marrow drive will be held 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday, Oct. 3, in the Cason-Kennedy Nursing Building's Nursing Center room 109/113.

"We would really appreciate any help we can get on this," Marquart said.

The drive is co-sponsored by the faculty with the School of Nursing and the Student Nurse's Association.

"I want the students to support it if they can," Derrick said.

The drive is open to everyone. Bone marrow donation takes less than 15 minutes and requires a small amount of paperwork, a simple blood test and \$35. There is no charge to minority students. These costs will be covered by grant money from the "African-American Uniting for Life National Education and Recruitment Campaign." All donors must be between the ages of 18 and 55 years.

"You never know who a donation might help," said Jane Jackson, Derrick's mother. "I encourage everyone that has it in their heart to help."

All MTSU students are encouraged to pull together to help a fellow student.

"I want to thank everyone for their prayers and cards," his mother said, "because it has kept Derrick's spirits up."

## MTSU celebrates Hispanic Heritage Month

□ Bryan Brooks/staff

With Spanish and Mexican food, dancers, and music, the Hispanic Student Organization kicked off National Hispanic Month earlier this month with a reception in the James Union Building.

National Hispanic Month began Thursday, September 15, and continues till October 15.

National Hispanic Month was established in 1988 when Congress lengthened it from a week. National Hispanic Heritage Week was created in 1974 by then President Gerald Ford.

The Multicultural Affairs Office said that several good ways to celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month include drinking Columbian coffee, eating pan dulce, a sweet bread and reading books by and about Hispanics.

Some popular authors include Isabel Allende, Carlos Fuentes, Gabriel Marquez and Laura Esquivel.

Gloria Soria, of the Multicultural Affairs Office, said the Hispanic Student Organization was began in 1991, but was discontinued four years later due to lack of student participation. The Hispanic Student Organization is once again active at MTSU.

Soria said they need at least 20 more people interested in joining the



Will Isom/staff

Members of the Compania de Baile Hispanica perform at the kick-off of Hispanic Heritage Month in the James Union Building.

organization. Anybody can join.

Soria said the organization hopes to have their first meeting in the first

or second week of October.

For more information in joining the Hispanic Student Association,

please call the Office of Multicultural Affairs at 898-2987.

# Special Events

We're proud of our students!

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<http://www.mtsu.edu/specevt>  
 Call us at 898-2551

MTSU Special Events presents



## HOMECOMING EVENTS: Wednesday, October 1

11:00 a.m. til 2:00 p.m.

### HUGE LAWN GAMES:

Bungee Run, Bouncy Boxing, Joust, Obstacle Course, & Human Foosball

Showtime = 8:30 p.m.

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(New Edit Version)

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## KUC Theater

THIS WEEK - Sept. 29/30 + Oct. 1/2  
 Mon/Tues/Wed/Thur 7 & 9:30 p.m.  
 Admission only \$2.00



A brilliant macabre thriller set in the frigid, sleepy small town of Fargo, Minnesota this strange tale revolves around a complex crime gone horribly wrong. A scintillating thriller from the talented tandem of Joel and Ethan Coen. A terrifically twisted comedy and a fantastic, original piece of work starring Frances McDormand and Steve Buscemi. (color, 97 minutes, R)

## TBR creates committee to study college name changes

### □ Staff Reports

A special purpose committee to evaluate university names, including MTSU's, was established by the Tennessee Board of Regents.

The ad hoc committee was formed Friday at the TBR's quarterly Board meeting held at Dyersburg State Community College.

The Board did not approve the change of MTSU's name to the University of Middle Tennessee at this meeting.

President James Walker told "Sidelines" last week that he didn't think that TBR would approve the change at Friday's meeting.

According to Julie Goodyear, director of communications at TBR, the decision will probably be made at the Board's scheduled December meeting.

Goodyear said that MTSU should know by the March Board meeting at the latest.

Several other universities in the TBR system also are looking at changing their names, Goodyear said. TBR is responsible for all of the public universities in Tennessee except for the branches of the University of Tennessee.

The names of the other universities considering a name change have not been announced. MTSU is the only university that has submitted a formal proposal to TBR.

Walker submitted a letter to TBR Chancellor Charles Smith to propose the name change at the beginning of August of this year.

If the change is approved by TBR, the Tennessee Higher Education Commission and the state legislation, it could go into effect by the middle of next year, Walker said.

# On Campus



To have information placed in the On Campus section of the paper, come by the "Sidelines" office, which is located in James Union Building room 308, and fill out a form located on the table by the door. Information must be submitted in person. The deadline for Monday's edition is Thursday at 5 p.m. and the deadline for Thursday's edition is Monday at 5 p.m. A new form must be filled out for each edition or the information will not be run.

### Sept. 30 and Oct. 1

A new chapter of Students in Free Enterprise is being organized. SIFE develops leadership and presentation skills through various activities. Sponsored by the College of Business and open to all undergraduates with an interest in free enterprise, an information and organizational meeting will be held from 4-5 p.m. Sept. 30 and 4:30-5:30 p.m. on Oct. 1 in BAS S326A. For more information contact Stephen Lewis at 2035.

### Oct. 1

A reception for students minoring or considering minoring in African-American Studies or who are unsure what they want to minor in is scheduled from 4-6 p.m. in the JUB Dining Room C. It will give students a chance to learn more about the program and meet faculty and other students already involved in the program. For more information contact Bonnie Shipp at 898-2655.

### Oct. 3

Sankofa & Erudite Emancipators invites all Tech students and staff to bring their cars by Lee's Chicken on Memorial Blvd. between 4 and 6 p.m. so they will be clean for Homecoming!

### Oct. 7

A Jazz Set will be presented in the JUB Tennessee Ballroom from 8-11 p.m. Anyone interested in getting dressed up to "slow it down" is invited by the Sankofa & Erudite Emancipators. There will be a \$5 charge at the door.

### Oct. 9

Bruce Foster from Samford

University will in DSB 241 from 1-3:30 p.m. to talk with students about admission to Samford's McWhorter School of Pharmacy. He will be available to answer any of your questions about pharmacy school in general.

### Oct. 22

The National Coalition of 100 Black Women is sponsoring a "Night of Fun" at 9 p.m. in Murphy Center Gyms 1 and 2. Fun will include a Spades Tournament from 9:30-midnight, a dance contest from 12-12:30 a.m. and music all night by DJ Trav.

### Continuing Activities

The Japan Center of Tennessee in cooperation with the Tullahoma Fine Arts Center will sponsor a Japanese Doll Exhibit at 401 S. Jackson Street, Tullahoma, Tennessee. The exhibit will be held during the month of September 1997. Museum hours are Monday through Friday 10 a.m. through 4 p.m. Evenings and weekends by appointment. \$2.00 donation appreciated. For more information please call The Japan Center of Tennessee at (615) 898-2229 or Tullahoma Fine Arts Center at (615) 455-1234. They will also sponsor an Origami Exhibit in the lobby of the Argie Cooper Library, 100 S. Main St., Shelbyville, Tenn., through October 17. For information call The Japan Center of Tennessee at (615) 898-2229 or the library at (615) 684-7323.

LDSSA is holding Institute Classes every Wednesday and Thursday at 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. in Peck Hall 105 and every Thursday at 7 p.m. in the

Smyrna Chapel. For more information, call Sid Sandstrom at 355-0558 or check out the LDSSA home page at [www.mtsu.edu/~ldssa](http://www.mtsu.edu/~ldssa)

Campus Crusade for Christ will hold a CRU meeting every Tuesday night at 7:30 p.m. in Mass Comm 104. For more information, call 867-3054 or 848-6741.

Presbyterian Student Fellowship invites everyone to their Wednesday Night Supper and Worship each Wednesday at 6 p.m. at 615 N. Tennessee Blvd. For more information contact Rich Zeigler at 893-1787.

The Seventh-Day Adventist Student Union will offer "Praise and Worship" at 7 p.m. every Friday in KUC 314. A bible study will begin soon. For more information, contact Heather Norman at 898-3112.

Church of Christ Student Center invites everyone to "Raiders for Christ," a fellowship of Christian friends, praise time, Bible study, videos and more, Monday nights at 7 p.m. in KUC 324. For more information contact Mike Stroud at 896-1529.

The public is invited to view Kirsten Skiles' recent work in metal Oct. 14-Nov. 21 at the Appalachian Center for Crafts in Smithville. Skiles, the gallery director at St. Mary's University in Minnesota and co-owner of Koka Metalsmiths, will also instruct a workshop, "Blacksmithing: Natural Forms in Iron," November 22-23. For more information contact Casey Hyland or Gail Looper at (615) 597-6801.

**Got a news tip?  
 Call Sidelines  
 at 898-2336**

## SIFE chapter started at MTSU

### □ Jamie Evans/staff

Students In Free Enterprise, a national business organization, is establishing a chapter at MTSU which offers students a chance to be charter members.

The college of business is sponsoring MTSU's division of SIFE, but the organization is open to all undergraduates.

Students who complete 50 hours in the program are elig-

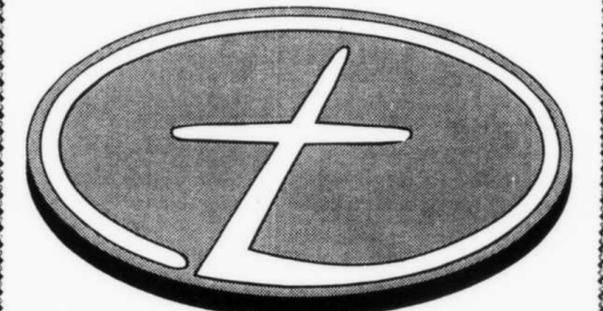
ible to attach the "Certified SIFE Scholar" status to their resumes. This earns the members the privilege of being entered into SIFE's Career Services data base.

According to SIFE's publication, one of the benefits of being certified is that SIFE's donor companies actively recruit participants for employment.

The organization is intended to teach students practical knowledge and experience in "getting the job done."

SIFE's mission states its goal "to provide college students the best opportunity to make a difference and to develop leadership, teamwork, and communication skills through learning, practicing, and teaching the principles of free enterprise."

Information sessions are scheduled for Sept. 30 at 4 p.m. and Oct. 1 at 4:30 p.m. in room S326A in the business aerospace building. For more information contact SIFE advisor Stephen Lewis at 898-2035.



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JIM & TUNE	Eric Swain Jugg Band	The Guy Smiley Blues Exchange	ROLAND CALQUHOUN JAZZ TRIO	9 Parts Devil & Shack-Shakers	fl. OZ. 9:30 PM	
Finger pullin' Pete Blue w/ Z. MATTHEWS w/ 10:15 WHISKEY	SIGNAL & Hrs. Boy Erick	Justin Clark's JAZZORASS & CONTINENTAL DRUM	ROLAND CALQUHOUN JAZZ TRIO	9 Parts Devil & Shack-Shakers	Blackbell Jones & Glossary	
JIM & TUNE	SSW THIBBS	Synchro Section & Schellman	ROLAND CALQUHOUN JAZZ TRIO	LUCCIALL GET-G-G & The Allens	10:45 WHISKEY	
MTSU SSA Writer's Night	Max Johns Blues	Open Mon. - Sat. 7p.m. - 2:30 a.m. 109 N. Maple - ph. 895-8922				HAPPY HOUR Mon. - Sat. 7-9p.m. for 1 well drinks \$1.50 longneck!

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 Tuesday, October 7, 11 am til 4 pm

MTSU Concerts members from Spring '97 -- please come by the office and fill out a new membership card- We NEED your current phone #. We NEED to hear from YOU!!!

# MTSU to host TBR conference

□ Lesli Bales/staff

Women in higher education from across the state will gather at MTSU Oct. 2-3 for the Tennessee Board of Regents American Council on Education (ACE) conference, "Empowering Women Leaders for the 21st Century."

The conference began in 1975 as a weekend ACE bander together with the American Association of Women in Community Colleges (AAWCC) and the Women in Higher Education in Tennessee (WHET) to provide a unified gathering of women from both two-year and four-year institutions.

The conference is open to any female in higher education: professors, administrators and students.

"The goal is to help to identify women wishing to advance themselves on their campuses," said Jeannette Heritage, MTSU professor of psychology and ACE treasurer. "To help those who aspire to move up in the ranks of higher education."

The conference is sponsored

this year by ACE, WHET, AAWCC, MTSU, TBR, Vanderbilt University's Opportunity Development Center and Volunteer State Community College.

Each year the conference is held at a different university, usually in the middle region of the state to ensure more participation from both east and west Tennessee. The conference was last held at MTSU in 1993 and drew a crowd of over 225. Although budget cuts have made money tight this year, Heritage is still expecting a healthy turnout of over 200.

"We're trying to get women talking to each other, working together and learning from each other," she said.

This year's keynote speakers include four renowned women: Katie S. Winchester, CEO of Citizens National Bank in Nashville; Harriett Woods, former Lieutenant Governor of Missouri; Julianne Malveaux, syndicated columnist and producer of The Julianne Malveaux Show in Washington, D.C.; and Janet Larsen Palmer, president of the

Communications Excellence Institute in Southern California.

Each serve in several other capacities, including on multiple boards of directors, and all have been recognized as women of achievement.

The conference will also feature sessions led by various people in higher education chosen by the ACE State Planning Commission.

Gender and Self Esteem: A Reflected Appraisal, Banishing Burnout: Turning Pressure into Productivity, Using Anger for Empowerment, and Family Responsibilities: Confront the Tenure Clock are only four of 15 workshop topics being offered this year.

According to Heritage, the conference also benefits the university in addition to the women who attend.

"It's a good opportunity for MTSU to showcase what we can do for students," she said. "Especially with people from community colleges, such as Motlow and Vol State, attending."

Heritage is joined by fellow MTSU professors Ayne

Cantrell, Cynthia Drennan and Connie Jones in making local arrangements for the conference.

Heritage is proud of MTSU and glad that the campus has the opportunity to host this year.

"I think that this is a very friendly campus and that our ambiance is very positive," Heritage said. "By bringing the conference here, we can present a very positive view of MTSU."

Anyone interested in attending the conference — one day or both days — may pick up an informative brochure and registration form in the June Anderson Women's Center (JUB 206), the Adult Services Center (KUC 320) or Heritage's office (Peck Hall 234).

Registration forms and fees will be accepted all week by Heritage and also on-site the days of the conference. Interested parties can also register on-line at <http://www.tbr.tn.us/research/acenip/acenip.htm>.

For more information, contact Heritage at 898-2565.

## Phi Beta Lambda organization open to students of all majors

□ Craig Harris special to Sidelines

What is a mass communication major doing in a business organization?

Most individuals' immediate response would be, "Oh, then they must be minoring in business."

Actually, here at MTSU, students don't have to be majoring or minoring in business to be a part of the Lambda Alpha Tau chapter of Phi Beta Lambda, a business organization open to students in any major here at MTSU. This is not the case with PBL chapters from most other colleges and universities.

MTSU does have several non-business majors in its PBL organization, many of these which are from the College of Mass Communication.

According to current Tennessee state Phi Beta Lambda President James Roberson, MTSU's PBL chapter benefits from its open-door policy.

"We get a lot more diverse group, because here at MTSU, we open it (PBL) to all majors," Roberson, the former president of MTSU's PBL chapter, said.

Roberson said there were only three to five members in PBL in the 1993-94 school year. In 1994-95, the number increased to 19 members, and now MTSU has had the state's second- or third-largest chapter with approximately 50 members in each of the past two years.

PBL is currently the largest organization in the MTSU College of Business. However, numbers are not enough for current PBL President Melanie Jenkins.

Jenkins wants this year's PBL organization to get as

many of the members involved as it can. Of last year's 50 members, less than half were active. Jenkins' goal for this year addresses these numbers.

"This year, we've decided to go on quality, not quantity, because we want to try to get all the members involved," Jenkins said.

According to Jenkins, PBL already has several events planned for the current semester, including one social event and one community service event each month.

PBL Parliamentarian Harris Crook feels that one gains several things from being involved in the organization.

"You can meet a lot of people on campus, help out your community, and get along with people that you don't know, which will help when you get a job in the future," Crook said.

PBL will be actively recruiting members until Oct. 3, but prospective members can join at any point during the semester.

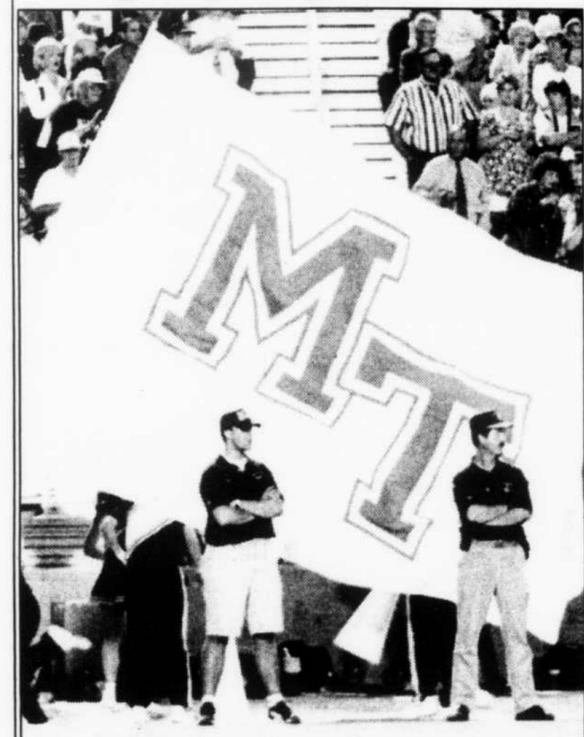
PBL's dues are \$30, and students are not required to have a certain grade point average to be eligible to join.

Monthly meetings are held on the second Wednesday of each month at 4 p.m. in the new business/aerospace building.

"PBL's a great organization," Jenkins said. "You get out of it what you put into it. I wish everybody would come and see what we're about; maybe if they come and see what we're about, then they'll want to join."

Anyone needing more information regarding PBL can contact chapter adviser Robert Blair at 898-2036 or Jenkins at 867-6956.

## Displaying spirit



Steve Purinton/staff  
MTSU's cheerleaders have the MTSU flag behind the Murray State coaching staff right after a MTSU touchdown at Saturday's game.

**ARE YOU WILLING TO GO THE EXTRA MILE? SIDELINES IS LOOKING FOR DEDICATED INDIVIDUALS WHO WILL TAKE PICTURES OR WRITE. IF YOU WANT TO HELP, CALL US AT 898-2337.**

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**MTSU CAMPUS RECREATION**

**FALL '97 INTRAMURAL 6X6 VOLLEYBALL**  
Men's Women's CoRec

Registration: Sept. 29 to Oct. 13 @ Rec Center  
Cap'n's Meeting: October 14 @ Rec Center  
Play Starts: October 20

For more information contact:  
Dave Smith @ 898-2104

## Viewpoint

### Support our football team

Saturday night a number of people turned out to make the MTSU history books. It was our first home game in the partially completed new stadium.

Not every seat was filled, but we did have a good turnout, considering the football team's current record. Around 900 of the 8,700 completed seats remained empty.

In our first home game last season, over 13,000 of the 15,000 seats were filled. In our second home game, a lower number of people came out, but almost 13,000 seats were filled. Then, as records show, our home game attendance dropped drastically; over half the stadium was empty for the rest of the games.

Next Saturday is our Homecoming game, and more seats will be completed. According to attendance records both past and present, we can probably come close to filling those new seats, but then what will happen?

If the home game attendance records are any indication as to what future attendance will be, we are going to be in a world of hurt. Of course, over time we should be able to fill a majority of the seats, but what if attendance continues to be as it was in past years? Are we going to support our team for the first few home games just to abandon them as the season progresses? If we do that, we will not be able to make the transition to Division I-A, and our stadium will be a wasted effort.

Let's not let that happen. We as students can get into these games free, and it is our peers out there on the field competing for the entire school. It only makes sense to support their efforts, even when they are not faring as well as we would like them to.

The majority of the student population seems to disappear sometime on Friday afternoon and return on Sunday evening. Many live close to campus, but outside the Murfreesboro area, and they go home, but it would be nice if once in a while these students would remain on campus for the home games. I'm sure the football team would appreciate looking up in the stands and seeing a very large portion of the student body cheering them on. Who knows? It might even improve their efforts and they may increase the number of wins each season.

We want a winning football team, but we are not willing to support them while they are losing. We only have three more home games this season, so let's get out there and fill that stadium and support our fellow students as they compete with other schools in tough competition.

## Our society labels everything

Trevor Tenpenny  
editor



We live in a society that is in major need of a brand new outlook. The capitalist system that has been created by our government and the people has continuously labeled people so that they no longer have individual identities. Instead, we have to be a part of a class, religious, political, sexual or any other of the numerous systems created by our society.

My question is, why can't we all just be people?

It is bad enough that a class system has been established to represent everyone in America. Whether upper, middle or lower class, we all belong to some class. Now that system has even been expanded to cover three categories in each class. We have upper-upper, upper-middle and upper-lower class, middle-upper, middle-middle and middle-lower class, and lower-upper, lower-middle and lower-lower class. Just what are we trying to say here?

Over the years labels have been placed on everyone in some form or fashion. The class label is bad enough and can cause severe reactions on both the labeler and labelee's part. Of course, no one wants to be a part of any section of the lower class, but the way our economy is set up, we may all be a part of it one day. Right now in our country people are starving and virtually killing themselves, just to feed their families. Still others have so much of what our society feels should be our desire- money- they may never have to work.

Don't you think there is something wrong with a society where many of the hardest workers

are "dirt poor," while many of the "filthy rich" don't work at all?

Class labels are just a start. Any religious organization certainly has its own label. We are labeled by what type of doctrine we choose to follow. Baptist, Catholic, Lutheran, Methodist, you name a religion it carries a label.

Politics also has its labels, whether conservative, liberal, reformer, etc. Like the other systems listed above, politics are labeled.

Then, it goes even further. Skin color or race labeling. First it was strictly a color label, red, black, yellow or white. Then the derogatory terms had to make their entrance which I won't even write down because they disgust me. Now, in this "politically correct" (sic) society we are trying to create, we have found labels which are not supposed to spark controversy. African-American, Hispanic-American, etc., etc., etc.

Sexual labels seem to be of the most controversy today. Whether heterosexual, homosexual, bisexual, etc., there is another label placed. Like the race labels, many of the sexual labels carry derogatory terms also.

Of course, I myself, like everyone in our society, am guilty of using some of these labels from time to time. What I am beginning to realize is this: PEOPLE ARE PEOPLE; which makes these labels unnecessary.

All labels do is create conflict and turmoil between the person or group placing the label and the person or group being labeled.

So why do we do it, other than the fact that we have been taught this way? Well, it is time for a change!!!

No matter what we have been labeled as, we are all individual people with individual beliefs, ideas and personalities.

While you may not always agree with all aspects of everyone else's individual beliefs, ideas or personalities, you have to realize that they are individuals and have every right to their beliefs, ideas and personalities as you yourself do.

After all, in a capitalist, materialistic society, such as the one in the United States, we are all working towards the same goal, whether we like it or not: We need MONEY, MONEY, MONEY to buy THINGS, THINGS, THINGS. If this were not the case, I believe many of the labels above would not even exist in our country.

What is simple to understand and to do is this: Every time you feel destined to label someone substitute people or person for the label. Let me show you how easy it is. Instead of saying: He/she is African-American, or one of the several derogatory terms many feel they need to use; try saying He/she is a PERSON. Don't say that woman/man is homosexual; do say that woman/man is a person. Don't say that group over there is a bunch of liberals; do say that group over there is a bunch of people with individual beliefs, ideas and personalities, and whether I agree with them or not I realize it is their right to express themselves. I could give an example for every label I mentioned above, but do not feel it is necessary.

It is my belief that this labeling process has only backfired on itself and created more discrimination, prejudice and violence in our society. If we as a society want positive change, we need to work together to cease problems such as the label system. Changing the way we have been taught will not be easy, but it can be done. I know this may seem like a difficult task, and many may disagree with what I have said. That is O. K., it is their right. After all, WE ARE JUST PEOPLE.



Sidelines welcomes comments from our readers. However, we ask that, due to space constraints, letters be kept under 300 words.

## Sidelines

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Sidelines is the non-profit, editorially independent student newspaper of Middle Tennessee State University and is published every Wednesday during June and July and Monday and Thursday during the fall and spring semesters. The opinions expressed herein are those of the individual writers and not necessarily 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. EMail 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.

## Gillis appreciates student efforts

Chad Gillis  
feature editor



Sometimes the ingeniousness of the ideas proposed by our student-campus leaders simply awe me.

For one, I thoroughly appreciate the outstanding effort given by the staff at Channel 8. Programming has improved tremendously since my attending MTSU and it's a real comfort to tune in and see authentic works of art such as Creep Show and Ballistic Television.

Rallies for rednecks to go home, Spice Girls on crack, and evil shoguns who manipulate their subjects through a Sega controller; this is good, wholesome, family fun.

Literally, I have turned this channel off due to hysterical laughter. Who in this world of liberals can not appreciate the Adidas

ninjas vs. the Fila clan? It's a beautiful idea, wish it was mine.

I would also like to take this TV-time-out to thank Gregg Mayer for expressing his concern for campus programming. But, I would gladly donate an additional \$1 for the benefit of Channel 8 each semester.

Nic Dugger of Channel 8 has expressed another great idea, for those who may voice concern—see Mayer attacks Channel 8 on page 5. I am one of those hundreds of school-mates who request no complaint without intent to change.

I got into journalism because I hated the medium. Friends suggested that if I felt so strongly about mass media then I should make it a career. A career in journalism!

"The Dawn Tittle Show" is not the best programming available, but what is the alternative—white noise?

While still on commercial break, I would like to express gratitude towards 88.3—a 100% fat-free, USDA approved, lip smackin', fire crackin' example of what radio

should be.

WMOT is the best radio station I have had complete, 24 hour access to—in this life anyway. No radio format is as flexible and commercial free as the college format, and programming "college radio" around the clock was desperately needed.

It all boils down to the most wonderful idea of modern times—freedom of choice. There are marvels of technology called a remote control. Programming I do not enjoy I choose not to watch.

That same ideology goes for radio, films, books, art and newspapers. This is America. We pride ourselves on expression, and sometimes our opinions conflict. But as the popular slogan goes, every one of those opinions stink.

If only MTSU as a whole could improve as much, in as little time, as Channel 8 and WMOT our World would be Brave and New. Anyone with suggestions, concerns, love advice or business opportunities for "Sidelines" please contact me at 898-2816.

## Returning students face gauntlet daily

□ Nina West/cps

Excuse me while I try to focus my eyes. I am returning to school after eight years and I must say, it is slightly overwhelming.

For one thing, I didn't have two young children back in 1989 and for another, well, I'm older. School didn't start for my children until my second week of school. I spent \$50 for baby-sitters the first week and stretched the good graces of three kind friends to the limit. Then when they did start school, it was a matter of getting them settled into a new school and quelling all the fears that go with it.

I watched them bravely march off behind other children, in tears because they wanted to go home.

During the first two weeks I have been reintroduced to the parking situation here on campus. Circling from lot to lot, driving up and down lanes. Following returning students like a shark, hoping to devour their space. I parked at meters with one hour limits, running

back out to feed them four quarters every hour.

I have parked in a far lot, waiting 25 minutes for a bus to drive me back at the end of a very long, very hot day. I have parked on a nearby boulevard, moving my car every two hours.

The first day of school in my 9 a.m. journalism class, editors were assigning stories due at 3 p.m. the same day. My heart started pounding. It's been eight years since I have written anything and I began to question my sanity in deciding to return.

My second class was more of the same; assignments and deadlines. Third class second day, my confidence and attitude were drooping. I realized it really wasn't too late to drop the whole package. I would lose some money but I would gain my freedom and could reenter sanity. Somehow this was a calming thought.

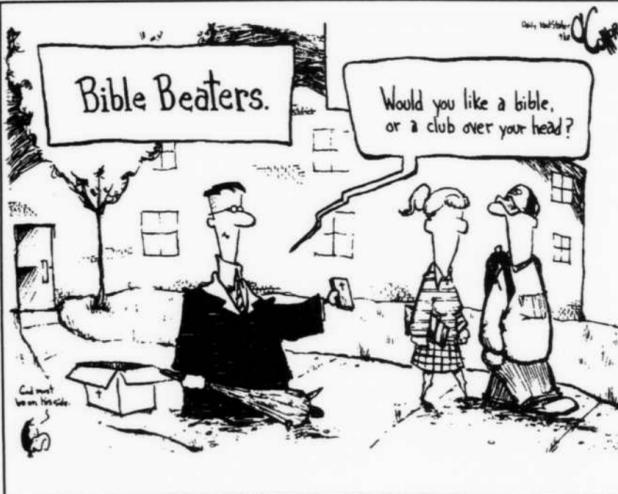
I spent so much time and money for baby-sitters, circling parking lots, feeding meters, writing stories, calling for interviews,

running to the bookstore, learning the computers - all to turn around and pick up kids, cook dinner, clean, baths and bedtime. Not to mention a husband who wants attention, smatterings of car trouble, friends moving, DMV and dentists appointments and lots of pets.

There are so many obstacles to physically getting to a class. I hear bands play in my head when I am on time because I actually made it. But teachers have no idea the rivers you swim to attend class with assignments in hand.

They don't hear the bands, they hear your feet walking in late and choose that moment to remind students to be on time. Four more classes and I should be able to graduate. I keep saying to myself, "One foot in front of the other." This is baptism by fire. I feel stronger and smarter already.

Employers don't hire college graduates because they know more, they hire them because they have endurance and perseverance, so keep going. I expect to see all of you cross the finish line.





# From the Mailbox

## The 1st Amendment:

Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble and to petition the government for a redress of grievances.

### Lambda creates change

To the editor,

Recently, Jennifer B. Anderson wrote an interesting, yet somewhat disturbing letter concerning "the plight of the Lambda Association." She stated, "I am not the least bit interested in reading anything more about Lambda whether it be written on the sidewalk, written in the paper, or written on my car windshield in blood." I sincerely doubt she wouldn't be interested if someone wrote anything in blood on her car windshield, even if it concerned Lambda.

Surely you understand Jennifer that students of this university have every right to express their opinions freely and openly. One such avenue for this is our school paper. No one forces you to read anything about Lambda, just as no one forces you to eat. So, if your upset about us expressing our opinions in "Sidelines," simply do not read them.

Since I transferred here in the Spring of '96, there has been an article or opinion about Lambda each week in "Sidelines." Lambda has a voice and is not afraid to use it. Which is more than I can say for most groups and individuals in this day and age.

Lambda, as you are well aware, is about creating change. The group acts in part to put an end of ignorance and to support those in the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered community. The group also acts as a network for LGBT students nationwide to exchange ideas and opinions for the proliferation of Gay Rights. "There is nothing more fascinating to me than my orgasm, and nothing less fascinating to me than your orgasm," Jennifer wrote. I must confess that this statement should be kept to yourself. I have never seen any article written by a member or supporter of Lambda discussing their orgasms, or what they do in the privacy of their bedroom. And, I feel that such a comment is very inappropriate for a college student to place in the school paper. But you are right, we should all have freedom of speech. Oh, except Lambda, that is. Jennifer wrote, "I only want to take away your freedom of speech because you have abused your privilege."

Jennifer, I assure you that members and supporters of Lambda will not stop

writing their opinions as long as there is ignorance concerning LGBT persons. We will continue to act out, speak up and be seen until the time we can truly say that there is no discrimination based on sexual orientation. If you wish to take away our freedom of speech, good luck. You will not be the first person who has tried to silence a voice, and we will not be silenced!

Furthermore, I would like to take this time to request that all students, gay, lesbian, straight, bisexual and transgendered, who feel we need a non-discrimination policy which includes sexual orientation, to join with Lambda in its efforts to demand such a policy from our university. May we all seek truth, enlightenment and love.

Sincerely,  
Eric J. Bradford

### Academics low priority

To the editor,

The priorities of this university are laughable. We are spending truckloads of money to construct a new football field when we can't fill the seats in the old one. We built a fancy business building complete with plush chairs and shiny erasable boards while humanities students sit in hard wooden desks, and our professors write with—can you imagine—chalk! Recently, the university has decided to waste even more time and money by considering changing our name the University of Middle Tennessee and our mascot to some ridiculous Pegasus-like creature in an effort to improve our school's image.

If MTSU wants to attain a more prestigious reputation, the solution is not a name change. This is a misdirection of our efforts. Instead, we should concentrate on improving our academic programs and increasing our admissions standards. Also, judging by the editorials printed in this publication, might I suggest we allocate some money for a required course in spelling? In short, we should build MTSU's name on academics, not diction. The name of our school is irrelevant as long as one can open the university paper and read editorials with egregious errors in writing mechanics. The overall absence of student

knowledge, and apparent apathy regarding this situation, is the source of MTSU's lack of prestige—not its name.

Call me old-fashioned, but college should not be about athletics, aesthetics, or mythical winged horses. The time of students and administrators alike would be better spent improving the intellect of everyone associated with the university. Now that I have had my say, I will go and do something—something incredibly innovative—STUDY! If everyone else follows my lead, our school's reputation will magically improve on its own.

Lori L. Kersey

### "Sidelines," or "Mein Kampf"

To the editor,

This letter addresses the ridiculous excuses made up by the school administration in regards to "renovating" the dorms. I'd like to blow the whistle on the administration using "Sidelines" as their personal propaganda tool. Why don't we just call the school paper, "Mein Kampf!!!"

The word RENOVATION sounds like we're adding hot tubs to the rooms?!? The buildings aren't even up to code!!! If MTSU was a private entity it would be SUED IN COURT for the way it upkeeps its buildings.

I was an RA for housing one semester, and I'll tell you what I saw:

1. Work orders I turned in were IGNORED. They did not make many of the repairs needed.
2. One day while a so-called "maintenance man" was working on some plumbing, (people were getting scalded in the shower!!!) A lawsuit waiting to happen!!! And I asked him a question about it. He said, "Oh I don't know, I'm not a plumber!!! MTSU has people working on plumbing who aren't even plumbers!!! No license, NOTHING!!! Is that even legal?"

I question whether these REPAIRS (a more accurate term than renovation) for the dilapidated dorms cost \$45 million. LET'S SEE THE BOOKS. There are plenty of LICENSED handymen in just

around Murfreesboro who would do the job for a lot less than \$45 million!!!

Wages are so low here, I'm sure we could get a better deal!!! We don't need "THE OLD BOY NETWORK" typical government contractor to fleece our funds. This is a scam!!!

What are you going to do about it? Are you going to "Sidelines" going to be the politically correct oppressors of people's minds? So far you have been the stooge of the administration. Will you get fired if you print what needs to be said? There needs to be a law against this if you will get fired. Oh yes, there is, it's called the 2nd amendment to the Constitution (sic). Start filing lawsuits. Amend the paper's charter if you need to. Do it. Do the right thing.

Jeremy Shaffer

### Mayer attacks Channel 8

To the editor,

Well, it has happened again. Yet another closed minded, un-informed member of the MTSU student populous is at it again. This time Mr. Gregg Mayer has chosen to attack, among other things, MTSU's Channel 8.

I don't even know where to start. I suppose I should just make a general announcement to all students who are of the same mindset and attitude of Mr. Mayer: Channel 8 is composed of a large group of dedicated students who try very hard to put together TV programming for the good of all Murfreesboro and get nothing for it. That is right—no paychecks, no scholarships, no class credit—we do it because we love it.

Now I know from past letters in our beloved "Sidelines," that not everyone on campus understands Channel 8. They seem to be under the impression that we are all professional cable-casters with years of experience under our belt, whose job it is to slave away for hours every day in the bowels of the LRC for the entertainment of the 18,000 sum odd students herd. That is not the case. I, like dozens of other students, are just taking the opportunity to learn a little about what we may become in our future occupations.

And, I believe that even your television, or idiot box—Mr. Mayer, comes equipped with an amazing new device. The channel selector works wonders for people like you. I am sorry, but yes Channel 8 will probably not win any of the Emmys we were nominated for, but at least we are trying.

I have been at Channel 8 for a while, and I have noticed one thing—no Gregg Mayer!!! The boy wonder who can complain about everything and everybody on campus—yet do NOTHING about it!

I know how hard my friend Dawn Tittle works on her show, as well as the other hundred or so people you slammed. I would like to think that if you did not like something about MTSU you would make an effort to change it. After all—are we not all on the same team here? Do we not have any school spirit, Gregg? But somehow I know you will never grace us with your presence at Channel 8—so I suppose, for me, there is a good side to this after all.

In the future Mr. Mayer I, and hundreds of your school-mates, request that you do not complain about things you do not intend to change. If you are interested in helping out at Channel 8—like any student can—you can always contact me, and I will gladly tell you where your help is needed. If not, I hear there is a staff writer position open at the campus paper on the Austin Peay campus— I have directions to the campus, if you need them.

Nic Dugger

### Change not up to students

To the editor,

It seems to have become an accepted truism that the MTSU student body is apathetic. "Sidelines," the faculty and administration then chant the mantra, alternately. I object strenuously to this characterization.

Why is it important that the students vote for a homecoming queen? Why is it important that we vote on a student senate that holds no real power? Does anybody in his right mind really think that decisions such as to change or not change our school's name, logo, mascot, or

(heaven help us) whether or not to build a new stadium will be made by the students? Why is it important that people show up for a "town hall meeting" to whine about a parking problem which does or doesn't exist, depending on whom you talk to? Is the idea to make us feel more "empowered" or just to "initiate a positive dialogue?"

Most people understand the futility of such a meeting intuitively. By contrast, please note the very decent attendance at President Walker's annual dorm meetings, which regularly effect real change. People aren't stupid.

If only a fraction of 18,000+ people care to vote for an issue that has no real effect upon them, is it really important in the first place?

Also, I would question just how apathetic a student is when that person holds a job and mortgages herself into the next century to finance college, as many of our "apathetic" students do. Perhaps the real accusation that should be levied against the student body is not apathy but rather good sense. Given a finite amount of time, money and resources, only an idiot gets exercised about such pressing issues as to which sorority gets to boast the homecoming queen.

Or ranting about those who don't.

Mark T. Gibson

### Freshmen not informed

To the editor,

Just a quick note in response to your editorial and article about the freshmen candidates. I would like to know how the freshmen knew to apply for those positions. There has been no coverage in the "Sidelines" instructing or encouraging them to do so. I teach two sections of University 101 and not one passed any information to me to disseminate. Seems that the real problem is the fact that "Sidelines" does not fulfill its mission of instructing the university campus of events, but rather relies on bemoaning the apathy of non-involvement.

Melinda Johnson Lickiss

## PETITION TO RECOGNIZE THE REFORM PARTY AS A STATEWIDE POLITICAL PARTY

WE, THE UNDERSIGNED REGISTERED, QUALIFIED VOTERS OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE AND RESIDENTS OF \_\_\_\_\_ COUNTY, petition the State of Tennessee for recognition of the REFORM PARTY as a statewide political party whose name is to be placed on the ballot as a political party in the State of Tennessee. Tennessee Code Annotated § 2-1-104 (a) (29)

Signature	Printed Name	Residence/Street as on voter registration card	City, Zip	Telephone
1.				
2.				
3.				
4.				
5.				

One of the most important issues to those in the Reform Party is the promotion of the American Dream. Unfortunately, most of recent job creation has been in the lower-paying retail and service sectors of our economy. College students are graduating and, in many cases, finding the only opportunities available to them are the same low-paying part time jobs they held to pay for college. This just isn't right and, in our opinion, is a crime against the American people. Prospects are even darker in Tennessee than the rest of the nation. In one year, from 1995 to 1996, Tennessee went from 8th place to 41st in the nation in job growth. The state was next to last in manufacturing job growth - losing over 17,000 manufacturing jobs in a single year of NAFTA.

To make matters worse, special interests do not want these concerns raised. Tennessee law prohibits the Reform Party from even running candidates without collecting tens of thousands of signatures from voters registered\*\* in the State of Tennessee! We need your help now to gain us an equal voice in Tennessee politics so we can force a discussion on important issues. A few minutes of your time would go a very long way toward providing us more choices in 1998 and beyond. You don't have to support our party or vote for our candidates to sign this petition or appreciate its importance. Show them what's right. Tell them they have no right to tell you who you can and can't vote for. Please sign - have your friends and family sign - and mail back our petition ASAP !!!

And please consider calling 615 - 2 - REFORM today and volunteering to help the petition drive succeed. We'll find you something to do that you will enjoy even while you are promoting democracy in Tennessee. Or you can call our Rutherford county coordinator, Kathy Clark, at 895-5621.

1. Sign the petition. Make certain your address is the same as it appears on your voter registration card.
2. Anybody that is registered to vote in Tennessee may sign the petition. Ask your immediate family to sign it. Ask the people you work with to sign it. Every signature is needed and welcome. Try not to mix counties on a page (ie. make copies).
3. Send the completed petition to TNRP, in care of Kathy Clark, P.O. Box 5058, Murfreesboro, TN 37133. For more blank petitions or for more information about the Tennessee Reform Party and what views it would express (if given the chance) visit our website at <http://www.geocities.com/~tnrp> or call 615 - 2 - REFORM.

\*\*You must be registered to vote in the State of Tennessee to sign the petition. If you would like to sign the petition but are not registered, please call 615 - 2 - REFORM and we will help you to get registered. It's quite easy.

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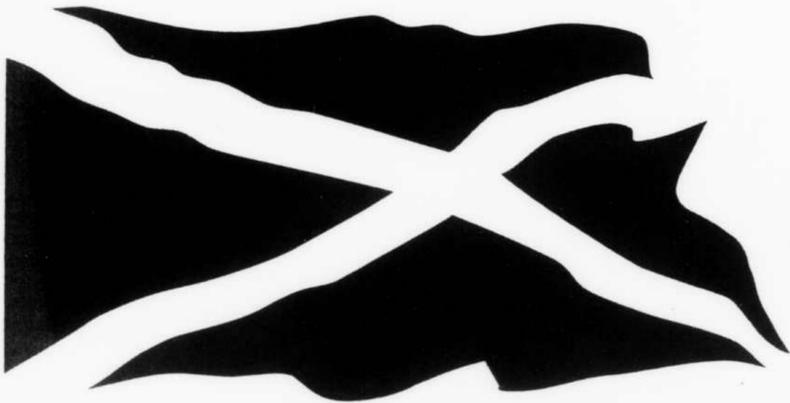
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## If it isn't Scottish ... It's Crap!!



□ Chad Gillis/staff

Men come ready to get your knees felt by a panel of judges.

Women bring a sack lunch and be willing to toss it.

The Second Annual Heart of Tennessee Scottish Celebration brings a host of historic activities and games to the intramural fields of MTSU.

Over the weekend, an expected crowd of 10,000 will participate in and witness events such as dance demonstrations,

athletic competitions, pipe band competitions, herding demonstrations, a British car show, battle axe tossing and clan tents.

Of all events, the Hags Hurl may have the most potential.

"It's derived from when men worked in the fields," John Mauldin, president of the celebration explains. "The women would bring sack lunches out to the fields, yell, and toss the lunch to the men." The idea is for female competitors to shout to their male partner and toss them a sacked lunch, while standing on a platform.

Men sporting kilts will have the opportunity Saturday to participate in Bonniest Knees. A panel of female judges will be blind folded and asked to feel each pair of competitive knees, in order to determine which pair is the most attractive.

Amongst the local talent pool: Kentucky native Alan Miller will present a herding demonstration with his dogs, sheep and ducks at 10 in the morning and 1:30 Saturday afternoon, Faye McKnight of

Murfreesboro will conduct a Scottish dog parade, Larry Long, Scottish historian from Tennessee, will present a show of Scottish fashions past and present, and Woodbury native Todd Baxter will bring a hosts of Highland farm animals.

Grounds open at 8:30 Saturday morning for game day. Nine professional athletes and a number of amateurs will compete in events throughout the day. Putting the stone is one of the many competitions scheduled.

It's similar to to the Olympic shot put, only a

various clans—the basic cultural and military unit of society. Each clan had a chieftain figure who would hold athletic competitions to determine the individual abilities of his warriors.

These games are extremely popular in the area. It's because of historic connection according to Mauldin. Scottish and Scot-Irish people were instrumental in settling Middle Tennessee and much of the Southeastern United States.

Featured music includes the Scottish recording artist Alex Beaton. The Glasgow, Scotland native has a musical resume covering over 30 years. Beaton served as lead singer with the 3rd US Army Soldiers Show and later the 7th US Army Chorus in Heidelberg, Germany. Nashville Pipe and Drums, Lovat-Cameron Pipe and Drums, Louisville Pipe and Drums, Chattanooga Pipe and Drums, Knoxville Pipe and Drums, Lyons College Pipe and Drums and Seven Nations will be performing as well. The evening will close with Secret Commonwealth at The 'Boro Saturday night.

Organizers anticipate that 75 family clans and societies will attend over the weekend. Many of the clans will pitch tents and give exhibitions and historical speeches on their family trees.

There will also be a variety of vendors selling everything from traditional Scottish foods to jewelry and pewter items. Ada Langley will make minor, on the spot kilt alterations. Genealogist Beth Gay, editor of The Family Tree Newsletter, will hold a seminar Friday afternoon at the Holiday Inn Holidome. She will also be in her tent all day Saturday with information on the genealogy at Odum Library in Moultrie Georgia.

The Second Annual Heart of Tennessee Scottish Celebration begins at 2 p.m. at the Holiday Inn and

### Scotland



smooth rounded stone, weighing over 17 pounds, is used instead of a steel ball. Weight toss for distance, weight toss for height, the caber toss and the sheaf toss round out the list. The sheaf toss consists of 16 pound sheaf of hay, enclosed in a burlap bag, being tossed with a three-tined pitchfork over a bar. Each competitor is given three opportunities, one of which must clear the bar without touching it. After each athlete has tossed, the bar is raised 6 inches. The game continues in the manner until all but one is eliminated.

Competitions such as this are traditions of the Highland Game, dating back more than a thousand years. The Scottish Highlands of the time were ruled by



photo provided

MTSU will host The Second Annual Heart of Tennessee Scottish Celebration this weekend.

continue through a Sunday noon luncheon.

In 1745 the English outlawed Scottish customs such as playing bagpipes, wearing of the kilt and Highland dancing. For 36 years many Scots defied laws suppressing their culture until the Highland Games was lawfully revived in 1781.

Admission for Saturday's games is \$7 for adults and \$3 for children ages 3-12. The piping, drumming, Highland dance, athletic competitions and demonstrations begin at 9 in the morning and continue throughout the day. Welcoming ceremonies, including massed bands and the parade of tartans, will

take place at noon. Closing ceremonies take place at 5:30 Saturday evening, including awards and presentations.

For more information contact John and Sandra Mauldin at 848-9193.

## The Events

### Friday, Oct. 3 – Holiday Inn Holidome

2 p.m. – Discussion of recent Scottish devolution vote led by MTSU History Professor, Dr. Jerry Brookshire.

3 p.m. – Introduction to the Gaelic language

4 p.m. – Genealogy with Beth Gay of Odum Library, Moultrie, Ga.

The Friday seminars are free and open to the public.

### Saturday, Oct. 4 – MTSU Campus

9 a.m. – Grounds open to public

9:30 a.m. - noon – Individual Piping, Individual Drumming, Highland Dance and Athletic competitions

10 - 10:30 a.m. – Herding Demonstration

10:45 - 11:30 a.m. – Scottish Dog Parade

10:30 - 11 a.m. – Country Dance Demonstration

11:30 a.m. - noon – Country Dance Demonstration

Noon - 12:30 p.m. – Welcoming Ceremony: Massed Bands, Parade of Tartans, Flowers of the Forest Memorial

1 p.m. - Conclusion – Athletic and Highland Dance competitions

1:30 - 2 p.m. – Country Dance Demonstration, Herding Demonstration

3 - 3:30 p.m. – Country Dance Demonstration

2 p.m. - Conclusion – Pipe Band Competition

3:30 - 4 p.m. – Herding demonstration

4 - 4:30 p.m. – Country Dance Demonstration

5:30 p.m. – Closing Ceremony: Massed Bands, Presentation of Awards, Auld Lang Syne Circle

Saturday's events are \$7 for adult admission, \$3 for Children 3-12

# Keeping Jerry alive

□ Trevor Tenpenny/staff

The stage lights cast a subtle glow about the room with their hues of green, red, orange, purple and yellow. The fragrant smell of various body oils mixed with sweat emanates throughout

328 Performance Hall located at 328 4th Avenue, South, in Nashville. Familiar faces adorn the crowd as many MTSU students have come out to see both The Dead Set and The Jerry Garcia Band. The stage in the middle of the room is packed with all sorts of instruments and seven band members. The Dead Set is about halfway through their performance and the crowd is hypnotized by the music. People dance both slow and fast and many seem to be in a trance, captivated by the magical sounds of this popular band.

Created about a year ago, The Dead Set, influenced by the Grateful Dead themselves, presents a wide variety of music to its ecstatic audience. Tied-dyed T-shirts and Birkenstock sandals or barefeet are the predominant attire among the crowd, and the room is alive with energy.

As the band continues to play, I myself become captivated by their music and begin to dance.

The Dead Set originated in October of 1992 and performed three shows before their demise. This didn't stop original member Byron House in his pursuit to entertain both old and young alike and five years after the original band parted ways, the new band members are eager to please. Members include Rick "Earth" Plant and John Kearns on guitar,

Michael Webb on keyboards, Chris Brown and Jeff Marino, each with his own set of drums, Liz Hodder, vocals and percussion, and House who sings and plays bass—this particular show Dennis Wage is a guest on the keyboards.

With familiar tunes such as "Box of Rain," The Dead Set keeps their audience coming back for more. Like The Grateful Dead, The Dead Set collects their music from a variety of genres, explained House. I was reminded of music from bluegrass, jazz, rock-n-roll, classical and even country/western as the band performed their ear pleasing smorgasbord of tunes. Toward the end of their set the band blew the crowd away with "Mr. Charlie." Not a person in the room was standing still during this song. Everyone was catching the beat and it showed in their individual dances. Those who missed The Dead Set and wish to view a performance will be pleased to know that they will be present at the Exit/In in Nashville Oct. 2, 9, 16 and 24, as well as several dates in November. Students unable to make it to these shows can catch the band Oct. 11 at 527 Mainstreet in the 'Boro. This is a band that you will not want to miss.

The crowd begins to settle as The Dead Set makes their exit from the stage. Many plop down on the floor because there are no chairs in the room, resting their feet for The Jerry Garcia Band, who is sure to get them jumping.

Fifteen minutes pass and the crowd, becoming antsy, begins to collect around the stage. In what seems to be anxious

anticipation the crowd awaits the arrival of the musical masterpieces of "JGB."

Although Jerry Garcia has passed on, he is kept alive, at least in spirit, by bands such as JGB and The Dead Set, and a devastating amount of followers of all ages, still known to many as "Dead Heads."

The audience goes crazy as JGB takes the stage. For those of you not familiar with JGB, they were started in the mid-seventies with original members Jerry Garcia on guitar and vocals, Melvin Seals on keyboard and organ, Jackie LaBranch with background vocals, Gloria Jones shaking tambourines, John Kahn on bass and David Kemper on drums. This show included Seals, LaBranch, Jones and several guests.

Opening the show with the Grateful Dead original "Shake Down Street," they sent the crowd into a frenzy.

Bourbon Street Jazz, Beale Street Blues, rock-n-roll and even chords from what seemed like old-time gospel music were mixed together and pushed out to the audience. Once again everyone was dancing. Three songs into their set the band takes a break from the stage, only to return to a screaming crowd who continue their trance-like dances to the rambunctious rhythms of the Jerry Garcia Band. A female fan approaches the stage and hands the lead singer a bouquet of bright yellow flowers, and several fans in the audience throw pink carnations to the front of the room, hoping they



Krista Kasper/staff

The Jerry Garcia Band treats the crowd of 328 Performance Hall to a look back in time.

will make it to the stage. The songs of this band are long and mixed with a variety of solos. Each band member seemed to have their turn at a solo. The best of these had to be when the bass player "went off" with his mesmerizing solo that seemed to last an eternity.

The band put on an excellent performance of its song "Don't Let Go," which was just like the old days (well, minus Jerry). Other songs covered by the JGB included "Tangled Up in Blue," and "Knockin' on Heaven's Door." They also pleased the crowd by performing the Grateful

Dead original of "Fire on the Mountain." Sweat dripping from their bodies, the audience continues their rhythmic dances, and many seem unaware of their surroundings, they are too caught up in the music.

Breaking out with "My Sisters and Brothers," JGB reminds everyone, "We can all be together forever and ever if we make it to the promised land." On the same note, the band went right into the ever-familiar gospel song "Will the Circle Be Unbroken."

While JGB did disappoint some avid fans by not performing the loved

JGB classic "Rubin and Cherise," no one went away without a smile on their face and a song in their heart.

Closing the show with another JGB original, "Deal," which turned out to be a long jam session, the band left the stage with one hell of a round of applause.

Anyone wishing to see two of the best performances they have ever seen are strongly urged to attend a show by either of these bands. I promise, you will not be disappointed.

★★★★★

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3 Year	4/1423	4/566	3/1473	5/274	5/1423	5/1423
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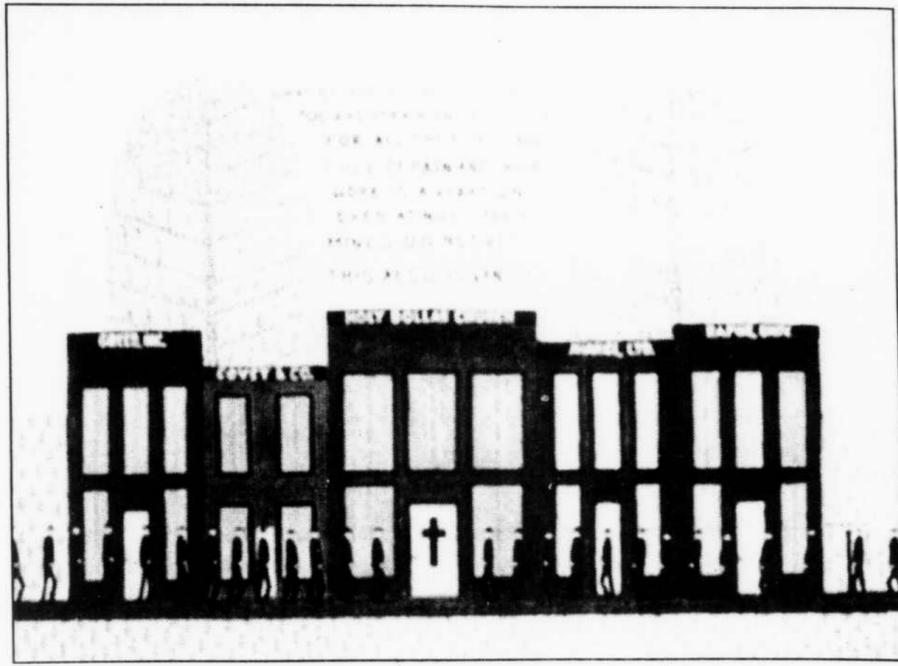
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**Insider/Outsider Art**

Right: Artwork by Bob Short. The exhibit, titled, *Insider/Outsider Art* will open October 1 in the MTSU Barn Gallery. Artist reception will take place at 4 p.m. on Wednesday. Gallery hours are from 8 a.m. through 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. Exhibitions are free and open to the public. For more information call 898-5653.



**Internet recipe nearly kills liqueur fan**

□ UPI

Doctors say a man picked up an Internet recipe for a fabled liqueur that has been banned since World War I and got more than a taste of early-century bohemian life. He also got a trip to the emergency room and a brush with death.

In the New England Journal of Medicine, doctors report on treating a man who developed acute kidney failure after drinking the oil of wormwood plant extract is a key ingredient in the blue-green liqueur absinthe.

The drink, a favorite of Van Gogh and other luminaries, was banned in France in 1915, and later throughout most of the world, because it causes insanity. But eight decades later, the recipe appears on a Web site entitled, "What is Absinthe?"

Doctors, from George Washington University Medical Center, in Washington, D.C., say the patient got the recipe, then purchased the wormwood ingredient through a Web site that sells aromatherapies.

Kidney specialist Dr. Paul Kimmel says the case shows that the Internet can be a medical minefield.

**The Band of Blue**



Steve Purinton/star

MTSU's Band of Blue soothes the halftime crowd Saturday with hits from the 1970s and 80s.

To present ideas worthy of publication contact the features desk at 898-2816.

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## 2-MIN. DRILL!



### SOCCER

In just their second year the Lady Raider soccer team is already off to a good start.

The Raiders defeated Troy State Saturday at Riverdale High School to improve their record to 5-1-2.

For the Raiders, Saturday's win comes on the heels of 3-0 shutout over Tennessee Tech that was played during Wednesday afternoon's rain storm.

"We spread the ball around quite well. We're not putting it away as much as we should when we have the ball in front of the goal, but overall I was very pleased with the way the girls played," head coach Colette Gilligan said.

### GRAND SLAM AUCTION

The annual Grand Slam Auction benefitting MTSU baseball will be held Monday, Oct. 27 at the Tennessee Livestock Center on the campus of MTSU.

An all-you-can-eat Fish Fry and Cajun Gumbo will start at 6 p.m. with the auction beginning at 7 p.m.

Ticket prices are \$10 for adults in advance and \$12 at the door. Children under 6 will be admitted free of charge. Tickets can be purchased at Crosslin Supply (Smyrna), Vick's Outdoor Power, Murphy Center Ticket Office or by calling 898-2984 or 898-2926.

Live entertainment will be provided by the Jack Daniels Blue Grass Band.

### OVC BASEBALL RINGS

The Blue Raider baseball team will receive their 1997 Ohio Valley Conference championship rings at a ceremony Oct. 25 during the halftime of the Raiders football game against Southeast Missouri.

### VOLLEYBALL

Tomorrow night the Lady Raider volleyball team will host their second home match of the season, their first in the Murphy Center.

The Raiders take on Austin Peay at 7 p.m. Last year the Raiders split the two meetings with the Governors winning the first battle three sets to two on the road before falling to them in straight sets later that season at home.

This year the Raiders have played inconsistently and have yet to pick up a win against any opponent with a better than .500 record.

### FOOTBALL

For the second straight week Raider quarterback Jonathon Quinn tied a passing record that had been held by former Raider Kelly Holcomb, who now plays in the NFL for the Indianapolis Colts.

Quinn passed for 248-yards Saturday against Murray State. It was the eighth-straight game Quinn has passed for over 200-yards, tying a record held by Holcomb.

Last week Quinn tied Holcomb's record of 46 passing attempts in a single game, when he was 25-46 for 290-yards. His 25 completions is a career high for Quinn.

### INFOBEAT

The Denver-based firm Infobeat, Inc. is offering free sports information via e-mail.

Anyone interested in receiving information such as score updates, standings, injury reports and college rankings may contact Infobeat at <http://www.infobeat.com> to request their own personalized information update.

The service is free to anyone at anytime.

### SOFTBALL TRYOUTS

The Lady Raider softball team will be holding tryouts for their upcoming season which begins Feb. 21, 1998, against Samford in Birmingham, Ala.

Interested women may contact head coach Karen Green at 898-5018.

### GAME TICKETS ON SALE

Tickets for the Blue Raiders home opener against Murray State are now on sale at the Athletic Ticket Center, located in Murphy Center, as well as at the Keathley University Center Box Office.

# Raiders miss another chance

□ Keith Ryan Cartwright/staff

For the third game in a row, mistakes prevented the Blue Raider football team from winning their first game of the season.

The Raiders (0-3) fell to the Murray State Racers 35-17 in an Ohio Valley Conference matchup Saturday at Jones Field.

"Overall we fought hard but what the heck, after a while that gets a little old," Raider head coach Boots Donnelly said.

"We've had some chances but you have to make the plays."

In the third quarter the Raiders put themselves in a position to tie as quarterback Jonathon Quinn drove the team down field.

Quinn came out passing on the drive, hitting Sulecio Sanford and Gary Davis on three straight passing plays to move the Raiders to the Racers 40 before being hit with a 12-yard holding penalty.

Sanford then caught his second pass of the drive for a 23-yard gain. Unfortunately, the Racers stalled the Raiders and they had to settle for a Keegan Ray 25-yard field goal that made the score 21-17.

"We have to make to make plays," Donnelly said. "To be as honest as I can, we have to make plays when they present themselves. Whether it be offensively or defensively."

It was, however, the first time this season that the offense failed to give the Raiders a consistent effort. Quinn entered Saturday's contest 48 of 92 in the passing department but was just nine of 15 in the first half against the Racers.

To add to the lack of offensive output, the Raiders had gained just 32-yards rushing in the first half and finished the game with only 59.

"Lebrian [McGill] doesn't usually



Angela K. Skala/staff

It was a long day for Jonathon Quinn who was sacked three times and threw four interceptions against the Murray State Racers.

have bad ball games but he has had better ones," Donnelly said. "I haven't been pleased with either running back running down hill."

"Truthfully, I thought both of them [McGill and Kelverick Green] picked it up a little bit tonight. I don't give a flip who it is."

McGill carried the ball 13 times for 58 yards and one touchdown. His score was a 4-yard rush up the middle

to cut the Racer's lead in half at 14-7. McGill also had a 19-yard gain earlier in the drive. His longest carry of the game was a 28-yard run which helped set up a 65-yard pass to Sanford to tie the game at 14 apiece early in third quarter.

"We got controlled by their defensive line in the running game," Donnelly said. "We need to do something with [the ball] after [we

catch it] and I think Sulecio can do that for us."

Sanford caught seven Quinn passes for 136 yards. The Raiders were hurt by Quinn's four interceptions and the offensive line's inability to protect him in the pocket, which resulted in three sacks for a

Please see RAIDERS, page 10

## Women want to scrum for Middle Tennessee

### With the men's rugby team on a winning streak, women want their own team

□ David Landry/staff

Rugby has transcended to new levels over the past three years at MTSU.

While the men's club has won the Mid-South championship for the last two years, the women's club is making their debut this year.

"We are really excited about the new women's rugby team. We talked about it for years and years, and it looks like now it's a reality," head coach Mark Williams said.

"We have a lot of promising players who are inexperienced, but they have played in other competitive sports," women's coach Doug Wolf said.

Conversely, the men's rugby club was founded in 1980. However, the club was not competitive until the mid-eighties when the alumni association began contributing funds.

Although the men's team is young this year, they have displayed remarkable talent. Already they have swept Southern Illinois University 20-5 and 46-10.

"This is the best group of young men the club has ever seen in its seventeen-year history," second team coach Robert Keith said.

Head coach Mark Williams initially thought that this year would be a rebuilding season because six seniors had graduated last year, but now his team has demonstrated that they are championship caliber.

The club has gained support from some of their experienced players. Mike Deguire, who scored two tries against SIU, is expected to have a big season. Wes Barnes, president of the club, has secured the important position of fly half. In addition, Todd Shorter has done well adjusting to his new position.

Rugby is fast-growing, but, it's

relatively new when it comes to women's competition.

The Lady Raider's club, likewise, is in the process of establishing a stable, experienced team with a quality officer corp. There has been a lot of interest in the club; they have 44 members.

"The girls have been enthusiastic, and shown a lot of willingness to learn. It means a lot; it's like a battle, really," Williams said.

The women have already played an informal scrimmage against Vanderbilt to acquire a mindset for the game. The Lady Raiders will commence their inaugural season with seven games. Vanderbilt and Western Kentucky are among their opponents.

Williams invites everyone to be a part of the rugby team. The MTSU team is organized into two divisions—the A side and the B side.

"The thing about rugby is that there is a position out there for everybody. It is not really about trying out, it is about you're going to come out, and you're going to play," Williams said.

"The key to a successful program is having a B-side so that next year, and as the years pass on, the players on the A-side that have graduated will be replaced by guys with experience that can fill the gaps."

This year is shaping up to be a season of opportunity for the MTSU rugby team. From October 6-9, George Hook, the U.S. National Technical Director of Rugby and the former head coach of the Ireland rugby team, will be at MTSU to assist the men's and women's teams in coaching and playing techniques.

On October 7, Lance Houia, the coach of the men's Division I Chicago Griffins, will be instructing the women on his New Zealand style rugby techniques.

Both the men's and the women's teams are scheduled to play their next home match October 4 at the intramural fields. The men will take on Jacksonville State while the women go up against the Stone Lion Women's Rugby Club.

Later, the men will compete in the Mid-South Tournament at Huntsville against Alabama and LSU on October 18.

If you would like more information, call Barnes at 849-4073, or Wolf at 849-3619.

## Vitamins and minerals very important to diet

### Stay Fit

Jennie Treadway



We recognize milk for its calcium and vitamin D and always hear that bananas are filled with potassium. Carrots and spinach give us beta-carotene and vitamin A, while vitamin E is found in various oils and shrimp. We ate Flintstones vitamins when we were kids and some of us still buy the multi-vitamins from the grocery store today. For those of you who do, congratulations. You may live longer than the rest of us.

The best way to get the essential vitamins and minerals your body

needs to function is by eating the right foods. By sticking with the Food Guide Pyramid and complying with the Recommended Daily Allowances (RDAs) of each food group, your body will get what nutrients it needs to grow and maintain itself. With the right amount of vitamins and minerals, along with the other nutritional benefits from food, your body is more efficient and able to ward off sickness.

There is no doubt that food provides the best nutrients for our bodies. However, some people need a little extra in their diet than others and can get it through supplements. Pregnant women, for example, need extra iron and calcium to aid in proper fetal growth. Older people can benefit from extra vitamin D and phosphorus to keep their bones healthy and zinc to boost their immune system.

Strict vegetarians lack vitamin B-12 since it is prevalent in meats and fish, so a supplement might be a good choice. Extra calcium, zinc and iron, also found in meat foods, might benefit vegetarians if their diet is centered solely around fruits, vegetables and grains.

Many take the need for vitamins and minerals for granted and do it unknowingly. We may have heard about niacin and riboflavin, but what exactly does it do for us? With over 25 major vitamins and minerals to keep up with, there is definitely room to get confused. We need vitamins A, C and K, but why?

Vitamins are segregated not only by their source and benefits but by their solubility: fat versus water. The fat soluble vitamins, A, D, E and K, are digested by our body's fat cells. Taken in excess, they are stored in our fatty deposits. The B and C vitamins, being water soluble, have to be replaced daily and are secreted through the urine if taken in excess.

Vitamin A is found in carrots, apricots, cantaloupe, dark greens like spinach and broccoli, and in fortified

milk. Essential in our body, vitamin A strengthens the immune system and helps bones to grow. Children, especially, need plenty to assure growth and even promote proper dental health.

Vitamin A benefits the skin and internal linings of the organs.

If you are vitamin A deficient, then these areas are weakened and more prone to infection. Beta-carotene, a precursor of vitamin A, aids in retinal light perception, proving what your mother told you about carrots being good for your eyes. Taken in excess, vitamin A can cause muscle soreness, stunted growth, hair loss, diarrhea, rashes and damage to some organs. The RDA for women is 800 RE (retinal equivalents), while men need around 1000 RE. Fortified milk has about 150 RE per cup and carrots have about 1,914 RE per half cup cooked.

Vitamin D, which helps to digest calcium, comes from dairy products and sunlight and helps by maintaining bone density and promoting proper growth. Vitamin D

**There is no doubt that food provides the best nutrients for our bodies.**

Please see STAY FIT, page 10

Please fax any information on sports and recreational activities to Sidelines at 904-8487.



Steve Purinton/ staff

Once again the young Blue Raider defense allows the Murray State Racers to handily rush the ball upfield.

**Raiders**  
continued from page 9

combined loss of 24-yards. While the Raiders struggled offensively for two of the quarters the defense finally looked in better shape than they had in the two previous games this season.

"They matched us up pretty good. We hung, we fought and we made some turnovers. I thought we played for three quarters defensively after the first touchdown," Donnelly said. "I thought we played well enough other than the only big pass we gave up for a touchdown. Which was a major mistake.

"We played well enough defensively to give us a chance to win the football game. We just didn't make the plays offensively when they presented themselves."

When it was all said done the Racers had totalled 22 first downs and 429 total yards, 251 of which came on the ground.

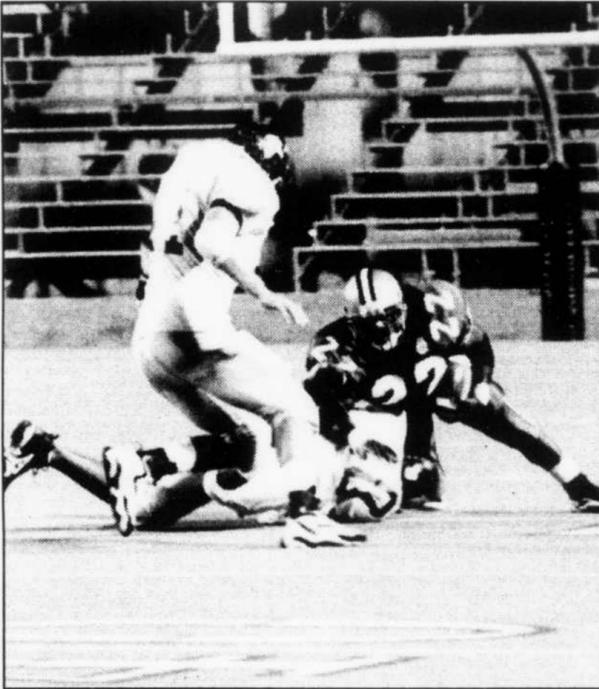
"I didn't think they would do anything else," Donnelly said. "They feel very confident in their running game and they feel pretty good about their running backs. I think that's what they wanted to do."

Senior Anthony Downs led the Racers rushing attack with 147-yards on 37 carries and a career high four touchdowns, including two late in the closing minutes of the fourth quarter.

"Their offensive line

controlled our defensive line," Donnelly said. "It's a great learning experience for them. They're going to have to work harder in practice because it's not going to get any easier for them.

"We need to get them to practice with a great deal of urgency and a great deal of intensity. They practice hard but they don't understand that opposing teams are pretty good."



Angela K. Skala/ staff

LeBrian McGill attempts to gain that extra yard for Middle Tennessee.

**Stay Fit**  
continued from page 9

also aids in the functioning of all tissues in the body. The vitamin is essential to the cells of the muscles, nerves and glands since it is absorbed into the blood directly. Too little vitamin D can result in bone deformities, a weak structure, mineral and protein loss and possibility of osteoporosis with age.

Too much can lead to vitamin D poisoning, which raises mineral doses in blood and endangers the organs' productivity. The recommended dose of vitamin D for younger adults is about ten micrograms per day and five for older adults. Fortified milk provides 2.5 micrograms per cup and eggs offer about 0.7 per one egg. Sunlight stimulates vitamin D synthesis for the skin, so being outside can make you healthier.

Vitamin E aids in preventing the body's cells from oxidizing, which is, put simply, cell destruction. The vitamin protects cells as they pass through the blood stream to perform various tasks. It can also benefit nerve growth and prevent heart disease since vitamin E protects white blood cells. A deficiency in E is nearly impossible since it is found in a wide range of foods. Disease in the pancreas or liver is usually associated with a vitamin E deficiency.

Vitamin E is found generously in various vegetables, fruits, grain products and oils. Meats and dairy carry close to zero vitamin E, but can be found in all fortified cereals. The recommended dose for women is eight milligrams a day and about ten for men. Oils provide anywhere from 2.5 to five milligrams per tablespoon, while a bowl of cereal can provide about 1.5 to two milligrams.

Vitamin K, found in milk, eggs, several kinds of beans, dark greens and liver, is needed for the body to synthesize proteins in order for our blood to clot properly. Wounds can bleed excessively and lead to greater problems if our body does not respond and clot the injury.

Hemophilia is synonymous with the body's inability to clot blood effectively and can be treated by vitamin K therapy. Bone formation is supported by vitamin K in the form of protein production, which also adds to the ability of our blood to clot. Men should get about 70

to 80 and women about 60 to 65 micrograms of vitamin K per day.

B vitamins, which are water soluble, are necessary to help metabolize carbohydrates, amino acids and fats, and help make new cells. While the B vitamins do not provide the body energy directly, they help the body to utilize the fuel we get from food.

There are eight B vitamins which are found in nearly every food. Thiamin is found in wheat bread, riboflavin and B-6 are found in spinach and dark greens, and niacin is prevalent in chicken. The best thing to do is pay attention to the nutrient content in food and make sure you get a little bit of everything everyday.

Vitamin C, found in most fruits and vegetables, enhances the immune system, strengthens bones and is generally the foundation for all tissue functions. Adults need about sixty milligrams of vitamin C a day, which can be easily accessed by a cup of strawberries or half a cup of orange juice.

Minerals are essential to the production of new cells, prevention of disease and maintenance of bodily functions. Water, the most important mineral-bearer, has more benefits than any other nutrient out there. The body depends on water and cannot function more than a few days without it. It is required to drink water everyday for the

body to survive.

The major minerals, calcium, phosphorus, magnesium, sodium, chloride, sulfur and potassium, all have a role in the functioning in bone growth and maintenance, protein building, fluid balance and cell support. Common mineral deficiencies are anemia (lack of iron), osteoporosis (calcium loss), and stunted growth due to lack of magnesium and chloride.

Calcium and phosphorus are both found in dairy products, various beans and fish, while magnesium is in potatoes, dark greens and oysters. Like the B vitamins, most minerals are found in a wide variety of foods and can be easily taken in a balanced diet.

Food labels give the percentage amounts for several vitamins and minerals, but not for all of the essentials our body needs. We know how much sodium, calcium and vitamins A and C we intake from a bowl of cereal, but only a select few companies choose to give the full content information. This is the point where we must take initiative and do our own research about what we eat.

Vitamins and minerals are mandatory for the proper bodily functioning. Without them, our bodies break down and weaken. Multi-vitamin supplements can help those with limited or deficient diets, but the best way to give your body what it needs is by eating a variety of foods and sticking to a balanced diet.

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# Texas law professor biased about minorities

By Barbara Ransby/cps

In mid-September University of Texas at Austin Law Professor Lino Graglia said that blacks and Hispanics came from cultures that don't promote success or condemn failure.

This, he concluded, rendered these groups unable to compete at certain schools. Graglia's comments have been met with outrage and condemnation by some, but the law school defends his remarks as free speech.

Graglia's remarks, and the administration's tolerance of them, raise troubling questions. What is the school's criteria for being a good teacher? Doesn't an instructor have to respect the potential of all of his or her students? When Graglia grades essay exams, writes letters of recommendation, or selects a promising young student to mentor, will he give as much to those he sees as doomed to failure?

Can he see past the brown and black faces of his students enough to treat them all fairly? It does not appear likely. Graglia's remarks are not only offensive, they are also just plain wrong.

In a meritocracy, hard work is supposedly one of the criteria for success. If this were true, Latinos and African-

Americans would be on the top of the economic pyramid. American agribusiness has made millions off the labor of Mexican and Mexican-American farmworkers for generations. Black slave labor formed the foundation for the rise of both northern and southern industry in the 18th and 19th centuries.

Blacks and Latinos have not been fully rewarded for the labor or recognized for our potential. The reason is systematic discrimination. We were excluded from the best schools until the Supreme Court's Brown vs. Board of Education decision in 1954.

We were denied loans, mortgages, promotions and even full political participation until the civil-rights laws of the 1960s. And, being bilingual has often been held against Latinos instead of being seen as an indicator of linguistic and cognitive ability. Given all the obstacles, people of color have had to contend with historically, our achievements are quite impressive.

Graglia's response has been to cite Asian-Americans as the "model minority" that has succeeded despite the odds. This assumption too is ill-informed.

The migration pattern for various Asian groups, and their role in the economy and history of this country, has been

quite different. There were few "American Dream" success stories among Chinese-Americans in the late 1800s when they sweated and died building the railroads. And there are few rags-to-riches stories involving Southeast Asian immigrant refugees today.

A visit to any Chinatown testifies to the poverty and want that persists among many Asian-Americans to this day.

University of Texas recently abandoned its commitment to affirmative action because that policy allegedly lowers standards. But Graglia's remarks call into question the standards for faculty members at the university.

His blatant admission of bias, his self-assured cultural ignorance, and his insensitivity to a supportive and positive learning environment should raise questions about his qualifications, not those of black and Latino students.

Barbara Ransby is an assistant professor of African-American studies and history at the University of Illinois at Chicago. Readers may write to the author in care of the Progressive Media Project, 409 East Main St., Madison, Wis., 53703. This article was prepared for The Progressive Media Project and is available to KRT subscribers. Knight-Ridder/Tribune did not subsidize the writing of this column; the opinions are those of the writer and do not necessarily represent the views of Knight-Ridder/Tribune or its editors. Distributed by Knight-Ridder/Tribune Information Services.

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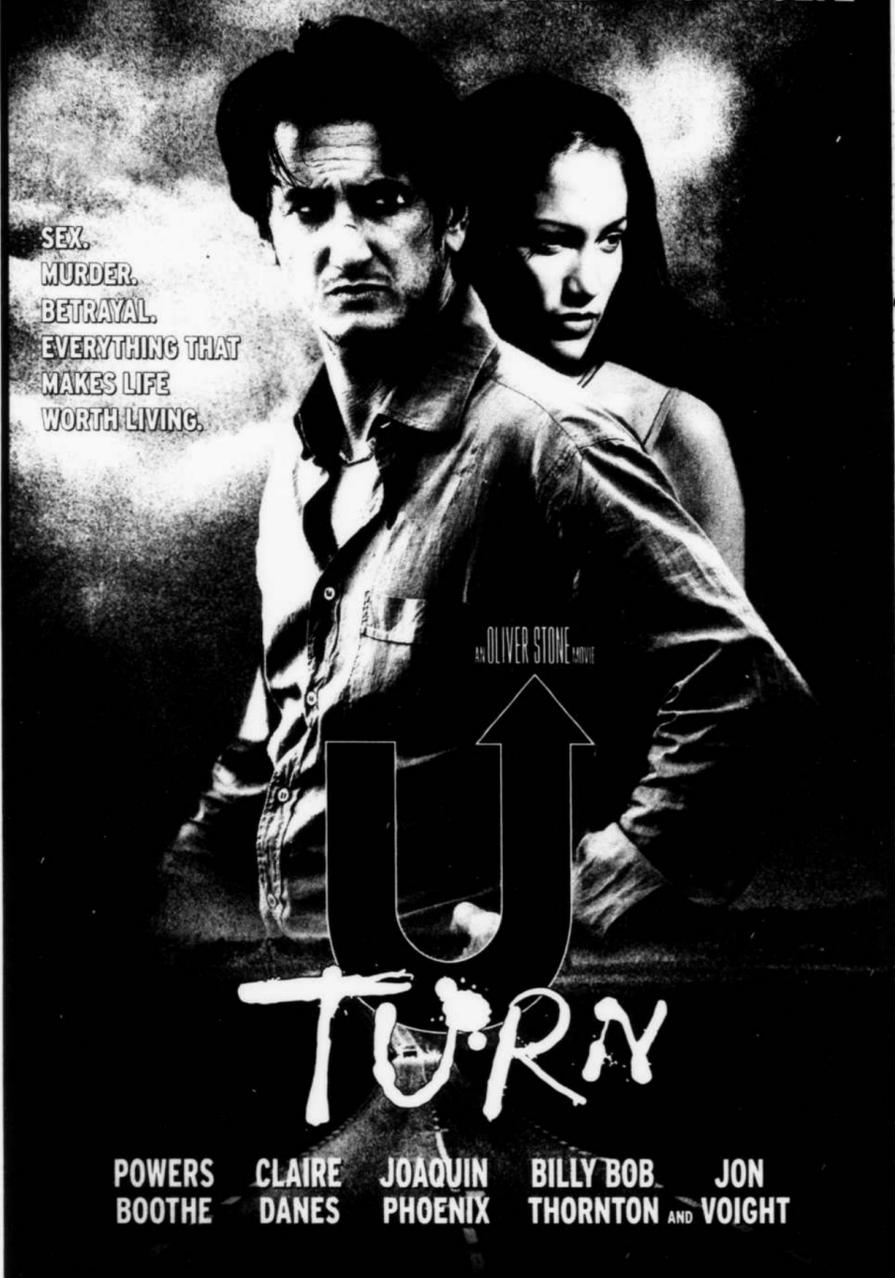
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