

5th District congressional candidate Terry Holcomb spoke to the MTSU College Republicans Thursday afternoon.

Marine colonel feels United States follows correct policy in Nicaragua

By ROSEMARY COLLINS
Assistant News Editor

"We are doing exactly what we should be doing [in Nicaragua]," Colonel "Murph" McCloy, military assistant to the deputy assistant Secretary of Defense for Inter-American Affairs, said in a speech Wednesday to political science students.

"I think what we are doing is right. The Contras are the only counter-balance that exists [to communism in Central America]," he said.

Under President Reagan, the United States has been supplying military and humanitarian aid to the Nicaraguan freedom fighters, known as the Contras, who oppose Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega Saavedra's communist government.

The Contras and Ortega's government, commonly known as the Sandinistas, have been engaged in a civil war since 1981.

Nicaragua is currently ruled by the Sandinista National Liberation Front, a communist government which consists of a nine man council headed by Ortega.

The Sandinistas took control in 1979 after ousting the National Liberal Party headed by then President Anastasio Somoza Debayle. The

Somoza family had ruled Nicaragua since 1937.

"President Reagan's objective is not to overthrow the Sandinista regime, it is to have it democratized and observe the norms of civil behavior observed on an international level," McCloy said.

Upon establishing his socialist regime, Ortega declared that he would begin "a revolution without borders" by attempting to spread communism to other Central American countries.

"We are concerned about the Cubanization of Nicaragua and the establishment of an active Leninist/Marxist regime being consolidated," McCloy said.

The Nicaraguan government currently receives aid from the Soviet Union and has been actively supporting the communist insurgents in El Salvador and Guatemala for several years with the assistance of Fidel Castro's government in Cuba.

"In 1980 the Soviet Union supplied the Nicaraguan government with \$10 million [in aid], and it peaked in 1986 at \$600 million," McCloy said.

According to McCloy, Nicaragua is currently being supplied Soviet Bloc military equipment, such as MI/24 helicopters, MI/8 transport

Budget main problem

Holcomb tells goals for U.S.

By M.A. BROWN
Assistant News Editor

The Republican party has a lot of things it can accomplish in the last year of the Reagan Administration and in the future, 5th District congressional candidate Terry Holcomb told the Nov. 19 meeting of the Middle Tennessee State University College Republicans.

"To me it seems Republican politics have lost some of the edge it had in the early 80's," he said. "I'm here to get that back."

According to Holcomb, President Reagan is ready to see these tasks through.

"I had a chance to meet with him. He is ready to fight, and he needs more help in the U.S. Congress," Holcomb said.

Among the issues needing to be addressed, Holcomb listed the federal budget as the number one problem facing this nation.

"We are at a crossroads in this country. We are either going to solve our budget problems and create a foundation of fiscal responsibility, or we are going to fail," he

said. "If we fail, your children aren't going to live as well as you live or have the same opportunities you do."

Holcomb added that if the national debt is not reduced, programs such as defense and education could suffer.

"The function of anyone in government is to ensure that America is strong in defense, and that they set the conditions for citizens to fulfill whatever they choose to do," he said.

According to Holcomb, the major reason for the national debt is out of control spending by Congress.

Holcomb berated congressmen who put the good of their individual districts above the well-being of the nation as a whole.

"The congressmen who are going around complaining about how large the defense budget is are the same ones who won't allow the Pentagon to close one of the 50 or so military bases in the U.S. which have little or no military value just because they happen to be located

in their districts," he said.

"A good congressman should speak to the common interests of all Americans, rather than just bring a few dollars back to their district," he continued.

Holcomb added that if he was elected to the 5th District seat he would represent "all citizens, not just those who live in Davidson and Robertson Counties."

The candidate also said that he would vote for a balanced budget amendment to the Constitution, but that he "doesn't think it goes far enough."

"We need a two year budget cycle. We certainly need a line-item veto for the President, and we ought to have a capital budget which would separate capital expenditures from operational expenditures," he said.

According to Holcomb, this system would resemble the fiscal policies of several states, such as Tennessee. All state governments with this system operate on a balanced budget, he added.

The current proposed balanced

budget amendment is also weakened by the provision that the government can engage in deficit spending if a three-fifths vote of Congress approves, he said.

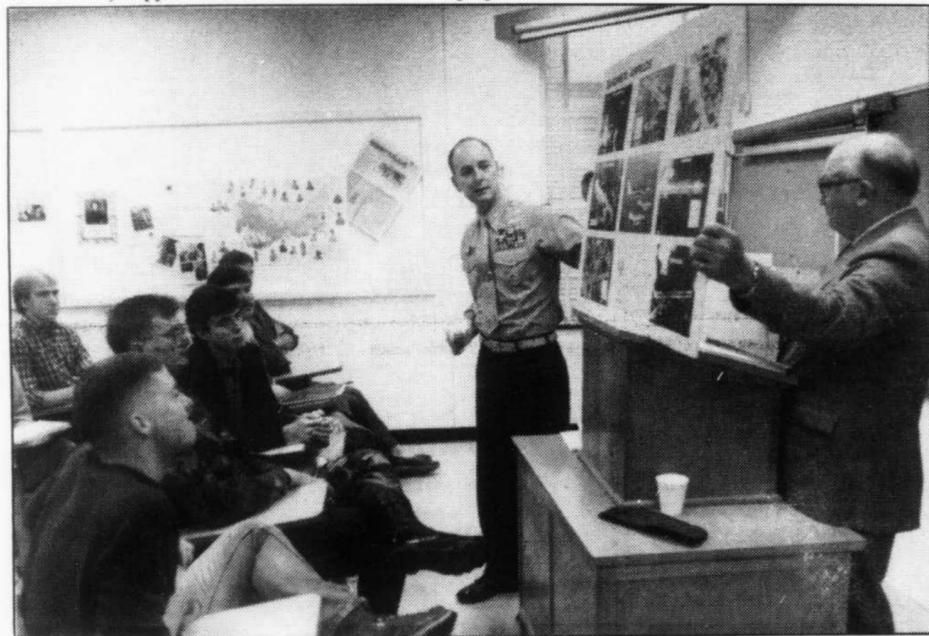
"You know what that means. They will override it every year," he added.

In other issues, the candidate said he is strictly against any increase in federal income taxes. He is also in favor of the Strategic Defense Initiative because it "would attack weapons and not people, and it would get us out from under the umbrella of terror of nuclear weapons."

Holcomb, a teacher in high school and college for 20 years, said he is also a strong supporter of education.

According to the candidate, the United States needs to lower the student-teacher ratio and hire more support personnel for school systems to decrease the work load on teachers.

"If we can do these things we will have a darn good educational system," he said.



Marine colonel "Murph" McCloy speaks to Harry Horne's International Relations class. The subject of McCloy's lecture was American policies in Nicaragua and Central America. McCloy is currently assigned as executive assistant and assistant for policy planning/analysis to the deputy assistant secretary of defense for inter-American affairs.

Faculty rep meets with Governor to discuss elimination of merit pay

By KIM HARRIS
News Editor

Middle Tennessee State University faculty and district representative John Bragg met with Gov. Ned McWherter Wednesday to discuss the elimination of the faculty's four percent merit pay increase. This increase was granted to the faculty by the State Board of Regents in early May of this year.

According to Faculty Senator Leon Nuell, on May 13 right after the Tennessee Legislature approved the Higher Education Budget, MTSU President Sam Ingram announced a four percent across the board pay increase and a three percent merit pay increase.

On the same day that the faculty received the pay increase recommendation from the various department chairmen, Nuell said, Ingram received a letter from the State Board of Regents capping the four percent increase.

"There was no explanation in the directives from the Board of Regents that explained why," Nuell said.

Faculty Senate President Norman Ferris took affirmative action to find the source of the directive, Nuell said.

Nuell said the faculty decided to take the question to the governor, based on his promise to help Tennesseans in the face of a problem.

"If you feel you have a problem, come and see me," Nuell said, paraphrasing McWherter's offer of help.

Bragg went with faculty members to the governor's office and spoke to Governor Administrative Assistant Betty Andrews.

Andrews said the Board of Regents' interpretation was based on an amendment connected to the appropriations bill.

Nuell said the amendment stated, "The state of Tennessee would not pay any benefits for salary increases beyond those associated with the four percent across the board pay increase."

Nuell said no one was aware of the amendment, including Bragg and McWherter.

"Had the faculty had that information, we would have not pursued the matter," Nuell said.

Nuell said the origin of the amendment, according to the governor's recollection, resulted from the University of Tennessee's system-wide use of certain fee money to give merit pay increases. The University of Tennessee did not have enough money to pay benefits (such as social security, health insurance and retirement), Nuell said, and went to the Legislature to appeal for benefit appropriations.

"It bent a whole lot of people out of shape. The General Assembly passed the amendment to protect the state from paying additional benefits above what they were obligated to," Nuell said, paraphrasing the governor's explanation.

The faculty appealed to the governor by asking for the merit pay increase in the event that the university would pay for the benefits package, Nuell said.

"There is money set aside on campus from which merit pay could be gotten. If the institution could pay for the benefit package, it would get the state of Tennessee off the hook. We are asking if we can do this under the [current amendment]," Nuell explained.

The governor said he saw "no problem" with the plans, Nuell said.

Nuell said he is currently waiting for a copy of the amendment from Andrew and Bragg, to be received either today or Monday. In the event a legal opinion is needed to understand the "legal jargon," Nuell said, Bragg will take the amendment to either the governor or the attorney general.

"If the governor is correct in his recollections, then in essence, the University of Tennessee has created a monster for everybody this year," Nuell said.

Stinnett selected as spring Editor

By M.A. BROWN
Assistant News Editor

Tony Stinnett, a junior from Flintstone, Ga., majoring in mass communications, was selected as editor of *Sidelines* for the spring semester 1988 by a 4-3 vote of the Student Publications Committee Tuesday afternoon.

Stinnett, who is currently *Sidelines*' Sports Editor, was chosen over staff writer Brian Conley after over an hour of questioning from the committee.

"I think this is a great honor and privilege," Stinnett said. "I felt both Brian and myself were very qualified for the position, and either of us would make a fine editor."

"I'm happy for Tony. He de-



Tony Stinnett

served it," Conley said. "I support Tony all the way. In fact, I was the first person to file an application to work under Tony."

Stinnett has been a member of the *Sidelines* staff since the fall semester of 1985. Since that time he has served, as a sports writer, assistant sports editor, sports co-editor and sports editor.

Stinnett promised that during his tenure as editor, *Sidelines* would put a strong emphasis on campus news.

"My main goal is to upgrade the news section," he said. "I also want to focus more on campus news in all sections. This is a campus newspaper, and campus news should come before anything else."

He added that the paper would only run national news stories in the case of "a major newsworthy event."

"I want to make this paper appealing to the students. Right now students don't look forward to each issue of *Sidelines*. I want to change that," he said.

Stinnett also said he felt he could work well with the *Sidelines* staff as editor.

"We will work well together. I

have a good working relationship with everyone on staff, and I think we will do a good job this spring," he said.

"I am very happy for Tony, and I feel confident that he will do an excellent job as editor," current Editor Crystal Nelms said. "He is easy to work with, and he is enthusiastic and dedicated. I wish Tony the best of luck."

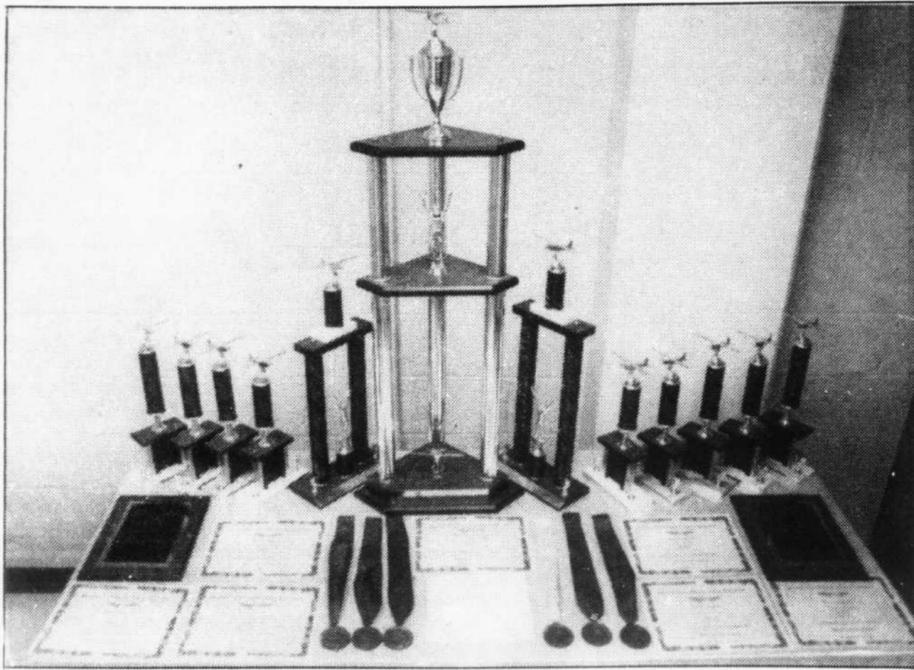
Conley, a junior mathematics major from Murfreesboro, said he intends to remain on the *Sidelines* staff.

"I'm looking forward to another semester on staff," he said.

Conley has been a staff member since the spring semester of 1986.

During his tenure, Conley has served as a staff writer, assistant news editor, editorial editor, sports editor, production assistant, advertising representative and news/managing editor.

Sidelines is currently accepting applications for all section editors for the spring semester. Anyone interested should contact Kathy Slager in Room 306 James Union Building from 8 a.m. till 4 p.m. Application must be filed no later than Dec. 7 at 12 p.m.



FRANK CONLEY

The Flying Raiders of MTSU received a number of awards in the SAFE-CON 88 competition held at Auburn University in Auburn, Ala.

Flying Raiders awarded second place at aerospace competition in Alabama

By JILL McWHORTER
Staff Writer

The Flying Raiders of Middle Tennessee State University received the second place Top Team Award in the National Intercollegiate Flying Association SAFE-CON 88 on November 12-14 at Auburn University.

Competition was in two categories — flying events and ground events, with winners in

each category. An overall winner was determined by the scores in both categories.

The Flying Raiders of MTSU received first place in the flying events category and second place in the ground events category.

Pat Boyd received second place and Kyle Breed received third place in the Top Pilot competition.

Competing for MTSU were Kyle Breed (co-captain), Bruce Capps

(co-captain), Randy Ferguson (senior competing member), John Fry, Ali McKelvey, Eric Price, Pat Boyd, Eric Fisk, Mike McCracken and James Hylton.

By achieving the second place Top Team Award, the Flying Raiders of MTSU will be eligible to compete in the NIFA National Competition in the spring of 1988. This competition will be at Northeast Louisiana State in Monroe, La.

Observatory holds open house

By WIL MILLER
Staff Writer

Middle Tennessee State University's new observatory, located on the east side of Cummings Hall is having a final open house on Tuesday evening from 8 p.m. to 10 p.m.

"We've had a great turnout at the open house," Dr. Roy Clark, professor of chemistry and physics said. "Last Tuesday we had 96 people come out I was amazed."

The observatory, which houses the recently acquired 16-inch diameter Newtonian reflector telescope mounted on a concrete pier, is currently observing the planet Jupiter and its satellites. A smaller telescope outside the observatory is focused on M31, a galaxy in the constellation of Andromeda.

The telescope was constructed by John Wikswo Sr., a chemist and amateur astronomer in Amherst, Va. It was bought by MTSU as part of the 75th anniversary celebration at the request of Clark.

The original site for the telescope was to be atop the Davis Science Building where a greenhouse once stood. However the state engineer said that the structure was not strong enough to support the weight without substantial reinforcement. The field on the east side of Cummings Hall was deemed a more satisfactory location.

Clark's interest in the study of astronomy and his belief that a university should offer a course in the subject prompted his proposal and development of MTSU's first and only Experimental Astronomy course (Physics 341) and astronomy lab.

"We hope to eventually get a microcomputer to move the dome and run the telescope," Clark said.

Projected cost of the computer is \$5000. The telescope itself cost \$4500, the dome \$12,063 and the building \$18,038.

Clark said a road to the observatory is being built from Rutherford Drive. He said that the plan calls for street lights which could hamper viewing of the heavens.

"Sodium vapor lights would be no problem, but mercury vapor lights would be too bright and would scatter too much light," he said.

The United States borrows \$575 million dollars everyday to keep up with congressional spending," he said. "In personal terms, this means a family of four's tax burden is \$43.50 a week to carry the debt forward, without a penny being devoted to retiring the debt."

Students vote 15-13 in favor of balanced budget amendment

By M.A. BROWN
Assistant News Editor

The Constitution of the United States should be amended to require a balanced federal budget, according to a 15-13 vote of students who attended a debate on the subject held by the Middle Tennessee State University Campus Forum on Wednesday night.

"It is a tragic irony that the Congress of the United States is one of the few public agencies in the land that is incapable of operating within a balanced budget," Mark Davanport, who presented a speech for a balanced-budget amendment, said. "Households...small businesses...and several states operate with a balanced budget."

According to Davanport, the federal government needs to have a balanced budget "because the national deficit is the number one problem in our country today."

"We have a national debt of \$2 trillion," he said. "We...are the largest debtor nation in the world."

Davanport went on to add that the U.S. spends \$150 billion a year in interest payments on loans the country has taken out from foreign governments.

"Our interest payments are ranked third behind Social Security and defense [in terms of national spending]," he said. "It is predicted that in 10 years, interest payments on the national debt will be our number one expenditure, accounting for one-half of the budget."

The national debt has doubled in the past five years "because congressional spending is out of control," Davanport said.

Tommy Williams, who argued against the resolution, said there is no need for a balanced-budget amendment because "the deficit is not a big problem."

"The deficit doesn't climb in my window and shoot me. It isn't a white powder that gets kids in trouble and puts them in jail," he said.

According to Williams, deficit spending by the federal government is "a basic economic stabilizer" which protects against excessive inflation or recession.

"We have to have deficit spending because it allows the government to stabilize the inflationary and recessionary gaps," he said.

Williams also said the argument that the federal government can operate on a balanced budget just because households and state and local governments do is invalid.

"What is good for the parts is not necessarily good for the whole," he said. "There is a difference between macro [large scale] economics and micro [small scale] economics. Just because a household balances its budget doesn't mean the government should."

Williams added that to balance the budget, the federal government would be required to cut necessary domestic programs.

"The most positive area of the economy is the grassroots area," he said. "The government must put money into this area."

This would keep consumer spending at a high level which

would mean more tax revenue for the government, he added.

According to Williams, the only reason the federal government is considering balancing the budget is to increase confidence among foreign governments in the U.S. economy.

"I can see some brassy-faced, wholehearted bureaucrat telling someone he is cutting off their Social Security, Welfare or veteran's benefits just so other countries will think we are more efficient."

Williams concluded his speech by saying that we should let the economy "flow through history" because "it will heal and stabilize itself."

Following the speeches, the debate was opened for audience response.

Supporters of the amendment argued that there would be no need to cut domestic programs to balance the federal budget because money would be freed from loan and interest rate payments to foreign nations for these programs.

"I think \$150 billion dollars a year would go a long way for needed programs," Roger Allen, a senior political science major, said. "Maybe then we would have a society where needs are met from the bottom up."

Davanport also pointed out that staunch congressional supporters of programs such as student loans

Please see Amendment page 3

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Sidelines Is Now Accepting Applications for the Following Spring Semester Positions:

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ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR
SPORTS EDITOR
COPY EDITOR
PHOTO EDITOR

AND Writers for Each Section

Applications can be obtained from Student Publications' Secretary Kathy Slager in Room 306, James Union Building during regular business hours

Deadline for applications is Dec. 7, 1987

Harvey stolen again in violent attack

By CRYSTAL NELMS
Editor

[Editor's note: On page four, two editorials appear about Harvey, a totem pole that was given to the Middle Tennessee State University and Tennessee Technological University rivalry. The editorials were written on Tuesday, shortly after Harvey was returned to MTSU. The history of Harvey is explained in the first editorial.]

Harvey was forcefully taken from Associated Student Body President Holly Lentz at approximately 12:15 p.m. in the ASB office yesterday by two unidentifiable men.

Lentz went to Cookeville on Monday to try and retrieve Harvey, and he was returned to university President Sam Ingram's office at approximately 1:30 p.m. Wednesday by TTU Student Government President Ray Render and Pi Kappa Alpha President Steve Swanson on orders from the university president at TTU.

Ingram released Harvey to Lentz and ASB Homecoming Committee Chairman Rob Marlin on Wednesday. Harvey was taken to Best Western Wayside Inn, where he spent the night.

According to Marlin the room was provided compliments of David Gillian, hotel manager, former MTSU student and three-time Pi Kappa Alpha president.

Harvey was taken out of the hotel because a reporter assigned to do a story about the totem pole from *The Daily News Journal* requested to see him.

According to Marlin, Harvey was then taken to the ASB office in the Keathley University Center.

"I just told them to take good care of him [Harvey] and not to let him leave us again in any untimely fashion," Ingram said.

"I wasn't about to let go," Lentz said. "They were awfully mean to me."

"He [Harvey] was created to develop spirit and add to the contest itself. It has been undermined by kidnappings and other antics," Ingram said.

"They [the thieves] threw me down," Lentz said. "It didn't feel good."

"This unprovoked act is a tragedy and may irreparably damage relations between Middle Tennessee State and Tennessee Tech. I say Tennessee Tech because it could only have been members of that student body who committed this act," Holly Lentz said in a formal

release from the ASB office.

"I seriously doubt that it [Harvey] is on its way back to Cookeville," Render said. "I don't care where it is now as long as it shows up at the game Saturday."

Lentz has appointed Terry Hennessee as the head of a group to get Harvey back.

"As soon as I can get any inkling of an idea where he is or who has him, I am going to do anything that I can through democracy, diplomacy or force to get him back," Hennessee said.

"If violence is necessary, we will be more than happy to engage in it," Marlin said. "They hurt Holly, shook her around. They shouldn't have done it."

Lentz said that she was unsure if she would press charges if the two men are later identified.

"If they made me mad in any way, I would [press charges]," Lentz said. "If they apologize, I

probably would not.

"I just want him [Harvey] back because I don't want him to die."

Members of the ASB staff and some MTSU students are wearing black arm bands, and they say that they will continue until Harvey is returned. Billie Patton, ASB secretary, purchased a black wreath to hang on the door in mourning yesterday.

"I think we should first concern ourselves with beating Tech on Saturday," Ingram said. "We may even see him at the game Saturday. Perhaps we will if they win. That would be sad."

Sidelines Editor Crystal Nelms and News Editor Kim Harris traveled to Cookeville late Thursday night in an attempt to find information on Harvey's whereabouts.

Nelms and Harris were unable to find the missing totem pole

McCloy

continued from page 1

Europe have to pass by Cuba. Sixty-five percent of our crude oil comes up past Cuba, and 45 percent of all imports and exports pass through the Gulf," McCloy said.

"Cuba has a thumb on one of our vital arteries," McCloy said.

"Central America is the greatest thing the Soviet Union has going for them as far as them being able to influence the United States' worldwide politics," he said.

Colonel McCloy graduated from the Naval Academy in 1963 with a bachelor's of science, and he also holds a master's of arts in international affairs.

He served tours of duty in Vietnam, Guam, Okinawa, Spain and El Salvador. He has been decorated with three Bronze Stars, the Purple Heart, two Defense Meritorious Service Medals, the Joint Service and Navy Commendation Medals, the Combat Action Ribbon, the Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry with Bronze Star and the Vietnamese Honor Medal First Class.

Amendment

continued from page 2

and veterans' benefits also support the balanced budget amendment.

Supporters of the proposition also noted that the amendment provides for deficit spending if three-fifths of both houses of Congress vote for a specific amount of deficit spending.

Opponents of the measure argued that for the country to carry on necessary domestic programs the country must overspend.

"To make money, you have to spend money," Regina Beaty, a junior agriculture major said. "You have to go in debt to have the things you want."

This ethic could endanger future generations of Americans, according to Thomas Vandervort of MTSU's political science department.

"The national debt is not going to be paid off by anyone in this room," he said. "Future generations will take care of our debt, and that's a big burden to put on their shoulders."

CAMPUS CAPSULE

The Language Department is offering tutorial services for Spanish and French students. For more information contact the language department at 898-2981.

WMOT-FM needs student volunteers and interns. For more information come by Room 200 Learning Resources Center or phone 898-2800.

The Rutherford County Health Department will be offering flu and pneumonia shots to all city and county employees. For more information see your employer.

Phi Alpha Theta is collecting books and magazines for prisoners in the Murfreesboro Adult Detention Center. Bring any donations to the history office, Room 223 Peck Hall before Friday, Nov. 20.

The MTSU Club of Sigma Xi and the MTSU Ideas and Issues Committee will present a lecture by J. H. Ding of the People's Republic of China Tuesday, Nov. 24 at 7:30 p.m. in Room 100 Davis Science Building. The lecture is titled "Gas Chromatographic Determination and Pattern Recognition Analysis of Methanol and Fusel Oil Concentrations in Whiskeys."

The MTSU Observatory is open to the public from 8 p.m. to 10 p.m. every Tuesday in November weather permitting. For more information call Roy Clark 898-2077. The observatory is located on the east edge of campus near High Rise West.

National Invitational Tournament tickets for the first round, MTSU and Virginia Tech game, are on sale now Monday at the MTSU ticket office. The game will be Saturday, Nov. 21 at 8 p.m. at Murphy Athletic Center. Student tickets are \$6 and general public tickets are \$9.

The TSIL chairman is now taking applications for the annual event to be held Feb. 18-21. Applications may be picked up in the ASB Office, Room 304 Keathley University Center.

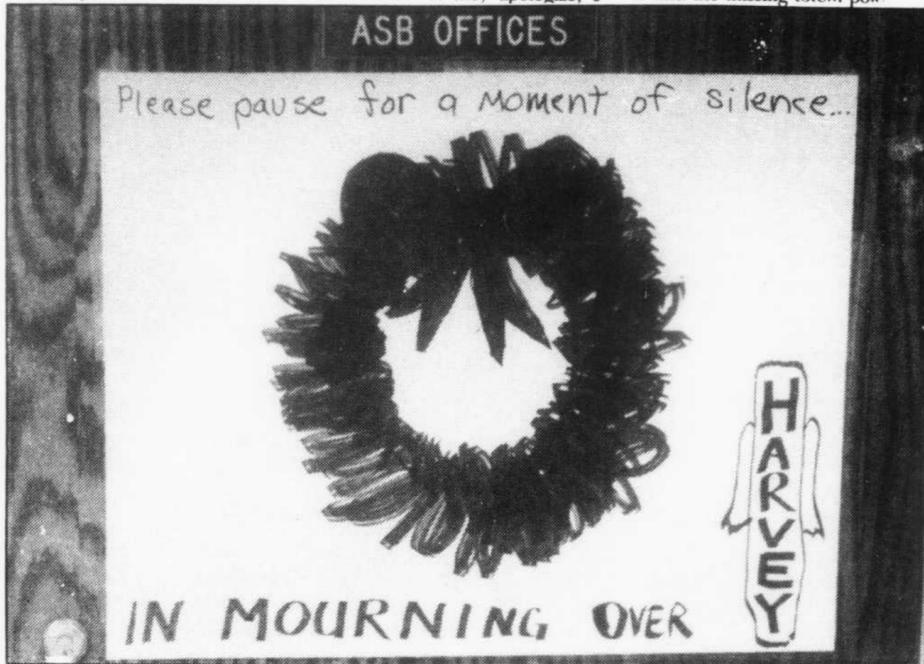
Campus Capsule Policy

Items which will be considered for inclusion in this space should be limited to official university announcements of interest to students, faculty and staff or notices of meetings, events and opportunities for university recognized groups. Publications of any announcements in this space is at the discretion of the editor.

Persons wishing to publish announcements of commercial ventures — including fund-raisers — should contact Evelyn Dougherty, *Sidelines* advertising manager, extension 2533 for information regarding classified and display advertising rates.

If you need assurance of publication, place an advertisement in *Sidelines*.

Entries for Campus Capsule should be typed and delivered to the *Sidelines* office Room 310 James Union Building or mailed to the newspaper office through campus mail, P.O. Box 42.



A wreath was placed on the ASB office mourning the kidnapping of Harvey the totem pole. Harvey was stolen from ASB President Holly Lentz in a violent attack Thursday afternoon.

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There was a young boy from Flintville. With dashing good looks that could kill, But he's come a long way, he's V.P. today. And at FORTY, he's over the hill!

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Fill out the form below and bring it to the Student Publications Office, James Union Building Room 306, before noon on Monday, Nov. 30. Payment in advance is required and may be made by cash, check or money order.

We reserve the right to reject any advertisement.

PARTING SHOTS

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EDITORIAL

Harvey more than just a totem pole

Harvey's home!
Yeah, yeah, I know some of you could really care less. But some of us [Middle Tennessee State University students] do. To some, Harvey is a piece of meaning! ss trivia, but to others Harvey is a legend.

For those of you who don't have the faintest idea about who Harvey is, we'll have a short Tech/MTSU Harvey history lesson.

Harvey [a colorful totem pole] was given to MTSU in the late 1950s or early 1960s by Fred Harvey. There was, and still is — sort of — a bitter rivalry between Tennessee Tech and MTSU. People tended to get rather violent before, after and during football games, so Harvey [Fred] decided to provide a positive outlet. The deal was set. Harvey would stay on the campus of the school who won the football game. When that school lost, Harvey would take a road trip.

To get to the point, Harvey has been gone for quite some time now — yes, MTSU has won the last few games against Tech. Doesn't that take a lot of sense huh? Tech stole him. He took a few trips around the United

States, but he was returned to MTSU on Wednesday by the Tech Pi Kappa Alpha President Steve Swanson and ASB President Ray Render.

We play Tech Saturday, and this means that Harvey might have to pack up and move again. Of course Tech wants Harvey back, but MTSU does not want to lose Harvey again. That means that we need to get motivated and go out and kick some Saturday.

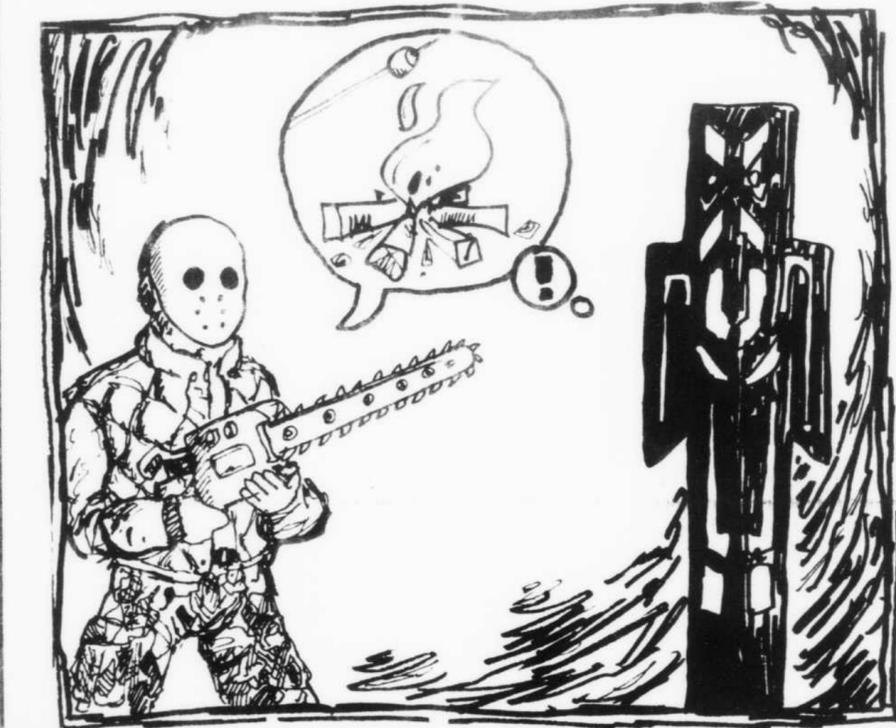
Harvey is more than a wooden stick. He is "THE ULTIMATE WIN." He represents the good side of a bitter rivalry. He is a TRADITION almost forgotten. Tradition is important, and we need to keep this one alive.

Go out to the game Saturday and watch Tech present Harvey — the special prize — to MTSU. Harvey belongs with us. Support MTSU and support tradition. You might not have been here when Harvey was popular, but it is not too late to get excited about "THE ULTIMATE WIN" again.

Crystal Nelms
Sidelines Editor



HOWARD ROSS



Burn, Harvey, burn

Who cares about Harvey?
No, better yet, should anyone care about Harvey?

Elsewhere on this page, people will try to say that the Harvey totem pole is part of a noble tradition and a symbol of victory. Right.

Let's face facts folks — this is a dumb piece of wood given to MTSU and Tennessee Tech as an advertising gimmick (from the store of the same name [plural version]). The same store, by the way, that has the talking Christmas tree every year. I'm losing this, back to the stupid totem poll.

This is a mascot that Tech loves and MTSU ignores. Sounds like a good idea to me. Harvey looks like it belongs by some cheap roadside tourist trap/fireworks stand. Maybe a rural Georgia version of the Davis Food Market.

To be honest, Tech did us a favor in stealing Harvey — only they were too dumb to know it. Out of sight and out of mind.

Be honest with yourself — have you missed Harvey? Probably not. Have you even *thought* about Harvey in the last two years? Nope.

Harvey is a dud, a failure, a part of the past that should be left with Tech. Of course there are better uses for the pile of wood shavings.

We could install Harvey as part of the MTSU administration, maybe make him a dean. He's probably just as qualified as anyone else.

Harvey could host his own show on Channel 28. We'll call it "At Home With Harvey," and he can interview other meaningless symbols, like the ASB president.

But the most useful way to use Harvey is to instill a little spirit before the MTSU/Tech game — as the fuel for a bonfire. You bring the marshmallows, I'll bring the lighter fluid.

Chris Bell
Sidelines Editorial Editor

Mandatory attendance policies can hurt or help students

There is among many students an understated but fervent resentment toward attendance policies. The reasoning goes something like this: by the time most people enter college, they are, by definition, adults. As adults, they understandably dislike any situation that casts them in the role of children. To many students, attendance policies do just that. The policies assume that students do not have either the good sense or the drive to attend class unless they are coerced.

Attendance policies that are too strident tend to turn a blind eye on many of the legitimate factors that influence absenteeism. Among these are the learning modalities of the student, his or her general health, home or work problems and transportation woes.

There are many modalities of learning or learning styles. Some people are visual learners while others are auditory or kinesthetic (through physical interaction). Through classrooms are set up to accommodate the visual learners since most people, are visual learners — and this includes teachers, who tend to teach through their own modalities of strength. For most students, the pattern of reading the material, hearing it discussed in class and taking notes

gives them the three strong exposures that are necessary for retention.

However, there are some students for whom sitting quietly in a classroom for prolonged periods is a type of torture. Their bodies may be in the classroom but there is no way of telling where their minds are. These same students might fare better on their own, setting their own pace, establishing a learning environment with which they are comfortable. Since no teacher can be all things to all people and since certain teaching styles may not be conducive to learning in all

students, it hardly seems reasonable to penalize someone for occasionally avoiding a less than effective learning situation.

A person who is ill should not be in class. The time in class is wasted on someone who is absorbed in the internal malfunctioning of his body. Moreover, people tend to be very

generous with their diseases and if Johnny is sick this week, you can be sure that Sally will be sick the next. This statement gets taken one step further when we are dealing with students who are also parents. An attendance policy that will motivate a parent to class when

there is a sick child at home is doubly detrimental: to be the child and to the student, who may be attending class resentfully while her mind turns continuously on the young patient at home. Attendance may have been insured but learning has not.

Commuters face special problems. They are hostages to weather conditions. There is not much that can be done about class attendance if the car won't start or if there's a blow-out on the freeway. Middle Tennessee State University takes great pride in not closing its doors during the winter, but it's really a shallow source of pride. If weather conditions are so bad at home that the commuter would be unwilling to venture out in his own town, it is highly unlikely that he will be willing to gamble on a trip to Mur-

freesboro.

The quarrel most students have with attendance policies is that if they are to be fair, they must be capable of accommodating so many diverse factors as to become meaningless. That being the case, most students do not see the need for the policies at all.

Most professors do. Good attendance practices are considered an integral part of good classroom management. Attendance is sometimes used in determining the final grade a student receives. A student wavering between a B and a C, for example, can be given the benefit of the doubt if he has been a regular attendee or assigned the lower grade if it can be shown that his attendance in class has been less than conscientious. In this way, attendance can be used both as a "punishment" and a reward. Furthermore, regular attendance in class is good, practical experience in the type of behavior that will be expected in the work force where attendance is compulsory if wages and employment are to continue.

As long as we, as students, have to deal with these policies, we have only one recourse open to us. We must communicate with our teachers. Most professors are allowed a lot of latitude in setting their own attendance policies. If we consider a policy too rigid, we must calmly and intelligently work for its modification. If we encounter problems that affect our attendance, we must keep our teachers informed of them. If we encounter a modality problem, we should discuss it with our teachers. Most teachers are willing to make accommodations as long as they know what they are dealing with. They can only know if they are informed

STEVE BEAT — By KENT WHITAKER

CARTOON FILE 101
STEVE BEAT MALE
HEIGHT 5'7 FEET
HAIR BROWN
EYES BROWN
IQ 50-50



HAS JUST RETURNED FROM SOMEWHAT OF A CLOUDED ADVENTURE TO HIS SON AND THEIR HAPPY HOME.



HAS YET TO FIND OUT THAT SAID SON LOST THE FAMILY FORTUNE IN THE STOCK MARKET.



I.B.M.? I'M GOING TO KILL HIM. WHAT DID HE BLOW IT ON? HE BLOW IT ON? G.T.E.?



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Sidelines, Middle Tennessee State University's student newspaper, is published every Tuesday and Friday. Editorials and columns reflect the opinions of their authors and do not necessarily represent the views of the management of this paper.

Letters Policy

Letters to the editor are encouraged and are considered on the basis of timeliness, interest and space.

All letters must include the author's name, MTSU box number and telephone number. Telephone numbers will not be printed and are for verification purposes only. When warranted, requests to withhold names will be honored.

We reserve the right to edit all letters for spelling, grammar, and length.

Address all letters and inquiries to Sidelines, Box 42, or come by Room 310 James Union Building. A letters box is also located in the Keathley University Center Grill.

ENTERTAINMENT WEEKEND

Whitney Houston sings in the round

By TONY STINNETT
Sports Co-Editor

Whitney Houston gave her loyal fans and followers a taste of the old and new last night when she entertained a near sell-out crowd at Murphy Center.

Houston said to the crowd, "Tonight, I am going to sing for you some songs from my old album and some songs from my new album."

The concert was highlighted by some of her slower songs from her two albums, *Whitney Houston* and *Whitney*.

Houston's back-up singers began the concert with a medley of her top hits from the two albums and then introduced Whitney.

The concert was done in the round, giving the entire audience a chance to get a look at the young superstar.

Houston began the concert with some of her slower songs and then asked the people of "Nashville" to help her out.

Whitney followed with some of her slower songs, "Saving All My Love For You," "Didn't We Almost Have It All," "For The Love of You" and "I Know Him So Well."

The slower songs gave the concert a laid back atmosphere, but the fans didn't seem to mind.

Whitney also did her latest hit, "So Emotional," and she closed with "I Want To Dance."

Whitney came back onto the stage and performed "Greatest Love Of All" for her encore.

The lighting for the concert was exceptional and the acoustics were super. Whitney brought to "Nashville" — Murfreesboro one of the best concerts in quite awhile.



WAYNE CARTWRIGHT

Whitney thrills audience with "The Greatest Love of All" one of her many number one hits.



WAYNE CARTWRIGHT

Whitney Houston gives the audience an acoustical treat at Murphy Center Thursday evening.

Fleetwood jams in Murf-town

By NEAL EATON
Staff Writer

We know where Fleetwood Mac was last night, but do they? When they came onstage last night at Murphy Athletic Center they thought they were in Nashville, but someone backstage led them into the light and told them that they were in the lovely boro of Murf.

After their faux pas, they got down to what they do best: jamming. The first song they played was "Dreams." The audience, comprised mostly of baby boomers and college students, was standing on its feet and going crazy.

The second song was from their new album *Tango In The Night*. The audience just sat down, but they still showed their appreciation for them. When this was over, Stevie Nicks introduced the band.

Stevie disappeared into her dressing room to change into the seemingly endless supply of capes. The rest of the band played "Wasting All My Time" and "Over My Head."

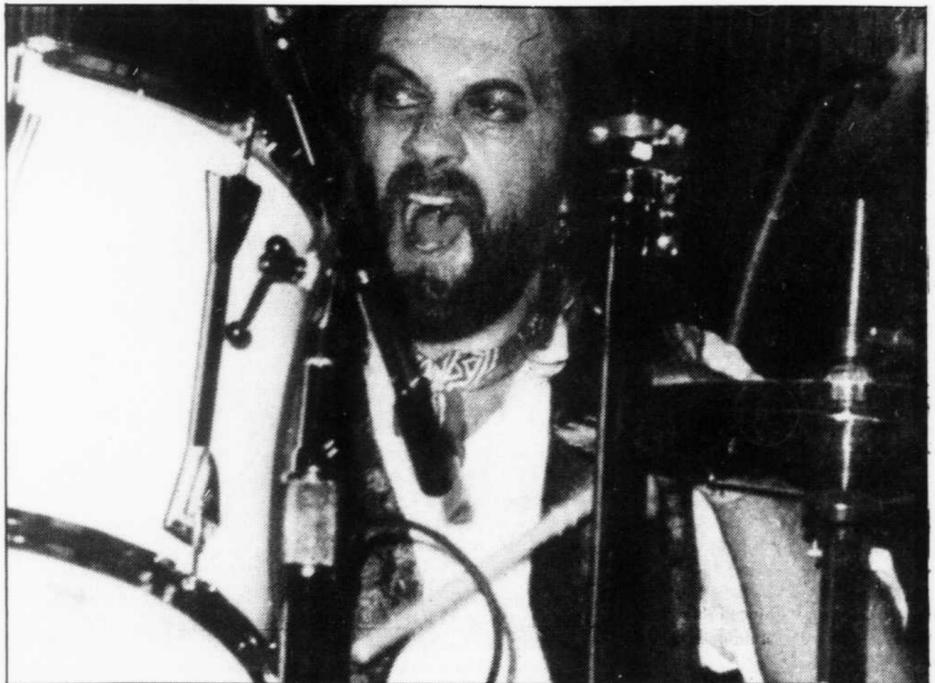
When she came back out she had a black cape on over her black dress, and the crowd went wild. Everyone except Christine McVie and Stevie left the stage, and they sang a duet which brought down the house.

Okay. I'm going to make this more interesting. A few songs later, everyone left the stage except for Mick Fleetwood and his new partner in the rhythm keeping business, Asante. Fleetwood had drum pads all over his chest and one on his heel. He danced around the stage like a gorilla in heat. "Huh," he screamed into the microphone, and the drum machine responded by using his voice for the sounds of the drums.

Everyone came back on stage to overwhelming applause and went into the Stevie Nicks "Stand Back" at twice the normal speed. The band was starting to look tired so they switched to something a little less tiring, like sleep. But seriously folks, they did do "Go Your Own Way," which ended the "real" show,

the part of the show that you actually pay for. But people just didn't think that it was enough. So the Mac (as I so affectionally call them) came back out for an encore. An encore that consisted of not one, but two (that's right two) songs. The second was "Don't Stop," which really kicked some butt. And that's not all, there's more. The public needed more. So they came back and did yet another encore.

I have to tell the truth. I wasn't too enthused about going to this concert, but it was really impressive. It restored my faith in Fleetwood Mac. I also have to say that I thought there would be more teenie boppers there than there were. They were really responsive to the older songs as well as the newest ones. Granted they really weren't Fleetwood Mac, but the new guys (Billy Burnett, the son of Dorsey Burnett the '50's pop star, and Richie Vito) did a very good job of replacing Lindsey Buckingham.



HOWARD ROSS

Mick Fleetwood jams on the drums as Fleetwood Mac performs at Murphy Center Tuesday evening.

☆☆☆☆
Four-Star Events

☆"The Caretaker" will continue through Nov. 21. Admission is free to students with a valid I.D. Seating is limited so make your reservations now for an evening of great theatre.

☆"The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie," will continue its run at the Murfreesboro Little Theatre through Nov. 21. Show times are at 8 p.m. Reservations can be made by calling 893-9825. Tickets are \$5.00.

☆End of Rodney Productions in conjunction with Middle Tennessee State University will present "Mind's Eye," a multi-media art form. This performance combines visual art, dance, music and mime. Some will remember the premiere of "Slow Dance," now a signature piece from "Space For Music" that appeared last Spring at MTSU. The performance will be Tuesday, Nov. 24 in the Tucker Theatre of the Boutwell Dramatic Arts Building and is free and open to the public.

☆Sunday Nov. 22, the Fine Arts Committee will present its final alternative film for the semester, "Soft Skin." The showing will be at 7 p.m. and is free and open to the public.

☆If you are in the mood for some heavenly music, then stop by the Wright Music Building Sunday, Nov. 29, and see "The Messiah." The performance begins at 3 p.m. and is free and open to the public.

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1988-89 MIDLANDER EDITOR

Applicants must be full-time MTSU students, graduate or undergraduate, and must have a 2.5 cumulative GPA.

Applications are available in Room 306 in the James Union Building. For more information contact Jackie Solomon, student publications coordinator at ext. 2338.

Deadline: Monday, Feb. 1, 1987

SPORTS

Big-time basketball comes to Murphy Center Saturday

By TONY STINNETT
Sports Co-Editor

Middle Tennessee State University will get a taste of big-time basketball this weekend when the Blue Raiders host Virginia Tech in the first round of the Big Apple National Invitational Tournament this Saturday at 8 p.m. in Murphy Athletic Center.

This will be the first time MTSU, or any other OVC team has competed in the preseason NIT.

"This is the first time for the OVC," Head Coach Bruce Stewart said. "This gives us an excellent shot at giving the league a good name."

MTSU's game will be the official opening of the 1987-88 basketball season, which is the 40th season for Ohio Valley Conference basketball.

The Blue Raiders return three starters from a team that was 22-7 last season. MTSU was picked by league coaches to win the OVC title for the third consecutive season.

The Hokies, members of the

Metro conference, were 10-18 last season but return four starters from last year's team.

Virginia Tech has suffered through an NCAA investigation this fall, in which they were suspended from playing in any post-season tournaments.

"I think they have gotten over all the NCAA problems and that is no longer hanging over their head," Stewart said. "This is their only chance to play in a national tournament this season because of the NCAA probation. This is their NCAA party."

This is the first time since the Blue Raiders downed Kentucky in the NCAA tournament in 1977 that MTSU has received a great deal of national respect and brought a nationally known team into Murphy Athletic Center.

"Never will a team like a Virginia Tech, a Seton Hall or a UCLA come to Murphy Center," Stewart said. "While we have a chance to

bring them into Murphy Center, we need to have a good old-fashioned home-court advantage.

"We also need to have a great student turnout because we have a good shot at hosting a second round game if we win the first game," Stewart added.

The other teams in the NIT are Alcorn State, Georgia Tech, Arkansas-Little Rock, Purdue, Oral Roberts, UCLA, Texas, Iowa State, Weber State, New Mexico, George Mason, Seton Hall, Jacksonville and Florida.

Second round games will be announced on Sunday, Nov. 22 and will be played Nov. 23 and Nov. 24 at sites to be announced.

The semi-final and final rounds will be played at Madison Square Garden in New York City Nov. 27 and Nov. 28, respectively.

"Our guys want to go to New York as bad as anyone," Stewart

Please see Big-time page eight

MTSU, TTU try to salvage 6-5 records

By TONY STINNETT
Sports Co-Editor

Middle Tennessee State University's annual season-ending showdown with Tennessee Tech will have a little more flavor than usual this season.

Both teams are trying to end the season with a winning record. For the Raiders, it would be considered salvaging a winning season. For the Golden Eagles it would be a major milestone.

Both teams win enter the game with 5-5 records. MTSU is 3-2 in the OVC, while Tech is 2-3.

Tennessee Tech is in search of their first winning season since 1981, while MTSU is trying to avoid their first losing season since 1980.

Both teams have a lot more than tradition to play for.

A win would boost Tennessee Tech into a tie with MTSU in the conference standings. A loss would be, for either team, a sour topping to an unpredictable season.

Both MTSU and Tech have played close games this season. With a few breaks during the season, this contest could have decided the conference champion, something it has not done since 1961 when the Golden Eagles downed the Blue Raiders 7-6 for the crown.

"We have got a great challenge

on our hands in going to Cookeville for this one," Head Football Coach Boots Donnelly said. "Tech has been in every game they have played right up to the end. Both teams will have a lot to play for, and it will be interesting to see how this one comes out."

Both teams are coming off inspirational victories. The Raiders offense hit all cylinders as they beat Murray State 27-9 last week.

Tech is coming off a 20-13 non-conference win over Tennessee-Chattanooga. Tailback Lorenzo Rivers rushed for 171 yards and a touchdown in the victory.

Rivers has had five runs of 60 yards or better this season and has the capability to break the long run at any given time. He had a 89-yard touchdown run against UTC, which was the longest run ever for a Golden Eagle player.

The Golden Eagles also have an offensive threat in senior quarterback Patrick Pope, who Donnelly calls "the fastest quarterback in the league."

Pope has completed 90 of 208 passes this season for 1,462 yards and nine touchdowns. The versatile Pope has also rushed for 353 yards and eight touchdowns.

"Tech's offense is as explosive as that of anybody in our conference,"

Donnelly said. "Their versatility makes it double tough to cope with."

The Golden Eagle's defense has also come a long way since last year's 0-10 team.

"Even though they have improved offensively, Tech has probably made the most improvement on defense," Donnelly added.

Tech has one of the best linemen in the league in Thomas Squires. Thomas has recorded 111 tackles and four quarterback sacks this season.

There will also be a battle among the punters in this week's game.

MTSU's freshman Chuck Daniel enters the game in second place in the OVC with a 39.7 yards per game average. Tech's Tracy Graham leads the league with a 40.6 average.



MTSU BLUE RAIDERS

No.	Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Cl.	Hometown
*3	Phil Snell	F	6-2	170	Sr.	Eagleville
*50	Randy Henry	F	6-9	195	Jr.	East Point, Ga.
*25	Dwayne Rainey	C	6-7	280	Sr.	Columbus, Ga.
*00	Tyrus Baynham	G	6-7	200	Sr.	Nashville
*11	Chris Rainey	G	5-11	165	Jr.	Macon, Ga.
4	Leslie Gregory	F	6-4	205	Fr.	Nashville
†14	Gerald Harris	G	5-11	170	So.	Chattanooga
21	Chris Ingram	F	6-9	220	Fr.	Decatur, Ga.
24	Rod Barber	G	6-3	175	Fr.	College Park, Ga.
32	Steve Rogers	G	6-3	170	Fr.	Montgomery, Ala.

†Harris may start for Snell if his injury improves.

Head Coach: Bruce Stewart



VIRGINIA TECH HOKIES

No.	Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Cl.	Hometown
*33	Tim Anderson	F	6-8	200	Jr.	Washington, D.C.
*42	Greg Brink	F	6-8	205	So.W.	Simsbury, Conn.
*40	Eric Sanders	C	6-8	210	So.	Hyattsville, Md.
*12	Vernell Colas	G	6-1	175	So.	Lewisburg, W.V.
*20	Wally Lancaster	G	6-5	200	Jr.	Lanham, Md.
14	Clinton Hollingham	G	6-2	180	Jr.	Machipongo, Va.
22	George Casner	G	6-2	185	Jr.	Greensboro, N.C.
24	Marvin Miles	F	6-5	185	Fr.	Alexandria, Va.
32	Sam Cannon	F	6-6	200	Fr.	Woodbridge, Va.
35	Steve Schurman	G	6-3	170	Fr.	Winchester, Ky.
41	David Herbster	F	6-8	215	Fr.	Chantilly, Va.
64	Roy Brow	C	6-11	210	Sr.	St. Croix, V.I.

Head Coach: Frankie Allen (Interim)

Here are the rosters and probable starters (denoted by *) for tomorrow night's Big Apple National Invitational Tournament to be held at Murphy Center at 8 p.m.

New coach, NCAA plague Hokie fall

By BRIAN CONLEY
News Writer

A first-year coach and a recent NCAA investigation are just two of the worries of the Virginia Tech Hokies as they travel to Murphy

Center Saturday to play Middle Tennessee State.

Frankie Allen, an 11-year assistant basketball coach at Virginia Tech, will coach his first game as the leader of the Hokies in a first round game of the Big Apple preseason National Invitational Tournament.

"They have a new coach. They're trying to get used to a new system to get used to," Allen said. "We're trying to iron out the kinks."

Charlie Moir resigned last October after a Virginia Tech in-house investigation of the athletic programs, which led to two years of sanctions, according to Virginia Tech sports information director Dave Smith.

However, Allen does not feel the controversy surrounding the eight-month probe will effect his charges this season.

"No, I don't think it will effect us," Allen said. "We have a big

bunch of workers, and they have accepted it.

Right now they just want to get started, play some basketball and have some fun," Allen added.

The coach said he is more worried about Middle Tennessee's "outstanding" front court.

"Middle's strong point is definitely their front court," he said. "There front line led by (Dwayne 'Bam Bam') Rainey, (Ty) Baynham and (Randy) Henry is outstanding."

"We definitely have our work cut out for us to contain them," he said.

But the Hokies have 6-8, 6-8 and 6-6 to battle the Blue Raiders' 6-7, 6-7 and 6-8 front line.

VPI has Eric Sanders, a 6-foot-8 sophomore center, Greg Brink, a 6-foot-8 redshirt sophomore forward, and Tim Anderson, a 6-foot-6 junior forward, on their front court.

Roy Brow, a 6-foot-11 center and the only senior on the Hokies

Please see New page eight

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BIG APPLE NATIONAL INVITATIONAL TOURNAMENT

MTSU Blue Raiders vs. Virginia Tech

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Murphy Center 8:00 p.m.

Reserved Theatre Seats: \$9.00
General Admission Bleachers: \$8.00
MTSU Students with valid I.D.
Reserved Theatre Seats: \$6.00 (limit 2)

Tickets On Sale Now At The
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AMERICAN GREETINGS

MTSU inks two prepsters for 1988

By TRACY BOYD
Sports Writer

Middle Tennessee State University's men's basketball team signed two prep players during the week-long national signing period.

The signing period began Nov. 11 and ran through midnight of Nov. 18.

Malandrick Webb, a 6-foot-2-inch, 160 lbs. shooting guard from Memphis, was the first signee.

Webb was a three-year starter for Hamilton High School. He helped lead Hamilton to a 29-5 record last season and a trip to the TSSAA Boys Basketball State Tournament at Vanderbilt University. He averaged 14 points per game last season.

"He is very quick and an excellent leaper," said Blue Raider Head Coach Bruce Stewart. "He's also an excellent three-point shooter."

Stewart said that he hopes that Webb will be able to give Chris Rainey rest next year and become the Blue Raiders three-point threat after Rainey's graduation.

Quincy Vance, a 6-foot-7-inch forward from Fayetteville, Tenn. He plays for Lincoln County High School, picked to finish third in Tennessee's Class AAA behind Memphis Hamilton and Chattanooga Brainerd.

"He's the quickest 6-7 player I've ever seen," said Stewart. "He's going to be a heck of a player."

Stewart said Vance is an intense player with good rebounding skills and is a fine scorer inside 15 feet.

These are the only two players that MTSU attempted to recruit, and Stewart was pleased with the outcome.

"We got the two we wanted," said Stewart.

With the Blue Raider's current crop of talented freshman and the addition of these two players, the Blue Raiders future looks very optimistic.

On the ladies side, Coach Lewis Bivens did not sign any player either.

Sidelines learned that the player did not sign because she had not received her ACT scores.

Big-time
Continued from page seven

said. "Step one is against Virginia Tech. We want to spend Thanksgiving in Madison Square Garden. For us to do that we will have to work on some things. If we don't, we will be eating turkey here in Murfreesboro."

Point guard Bimbo Coles must be contained, according to Stewart. Wally Lancaster, the Hokies excellent shooting guard, can score from anywhere. Tim Anderson is Virginia Tech's best athlete, according to Stewart.

"Anderson is a very good shooter," Stewart warned. "Last year a lot of teams played off of him, and he hurt them. We will have to stick with him."

Virginia Tech has a sound front line that could present problems for the Raiders. The Hokies three front line starters are all 6-feet-8-inches.

Remembering the 'Awesome' kidnapping

By PAT WARNER
Sports Columnist

This is a story about Middle Tennessee State University, Tennessee Tech, a bird and a party. My kind of story.

It was this week many years ago, when several Blue Raiders fans took upon themselves to do something that many admire: make Tech look stupid.

They got together, bought some beer and sped toward Cookeville in a van. It was "Wreck Tech" week, and they thought they might just add to the rivalry a bit.

After making it to Cookeville, they found Awesome Eagle, Tech's mascot, at a local burger place and decided to do something to the eagle, or "Chicken," as they called him.

I really don't know how the eagle, or chicken got the name "Awesome" since, if you have ever been to Tech-ville, you know first hand the only thing awesome about Cookeville is leaving.

But anyway, here were these loyal Blue Raider fans in Cookeville with a buzz, looking for something to do.

I don't know how it happened, and some of those guys don't know either, but the chicken was transported in the van back to Murfreesboro. Maybe it was the fact they kidnapped him, but "kidnaped" is such a dirty word. Let's just say they "borrowed" the chicken.

The bird was in a greasy burger place playing with little kids, and the Blue Raider fans asked him to get in the van. OK, they tricked him. They said they had a little kid in the van who wanted to meet the bird.

The naive bird went out to the van. The guys jumped him, threw him in the van and took off on their journey back to the 'Boro.

Now some of you might say they were mean in bringing the chicken back from Cookeville, but the chicken wasn't mad. Instead he went to a party that night with a warm-feeling inside. After all, he wasn't kidnapped, he was rescued from the dull Tech-ville nightlife!

Other thoughts from the Cheap Seats...Here's a recipe for a good weekend: Saturday morning, pack the car, go to Cookeville and watch the Blue Raiders end their football season. Then get back in the car, come back to the 'Boro. Go to the Big Apple NIT game and watch the basketball Blue Raiders open up their season.

They also have a tremendous amount of depth and a good inside game.

"Virginia Tech has a good offensive rebounding team," Stewart said. "Fort Hood presented us with some problems inside early in the exhibition game. Offensive rebounding is something that we are going to have to work on before Saturday night."

"They have good inside depth and they are a very good basketball team. We saw them play the other night and they are a team very capable of coming into a Murphy Center and beating MTSU," Stewart added.

Stewart is equally pleased with the fact that MTSU has an excellent chance to generate some excitement for the OVC and give the league a chance to gain national recognition.

"We are not only representing MTSU," Stewart said. "We are representing the OVC as well. We

New

Continued from page seven

"Coles and Anderson have been very good in practice and played well in the scrimmages," Allen said. "They have been named the team captains."

Coles came on strong during the final stretch of the Hokies 10-18 season last year, Allen said. Anderson was the Metro Conference's second leading rebounder last season with almost nine boards per contest.

don't want to do well just for ourselves, but for the league as well. We feel that we can showcase our team and the OVC at the same time."

Ticket prices for the game are \$9 for reserved seats and \$8 for general admission. Students can buy tickets for \$6.

"This is a little bit of the big time," Stewart said. "I realize that ticket prices are up, but we have no control of that. Prices are sent down from the NIT. If we are going to play big time basketball, we are going to have to pay."

Stewart summed up by saying that he feels it is a "pleasure and an honor," to be invited to the NIT. "We have the first game at home, which is a luxury," Stewart added.

Rumors are surfacing that if the Blue Raiders win the first round game they would either host Seton Hall, if they defeat George Mason, or travel to number 14 Florida, if they beat Jacksonville. This has not been confirmed by NIT officials.

squad, will be waiting on the bench.

However, Tech's slight advantage (their guards have a slight advantage also) may be offset by the team's relative inexperience.

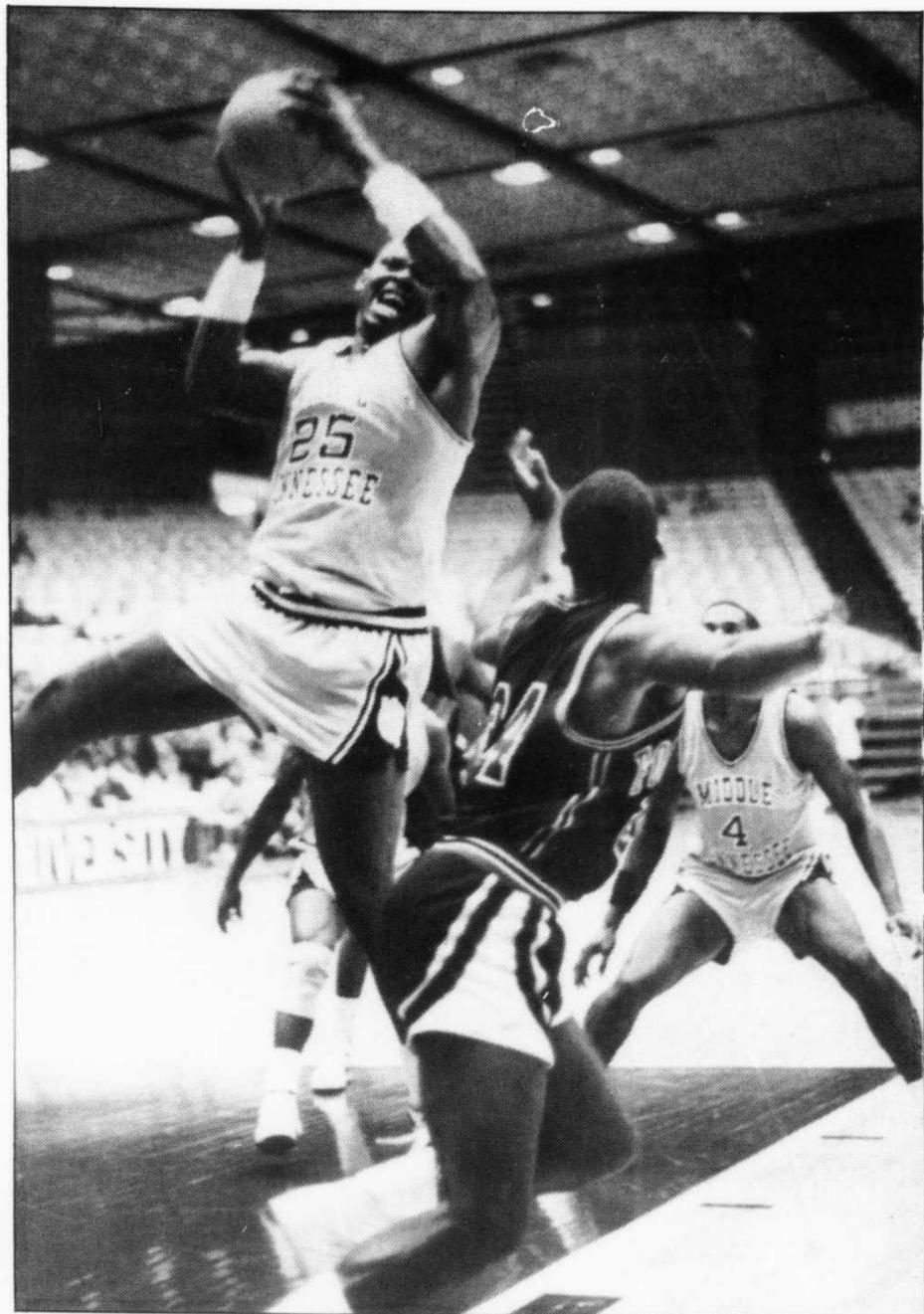
"A lot of our people are inexperienced," Allen said. "Their (MTSU's) front line experience will be a big advantage — especially for the first game of the year."

All of MTSU's front court started last year.

Allen said he will probably play two or three people off the bench.

"We will probably play seven or eight people," he said. "We did have quite a lot of people last year."

Vernell Coles, a 6-foot-1-inch sophomore guard and Anderson are the Hokies' leaders, Allen said.



HOWARD ROSS

MTSU center Dwayne "Bam-Bam" Rainey yanks down one of his team-high 10 rebounds and scored 16 points Monday night in the Blue Raiders 106-87 exhibition win over the Ft. Hood Tankers. MTSU will play Virginia Tech in the first round of the preseason NIT.

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