



JULY 1999

SIDELINES



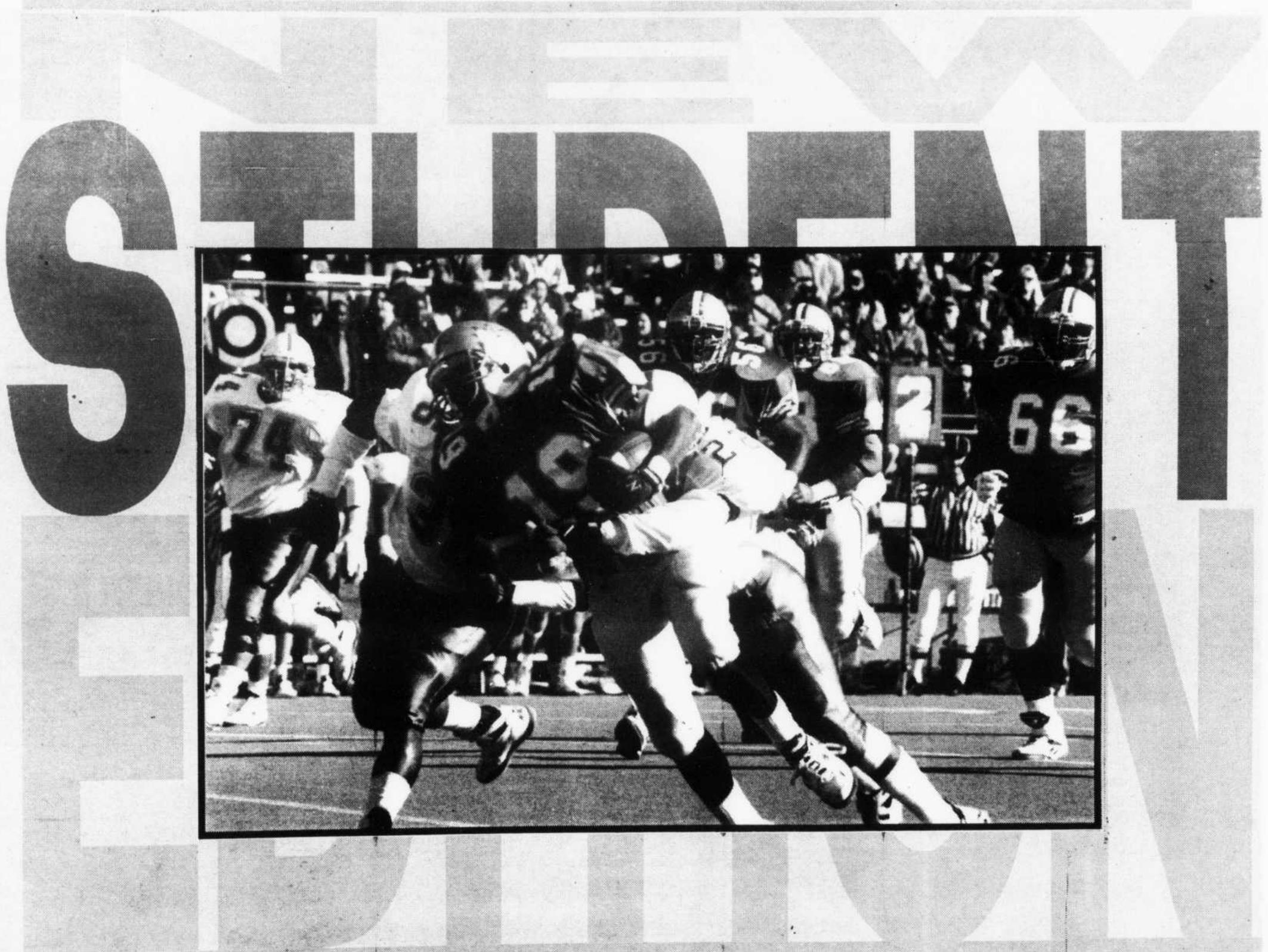
The voice of the students

MIDDLE TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY

Murfreesboro, TN



Welcome to a 1A semester!



NEW STUDENT EDITION

Welcome

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

It is with much pride that I take the opportunity to inform all who review this document that the state of Middle Tennessee State University is outstanding. We have worked diligently during the past year, and we have accomplished much.

As the beneficiaries of the vision, hard work, and successes of those who have preceded us, we have been provided with a solid foundation to build a university that will be second to none. Together, we can accomplish that goal as we constantly strive to enhance and strengthen our fine institution. Opportunities for MTSU are limitless, and we will move forward with the support of our constituencies.

We continually broaden our focus to include a diverse and growing population. We hope you become a part of our "MTSU Family."

James E. Walker

President



Depression
A flaw in chemistry,
not character.

The MTSU Counseling and Testing Center
can help.
KUC 329

Dear Prospective Students:

It is truly an honor to welcome you to Middle Tennessee State University (MTSU), home of the Blue Raiders, and to our college paper *Sidelines*.

As the Editor in chief of *Sidelines*, it is my pleasure to present you, the *Sidelines New Student Edition*. The staff and I have worked diligently to publish a special issue that will be interesting to you. I'm sure you'll find the answers to many of your questions here in these pages. Our purpose is to provide you with essential information to aide in your transition from high school (or transfer students) to full-fledged MTSU Blue Raiders.

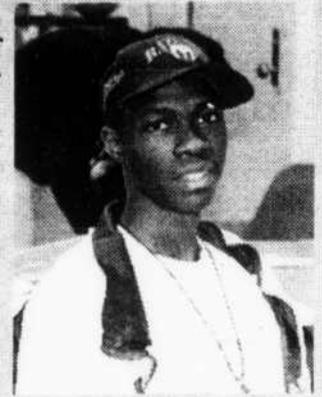
While flipping through the pages, you will find a variety of stories and photos from the perspective of students. With stories from tuition to residential life to intramural sports, we hope to provide you with the best possible look at life here at MTSU.

There are many reasons why students choose to come to MTSU. Some are here for the unique programs such as Concrete Management, while others are here to support our Division 1A football team. Some are here because they like the campus and friendly atmosphere, while others are here because it's affordable and their parents are making them come here. Then you have those students, like me, who are here primarily for the Recording Industry program, which is the largest and best in the nation. Whatever your reason for attending MTSU, I hope that the time you spend on this campus is well spent. May you MTSU experience be as fulfilling as mine as been so far.

We strongly encourage you to become faithful readers. If you are interested in joining our staff, please feel free to come by and see us at the James Union Building (JUB), Room 310 anytime. May your journey here at MTSU be all that you wish for and more. Big up and respect!

Sincerely,

Shawn Whitsell
Shawn Whitsell



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ship potential and helps you take on the challenge of command.

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Tighten your belts -- tuition goes up 6%

The Associated Press

TULLAHOMA — Parents can expect to tighten their belts this fall when fall tuition bills arrive — tuition is going up 6 percent.

Instate undergraduate tuition at MTSU and other Regents' universities except Memphis will increase \$114 this fall which will make tuition \$2,020 annually.

"The Tennessee Board of Regents approves a 6 percent fee increase for the 1999-2000 school year," said Dr. Duane Stucky, vice president for Finance and Administration.

"The increase will be used primarily for funding our highest priorities," Stucky added.

These priorities are increasing faculty salaries and bringing on additional faculty in response to our enrollment growth, Stucky said.

Stung by declining state support, the Tennessee Board of Regents voted June 30 to raise tuition at MTSU and other state schools which it governs this fall, hoping lawmakers would note their financial distress.

The panel voted 12-2 to charge 9

percent more at the University of Memphis and 6 percent more at the system's 45 other schools, including MTSU.

The Tennessee Higher Education Commission recommends tuition annually, and the Regents and University of Tennessee Board of Trustees actually set tuition.

The Regents' decision came without debate. In a finance committee meeting the day before, school presidents and regents spent more than two hours discussing the system's plight.

Some called for tuition increases as high as 12 percent, while others argued for a lower hike and more pressure on the General Assembly for additional dollars.

"We wanted people to understand that more and more of the burden of cost is shifting to students and we think that is a bad trend," Regents Chancellor Charles Smith said.

The state's share of higher education costs has dropped from 51 percent to 45 percent since 1990, while the student's portion increased from 33 to 37 percent, the regents said.

The portion of Tennessee dollars devoted to higher education has shrunk

1999-2000 Undergraduate Tuition Increase

Tennessee Undergraduates	1999-2000 Fees	Increase	Percent
MTSU/ Regents Universities	\$2,020	\$114	6%

from 18 percent in 1985 to about 12 percent in 1998, the regents said.

"What kind of higher education system do we want for the state?" Smith asked. "Can we afford to go to the bottom?"

The UT-Board of Trustees struck a similar tone in its June meeting. They blamed a slide in state funding for the need to raise tuition by 15 percent for instate undergraduate and graduate students at the flagship Knoxville campus. The panel also approved a 9 percent increase for UT-Chattanooga and UT-Martin.

Despite the Regents' increase, many of their schools remain cheaper than peer institutions such as Virginia Commonwealth University, in some cases by more than \$1,000 annually.

Paul Stanton, president of East Tennessee State University, said if

improvements aren't made, it will be an empty bargain. He said he lost 23 faculty members in the past three months to schools with higher salaries.

"None of us wants to put more on the backs of the students," Stanton said. "But I have to praise UT because they said they want to improve quality."

Over the next few months, Smith and other regents plan to speak to civic clubs and local leaders to draw support for higher education. Among the top issues is closing what Smith estimates is a \$10,000 salary gap between Tennessee professors and faculty in other state schools.

"We're not going to get the cream of the crop," he said. "We could cause irreparable damage in the state of Tennessee if we don't get competitive in

Direct-lending incentives could save students money

Christine Tatum
College Press Exchange

WASHINGTON (CPX) — Faced with stiff competition from the private sector, the Education Department is trying to bolster its struggling direct-lending program with a package of discounts expected to save two million student borrowers more than \$600 each.

Supporters of direct lending, in which the government gives loans to students through colleges, praised the plan as a sound way to compete with increasingly aggressive banks and guarantee agencies, which have offered significant discounts to make traditional loans cheaper. So cheap, in fact, that several schools have parted ways with the government's program.

To fight competition, the Education Department's plan proposes a three-pronged approach expected to cost about \$500 million over five years.

First, the plan would lower an "origination fee" borrowers must pay up front. The fee would drop from four percent to three percent of the total loan balance, saving the average graduate with a debt of \$10,000 and a standard 10-year repayment plan \$631 over the life of the direct loan.

Second, the plan would allow student borrowers in the direct-loan program to consolidate their loans while still in college — a move many higher-education advocates say would provide the most substantial benefits to students.

Such a provision would allow borrowers to lock in at the lowest interest rate available and then shave off another six-tenths of a percentage point once they left college and began making payments. That change would save students an average of \$374, department officials said.

Finally, the plan would cut interest rates by another quarter of a percentage point for borrowers who repaid their loans electronically.

Critics of direct lending say the government should stop fighting so hard to maintain a program that is having trouble holding its own against the private sector. They also say the department is pushing a plan that falls outside its authority. To back their claim, opponents cite a review by the Congressional Research Service that concluded Congress was "clear and explicit" when it ordered Education Department officials to mandate that borrowers pay a four percent origination fee. The research agency said.

THEC wants funding study

90-day exam could show if agency is taking right approach

Phil West
Associated Press Writer

NASHVILLE — Student fees are going up at state colleges and universities, but the Tennessee Higher Education Commission also wants to exam how it reaches decisions on how the state's colleges, universities, technology institutes and technology centers are funded.

THEC recommended increases in student fees at the University of Tennessee system and for the Board of Regents schools.

THEC members also ordered an examination of how it reaches decisions on funding for Tennessee's colleges, universities, technology institutes and technology centers.

"I mean a hard-nosed look at us from the outside," THEC chairman A C Wharton said.

Wharton said he wants the study, to be completed in 90 days, to show whether the agency is taking the right approach to funding recommendations.

Public higher education in Tennessee is funded by student fees, out-of-state tuition, state appropriations and donations.

"We have control of only one group, and that's the students. We can't control what the legislature does," Wharton said.

UT's Knoxville campus has not had a

significant increase in state funding for seven years, said Eli Fly, the school's executive vice president and chief financial officer.

He said Gov. Don Sundquist's \$16.6 billion budget proposal had no increase for the Knoxville campus and little elsewhere.

Board of Regents Chancellor Charles Smith said the Regents' system received an increase of more than \$18 million in Sundquist's budget recommendation, and the legislature approved.

While that still is not enough money to fill all the needs at Regents schools, Smith said he will not recommend his board raise fees the full 8 percent and 12 percent because that is more than he had sought.

"There's a matter of credibility and faith that has to be maintained here," Smith said.

"It's a question of what's fair."

In 1993, THEC set a target for student fees covering 40 percent of the cost of a four-year college education and 35 percent of a two-year degree, with the state paying the rest.

Under the latest fee proposals, students in four-year colleges would be carrying about 48 percent of the load and students in two-year colleges about 39 percent.

At the University of Memphis, students would be paying nearly 49 percent of the bill, and UT-Knoxville students would be paying

'There's a matter of credibility and faith that has to be maintained here. It's a question of what is fair.'

TBR Chancellor
Charles Smith

Student Government Association

P.O. Box 1
Middle Tennessee State University
Murfreesboro, Tennessee 37132
(615) 898-2464



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Middle Tennessee State University
Murfreesboro, Tennessee 37132
(615) 898-2464

My fellow students:

Welcome to MTSU!!! I hope your summer is fulfilling, rewarding and enriching. I also hope you find time for a little fun!

Another year is about to begin. I hope that your first year at MTSU will a great start to a great career here. I would like to share a formula for having a successful year.

Students Must Be Involved

- *I realize that this is a hackneyed expression. Yet, it is "the" essential element of success.
- *We need students to support our football team as they enter division IA
- *We need students to support our Quiz Bowl Team as they enter their second year of competition.
- *We need students to volunteer to serve on Traffic Court.
- *We need students to support our nationally ranked Mock Trial, Model UN and Debate teams.
- *We need students to support and help our baseball, basketball, volleyball, tennis, equestrian and golf teams.
- *We NEED student support for All MTSU events, groups, athletics, organizations, etc.

So whether you are black, white, red, yellow or brown; Catholic, Protestant, atheist, agnostic or polytheistic; homosexual, heterosexual or bi-sexual; you ARE a part of the MTSU community. But throughout your time here you must determine one thing. "Will I be a MTSU student — or just a student attending MTSU?" There is a distinct difference. The true character of a MTSU student pushes that individual to strive for academic excellence, to pursue opportunities, to help improve where improvement is needed and to strive to see a greater sense of community that transcends race, sex, sexual preference and socioeconomic status.

If we can learn to put aside these difference, we will succeed. If we do not, this year will be the status quo.

And so I challenge each student at MTSU with this question: What type of student are you?

Six SGA Objectives:

- *A more efficient Traffic Court
- *A more involved student body
- *Town Hall meetings
- *Blue Card/What Card Program
- *See that lights out around campus are replaced
- *Detractions to MTSU's aesthetic beauty fixed

All students are encouraged to come and visit the SGA Office, Keathley Unviersity Center, Room 208, or call us at 898-2464.

In service for you,

Andrae Crismon
SGA President '99-'00

Dear Students:

On behalf of the Student Government Association, allow me to be the first to welcome you to Middle Tennessee State University! You are about to start a new phase in your life that will challenge you on several levels. Not only will you be challenged with the different levels of academic skills required by the university, but you will also be challenged with time management. College is an exciting yet sometimes difficult change. It is important for you to remember to set goals and to keep focus on the goals that you set.

Our job as the Student Government Association is to be the voice of the students. Just like many high schools have a student government, so do we. However, our Student Government Association has the task of being the voice for over 18,000 students. Our voice is heard throughout campus in a variety of ways such as university committees, Senate and House of Representatives meetings, student activities, and through many other outlets. Our goals as leaders are to keep students informed and to serve with MTSU and the students' best interests in mind.

We often hear students complain about parking, campus beauty, and overall student life on campus. However, we need the students' help in order to make needed changes. As we move into the new millennium, we are fully aware of the changes and improvements that need to be made on campus. We are also aware that we as student leaders are only as strong as the support we obtain from the people we are representing. Let me say this again, we represent you! Therefore, your ideas, opinions, and help are always needed. I think we can all agree that apathy will never get us anywhere. On the other hand, if we all work together to make our campus a safer, cleaner, and more enjoyable place, then we would all benefit. I think Luciano De Crescenzo said it best — "We are each of us angels with only one wing. And we can only fly embracing each other."

I, as well as other Student Government officers look forward to meeting you in the year ahead. If you have any suggestions, concerns, or if you would like to work with the SGA, then please come by to see us in Keathley University Center, Room 208. You can also call us at 898-2464.

Sincerely yours,

Megan Smith
Speaker of the Senate

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It's Homecoming time again for MTSU football!

by Julia Ann Graves
SGA Homecoming Director

This is a milestone year for MTSU football. We are going to Division 1A!

In celebration of that, the Homecoming Committee and the Student Government Association have planned a Homecoming all about football. The theme is "Football Fiesta: 1A All the Way!"

The committee has planned several new events for Homecoming Week that they hope will start some new traditions. Homecoming Week is Sept. 26- Oct. 2. The big Homecoming game is at 6 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 2. Mark your calendars now.

The SGA has had the good fortune to start planning Homecoming much earlier than in past years. It started off with Homecoming questionnaires and advertising for the Homecoming Committee (anyone could join) in April.

The Homecoming Committee consists of volunteers concerned and excited about Homecoming and MTSU as a school. The group is excited, intelligent and school spirited, and they do care about your needs during Homecoming. In May and June, the committee read the questionnaires and planned Homecoming based on those responses.

The committee learned from the questionnaire that you, the student,

want more activities anyone can participate in, and you wanted more fun and school-spirit competitions. The goal as the 1999 Homecoming Committee is to get more individuals and organizations of MTSU involved, and provide all students involved with an opportunity to have a fun, rewarding experience during the week

of Homecoming. The committee hopes by accomplishing this, MTSU can begin to move away from student apathy and create a sense of school spirit and unity.

The Homecoming Committee is also working closely with the Alumni Association, the Athletic Department, the football team, Student

Programming, MTSU faculty and administrators to coordinate all the different events to make Homecoming and the big game a success for all parties involved.

The charity being sponsored this year is Special Kids of Murfreesboro, a nursing and rehabilitation center for handicapped children. The service is located on Arnette Drive in town. The committee hopes to raise money for the organization with Chili Cook-Off ticket sales and various fund-raisers throughout the week.

One of the new events this year is "Kicking Off Homecoming," Sept. 26, an MTSU field day with a kickball tournament, free food and bands. There will also be a campuswide treasure hunt during Homecoming week for cash and prizes hidden around campus. To participate, you can come to the SGA office and receive clues to New Homecoming Court a more significant part of Homecoming by having the ladies help at the events and by using the Homecoming Queen in SGA activities throughout the year.

There is also "A Very Special Secret" for all you rowdy people at 12 a.m. Oct. 2, and the committee guarantees a good time! Football coach Andy McCollum and the football team are also helping



Members of the Chi Omega Sorority and Kappa Alpha Order march along side the float the two Greek organizations built for last year's Homecoming parade. The Homecoming committee is hoping for a larger parade this year.

See Homecoming, page 7

Middle Tennessee State University • Department of Campus Recreation

1999

Fall/Winter Outdoor Pursuits Adventure Schedule

Date	Trip/Event	Location	Day	Cost (# Limit)	Info Mtg or Event
				\$ students/guests	
August 28	Freshman Adventures	TN	Sat.	Check w/ Residence Life	
September					
11	Canoeing	Harpeth River	Sat.	\$10/13 (10)	8am, 9/11
11	Mtn. Bike	Fairview	Sat.	\$12/15 (8)	8am, 9/11
14	Belay Clinic	Rec Center	Tu.	\$8/10 (8)	6pm, 9/14
15	Intro to Rock Climbing	Rec Center	Wed.	\$8/10 (8)	8pm, 9/15
17	MLB-Braves vs. Montreal	Atlanta, GA	Fri.	\$25/30 (12)	Noon, 9/17
18	Mini-Triathlon	Rec Center	Sat.	\$10/15 (30)	9am, 9/18
				(300 yd. swim/8mi.bike/2.2mi. run-all on campus with solo or teams of 2-4 persons)	
19	Ocoee Rafting	East TN	Su.	\$20(18) Univ. only	8am, 9/19
21-22	Kayak Roll Clinic	Rec Center	Tu-Wed	\$10/14(10)	7-10pm 9/3-4
24	Adopt a Hiway Cleanup	Highway 99	Fri.	Free (incl. Lunch)	2-4pm, 9/24
25	Rock Climbing	Foster Falls	Sat.	\$12/15 (12)	8am, 9/25
25	Kayak/Fuyak/Rafting	Hiwassee R.	Su.	\$12/16 (14)	8am, 9/25
27	Canoe Full Moon	Stones River	Mo.	\$7/9 (10)	8pm, 9/27
28	Belay Clinic	Rec Center	Tu.	\$8/10 (8)	7pm, 9/28
October					
9	Raft the Ocoee R.	East TN	Su.	\$20(18) Univ. only	8am, 9/14
13	Belay Clinic	Rec Center	Wed.	\$8/10(8)	7pm, 9/13
15-17	Backpack/Rappelling	Sipsey Wild. AL	Fri-Su.	\$25/30(10)	5pm, 10/13
20-24	Sea Kayaking	Land Between Lakes	Wed-Fri	\$20/25(5)	4pm, 10/18
21-24	Backpacking	Smokies, TN	Th-Sat.	\$40/45(10)	5pm, 10/18
30-31	NFL Cowboys vs. Colts		Sat-Su	\$45/50(11)	5pm, 10/27
30	Rock Climb	Fall Creek Falls	Sat.	\$12/15(12)	8am, 10/30
November					
1-5	Int'l Conf. on Outdoor Rec	Jackson Hole, WY			
6-7	Backpacking	Big South Fork	Sat-Su	\$25/30(10)	5pm, 11/3
8-9	Kayak Roll Clinic	Rec Center	Mon-Tu	\$10/14(8)	7pm, 11/8-9
5-8	NIRSA Region II Conference	Birmingham AL			
21-28	Hiking/Camping	Arches/Zion, UT	Sat-Sat	\$150/200(9)	6:30pm, 11/17
24-29	Backpacking	Grand Canyon, AZ	Wed-Mo.	\$375/425(9)	5pm, 11/17
					Deadline Oct 10th for final payment to SW Airlines (3day/2nite permit)
December					
3	Caving	Epsey Cave, TN	Fri.	\$8/10(11)	Noon, 12/3
10	Adopt a Hiway	Highway 99	Fri.	Free (Inc. lunch)	2-4pm, 12/10
Christmas Break					
17-23	Snow Skiing @ Steamboat Springs, CO		Su-Sat.		5:30pm, 12/1
					-Billy Kid Pkg-\$675/710/740-flying Amer. Airlines-Denver+trans.-30spots (ski in/ski out, lux. condos w/6nites, 4days ski)
					-Amarillo by Morning-\$390/430-driving-18spots-7nite/4day ski(ski in/out "almost", Econ.condos @5nite+2nite motel enroute)
					-Hobo Special"Meet us There"\$290/300/310-18spots-5nite/4day ski(ski in/out"almost", Econ. condos @5nite/4day ski)
Jan. 3-9	Canoe the Everglades Florida		Mo-Mon.		5:30pm, 12/8
					Joe River/Lane Bay Area (4day/3nite permit)- 2 groups (5) @ \$135/175

Fall Intramural Sports Schedule

Sport	Registration	Captain's Mtg.	Play
Soccer (M,W,CR)(TV)	Aug.23-Sept.7	5pm Sept.8	Sept.13
Backwoods Minitriathlon (Indiv. or teams of 2-4 @ 300yd. swim, bike 8, run 2.4-on campus)(WT, MO)	Aug.23-Sept.17	8:30am, Sept.18	9am, Sept.18
Pre-Season Flag Football (M,W)(CG,MO)- Limited Spots! Great time to get ready for the SEASON	Aug.23-Sept.7	noon 5pm, Sept.7	6pm, Sept.8-9
Flag Football (M,W,CR)(CG,MO)	Aug.23-Sept.8,5pm	5pm, Sept.9	Sept.13
Atlanta Braves vs. Montreal (CG,TV,MO)	Aug.23-Sept.15	Noon, Sept.17	7:40pm, Sept.17
		(depart @ 12:30pm)	
Golf Scramble (M,W,CR)(CG) Be sure to sign up early to play!	Sept.13-24,5pm	11:45am, Oct.6	Noon, Oct.1
Volleyball (M,W,CR)(TV)	Sept.20-Oct.5,5pm	5pm, Oct.6	Oct.11
Dallas Cowboys vs. Colts (WT,MO)	Oct. 4-27	5pm, Oct.27	Oct.30-31
			(noon game)
MTSU/TIRSA Flag Football Shootout(M,W,CR)(WT,MO,CG)	Nov.1-18,5pm	8am, Nov.20	9am, Nov.20 *
			(6 fields)
Pre-Season Basketball(M,W,CR)(CG,MO)	Dec.6-Jan.10	5pm, Jan.11	5pm, Jan.12
Indoor Roller Hockey(Open)(TV)	Nov.15-29noon	5pm, Nov.29	5pm, Nov.30-Dec.1
Whiffleball(Open)(CG)	Nov.15-30	5pm, Dec.1	6pm, Dec.1-2

*Game time is forfeit time. Be sure to have enough players to start the game or lose \$30 FF Fee!

Official's Training	Soccer	Sept.8 @6-9pm (TV)
	Flag Football	Sept.2,12@6-9pm (CG,MO)
	Volleyball	Sept. 30 @6-8pm(TV)
	Preseason Basketball	Dec.6, 6-9pm (CG,MO)

Call 898-2104 for more information.



Dwan Bell (from left), Ashley Allen, Julie Hendrick, Chevela Stewart and Homecoming Queen Carment Jones prepare for the Homecoming parade last October. The queen's young attendants are looking forward to their special trip down the parade route. The queen will assume additional duties this fall.

Homecoming, from page 6

out with events this year and will be special guests of honor at the Fight Song competition and Pep Rally on Sept. 30.

The Homecoming Committee hopes you share its goal and vision for Homecoming 1999 and hopes you will participate with your fellow classmates. The college years are a special time in our lives, so make them as memorable as possible and enjoy your time here.

Homecoming calendars will be available soon. If you have any suggestions, ideas or complaints about Homecoming or if you would like to volunteer, come to the SGA office, KUC Room 208. The committee will consider your opinion for the future improvement of Homecoming.

RUSH

Sorority Rush
Sept. 8-13

Fraternity Rush
Aug. 30-Sept. 4

Sign up at
CUSTOMS Port-of-Call or
look for tables at the KUC.

Recycle

Hollywood's Best Kept Secret
MTSU get ready to breathe
Oxygen Bar Opening Soon



SUNTIMES
TANNING

890-2964 or 221-0637

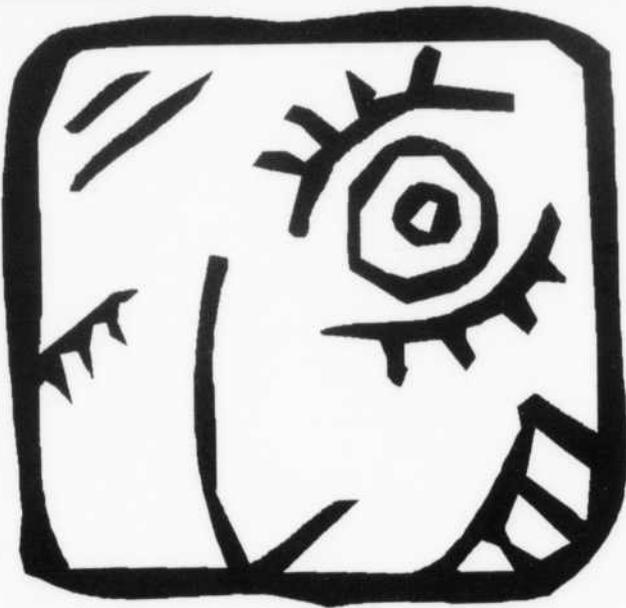


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KUC Room 322



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University 101 features:

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University 101 covers:

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- Critical thinking
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- Overcoming anxiety
- Writing essays and papers
- Oral presentations
- Using the library technology and other resources



To Enroll:

Look under University 101 Seminar in the Schedule Book to select a time that is convenient with you. Enter the information on your **TRAM** worksheet.

For more Information Contact:

Faye Johnson
Assistant to Provost/Vice President for Academic Affairs
119 Cope Administration Building
Murfreesboro, TN 37132
898-2880

Mass Communication College receives full accreditation

Melanie McWhorter
Staff Writer

Students enrolled in the College of Mass Communication can enter with the knowledge they are attending a fully accredited program.

The Accrediting Council on Education in Journalism and Mass Communication (ACEJMC) voted to reaccredit the school of journalism, the

department of radio/television and photography and the graduate program earlier this year.

"Our Mass Comm program is one of about 100 hundred programs accredited nationally by ACEJMC," Pood says that this "puts us in an elite group," said Dr. Elliott Pood, assistant dean of the college.

This marks the first time that the school has received full accreditation. This recognition comes following a

review of the school's programs by an accreditation team who visited the campus and a year's worth of self-scrutiny by the college. This scrutiny was intense, since the ACEJMC has high standards to meet, Pood said.

The ACEJMC is, according to its webpage, "dedicated to fostering and encouraging excellence and high

standards in professional education in journalism and mass communications."

The council also tries to recognize the diversity of each school's program and "encourages educational innovation by units as they strive to meet accreditation requirements and standards."

"Students can be assured

that they are receiving some of the highest-quality education in the country," Pood said.

IA

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Sunday 11:00 am - 12 midnight

If you look, this college town offers something for everyone

Tracy L. Moore
 Staff Writer

Murfreesboro is a small town. If you've lived here any length of time, you are already aware of this fact. If you have just moved here, you are about to find out. Nonetheless, you elected to spend the next four years of your life here (or more, as current graduation trends would indicate), so you may as well become acquainted with the places where you will be spending a vast majority of your free time.

I moved to Murfreesboro about five years ago. At that time, a coffee shop on Greenland Dr. across from Murphy Center, Chameleon Cafe, offered college students a place to drink coffee,

read, play board games, listen to music, and meet new people. This is where I met the friends I still consider close to this day. However, Chameleon Cafe closed down some time after that, and we were forced to venture out into the city, in search of our next potential hangout. It wasn't easy, but Murfreesboro does have options, albeit very few. So, this a college student's guide to what Murfreesboro has to offer by way of entertainment and goofing off, as well as a few tips to help make it easier.

Tip #1: Make some friends!!! Supposedly, the friends you make in college are the friends you may just keep the rest of your life. Plus, these people will save you from the terror and boredom that is Murfreesboro, or any small town for that fact, when

there is nothing to do. Besides, you are going to need someone to rent all those movies with when there is nothing, and I mean absolutely nothing, to do.

Tip #2: Bars, bars, bars. Let's face it, bars are what you're left with when you want entertainment, socializing, and occasionally good music. Murfreesboro has quite a few bars, but only a few are actually worth mentioning.

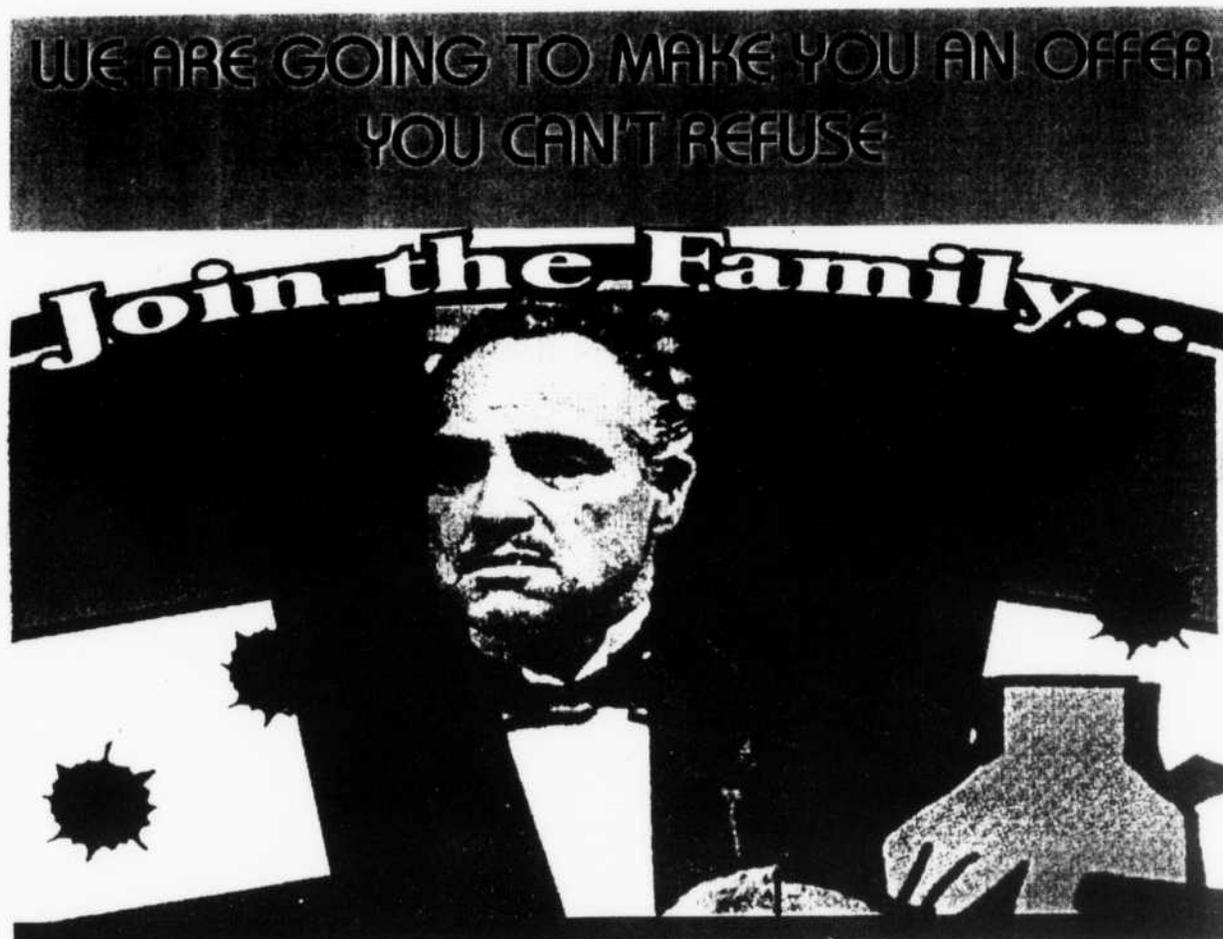
The Boro Bar and Grill: 1211 Greenland Dr. At some point, you will end up here. They feature live music, beer and wine, people your age, pool tables, an outside patio, and they allow pets! The music leans toward a sort of hippie-improvisational-jamband-thing, but also has good ole rock n' roll and your standard college alternative. Also, the atmosphere is relaxed and friendly,

thus reducing that whole everyone checking out your coolness status when you walk through the door.

Sebastian's: 109 N. Maple St. (on the square). Sebastian's now conveniently comes in two parts: upstairs and downstairs. Upstairs, there is live music, pool tables, people your age, an indie rock vibe wanting to happen, and, of course, alcohol. Downstairs, there is dim lighting, food, no music, and, of course, alcohol. And not just beer or wine, liquor, too!

Puffing Billy's: 941 NW Broad St. Ahhh, Puffing Billy's. It's clean, dimly lit, makes excellent drinks, sells cigars, has good service, a late night menu and a classy atmosphere. Puffing Billy's is

See College, page 25



THE PI KAPPA ALPHA FAMILY

Pi Kappa Alpha is a fraternity founded in 1868 and is composed of men banded together as brothers for life. The men of Pi Kappa Alpha's Eta Zeta Chapter at MTSU believe we have found a way to give our brothers the complete college experience and would like to offer this experience to you. Here are some awards our chapter has won over the past two years.

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- Most Outstanding Community Service Event
- Best Sportsmanship

Do these areas of college life sound like something that would interest you? If you are interested in a Fraternity that is committed to scholarship, leadership, athletics, bettering the community, and developing its members into true gentlemen, then Pi Kappa Alpha may be the choice for you. Come visit us at 9:30 on the first night of each customs session. We are located at 715 N. Tennessee Blvd. which is directly across the street from Murphy Center (Within Walking Distance). If you need a ride or have any questions call 848-0926 and ask for Robbie or Jamin.

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Campus prepares for fall parking ritual

New parking lots open additional spaces for students, faculty, staff

Staff Reports

The first few weeks of fall semester, the grand hunt begins as students in their cars prowl the parking lots in search of that tempting parking space morsel.

But this fall should be different. Students and faculty may be surprised when they return to new parking lots and improvements in the traffic rules and regulations.

The rates for parking permits will remain at \$65 for white permits, \$45 for green permits and \$30 for black permits. White permits are only available to faculty, staff and administrators. Students may purchase the green and black permits.

MTSU Parking Services, along with the Traffic Committee and Campus Planning, have worked to suggest and review ideas for building new parking lots or adding to existing areas.

A new parking lot is being constructed on the site of the

old heating plant next to Kirksey Old Main and will have about 55 white-permit parking spaces. Another new gravel lot adding about 100 spaces will be located next to the Tennessee Livestock Center on Greenland Drive.

There will be 97 additional spaces in the Campus Recreation gravel lot, which will be connected to 2nd Street and a new road to minimize traffic congestion.

The parking areas will also be re-stripped and new signage will be visible. However, yellow curbs and fire lanes will remain marked as usual.

The Traffic Committee also approved a recommendation that will reserve parking for students residing in Scarlett Commons, Womack Lane Apartments (formerly Family Housing) and Greek Row starting in the fall. The residents of these areas will have to park in their designated areas.

Those residents will also be allowed to utilize the parking



Signs like this one will be posted around campus to designate the the appropriate color-coded parking area.

lot at the Recreation Center if their designated areas are full. If these residents are parked anywhere else on campus, they will be given a ticket for "unassigned space." The vehicles of these residents will be identified by special validation stickers.

Parking Services and the Traffic Committee invite all concerned persons to suggest ideas for review when the committee meets in the fall. To contact Parking Services, call 898-2850.

Color-coded curbs for parking replaced by new sign system

Melanie McWhorter
Staff Writer

By the time everyone gets back for fall semester, students and faculty will find the color-coded curbs gone as the university moves to a new sign system for all parking lots.

All white, green, blue, black and yellow curbs on campus will be eliminated over the course of the summer.

"The new signs will be more attractive throughout the campus," said Connie Hagberg, director of Parking Services.

"The expense of maintaining and repainting curbs will also be eliminated," Hagberg said.

Hagberg said that as parking needs change on campus, "it will be easier to move signs than to re-work curb colors." This will result in some long-range cost savings for the university.

She also added that some yellow curbs may re-appear after a project review. Red fire lanes will remain painted.

"We appreciate your patience and understanding during this project," Hagberg said. If you have any comments or questions, please contact Parking Services at extension 2850.

Sandblasting for the project is taking place this summer and because of erratic weather conditions and unexpected work delays, it will be impossible to create an accurate schedule for the sandblasting work, she said.

Lots will be closed at various times to do the sandblasting work, so parking for everyone, even our visitors could be problematic. Signs should be posted indicated that certain lots are closed. Please make every effort to heed this signs.

Barricades, sawhorses and signs that restrict parking in a certain area are placed there for the protection of people and property. Individuals who remove a barrier or sign and park in a restricted area will have their vehicles towed at their own expense.

Scarlett Commons, a new residential option for students, offers amenities

Melanie McWhorter
Staff Writer

Students residing on campus this fall will have the opportunity to enjoy a new living experience with the opening of the 104-unit Scarlett Commons apartment complex.

The new complex will house 416 students in eight three-story units and one two-story unit.

"We're really excited about opening these new apartments," said Dr. Debra Sells, director of director of Housing and Residential Life.

This complex will be the first new housing on campus since the Ezell-Abernathy apartment complex opened in 1972, Sells added.

These new apartments will each have four private bedrooms, a kitchen, living room and two baths. Each bedroom will have its own lock and key system for security, a data line for the internet and a private phone line that the student may activate at an additional cost.

The main living area has a

bay window and a full-sized kitchen. A main phone line in the living room is automatically activated and included in the apartment rent. The kitchen includes a stove, a refrigerator and a microwave. These apartments will also be furnished with beds, desks and desk chairs, dressers, living room couch and chair, end table, and dining room table and chairs.

The Scarlett Commons apartments consists of nine separate buildings around a central clubhouse. The clubhouse will have a 24-hour service desk, staff offices, meeting rooms, laundry facilities, and a lounge that includes a fireplace and a television.

Utilities provided to each apartment (included in apartment rent) will include electricity, heating and cooling, basic cable and one phone line.

These apartments will have reserved parking for residents, and the Raider Express will stop at the apartments to pick up students for classes.

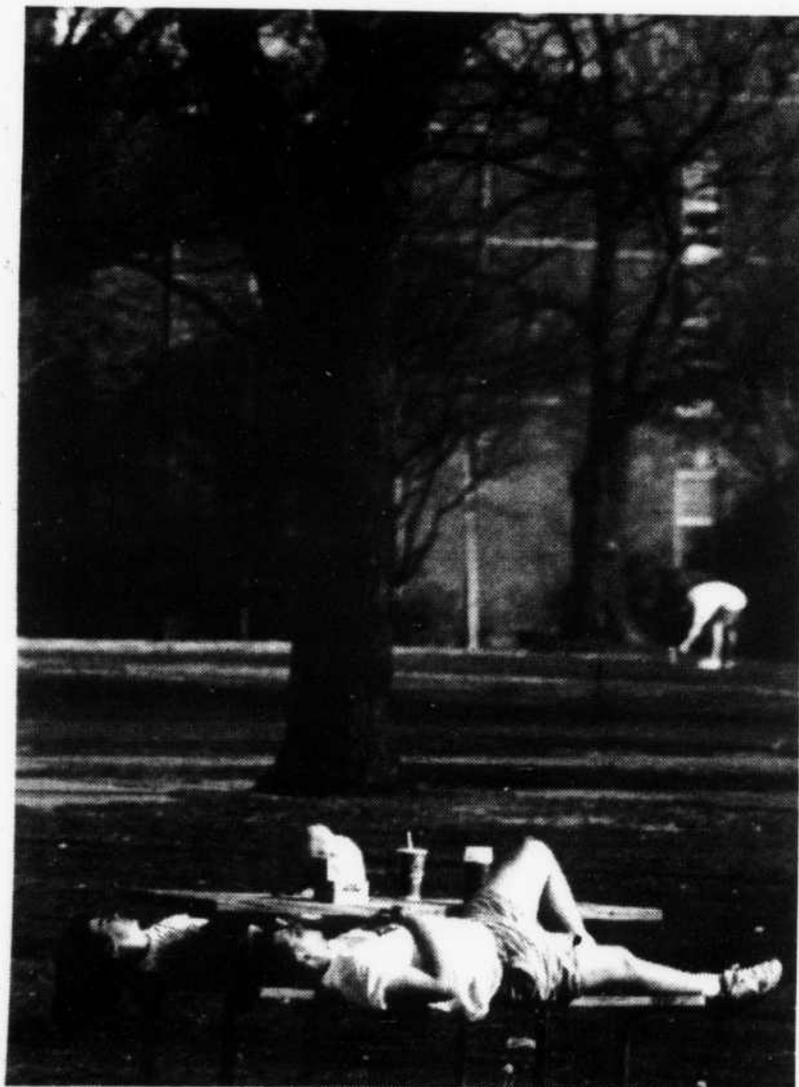
Scarlett Commons residents will pay \$2100 per semester to reside there, and students who

wish to live there in the summer will pay \$299 for the summer term. Some students who choose to extend their housing agreement to a 12-month plan will pay about \$375 a month.

According to Sells, these rates are "comparable" with the rates of local apartments, and "they offer the flexibility of being able to choose a nine-month lease or a 12-month lease."

This project has cost the school about \$12 million. These apartments should be completed by the end of July, ready for fall semester occupancy Aug. 20.

All units in the complex are booked for fall, but there is always the possibility that some spaces will open up, depending on an individual's circumstances. However, new students can inquire about possible openings, but you can always apply for next year. To apply for Scarlett Commons Housing, contact Housing and Residential Life in the Keathley University Center, Room 300, or call 898-2971.



Students take time out to relax under the trees during early spring semester. You will find that, in addition to studying and going to class, you will need to make time to rest and relax with your friends.

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Ball games provide good, inexpensive entertainment

Josh Ezzell
Staff Writer

Students often complain that there is nothing to do on campus. This is simply not true, as ball games provide good, inexpensive entertainment.

There are many opportunities to attend ball games. This fall, the football team plays five home games in its inaugural 1A season. The men's basketball team will play host to many teams, including the Kansas Jayhawks. The women's basketball team, among others, will also play many home games during the fall semester.

There are also opportunities to catch some ball games during the spring semester. The baseball team, for example, will play many home games.

There are three reasons students should attend ball games.

Reason one: They are fun. Ball games are a great alternative to hanging out at home. Once you watch a game you get addicted. You find yourself wanting to attend all of them.

Reason two: The athletes need our support. They work extremely hard and get discouraged when they see empty seats. When they see fans

they get fired up and perform better. When this happens the fans get into the game and everything gets exciting.

Reason three: They are free, with your student ID. Where else are you going to find something that is fun and free? If you go out to eat you pay money. If you go to a movie you have to pay. Nothing in Nashville is free. Ball games are the only things that are free, and they are more fun than most other forms of entertainment.

I am not just making this stuff up. I have been to many games and I have found everything I have talked about to be true. They are fun and they are the cheapest form of entertainment you will find.

In addition, everyone seems to get fired up when there is a large crowd.

A perfect example is last year's basketball game against North Carolina. People went, people got excited and the team responded. Even though we lost, everyone had a great time.

The bottom line is this: go to the games and support the teams.

As previously mentioned, all games are free, but you need your student ID.



Kendall Newson leads an exciting group of Blue Raiders' wide receivers this fall.



Lady Raider softball catcher Melanie Manley is on the 1999 GTE Academic All-America softball First Team.

Rec Center offers many activities for new students

Facility has new, outdoor swimming pool, ice skating rink, and several new workout options

Josh Ezzell
Staff Writer

College life is a time for change: Few rules and regulations tempt some students to become lazy; others get frustrated and stressed out.

It all adds up to changes in schedules and eating habits — and often the dreaded Freshman 15!

The Freshman 15 are those 15 extra pounds that most freshmen gain when they come to college due to the many life changes they are experiencing. But MTSU has the perfect place to help

combat this unwanted addition.

We have a state-of-the-art Rec Center here at MTSU that can solve these problems. It has a weight room, numerous racquetball courts, basketball courts, an Olympic-size indoor pool, a heated outdoor pool and volleyball courts.

For all of you who like aerobics, the center has you what you're looking for, offering aerobic classes on a regular basis.

In addition, the Rec Center offers camping, kayaking, snow skiing and hiking trips, to name a few. These trips vary in location and length. All

these trips are fun and reasonably priced. For trip information, call 898-2104.

The Rec Center is a great place for students to hang out, stay in shape or get in shape. It has everything needed for a great workout. Special diet and personal fitness programs are also offered.

The center is a great place to vent frustrations and relieve stress after a rough day. After a rough day beating the books, playing racquetball, swimming and pumping iron can really lift your spirits.

The Rec Center addresses the needs

of the mind as well as the body. Yog classes are offered on a regular basis for those that like to free their mind with stretching and meditation.

To top it all off, students get in for free. All that is necessary is your student ID. There are some charges for special programs and events.

The Rec Center is open seven days a week. The hours are as follows: Monday-Thursday 6:30 a.m.-8 p.m.; Friday 6:30 a.m.-9 p.m.; Saturday a.m.-8 p.m. and Sunday from noon-p.m.



staff photo by Bleu Holden

The Campus Recreation Center offers students opportunities for health, wellness and physical activity. It has also become a place for students to hang out.



staff photo by Bleu Holden

Students gather in the weight room to pump iron and relieve stress. The Rec Center offers personal training, as well as independent work out options.

MTSU PARKING SERVICES WELCOMES NEW STUDENTS

Life can be a little confusing when you first set foot on a college campus to start or continue your college career. We certainly don't want to add any more. If you have a question about parking at MTSU, please call Parking Services at 898-2850. We want to help make your first few days at MTSU as confusion-free as possible.

WHO ARE WE?

MTSU Parking Services is an "auxiliary department," which means we are a completely self-supporting operation through revenue received from parking permit fees, citation fines, parking meters, and other special services.

WE ARE A SELF-SUPPORTING OPERATION ON CAMPUS.

PARKING SERVICES REVENUE PAYS FOR . . .

- the operation of the Raider Xpress campus shuttle bus system, including the purchase of new buses, maintenance, fuel, bus shelters, and drivers' salaries and benefits
- department operating costs, including office expenses, staff salaries and benefits
- construction of new parking lots
- electrical needs for new parking lots
- maintenance of parking lots, including re-stripping
- all signage related to parking

PARKING FOR SCARLETT COMMONS, WOMACK LANE, GREEK ROW

The MTSU Traffic Committee approved a recommendation that starting this fall, there will be reserved parking for these three areas—and residents must park in those designated spaces. There will be special validation stickers for all three areas. If an area is full, parking will be permitted in the Recreation Center lots— but nowhere else on campus. Residents parked anywhere else on campus will be ticketed for "unassigned space."

PARKING AT MIDDLE TENNESSEE BAPTIST CHURCH, 1999-2000

For students' convenience, we will continue to offer parking this fall and spring at Middle Tennessee Baptist Church, 217 N. Tennessee Blvd. Please read and heed all signs regarding restricted days and hours. After the spring 2000 semester, due to new parking lots on campus, we will no longer lease this space from the church.

WE WELCOME YOUR SUGGESTIONS

People often hear about Parking Services when someone has a problem with parking. But we really want to emphasize the "services" part of our department name. We are here to serve the entire campus— students, faculty, staff, and visitors. Our rules and regulations are designed to serve the campus community by protecting people and property. If everyone abides by the rules and regulations, everyone benefits.

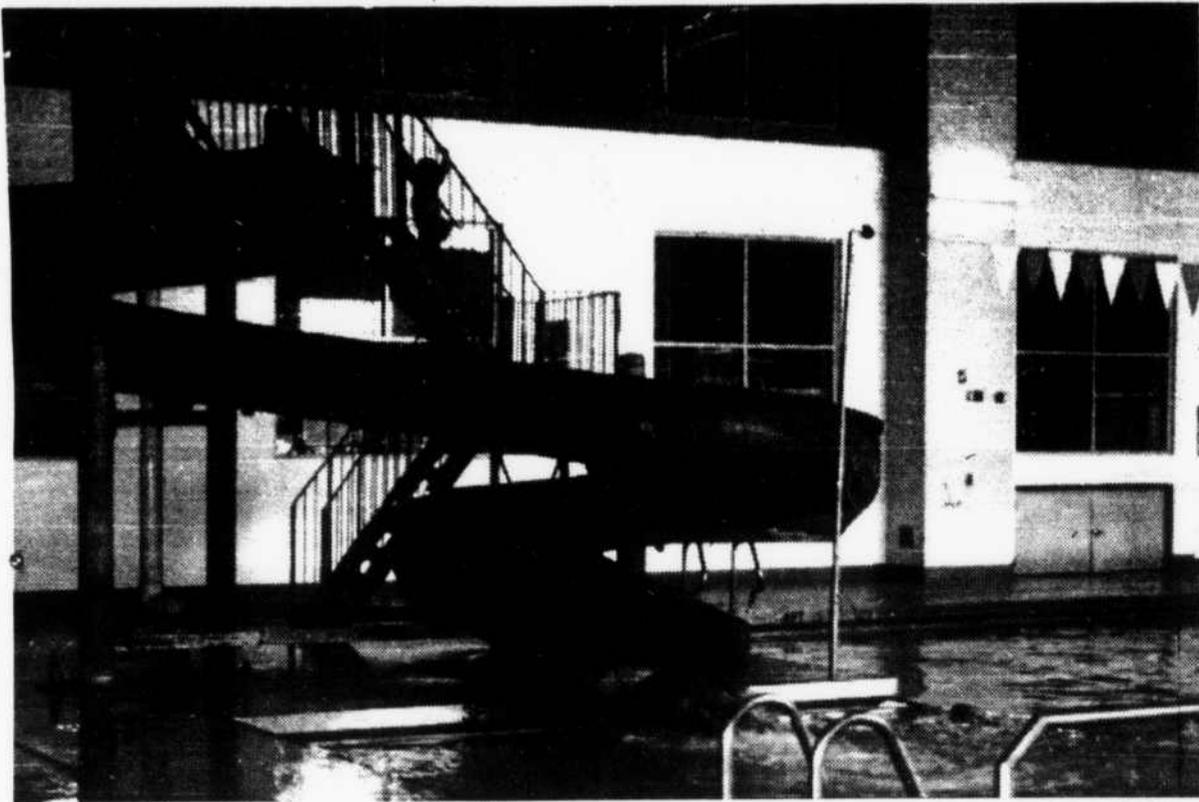


PARKING TIPS TO HELP MAKE YOUR LIFE EASIER . . .

- MTSU parking regulations are in effect all year, even during holiday breaks.
- All vehicles on campus Monday through Friday must display an MTSU parking permit or be parked in a metered space. The parking permit must be displayed in the front windshield, either attached to the rearview mirror or in the lower corner of the driver's side— with the decal number facing out. Please display a current and valid permit, and park in a legally designated space.
- Core parking areas fill up first and fast. There is ample campus parking and a shuttle service to all major points on campus.
- Bumper blocks indicate parking spaces on gravel lots, unless they are painted yellow, which means no parking. Only one vehicle per bumper block is permitted.
- Most painted curbing on campus will be replaced with signs for parking designations. Some yellow curbing and striping will remain, and parking will not be permitted in those areas.
- If a person receives five (5) or more traffic/parking citations in a semester, his/her vehicle will be subject to towing or booting. That person will be responsible for any fines assessed against the vehicle, plus any cost for towing/booting.
- Any employee or student who receives a traffic/parking citation may appeal it within seven (7) class days of issuance. Please refer to Section 8 of the 1999-2000 "Traffic and Parking Regulations" or call Parking Services at 898-2850. We will be happy to let you know what appropriate procedure to take to appeal a citation.

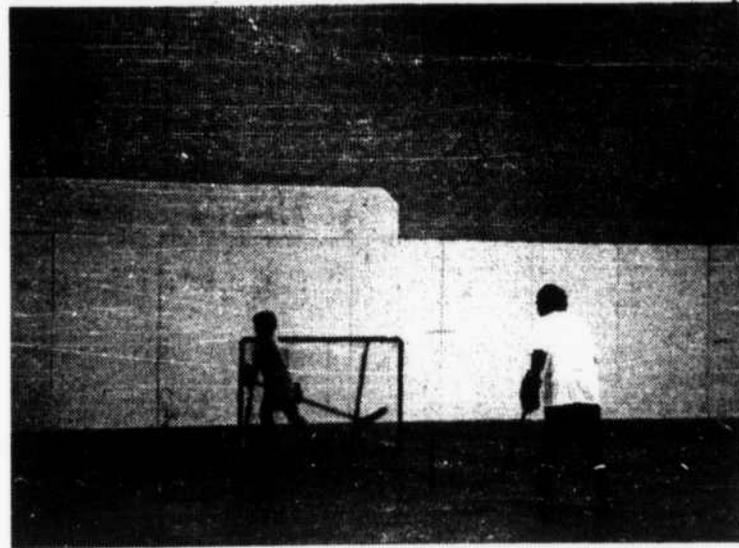
WE ARE HERE TO MAKE LIFE EASIER FOR EVERYBODY

Please call Parking Services (Connie Hagberg, manager) at 898-2850 with any suggestions, concerns, or questions regarding parking. If you have a question about the Raider Xpress shuttle stops or routes, please call Motor Pool/Transportation Services at 89-2415 (Ed Barlow, manager).

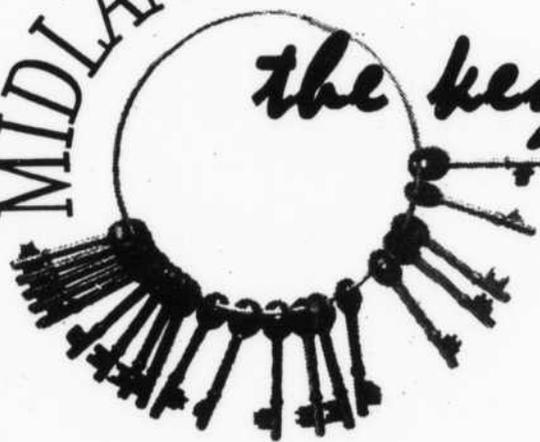


photos by Blue Holden

Students enjoy a variety of activities at the Campus Recreation Center. The state-of-the-art facility offers a new outdoor swimming pool in addition to the Olympic size swimming pool inside. In the photo above, students enjoy the indoor slide. Students enjoy the new indoor skating rink, above right, which will be used for intramural roller hockey. Students compete in intramural basketball in the Rec Center gym which features four basketball courts. There are several racquetball courts, an aerobic room, outdoor volleyball courts and a rock-climbing wall. There are all types of activities going on during center's the operational hours, including many wellness classes.



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July 6 - COOKOUT

*July 9 - SUMMER
OPEN HOUSE*

July 14 - COOKOUT

July 20 - COOKOUT

July 26 - COOKOUT

July 29 - COOKOUT

Rec Center offers intramurals for all athletes

Josh Ezzell
Staff Writer

Athletes are not the only ones who can participate in sports here at MTSU. Intramural Sports are offered, making sure that all students have the opportunity to participate in athletics.

Many familiar sports are will be offered this year. These include: indoor and outdoor soccer, flag football, racquetball, wrestling, volleyball and bowling.

And for the first time, water polo and indoor hockey will be offered.

Other activities, such as golf scrambles and trips to Atlanta Braves games, will also be offered.

Students can sign up at the Rec Center for team or individual participation. The cost is \$30, which is refunded at the end of the semester, providing the participants do not forfeit.

For more information call 898-2104.

Aiming for the top

Young, inexperienced lady netters look forward to winning season

Kevin Fisher
Staff Writer

There is nothing more exciting than watching an intense, fast paced game of volleyball played by skilled individuals.

MTSU features a lineup which will include only one returning senior, and should once again excel under fifth year Coach Lisa Kissee. Led by captain/middle blocker Kelly Smith, a 6-2 senior from Euclid, Ohio, Coach Kissee said she feels this is an "awesome group of players -- outstanding work ethics, superb chemistry, and very good skill level".

How good? Barring injuries, expect to see MTSU at the Ohio Valley Conference tournament.

Even in a conference usually dominated by teams like Southeast Missouri, Tennessee Tech and Eastern Illinois? Absolutely.

There are numerous reasons to expect great things from this year's squad. In addition to Smith, a child development and family studies major, there are several strong players who will be expected to contribute this season.

Abby Hartup, a 5-10 junior who will play the "outside hitter" for MTSU, is a native of Ft. Wayne, Ind., and has impressed Coach Kissee with her "toughness." Hartup is also one of MTSU's best defensive players. Also among this years squad, expect to see a lot of Alicia Scott, Ku'u'ipo Simeona and Meg Thornton.

Among the players at the "setter"

position, Kelley Drew and Kelly Quinn (there are three Kellys on this year's squad) will be counted on heavily. Drew is only a sophomore and Quinn is a freshman; however, Coach Kissee is confident in both players' abilities.

At the "setter" position, Kelly Smith and Lindsay Pritchard will usually handle the position. Both are exciting, aggressive players who will be counted on heavily for leadership, as well as athleticism. Pritchard once had seven blocks in games against Austin Peay and Tennessee Tech (one of MTSU's biggest rivalries).

In evaluating MTSU's team it is important to look at one other vital aspect in team play. Coach Kissee, who once won 32 games in 1995 (her first year at MTSU) has 278 lifetime career victories. Look for Kissee to pass 300 victories in the near future. In addition, her lifetime record of 278-225 is better than most OVC coaches.

Having lost only one regular player from last year's team, and backed up by able assistants, this group should be one of the most exciting teams MTSU has ever fielded. Their youth (nine of the 14 players on the roster are either freshmen or sophomores) mixed with dogged determination will spell trouble for several opponents this season. So make sure to attend a few matches this fall. The Lady Raiders have worked hard this spring, refining their techniques and sharpening their skills.

Kelly Smith, left, will lead the Lady Raider volleyball team this fall. Abby Hartup spikes a point on one of the Lady's competitors. The volleyball team is hoping for a winning season.



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Oct. 2	TROY STATE (Homecoming)	6 p.m.
Oct. 9	at Arkansas	6 p.m.
Oct. 16	at Louisiana Tech	3 p.m.
Oct. 23	OPEN DATE	
Oct. 30	at Northeast Louisiana	2 p.m.
Nov. 6	TENNESSEE-MARTIN	6 p.m.
Nov. 13	CENTRAL FLORIDA	6 p.m.
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Religious, spiritual groups offer fellowship, fun activities

Staff Reports

So you are away from home for the first time, and it is tempting to break away from all the habits your parents taught you.

While some parents may not want to hear this, it is OK to test the waters or push the envelope on some of the parameters they may have set for you. The college experience is, after all, a time for discovering who you are and what you are all about.

But testing the waters and pushing limits does not necessarily mean throwing away all of the values you have been taught or giving up your spiritual growth. In fact, finding out about your spiritual self is also a part of the college experience.

So whether you want to maintain your habits of attending church every Sunday morning or whether you want to try some new associations that help you discover your spiritual self, there are plenty of opportunities at MTSU.

If attending regular church services on Sunday is for you, there are several churches within walking distance of campus if you reside here. Just adjacent to campus on East Main Street is St. Mark's Methodist Church and just across the street from them is Univeristy Heights Church of Christ. Middle Tennessee Baptist is located across from campus on Tennessee Boulevard and Belle Aire Baptist is

located just around the corner on Greenland Drive. College Heights Chapel, a non-denominational church, is also adjacent to campus on Main Street at the corner of Womack Lane. The Victory Church at MTSU also meets on campus in Murphy Center.

There are churches of all denominations and faiths in town but a little further away from campus, including St. Rose of Lima Catholic Church, Central Christian Church, Wat Buddharam Temple, Grace Lutheran, First Church of Christ Scientist, Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, St. Paul's Episcopal, Jehovah's Witness, First Presbyterian Church and many other inter-denominational and non-denominational churches. There are no Jewish temples in town.

However, if you are interested in something that provides fellowship with your college friends, there are several organizations both on and off campus which offer church services in addition to activities that are aimed at providing you educational, leadership and spiritual growth opportunities. These include:

The Baptist Student Center, is located at 619 N. Tennessee Blvd., 893-5035. Various services are held during the week: Monday at 7 p.m. the Voices of Praise Gospel Choir, worship in the black church tradition, meets; TNT (Tuesday Night Together) at 7 p.m.

offers a variety of fellowship options; Noonday, Wednesday, at 12:20 p.m. is a brief devotional and lunch, with a \$2 requested donation; worship and Bible study is held Thursday at 7 p.m. The center also sponsors a drama team, retreats, community missions, summer missions, cookouts, intramural sports, etc. Welcome Week activities: WeHaul to help students move in Friday, Aug. 20; a progressive supper to four area churches Aug. 24, 4:30 p.m.; Invasion Celebration begins Sunday, Aug. 29, in conjunction with Alpha Omega and Belle Aire Baptist Church.

The Catholic Student Center, is located at 1023 N. Tennessee Blvd., 896-6074. Mass is conducted at St. Rose of Lima Catholic Church, 1601 N. Tennessee Blvd., at 5:30 p.m. Saturday and 8:30 and 11 a.m. Sunday. Coffee and donuts are served at the center after the 11 a.m. mass. A schedule Bible study and other fellowship times has not yet been set for fall semester. There will also be other activities such as volleyball, cookouts scheduled prior to fall semester. Please check with the center for some of these activities.

The Church of Christ Student Center and Timothy House, is located on Bell Street across from the parking lot. Bible study is held at 7 p.m. on Thursday, in addition to Sunday services and Sunday school held at North Boulevard Church of Christ on Rutherford Boulevard. The

center sponsors trips, footballs and an inner-city ministry to pick up children from Murfreesboro-area housing projects and bring them to the center for Bible study on Wednesday.

The Presbyterian Student Fellowship, is located at 615 N. Tennessee Blvd., 893-1787. PSF holds Bible study at 7 p.m. Monday. Wednesday fellowship begins at 6:30 with dinner, followed by praise and a study lesson, followed by some type of activity. Open House and volleyball is set for 6 p.m. Aug. 23 and Opening Prime-Time of PSF will be at 6 p.m. Aug. 25 with dinner and fun. The Campus Crusade Invasion Week begins Sunday, Aug. 29 with Cadman's Call giving a 7 p.m. concert at Tucker Theatre and a worship in the quad scheduled for 8 p.m. Sept. 9.

The Wesley Foundation, located at 216 College Heights, 893-0469. Services are 8 p.m. Sunday and 7 p.m. Wednesday. Free food will be offered at a cookout Aug. 24 and at the annual Feeding of the 5,000, 5:30 p.m., Aug. 31. The organization, supported by area United Methodist churches, is known for the Wesley Singers, a traveling choir which sings at churches on Sunday mornings. The choir is open with no auditions. An interest meeting will be held at 7:30 p.m. Sept. 1.

See Religious, page 25

Collage
The creative arts journal of MTSU

- poetry*
- short fiction*
- essays*
- interviews*
- photography*
- painting*
- sculpture*
- drawing*
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Freshmen get new meal plan options; eateries have new, varied food choices

Melanie McWhorter
Staff Writer

Freshmen living on campus will have the choice of two meal plans, while everyone will find some new additions to the eating choices and facilities when fall semester begins, an ARA official said.

The freshman meal plan has been changed from the Sunday-night-until-Friday-lunch schedule. With the new plan, a student can get any 15 meals during the week, including the weekend, for \$580 a semester. There will also be an optional freshman meal plan that will give students 10 meals in the dining halls weekly and carry a declining balance. This plan can be used anywhere on campus.

"We try to evaluate on a regular basis what we offer with what students ask for to come up with the best plans," said Paul Stuart, assistant director of dining services.

ARAMARK food service operates the four cafeterias on campus located in the James Union Building, Woodmore Hall, the McCallie Dining Room in Corlew Hall and the Grill in the KUC. The food service has also been trying to meet students' demands for non-traditional cafeteria foods and in the past few years has contracted with several of the commercial fast-food outlets to sell their foods on campus, Stuart said.



Workers put the final touches on the Starbucks' Coffee shop located in Woodmore Cafeteria. ARA cafeterias now feature many eating options to suit whatever cravings you may have. The renovated Woodmore Cafeteria will feature a cyber cafe atmosphere, including big screen tvs and computers.

The Grill will be renovated later this summer and should take about three weeks. The renovation is scheduled for mid-to-late July but actual

commencement depends on execution of the contracts, Stuart said.

In addition to its standard grill fare, salads and deserts, the Grill also offers

an array of international cuisine for those who seek something out of the ordinary. Students can also find Pizza Hut and Chic-fil-A fare here.

Woodmore, which opened briefly at the end of spring semester, will be ready for fall with its coffee house/cybercafe atmosphere. A January opening had been anticipated but renovations took until April due to an unexpected amount of work. Final touches are being added this summer, Stuart said.

"These buildings are so old, when you renovate, you don't know what you're going to run into, and it's hard to estimate how long the renovations will take," said Stuart.

"Students seemed to like Woodmore concept, judging by the fact that our sales increased every day," Stuart said.

Woodmore will have six televisions and computers for students to use. They can find Starbucks' Coffee, Burger King and a convenience store for snacks at this location.

The JUB and McCallie dining facilities both offer home-cooked foods in cafeteria style. However, the JUB also features Grill Works, Subway and Taco Bell.

The Grill, JUB and Woodmore cafeterias will open for the fall the Aug. 23 at 7 a.m.. McCallie dining hall (formerly Corlew) will reopen at 4:30 p.m. Aug. 20, the same day that the dorms open.

FLASH!

Weekends start on Wednesday with *Flash!* because Friday and Saturday nights aren't the only times to hang out. Each publication features club listings, horoscopes and crossword puzzles. *Flash!* will also showcase stories on local bands, entertainment, features and issues of social concern that affect college students. Providing a cutting edge forum for ideas and affairs that don't seem to have space in other college publications is what *Flash!* is all about.

**Where
weekends
begin
Wednesday**

Religious, from page 22

There are also many student groups which represent a variety of faiths and spirits which meet regularly on campus. You should watch for announcements of these meetings in Sidelines Campus Capsule or in fliers posted about campus. Some of these groups include: Baha'i Association, Campus Bible Fellowship, Campus Crusade for Christ;

Canterbury Episcopal Campus Ministry, Church of God in Christ Revival on Campus,

Fellowship of Christian Athletes, Latter Day Saints Student Association, Nuke Proof Ministries, Raider Victory Fellowship, and Seventh-Day Adventist Student Fellowship.

You can always inquire with the Office of Student Organizations and Community Service, KUC 306, 904-8418, to see if there is group on campus to meet your needs. There are new groups forming all the time, and yours could just be one of them.



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A senior shares some things with you he wishes he had known as a freshman

Dear Freshmen,

Allow me to welcome you to MTSU and the start of the rest of your life. During your stay at MTSU, you will meet lots of new people, experience different cultures and lifestyles, acquire knowledge, wisdom, and understanding, and most importantly learn about yourself.

My name is Lamont, and I'm a junior Recording Industry Management student from Louisville, KY. I was compelled to write this letter because I remember my freshman year vividly, like it was yesterday.

I remember the fun times, the wack times and the rainy, wet days. (Note: Murfreesboro has many wet days. I recommend you wear your rubbers.) But to ensure that the fun times outnumber the times that you're homesick, broke, hungry, lonely, or any other undesirable condition which you may not be used to, I thought I should share a few bits of advice I wish I had known. Everyone has advice for freshmen, but I feel that the best advice can only come from someone who has recently been in your shoes.

So without further delay,

here are some things I wish I had known:

TRY SOMETHING NEW —

Have you ever wanted to go rock climbing or canoeing? Do you like to watch sports but think you are not good enough to play on a team? The Recreation Center offers everyone the chance to be active.

Plus, with all the people who attend MTSU from other states and countries, there are always new cultures and traditions to learn about and experience. Don't knock anything until you try it. Before I came to school here, I thought everything about Tennessee was country. But I was proven wrong and now enjoy one of its favorite dishes - fried fish and spaghetti.

You only have a short time here to experiment and make mistakes; so take advantage of



Lamont Gholston Jr.

every chance you get.

GET INVOLVED — No matter what you are interested in, there is an organization that will fit your needs. Don't see one that satisfies your tastes? Start a new one. Becoming involved in campus organizations is a great way to meet people with similar interests, make new friends and have fun. Plus, it looks good on your resume if you are more than just a student.

Not only do I write for Sidelines, I am the hip-hop director and a DJ on 88.3 FM WMTS (the campus radio station), marketing director for the Urban Music Society, and I work with Student Programming.

You don't have to be the most active member when you first join; take your time, see what's going on, then assert yourself.

BE A LEADER, NOT A FOLLOWER — Leaders lead by example; followers follow the example of the leaders. This doesn't mean you have to be an officer of an organization to be a leader. Hard work, perseverance, dedication and doing whatever it takes to complete the task at hand will make you a leader.

Leaders will always emerge on top, blazing new trails, while followers never discover anything new. What they do discover is only new to them.

DON'T WORRY ABOUT WHAT OTHER PEOPLE THINK — Nobody is perfect (I'm working on it though). College is the time that we should celebrate diversity and learn to appreciate it. That means that you shouldn't try to be like others to fit in, just be yourself. For example, if you put big cuffs in your pants at home, do it here.

Be proud of who you are and where you come from. That's something that no one can take away from you. Besides, leaders are supposed to stick out from the crowd.

HAVE FUN, BUT NOT TOO MUCH — College is the "golden years" of your life. The friends that you make in the next four years will be with you throughout life. Enjoy every moment of your collegiate years — every party, every class, every late night, every all-niter. But don't spend so much time having fun that you forget why you're here. (I find myself wondering why I'm at MTSU constantly. After hours of thought, I realize that

I'm here to receive an education.)

Don't stay up late every night because you can, then try to get up for your 8 a.m. class. It might work for awhile, but one day it will catch up. Remember that there is no one here that will make you get up. You are treated as an adult and are expected to act accordingly.

LEARN WHEN TO SAY "NO" — This directly relates to the previous point. For example, all your friends are going to a party on Thursday night (Party Night), and you have a paper due Friday at 10 a.m. You go to the party and say you will write your paper when you get back. Twelve hours later, it's 10 a.m. and you have partied all night and have no paper.

What's the moral of the story? Learn when to say "no." There will be another party next week, if not one the next day. Besides, if you were planning on going to this party, you should have had your assignment already completed. Words you won't hear until it's too late: "Do you

See Senior, page 27

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Senior, from page 27

have your homework/ paper/ essay/project?" You are here to get a good education so you can get a good job. It is your job to make sure you get the best possible education. And the most important thing to know...

CREDIT CARDS ARE YOUR WORST ENEMY — If it sounds to good to be true, then it probably is. Resist the temptation to sign up for credit cards. Sure you get a free T-shirt or mug, but you also get phone calls waking you up asking why you are behind on the bill to go with your mountain of debt.

I know too many people who can't get extra credit, let alone credit for a new car or house. I am not saying don't get a credit card; just learn the facts about credit and use it responsibly. I hope that this advice is helpful to you. I don't want to sound too preachy or

parental, but I want you all to be around for a second year. (Freshman retention rate is about 40 percent, meaning 40 percent of freshmen return for a second year.)

If any of you ever have a question about anything, please feel free to stop me on campus and ask me, or check me out on SNM representing urban music on 88.3 FM WMTS Mondays from 4-6 p.m. Please live responsibly and enjoy your collegiate experience. I know I'm enjoying mine. Peace.

Sincerely,

Lamont R. Gholston, Jr.

Interested in writing, taking photographs or graphic design?

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College, from page 10

is always the answer once you are thoroughly burned out on everywhere else.

Red Rose Cafe: 528 W. College St. Red Rose serves beer, coffee, food, desserts, bagels, etc. You can play board games, read, or look at the various artists featured on the walls.

Tip #3: Local attractions. Every town has something unique and interesting to offer its residents, and Murfreesboro is no different. The Geographic Center of Tennessee is on Old Lascassas, and it is, well, the geographic center of Tennessee. There is a monument and a bench and you will be quite amused by this. The House on a Pole is right up the street and is self-explanatory. Davis Market, located at the intersection of Main St. and Tennessee Blvd. and also known as "The Cosmos," is an old favorite. Legend has it, once you visit "The Cosmos," you will always return to Murfreesboro. Also, there is a plastic owl sitting on a telephone pole at the corner of Old Fort Pkwy. and Broad St. It just sits there, and no one really knows why it is there.

Tip #4: Murfreesboro Center for the Arts: 110 W. College St. The Center for the Arts performs musicals and plays, and has an in-house gallery.

Tip #5: MTSU. MTSU actually does offer some worthwhile activities. Tucker Theater hosts plays and symphonies. The KUC theater offers cheap, good movies. Fridays there is "Music on the Knoll," where various bands play Friday afternoons in front of the Keathley University Center.

Tip #6: Movies, movies, movies. You'll be watching alot of these. Support your local business owner and try Videoculture on Greenland Dr. next to the Boro. They have a unique selection and cheap movies.

Tip #7: Random activities. Like every town, Murfreesboro offers bowling, miniature golf, and gokarts. These are usually a last resort, but can definitely spice up an otherwise dull evening.

Tip #8: Nashville. Hey, it's only 30 minutes away, and has ten times as much to offer.

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AUGUST 22

STUDENT SUNDAY at Belle Aire

10:15 Bible study @ AΩ house; 11:30 Contemporary Worship

FREE LUNCH provided - **casual dress

AUGUST 23

COKES on the Knoll

AUGUST 24

Jehovah Java Kickoff

9:00 p.m.

at the
AΩ house

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AUGUST 25

Cokes on the Knoll &

Innersession at Belle Aire - 6 p.m.
worship for college students

INVASION

AUGUST 20 - 28

INVASION WEEK

AUGUST 29

INVASION CELEBRATION

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SUNDAYS

10:15 a.m. Sunday School
11:30 a.m. Contemporary Worship
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TUESDAYS

9:00 p.m. Jehovah Java
located at the AΩ house

WEDNESDAYS

6:00 p.m. Innersession
worship for college students
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