

# Fire hits electric equipment: \$95,000 lost

By D.R. Wright

Morehead State University has experienced an estimated \$95,000 setback and has begun the spring semester with only one-fourth of its normal electrical power as a result of a Dec. 21 explosion and fire which caused a flash visible for a mile or more.

The inside of the switchgear house where the explosion occurred "looked like a bomb had gone off," said Keith Kappes, director of Public Affairs for the University.

The affected campus area, including all classroom buildings and Thompson, Fields and Waterfield residence halls, and Lakewood Terrace married housing, was dark for three days following the 1 a.m. explosion.

The accident happened in Switchgear House "A" on University Street east of the Howell-McDowell Administration Building. The building, one of two switchgear complexes serving the campus, contains electrical equipment that divides the incoming power from a Kentucky Utilities substation into several lines serv-

ing individual campus structures.

The suspected cause of the explosion is a shorted circuit caused by excess moisture inside the metal cabinet which houses the equipment.

The loss was heaviest in the damaged complex where two of eight switchgear cubicles were totally destroyed. Two feeder cables carrying electricity from the substation were also damaged as fire destroyed portions of insulation on the lines.

The University suffered extensive damage in several buildings because of

heat loss. The lack of electricity rendered the steam heating system inoperable and pumps, water pipes and radiators were damaged by below-freezing temperatures.

University staff and administrative personnel were scheduled to work Monday, Dec. 22 and Tuesday, Dec. 23, but their Christmas vacation was extended when these work days were canceled following the outage.

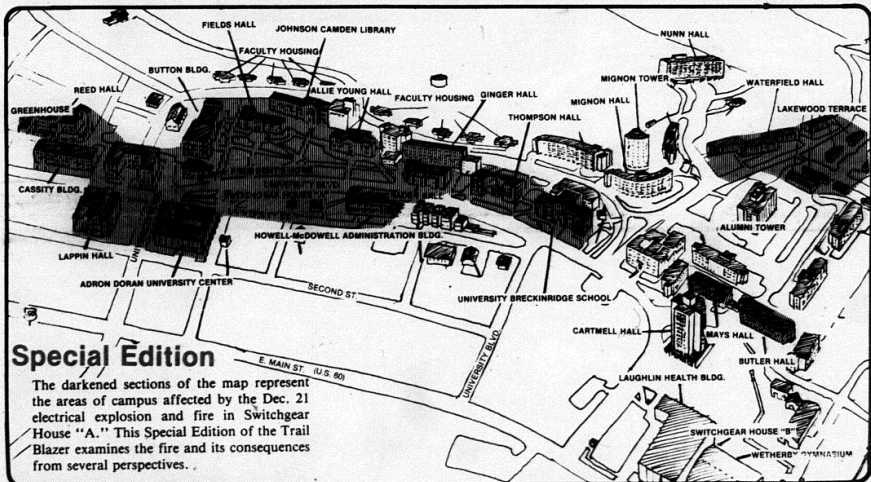
Employees in the Division of Operations and Maintenance faced a heavy

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## MOREHEAD STATE UNIVERSITY

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# THE TRAIL BLAZER



### Special Edition

The darkened sections of the map represent the areas of campus affected by the Dec. 21 electrical explosion and fire in Switchgear House "A." This Special Edition of the Trail Blazer examines the fire and its consequences from several perspectives.

They heard 'a great whoosh'

## Residents awakened by flaming explosion

By Ann Trosfater

The Rev. and Mrs. Russ Taylor heard it. Dr. and Mrs. Bob Needham heard it. The Rev. and Mrs. Roy Roberson heard it.

Then they saw it.

"I heard a loud hissing noise and thought it was our furnace about to blow," said Rev. Taylor, pastor of the Assembly of God Church on University Street, "but when I saw the brilliant light outside I realized it wasn't the furnace."

"My wife and I weren't sure of what we heard, but as we looked out the window there was a bright white light," said Dr. Bob Needham, head of the depart-

ment of administration, supervision, and secondary education.

The Rev. Roy Roberson, pastor of the Morehead Christian Church on East Main, was preparing for the Sunday worship service when he heard "a great whoosh."

"I thought it was the power plant letting off steam, but when I heard loud popping sounds, I looked through the sanctuary, saw flames and headed out the door," said Roberson.

What these people saw and heard was not a riot or a UFO, but the Dec. 21 explosion of switchgear "A" in the switchgear house located on University Street.

Each of the witnesses live within a block of where the blast occurred.

"I didn't know what the heck it was but afterwards I could see clear across campus. It was eerie," said Needham.

All of the witnesses eventually made their way out into below-freezing temperatures to see what was happening.

The high voltage wires which connect the sub-station with Switchgear House "A" were on fire, dripping bits of burning insulation onto trees and the alley between the Assembly of God and the Wesley Foundation.

Roberson moved his cars which were parked under the burning wires and notified his neighbors the McDaniels.

The burning insulation caught my fence and an abandoned car on fire which we put out with pans of water," said Roberson.

Within a few minutes the police and fire department had arrived and Freeman Hamilton, supervisor of heating, air conditioning, refrigeration and high voltage for Morehead State University, let them in the building.

"They used carbon dioxide on the smoldering wires and hot metal," Hamilton said.

"I was impressed by the efficiency of the fire department and the police," said Needham. I believe someone stayed there all night."



Glen Boodry, director of Division of Operations and Maintenance, jots down some notes after inspecting Switchgear House "A" Friday. Boodry was checking the station's

electrical power output. Debris from the Dec. 21 explosion can be seen in the foreground.

MSU Photo by David Byrd

## Officials announce alternate guidelines

By Leigh Ann Stone

University officials have formulated a contingency plan to be implemented in the event of a second power outage, according to John Graham, vice president for Fiscal Affairs.

"Our plan depends on how long it will be out," he said. "If it's out for an hour, there is no problem. If our people feel it will be out longer than three hours there will still be heat and emergency lighting."

In the event of a prolonged outage, information will be available to students via WMKY (90.3 FM) the MSU campus radio station.

The station, which broadcasts from 6 a.m. to midnight, will broadcast 24 hours a day in case of another power failure. WMKY is not powered by the university's power system.

Graham said, "In case the power goes out at night, everyone will be notified within one hour, possibly by pounding on doors."

If a prolonged power failure occurs residents of Fields, Thompson, and Waterfield Halls will receive specific instructions by the hall staff on the procedure to be followed, according to Keith Kappes, director of Public Affairs.

These residence halls are powered through Switchgear House "A." All other residence halls are powered by Switchgear House "B."

The university president and a cabinet composed of representatives from the Division of Operations and Maintenance, and the Bureau of Student Affairs will staff the Emergency Operation Center to be located at the Alumni Center.

It would be the center of communications to coordinate emergency operations and provide communication with other agencies for emergency assistance.

## Academic changes instituted

By Vince Holbrook

Several academic changes have been made because of the reduced capacity of the temporary power system. Other changes are still under consideration.

Newscaster 12, Morehead's campus television station, will not broadcast for at least the next six business days, according to Robert Walker, adviser/news director for Newscaster 12. During this period the university will monitor electrical usage campus wide to determine

how much energy is required during any hour of the day.

Newscaster 12 will be authorized to broadcast when tests indicate power is available for the Tuesday and Thursday evening broadcasts. The program may be off the air until repairs in the power system are complete.

Walker said lights and other equipment needed to broadcast require a great deal of energy.

Some classes in the School of Applied Science and Technology may be split into

two groups or rescheduled at night, according to Dr. Charles Derrickson, dean of the School of Applied Sciences and Technology.

Other classes will have a greater emphasis on hand tools and other non-electric equipment.

Derrickson said the proposed changes are designed to reduce the energy required to operate electrical tools and equipment during peak demand periods.

The courses which may be involved are

See page 3

## Electrical explanations to clear the air of static

## So what is a switchgear, anyway?

By D.R. Wright

Switchgear is a general name for various equipment that turns power on and off, according to Meade Roberts, assistant professor of industrial education at MSU.

Roberts, who has been a classroom instructor for many of the electricians employed for the Division of Operations and Maintenance, said the switchgear in Switchgear House "A" is basically a system of circuit breakers. The purpose of the system is to break one incoming power line into several lines serving the various buildings on campus. It is functionally similar to the "breaker box" of a private home, but the voltage is much greater in the switchgear.

The feeder line from the substation to the switchgear house carries 4,160 volts. About 1 1/2 inches in diameter, the line connects to a copper alloy bus bar about 28 feet long inside the metal switchgear cabinet. The bus bar is 2 1/2 inches wide and 1/4 inch thick. In Switchgear House

"A" there are two bus bars, each connected to the switchgear cubicles.

There are eight cubicles in Switchgear House "A," one for each circuit that originates there. Each cubicle is about eight feet tall, four feet wide and four feet tall. The side-by-side cubicles form a metal cabinet eight feet tall and 32 feet

long. Inside each cubicle is three fuse holders, each about 24 inches long and 3 1/2 inches in diameter. The fuse holder contains a copper alloy fuse designed to prevent overloads to circuits carrying anywhere from 100 to 300 amperes, depending on the electrical load of the circuit.

The individual cubicles and circuits are connected by the bus bar suspended on the inside top of the eight-foot high metal cabinet. The two bars in Switchgear House "A" are about one foot apart and six inches from the cabinet ceiling. It is this proximity of the bus bars to the metal cabinet, coupled with the moisture in the switchgear, that is suspected to have caused the short circuit.

The moisture in Switchgear House "A" is there because of the utility tunnel entrance at one end of the building. The utility tunnel carries the steam lines of the University's heating system, so the heat and humidity combine to cause heavy condensation inside the switchgear cabinet.

But the new switchgear, so large and complex it must be custom-made for this location, will be on the upper floor of the new switchgear house. University officials are certain this move upstairs will prevent the moisture, and the problem it has caused, from condensing again.

### An electrical glossary

**amperes** — the unit that indicates rate of electrical flow through a circuit

**bus bar** — the main circuit to which all the generators and feeders in a power station can be connected

**circuit breakers** — a device used to open a circuit automatically

**feeder line** — the line supplying all branch circuits with the main supply of current

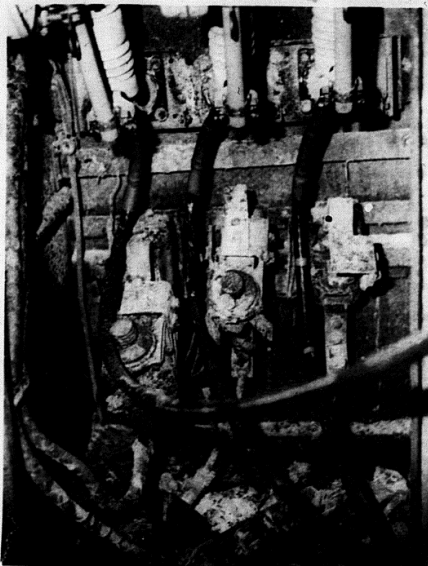
**fuse** — a safety device to prevent overloading a circuit

**substation** — a building or place where one form of electrical energy is changed into another, such as alternating current into direct current, high voltage to low, or the reverse

**switchgear** — a general term for any equipment used to control the flow of electricity

**utility tunnels** — an underground network of tunnels carrying electrical and telephone wires throughout the University; the tunnels also house the University's steam-heating system

**voltage** — a difference in electrical potential expressed in volts



MSU Photo by David Byrd

These three burned wires and connections were the remains of the three fuse holders inside one of the two destroyed cubicles in Switchgear House "A." The material at the bottom of the cubicle is debris from the burned switchgear.

## Changes made in academic programs

From page 2

Wood Lab 111, Welding Lab 386, Metals Lab 286, and the Radiology Program.

Wood Lab 111 will emphasize the use of hand tools during the first part of the semester. This may include a section on veneering.

Students in Welding Lab 386 will be doing gas welding during the first part of the semester and arc welding will be done until last.

One section of Metals 286 may be changed to a night class. The course will emphasize foundry work during the first half of the semester.

X-ray machines will not be used in the Radiology Program during the emergency period.

Derrickson said the Derrickson Agricultural Complex is not on the power system which failed and will be operating normally.

Michael Gresham, manager, Educational and Research Computing Center, said he had received no official restrictions for use of the computer center.

Gresham said the computer was on the power system which failed, but did not suffer any damages.

# Damages not covered under insurance policy

By Kent Brown

Morehead State University does not carry an insurance policy that will cover any of the estimated \$95,000 in damages caused by the December 21 explosion at switchgear house "A", according to John Graham, vice president for Fiscal Affairs.

Approximately two-thirds of the \$95,000 will be used to replace the two sets of overhead feeder cables that were destroyed by the explosion.

Graham said the university is trying to obtain the funds through the Kentucky Department of Finance's Emergency Repair, Maintenance and Replacement Fund.

MSU's formal request for the money is expected to be presented to Finance Secretary George Atkins this week, a university news release stated Wednesday.

President Morris L. Norfleet announced Wednesday that Atkins already has approved emergency purchase authority for Morehead State to proceed with permanent repairs.

If Atkins denies MSU's request or just approves part of it, funds from MSU's Operating Fund may have to be used, Graham stated.

Graham noted Morehead State wasn't insured because of, "a combination of reasons. One, the age of the switchgear station's equipment made it economically unfeasible. Two, since the chances are usually slim-to-none that an accident like this will happen, it just simply isn't something you think about insuring."

Much of the equipment in the Switchgear House, located next to the

Howell-McDowell Administration Building, was installed in the early 1950's and was scheduled to be replaced during spring break in March. Graham said the university still hopes to have the new equipment installed by then.

MSU does carry a fire and tornado policy through the Kentucky Department of Insurance, which handles almost all of MSU's insurance policies. The policy covers damages caused by fire for most buildings on campus and for the contents of those buildings.

The university also has a policy insuring certain classifications of electrical motors.

Neither policy, however, covers the damaged equipment, Graham said.

Leota Derringer, supervisor of the Fire and Tornado Fund at the Department of Insurance, stated, "I am almost certain that there isn't a university in the state that would have been insured for the type of accident that happened at Morehead. There are a few schools that have their transformer banks insured, but none that have that type of electrical equipment covered."

"What happened at Morehead was a freak accident. I have never heard of something like that happening at any Kentucky school."

"The university simply can not insure everything," Davenport added. "That just wouldn't be feasible."

Graham said MSU "is going to check and see if it would be economically feasible for it to insure the new electrical equipment."

## Calendar of Events

### Thursday

Art Exhibit: "Best of 80" in Claypool-Young Art Gallery through Jan. 30.  
Basketball: Eagles vs. Akron, 7:30 p.m., Wetherby Gymnasium.  
Piano Recital: Diana Duffin, 8:15 p.m., Duncan Recital Hall.

### Friday

Dance: ADUC Grill, 8 to 11 p.m.

### Saturday

Men's Indoor Football: MSU Invitational, Richardson Arena, Derrickson Agricultural Complex.

### Monday

Registration: This is the last day to register for a full load.

### Wednesday

Concert: Percussion Ensemble, 8:15 p.m., Duncan Recital Hall.  
Piano Recital: Sarah Damron Brown, 8:15 p.m., Duncan Recital Hall.

### Thursday

Lecture: "Martin Luther King, Jr. — A Portrait" 8 p.m., Button Auditorium.

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# If you can't beat 'em, then join 'em

Where will you be if the lights go out? If you live in Thompson, Fields or Waterfield women's residence halls or Lakewood Terrace married housing, you may be contemplating this question.

Would it be possible, you ask, to move temporarily to a housing unit outside the area of

people from the Switchgear House "A" area into married housing trailers, the Mignon complex and Nunn Hall. But, at this point, all these units are filled to capacity.

Furthermore, according to Crager, if all the trailers were empty, there would not be enough room to handle the students from one residence hall in Switchgear House "A's" area.

So we wait. We've got nowhere to move and are at the mercy of a rumored "D-hour" when many students say they plan to switch on as many appliances as possible to intentionally instigate the "blowout."

The dark humor would be obvious if all electricity in buildings from Baird to Reed Hall ceased suddenly. Then we could all go home. No classes. No learning. To go all the way through registration, pay all the fees and spend all that time — for nothing.

An old saying states, "If you can't beat 'em, join 'em." The administration has told us their view of the situation. We, the students, need to accept those facts and act accordingly. We need to conserve our electricity until at least the first part of February.

Unless we want an early spring break or late summer break, we may as well grin and bear it. Because if we do have a blowout, and it lasts for 72 hours, we will indeed have an early spring break.

We've chosen to attend this University, good, bad or ugly, and it is left to our discretion to act as such.

So, where will you be if the lights go out? Here at Morehead State, awaiting electrical repairs, losing time, losing money and losing patience.

— Debby Porter

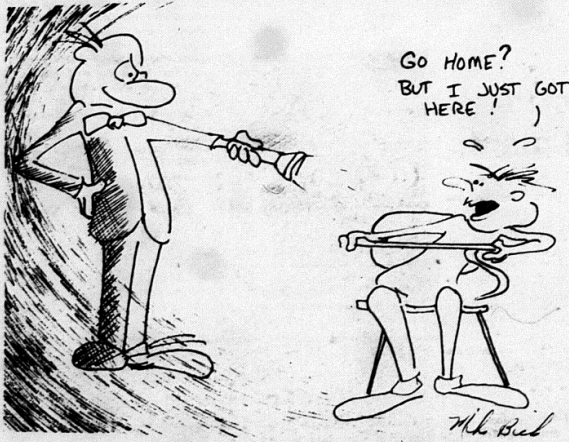
## editorial

Switchgear House "A?"

The answer is no.

According to James A. Morton, director of the Division of Housing, and Buford Crager, vice-president for Student Affairs, there are no housing units available.

The administration considered moving the



## THE TRAIL BLAZER

Morehead State University  
783-3249

Readers are encouraged to write or phone The Trail Blazer to express their opinion, voice complaints or make suggestions.

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One year mail subscription of 30 issues \$5 payable to Morehead State University.

## Coach says 'thanks'

Editor:

I want to take this opportunity to thank all those people here at Morehead State University who have made my job a little easier. The cooperation that we received from the many deans, department heads and professors made our job each day a little bit easier and helped in so many ways to contribute to whatever success we had in our football program. As a coach, sometimes it seems that you are always asking for help, and we were able to get this here at Morehead State University from everyone — those in administration, maintenance and any area that we called on.

There were times when I doubted the student body, but the support we received at the Western and Eastern games, after many heart-breaking losses, was super. In leav-

ing Morehead State University, my only wish is that the program will continue to grow and that everyone will continue to support the efforts of the football staff.

Tom Lichtenberg  
Coach

## 'Cooperate and graduate'

Editor:

My purpose in writing is to comment on the article which appeared in the Dec. 4 issue in which a number of students evaluated the teacher evaluation program. I am troubled at the tone of several of the comments because there seems to be an impression that the evaluations are not taken seriously by the instructors and therefore are not to be taken seriously by the students. I do

not presume to speak for the faculty, but must say that I and my colleagues take the evaluations very seriously and try to encourage our students to do likewise. The evaluations are one of the few means available to us to receive direct responses from our students.

Students coming to Morehead State University make a sizeable investment of time and money and, as consumers, have every right to demand the highest quality service and the evaluations should be one of the vehicles through which these demands can be made. The assumption that the evaluations don't mean anything is not only inaccurate but unfair to teachers and students alike. More importantly, it makes a statement about the apathy of some students.

If students are genuinely concerned about the quality of teaching or of a program, then they need to learn to speak up. Passivity, apathy

and a "cooperate and graduate" attitude certainly won't change a thing and engenders resentment and a feeling of having not only wasted a lot of time and money but of having been cheated. This gives rise to graduates who leave and then bad-mouth the school. We certainly don't need that, not in a time of declining enrollment. I would hope that students would actively demand the best quality education possible and would not waste one of the opportunities they have to speak up. I would hope that students would be as quick to compliment as to criticize and would learn to be responsible consumers, because that can't help but improve the quality of goods and services — even in education.

Dean W. Owen Jr.  
Assistant Professor,  
Department of Adult, Counseling  
and Higher Education

## Letters



# Freshmen open house gets Regent stamp

By Kati Hancock

The Morehead State University Board of Regents in its meeting January 9, approved new open house hours for freshmen halls, adopted changes in the 1981 summer and fall academic calendars, and authorized MSU President Morris Norfleet to seek emergency state funding to cover damage resulting from the December 21 fire.

The approved open house proposal will increase the open house hours in freshman residence halls from 10 to 18 hours per week on an alternating basis.

The current Sunday hours will also change from 1:30-5:30 p.m. to 7-11 p.m. on an alternating basis. The change will be effective January 12, 1981.

The academic calendar changes will eliminate the two-week intercession indefinitely and will set the opening of Summer I up to May 26 instead of June 1. The close of Summer I will change

from July 3 to June 30.

As the result of these changes, summer commencement will be changed to Aug. 7 and the fall semester will open on Aug. 24 and close on Dec. 19.

The summer terms will also adopt a four-day instructional week with Fridays reserved for library and field assignments.

Academic field trips for credit will still be available during the summer, according to Dr. William F. White, Vice-President of Academic Affairs, with students still able to earn 15 credit hours through both the tours and the summer sessions.

The authorization for Norfleet to seek state funds was the result of the State Department of Insurance's ruling that the Dec. 21 fire wasn't covered under the University's insurance policy. (See related story this issue.)

The meeting was divided by a two-hour closed executive session called by Chairman Lloyd Cassidy to discuss "legal and personnel matters." During the

closed session, Dr. Norfleet, G.E. "Sonny" Moran, Director of Athletics, and Buddy R. Salyer, University counsel were called upon to attend. Cassidy made no comment on the closed session when the regular meeting resumed.

In other action, the board

✓ approved a position change for Larry Stephenson from Dean of Students to Staff Assistant, effective January 1, 1981.

✓ recognized the reaffirmation of accreditation to MSU by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools and the continuation of membership for the University of Breckinridge in the Commission on Secondary Schools of the Southern Association.

✓ approved the MSU Office of Development's Plan for Educational Fund Raising From Private Sources for 1980-83. In conjunction, the board accepted a \$5,000 check from Billy Joe Hall, president of the Mt. Sterling National Bank, as a contribution to the

Claude P. Killpatrick Professorship. The contribution was made by the Mt. Sterling National Bank and brings the total amount of contributions to the professorship to \$8,000.

✓ approved the 1980-81 revised estimated budget. The revision was cut by an \$1,431,000 appropriations cut by the state.

✓ approved a proposal to reorganize the School of Education.

✓ approved an audit prepared by Kelley, Galloway and Company, Ashland, for the 1979-80 fiscal year. "We've reviewed the internal controls and accounting procedures of MSU and found everything excellent," said company representative Harold Kelley. Kelley also said his company found nothing that would violate the purchasing procedures as outlined by the State Board of Finance.

✓ adopted a resolution commending the University employees who helped restore heat and electrical service after the recent explosion and fire.

## No one exempt

# Power, heat loss takes toll on food and plants

By Joe Adams

It happened on a cold Sunday morning, suddenly and without warning, in the middle of the holiday vacation.

It took university officials almost five continuous days of work to deal with it; and it was not a gift anyone wanted for Christmas.

Almost every building on campus was affected. In fact, officials said it was easier to describe the buildings not affected than to list the ones which were knocked out.

Most students and faculty had vacated the campus more than a week ago when the fall semester ended. Even though traffic was light, it would have been better if the equipment in Switchgear House "A" would have just hung on for another couple of months when it was scheduled to be replaced.

Morehead State University's married students living in Lakewood Terrace had to compensate for lack of heat and lighting. Some families also lost food when electricity went out.

"The biggest thing for us was the cold. That Saturday and Sunday it was near zero degrees," said Shane Gallagher of Vansant Hall. "It was better that we stayed here. Some people who left lost everything. We were able to eat most of our food."

"We had our gas stoves and burners, so we were able to cook and use our ovens for heating," said Brenda Jones, also of Vansant Hall.

"We lost over \$70 worth of meat," said Leah Gillum of Vansant. "It was about a week before we found out because we spent Christmas with our families."

Many occupants of Lakewood Terrace believe MSU should not be held accountable for the food and other perishable items lost.

"It wasn't their [MSU's] fault. They couldn't help it. It's just something that happened," said Allan Moss of Holbrook Hall.

Rob McCoy, who lives in Peratt Hall said, "We lost a bunch of food but that wasn't what concerned me. The bad thing was they told us that we could use our gas stoves for cooking and heating. There isn't any ventilation in here. We could have suffocated or even been blown up. That wasn't safe."

Another area of concern was for plants housed in offices, the president's home and the University's greenhouse.

Some buildings fared better than others. According to Martin Huffman, manager of printing services, Allie Young Hall never registered a temperature lower than 48 degrees.

The plants in the president's home, however, fell victim to the cold. Mrs. Norfleet, wife of MSU President Morris Norfleet, lost approximately 30 African violets and six large tropical plants. Two university employees battled for nearly two days and saved almost all of the universities' plants.

Acting Head of the department of agriculture, Robert Wolfe and Charles Derrickson, dean of the School of Applied Sciences and Technology, borrowed electricity from Assistant Director of Athletics John (Sonny) Allen's house and managed to keep most of the plants from freezing.

"Dean Derrickson and I rotated hours trying to keep the plants warm and the pipes from freezing," said Wolfe.

Wolfe and his family, last fall planned their Christmas vacation to North Carolina but Wolfe stayed behind to work with the greenhouse.

"I stayed here and fired the furnaces and the (Wolfe's wife) visited the relatives," Wolfe said.



The thin, dead line

David Baser, sophomore, and Chella Zornes stand in line at registration.

## \$95,000 lost from fire

From page 1

work schedule, however, taking only Christmas Day off before finishing the makeshift repairs on Dec. 26.

Kappes estimated the overtime pay received by University employees at more than \$10,000.

Freeman Hamilton, supervisor of the heating, air conditioning, refrigeration

and high voltage section of operations and maintenance, said he worked 66 hours the week of the accident.

The University asked for and received assistance with the repairs from Kentucky Utilities and the Bell Construction Company of Lexington. The Bell Company is the electrical contractor for replacing the switchgear in the house.

The smoke has cleared...

## What does the 'Wells incident' mean?



Comment  
by  
David  
Williams

"This place was kinda like a train wreck/cept it was cleaner"  
-Tonio K

A certain type of dark cloud is hanging around the Morehead State Athletic Department these days and whether it

has settled in for an extended stay remains to be seen.

If you are from the school of thought that says the best defense is a good offense, you might also subscribe to the school of thought that says the best offense is a good knockdown punch.

The Mickey Wells incident runs deeper than that however, and raises an important question: "Was the Lady Eagle coach making a strong statement against poor officiating when he punched referee Joe Pike during the MSU/University of Kentucky New Year's Day matchup, or was it just another 'left to the jaw'?"

One can't look to the response of Morris Norfleet for the answer. The MSU president obviously wasn't in the

standard-setting mood when he handed Wells a six-game suspension and an indefinite probation.

Nor does the answer lie in the obviously enraged responses of referees who claim they are becoming more and more like targets.

Only time will settle this issue; the referees would just as soon be wrong (about being the targets for irate coaches) and Morehead officials would just as soon forget the whole thing.

One would have to be slightly twisted to find a joke in a situation such as this — although this is not a case of looking for humor where there is none.

The manner in which Wells mixed regret with a defense of his actions

almost sounded like he might offer Pike the chance for a rematch.

Wells told the *Lexington Herald-Leader*, "What I did was wrong, I understand that. But officials are supposed to be so sacred. I don't see what makes them so sacred. All referees make mistakes, but I've never seen one admit it."

The reason for the outburst apparently was Wells' barroom roots coming to the surface. He said it may have been a reflex action, since he spent several years working in bars. The sixth-season coach owned a bar for ten years.

Now however, Wells isn't talking. He doesn't need to though; he let his fist do the talking and it said plenty.

## Lady Eagles hit the holiday skids, now 5-8

By Max Hammond

The Morehead State University women's basketball team had some trying times during the last month. While most students were enjoying Christmas break, the Lady Eagles saw their record drop to 5-8 and they temporarily lost their head coach.

Hard times began for the Lady Eagles when they traveled to Warrensburg, Mo., Dec. 5 to compete in the Central Missouri State University Dial Classic tournament.

The Lady Eagles fell to their first opponents, the Central Missouri Jennies, 91-75.

In the losing effort, junior guard Robin Harmon contributed 22 points to lead MSU in scoring and freshman center Priscilla Blackford pulled down 10 rebounds, leading that category for the Lady Eagles.

On Dec. 6, the Lady Eagles were defeated in the consolation game of the tournament, 79-76, by the Brigham Young University Cougars.

Harmon was once again the leading scorer for the Lady Eagles, contributing her season high of 34 points and Blackford was Morehead's leading rebounder with nine.

### sports

On Dec. 12, the Lady Eagles visited Northern Kentucky and were defeated by the Norsewomen 90-86.

Junior guard Irene Moore was the top scorer for MSU with 25 points and once again Blackford led the team in rebounding with 12.

The Lady Eagles were defeated by the Lady Kats of the University of Kentucky Jan. 1 in a controversial game 84-64, in which MSU Coach Mickey Wells struck referee Joe Pike and was ejected from the game. (See related story, this issue.)

Donna Stephens, was MSU's leading scorer and rebounder for that game with 19 points and 15 rebounds.

Stephens played for Morehead during her freshman and sophomore years and then transferred to the University of Missouri to play her junior year. Stephens returned to Morehead this season and saw her first action in the UK game.

The Lady Eagles traveled to Murfreesboro, Tenn., Jan. 3, where they were defeated by the Middle Tennessee State University Lady Raiders, 73-68.

Stephens was MSU's top scorer with 24 points and Harmon was the Lady Eagles' top rebounder with nine.

The Lady Eagles broke their six-game losing streak Jan. 8, when they defeated the Murray State Lady Racers 65-62 at home.

MSU used the outside shooting and rebounding of Stephens to defeat the Lady Racers. Stephens scored a total of 34 points and pulled down eight rebounds.

The Lady Eagles hosted the Austin Peay Lady Governors Jan. 10, and came away with their second win in a row, defeating Austin Peay 56-49.

MSU had to play the game without one of their regular starters, Irene Moore who averages 10 points a game. Moore chipped a bone in her foot and will be out for at least a week. Connie Ryan, however, took Moore's spot and contributed nine points.

Blackford paced the Lady Eagles with 16 points and Stephens was MSU's top rebounder of the night with 13.

The Lady Eagles then fell to the University of Charleston Jan. 12, 71-64.

Stephens was the high scorer for the Lady Eagles with 25 points. She also pulled down the team high of 17 rebounds.

## Wells' suspension half over, will resume coaching duties Jan. 26

By David Williams

Morehead State University women's basketball Coach Mickey Wells is halfway through a six-game suspension for punching referee Joe Pike during the Lady Eagle's Jan. 1 game with the University of Kentucky at Lexington.

The suspension and an indefinite probation was recommended by MSU Director of Athletics G.E. (Sonny) Moran and Laradean Brown, coordinator of women's athletics, and accepted by President Morris Norfleet. The announcement was made on Jan. 5.

Wells will resume his coaching duties Jan. 26 when the team faces Tennessee

Tech on the road. Assistant Coach Loretta Marlow is serving in Wells' position while the suspension is in effect.

The incident took place following a walking violation called on a Morehead State player. After a discussion with Pike, Wells received a technical foul and after further discussion, punched the official. The sixth-season coach was ejected from the game.

Any other details concerning the suspension are presently unavailable. When asked whether the book is closed on this subject as far as the school is concerned, Keith Kapper, MSU director of Public Affairs said, "no comment."



file photo by Doc Gibson

Lady Eagle basketball coach Mickey Wells sits on the bench watching his team perform.

# Eagles gunning for third straight win , Napier nears consecutive free throw mark

By David Williams

The Morehead State University basketball Eagles will be shooting for their third consecutive victory tonight when they host the University of Akron at Wetherby Gym.

The Eagles downed Ohio Valley Conference opponent Austin Peay and the University of Charleston in the past week to end a four game losing streak which included a suspension of two players and the dismissal of another.

After racing to a 4-0 start which included winning their own Eagle Classic, Coach Wayne Martin's squad fell to Kansas, beat Bowling Green, then lost to Marshall, Southern Illinois and OVC opponents Tennessee and Murray State.

During that period, freshmen Dickie Alexander and Henry Johnson were suspended for three games. Senior Albert Spence was dismissed from the team

after hitting an opposing player in Morehead State's conference opener against Middle Tennessee. Another loss was that of junior Rocky Adkins who was red-shirted from competition because of inflammation of both hip joints.

Following the loss to Murray at home, Martin said he and the assistant coaches did, "the only thing we could do."

What they did was alter the starting lineup, replacing sophomore Eddie Childress and junior Greg Coldiron with freshmen Alexander and Jeff Fultz.

Martin explained that there is no set starting five at the moment, but that they are, "testing people."

The difference can be seen in how the team has performed since the shakeup. Against Charleston on the road Monday, Martin described the team saying "they played very hard and with a lot of poise."

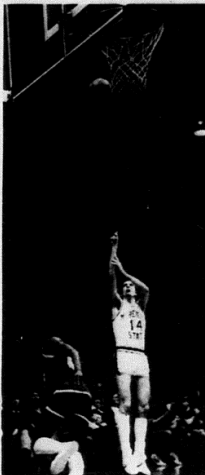
Martin and Assistant Coach Ken

Trivette both agreed on the fact that alertness and attitude were up on the team after going a quarter of the season either being on the road or at home in Wetherby with students gone for Christmas break.

When the Eagles take the court tonight, some extra attention will be paid to junior guard Glenn Napier who is currently leading the nation in free throw percentage, hitting 54-55 for 98.2%.

Napier will also be attempting to break a Morehead State and OVC record for most free throws made consecutively. He currently has a streak of 41 in a row. Another MSU player, Harold Sargent, hit 42 in a row during the 1964-65 season. The national mark of 60 was set by Bob Lloyd of Rutgers during the 1966-67 season.

The Eagles will go on the road Saturday to face Tennessee Tech in an OVC matchup.



— Dave Brown

MSU's Glenn Napier fires an outside jumper against Austin Peay.



— Dave Brown

Glenn Napier puts up a shot as the junior guard's teammates crowd under the basket along with Austin Peay players. The

Eagles took an 86-75 win from their Ohio Valley Conference opponent at Wetherby Gymnasium Saturday night.

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