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SIDELINES

Volume 63, Number 65 Middle Tennessee State University June 28, 1989

Sigma hazing leaves seven hurt; results in two-year suspension

By DOUG STULTS
News Editor

Seven Phi Beta Sigma pledges were injured in two March hazing incidents, resulting in a two-year suspension of the fraternity, Dean of Students Paul Cantrell said.

In an agreement signed June 14, Sigma is prohibited from holding meetings, pledging new members and generally barred from participating in any sort of Greek activity, including the display or wearing of the Sigma logo. After the two-year suspension ends, the fraternity will be allowed to become active on a two-year probationary basis.

Phi Beta Sigma's attorney and a lawyer for the state reached agreement prior to a scheduled hearing before the state which might possibly have yielded a stricter penalty, Cantrell said. MTSU instituted disciplinary action against Sigma after the incidents, alleging physical abuse against pledges that violated Sigma's national rules, the by-laws of the MTSU Interfraternity Council and the MTSU student disciplinary policy.

One pledge was taken to the local emergency room for treatment of a hairline fracture of the sternum and six others received deep bruises in the incidents, which occurred during March 3 and 5 "paddling" initiations, Cantrell said. The hospitalized pledge was apparently released after treatment.

"I've been told that the hazing was done by past members," said William Hayslett, a TSU faculty member who serves as Sigma's regional director. "However, those stu-

dents who were attending school were responsible for the pledges," he added.

Dean Cantrell said there had been suggestions that former members were involved but that the agreement recognized the hazing as the responsibility of current Sigma members.

Names of those involved in the incidents could not be immediately obtained. Attorneys involved in the disciplinary action had been unable to contact Sigma's spring president, Rodney Henderson, and no Sigma member signed the suspension agreement.

According to a letter from the state's attorney, Mary Jo Price, to Dean Cantrell, Sigma's lawyer said Hayslett's signature would be sufficient to bind Sigma to the terms of the agreement.

"(Sigma's lawyer Bertrand) Thompson said that the fraternity members thought the decision would be in their best interest," Cantrell said.

As stated in the agreement, Sigma is additionally prohibited from "conducting exhibitions on MTSU property, i.e. 'stepping' or 'hopping'" and may not participate as a fraternity in intramural sports. Any violation of the agreed terms will result in an extension of the suspension period for two years from the date of the violation.

If reinstated, Phi Beta Sigma will be required to deliver a presentation before the Greek community concerning the proper way to handle initiations and the danger of hazing.



Sandra Rennie•Staff

CONCENTRATION—Erica Watson of Memphis, Tenn. practices a composition piece as she participates in the fifth Governor's School for the Arts. Three hundred gifted Tennessee high school students will be on campus until July 15 to receive instruction and perform with their peers.

Mall brings jobs

By MARLA CARTWRIGHT
Editor

The May 1990 opening of the new Stones River Mall located on Hwy 96 is projected to create at least 600 new jobs and \$4.5 million in sales tax revenue.

Some of those jobs will provide opportunities for MTSU students, according to Martha Turner of MTSU's Placement Office.

"The new mall will certainly offer a new source of employment for students."

Turner also said that the projected 300 temporary construction jobs will also benefit students if the timing is right.

"Although most construction jobs are temporary, they require working an eight hour shift," she said. "This really restricts students who usually have only afternoons and evenings free. But if the jobs open up in the summer, many students who aren't enrolled could benefit from them."

"But I don't think the real benefit will come until it opens up for business," Turner said.

According to Mark Faircloth, of B D & E Development Corp. of Nashville, several major business have already contracted space in the new development.

Those businesses include the following:

■The newly opened Wal-Mart store comprising 82,000 sq. ft. with a 20,000 sq. ft. expansion option.

■A Sears retail store, to open at the mall's grand opening, with 52,000 sq. ft. of store area and 15,000 sq. ft. additional space available.

Please see MALL page 2



Wayne Cartwright•Staff

UNDER CONSTRUCTION—A latticework of support beams stretches across the site of the new shopping mall being built on Highway 96 in south Murfreesboro. Officials expect that the center will offer 600 jobs once it is completed. To date four major retailers have leased spaces at the site.

MALL from page 1

- A Goody's clothing store to open this fall will total 40,000 sq. ft.
- Litchfield Theater, a 23,000 sq. ft. 6 screen theater.

Faircloth also echoed Turner's assesment of a better job market, for college students willing to work part-time.

"The Stones River Mall will open up a vast market of part-time and full-time positions," he said. "The malls in Nashville are really a great source of income for students

at Vanderbilt University."

"In addition to the influx of new jobs, the new mall will bring in revenues in sales tax," Faircloth said. "College students will also benefit from this because a portion of taxes will go toward state-supported universities such as MTSU."

Faircloth said the job estimates are based on projections but that other interests are in the process of negotiating leases.

"As we finalize the contracts we hope to make progress toward a nearly full operation for the grand opening," he said.

The inclusion of a 10 vendor food garden, similar to Hickory Hollow's version, and other retail interests bring the total committed square footage to over 403,000 sq. ft. according to Faircloth.

The total area available is half that of Hickory Hollow, which measures over 1 million sq. ft.

CAMPUS BRIEFS

Admissions adds two, promotes one

From Staff Reports

The MTSU Admissions Office has added two employees and promoted one, partly due in response to the rising number of applications, said new admissions and records clerk Ann Taylor.

Janice Bowling has been hired as a transfer admissions clerk. Taylor has been promoted to her new position, where she will be responsible for processing international student requests, she said.

Ronald Malone is the new admissions officer, replacing the outgoing Gloria Jordan.

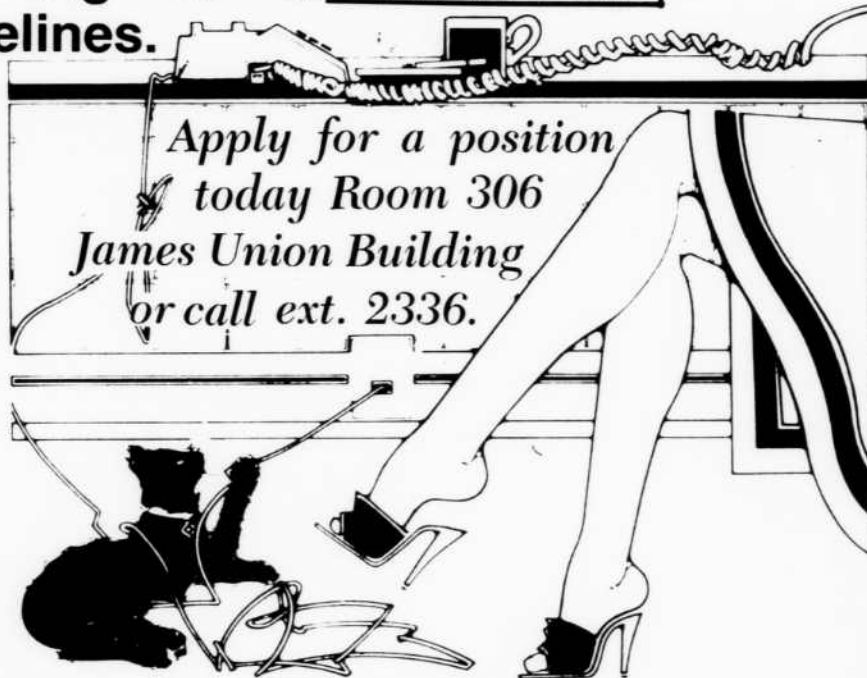
Profs compile homeless services

Two computer science professors have received a public service grant to develop a seven-county directory of services for the homeless.

Judy Hankins and Brenda Parker will compose the directory, which will be printed with funds donated by Nissan U.S.A. The project is a joint effort with the Mid-Cumberland Community Action Agency.

Oh, no dear, I don't worry about finding a journalism job after I graduate. I'm working as a writer at Sidelines.

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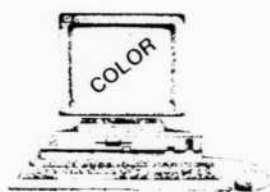


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Opinion

'All men created equal' means ALL

By VINCENT WINDROW
Staff Columnist

As we approach July 4, 1989, thoughts of fireworks, barbeque and beer dance in our heads. Traditionally, the Fourth of July is a time of relaxation with family, friends and firecrackers. Historically, the Fourth of July is the day that America gained her national independence and political freedom from Great Britain by signing the Declaration of Independence, a document proclaiming that she would no longer obey the commands of the British monarchy and that she would "hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal."

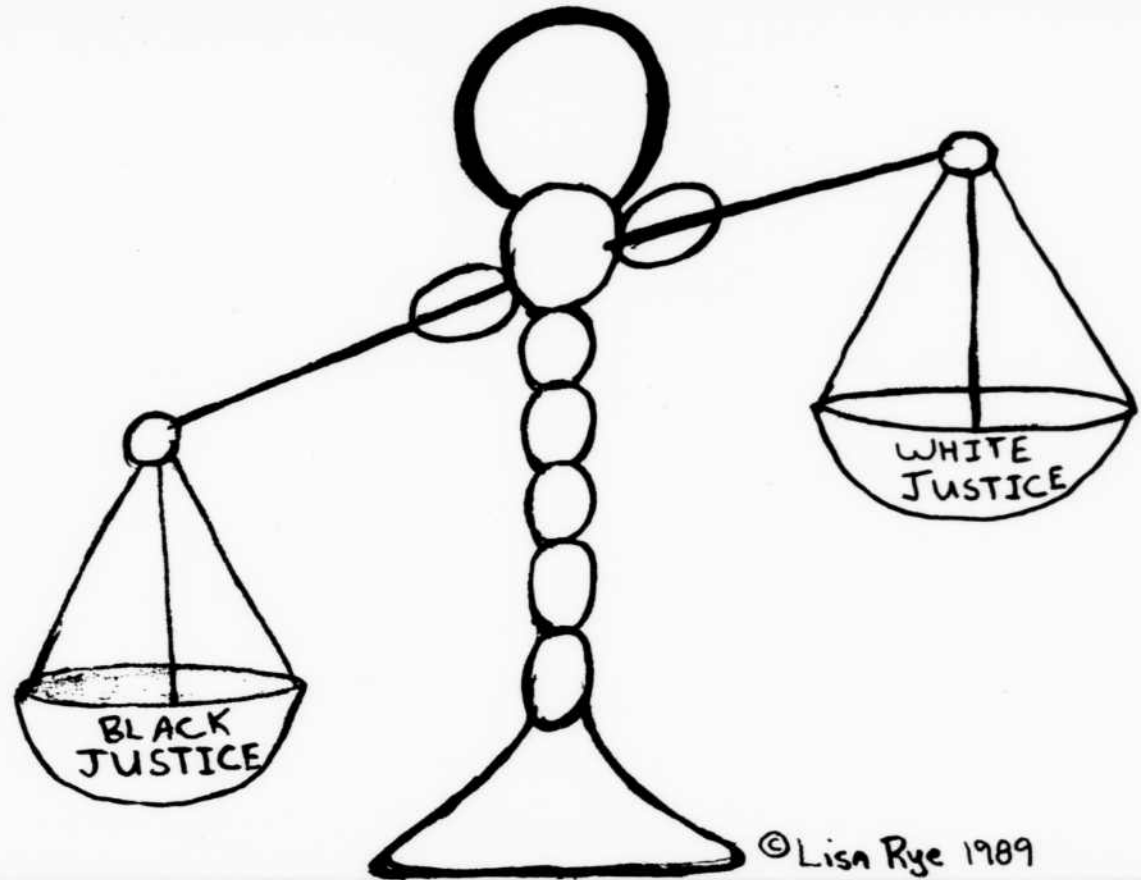
Throughout the years, the United States of America has been a fighting force for freedom. She fought for Europe's right to be free in World War I while she continued to enslave the black citizens of her country, those "freed" some fifty years earlier from the hell of slavery. She returned to Europe in World War II to fight for Europe's right to be free while she continued to enslave the black citizens of her country, those "freed" some eighty years earlier from the hell of slavery. She welcomed millions of immigrants through Ellis Island while she continued to enslave ... hell, you get the picture.

The white man in America was granted his freedom on July 4, 1776 yet declined to offer the same to his black brother. America freed the Jews from the Nazi concentration camps in Germany but declined to free his black brother from the oppressiveness of separate-but-equal Jim Crowism and racial discrimination.

July 4th is a proud moment for me also, as it is for you, because I am as American as you and Ollie North. This is my land of the free as much as it is your home of the brave. I am as proud to be an American as much as I am proud of my African heritage. But you have denied me for so, so very long. Your whips, noose, white robes and Dred Scott decisions would have certainly meant genocide for a lesser race. But still I rise. Happy Birthday, to you and to me.

On another July 4 — this one in 1852 — Frederick Douglass said to a white crowd in Rochester, New York — "What, to the American slave, is your Fourth of July? I answer; a day that reveals to him, more than all other days in the year, the gross injustice and cruelty to which he is the constant victim. To him, your celebration is a sham; your boasted liberty, an unholy license; your national greatness, swelling vanity; your grounds of rejoicing are empty and heartless; your denunciation of tyrants, brass-fronted impudence; your shouts of liberty and equality, hollow mockery."

It has been almost 140 years since Douglass gave that speech — you've come a long way baby! (But how long is long?) "We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal."



Neighbors need to be neighborly, not kept isolated from one another

*It's a beautiful day in the neighborhood,
a beautiful day for a neighbor,
Would you be mine? Could you be mine?*

—from Mr. Rogers' Neighborhood.

In what kind of neighborhood did you grow up? How well did you know your neighbors? What effect has your home neighborhood had on your view of people and life?

USA Weekend this week had an article about the former First Couple's new neighborhood in Bel-Air, Calif. As far as property values go, the Reagans' neighborhood is one of the wealthiest areas in the States. Their rent is \$15,000 a month. But the place is dirt poor when it comes to what really makes a neighborhood a true community.

A true community includes getting to know one another, sharing life together, support, hospitality, becoming real with each other. Says Bel-Air real estate agent Mike Silverman, the people in Bel-Air "don't want to see the neighbors; they don't want to know the neighbors."

In the residential areas where the rich and famous hang out, seclusion and security are top values. Home is where you don't have to sign autographs. Such a life!

You couldn't pay me enough to live in such a poor neighborhood as Bel-Air. No, thanks. There's more to life than million dollar video surveillance systems and pedigree guard dogs.

In spite of their insidious problems with crack dealers, prostitution and domestic violence, the slums of our nation offer more opportunity for true community than the rich man's ghettos of Beverly Hills and Bel-Air.

We who dwell somewhere in between the slums and Beverly Hills have the same need for a true community. My observation of the middle class neighborhood is that we are basically isolated cave-dwellers. It's just that our caves and our territorial claims are smaller than those in the big white mansions.

Sure, there are ample exceptions. But hospitality is not one of America's leading virtues as it is in other parts of the world (the Middle East, for example).

I grew up on the West Coast, in a home with a front door that didn't swing open very easily. Those who entered our home were invited guests. These guests never saw the



David Robinson
Presbyterian
Student
Fellowship

piles of junk hastily thrown under the bed and in the closets prior to their arrival. Our house was clean and we were on our best behavior for our "guests."

My wife's family always knew their neighbors, not just as mail-boxes and house numbers, but as flesh and blood people and friends.

True community in a neighborhood doesn't come easily. People let you down. Their kids steal your things. Their animals squat in your flower beds. Their loud music keeps you up at night. People really can be quite annoying.

No wonder, then. If you have the capital, why not build yourself a castle on the hill where you won't have to face any of "their" problems?

Two good answers. One, most of us don't have that kind of money. Two, we are made to live in community.

Before the fall of humanity (as told in the Bible), before original sin, while the world was still in its pristine beauty and goodness, God makes this strange declaration about His creation: "It is *not good* for the man to be alone." (Genesis 2:18, emphasis mine).

We are made for one another. God in His wisdom, has intended for us to live close to other people, so that He might shape us in love, using our neighbors and community as encouragement, and how we need to be accountable to one another.

A few weeks ago, my wife, children and I went up to St. Louis to spend a few days with her brother. He lives in an urban inter-racial neighborhood. We met his neighbors, had them over for dinner, petted their dogs along the sidewalks, borrowed their food, listened to their music and laughter.

I have to honestly say that a life in such a neighborhood (with all its inner city problems) would be my hands-down choice any day of the week over a \$15 million mansion in the lonely-town, un-neighborly neighborhood of Bel-Air, Calif.

And I think Mr. Rogers would agree.

SIDELINES

| | | |
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Sidelines, the official campus newspaper at Middle Tennessee State University, is published every Monday and Thursday except holidays. Opinions expressed in columns do not necessarily reflect the views of the staff or management of this paper.

Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor:

This is in response to Doug Stults' column on June 21.

Doug, I'm pleased you are concerned with the poor and would like to see them have a better life. It's people like you who care enough to speak out that makes a difference in our land.

It is unfortunate that more people refuse to stand up and be counted, no matter how unpopular and erroneous their views.

I'm sure you expect to re-

ceive \$100,000 per year upon your graduation from this institution. Your lack of experience and education about the university level should not prevent an employer with a profitable business from hiring you. After all, you are in the top 10% of our nation. You have a college degree.

I don't know what your major is, but I don't believe it's business management. If it were, you would be aware that training employees is expensive. It is more expensive for service-type

industries due to high turnover. The vast majority of turnover is *not* due to low pay but rather discharge for the honest inability or unwillingness to do an honest day's work for that paycheck.

Twenty-five percent of the adult citizens of our state cannot read or write. Many more do so at a level that is near useless. Employers cannot afford the time, effort, and expense to train these people in basic skills. It isn't their job. It is the job of schools. They

aren't doing it very well. Employers simply can't afford to pay higher wages to people who are not able to produce.

Only about 3.5 million citizens work for the minimum wage. The vast majority of them are teenagers on their first job. Less than 300,000 are head of households. These are the ones who need help, but they are also the first to be laid off when the minimum goes up. They are the group with the lowest literacy and skill levels.

Inflation and unemployment are the only sure results of a minimum wage hike. If the minimum goes up, so does the wage rate in *every* union contract—which requires their wages are a certain multiple of the minimum.

I'm sure, too, that those not under union contract who are now working for \$4.55 will want the same 36% increase to \$6.18. Multiply that figure by the millions of people who work and realize that the increase in expense to employers DOES NOT PRODUCE ONE CENT OF INCOME.

There is no justification for an increase in expenses without an equal increase in productivity.

Richard Pearl, Sr.
MTSU PO Box 4621

Open letter to housing director Ivan Shewmake:

I would like to introduce myself as a disappointed MTSU student who resides here in campus housing. First, being a transfer student from an area university helps one better understand the living conditions on campus. However, out of three area campuses, MTSU ranks far below the average on upkeep of their dormitories.

One might wonder why the university takes no pride in offering a student adequate living quarters. One reason could be that the increase in enrollment means less attention to the environment. There will always be someone to fill the slot. Well, I disagree mainly because one area university (Tennessee Tech) had this attitude at one time because of their increased enrollment. In time, students became aware that Tech had no interest in keeping up their dormitories, which in turn, students started looking elsewhere for a better living environment. After years of losing money because not enough students lived on campus, Tennessee Tech took great effort in remodeling in hopes of regaining student boarders. Will this ever happen here at MTSU?

Come now, doesn't a student require more than a ceiling that leaks, a shelf above the bed that is held

by one screw and maintenance orders that take weeks if not months to take care of? This is red tape at its finest. Is this what we teach our new students of today? One must also question why this type of atmosphere exists here at MTSU. Could it be that those who are on top fail to look down any longer because they are afraid of what they might see, and in turn would make their \$40,000 salaried job look bad. In other words, cover up what looks bad so that it looks as if our department is making a profit.

Well, Mr. Shewmake, I feel I'm being cheated. You and your department should wake up and stop making excuses for the shambles you call campus housing. I'm sure what has been said will be tossed into the nearest trash can. If so, then this is what is happening to your housing department. Believe me, Mr. Shewmake, I make these remarks after living here only one month. If this is a first impression, then it leaves little to be desired from the rest of the university. If MTSU says that it wants a well-known image throughout the South, then I say, "Earn it." What do we pay you for? Is it for your salary or for our university as a whole?

Disappointed.
James R. McCowan
Box 8491

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Lifestyles

Batman movie lives up to hype

By JOHNATHAN M. LAMPLEY
Staff Writer

Editor's Note: The following article is a part two of a four-part series about the "Batman" phenomenon which gave rise to the movie released this month.

Finally, after a decade of development, a year of controversy, eight months of production, and the most incredible hype job in Hollywood, *Batman* has arrived. The question is this—has it been worth the wait?

In my opinion, the answer is "Yes!"

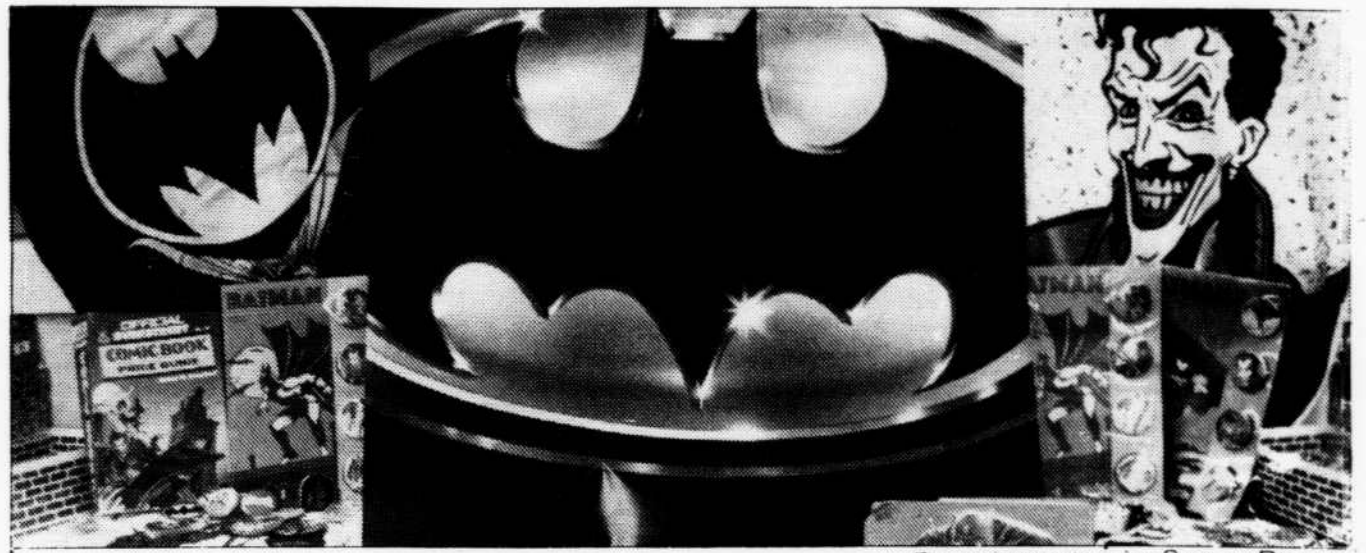
Batman is hands-down the most entertaining, and certainly the most interesting, of 1989's bumper crop of summer movies. The film is alternately frightening and funny, with the blackest sense of humor this side of Hitchcock.

And the good news gets better. Michael Keaton is Batman, the Dark Knight of Gotham City by night, wealthy playboy Bruce Wayne by day. Keaton, whose casting announcement generated a firestorm of controversy among die-hard Batman fans, delivers the performance of a lifetime.

Fans were worried that casting a skinny comedian would compromise the integrity of their hero, and fears of a return to the campy TV show of the 60s abounded.

Rest assured however, that Keaton works. Poised on the brink of major superstardom for over a year now, Keaton is destined to cross the line with this role. He is tough when needed, bashing crooked heads in, tender when romancing reporter Vicki Vale (Kim Basinger) during more relaxed moments and touchingly absent-minded as the perennially confused Bruce Wayne. His life doesn't seem to make sense—until it is night and time to prowl in the Bat costume once again.

An excellent supporting cast helps things out. Veteran



Collector's World on E. Main abounds with Batstuff including T-shirts, new comics and other collectible items.

heavy Pat Hingle as Commissioner Gordon, Billy Dee Williams as Gotham City District Attorney Harvey Dent (destined to become the villain Two-Face in future sequels), and always wonderfully slimy Jack Palance as the criminal Boss Grissom are delightfully adept at pulling off their roles.

Of special note, a supporting role is British character actor Michael Gough as Batman's faithful butler Alfred. Gough, a prominent stage actor with many small parts in major British movies of the late 40s and early 50s, became known for his role appearing opposite Christopher Lee and Peter Cushing in the classic *Horror of Dracula*. More recently he has had bit parts in *Out of Africa*, and *The Serpent and the Rainbow*.

Batman gives Gough his best opportunity ever. Borrowing a page from John Gielgud's book on playing manservants, Gough makes Alfred a witty, sarcastic foil for Keaton, giving condescending looks to his employer every time the sun sets and that look of obsession comes into Wayne's eyes. Yet Gough clearly shows affection for Keaton's hero and plays a major role in cementing his relationship with Basinger.

But all these performances are overshadowed by Jack Nicholson as the insane villain, the Joker. Nicholson has already drawn rave reviews, giving rise to rumors of a possible Oscar nomination.

1989 marks the 50th anniversary of Batman and this movie is the best way to celebrate the occasion.

July 4th to be commemorated with live music and free fireworks

Old Fort Park throws a celebration

By MARLA
CARTWRIGHT
Editor

What could be more down home than a Fourth of July celebration in the park? We're talking fireworks display, arts and crafts activities for the children and a live band.

And what's even better, it's all free and you don't even have to drive to Nashville to get there.

Murfreesboro's July 4 highlight will be the celebration at Old Fort Park on Hwy 96. But officials are worried that the persistent rain may dampen the fun.

"Last year we to cancel the festivities because of the drought and it looks like this year the problem will be the rain," said Marlane Sewell, Rutherford Co. Recreation Dept. spokeswoman.

Barring inclement weather, the schedule of events is as follows:

★10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Arts in the Park. Creative art demonstra-

tions will be open to children of all ages and sponsored by the Creative Art Daycamp staff.

★4:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. Family Games. Family-oriented activities such as volleyball, relay races and horseshoes with trophies awarded to the winners.

★7:15 p.m. - Free 50s and 60s music by Crusin' for Burgers.

★approximately 8:45 p.m. - fireworks display. Free and open to the public fireworks celebration, estimated to last 30 - 45 minutes.

"We've got double the amount of fireworks," said Sewell. "We just saved what we had from last year and bought more this year, so we should have a pretty good show."

Picnic baskets are recommended but if you don't have the time, concessions will be available. Proceeds

from the concessions sales will go toward the Recreation Dept.'s general fund.

If you plan to celebrate Independence Day with fireworks of your own in the backyard, you've got plenty of fireworks dealers to choose from between now and the big day.

Seasonal dealers like Cleve's Fireworks, with 14 locations across the state and four in Murfreesboro, pop up their tents in parking lots all over town. Their top advantage is having a convenient location with easy access.

However, year-round fireworks stores like Uncle Sandy's Fireworks on 2021 S. Church offer temperature controlled storage and huge inventory.

"We have over \$50,000 in inventory," said C.W. Westbrooks, manager of Uncle Sandy's.

"Our sales are up 75% over last month," Westbrooks said. "But it's really too early to know if sales will be up over last

year. Our best days are usually the 3rd."

Another advantage the stores can offer is a wider selection. Westbrooks said that his store imports several brands and he indicated that his top selling item is bottle rockets.

Although this is the peak time for fireworks sales, Westbrooks said that New Year's Day and Memorial Day are also good selling periods.

If fireworks are not your style, here's another idea.

Perhaps you want more of what July 4 actually stands for, independence and freedom that our forefathers had to fight for and give their lives for.

For history buffs, the Stones River National Battlefield offers a Civil War Artillery Battery on July 1-2.

The exercise features authentically costumed participants and a horsedrawn cannon by the 7th Illinois Cavalry.



Wayne Cartwright/Staff

Eric Sagman, an MTSU junior majoring in Electrical Engineering, prepares Cleve's Fireworks tent for the annual rush to buy Fourth of July fireworks. This Cleve's, located on S. Tn Blvd., is one of four in town.

Cheekwood plans summer

From Staff Reports

Tired of sitting through endless summer movie sequels? Tired of the crowds of shoving people, bags of greasy popcorn and theater seats with old, crummy chewing gum stuck on the bottom?

Are you ready for something more refined, more relaxing and perhaps even more enjoyable? Then pack up your favorite picnic basket with delectable goodies, toss in something good and cold to drink and, of course, fold up a blanket and head for Cheekwood.

The 1989 schedule for the summer symphony concerts at Cheekwood has been announced. This year the annual series of outdoor concerts is sponsored by Third National Bank.

■TUESDAY, JULY 4, 6:30 p.m. (rain date: Thursday, July 6)

Kenneth Schermerhorn, conductor will perform. Maestro Schermerhorn conducts the symphony in the annual Cheekwood July 4 Extravaganza. This star-spangled program consists of favorites by Aaron Copland, Morton Gould, LeLisle, George Gershwin, William Schuman, Peter Tchaikovsky and, of course, John Phillip Sousa.

■SUNDAY, JULY 9, 6:30 p.m. (rain date: Tuesday, July 11)

Kenneth Schermerhorn, conductor will return to conduct the symphony for a lively evening of French/American music in honor of Bastille Day. The program consists of works by William Schuman, Walter Hanson, Thomas, Claude Debussy and Leo Delibes.

Tickets may be purchased through TicketMaster or at the Fine Arts Center the evening of the performance. Ticket prices are \$8 for Cheekwood members and Symphony subscribers; all other \$10; children under 12 admitted free. People are encouraged to bring a blanket/chair and a picnic supper. Box suppers may be ordered in advance from the Pineapple Room. Call 352-4859.

Please call 353-2140 for additional information.



Robin Williams stars as John Keating, a charismatic English professor who urges his students to learn valuable lessons not found in textbooks in *Dead Poets Society*.

Dead Poets liveliest of summer picks

By BRIAN WILLIAMS
Senior Staff Writer

Sometimes it's the unusual that really stands out. Being unusual means that whatever the issue is, the point is to show everyone that you're different.

Although this isn't the main focus of the new comedy-drama *Dead Poets Society*, this movie is definitely a stand-out in season of last crusades, final frontiers, and ghostbusters.

Society, for all of its intentions and purposes is a

Good Morning, Vietnam at *The Breakfast Club*.

Robin Williams, in his first role since his Oscar-nominated performance in *Good Morning, Vietnam*, stars as John Keating.

Keating is an inspiring and joyously eccentric English teacher at a secluded, traditional private boys' school in 1959. He teaches the students, instead what's in the textbook pages, to pursue their dreams, explore new horizons of self-expression and dis-

cover the excitement of the world (and to enjoy creating and reading poetry).

The mood of the movie has two gears. Due to the fact that Williams is a comic, you can't keep him serious for long and the first hour of the film displays his comic genius. The second half moves into the drama overdrive, highlighted with well-placed light moments. It focuses on the students, letting you share their experiences and pursuits.

The story by Tom Schulman, a Nashville native, is one full of hope, joy, understanding, love, and tragedy. It is placed in a tight, textured format under the direction of Peter Weir.

Dead Poets Society is a movie for all (especially those who want a change of pace to what is out now) to love. It is alive, well, and the perfect surprise for the summer movie season.

Dead Poets Society is now showing at the Cinema Twin located on S. TN Blvd.

For the facts call your local Red Cross, or write:

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Sports

Charges hurting Reds; just play ball

Betting on baseball is a no-no if you are a major league manager. Betting on your own team is definitely out of the question.

Cincinnati Reds manager Pete Rose is currently under investigation for doing just that and it doesn't look good for the league's all-time hit leader to remain in baseball much longer.

I am not going to bore you with all of the details because they have been spread all over newspapers across the U. S. since spring training and has been the focus of T.V. sports coverage for the past couple of weeks, so you probably know most of the situation.

The biggest problem I have is the way the investigation keeps dragging on. I wish it would all end and end now.

I am not the biggest Pete Rose fan around, but I am satisfied with the way he has managed the Reds for the past five years.

Therefore, I would hate to see him banned from the



FIRST PITCH By CECIL JOYCE

game, which is what will happen if it is ruled that he bet on Cincinnati Reds games.

I feel, however, that what happens to him will be a fair judgement and if it comes to banishment, then so be it—but decide quickly because this whole situation is hurting some very innocent bystanders—the Cincinnati Reds.

As the Rose investigation has heated up in the past couple of weeks, the Reds have fallen from first place to third place, 5 1/2 games behind the San Francisco Giants.

The Reds have done well this season considering what has happened, but maybe the team is finally starting to fall apart due to the investigation, not to mention injuries to their top three players.

I feel that the Reds are carrying a large monkey on their backs and the sooner the monkey is lifted, the sooner they can get back to being the team to beat in the National League West division regardless of the outcome of the investigation.

●Rampaging Rangers part 1—The Ryan Express strikes again.....Texas Ranger pitcher Nolan Ryan flirted with a no-hitter for the fourth time this season Sunday versus the Cleveland Indians.

Ryan, who is the oldest active pitcher in the Majors took the no-hitter into the seventh inning before giving up three hits, a two run homerun, and giving way to Jeff Russell to record his 17th save.

Ryan has been outstanding all season for the Rangers. Currently he owns a 9-3 record, 2.96 ERA, and leads the Majors in strikeouts with 128.

●Rampaging Rangers part 2—Double Threat.....Rangers second baseman Julio Franco and outfielder Ruben Sierra have continued to tear up American League pitching and have become a very deadly duo this season.

Franco, who was acquired from the Cleveland Indians in the off-season, and Sierra are tied for the league lead in batting average at .342. Sierra leads the league in RBI's with 61 while Franco is second with 59. Sierra leads the league in slugging percentage with a .610 mark while Franco is not far behind at .526. Franco is fifth in the league in on-base percentage at .412 while Sierra leads the league runs with 51. Sierra leads the league in hits with 100 while Franco is fifth with 91. Sierra also leads the league with eight triples and is among league leaders with 12 homeruns.

Enough said.

●Players of the week.....In the National League, the honor goes to Atlanta's Lonnie Smith. Smith lead the National League with three homeruns and eight RBI's.



Photos by Frank Conley

ABOVE: Ken "The Bull" Atkin, a professional boxer and Smyrna police officer protects his head against blows thrown by David Payne of Evansville, Ind. Atkin won the fight by decision. BELOW: "The Bull" receives a cold spraying from his coach in an effort to revive his circulation.

