

Foreign policy important in selection of prez — p. 5

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Richardson sets records; Raiders sweep TSU — p. 9

MIDDLE TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY

SIDELINES

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Howard Ross/Staff



Seven-year-old James Caperton of Shelbyville (top) stops by to visit with Mike "Fish" Fisher of the Jack Daniels Distillery Barbeque team at Saturday's Pigskin Pig-Out. The World Famous (Internationally Known) Take Out from their hectic schedule as polyester Elvis worshippers to accept their trophy and \$250 cash award for showmanship at the Pigskin Pig-Out

U.S. shells platforms as warning: Reagan

MANAMA, Bahrain (AP) — American forces destroyed two of Iran's Persian Gulf oil platforms Monday, sank or damaged four attack boats and disabled two frigates that fired missiles at American planes, U.S. officials reported.

Iranian naval forces responded with attacks on Arab oil facilities, U.S., British and Cypriot commercial vessels and on a press helicopter chartered by NBC.

No American casualties were reported, but Defense Secretary Frank C. Carlucci said a Cobra attack helicopter with two crew members was late in returning to a Navy cruiser and a search had begun.

Monday's conflict between the United States and Iran was the most intense since President Reagan ordered last summer that Navy forces be strengthened in the gulf, where Iran and Iraq have been at war since September 1980.

Washington called destruction of the oil platforms a "measured response" to the explosion of a mine, allegedly planted by Iran, that blew a hole in an American frigate last week and wounded 10 sailors.

Reagan said Monday's operations were a warning to Iran that "we will protect our ships and, if they threaten us, they'll pay a price. We undertook this action to make sure the Iranians have no illusions about the cost of irresponsible behavior."

Iran's official Islamic Republic News Agency said there were

deaths and injuries aboard the platform but it did not say how many.

In the ground war between Iran and Iraq, the Baghdad government claimed it regained most of the southern Faw peninsula that Iranian forces captured more than two years ago, including the town of Faw. Iran claimed U.S. helicopter gunships fired at Iranian troops in the area and Tehran radio said, "American forces have entered the war."

In Washington, Pentagon spokesman Fred Hoffman denied the Iranian claims. No U.S. military forces have been involved with Iraqi units, he said.

On Reagan's instructions, at about 9 a.m., two groups of Navy warships struck the Iranian oil platforms Sassan and Sirri-D, 100 miles apart in the Southern Persian Gulf.

They gave the Iranians advance warning to evacuate the speedboats, which have been used as speedboat bases for attacks on neutral shipping. Reagan ordered the attacks as retaliation for the mine that holed the frigate USS Samuel B. Roberts on Thursday.

Both platforms were destroyed and left ablaze, one by naval gunfire and the other by explosives planted on it, according to statements in Washington.

The Iranian news agency said U.S. warships hit the Sassan platform at 9 a.m. and, 23 minutes later, the Nasr platform off nearby Sirri Island.

Sirri Island is one of the makeshift oil export terminals in southern waters to which Iran ferries oil from its main Kharg Island terminal in the northern gulf. Kharg has been a frequent target of Iraqi air raids.

The Iranian agency said Foreign Minister Ali Akber Velayati wrote a letter of protest to U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar that said, in part: "Iran will never submit to the policy of violence and intimidation, and will definitely respond to the cowardly U.S. attacks."

After the U.S. attacks, Iranian gunboats went on a rampage in the southern gulf. They attacked oil facilities and commercial vessels at the Mubarak oil field off the Sharjah emirate, and hours later assaulted a Cypriot freighter leaving the United Arab Emirates with a load of fertilizer.

Carlucci said a Navy helicopter was fired upon during the raid on the platforms but not hit. Iranians shot at a press helicopter carrying an NBC-TV crew and an Associated Press photographer, but missed.

AP photographer Norbert Schiller said the "Iranians fired at least half a dozen .50-caliber rounds and small arms fire" at the helicopter.

He said part of Sirri-D collapsed and the platform still was burning before sundown. Sassan was badly damaged "but the main structure was still standing and the fire was

Hosey sets agenda

By CHRISTOPHER BELL
Staff Writer

Associated Student Body President-Elect Harry Hosey, who will be inaugurated at this Thursday's ASB Awards Banquet, has already begun work for his upcoming term.

"Every day you learn something extra," Hosey said about his preparations for assuming office.

"We're working on the homecoming budget," Hosey said. "They spent way too much last year. It was unreal. It was an excellent homecoming though."

The 1987 homecoming did spend more than in previous years, but obtained that money from an application to the Student Activity Fund, according to current ASB President Holly Lentz.

"This year we did different things, and when you do anything for the first time you have problems," Lentz said. "I liked it because more

people got more out of it. It [the budget] could be cut down and it could be even better now that we have experience."

Another campaign issue that is receiving follow up attention is a proposal for a campus radio station.

"I've seen a lot of interest in starting a new radio station," Hosey said. "Something like, well not necessarily just like Vandy's, but Tennessee Tech has a station that plays a variety of music. It would be a lot of fun."

"I've thought for a long time that they've needed a legitimate campus radio station," WMOT Program Director Rick Forrest said. "I would welcome it."

WMOT, while using public radio, is a non-profit public radio station, not a campus station.

"Our funding comes from the state, through the university; from the federal government, through

the Corporation for Public Broadcasting; through corporate sponsorship and by public donations," Forrest said.

Another proposal under consideration is the installation of automatic doors for handicapped students, according to Hosey. They would probably be installed first in the Keathley University Center then Peck Hall.

"I'm asking around for prices and ideas," Hosey said.

Hosey has already appointed three cabinet positions: Doug Holder as chief of staff, Melinda Hutchison as treasurer and Tonya Hunt and Ann Walters as co-homecoming directors.

Holder has had a great deal of past experience in student government, including membership in the ASB House of Representatives, Hosey said. Hutchison was assistant

Please see ASB page 2

Local residents voice concern over super collider construction

By KIM HARRIS
News Editor
and
JILL McWHORTER
Feature Writer

Despite political claims that the Superconducting Super Collider (SSC) will bring money, jobs and spin-off industries to Tennessee, Robert and Pat Sanders disagree.

The state may acquire their farm as part of the 7,750 acres of surface land needed to construct the proposed SSC, the "physicist's toy," that will smash atoms into tiny particles to reveal the source of matter.

Tennessee is among the top seven states to be considered for the SSC site and the final decision will be announced by the Department of Energy (DOE) at the end of 1988.

The Sanders, while concerned with the loss of their land, voiced other concerns yesterday.

Robert Sanders and his wife, Pat Sanders of the SCC FactFinding Group brought three issues to concern: potential water contamination, toxic waste and a possible trade of the Monitored Retrievable Source (MRS) for the SSC.

Though the tunneling for the SSC was to be 200 feet, it is now 420 feet, Pat Sanders said. The tunneling would ultimately be below the water table, Sanders said, making the project more expensive than it already is.

"Everyone says 'Don't worry about funding.' Well, it looks like a shoe-in. The senate is proposing \$365 million [for the project], but it's going to cost billions more."

Sanders is also concerned with possible toxic waste. The Illinois Fermilab, a similar, though smaller scale SSC project, has experienced contaminated water through leaks in the plant. Tritium, a toxic substance, may be the culprit that is responsible for the doubling incident of childhood leukemia in that area.

Lastly, there has been some speculation that the SSC is being presented to Tennesseans as a trade-off for the MRS, a toxic waste

dump. In other words, a goldmine for a dump.

The Sanders also sought to destroy the goldmine myth, or "chocolate-covered promises."

The SCC project in Illinois promised thousands of jobs, but only garnered 300, according to Sanders. The question was raised of the SSC's production.

"There are approximately 12 percent of the physics involved in particle physics. What is the SSC going to produce?" Sanders asked. "If nothing is going to be produced, there will be no spin-off industries."

Also addressed was the issue of expanded out-of-state population as related to local housing, school systems and local centers.

The Sanders live in the Armstrong Valley Road community, southwest of Murfreesboro, and Pat returned home one day to spot a pink ribbon tied to a stake that was driven into her land. The ribbon fluttering in the breeze was the first indication that the SSC was getting a little too close to home.

That stake with its fluorescent tatter is now residing in Congressman Bart Gordon's office, a visual reminder that some Rutherford County citizens are upset.



Wayne Cartwright/Staff

Window of death

In January 1865, an intruder climbed through this window with an axe. The unsolved murder has led to ghost stories about the house and speculation of the intruder's identity and motive. Please see page 3 for story.

ASB from page one
 treasurer this year, and Hunt and Walters have both been involved in organizing homecoming activities.
 "I hope people will remember this administration as creating a common bond," Hosey said.
 The banquet will recognize those who have been involved in the ASB, in addition to Hosey's inauguration and a farewell speech by Lentz, according to current Chief of Staff Jo Willey.
 The awards banquet will be held this Thursday, April 21, at 6 p.m. in the Tennessee Room of the James Union Building. Tickets are \$5 and are available in the ASB Office, Center 304, Keathley University Center.

Campus Capsule

The College Republicans will hold an election of officers meeting at 5:30 p.m. today in Peck Hall Room 211.

Campus Recreation Whitewater Canoe Trip sign-up date is April 18; trip date is April 22-23.

The Spring 1988 Honors Lecture Series continues Wednesday, April 20, with Honors Thesis Presentations. All lectures will be presented in Peck Hall, Room 107 at 3:30 p.m.

Recycle aluminum cans and newspapers at the recycling trailers located in the MTSU Greenland Drive Parking Lot, open 7 days a week, 24 hours a day. Proceeds will go toward funding scholarships.

The Foreign and Domestic Teachers Organization needs teacher applicants in all fields from Kindergarten through College to fill over 600 teaching vacancies both at home and abroad.

Continuing Education is offering a variety of courses this month in such areas as karate, cooking, business, art, computer, etc. Come by the Office of Continuing Education, Cope Administration Building, Room 113, from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday-Friday on the first Tuesday of each month to register for courses. For more information call 898-2462.

Campus Recreation is sponsoring an Ocoee Raft Trip scheduled for April 30-May 1. The sign-up date for this event is April 25th. The sign-up meetings are held at 7:00 p.m. in room 219 of the Alumni Memorial Gym. For more information call Campus Recreation at 898-2104.

The MTSU Center for Historic Preservation will sponsor a workshop on "Historic Interiors" which will be held at the Ramada Inn, Bypass 45 at 1-40, in Jackson April 26-27. Sessions will focus on researching the interior of older buildings, choosing and working with architects, applying appropriate paint, wallpaper and stenciling.

The MTSU Cheerleaders are looking for male cheerleaders. Deadline for filing an application is Friday, April 22. For more information, please call 2822.

The MTSU Observatory will be open to the public two more nights this semester on April 19 and 21. If the weather is clear it will be open from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. For more information call Dr. Roy Clark at 898-2077.

The Society of Professional Journalists, Sigma Delta Chi, will have a BBQ on Friday, April 29. We will be electing officers at this meeting. More details to come.



Taking a walk on the wild side
 Wayne Cartwright/Staff

Students of the Hiking and Backcountry class take a rest at "Big Laurel Falls," located on the Virgin Falls Trail near Sparta. The class was led by Terri Smeltzer of the HPER department and the trip itself was the final exam of the class.

Stress management necessary part of everyday life: Covington

By SEAN STEPHENSON
 Senior Staff Writer

Many people are stressed — it all depends on your tolerance of stress and how it is handled, according to James Covington, director of the Guidance and Counseling Center.

"Stress is nothing but pressure from the outside that causes us to be tense inside," F. R. Hawk of the Guidance and Counseling Center said.

"Some stress is a part of daily life," Hawk continued. "We have to have some stress to keep us on our toes. The problem with stress is when it interferes with our normal lives and our daily activities."

The resulting problem, if stress is allowed to build, could be physical, mental and emotional damage.

The causes of stress could be a personal loss, a change in environment, an increased workload, a personal illness, anxiety, or depression,

Hawk said.

"One man's stress is another man's piece of cake," Covington said.

Covington agreed with Hawk's statements about stress and then added "mild stress is okay. It helps to motivate. It is the degree of stress that is important."

There are brochures in the Guidance and Counseling Center available upon request.

From the brochure "Stress Management," there are six ways to manage stress better.

1. Become aware of your stressors and your emotional and physical reaction.
2. Recognize what you can change.
3. Reduce the intensity of your emotional reactions to stress.
4. Learn to moderate your physical reactions to stress.
5. Build your physical reserves.
6. Maintain your emotional reserves.

Two conferences bring best to MTSU

From Staff Reports

Some of the top editorial cartoonists in the nation and the best and brightest journalism students in four states will be gathering here this weekend for two separate conferences.

"Political Cartooning and the First Amendment" is the theme of a day-long series of seminars being held Friday in the Keathley University Center Theater, said seminar director Glenn Himebaugh.

Anyone can attend the cartooning program, but the SEJC convention is closed to just the member schools.

"They will investigate how the freedom of the press as found in cartooning is protected by the first amendment," said Himebaugh, journalism sequence coordinator for the MTSU mass communications department.

Several top cartoonists from around the nation will be participating in the conference which begins at 9 a.m.

The following is a schedule of events for the Editorial Cartooning

seminar:

■9:15-10:30 — Presentations by Bob Taylor, the editorial and sports cartoonist for the *Dallas Times-Herald* since 1958, (Working with editors); Jim Larrick, cartoonist for *The Columbus Dispatch* (Popular cartoon styles); and George Fisher, national award-winning cartoonist for the *Arkansas Gazette* and a panel discussion on "The State of the Art of Cartooning," with Taylor, Larrick and Fisher, moderated by Sam Rawls, cartoonist with the *United Features Syndicate*.

■10:45-11:45 — Lecture by Draper Hill on the Development of the American Editorial Cartoon. "Hill is one of the foremost authorities on the history of cartooning," Himebaugh said.

1 p.m.-3:15 p.m. — Presentations by David Horsey, a 1987 Pulitzer Prize finalist with the *Seattle Post-Intelligence*, (Cartoons and the Cold War); Milt Prigee, an award-winning cartoonist with *The Spokesman-Review* (Spokane, Wash.) (Getting in trouble with cartoons). In addition Horsey, Prigee

Please see SEJC page 3

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Unsolved murders still "haunt" house

By MARLA OSBURN
Assistant News Editor

Picture this. You're enjoying southern summer sunsets while sipping a tall, cool glass of iced tea in the porch swing. Serenaded by the calling katydids, you hear the soft voice of your grandfather. It floats to you on the heavy, honeysuckle-laden air as he tells long-forgotten ghost stories.

How about one more? Have a seat in your favorite chair and grab a tall, cool glass of tea. Maybe this will be a new one you've never heard.

As she leaned to close the shutters of her upstairs bedroom, Mary Eleanor White paused. Spread below were rolling hills blanketed in January snow and, for a moment, the desolation of her remote surroundings settled in. Although she had been mistress of *Bonnymeade on Vintage Hill* for over 13 years, she sometimes suffered pangs of homesickness for her native New York.

When she and her husband, Dr. James Dearing White, retired to bed later that January night they changed their usual sleeping patterns and switched sides of the bed.

That simple change of routine was to become a fatal mistake for Mary Eleanor.

In the dead of the night, a brisk gust of winter wind accompanied the clanging of the bedroom shutters. Perhaps Mary Eleanor awoke first from a light sleep, unaccustomed to that side of the bed. Perhaps her husband woke first. If he did, his worst nightmares had become reality.

A dark figure draped in a sheet savagely swung an axe at James Eleanor and struck her head. Mary White seized his gun and shot at the intruder but missed. The figure then turned on him, striking him several times with the axe and knocking him unconscious. The attacker, then realizing that Mary Eleanor was still alive, demanded all the money in the house. She gave him a purse containing \$300, which he took, but insisting she had more, he struck her once more with the axe.

The attacker escaped, leaving only his sheet behind. A neighbor who came upon the scene later discovered the discarded sheet and found the edge smeared with a blackening substance. Despite this discovery, speculation prevailed that the murderer was one of Dr. White's black slaves.

Mrs. White was buried in the front yard cemetery that Friday. Although the local newspaper reported that Dr. White's condition left little hope for recovery, he survived his wife by nine years.

However, his death was as violent as his wife's.

Dr. White returned home one windy fall afternoon in 1874 from calling on a patient. As he neared his mournful home on the hill, its somber upstairs bedroom window became a silent reminder of his loss.

Perhaps he pulled on his horse's reins, slowing his progress as he reflected on his wife's unsolved death. Was he angry at the injustice of the murderer escaping or secretly rejoicing that for nine years he had fooled friends and family alike?

One of the many speculations of the killer's identity was that it was Dr. White himself.

Those who held this opinion pointed to the fact that Dr. White met Mary Eleanor two years before the death of his first wife, the well-to-do Lucy Shelton, and that he apparently recovered from his violent attack almost completely.

Dr. White's horse nervously fidgeted and neighed, breaking his reverie. Clouds overhead suddenly broke over with rain and lightning danced from the heavens to the earth below.

Jumping from his horse and heading toward the meager shelter of a nearby tree, lightning struck. The tree that he had hoped would provide temporary safety instead provided permanent death.

Was his demise the just ending of his deception or was he only an innocent victim of nature? Those who know for sure can't tell us.

Is it me or have the katydids quietened down now?



Wayne Cartwright/Staff

The mansion (top), once owned by Dr. James White and his wife Mary Eleanor, sits atop a lonely hill in Wilson County. The stairway (above) leads to bedroom where the murder took place.

SEJC from page two
and Etta Hulme, the first woman will be on a panel discussing "Cartooning and the First Amendment."

The Second Annual Southeastern Journalism Conference will be held Friday and Saturday at MTSU, said SEJC president Jackie Solomon.

The SEJC convention will mostly consist of workshops on Friday,

Solomon, MTSU student publications coordinator, said.

Topics include relations between writers, editors and photographers and "Ethics and Conflict of Interest in the College Newsroom."

Two exhibits of editorial cartoons are being shown through May 5 in the Photographic Gallery in the Learning Resource Center. One is an historical exhibit on loan from Ohio State University while the other depicts recent cartoons on First Amendment issues.

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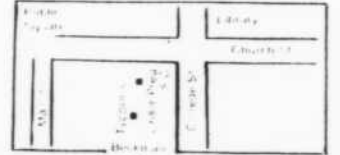
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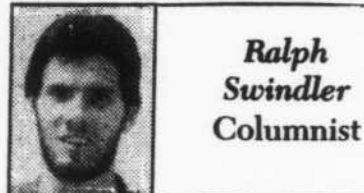
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EDITORIALS

Foreign policy important criterion for president



Ralph Swindler
Columnist

With a stable economy and no pressing domestic issues, foreign policy will be a major theme in the November elections.

Therefore, it is very important to see the strengths and weaknesses of the candidates in this area. Mike Dukakis, Jesse Jackson, Al Gore and George Bush possess certain views on the important issue of foreign policy that need to be examined.

Let's start with Dukakis. He has no foreign policy experience, but Dukakis says being governor of Massachusetts is all that is necessary.

Come on, Mike. The last time Boston was the focal point of foreign policy was when guys were wearing powdered wigs and throwing tea off ships.

Dukakis' lack of foreign policy directive will hurt him when he faces Bush.

Jesse Jackson, for the past few years, has carried out his own foreign policy. Unfortunately, it has been counter-productive to prevailing policy, and most Americans disagree with his controversial actions.

Mayor Ed Koch of New York made that Jews would be "crazy to

vote for Jackson."

Jackson's blunders include meeting with the terrorist Yasser Arafat, unstaging President Reagan's meeting with Mikhail Gorbachev at the Geneva Summit and being buddies with Fidel Castro.

Jackson has to be in the spotlight and does not understand the importance of closed-room negotiations.

Jackson does have foreign policy experience, but it is woefully contradictory to American values and long-term policy goals.

That brings us to Tennessee's own Al Gore, the man who claims to be a foreign policy expert and has challenged the other two Democratic contenders on this issue.

Gore is an excellent expert on arms control and Soviet-American relations. The only drawback is that he is too technical when it comes to policy.

Gore would try to put his hand in every cookie jar and get down to each detail on every issue.

The last president that did this really messed up our foreign policy and made the United States look like fools. His name was James Earl Carter.

The only Republican left in the race for the White House, George Bush, has what it takes to conduct an effective foreign policy.

The first reason for this is the funeral factor. Because Reagan likes to take naps, it is difficult to constantly send him across time

zones to state funerals. So George is the one to go. Bush has become acquainted with the world leaders because he has been with them.

Another plus for Bush is that he has helped form current policy and knows the direction in which the nation is going. He has past experience as the head of the CIA, too.

Bush sounds too good to be true, so there must be a fly in the ointment.

This comes in the form of the vice-president's wimpish image. People feel that he will not stand up to the Russians. This image will be difficult to shake, but he is able to overcome if he takes the proper steps.

So who is the best qualified to be president on the basis of foreign policy? The answer is Bush along with Gore in a close second place.

Gore's problem is that he will not win the Democratic nomination.

The person to fear the most is Jackson because his ideas are so radical and "anti-apple pie America."

Since foreign policy is such an important factor in this year's election, there are other qualified people capable of following an effective foreign policy.

My wish list of candidates includes Richard Nixon, John Kennedy and Sam Nunn.

Nunn would be an excellent president from a foreign policy standpoint. He is very knowledgeable



and well versed on the issue. He has proven his worth as the chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee, and he still holds an outside shot at gaining the second name on his party's ticket.

Kennedy makes my wish list because of his management of the Cuban Missile and Berlin Wall

crises, even though he called himself a jelly-doughnut instead of a citizen of Berlin. His foreign policy stance makes him a role model to follow.

The best president ever in the field of foreign policy was Richard Nixon, and he may even go down in history as one of the best presi-

dents ever.

He virtually ended the Cold War with the Soviets. He reopened the door with China. He gained "an honorable peace" in Vietnam.

Nixon played the game to an art. If Macheavelli were alive today, he would be proud of Nixon. Let's hope that President Bush will take council of Nixon.

Students capable of participating in College Bowl



Kate Lapczynski
Columnist

On April 13-14, the Sigma Club sponsored a Quiz Bowl tournament, the finals of which were aired on campus television. Sixteen different campus organizations fielded teams for the two day event. Well over 70 MTSU students participated.

The Sigma Club's Quiz Bowl was a kind of derivative of the College Bowl. For those of you who are unfamiliar with the College Bowl, it is a "Jeopardy"-like competition between colleges that has been dubbed the "Olympics of the mind." College Bowl teams are a long standing tradition on many campuses throughout the United States.

Watching the Quiz Bowl tournament reaffirmed something I have be-

lieved since first arriving on this campus. MTSU should be participating in the College Bowl program.

MTSU, as a collective entity, has a top-notch faculty, a beautiful campus, first-rate sports teams and a massive inferiority complex when it comes to academics.

Unfortunately, the misconception that MTSU is somehow second rate academically seems to be fairly entrenched and frankly, I don't understand it, particularly after watching the Quiz Bowl contestants in action.

I think it would do this university a world of good to see its students competing academically against the schools to which it feels so inferior — and showing well.

Interest in College Bowl type activities has been growing rapidly in the past few years. Many high schools throughout the South have incorporated Knowledge Bowl (the high school form of College Bowl)

into their curriculums.

There is a Knowledge Bowl component to many, if not all, of the Academic Olympic Contests that are sponsored throughout the region.

Many students who have participated in Knowledge Bowl in high school look forward to continuing the activity once they get to college.

Knowing this, several junior colleges, such as Motlow State Community College, have hosted these Academic Olympics on their campuses and used their own College Bowl team members as reader/moderators. (Motlow, is in fact, hosting just such an event on April 23.)

Visiting students are afforded an opportunity to see the campuses, to meet members of the faculty and to be greeted by College Bowl team members while on campus. It is an excellent way not only to get hundreds of high school students on the campus, but to demonstrate

that academic excellence is indeed intrinsic to the school's philosophy.

Universities from all over the country send teams to compete in College Bowl tournaments. At these tournaments, students compete against each other, converse with each other, and develop a heightened respect for one another.

We appreciate a good contest and admire a formidable opponent. That admiration is only enhanced when the playing field has been the mind.

To the best of my knowledge, both Vanderbilt and UT field College Bowl teams. I would like to suggest that MTSU follow suit.

MTSU is a great feeder school for the area's junior colleges. As a result, there are a number of students on this campus who have had experience through the junior college (Junior Bird) College Bowl program. They would be a great

resource to tap as trainers, participants or advisors.

The other great resource MTSU has is its student body. There are a lot of bright people on this campus. MTSU would be able to field a strong team if it chose to do so.

We need to start thinking well of ourselves before our thinking ill of ourselves becomes a self-fulfilling prophecy.

We also need to demonstrate the caliber of students that MTSU attracts. Participating in the tournaments is one way that the academic excellence of MTSU programs can be graphically illustrated to other four-year institutions — and to ourselves.

If you would be interested in such a program, I would like to know about it. If you think you'd like to participate, or if you think that the games would be fun to

watch, drop a note to that effect in P.O. Box 2146 before April 28.

If there is a great deal of interest, the dean of academic affairs will want to know and I would be happy to inform him.

This is my last column of the semester. I would like to thank *Sidelines* for the forum.

My thanks as well for the many kind comments I have received regarding my columns.

Have a good summer and I'll see you in the fall.

BLOOM COUNTY



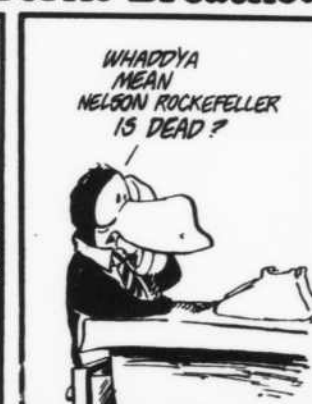
by Berke Breathed

BLOOM COUNTY



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SIDELINES

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

LETTERS POLICY

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

Editing of letters because of spelling, grammar and length will be at the discretion of the editorial editor.

Profanity and vulgarities will not be tolerated in letters under any circumstances.

Offensive or insulting letters will be disqualified from consideration for publication.

Relevancy and coherence will be considered in the publication of all letters.

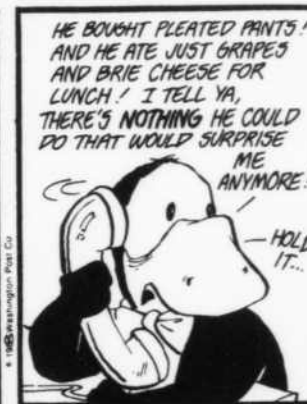
Letters must include the author's name, MTSU box number and telephone number. Telephone numbers will not be printed and are for verification purposes only. Withholding of names will only be honored under extenuating circumstances.

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

Sidelines will attempt to publish all letters conforming to the above letters policy received before Friday, April 22 in either of the remaining two issues.

We will be unable to publish any letters received after this deadline during the spring semester.

BLOOM COUNTY



by Berke Breathed

Several 'myths' still exist which need to be addressed

M.A.
Brown
Editorial Editor

Anyone who has read the "Letters to the Editor" section of this issue of *Sidelines* may have noticed a great deal of talk about myths.

Since everyone seems to be in a mood to dispel certain myths that other people believe in, I thought I might get into the act by offering my opinions on some of these misconceptions.

The most prevalent myth on this campus would seem to be that beliefs which are different from one's own are stupid.

This just simply is not so. I am a rather conservative individual, but that does not mean that all liberals are stupid. For me to feel that they are would be extremely pretentious on my part.

As Americans we have every right to believe what we wish about any given subject, and no one has the right to say that belief is stupid, no matter how unrealistic or misinformed that opinion may be.

The second myth held by certain letter writers is that resorting to childish name calling helps to discredit another person's arguments.

Referring to someone as an "ignorant rubberhead" or inferring that someone is a racist or stupid (there's that word again) does nothing except to discredit the logic of the one doing the name calling.

As college students we are expected to be at least semi-mature. Therefore, we should be above this sort of childishness.

Having said that, I would now like to address some of the apparent "myths" which appeared in the letters in question.

Mark T. Gibson is correct in his hatred of Communism. Communism is an ideology which has oppressed millions of people and presents a major threat to those of us in the free world.

However, Mr. Gibson, I disagree with your hatred of Russians in general. The Russian people are oppressed by the Communist regime of that country as the people of China, Czechoslovakia, Vietnam or

Cuba are by the Communist governments of their countries.

While we may hate sexual abuse, we do not hate the victim just because they have been ravaged by a pervert. We should feel the same concerning the plight of the Russian people.

Also, Nick Andros pointed out, not all members of the Soviet military are blood-thirsty killers. A number of them are doing exactly as you are, Mr. Gibson -- serving their country.

On the other hand, Mr. Andros, many Communist soldiers are nothing more than killers. I have two relatives, one who served at the Berlin Wall and one who was stationed in Korea, who can speak from experience on this side of the

story.

The thrust of my argument is this -- it is Communism and those who are devoted to this ideology who we should view as our enemies, not those who are either victims of or unwitting pawns to the schemes of Communism.

Communism presents an ever-present danger to the free world.

In *The Communist Manifesto* Karl Marx stated that the goals of Communism could only be attained "by the forcible overthrow of all existing social conditions" -- i.e. democracy and capitalism.

V.I. Lenin preached the doctrine of "a world-wide Communist revolution," and the leaders of today's Communist nations still hold to these beliefs.

I encourage anyone who disagrees with this assertion to examine the remarks of Daniel Ortega concerning his wish to begin "a revolution without borders" in Central America or read *Breaking With Moscow* by Arkady Shevchenko or any number of works by Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn.

Communism and its leaders are inherently evil. Millions have died in Stalin's and Lenin's purges, in China's Cultural Revolution or in opposition to Ho Chi Minh (such as Phan Boi Chau), and we should oppose Communism for this reason if for no other.

Whether or not we agree on this subject, we should cherish the freedom to debate the matter.

After all, that is one of the things that makes this country so great.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

[Editor's note: The following letters have not been copy edited. Any mistakes appearing in them were made by the writer.]

To The Editor:

This letter is in response to J.M. Cook's letter in the April 15 edition of *Sidelines*.

Mr. am shocked and saddened at Mr. Cook's comments that Jesus Christ did not do as much for the human race as did Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

I am proud to tell you Mr. Cook, that Jesus did a lot more.

Jesus died so that we might live. Is that morbid? Jesus gives us a chance for eternal life, an opportunity for our sins to be forgiven.

I feel sorry for people like you, Mr. Cook, who do not see the greatness of Jesus Christ.

As for holidays, we need not an excuse to celebrate his life certain times of the year. We do it every day.

Deborah Willis
Box 9530

To The Editor:

This is in response to Mark T. Gibson's letter that appeared in the Tuesday edition.

At the end of your article Mr. Gibson, you asked if anyone had any questions. My question is this: Have you ever had an article chewed up and spit back in your face? No? Well guess what.

I am an ex-Marine, one of (what you called) America's freedom fighters. In your article, you played the military up to be quite a God-approved organization, blaming all the problems of our society on simple-minded, capitolistic peons. Fight for justice. Fight for freedom. Does that fit? Include the strategic training on how to devastate an opponent's village, where the innocent are killed right along with the enemy?

You stated the the "...men and women who form our national security do not want to go to war..." Is that so? Well, you couldn't tell that to my artillery unit, where the "top brass" couldn't wait to -- and I quote -- "...watch the grass grow with commie blood."

You argued that it was the civilians who messed things up, who did everything in their power to get the U.S. into war. Yet, isn't it always the civilians who protest for peace, for the elimination of nuclear weapons, for the justification of troops deployed when they have no business being. A lot of my friends being...Lebanon.

According to your letter, there would be nothing more pleasurable than to hold a .45 to a young Russian's head and pull the trigger. I have a friend who is in that position at this very moment, Mr. Gibson. He is stationed at "the wall" in Germany, not thirty yards from the Russian border patrol and guess what -- he and one of the Russians are friends.

That's right, they buy beer for each other and both laugh at how stupid everything in the military really is.

Do you find that hard to believe? Well ask yourself why it's so hard to believe. Why is it unthinkable for two enemies to become friends? After all, the two men weren't opponents until the government told them they were.

"God made the military," you boasted. The ignorance of that

statement shows through without addressing, but I'll quote a very famous individual: Jesus Christ -- "Forgive them father, for they know not what they do."

There's only one more thing I'd like to say about your letter referring to "myths," Mr. Gibson. The only myth here -- is you.

Nick Andros
Box 9780

To The Editor:

In response to J.M. Cook's letter about the Martin Luther King day off.

We, as Christians, feel that Jesus did much more for the human race than King did. Come on, Jesus died on a cross to forgive the whole world's sins (this includes blacks.) Dr. King did work hard for blacks, but how would anyone get forgiveness for their sins without Jesus' death? Sinners don't go to heaven. Jesus died for all races, did Martin Luther King?

If only one-third of the population is Christian, so what? Dr. King followers were partly Christian don't you think? Don't they deserve both days off?

We, as Christians, deserve a holiday break if you as King followers deserve a day off, too. Be fair.

If J.M. Cook was not sure if celebrating the death of Jesus is a bit morbid, then maybe he should not have put it in print. Because on December 25th, Christians celebrate (not mourn) the birth (not death) of Jesus Christ. Your ignorance to this shows that you needed someone to stand up for you.

More power to your holiday, but should your's take away ours?

K.J. Forrest
Box 9123
C.L. Robertson
Box 9629

To The Editor:

Normally I don't respond to other people's letters to the editor. In fact, I encourage them. However, what I read last Tuesday was a total outrage.

J.M. Cook responded to David O. Pritchett's letter by saying Jesus did not do as much for the human race as Dr. King did for the blacks of the United States. That is like saying MTSU produces better students than Princeton.

Cook, have you read *The Bible* lately?

Read the gospel according to Matthew, Mark, Luke and John. You will find that Jesus did more for the human race in one chapter of Mark than Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. did for blacks alone during his entire lifetime.

I am not putting Dr. King down. He did quite a bit for blacks. Yet, so did Abraham Lincoln. Why not celebrate his birthday? How about George Washington or John F. Kennedy?

Cook also said that celebrating the death of Jesus is morbid. Whether you believe it or not, Jesus Christ is the only reason that we are here today. He died for us. He died of his own free will.

Dr. King didn't die out of his own free will. He was shot. Besides, Dr. King's death didn't do anymore for us than the death of Jesus.

Cook also asked if we do not get enough time off for Christmas. The whole world needs to recognize Jesus Christ more than we are right now.

We need to get involved with the spirit of Jesus. I would like to see

more religious spirit come out of the people of MTSU than I am seeing currently.

And as for "What do you want, a miracle?" -- That is exactly what Jesus Christ gave us.

Andrew Proctor
Box 6127

To The Editor:

I hesitantly admit that I am in the United States Armed Forces. I am an Army Reservist; I drill one weekend a month, and train on active duty for some periods of time during the summers. I do this to serve my country, and I do it to collect the fringe benefits. I am not afraid of dying for a good cause, though my job description doesn't necessarily call for any incident or war to be "good." What I fear most, and what I will fear the most if I am ever called to war, are the ignorant, knuckleheaded rednecks that I am forced to serve with. Nowhere can one find the most despicable, low quality of people than in the military, but don't get me wrong there are some people of good character.

Mark T. Gibson reminds me of a Private Gibson in my Army Reserve unit (Gibson -- we drill at the Lyell USARTC, Ok?). Mark T. Gibson's letter to the editor, which he never came out and said it. He did try to address Mr. Najj Al Hassan's letter for all people to dedicate resources to the combat of injustice, ignorance, and want. Instead of doing so, Gibson wrote a letter that downright embarrassed me.

The embarrassment stems from his ilk that do give the Armed Services a bad name (warmonger, evil, etc.). Hoping for a war so Gibson will get killed in it is a bit excessive, and, as I've stated, I do not wish to serve with his type of ignorant rubberheads. But I will, because I signed a contract; I won't even care who started the war, because that's not in my job description, and it isn't in Gibson's, either.

The next time you get an urge to write something of this sort, Gibson, keep your fool trap shut. Don't strain that closed mind of yours by trying to think too deeply on subjects you obviously do not comprehend too terribly well. All you will accomplish is encouraging the rage of those civilians you despise so much. The world has enough problems without you looking for your own war.

Jacob Cook
Box 6196

To The Editor:

On occasion, I read stupid opinions. Since Mark T. Gibson recently wrote a letter, exercising his first amendment right, which the civilians of this country brought into existence along with many other amendments, the Constitution, and the Dec. of Independence, I am hereby declaring your letter a "stupid opinion"; I also know of many other people who will agree with me. You better sit down Mr. Gibson, M.P. of the R.O.T.C., you might not like what you hear.

Myth Correction 1: Lets say the government cut all Welfare to all persons unemployed. Right now, the current unemployment rate is around 5 percent. Can you put 2 and 2 together Mr. Gibson? Let me

tell you, it's not 5.

Mr. Gibson, are not the Contra's sponsored by the U.S. Government? I'm glad I don't.

Myth Correction 2: From your letter, you are a person who believes in cold-blooded murder. I would hate to put you in a locked room with a loaded gun and several people not of your race, creed and color.

Myth Correction 5: America has a logistical supply base less than 5 miles from Russia's border and lets not forget those Persain 1 and 2 missiles, located in Ground Launch and in Englan aimed at our fellow human beings.

Myth Correction 6: God did not create the military, man did. Also, I would like to comment upon your quote: "I find it sadly ironic that you have allowed your lawmakers to legislate a significant number of you freedoms away." Don't you vote? You do have a voice. Don't blame your problems on me.

Myth Correction 7: Not many idiots are able to travel to foreign countries and free hostages. Castro I'll leave alone. Gorbachev does not want to make America a satellite of the Soviet Union. Social Security may fail before we're 40, but you'll have your army pension so don't worry about it. If you go to the mission, you will find a free lunch.

Myth Correction 8: When you make even half of what those "jokes" make, I might, but I doubt it, listen to life. On but don't stake your so-called life on it.

I have nothing against frat's, but I know the one you are in, and, I have one question. Why are you not at the top (or is that "on top")?

Any questions?

Sean Stephenson
Box 42
Larry Underwood
Box 9130

To The Editor:

I am writing this letter in response to some very misleading statements made by Mr. Stuart Miller in the April 8, 1988 edition of *Sidelines*. These statements appeared in the article entitled "Walker Collapses at Murphy Center, dies."

First of all, I wasn't dispatching at the time of the emergency, but I am a dispatcher for security. I know from experience what it's like to receive a call from a panicking individual trying to report a medical emergency.

Here's an example, I receive a call from someone who says, "there is a man dying in the University Center, get campus security over here right now." Then the caller hang's up.

The very first thing I do is call the ambulance service. After this is done, it is my job to call back to the UC and talk to someone who can explain exactly what is going on and where it's happening at.

It's much more help to give precise information than to run to the scene and start complaining to the *Sidelines* about how long it took security to respond.

Also, according to Mr. Miller it took ten minutes for help to arrive and assist the gentleman. I understand Mr. Miller being upset. I would be upset to. But where did he get ten minutes? It can be proved that the call was received at 1:57 and the officer arrived at 2:01. How does he get ten minutes

out of four.

Mr. Miller also stated, "they [security] should have called an ambulance." For your information the ambulance was notified as soon as the call was received. To accuse Security of not contacting the Ambulance Service is incorrect.

Again, let me emphasize. I understand that Mr. Miller was upset, but his statements were very unfair. He practically accused Campus Security of letting the man die.

I know for a fact that when it comes to a human life, neither Security nor anyone else would drag around and let someone die.

Security did it's best to help the gentleman live, but unfortunately he didn't. For this, we're very sorry. So please don't go around making statements accusing Campus Security of not doing its job.

Just remember Mr. Miller isn't the only person with feelings.

Darrell McGuire
Al Wells
Box 2385

To The Editor:

Mark Gibson, there is a nice little word for people such as yourself. It cannot be printed here, however. Are you trying to convince me that spending billions on nuclear warfare is convincing me that civilians are the cause of war? Are you trying to convince me that capitalists are any better than the communist? or that you are a better person, a person who expresses a willingness to kill another human in cold blood, than a Russian? Are you trying to convince me that we should intervene in Central America because they might invade United States? Are you trying to say that God created the military, and not man's stupidity? Are you trying to convince me that United States has no submarines off the coast of the Soviet Union? Get off you high military horse, Gibson. Wars are started people like yourself. You look too hard for a fight. But I forgot, that's the wonderful business your in.

Chris Baumann
Box 6194

To The Editor:

This letter is in response to Columnist Roger Allen's article about Jesse Jackson.

First of all, it seems rather obvious that Mr. Allen is a staunch, Al Gore-type individual since all he seemed to do was "sling mud" at Jesse Jackson throughout the column. However, instead of resorting to Mr. Allen's tactics, I will attempt to refute some of his ignorant and naive assumptions.

First, Mr. Allen questions why Jesse Jackson has refused to deal with the church/state question his candidacy raises? Well, Mr. Allen, if you have been listening and following Jesse's campaign that question has already been answered.

Furthermore, I don't see how the man's career choice or position has to do with his desire to lead the country. Obviously, he feels he is qualified to do the job and that is all that matters; if you recall, wasn't Tony Stinnett involved in a familiar situation like this?

Secondly, Mr. Allen makes the illogical assumption that Jesse Jackson uses the church as a "money and vote getter." Well, let

me give you a brief summary in Black history, Mr. Allen. The Black church has always been an important part of the Black race. Besides providing a sense of hope and inspiration, the Black church has been a source of information and support.

So when you say that Jesse is using the pulpit you are totally wrong. The fact is, if we, in the Black church, choose to support Jesse politically and financially, it is because he is unique, committed, and qualified.

Mr. Allen also states that the popularity of Jesse Jackson derives from his ministry. Again, Mr. Allen, you show your stupidity. Unless you forgot, Jesse was an instrumental figure in the Civil Rights Movement of the 1960's and continues to be; furthermore, he played a key part in the recent farm labor and worker union movements in this decade.

Moreover, let's not forget how Jesse went over to the Middle East and successfully gained the release of an American soldier taken hostage after Reagan chose to stop negotiations for his release. So, you see, Jesse's popularity spans far beyond his pulpit.

Third, Mr. Allen makes that statement that Jesse Jackson's candidacy is built on racially biased black voters. This, of all his assumptions, is the most blatant statement I've seen yet.

Even though he tried to "sugar-coat" what he is really trying to say, I think it is obvious what you are inferring. He feels the black voter is unintelligent and unable to think for him or herself. Well, Mr. Allen, we do vote for ourselves, and if we do vote for Jesse it is because he is qualified.

Next, you ask when will race not be an issue and America finally become color-blind. Due to the nature of your article, I think you would prefer for race not to be an issue while Jesse's candidacy is alive so you can continue your "mud-slinging" campaign, Mr. Allen.

However, in response to your question, America shall never be color-blind until those black and white factions which promote bigotry and prejudiced attitudes are no longer in existence. Unfortunately, with people of your caliber we stand to be racially divided for a long time.

Finally, I would like to say that Jesse Jackson offers to America a person who doesn't "play politics" or mince words to make bold promises. The fact is, Jesse Jackson is a man of actions and deeds; in other words, Jesse Jackson is the "common-man's" candidate.

If you don't believe me then digest these two facts:

1.) Jesse Jackson, in the Vermont Democratic Primaries, came in second place and it is a known fact that Vermont only has a 1 percent black population.

2.) Jesse spent approximately \$100,000 for Super Tuesday and won four states, in comparison, Gore spent over a million dollars and also won four.

I must admit -- your article was a good attempt to smear the Jackson candidacy and any close-minded, ignorant "humanoid" would believe what you wrote.

Unfortunately you, like the mass media, have failed, Mr. Allen.

Kenneth L. Davis
Box 9948

ENTERTAINMENT

"Alice" is all right for anybody

By **TERRY BANKER**
Staff Writer

A...my name is Alice. I'll be a graduate in a few weeks, and right now I work for Bobby Allen. After that, maybe I'll try being an accountant, or go into advertising, or become an airplane pilot, or maybe I'll become an artist...Or maybe I'll stay anonymous.

"A...My Name is Alice," is billed as a "...witty, feminist musical that has something for everyone," and it does. The show doesn't follow a standard plot with inciting incidents and climaxes (in the Aristotelian fashion). "Alice" is a musical review that treats each musical number as a photographic snapshot of one or all of the women's lives and assembles them into a portfolio of problems, relationships, and emotions.

Despite the fact that many of the snapshots center around various problems that occur between men

and women, and appear to be geared toward a female audience sympathy — "I'm a woman, I know how she feels" point-of-view, being a man didn't prevent me, or protect me, from feeling hurt or happy with the women on stage. Although the show is about women, it doesn't discriminate between male or female understanding.

In many of the scenes, one could rewrite the female role for a male and achieve a similar sympathy from the audience. Who hasn't had a horrible fight with his or her girlfriend or boyfriend, husband or wife? Who hasn't at one time wondered about, or even doubted their own sexuality? When these problems occur, we all become very susceptible to hurt, very open to emotional damage. Although "Alice" is described as "feminist," it really applies to everyone.

The portfolio begins with the initializing of the show's major motif

of an "all girl band" and continues to return to the musical anonymity. The show's music is used as a tool for the nameless characters to open their hearts and their minds. When "All Girl Band" is first heard, the characters are beginning their lives — some all over again. They have to learn how to face the world. From the realities in Shannon Parnell and Jenny Alexander's "At My Age" to the romantic novel fantasies of Shauna Parnell's "Trash," the characters are in search of their own identities.

REVIEW

The chaos is not only in their heads but also reiterated in the music and set design. The music varies from ballad, to rock to the blues. The stage design echoes the edges of schizophrenic indecision with its pinks and callous points. The actors' environment only accel-

erates the anxiety. As the show progresses, this anxiety helps the characters to grow and adapt. By the reprise of "All Girl Band," the characters are feeling less anonymous and more sure of themselves; by the time Alice is doin' OK, the characters have filled themselves with the confidence needed to return to their own identities.

This is director Deborah Anderson's best show.

The show itself contained many highlights. The Friday night audience was especially fond of Shauna Parnell's extremely graphic rendition of "Trash," Dawana Guder's caricaturistic "Ms. Mae" and "Honey-pot," and really enjoyed Jenny Alexander's "For Women Only Poems." The Friday audience wanted to give Alexander a standing ovation after her final poem. Daphne Hiers' "French Song" and her back-up harmonies were certainly very cabaret and very enter-

taining.

My personal favorites of the evening were Jenny Alexander's "Demigod," in which she relives the breakup between her and her boyfriend Frank by arguing with a jockstrap drowning in a mixture of Clorox bleach and dirty laundry in a washer; the beautiful story of "Friends," a phone duet between Hiers and Shauna Parnell in which their enduring and loving friendship takes them from adolescence to old age and death; Shannon Parnell's incredibly sensitive, innocent and sensual "I Sure Like the Boys," — I fell in love with her during the song — and the wonderful "Sisters" duet between the Parnell sisters — I wouldn't doubt that

this song actually symbolized their off-stage relationship because it was so real. These moments in the show were truly emotional and amazing.

What made the show so successful? As one woman who was sitting by me said, the show was so successful because it brought out real memories of similar situations that occurred in her life. She felt that it epitomized what it is like to be a woman. I don't know what it's like to be a woman, so why did I like it? I liked it because I know what it's like to be human and make mistakes and know how it is to have to start over.

A...my name is Alice and I'm OK too.

Houseplants thrive in Murfreesboro

By **JIM RIDLEY**
Staff Writer

One of the area's most distinctive and unusual bands makes its local tonight, as These Are Houseplants brings its potent mixture of pop and international influences to Mainstreet.

A self-described "group that doesn't want to sound the same on any two songs," These Are Houseplants reworks traditional pop-music structures into hypnotic collages of rhythm and melody. A dance tune, for example, may unfold at a halting 11/12 time, while a delicate mid-tempo ballad may be propelled by a Led Zeppelinesque rhythm arrangement.

"Listeners who want to hear the usual may want to dodge this show,"

says Forrest York, the band's

PREVIEW

guitarist, who has produced tapes for local bands for years. "Listeners who want to hear something Eastern, African or European, however, ought to find something to like. We can have a big sound, monstrous, and still be quite beautiful."

The band's dense, indescribable sound is partially the result of its members' eclectic tastes. Bassist Abe White is a headbanger from way back who once shared a car-speaker amp with Forrest, while drummer Sam Baker was the leading force behind the gone-but-not-forgotten hardcore outfit F Parti-

cles. Keyboardist Scott Brown, who shares backing vocals with Forrest, was a founding member of Tabloid Press and a prominent session musician around town.

Despite their different musical tastes, however, the musicians of These Are Houseplants join forces to create a truly original atmosphere. The crowning element is the haunting voice of Colin York, whose lead vocals weave in and out of the band's wall of sound. "No two players listen to the same kind of music," Forrest said, "but it still comes together."

These Are Houseplants will play again at Mainstreet this Wednesday and at Elliston Square, April 25 before playing an IRS Records showcase in Atlanta, May 26. The band

plans to concentrate on its live performances intensely, despite favorable notices in *Stereo Review* and a special appearance at last year's Nashville Entertainment Association showcase.

Opening for These Are Houseplants at these shows will be Collin Wade Monk and Bongo Fury. Monk, a founding member of the local pop group Shamalam, plays a set of furious acoustic tunes that sound like a cross between Tom Waits and Metallica, interspersed with a variety of the most bizarre cover tunes imaginable. Accompanying Monk will be some wildman with a set of bongos belonging to the assistant manager of the Carmike Six Cinemas.



Murfreesboro musicians These Are Houseplants bring their unique musical mixture to germinate at Mainstreet this Wednesday.

MAINSTREET

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Apocalyptic fun in "The Seventh Sign"



Demi Moore plays Abby Quinn, an expectant mother placed in jeopardy by a mysterious chain of events with staggering implications in the new thriller "The Seventh Sign."

By G. HUNTER BROWN
Staff Writer

Apart from the usual teen mutilation/earthly incarceration of Satan (through a prom queen) movies it has been a while since our last dosage of apocalyptic forewarning flicks. Bracing myself in anticipation of the 80's marriage of "Rosemary's Baby" and "Omen", the opening sequences of "The Seventh Sign" rolled past my eyes. Locked in perfect sync to the film was the required soundtrack for a picture of its nature, low sporadic classical intervals juxtaposed with digital choir-like voices and destructive power-of-nature sound effects.

Movies that scare you are a dime a dozen. As of late, horror movies are thrillers. These flicks involve someone jumping out of a closet with a chain saw or a million-dollar special effect turning an armadillo into Lucifer. "The Seventh Sign" is different; it frightens with that wrath of God stuff instead. We all are familiar with it; God gets real irritated at us (the world) for not working and playing well with others and turns the whole playground into a parking lot (via earthquakes, plagues, famine, disease, flood, etc.).

With this prophetic pretense, I was correct in assuming the entire thing is filled with Jewish and Christian references. Surprisingly though, hints of reincarnation and other eastern beliefs filter through. "The Seventh Sign" uses the original script (Revelations and Daniel) as a foundation writers W.W. Wicket and George Kaplan take over. Building on the deep seated mystical ideals inherent in all our cultures the writers add a seemingly innocent bystander as the integral part of the world's master plan and a truly tasteful role reversal.

The casting director (Pennie DuPont) did an excellent job. The credits are teeming with veterans of the film industry. The lead role — Abby Quinn — is played by a spastic but well-suited Demi

Moore ("St. Elmo's Fire," "About Last Night," some lame film with a guy named Emilio and we can't forget General Hospital). God's messenger is portrayed by Jurgen Prochnow ("Das Boot"). Abby's husband, Russell, is Michael Biehn (known for his roles in "The Lords of Discipline," "The Terminator" and "Hill Street Blues" on t.v.).

many movies, the film is smooth and flowing. Everything makes sense. The plot unfolds, twists occur, scenes change and characters reverse without missing a beat or losing the audience (although a trip to the bathroom is unadvisable).

The attention to detail amazed me. No stone was left unturned, no strings untied; everything in "The Seventh Sign" connects. Schultz uses camera angles particularly well and is not afraid to try unconventional ideas. In particular, his use of the concept known as cinema verite, where a handheld camera puts the viewer in the picture, works well to depict the movement and confusion associated with the scene.

I was very surprised at the lack of sex, violence and abusive language in the film, yet didn't notice its absence until reflecting on it for this review. Far from a contender for an Academy Award, "The Seventh Sign" does offer the viewer a well-made properly planned alternative to the slice'em, dice'em horror films we have grown to know and pay good money for.

REVIEW

Manny Jacobs plays the secondary role of Avi, a bookworm geek Orthodox Jew who aids Abby by brilliantly uncovering the prophecies. Avi finds himself interwoven in the divine distraction of the world. Suddenly questioning his sanity and religious convictions, he is metamorphosed into a modern day prophet informing the world of the second chance it has received.

"Sign's" director, Carl Schultz, is taking his first crack at an American audience. Schultz is known to us only through his award winning Australian film "Careful, He Might Hear You." Short on the trendy special effects associated with so

L.A. Guns take aim at top

By LARRY UNDERWOOD
Staff Writer

There's no denying it; L.A. Guns is one of the hottest new bands to blaze out of the L.A. metal scene.

Their self-entitled debut album is signed on Vertigo/Polygram and records and sales were over 140,000 by the third week. This is not an entirely new band, however. Lead guitarist Tracii Guns is formerly of Guns n' Roses; lead vocalist Philip Lewis hails from a former band named Girl, in which Def Leppard's guitarist Phil Collen played; drummer Steve Riley formerly played with W.A.S.P. and bassist Kelly Nickels was with Faster Pussycat. Add keyboardist and rhythm guitarist Mick Cripps and you have L.A. Guns.

This album turns out to be a foot-stompingly good example of an up and coming band. "No Mercy" is the first cut and a no holds barred rocker. The single, "Sex Action," is a raunchy classic in which guitarist Tracii Guns shows off his musical prowess. The surprise of the album is the beautifully done ballad "Cry No More/One Way Ticket." Guns' guitar work is excellent and the

song is inspiring. The sax work on "Nothing to Lose," is an added plus, especially for a metal band.

L.A. Guns may not be Led Zepelin, but their debut album is very strong. The production is solid and

the songs are well written. If the newer bands interest you (Faster Pussycat, Guns n' Roses, for example) then this album is for you. It is a refreshing shot of sleaze, sex and rock 'n roll.

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SPORTS



Tony Stinnett
Editor-in-Chief

Blue downs White in spring game

Boots should be pleased with spring results

Saturday's spring game at Horace Jones field had to be pleasing to head football coach Boots Donnelly. The fact that no one was injured should in itself be reason to smile, considering the fact that the Blue Raiders are suffering from lack of personnel at various positions.

The recruits that are coming into the program in the fall will take care of that problem.

Lack of injuries shouldn't be the only pleasing thing to Donnelly. The teams weren't split individually, rather the defense against the offense, more or less.

One would think that the offense would have a field day under those circumstances, but that wasn't the case. The defense held the offense to only three touchdowns, two coming on long aerial passes, a 57 yarder from Chuck Daniel, and a 75 yarder from Marvin Collier.

It is no wonder that the defense shined in the B.F. Goodrich Spring game. The Blue Raiders will return 10 defensive starters next season and Dejuan Buford, who missed last season but started two prior to that, will fill the vacancy left due to the graduation of Darrien Thomas at cornerback.

Saturday's game gave fans an opportunity to see just how good MTSU's defense will be in the fall.

Offensively, the Raiders moved the ball well, but couldn't seem to get into the end zone. Still, Donnelly should be pleased with the efforts of the rather young crew.

Quarterback Marvin Collier, coming off shoulder surgery, completed seven of 16 passes for 166 yards and a touchdown. Collier did have three passes intercepted, but the fact remains that one interception by cornerback Rodney Young was sensational.

Young's pick-off was the best I have ever seen on any level of football, high school, college or pro. Collier's second interception was also the result of a great defensive play.

Collier's pass was caught by Anthony Green when linebacker Don Thomas, who had a great day with nine tackles, hit Green and knocked the ball into the air where Anthony Coleman grabbed it for the interception.

Donnelly admitted that he was pleased with his team's effort.

"All in all, we're very pleased with the way things came out," he said. "We saw some good things happening on both sides of the ball, but we also saw a lot of mistakes."

The youth of the offense didn't seem to be a problem as they were able to gain big yardage against what should be the best defense in the league next season.

The Raiders are only experienced at one position on offense, quarterback. Collier should be back to true form. Hopefully, his spring performance will carry over into next season.

The festivities surrounding the game were also worth attending.

Unfortunately, only an estimated crowd of 1,500 showed up.

The cost for the game and the all-you-could-eat barbecue was only \$5. The barbecue alone was worth five bucks.

B.F. Goodrich sponsored the game for the second straight year and the athletic program benefited greatly from the sponsorship.

The tire company donated a check in the amount of \$6,000 to the Blue Raider Athletic Association.

Hopefully, the B.F. Goodrich sponsorship will become a tradition.

The highlight of the day had to be during the hog-calling contest at half-time when one of the contestants from Jack Daniels distillery stepped up to the mike and said, "Before I start we better lock the gates, so the Tennessee Tech cheerleaders don't rush the field."

By D. BRIAN CONLEY
Senior Staff Writer
Chuck Daniel hit Greg James on a 57-yard scoring bomb and Todd Davis scampered in from five out as the blue team prevailed 13-7 in the spring football game Saturday at Horace Jones Field.

"It was a typical spring game," head football coach "Boots" Donnelly said after the contest which was at times sloppy but gave the coach a glimmer of hope for the upcoming campaign.

The blue team consisted of the number two offense and the number one defense while the number one offense and number two defense comprised the White team.

Marvin Collier, a 5-11 160-pound senior from Cordele, Ga. and number one signal caller for the previous three campaigns, got the white squad going in the first possession as he completed two passes for 23 yards.

However, the Blue defense held their ground at their 26 setting up a 44-yard three-point try for Matt Crews which sailed wide right.

That stand foreshadowed the way the remainder of the first stanza was to be played — defense dominating the offense.

After three plays the White team lost three yards and Collier's crew got the ball back following a Chuck Swain 36-yard punt.

Collier threw to a wide-open Ricky Martin in front of the linebackers. Unfortunately, Martin

did not know he was the receiver and the pigskin bounced off of his helmet. Martin atoned for his sin during the next play by catching a Collier toss for 13 yards.

However, Collier threw to the tight end Anthony Green on the next play. Linebacker Don Thomas drilled Green, knocking the ball into the air as Anthony Coleman dove for the interception.

But three plays later Blue QB

Phil Ironside, a transfer from Tennessee, fumbled the ball back 19 yards allowing defensive tackle Mike Zito to recover.

Three plays later the defense proved strong again as cornerback Rodney Young made an incredible, leaping one-handed interception of a Collier bomb at the one.

Then fullback Bart Myers and Daniel took over for the Blue. Myers ran the first three possessions

gaining 12 yards to begin the drive culminating in the 57-yard Daniel-to-James connection. The drive spanned 99 yards in 12 plays.

Father Ryan kicker Joe Lisle added the PAT and the No. 2 offensive unit led 7-0.

On the very next play first team signal caller Collier had his pass intercepted by Tommy Barnes and the second unit took over at the No. 1 unit's 40-yard line.

Freshman Rogie Brown then directed a 40-yard drive that resulted in the No. 2 unit's final touchdown of the game — Davis's five-yard scoring scamper.

The snap on the PAT was fumbled making it 13-0.

The No. 1 offensive unit got on the board for their only points just before the end of the half as Collier connected with speedster Michael (Flash) Gordon, a sophomore who is expected to fill the void left by the graduation of Mike Pittman and Robert Alford.

The Collier-to-Gordon pass play was good for 75 yards and the score was 13-7. That's how it stood at the end of the game.

"It was a great throw," Gordon said, "but I won't evaluate how I did. I'll leave that up to the coaches."

Collier had the top offensive performance of the day throwing for 166 yards, completing seven of 16 passes.

Collier gave all of his praise to the offense as a whole.

"I thought they did a good job," he said. "The linemen did some good things and the receivers made some good catches."

First team fullback Terrell Allgood was the leading rusher in the game with 56 yards on nine carries.

The game is over but the fun still continues for the Raiders. They will practice three more days this week before ending the spring drills.



MTSU tailback Todd Davis eludes a host of defenders in Saturday's B.F. Goodrich football game. Davis scored the winning touchdown as the Blue team downed the White team, 13-7.

Howard Ross/Staff

Donnelly's troops face tough schedule, look for turn around

By TONY STINNETT
Editor in Chief

The 1988 football schedule has been released by head coach Boots Donnelly and it could be one of the toughest schedules the Blue Raider mentor has faced since he took over the reins of the Blue Raider program in 1978.

The first half of the schedule will be a very busy one for MTSU. The Raiders will play eight games before their first open date.

MTSU will open the season on Sept. 3 in Nashville against Tennessee State. The game will be played at Vanderbilt's Dudley field.

This will mark the first year the Tigers will be competing for the league crown. The last two meetings with TSU at Dudley field have brought over 55,000 fans through the turnstiles. The fact that this will be a conference game makes the rivalry that much bigger.

On Sept. 10 MTSU will travel to Northern Illinois of the Mid-American Conference.

The Huskies have fared well in the MAC over the years. In a conference that is usually dominated by Northern Iowa, Northern Illinois has been competitive against teams such as Kent State, Bowling Green, Ball State, Central Michigan and Ohio.

MTSU will come home to Horace Jones Field for the first time in 1988 when they face Western Kentucky, an independent in the football ranks.

Western Kentucky lost their stellar quarterback Jeff Cesarone after last season to graduation. Mike

Armstrong is expected to take over the quarterbacking chores. Armstrong, from Brentwood, has the talent that Cesarone had and coaches say that he has a better arm.

On Sept. 24, the Raiders will host Georgia Southern, a team that has downed MTSU three consecutive times dating back to 1985 when they knocked the then 11-0 Raiders out of the NCAA 1-AA playoffs, by a score of 28-21.

The last two meetings have been decided by seven points.

The Eagle-Raider matchup has developed into one of the best rivalries among 1-AA biggies.

MTSU will travel to Alcorn State on Oct. 1 to take on the Scalping Braves of the Southwestern Athletic Conference.

On Oct. 8 Mississippi Valley's Delta Devils will travel to Murfreesboro. The Delta Devils will be looking to avenge a 38-7 loss to the Raiders.

Last year's game was played at the Liberty Bowl in Memphis.

Quarterback Marvin Collier broke a record, scoring four touchdowns in that game against Mississippi Valley, also out of the Southwestern Athletic Conference.

On Oct. 15 the Raiders will host Morehead State. The Morehead State game is expected to be Homecoming. Last season the Eagles dashed the Raiders' hope of a conference crown with a 3-0 defeat in Morehead.

The Raiders will travel to Austin Peay on Oct. 22 for their second consecutive conference game. In

fact, the Raiders' last five games will be against conference foes.

MTSU will have their only open date of the season on Oct. 29. They will probably need it considering

the fact that they go to Eastern Kentucky and Murray State, co-champs of the Ohio Valley Conference in 1987, before closing out the season at home against Tennessee

Tech.
The Raiders will be playing six games on the road, including the TSU affair in Nashville.

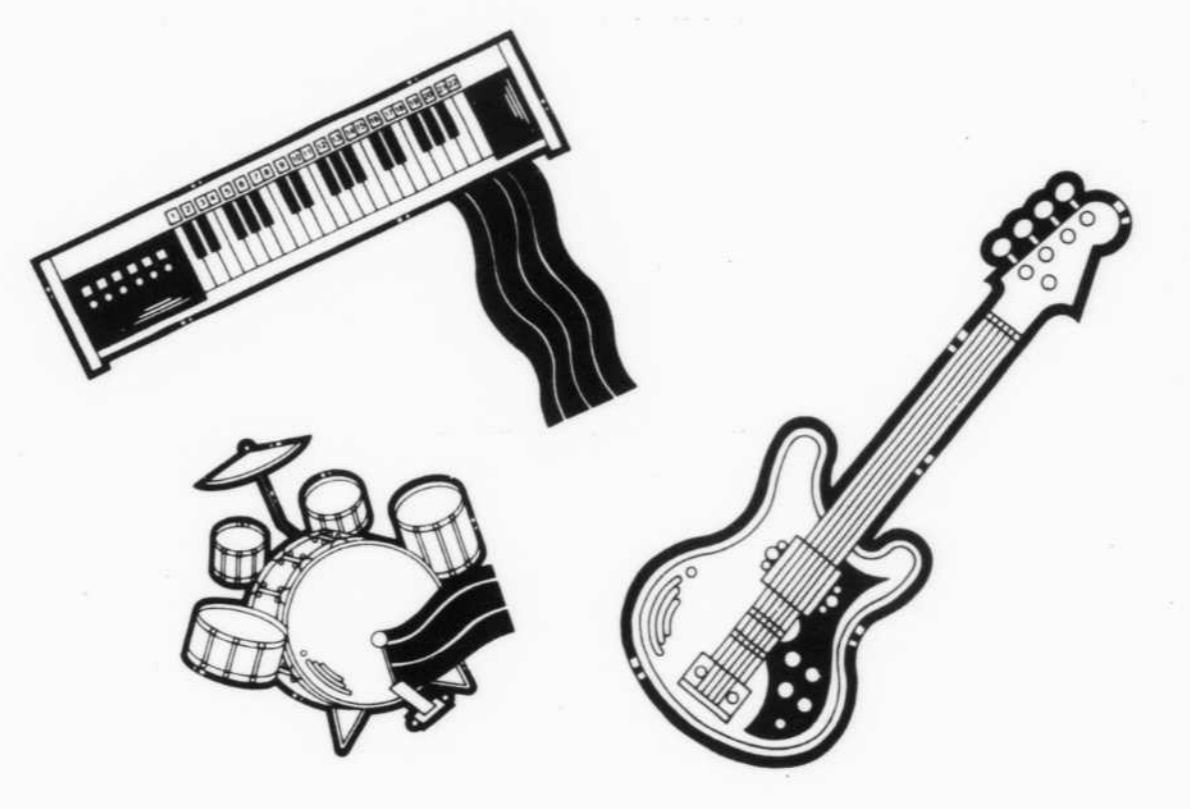
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Richardson, Raiders sweep Tigers

By **TONY STINNETT**
Editor in Chief
and
CHUCK MORRIS
Sports Writer

Dave Richardson broke two records and Mike Messerly got close to another as the Raiders swept Tennessee State in a double-header played Saturday in Nashville.

Richardson pitched a five hitter and struck out 11 batters in his complete game victory in the first game to lead the Raiders to a 7-2 win.

Richardson's complete game was the 19th of his career — it is also a new MTSU record. With the win, Richardson improved to 11-3, notching his 26th career win at MTSU, a new school and conference record, breaking the records held by former MTSU pitcher Mark Novak.

Richardson is also one win shy of his own record of 12 wins in a season, which he set last year when he was named the conference player of the year.

Richardson was virtually untouchable through the first five innings Saturday. Through four innings the southpaw from Nashville was pitching a no-hitter and through five he gave up only one hit and had struck out 10.

"My slider and split finger (fastball) worked well today," Richardson said. "I got a little tired at the end of the game."

The Raiders gave Richardson a four-run cushion to work with in the top of the first inning.

First baseman Messerly cracked a three-run blast after Ed Pye had a lead-off single and George Zimmerman drew a two-out walk off losing pitcher Stacy Collins.

Messerly's home run went out in right center and gave him 14 on the season, four short of a record for most home runs in a single season set by Chris Whitehead in 1986.

Catcher Jay Owen then stepped to the plate and promptly drilled a

400-foot shot over the center field fence and the Raiders led 4-0.

The Raiders added another run in the sixth inning to take a 5-0 lead into the bottom of the sixth.

The Tigers finally got to Richardson in the bottom of the

sixth. TSU broke through for two runs on a RBI double by James Spann and a solo home run by Anthony Coleman.

The Raiders quickly got those two runs back in the top half of the seventh inning on a two hit shot by Darryl Steakley to close out the scoring.

In the second game, Chris Norton went the distance for the Raiders improving his record to 4-3, as the Raiders won the nightcap 5-1.

Norton allowed only three hits and struck out eight in the game giving him 261 in his four-year career. Norton holds the school record for strikeouts in a career.

Coleman and Norton locked up in a pitcher's duel over the first four innings of the second game before the Raiders broke lose for four runs in the fifth inning. Only one of the runs was earned.

Steakley led off the fifth with a single to left and Mike Young reached on a sacrifice and an error by Coleman. Ed Pye then got on base with an infield play to load the bases with no outs

After Coleman struck out Whitehead, Zimmerman got an RBI with another infield single.

The Raiders got their second run of the inning on a fielders choice by Messerly, scoring Young. Coleman then balked in Pye and Owen ripped a double to complete the scoring in the fifth.

MTSU added an insurance run in the seventh on Owen's second RBI double of the game.

Norton took a two-hit shutout into the seventh and finished with a one-run three-hit performance after yielding a solo home run to Michael Smith.

"We faced two good pitchers today. Collins pitched well in the middle innings and gave us problems," coach Steve Peterson said. "Norton had to battle Coleman from the start."

The win improved the Raiders to 23-18-1 overall, 13-4 in the OVC's Southern Division.



Wayne Cartwright/Staff

MTSU second baseman Darryl Steakley attempts to tag out an unidentified Memphis State baserunner.

Owens rips two home runs; MTSU downs TSU in slugfest

From Staff Reports

MTSU completed a three-game series sweep over Tennessee State Sunday as the Raiders outslugged the Tigers 13-9.

MTSU scored three runs in the third inning off Tiger starter Melvin Smith.

After reaching on a two-out fielder's choice, Ed Pye stole second base and came all the way around to score the first Raider run on a throwing error by TSU catcher Willie Young.

Chris Whitehead reached on an error, and George Zimmerman followed with a two-run homer to right, giving the Raiders an early 3-0 lead.

Mike Young led the Raider fifth off with a single to center and stole second. Pye and Whitehead followed with walks, loading the bases for Zimmerman.

Young scored on a passed ball, and Zimmerman collected his third and fourth RBI's of the day with a single up the middle to drive in Pye and Whitehead.

Mike Messerly reached on a fielder's choice, and Jay Owens ripped a two-run homer to right-center, giving MTSU an 8-0 lead.

MTSU starter Scott Duff held the Tigers scoreless through four innings, but ran into trouble in the fifth.

Duff gave up three runs in the fifth and another in the sixth as TSU closed the gap to 8-4.

The Raiders broke back with two runs in the seventh.

Owens drilled a line drive homer to left, and Darryl Steakley followed with a homer to left-center.

Duff had an easy inning in the seventh, but the Tigers scored four runs in the eighth to cut the Raider lead to 10-8.

MTSU added some insurance runs in the top of the ninth, scoring three runs to up the lead to 13-8.

Duff allowed a run in the bottom of the ninth, forcing Peterson to bring on Tony Martin in relief. Martin retired the next three batters to close the door on the Tigers.

Raider netters surprise Peay in OVC action

By **TRACY BOYD**
Sports Editor

The MTSU men's tennis team captured a hard-fought, crucial victory over Austin Peay Saturday, a 5-4 win at the MTSU tennis courts.

The win was important for the Raiders because it was a seed match, meaning the results count toward the seedings in the conference tournament.

MTSU head coach Dale Short was extremely happy with the win.

"It's really gratifying," Short said. "They probably have twice the scholarships we have. This shows that maybe our guys had a little more heart. This was a really big win for us."

The match was close throughout. After the six singles matches, the score was deadlocked 3-3.

Nick Sheumack, MTSU's number one singles player, dropped a 7-5, 6-3 match to Walter

Please see **Netters** page 10

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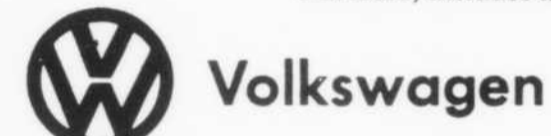
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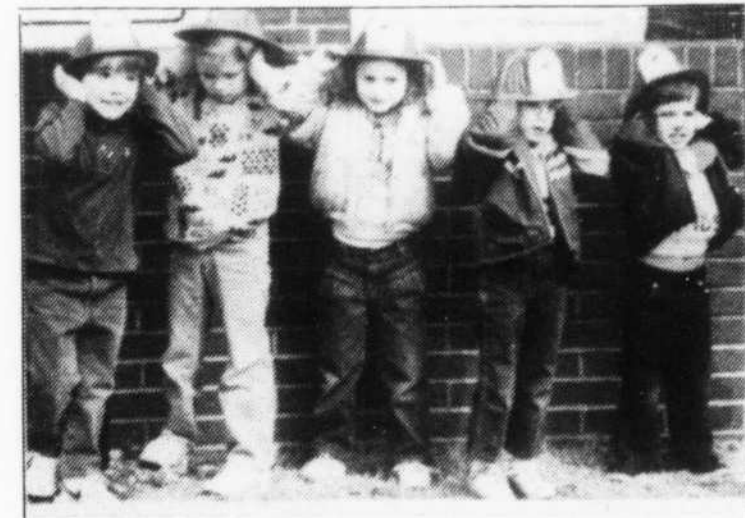
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As dust rises off the field, MTSU scrumhalf Todd Jones (with ball) leads a pack of burly Moosemen. From left David Greer, Dave LaFontaine, Stephen Brophy and Dave Smith in a 13-8 win over WKU.

Ruggers win two of three

From Staff Reports

The MTSU rugby club defeated the University of Indiana and Western Kentucky rugby clubs, but fell in the finals to the University of Kentucky to finish second in the 10th annual Banshee Classic tournament in Bowling Green, Ky.

The weekend improved MTSU's season record to 4-6.

MTSU beat Indiana 18-9 in first-round play, coming back from a 9-0 first half deficit on tries by center Eric Raney and scrumhalf Todd Jones.

MTSU winger Mickey Waldrop led all scorers with 10 points, hitting two conversions and two penalty kicks.

The Moosemen avenged a season-opening 7-0 loss to Western Kentucky by beating them 13-8 in second-round play.

Once again, MTSU fell behind early in the match, but went into half-time tied at 4-4 on fullback Ryan Reid's 50-meter try.

The two teams battled without a score for 20 minutes into the second-half, as neither team was able to get its running game untracked.

The game turned suddenly when Raney intercepted an errant Western Kentucky pass and returned it 60 meters untouched for a try.

Waldrop put the conversion through to make the score 10-4, and followed with a 25 meter penalty kick minutes later to extend MTSU's lead to 13-4.

Western Kentucky scored a try late in the game to pull within five at 13-8, but could get no closer.

The Moosemen finally ran out of gas in the finals, losing 26-0 to Kentucky. Kentucky is the number two ranked college side in the East.

MTSU was hurt by a lack of depth, as 12 of the 15 starters had to play all three games. The exhaus-

tion from Saturday's games was evident in the finals on Sunday, as the Moosemen played Kentucky close for the first 40 minutes — going into half-time down 10-0 — but faded quickly in the second-half.

"I'm as proud of this team as any I've ever played on," MTSU co-captain Raney said. "Only three of our starting 15 players have more than a year's experience, and for a club this young to make it to the finals against a nationally ranked team shows a lot of heart."

The Moosemen will hold the third annual Old Boys game this Sunday at 1 p.m. at the field by Murphy Center.

The Old Boys game is the climax of a weekend of activities in which former MTSU ruggers return to form a team to play the present MTSU squad.

Lady Raiders down Louisville in tennis action

By TRACY BOYD
Sports Editor

The MTSU women's tennis team defeated the University of Louisville in a dramatic, closely contested battle, 5-4, Saturday at the MTSU tennis courts.

"I'm very pleased because they beat us in the fall," MTSU coach Sandy Neal said.

At number one singles, MTSU's Jennifer Rey defeated Lisa Pepper, 7-5, 6-0, avenging a three set loss to Pepper in the fall.

Louisville's Michelle Dyer defeated Lynn Dillard, 6-0, 6-2 at number two singles.

MTSU's Jenny Herring lost at number three singles, a 6-4, 6-1 decision to Julie Abell.

Julie Laughlin easily defeated Kim Hull, 6-1, 6-1 at number four singles, to give the Lady Raiders their second victory.

Laughlin won despite playing in a cast due to torn ligaments in her ankle.

Lady Raider basketball standout Lianne Beck lost to Jill Peterson at the number five position, 6-4, 6-1.

Another two-sport athlete, Melissa Arms, who is a vital cog on the Lady Raider volleyball team, won by default. Her opponent was ill

and could not compete.

The MTSU win tied the score at three, and set the stage for the dramatic doubles competition.

Dillard and Beck lost to Pepper and Abell, 6-3, 6-2 at number two and Laughlin and Arms won the number three doubles by default.

The number one doubles match, which was still going on, would decide the whole ball of wax.

The match could not have been closer. After getting shutout in the first set, 0-6, Rey and Herring took the next two, 6-4, 6-3 to give MTSU the 5-4 victory.

Short feels that her team is at

the top of their game right now.

"I think everyone is playing the best tennis they can play," Short said. "They're all capable of playing at their best, with the exception of Julie [Laughlin] who is in the cast."

Short hopes the continued good play of her team will carry over into the Ohio Valley Conference tournament, set for April 24 and 25.

"If we continue to play well," Short said, "we're capable of surprising some people."

In their last match before the OVC tournament, the Lady Raiders will host Tennessee Martin today at 3 p.m.

Netters from page 9
Dolhare.

At number two singles, MTSU's Ilmar Mutli defeated Adres Sundquist, 6-1, 6-3.

Peay's Greg Brownlow defeated Johan Franzen, 7-5, 6-1 at number three singles.

Chris King picked up a victory for MTSU at number four, a 7-5, 6-3 win over Miroslav Jevtic.

Peay's Aymeris Cartau took the number five singles from Chris Coffee, 6-2, 6-1.

MTSU evened things up when Jeff Raper beat Roger Steel, 6-3, 6-4 at number six singles.

"I was really happy with Jeff Raper," Short said. "He is here on no scholarship and is playing as well as anyone on the team."

The match would be decided in the doubles competition.

MTSU's number one team of King and Coffee fell to Dolhare and Sundquist, 6-2, 6-3.

The Raiders evened things up once again when Raper and Franzen beat Brownlow and Jevtic, 6-4, 7-6 at number two.

With everything riding on the number three doubles match, the team of Mutli and Rich Gray took a three-set match from Cartau and

Steel to seal the MTSU win.

Short had nothing but praise for his team after the win.

"We have six guys who are very equal. We could play them in any order."

According to Short, the conference race is coming down to four

teams — Tennessee Tech, Murray State, Austin Peay and MTSU.

MTSU's last big match will be against Tennessee Tech, Thursday at 2 p.m. at the MTSU tennis courts. The match will pick up where it left off on March 30, when it was rained out half-way through.

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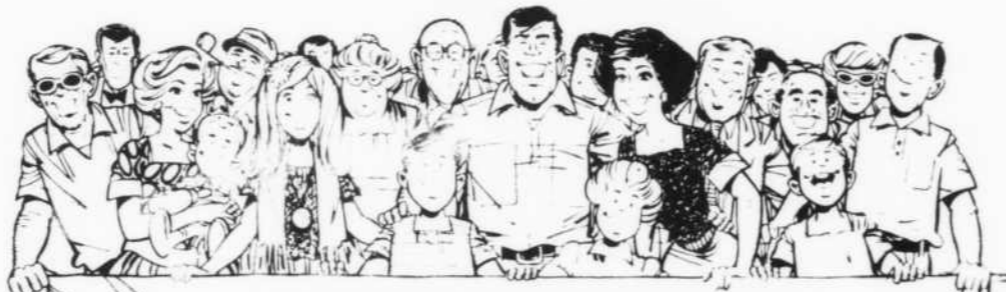


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