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MIDDLE TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY

SIDELINES

Volume 62, Number 50

Serving the campus community since 1925

Tuesday, April 5, 1988



Sandy Rennie ● Staff

Freshmen Malinee McCullough and Nick Schneder enjoy the spring weather while walking across campus. Several days of rain and cool weather gave way to temperatures near 80 Monday. And while we're sure you're just as sick of these stupid outdoor shots as we are, we've got to fill up space somehow. Besides, it is pretty.

Students selected to present research

By KATE LAPCZYNSKI
Staff Writer

Two MTSU Honors students have been selected in a nationwide competition to present their prepared papers at the Second National Conference on Undergraduate Research.

Melani Butt will present her project "Automorphosis of Hasse Subgroup Diagrams for Groups of Low Order," an independent study dealing with abstract algebra.

David Gregor's project is entitled "A Comparative Analysis of Two Versions of the Complex Receptor Source Terrain Computer Model."

Both students submitted abstracts of their research to the conference and received word in March that their abstracts had been accepted for presentation.

The conference is held specifically to provide a forum for research that has been done on the undergraduate level across the whole spectrum of the curriculum.

David Sutherland and Micheal Pinter, both professors of the math department, attended the first conference that was held last year. They brought the conference to the attention of Ronald Messier, director of the Honors Program, who was very enthusiastic about the prospect of MTSU students presenting their research to this year's conference.

"I think they've both done outstanding work," Messier said, referring to Butt and Gregor.

If accepted for publication, the students' research papers will appear in the conference's publication *Proceedings of the Conference*. Submitted papers are also judged at both the session and conference level and a wide range of "bests" are awarded, such as best paper in humanities, life sciences, literature, chemistry, history, etc.

The conference will be held at the University of North Carolina in Asheville, April 21-23.

Keynote speakers for this year's conference will be Dr. Richard

Goldsby, biology professor at Amherst College; Dr. Margaret Macvicar of MIT; Dr. Paul Saltman, professor of biology at the University of California, San Diego; and Dr. Robert Sharp, Division of Geological and Planetary Sciences, Caltech.

Miss MTSU offers best wishes to Thursday night's contestants

By MARLA OSBURN
Assistant News Editor

Fourteen young women representing various college organizations will compete in the 12th Annual Miss Middle Tennessee State University Scholarship Pageant.

At stake is a scholarship and the opportunity to compete for the Miss Tennessee crown.

The pageant, sponsored annually by the Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity, will be held in Murphy Center, April 7th at 7 p.m.

The four competition categories include private interviews, evening gown, swimsuit and talent. Although each is important, a stand-out performance in any one category may win the title.

Just ask Dari Anne Tarbuk, the current reigning Miss MTSU. Her jazzed-up rendition of "Over the Rainbow" impressed the audience and judges alike and received a standing ovation.

"She really gave one hell of a performance," said her mother, Christine Tarbuk. Although Dari had no formal training, sing-alongs with her sorority Delta Zeta apparently helped with her first stage performance.

Winning the title became a turning point for Dari. Once shy, she is now more extroverted and confident. She found the best way to compete is to be herself instead of holding her natural expressionism back.

What could motivate a quiet, only child to compete in front of an audience for a college pageant title? Dari says the support of her

Student charged with offense

By KIM HARRIS
News Editor

Two MTSU students will settle a March 1 hit-and-run dispute in court Friday afternoon at 1 p.m.

Brian Robertson, 19, and a friend, Lindsey Warner, 19, were traveling south on Tenn. Blvd. when the car in front of them came to a sudden stop, according to the Campus Security police report.

As Robertson stopped his car,

the vehicle behind him ran into the back of his car. The car was driven by Leslie Gardner, 18, the report stated.

Robertson then turned right on Bell Street, while Gardner turned left and continued toward the Industrial Arts Building.

Mrs. Theo Boatwright witnessed the offense and took down Gardner's license plate information.

Robertson found Gardner's car

\$100,000 challenge to be met by alumni

By LISA NEWTON
Staff Writer

In response to a \$100,000 challenge announced in late February, the Alumni Center restoration fund has raised about \$40,000 in gifts and contributions.

The challenge, issued by John E. Ellington ('56), and the response have pushed the restoration fund closer toward their estimated goal of \$225,000.

"We sent a mailing to all of our alumni, numbering about 34,000, from Mr. Ellington's committee in late February, so most of the amount we have received has come in the last few weeks in response to the fundraising challenge," Alumni Relations Director Marie Kirk said.

The committee had \$25,000 in gifts and pledges before the challenge was issued, Kirk said.

With the challenge gift, the \$25,000 and the \$40,000 matching funds, the committee is approximately \$60,000 below their goal.

"We are very encouraged from the response we have received in

the last few weeks, and we are enthusiastic about the months ahead, that we are going to make strong efforts toward reaching that goal," Kirk said.

The Alumni Center project is working toward the restoration and renovation of one of MTSU's three original buildings. The building, which along with Kirksey Old Main and Rutledge Hall formed the original campus, has served a variety of purposes: dining hall, Music department, Industrial Studies department, drawing and photography lab, and most recently, the Aerospace department.

With the removal of the Aerospace department from the renovated Alumni Memorial Gymnasium, the state planned to demolish the building. The National Alumni Association proposed a plan to turn it into an Alumni Center, a plan approved by state and university officials provided the alumni would fund the work once it has been returned to its original configuration and put "in the dry," according to President Sam Ingram.

"parked and unoccupied" near the Industrial Arts Building and then reported the offense.

Gardner was arrested three days later and held at the Murfreesboro Adult Detention Center for two-and-a-half hours on a bond of \$500, according to the Rutherford County Sheriff's Office.

Gardner said last Tuesday that her parents were planning to press charges for false arrest.

"She told me that she felt she was falsely arrested and that her parents planned to sue Campus Security because she felt the offense was not an arrestable but ticketable offense, and that was her basis for a lawsuit," *Sidelines* Editor-in-Chief Tony Stinnett said yesterday.

"It's a bad situation," arresting officer Roy Brewer said. "I was left with no choice in the matter."

Since the case will be heard Friday, Brewer was unable to comment on the offense that took place.

According to Stinnett, Gardner said she saw Robertson hit the vehicle in front of him and when his car bounced back, it hit hers.

"Michele heard a screech, but not a crash," Gardner said Sunday night, referring to her friend, freshman Michele Feger.

Gardner said yesterday her par-

ents do not plan to sue Campus Security.

Due to the difficult nature of the case, both Gardner's mother and her lawyer, John Milton of Murfreesboro, requested this article to be held until after the hearing.

After talking to *Sidelines* on Sunday night, Gardner said yesterday that her lawyer had requested her not to comment, as it would jeopardize her case.

"She [Gardner's mother] told me that if I ran the article, I would have a lawsuit against me," Stinnett said.

"I told her that she had no legal grounds because the arrest report was public record and that the paper planned to contact campus security to get both sides of the story.

"She told me that she felt there were legal grounds. At that, I told her to have her attorney call me," Stinnett said.

Milton called yesterday and "suggested" the article not be run because it might jeopardize Gardner's case.

"Leslie called us this afternoon [Monday] and said that her mother did not plan to sue the paper," Stinnett said.

Robertson was unavailable for comment.

Forum to hold debate on campaign spending

By M.A. BROWN
Editorial Editor

The MTSU Campus Forum will sponsor a debate on April 6 on the topic of amending the Constitution to allow Congress to regulate campaign contributions and expenditures.

The debate will center around the issue of allowing Congress to enact laws regulating campaign finances "intended to affect elections to federal, state and local offices," according to literature provided by the Campus Forum.

With the 1988 presidential election in full swing, the topic should be of interest to many MTSU students, Dr. Thomas Vandervort of the political science department said.

"It [the debate] will concern money being spent now and how it should be spent," Vandervort said.

Marla Deaton will present arguments in support of the resolution, while Victor Vale will argue against it.

Neither speaker was available for comment.

According to Tommy Williams, secretary of the treasury for the College Democrats and member of the ASB House, the resolution would be very beneficial to the American political system.

"I think campaign contributions should be limited to give equal opportunity to those candidates whose campaign finances are less than others," he said.

The issue has been a heated one in the U.S. Congress.

In February, Senate Majority Leader Robert Byrd, D-W.Va., frustrated by a Republican filibuster of proposed campaign reform legislation, used an obscure rule to have Sen. Bob Packwood, R-Ore., and several other senators physically hauled back into the Senate Chambers.

The debate will be held in Room 322 Keathley University Center from 7 to 8 p.m.



Frank Conley ● Staff

"Eye" can make you laugh

Dan Vallard tries to make Richard Hurtle crack a smile during "Krack Me Up," the opening act of Comedy Week. Vallard was unsuccessful, so Hurtle won \$25.

Student dancer experiencing turning point

By ERIC RANEY
Staff Writer

At seven years of age, she hated dance class so much that her mother had to bribe her to go.

Eighteen years later, after a career which took her from Stuttgart, West Germany to San Antonio, Texas, dance is one of the

great loves of her life.

But that's not how things started. "I really hated it," recalls Amy Drum, a sophomore majoring in psychology at MTSU. "I would get so upset that I would throw up on the way there."

"My mother saw I had some talent so she would make bargains with me. She would say, 'If you stick

it out until the end of the year, maybe you'll get a bicycle for your birthday.'"

Her mother was right and her methods paid off.

While most people come to college to prepare for a career, Drum has had a full career already.

Starting with a performance of "Les Patineurs" at the tender age of 10, Drum has been dancing for the public for 15 years, and has lived what many would consider a full life.

Her credits include training at the Jordan College of Music in Indianapolis, the Stuttgart Ballet School in West Germany, the North Carolina School for the Performing Arts in Winston-Salem and the American Ballet School in New York.

She has performed professionally with the Indiana State Ballet, Indianapolis Ballet Theater, Chicago Dance Medium and the San Antonio Ballet Company.

But the life of a dancer is less

glamorous than most would imagine.

"I had some really bad experiences," Drum admits.

"I joined the Chicago Dance Medium in 1982 as an apprentice and was paid \$100 for two performances — \$50 per performance — except I rehearsed for them for about four months. They said it was good experience and I was naive enough to believe it.

Naive, perhaps, but not stupid. When one of the co-directors told her: "You might as well dance with us, you're not good enough to do anything else," Drum walked out.

"I told the business manager, you don't have enough money to pay me — so sue me," laughs Drum. "And that was that."

The situation went from bad to worse when Drum accepted a contract with the San Antonio Ballet Company.

Paying her own way from Chicago, Drum found the leader of the company was a Russian "who,

after having lived in the country for 20 years, still couldn't speak the language."

"He had a dance company for the sole purpose of having young girls around, and he did some blatantly suggestive things in class," says Drum. "I waited around until I got my first paycheck and I left."

"So," she notes, showing her self-effacing sense of humor, "those are some of my professional experiences."

From San Antonio, Drum came to Nashville to meet her boyfriend, Bill Webster, who was working on a construction crew. With his help,

she was able to get a job with the crew and started learning a new technique: the graceful sweep of a brush applying paint.

As chance had brought her to Nashville, it played its part in Drum meeting Anne Holland, assistant professor of health and physical education at MTSU and co-founder and director of the Tennessee on Tour dance group.

"I met Amy at Tycoons — a most unlikely place to meet a dancer," recalls Holland, who has danced professionally for six years herself.

Please see Dancerpage 3



Caroline Holland ● Staff

Student dancer Amy Drum, sophomore, has been trained world-wide and has performed nationally.

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Dancer from page 2

"I asked her where she had danced and she told me. I thought to myself, if so, wow."

Any doubts about her ability disappeared when Drum auditioned for Tennessee on Tour.

"Amy did a blow-out dance. In one move she went from a turn into a leap into an extension with her leg way above her ear — then stopped," says Holland, mimicking the move in remembrance. "It was nigh impossible to do."

Drum danced with Tennessee on Tour until the company was disbanded in 1986 and then decided to enroll at MTSU.

"I see so many dancers who go from season to season in dance," observes Drum, "and most seasons are only six months long. You get paid for that six months, but for the other six months you fend for yourself. A lot of them go on welfare."

"I don't want to do that until I'm 40 years old and then wonder what the hell I've done with my life," she vows.

And it doesn't look as though she'll have to.

Drum carries a 4.0 average in school and plans to go into dance therapy when she graduates.

Looking around her two-room apartment will show you she's no dumb cookie. Encyclopedias line the wall beneath several Picasso prints; a bookshelf displays the existential works of Albert Camus and Jean-Paul Sartre contrasted with an Andy Griffith trivia book.

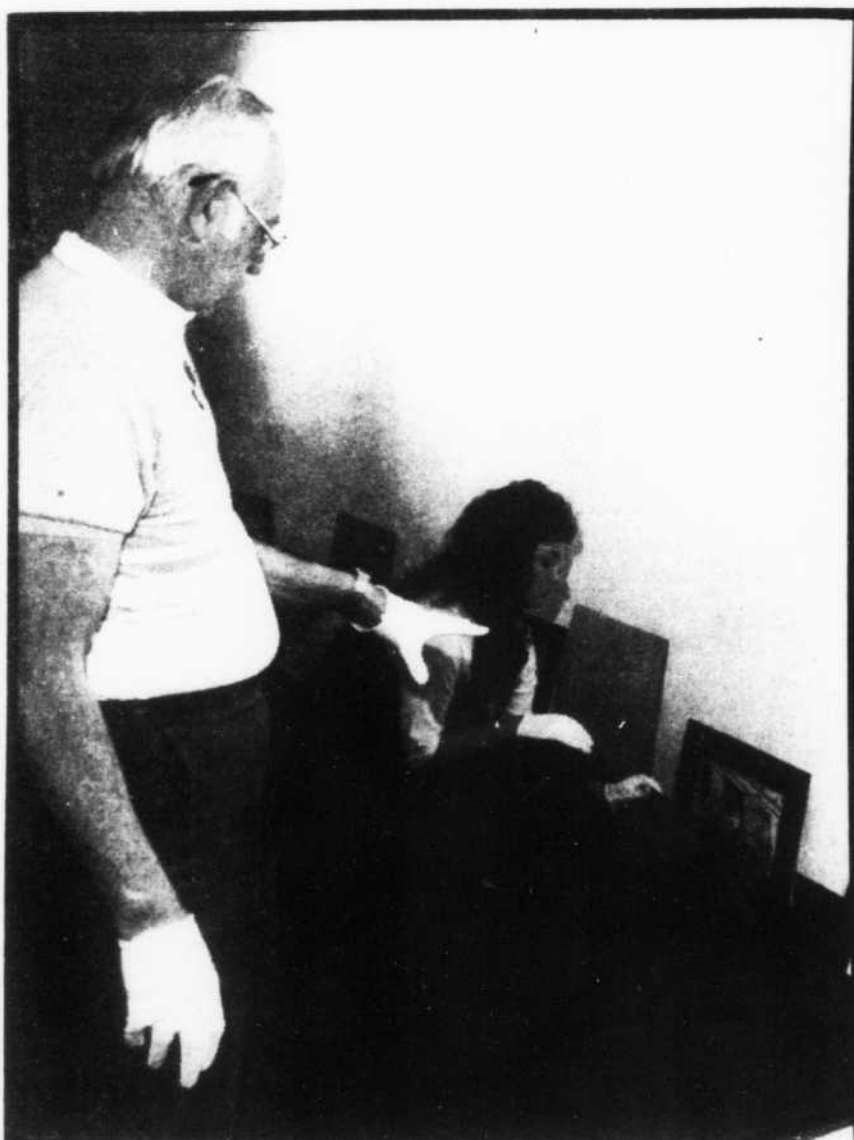
"I'm a Mayberry fan," Drum admits with a grin.

When not at school she stays busy teaching dance at Studio V in Murfreesboro, organizing two dance shows a year as president of the MTSU Performing Arts Club, as well as choreographing and performing her own dances.

Recently, Drum auditioned for an American Dance Festival six-week scholarship at Duke University. As she was once offered a full scholarship by the North Carolina School for the Performing Arts, her odds of getting it look pretty good.

So for the little girl who had to be bribed to dance, life has come full circle. It's been a long road, but one well worth the trip.

And, she adds, "I got the bike, too."



Political Cartooning exhibit Mike Johnson/Staff

Harold Baldwin, curator of the photo gallery and photography professor, oversees sophomore psychology major Tammy Evans as she helps hang cartoons for the "Political Cartooning and the First Amendment" exhibit. The exhibits can be viewed through May 5 during regular business hours at the Learning Resources Center photo gallery.

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Campus Capsule

Applications for the Outstanding Senior Awards are available now in the ASB Office, KUC Room 304. They must be completed and turned back to the office no later than April 8th at 4:00 p.m.

The Spring 1988 Honors Lecture Series continues April 6, Wednesday, with "Japanese Culture: The Public Face (Tatamae) and the Private Face (Hon-ne)," by Dr. Esther Seeman, Director of the Japan Center of Tennessee. All lectures will be presented in Peck Hall Room 107 at 3:30 p.m.

Sidelines will attempt to use this space to publish items and meetings of interest to the MTSU community. To submit items for publication, either send a typed copy of your entry to Box 42 via campus mail, or come by Room 310 of the James Union Building. Sidelines cannot guarantee publication of ANY item. Sidelines reserves the right to edit items for clarity and brevity.

Tom Simpson will be speaking on the "Value of Wetlands and the Federal Regulations Involved." The former biology faculty member will be speaking on April 6th at 2:30 p.m. in Davis Science Building Room 130.

Applications for Student Orientation Assistants for Fall Semester 1988 are now being accepted. Applications are available in the KUC Room 130. Deadline for applying is April 8.

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- Fall 1988 Sidelines Editor
- Collage 1988-89 Editor

Candidates must be full-time MTSU students, undergraduate or graduate, and must have a 2.5 overall grade point average.

Applications are available in JUB Room 306 during regular office hours (8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.).

Application deadline is April 15 at noon.

For more information, contact Jackie Solomon, student publications coordinator, at MTSU ext. 2338

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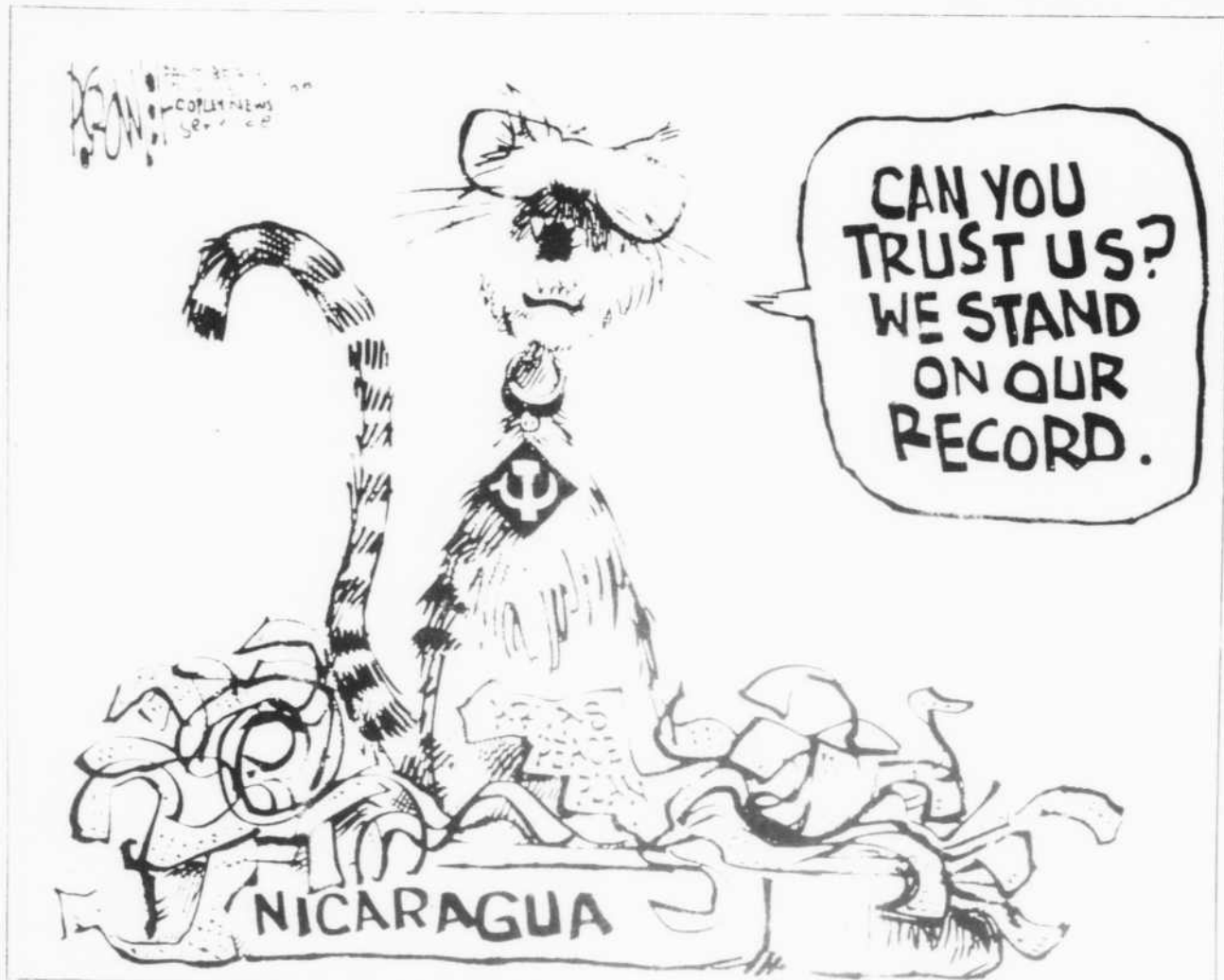
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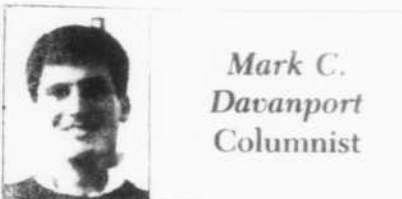
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EDITORIALS



Catholics worldwide should condemn IRA for presenting danger to church



Mark C. Davanport
Columnist

More recent history includes the Anglo-Irish War fought from 1919 to 1921. This was followed by the Irish Civil War in 1922-23.

During this war the original IRA began its attacks on Northern Ireland which included conventional and guerilla tactics. The guerrilla attacks spread to Britain during World War II and helped the German war effort.

In 1949, the Irish republic left the British Commonwealth. A new twist took place in 1966 when a counter IRA group of Protestants was formed called the Ulster Volunteer Force [UVF]. The UVF declared war on the IRA and Catholic and Protestant blood was spilled. In 1967, all Irish republican groups were declared illegal.

On Jan. 11, 1970, a new chapter began when 257 delegates walked out of the Sinn Fein Congress in Dublin and formed the provisional wing of the IRA. The reason for this action was because the Sinn Fein branch was becoming too pacifist oriented for the PIRAs.

The PIRA officially killed their first British soldier on Oct. 31, 1970. From that date through 1974, the PIRA killed 336 soldiers and police officers and 797 civilians. During this time they also robbed a number of banks of over \$5 million.

The PIRA have killed hundreds more soldiers and thousands more innocent civilians since 1974.

Their main suppliers of arms have been Communist terrorist organizations in Western Europe and Colonel Qaddafi of Libya.

An even more shocking fact is the financial support given to the PIRA by U.S. Catholics in New England.

The tragic assassination of Lord Mountbatten caused some Americans to rethink their position and most private aid to the PIRA from this country was cut off. However, this aid has since been largely restored.

Catholic Americans who support the PIRA will hopefully see the brutality of March 19 and again cut off aid.

The PIRA does not represent the Catholic Church in any way.

A true Catholic does not "give up his Bible," as Irish poet Dominick Behan suggests, or lose faith and say his prayers are in vain.

American Bishops must start speaking out against the PIRA just as Bishop Daly has.

The crisis in Ireland is not solely a Catholic versus Protestant battle, but the involvement of the Catholic Church is apparent.

The Roman Catholic Church of Ireland has recognized the danger and has spoken out against the violence. It is time for the Roman Catholic Church of America to speak out against the funding that supports this violence.

New answers needed

Nicaragua needs attention



Christopher Bell
Managing Editor

Nicaragua. Sandinistas and Contras. Noble revolutionaries and evil fascists.

Communists dictators and "freedom fighters."

The "situation" in Nicaragua makes quantum physics seem simple.

The nation's current government, the FSLN (Sandinista National Liberation Front), came into power in the late 70's when they forced out the government of Anastasio Somoza.

The Somoza family had controlled the country for more than 40 years and was initially aided by the occupation of the country by U.S. Marines from 1926 to 1933.

The polite term for this is puppet government. Or as Franklin Roosevelt said of Somoza's father, "He may be a son-of-a-bitch, but he's our son-of-a-bitch."

When the Sandinista's took over, a brief hope flourished that, despite the group's definite Marxist views, they would try and establish a representative form of government.

No such luck, despite lots of promises. While the current gov-

ernment does seem to have a measure of popular support (as demonstrated by riots during the recent peace talks) most of the citizens probably didn't count on trading a right wing dictatorship for a left wing one.

The Contras (better known as "the moral equivalent of our founding fathers"), are no better. Their leadership is composed primarily of former Somoza thugs and their support has been channeled primarily through that thoughtful force for liberty, the CIA. Their definition of freedom in Nicaragua seems to be freedom to exploit the people of the nation for all they're worth.

So what do we do? If we continue to back a government only because it will support our interests we will alienate the citizens of the country for decades to come.

This question also exists: do we have the right to determine what type of government other nations have?

It's easy to think the United States is the "best dream man has ever dreamed" as Randy Newman once said, and I believe we are. But the raw arrogance to step in and decide the fate of others is amazing. And President Reagan's intention of booting Daniel Ortega out on the street is exactly that — arrogant.

If we do nothing, however, revolutions will continue to tear the

countries of Central America apart. It's natural that people with an average per capita income of around \$1,000 (compared to about \$13,000 a year in the U.S.) are going to be angry citizens.

The political struggle in Nicaragua is representative of similar conflicts in the nations around it. El Salvador, Honduras and Guatemala have all been torn by both internal and external strife and recent events in Panama illustrate the volatility of the region.

The real problem, however, is that the governments of the region, left and right, have failed to meet the needs of their people.

What Billy Bragg described as "the sound of ideologies clashing" has obscured us to the fact that the needs and wants of people are what lead to governments in the first place.

We talk of competing "isms" as if we were comparing new cars, human rights records like they were baseball stats.

There are people involved here — human lives. And while this may sound naive, and it is, it is also true.

Governments who kill their own citizens are not "tacky," they are evil. And if we support them because they support us, or if we ignore them and hope they'll go away, then we're part of that evil.

And we're supposed to be better than that.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

To The Editor:

Thanks to Sgt. Larry Nixon, campus security, a "key" experience ended happily at about 1 a.m. on March 17.

Photo lab assistant Taylor Smith called me to ask what to do about the fact that his key wouldn't work in one of the lab doors. Should he call security or would I come lock up with my key? I'd come lock up. No problem. I left my apartment headed for my car and the lab. Sigh. I'd just locked myself out of my apartment and although I was carrying lab keys, my car keys were also in the apartment. Stand in the parking lot. Finally knock (timidly) on a neighbor's door. Try to telephone apartment security. Wrong number. Call Taylor at the lab. Forgot correct number. Call campus security. Explain to them the problem. Much amusement among campus cops. I was not amused at this point.

Sgt. Nixon arrives, drives me back to school, we lock the lab, pick up Taylor and discuss ways and means to get back into my apartment. Nixon calls campus security again. They locate number for apartment security. That officer arrives a few minutes later and the apartment is opened. Missing keys located. Nixon leaves to drive Taylor to his home.

Thank you, thank you. Effort above and beyond the call of duty and likely not in the job description of campus cops. Nevertheless, deeply appreciated. If you are ever in similar trouble, my advice is to call 2424. It works.

Veita Jo Hampton
Box 283

To The Editor:

This letter is directed to Campus Housing, and concerns the large blue, rusted piece of scrap metal which was strategically placed in the courtyard between the Keathley University Center and a majority of dormitories.

This alleged evidence of an alcohol related accident is a contradiction of the rules enforced by these university officials.

The moral related by this evidence is "Don't drink and drive," which implies "Drink at home if you feel the need." Well, university housing doesn't allow alcohol possession or consumption on campus.

What? So, let me get this straight. Those who desire to drink must do so off campus and drive home to their dormitory? Yet you tell them, "Don't drink and drive."

Secondly, housing didn't offer a story to go along with this effigy of an alcohol related accident. For all

we know, this car could have been driven by a sweet little old lady driving down a country road who swerved into a huge maple tree to avoid hitting an out-of-season six-point buck.

There should have been a non-fiction story to go along with the car if it was involved in such an accident.

For these reasons I feel that this incident is an inappropriate action taken especially by University Housing to honor Alcohol Awareness Week.

If alcohol was allowed on campus in a controlled manner and a logical, truthful explanation for that mangled iron eyesore was offered, this would be an excellent endorsement for Alcohol Awareness Week.

Nice effort, but next time examine the situation and all that it entails before you use this type of advertisement.

Don Sullivan
Box 2122

To The Editor:

Why is it that MTSU dismisses classes for the celebration and mourning of the death of Martin Luther King, Jr. and doesn't dismiss classes for the celebration and mourning of the death of Jesus Christ? Dr. King did do a lot for the equality of the black race, but Jesus Christ did a heck of a lot more for the human race.

I'm surely not objecting to not attending classes on Dr. King's birthday, but I do object to attending classes on Good Friday, which is a day of mourning over the death of Christ.

David O. Pritchett
Box 7146

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by Berke Breathed

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SIDELINES

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Letters Policy

Letters to the editor are encouraged and are considered on the basis of timeliness, interest and space. All letters must include the author's name, MTSU box number and telephone number. Telephone numbers will not be printed and are for verification purposes only. When warranted, requests to withhold names will be honored. We reserve the right to edit all letters for spelling, grammar and length. Address all letters and inquiries to Sidelines, Box 42, or come by Room 310 James Union Building. There is also a letters box located in the Keathley University Center Grill.

ENTERTAINMENT

Mitchell's 'Mark' manages modern emotions

[Editor's note: A five-star rating system is used in evaluation purposes. One being poor, two fair, three good, four very good and five outstanding.]

★★★★

By **CHRISTOPHER BELL**
Managing Editor
Chalk Mark in a Rain Storm
Joni Mitchell
Geffen Records

While it's easy to consider Joni Mitchell another leftover from the late sixties/early seventies, like Crosby, Stills and Nash or James Taylor, her most recent record proves that she has not settled for being just another human nostalgia trigger.

Chalk Mark in a Rain Storm is "modern" in both sound and outlook. While Mitchell's work suffered during the late seventies when she attempted a jazz/rock/

folk fusion, her 1985 release, *Dog Eat Dog*, marked a return to the lyrical insights of her most popular songs and *Chalk Mark* continues that resurgence.

Combined with that insight, however, is a new element to her sound — drums — used not just for background percussion, but to lead the songs, giving them the feel of a chant.

REVIEW

The rhythm section on several cuts also backed up Peter Gabriel and Robbie Robertson on their latest releases, which isn't surprising since Mitchell's husband, Larry Klein, is the long time bassist for Gabriel's band. But what is surprising is the intense kick Klein and drummer Manu Katche give the music.

Anyone who remembers Mitchell as the soft-spoken folkie who



Joni Mitchell's 'Chalk Mark in a Rain Storm'

wrote "Woodstock" and "Both Sides Now," is going to be shocked by the new sound.

If that's not enough, Thomas Dolby, Billy Idol, Steve Stevens,

Tom Petty, Ben Orr, Willie Nelson, Don Henley, Wendy Melvoin, Lisa Coleman (the Wendy & Lisa from Prince's band The Revolution) and Peter Gabriel himself contribute to this album.

But once you're past the guests and the new sound (with roots I could date back to Mitchell's *Hissing of Summer Lawns* which Prince calls his favorite record if I wanted to get even more long-winded than I already am) the core is vintage Joni Mitchell.

This means the songs fall into three general categories — 1)love songs, 2)protest songs and 3)re-makes.

But here a love song has a lyric like "He/ In a shopping mall/ Finally met the perfect girl/ She is all that matters/ The world/ Like a Barbie doll/ Oh love is snakes and ladders/ Snakes

and ladders" (italics hers).

And a remake takes the old Sons of the Pioneers song "Cool Water," flattens the difference between chorus and verse, sets the whole thing to a non-stop beat, and brings any metaphoric implications of the songs right to the front. Then she adds Willie Nelson and changes the lyrics (but not much). It's still a great song, but it's definitely her song now.

The bulk of the album is what I shallowly called "protest" songs. While not as pointed as her efforts on *Dog Eat Dog* (which is a great album), songs like "Number One," "The Tea Leaf Prophecy (Lay Down Your Arms)" and "The Reoccurring Dream" (where Mitchell mixes in bits of commercials, movie dialogue and even one of her old songs (shades of Robert Plant)) show this yuppie favorite taking on her accidental offspring.

Social observation is a better description, and from terey, but she travels familiar territory, but still finds new angles. While neither the music nor lyrics is as pointed as on her last record, subtlety can sound nice on the radio after a half hour of Kingdom Come and David Lee Roth.

In "The Beat of Black Wings," she delivers a line that gives the album its title and sums up the way I feel right now: "There's a man drawing pictures/ On the sidewalk with chalk/ Just as fast as he draws 'em/ Rain come down and wash 'em off/ Keep the drinks commin' girl/ 'Til I can't feel anything/ I'm just a chalk mark in a rainstorm/ I'm just the beat of/ the beat of black wings."

Kind of helps fuel my self-pity, but we all get the blues. Nice to see someone finding a new way to sing them after so long.

Hendra chronicles "Boomer Humor"

By **CHRISTOPHER BELL**
Managing Editor

★★★

Going Too Far
Tony Hendra
Dolphin Books

Tony Hendra was an editor at the *National Lampoon* during the magazine's mid-seventies glory days, so he seems a natural person to write a history of this genre.

But Hendra has tried something much bigger — to chronicle the entire post-1955 history of American humor, or more specifically the division he calls "Boomer Humor."

This is what others have labelled "sick" humor, and Hendra includes stand-up comedians like Mort Sahl and Lenny Bruce, improvisational groups like the Committee and Second City, magazines like *Mad* and *National Lampoon* and television shows like "The Smothers Brothers" and "Saturday Night Live."

Taken as an overview, the book is a good introduction to modern comedy and the sections on the *Lampoon* and the early improv groups are excellent as is the long overdue piece on Robert Crum, a seminal figure in underground comix.

But the field is so vast, there is

no way to adequately cover it all. Richard Pryor and The Firesign Theater, two of the period's great-

GOING TOO FAR

est comedic talents, are barely mentioned and many others are slighted as well.

Hendra admits this in the introduction, saying "This then is not a comprehensive chronicle of what everyone said, everywhere, in the last three decades if they were in the business of being funny." But he also says "it is a selective account of the of the moments which... moved the body of humor forward and best represented the uniqueness of this phenomenon," something the book doesn't accomplish.

Many individual chapters would have been very good books on their own. Indeed, at almost 170 pages, the *Lampoon* section virtually is. While the book is more than 450 pages long, it feels rushed somehow.

To tie all of this together, Hendra constructs a theory that "Boomer humor" shares a skepticism in "the official version." While not overtly

political, the very existence of the style was a political statement.

But you don't have to read the book for theoretical value. Hendra seas with the *Lampoon*, and the book is, as a book on humor should be, funny.

You can't help but feel impressed after reading this (notice for once I've left humor to the professional) and besides, it's Comedy Week. Think of this as required reading.

You're astute enough to discuss the philosophical ramifications of Victor Frankl's "Existential Vacuum."

And you're still smoking?

U.S. Department of Health & Human Services

What's Up MTSU?

Tuesday, April 6: The MTSU Films Committee presents "The Principle" — R. Showtimes are 3:30, 6:00 and 8:30 p.m. at the KUC Theatre.

Wednesday, April 6: Al Katz — Comedian At Large — Comedy Week continues at noon in the KUC Theatre. The program is free and open to the public.

Wednesday, April 6: MTSU vs. Austin Peay/OVC. There will be a single played at the Reese Smith Field beginning at 7 p.m. Wednesday will be Blue Raider Baseball Give-Away Night. Prizes donated by area merchants will be given away all night.

Thursday, April 7: MTSU vs. North Alabama. There will be a single played at Reese Smith Field beginning at 7 p.m.

Thursday, April 7: The Special Events Committee continues a week-long celebration of variety comedy at noon in the KUC Theatre with Atlanta's comedian Steve Gipson. The program is free and open to the public.

Campus Paperback Bestsellers

1. *Calvin and Hobbes*, by Bill Watterson (Andrews, McMeel & Parker \$5.95) Cartoons about the life of a little boy
2. *The Eyes of the Dragon*, by Stephen King (Signet NAL \$4.50) Enthralling masterpiece of magical evil and daring adventure
3. *Communion*, by Whitley Strieber (Avon \$4.95) Visitors from outer space
4. *The Far Side Observer*, by Gary Larson (Andrews, McMeel & Parker \$5.95) Latest *Far Side* cartoons
5. *Necessary Losses*, by Judith Vorst (Fawcett \$4.95) How to deal with and accept life's losses
6. *Windmills of the Gods*, by Sidney Sheldon (Warner \$4.95) Story of a woman trapped by international conspiracy
7. *The Prince of Tides*, by Pat Conroy (Bantam \$4.95) The beauty of South Carolina and the dusty glitter of New York City
8. *The Road Less Traveled*, by M. Scott Peck (Touchstone \$8.95) Psychological and spiritual inspiration by a psychiatrist
9. *Billy and the Boingers Bootleg*, by Berke Breathed (Little, Brown \$7.95) Latest *Bloom County* cartoons
10. *Destiny*, by Sally Beauman (Bantam \$4.95) Romance of a couple with diverse backgrounds over three decades

New & Recommended

- Watchers*, by Dean R. Koontz (Berkley \$4.95) Explosive story of a man and woman caught in a relentless storm of mankind's darkest creation — two genetically altered life forms
- Guardians of the West*, by David Eddings (Ballantine \$4.95) A magnificent fantasy of men, Kings, Sorcerers, and Gods caught up in the war between two opposing destinies
- Rocket Man*, by Roger Clemens with Peter Gammons (Penguin \$3.95) The story of how Clemens won his place in basketball history and a rare glimpse into the undisguised mind and heart of the modern athlete

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Art and reason

When Mark and I decided to spend the weekend at his mother's house, I never imagined I would be walking into a mouse's nightmare. There were cats everywhere.

Cat plaques, cat statues, cat clocks, even a cat mat. I couldn't begin to duplicate her collection of kitty litter if I spent a year at a garage sale. Conspicuously absent, however, was a real cat. Strange, I thought, and began to fear that a weekend with cat woman could be a lot less than perfect.

But then she came home, and Mark introduced her. She was dressed surprisingly well—no leopard pants. In fact, you could say she was the cat's meow, but I'd rather not.

She offered me a cup of Dutch Chocolate Mint. Now that was something I could relate to. Then she brought it out in the most beautiful, distinctly unfeline china I'd ever seen. As we sipped, I found out that Mrs. Campbell has my same weakness for chocolate, loves the theater as much as I do, but, incredibly, never saw "Cats." So Mark and I are taking her next month.

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SPORTS

Bingham qualifies for nationals

Lady tracksters claim third place

By TONY STINNETT
Editor in Chief

Sherrie Bingham and Ursula Langford led the MTSU women's track team to a third place finish in the OVC women's outdoor track championship Saturday in Richmond, Ky.

Bingham, a senior, won the long jump with a jump of 20 feet 6 1/2 inches to qualify her for the NCAA

outdoor championship, which will be held June 1-4 in Eugene, Oregon.

Bingham also finished second in the triple jump with a jump of 37 1/4 feet. She also finished second in the leadoff on the 400-meter relay, which was won by MTSU.

"It is really a great way for Sherrie to cap off her career," first year women's track coach Dean Hays

said. "She is a senior and she will close out her career in the NCAA."

Langford, a junior, had a stellar day for the lady tracksters winning the high jump for the fourth consecutive time with a jump of five-foot six inches. Langford has never lost an OVC high jump event.

Langford placed second in the 100-meter run, fourth in the long jump and ran on both relay teams.

"Ursula has worked extremely hard this year and she has really matured and developed and done a great job," Hays said. "I couldn't ask for more out of anybody than I have gotten out of Ursula. Win, lose or draw, she is going to give her best effort."

"Sherrie and Ursula have really been the two this year that have gotten the job done for us," Hays

continued. "They have been the two leaders and they have given everything they can. I am happy to have Ursula back next year. I look forward to some good things out of her."

Eastern Kentucky won the meet with 199 1/2 points, Murray State was second with 184 points, MTSU was third with 102 points and Tennessee State finished last with 19 1/2 points.

The Lady Raiders are coming off a first-place finish in the indoor track championship.

"I was pleased with third because we got the most out of the people we had," Hays added. They really put forth a great effort."

Bingham, Langford, Angie Allison and Mary Robinson won the 400-meter relay.

Debbie Morrison placed fifth in the 1500-meter relay. Sherrie Smart placed fifth in the 400-meter relay.

Mary Robinson finished sixth in the 100-meter run. Dionne Coughley placed sixth in hurdles.

Kathy White and Tracy Robinson finished second and third, respectively, in the 800-meter run.

Elissa Link finished fourth in intermediates, running the event for only the second time.

Mary Robinson finished sixth in the 200-meter run. Link, Allison, Smart and Langford won the 1600-meter relay.

Christine Gill placed third in the shot put event and Missy Gifford finished fourth in the discus.

Leisure Brothers to highlight Blue-White game

By TRACY BOYD

Sports Editor

and

CHRISTOPHER BELL

Managing Editor

Swathed in pure polyester, "The World Famous Leisure Brothers," known for their "cooking and dance repertoire," arrived on campus last week to promote their appearance at the Pigskin Pigout.

The Pigout, a Bar-B-Q contest and disco to promote MTSU's Spring Football Game, will be held April 15-16 at Heritage Jones Field. Sponsored by B.F. Goodrich, the event will feature the Elvis-worshipping Leisure Brothers.

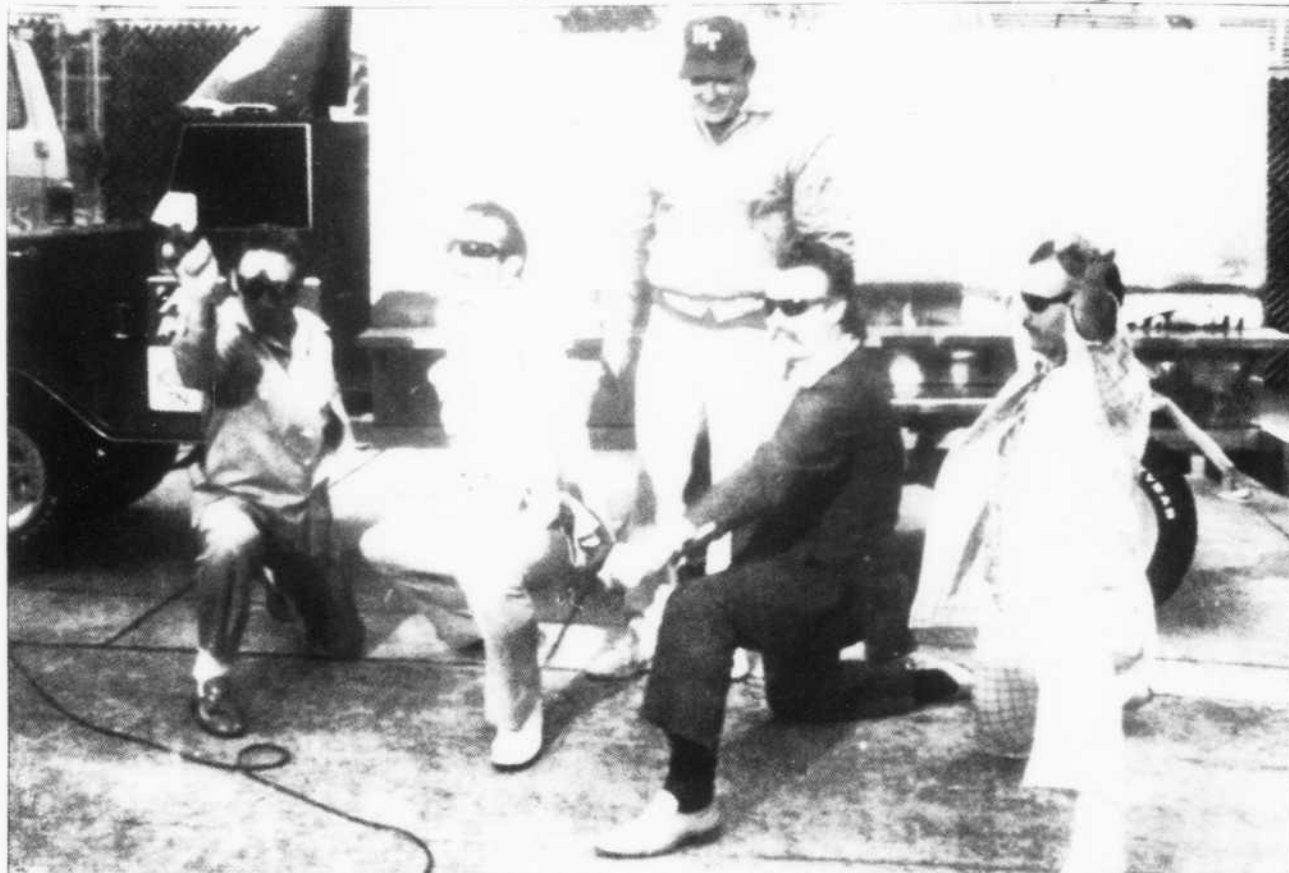
"We're YUPPIES," Larry B. Leisure said. "Young, urban polyester people."

"It's amazing the kind of people I surround myself with," MTSU head football coach Boots Donnelly said of the Brothers after receiving a trademark simultaneous Elvis Pelvic Thrust from the group.

"They're a legend in their own minds," Scott Woodburn, executive director of the Blue Raider Athletic Association said. "You surely don't want to miss one stroke of their majestic genius."

"We play a lot of good sixties music," Cougar L.S. Leisure said. "We also do a couple of good skits."

"They're older generation [Brian] Bosworths," Donley said



Howard Ross/Staff

The "World Famous Leisure Brothers" demonstrate a simultaneous pelvic thrust before MTSU head football coach Boots Donnelly. The group will be on hand for the Pigskin Pigout April 15-16.

comparing the group to the well known controversial football player

The Pigout will begin Friday, April 15 with a Bar-B-Q Competition at Heritage Jones Field at 6 p.m. and will continue from 8 to 12 p.m. with the "World's Largest Disco Party," which will feature the

oil-based fabric wearing group.

Saturday April 16, will feature Bar-B-Q judging and offer a chance to meet MTSU alumni who have gone on to professional athletic careers, in addition to the Spring Football Game at 2 p.m.

Tickets are \$5, and are available at Phillip's Bookstore and the Ath-

letic Ticket Office in Murphy Center.

"We have a special invitation to the co-eds," Larry B. Leisure said. "Once they smell polyester, they'll go crazy."

"Bring your dancing shoes," he added with one final pelvic thrust.

Netters drop two matches in weekend tourney action

By TRACY BOYD

Sports Editor

The MTSU men's tennis team lost two matches and had another match rained out this past weekend in Murray Ky.

The Blue Raiders lost to Murray State, 7-2 and to the University of Southern Illinois, 7-2 on Saturday and their Sunday match with Southwest Missouri was rained out.

"We didn't have as good a weekend as we had hoped," MTSU head coach Dale Short said.

Because of inclement weather, the Murray State match had to be moved indoors, and Short said that the unfamiliar setting affected the performance of his team.

"The bad weather and moving inside for the first time had something to do with it," Short said. "The new surface had something to do with it also."

Chris King, the Blue Raider captain, was the lone bright spot in the loss to Murray. King won the number four singles match and then combined with Chris Coffee to win the number one doubles contest.

The match with Murray was a seed match, meaning that the re-

sults count toward the seedings in the Ohio Valley Conference tournament, held April 23-24.

Short had hoped his team would fare better against Murray after playing the close at home on March 14.

"When we played them here we won two more than we did this time," Short said.

But Short realizes the strength of the Murray program also.

The Racers have won 54 straight OVC matches over the last eight years.

"We're still optimistic," Short said. "We'll give them a run for their money in the OVC tournament."

Against Southern Illinois, Jeff Raper won the number five singles and Ilmar Mutli and Nick Sheumack combined to win the number three doubles.

"Southern Illinois has a top notch program," Short said.

MTSU, 7-11, have played a very tough schedule this season.

"This has been by far the toughest schedule a Middle team has ever played," Short said. "We've played seven or eight teams in the top 30 in the country."

Raiders to face Austin Peay; fans can win several prizes

Staff reports

Tomorrow night will be "Give-Away Night" at Reese Smith Field when the MTSU baseball team takes on Austin Peay in an Ohio Valley Conference game beginning at 7 p.m.

Free "valuable" prizes donated by local merchants will be given away between innings.

"Dinner for two, pizzas and beverages and just a little bit of everything will be given away," Blue Raider head coach Steve Peterson said.

Everyone who attends the game will get a free ticket for a chance at the prizes.

Peterson said the main reason for

the giveaways is to promote fan interest in the game.

"We want to get the fans excited," Peterson said, "especially the students. We haven't had a lot of student support this season."

In addition to the giveaways, Ole Blue, the MTSU mascot, will be making his first appearance at Reese Smith Field.

"We're playing Austin Peay," Peterson said, "and it's a big game in the conference. We need everyone there to get after the Governors."

"We need to pack them in," he added. "We want the biggest crowd ever at Reese Smith Field."

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