



Crooner Cotton coming to campus next Tuesday
(p. 3)



Duke in drag: on the lam, no great gams
(p. 4)



Raiders' play has Ole Blue feeling that way
(p. 5)

MIDDLE TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY SIDELINES

Volume 55 Number 17

Tuesday, November 3, 1981

Proposals could reduce grants

By CLAUDIA ROBINSON
Education Editor

Federal and state proposals requiring families to pay a larger share of education costs and spreading grant money thinner among more students could decrease the amount of money awarded to individual MTSU students next year.

A U.S. Department of Education proposal would change the criteria used to determine the eligibility of a student to receive a Pell Grant (formerly called Basic Education Opportunity Grant) by requiring the family to contribute 40 to 55 percent of its discretionary income to pay the student's college expenses.

FAMILIES ARE presently expected to contribute 10.5 percent of their earnings after exemptions.

What this means is that a student from an average family of four which earns more than \$15,860 and has one student in college would not be eligible for a Pell Grant in 1982-83.

The cutoff for last year was \$28,418 for an average family of four.

MTSU Financial Aid Director Winston Wrenn said Friday that since eligibility for the three campus-based programs (Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grants, College Work-Student, and National Direct Student Loans) is tied to the Pell Grant criteria, these programs would be affected, too.

THE DOE has asked Congress to tighten the eligibility criteria for Pell Grants, with the stipulation that these grants be separated from the three

campus-based programs. This would permit college officials to retain a less-restrictive formula for distributing the campus-based aid.

Another DOE-proposed change in the Pell Grant program is to maintain the this year's limit of \$1,670 for 1982-83 individual grants.

The department said the change will be necessary to meet President Reagan's requested \$2.187 billion ceiling on Pell Grants. That compares with \$2.346 billion spent for the grants in the current year.

OTHER CHANGES proposed by DOE in the Pell Grant program would allow the secretary of education to set standards for determining the education costs that may be considered in calculating a student's need, reduce eligibility for students who receive Social Security student benefits or veterans' education benefits, and modify the treatment of a family's assets in determining parents' ability to pay college costs.

At the state level, a Tennessee Student Assistance Corp. proposal, if accepted by the Legislature, would reduce the maximum amount of state grant money awarded to an individual student to \$900 or one-half of maintenance fees, whichever is less.

The present maximum individual award conferred by TSAC, which administers the state grant program, is \$1,300 or three-fourths of maintenance fees, whichever is less.

TSAC'S PROPOSED change would



Gov. LAMAR ALEXANDER
'I mowed lawns.'

result in more students receiving smaller grants.

Wrenn said the changes "should not wipe us (MTSU) out."

"It could hurt individual students, however," he added, "because they will be receiving less money."

State Board of Regents Chancellor Roy Nicks voiced opposition to the new award limit in the TSAC meeting last week.

The proposal, which passed 5-3, could adversely affect minority enrollments, Nicks said.

HE POINTED to the fact that minority enrollment at SBR schools had declined from 17.3 percent last year to 16.5 percent this year. The SBR staff and college presidents have blamed this

decline on reduced student financial aid.

Governor Lamar Alexander, who chaired the meeting, disagreed with Nicks' contention that changes in student financial aid has a direct effect on minority enrollment.

"If we have fewer black students, we ought to be aware of that," the governor said, "but what we should be doing is be out there on the streets telling them about these programs."

ALEXANDER and TSAC Executive Director Ken Barber both pointed out that other forms of financial aid were available to students having trouble meeting rising educational costs.

"I have been hearing all this talk about the devastating cut in financial aid in Tennessee, and I can't find it," Alexander said.

Taxpayers already subsidize a high percentage of higher-education costs through state and federal grants, so students should be more willing to borrow money to supplement this aid, Alexander said.

WITH THE help of charts he brought to the meeting, Alexander illustrated that the right combination of family contribution, student contribution, Pell Grant, and Guaranteed Student Loans should enable students to meet their educational costs.

"Based on what I said today," Alexander told reporters after the meeting, "I don't believe there's a high school graduate in the state who wants to go to college who cannot come up with the money to go."

Crime rate at MTSU down in Oct.

By PHIL WILLIAMS
Staff Writer

The overall crime rate at MTSU dropped 39 percent in October in comparison to September as a result of increased public awareness, Police Chief John G. Bass said yesterday.

Thirty-one theft-related offenses were reported in October, compared to 51 in September, according to a Uniform Crime Report submitted monthly by university police to the FBI. Specifically, that figure reflects a drop from 41 to 30 larceny-burglary crimes and a two-to-one drop in auto theft.

THE REPORT also reflected a record of case resolution that was basically unchanged. In October police made five arrests out of 31 theft crimes, compared to nine arrests out of 51 crimes in September.

"In theft crimes, you have very little information to go on," Bass said. "We're still working—but waiting on that bit of information that will help us solve the crime."

The figures reflect an additional 45 percent drop in monetary losses, according to Bass.

OCTOBER FIGURES show a theft loss of \$6,673 in larceny crimes and \$700 in auto theft, for a total loss of \$7,373. Those amounts compare to total September losses of \$13,483 and \$10,358 in larceny-burglary incidents and \$3,125 in auto theft.

Bass attributed the lower October crime rate to heightened public awareness.

"In September, we had a higher crime rate (for) several possible reasons," Bass said. "With the beginning of school, we had a lot of new people around the school who were presented with lots of opportunities."

OF THE 51 thefts reported in September, only a few

(Continued on page 2)



Photo by Greg Campbell

The fairest of them all

MTSU's new Homecoming Queen, Shan Raney, hangs on to her new crown as she hugs a well wisher.

Petro dealers see gas war as unrealistic possibility

By PHIL WILLIAMS
Staff Writer

In spite of a Murfreesboro dealer's call for a "gas war," the majority of dealers contacted have disregarded the announcement as a publicity stunt and called it "unrealistic."

Early last week Reed, manager of Dodge's Store, 510 N.W. Broad, indicated to a local newspaper that gas prices at her store had been reduced three cents and that two competitors had also reduced their prices.

She said that she would like to see a "gas war."

IN FACT, a random survey of local self-service dealers revealed quite the opposite. Of 13 dealers studied, prices averaged \$1.215 for regular, with a range from \$1.169 to \$1.379. Prices for unleaded gasoline ranged from \$1.219 to \$1.449, from an average of \$1.279.

Ira Gerber, manager of Hot Stop, 1012 N. Tennessee Blvd., called the chance for a full-scale gas war "unrealistic."

"It's against the law to sell below cost, so whoever is selling is making a profit, no matter what they say," he said.

GERBER INDICATED that there may be a one- or two-cent drop in prices, but nothing

(Continued on page 2)

ASB Speaker of the House

Yates to run for TISL governor

By CLAUDIA ROBINSON
Education Editor

Tony Yates will be MTSU's candidate for governor of the Tennessee Intercollegiate State Legislature which starts Thursday at the Capitol in Nashville.

Yates, who is the present TISL lieutenant governor and the speaker of the ASB House of Representatives, said if he is elected he plans to implement a "three-tiered" program to improve TISL's position as a voice of the state's students.

"THE PURPOSES of TISL are to, first, provide an education of the legislative process starting with the idea and carrying it through to the law," Yates said, "and to give college students an organization designed to express their ideas and interests."

"Up to this point," he added, "it is questionable whether TISL has been a strong voice for students."

"It has been said forever that TISL will be a voice for the students," he said, "but there has never been a plan to do it."

IF HIS "three-tiered" system is implemented, Yates said, TISL could become a powerful voice of the students.

If elected, Yates said he would first tour the state, stopping at one school in each of the three major geographic divisions to get feedback about TISL and its future direction.

Then he would visit another school in each geographic division to promote TISL with a slide presentation of how it operates, Yates said.

THE FINAL tier, he said, would consist of a visit to yet another school in each geographic division to set up workshops for the indoctrination of first-year TISL delegates.

Yates said he would also push for an active voter-registration

campaign among Tennessee students to produce a student voting block and increase students' political clout.

When, through these steps TISL becomes a viable conduit

for student opinion, he said, an MTSU student could come to the ASB office with an idea and be confident that he has a direct channel to the governor and Legislature.

"In essence," he concluded, "it would give students a direct input into what actually happens in their classrooms and dorm rooms."

TISL, which is the only statewide organization that represents Tennessee college students at one convention, has been in operation for 16 years.



Photo by Greg Campbell

Fancy float fits theme

The members of Pi Kappa Alpha travel, during the MTSU Homecoming parade, in their first place awarding winning pumpkin float.

Weather

Continued mild and partly cloudy today and tomorrow with a 20 percent chance of rain today and a 30 percent chance of rain tonight.

High both days near 70, lows in the mid 50s.

Campus Capsule

MTSU'S GRADUATE SCHOOL has set a Nov. 4 deadline for those graduating in December to submit theses and dissertations to the Graduate Office.

THE UNITED WAY CAMPAIGN will continue on campus through Friday, Nov. 6. Pledges, checks, or payroll deductions can be sent to the Development Office.

THE MTSU UNIVERSITY THEATRE will present "Side By Side by Sondheim" on Nov. 19-21, at 8 p.m., in the Dramatic Arts Auditorium.

WHO'S WHO APPLICATIONS will be available until Nov. 17 in the ASB Office.

Seniors with an overall grade point average of 2.8 or who have made outstanding contributions to MTSU are eligible to apply. Nominees will be selected by a 12 member committee composed of four students and eight faculty members.

GROUP BIBLE STUDY will be held tonight at the Christian Center at 1105 E. Bell St. from 8 to 9 p.m. Bible class will be held Wednesday night at the North Boulevard Church of Christ at 7:30.

Fundamental rules for beliefs ditched

By LINDA SMARTT
Staff Writer

Western philosophy is moving toward the view that "there are no fundamental rules for deciding how we ought to believe," MTSU philosophy instructor Gray Cox told honors students Wednesday.

Anarchy is a growing trend in the natural and social sciences, according to Cox. Many scientists are coming to believe "that ultimately the way to define ourselves and the world is not a fact forced upon us by an external reality, but rather a projection of our own values."

"Something very dramatic has happened," Cox said. "Western cultural history as it has existed since Thales has come to an end."

Traditionally, Cox explained, philosophy has meant "the love of wisdom and search for wisdom. And in Western tradition since

the Greeks, wisdom has been conceived of as a unified system of rationality.

"I would encourage you all to view (the anarchist trend) as a liberating doctrine and be friendly anarchists—taking responsibility for your own beliefs and thinking that if there is a center to Western cultural tradition, it's in each of you right now."

The next honors lecture will be tomorrow at 3 p.m. in Room 313 (for this lecture only) of the University Center. Robert Hall, an assistant professor of philosophy at Niagara University in New York, will lecture on "Sensationalism: Ought I Exploit the Suffering of Others?"

Hall will examine whether the news media have a right to exploit the privacy of people for the sake of making a good news story.

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. (AP) — A \$2 million, quick-fix water system — designed to protect space shuttle Columbia from its own launch-pad shockwaves when it takes off early Wednesday morning.

Television will begin its coverage of the event at 6 a.m. on ABC and NBC with CBS beginning at 6:30 a.m. Wednesday. The shuttle is scheduled to take off at 7 a.m.

(Continued from page 1)

resembling a gas war.

Larry Counts, owner of LCAR, 702 N.W. Broad, said that he and other independent dealers couldn't compete with the convenience store.

"The ones that are pricing so low are owned by major corporations," Counts said. "They must have struck up some kind of deal. The dealer tank price I have to pay is far more than what they are selling."

COUNTS SUGGESTED that the call for a gas war was a publicity stunt, warning that consumers who purchase low-priced gas at convenience stores ultimately may pay the difference.

"Sure it's going to be cheaper," he said, "but once you stop, chances are that you will buy something while you're there. If you've ever bought

Gas wars

Below is a recent survey of self-service gas prices offered at local Murfreesboro dealers.

- Beasley's Bel Aire 66 — Reg. \$1.69, Unl. \$1.26
- C and C One Stop Market, 1111 Greenland Dr. — Reg. \$1.19, Unl. \$1.29
- Dodge's Store, 510 N.W. Broad — Reg. \$1.69, Unl. \$1.21
- 231 Exxon U.S. Highway 231 — Reg. \$1.37, Unl. \$1.44
- Morris Exxon, 1118 Mercury Blvd. — Reg. \$1.23, Unl. \$1.28.
- FINA, Broad and Church Street — Reg. \$1.21, Unl. \$1.26
- Four Flags Mobil, 1331 Memorial Blvd. — Reg. \$1.23, Unl. \$1.31.
- Hot Stop Market, 1012 N. Tennessee Blvd. — Reg. \$1.17, Unl. \$1.23
- Kwik Sak, 1415 Greenland Dr. — Reg. \$1.19, Unl. \$1.23
- Mars Oil Co., 402 S.E. Broad — Reg. \$1.16, Unl. \$1.21
- Randolph's Chevron, 728 Memorial Blvd. — Reg. \$1.25, Unl. \$1.37
- Red Ace, 103 E. Broad — Reg. \$1.16, Unl. \$1.21

anything in a convenience store, you know you pay a lot more there than you would in a grocery store—so they make their money back double."

Later last week, Reed admitted that chances for a gas war diminished when one of her competitors—FINA, Broad and

Church streets—raised their prices.

"It's hard to say," Reed said. "They may have gone up because of the article—to bring prices up; but if everybody holds their price, I think they'll come back down."

FBI report

(Continued from page 1)

bicycles (which were reported stolen) were locked. The rest—stolen autos, stolen property—were all from unlicensed premises or things just lying around."

According to Bass, the university community provided "fewer opportunities for people to take advantage of" in October.

"I suspect that (there was) more public awareness," Bass said. "People were more careful."

Bass also called attention to the fact that there were no "reported crimes against a person"—such as aggravated assault, rape, kidnapping, or homicide—in either September or October.



STONEHENGE

STEVE! YOU'VE GOTTA HIDE ME! I WAS AT THE 'GHOST OF LINCOLN PARTY' LAST WEEKEND, AND I...

C'MON, GREG! YOU WERENT AT THAT PARTY. THAT WAS FOR D.C. BIG WHIGS ONLY!

WHY WOULD THEY INVITE A DEVIANT RADICAL LIKE YOU?

THIS AINT NO TIME FOR A POP QUIZ! I THINK THAT I'LL HIDE IN THE REFRIGERATOR... I SWEAR THAT I DIDNT DO IT!

EXCUSE ME...THESE TWO GUYS ARE CLAIMING THAT YOUR ROOMMATE TALKED THEM INTO ROLLING A QUICK SAK.

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	1/2 GAL.	1 GAL.
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Miller Lite	\$2.00	\$3.75
Bud	\$2.00	\$3.75
Miller	\$2.00	\$3.75
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Old Milwaukee	\$1.50	\$3.00
Schlitz Malt Liquor Qts.	\$1.09	
Old Milwaukee Six Pack	\$2.50	

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An MTSU 'favorite'

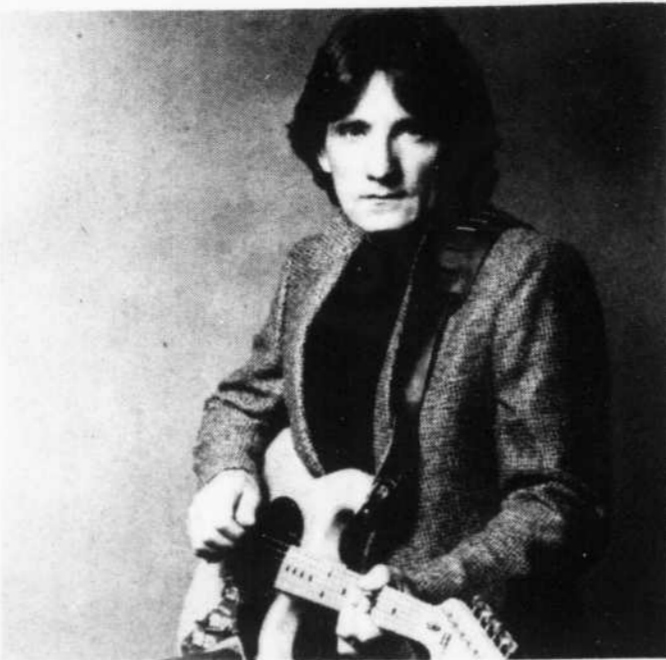
Cotton show slated for Nov. 13

Gene Cotton returns to MTSU Friday, Nov. 13, for a concert in the D.A. Auditorium to showcase his new album "Eclipse of the Blue Moon."

Long an MTSU favorite, Cotton has bounced between several record labels, which has resulted in radio exposure that does not reveal his popularity. His duet with Kim Carnes, "You're a Part of Me," made several record charts in 1978, but Cotton has had to rely on word of mouth and live performances to build his reputation.

"Eclipse of the Blue Moon," though only a few weeks old, is receiving airplay in many areas, including Nashville. WSM-FM is playing his new single "Bein' Here With You Tonight" right into the ground.

Though raised in Ohio, Cotton has been living and working out of Nashville for most of the last decade. In addition to several MTSU appearances, Cotton was featured last spring in an extensive interview in *Collage*.



Gene Cotton

Art exhibit on display at Art Barn

An exhibition of ball point pen drawings is showing at the Art Barn Gallery through Nov. 13.

Known as "Ten Pens," the exhibition was organized by a grant awarded to the Gibbs Art Gallery by the Southern Arts Federation.

THE EXHIBIT includes the work of 10 artists of varying styles of expression. Belgian artist Alain Leroy brings mysterious allusions and subjective dream-like imagination in his drawings. Margit Beck, from Hungary, is noted for her lyrical and semi-abstract landscape pictures.

"This exhibition is not a comprehensive survey," notes Paul Figueroa, curator of education at the Gibbs Art Gallery. "(It is) an investigation of contemporary artists utilizing the modern technology of an everyday tool in the creation of art."

"A ball point pen is easily associated with writing and doodling," Figueroa continues, "but in the hands of an artist, its potential is being explored and redefined through drawing."



Photo by Keith Tippit

This ball point pen drawing by Bob Jeter is on display at the Art Barn Gallery through November 13.

MOST OF the artists are American, and they represent diverse approaches of interpretation. Some lavish attention on delicate details and photo-realism, while others—such as Jesse Jeter—deal with subjective visions of everyday people. The exhibit continues through Nov. 13. It's open to the public from 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. weekdays, and from 2 p.m.-5 p.m. on weekends.



'You got to serve somebody'

Bob Dylan brings his message to middle Tennessee Saturday, November 14. Tickets are available at all CentraTik outlets including Port O'Call in Murfreesboro. A sellout is anticipated.

'Producers' showing tomorrow

Anyone who has enjoyed such crazy Mel Brooks films as "Blazing Saddles" and "Young Frankenstein" should not miss the chance to see Brooks' first feature film, "The Producers."

The movie will be shown tomorrow night by the MTSU Film Society.

THIS FILM, which netted Brooks an Oscar for best screenplay, stars Gene Wilder and Zero Mostel as two producers who devise a scheme to make a fortune off a Broadway play—as long as it is a guaranteed flop.

They come up with a rousing musical called "Springtime for Hitler."

The result is, as "Time" called it, "pure lunacy."

Brooks' classic will be shown Wednesday at 7 p.m. in the Multimedia Room of the Learning Resources Center (Room 22L.)



Zero Mostel (above) and Gene Wilder are at their zaniest in the comedy classic "The Producers."

Roundup of local films

Here come the movies:
HICKORY HOLLOW 1-2-3:
 "Rich and Famous": Candy and Jackie as competing novelists, friends from college through middle age. A very sensitive story, directed by an old master, George Cukor.
 "Super Fuzz": No, it's not about a large woman. It's a police story—a comedy—yet starring Terrence Hill and Ernest Borgnine.
 "The Texas Chainsaw Massacre": A cult classic about a bunch of people in Texas who get massacred with chainsaws. Very much an audience participation film, a la "Rocky Horror" and "Monnie Dearest." For a great time bring your chainsaws.
HICKORY HOLLOW 4-5-6:
 "Pay or Die": Chop! Chop! Karate killers at their finest! Wild women breaking bricks. Made on a \$15,000 budget in Topeka. A lot of the money was left over after shooting, so they had a big party.
 "Stay As You Are": Billed as "an erotic masterpiece" and "a truly sexy movie." Starring Nastassia Kinski, who earned her reputation as a catatonic in "Tess."
 "Halloween II": Just when you thought it was safe to trick-or-treat again, it's "Halloween II." Produced and written by John Carpenter, director of "Halloween." It should be noted that he does not direct this sequel.

MARTIN TWIN:
 "Caligula": A story of the decadent demise of the Roman Empire. Produced by the folks at *Penthouse* magazine, so you may have an idea of what it's like—despite the fact that it's a toned-down version of its X-rated version. Lots of naked folks. Made. Siskel and Ebert's (of Sneak Preview fame) list of the worst 10 films of 1980. But it beats "Paternity" and "So Fine," which are obscene in their own right.
 "Halloween II": Score one for the city of Murfreesboro. They book a semi-intelligent film into this town.

CINEMA ONE:
 "Hell Night": Teen actors Linda Blair and Vince Van Patten star in this blood bath. Lots of sex and blood. Sounds like a weener to me.

UNIVERSITY CINEMA:
 Smoky and the Bandit: Most universities have good films. Vanderbilt has Truffaut and Renoir festivals; MTSU has Richard Pryor and Burt Reynolds. Films like this have no business being shown on any college campus. Showing today.
 "Smoky and the Bandit II": Subtle things such as the kind of film fare available for viewing are a reflection of the college itself. Showing tomorrow and Thursday.

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A Representative from The National Center for Paralegal Training's Lawyer's Assistant Program will be on campus on Tuesday, Nov. 10, from 1:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. at the Placement Office to meet interested students. For more information contact the Placement Office or The National Center for Paralegal Training, 3376 Peachtree Road, N.E., Suite 430, Atlanta, Georgia 30326, (404) 266-1060.

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 The savageness of our sword,
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 As the heights we have explored,
 It seems our questing for paradise,
 Is clothed in paradox,
 Grown-ups playing with power,
 Like children playing with blocks.

But through the triumph and the tragedy,
 Rising like a bird,
 Is a dancer always dancing,
 A dancer always dancing,
 To a tune we've never heard,
 Save the dancer, save the dancer.

Lifting us and twirling inside us,
 A dream is setting us free,
 Through the darkness a dancing image,
 The hope of things that could be,
 For the lonely and little children,
 The angry and the proud,
 For the old one whose sight is failing,
 The quiet face in the crowd.

For the dreamers and make-believers,
 The festive and the sad,
 For the sane and the beautiful,
 The ugly and the mad,
 Save the dancer, save the dancer in us all,
 Save the dancer, save the dancer.

Gene Cotton

Gene Cotton will appear in Concert on Friday, November 13, at 8:00 p.m. in the Dramatic Arts Auditorium. Tickets are \$5 in advance and are on sale now in the Office of Student Programming, U.C. #308.

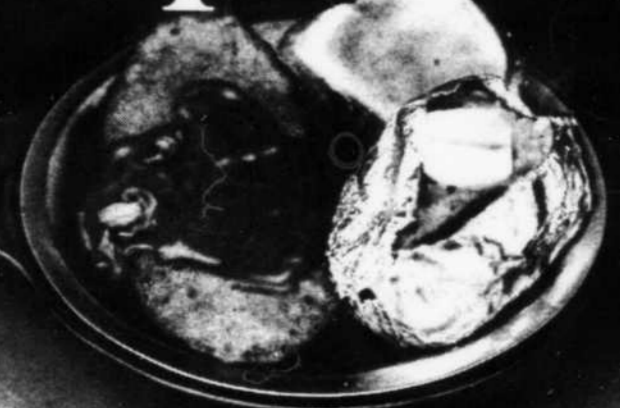


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MIDDLE TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY SIDELINES

Volume 55 Number 17

Tuesday, November 3, 1981

On This Date

On this date in 1794 editor-poet William Cullen Bryant was born. "His was essentially a self-pollentizing nature that needed few contacts with other minds," wrote one critic. Added Walt Whitman: "Bryant, more than any other American, had the power to suck in the air of spring, to put it into his song, to breathe it forth again...."

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Reagan to blame if policies fail

In past years, U.S. presidents have often blamed failures within their administrations on Congress and the American people.

They have claimed that their programs were never given a fair chance or were watered-down by Congress and special interest lobbyists and thus ineffective.

Our current leader, President Reagan, has effectively eliminated lack of support as an excuse should his administration's policies fail.

IN LESS THAN a year, the well-oiled organizational machinery of the Reagan administration has made itself apparent. Lurking behind the affable countenance of friendly old Ronald Reagan are individuals who remain out of the public spotlight, busily signing political support for the president's programs. The most notable of these are Edwin Meese and James Baker III.

It has often occurred to me that Reagan's political organizers, not the president himself, are the prime movers as far as policy-making goes within the administration. They devise policy and Reagan, with his exceptional communications skills, "sells" it to the public. I mentioned this observation to my father the other day while discussing politics.

"So what?" he responded. "Reagan's still accomplished more in less than a year than Carter ever did."

AND THAT IS the point.

In less than one year, the Reagan administration has plucked several gems from the political rough. The tax cut program, though slightly scaled down, was pushed through Congress. The same is true for Reagan's massive first round of budget cuts, which was passed with bi-partisan support and almost over Tip O'Neil's dead body. Add to those the recent Senate approval for the sale of the \$8.5 billion AWACS package to Saudi Arabia, Reagan's latest legislative coup.

The passage of Reagan's budget and tax cuts and approval of the AWACS deal are all major victories. Political oddsmakers

discounted his chances of pushing the theory of supply-side economics into actual practice. They also believed that Senate support of the AWACS deal was lacking. They were wrong, underestimating the support and organization of R. Reagan's Company.

WHILE THE EFFECTS of the AWACS sale will not be known for several years, the effects of the Reagan administration's economic policies will start showing soon.

And there seems to be very little middle ground in rating the effects of Reaganomics. If supply-side economics work, there will be money and capital filtering down from the "haves" to the "have nots," giving the U.S. economy a shot in the arm. Inflation will fall, interest rates will fall, businesses will expand, new ones will be created, and jobs will open up for the unemployed. Sounds great, doesn't it?

However, if the supply-side theory turns out to be "voodoo economics" as George Bush termed it during the 1980 presidential primaries, the results would be catastrophic.

CONTINUED HIGH interest rates, possibly mixed with higher inflation rates, could lead to business failures, rampant unemployment, and widespread social unrest. If that happens, the number of "have nots" will increase dramatically and our reduced social programs will be unable to handle the overflow.

President Reagan's policies have been implemented. His supporters seem confident that Reaganomics can correct the U.S. economic woes of recent years and turn our nation around.

If they do not work, the president and his backers can't say that they lacked the necessary support. They can't blame the policies of Democrats in the past. They can blame no one but themselves.

However, given the gloomy forecasts if Reaganomics fail, we should all sincerely hope they succeed.

—MICHAEL TOMPKINS

I'LL HAVE AN AWACS SOUR, AND GIVE MY FRIEND HERE A SUBMARINE ON THE ROCKS...



Punchline

by Danny Tyree

It's one of the worst feelings in the world.

What is? Why, ranting and raving about a situation—only to discover that you've been *underestimating* the problem.

That's what has happened to me.

A FEW WEEKS ago I came down hard on the food stamp system, criticizing it for letting kids buy junk food under the pretense of meeting their nutritional needs.

Well, junk food is the least of our worries.

According to Ruth Ann Leach's column in last Thursday's *Nashville Banner*, grocery stores no longer give vouchers for amounts less than a dollar. They now give food stamp users cash in change.

THAT'S WHY WE now see scenes like the following true incident:

A father drives up to a store with his two children. One child enters the market, buys two cents worth of candy, receives 98 cents cash in change and returns to the car. The second child follows the same procedure.

Then the father waltzes into the store and purchases "high-protein" cigarettes with the change.

AND IT'S ALL perfectly legal. The poor cashier (who has to work his rear end off to buy food, let alone cigarettes) has to stand by and watch this nicotine fiend sponge off the public. If he refuses to sell the bum the cigarettes, Uncle Sam will shut his place of business down pronto.

The father *knows* the purpose of the food stamps. He also knows he can evade the *intent* of the program and spend the change on anything his heart desires. We all have a secret urge to beat the system, but by thumbing his nose at the taxpayers.

And his children are watching. They are learning that the world owes them a living. They are learning to bend the rules. They become smug and self-righteous. How *dare* anyone tamper with their benefits or suggest that they seek gainful employment?

MOST OF ALL, they are learning to live with malnutrition. We hear prophecies of emaciated faces and stunted growth because President Reagan wants to trim a few people from the food stamp rolls. But how healthy is a family if a significant portion of its food money goes for Marlboros?

Or beer? Or poker bets? Or whiskey? Or premium gasoline? Or color televisions? Or cocaine? Or Saturday Night Specials? Or membership dues to the Klan or Black Panthers?

Obviously, the current system concocted by some retard in Washington isn't serving the immediate nutritional needs of poverty-stricken Americans.

WE ARE HAVING only minimal impact on malnutrition, but we *are* doing a dandy job of increasing the

budget deficit and keeping interest rates high.

And in the long run, we're establishing an unhealthy cradle-to-grave dependency. The people who are now blowing their grocery money on cigarettes and alcohol will someday be using Medicare funds to treat lung and liver ailments.

Anyone who really cares about the truly needy will want this idiocy stopped. The more benefits that are given to people who squander their money on luxuries, the less money there is for the truly deserving.

AND IF THE taxpayers finally get fed up with abuses of the system, that will be a perfect opportunity for those who want food stamps eliminated entirely. Do we really want *that*?

What is so unreasonable about either specifying the nutritious items food stamp recipients can purchase, or providing the needy with sacks of basic foods?

Some say this would be an insult to the dignity of the recipients. But how much pride is there in guzzling beer and puffing cancer sticks while your children's stomachs are growling?

No, conditions in America aren't *quite* the same as the conditions which led to the fall of the Roman Empire. True, our politicians seem eager to furnish "bread and circuses." But the bread isn't very filling. And the circus in Washington is no longer amusing.

Letters From Our Readers

MTSU could use

AWACS to detect

Tenn. Tech attack

To the editor:

The following is an open letter to Sen. Sasser and Sen. Baker.

Recently much has been said concerning the proposed sale of AWACS to Saudi Arabia. If we do sell AWACS to Saudi Arabia, then we would like to raise a few questions.

Wouldn't we, the students of MTSU, derive more benefits from AWACS than the Saudis? Think what an addition this would be to our already excellent aerospace department. Imagine going to bed at night knowing we are safe from a first-strike attack from Tennessee Tech.

The senior ROTC members would also derive great satisfaction in being able to stand guard over such an awesome product of American technology.

Surely we can trust the MTSU Associated Student Body with the wise deployment of this beneficial instrument of defense more than we could a foreign government.

Please take these points into careful consideration.

Jeff Bressler
Box 4193

County executive praises community response to leak

To the editor:

Isn't Rutherford County a great place in which to live?

What makes it so great are the people—our citizens in Rutherford County that are willing to help and work with each other and are willing to support their neighbors.

The instant response by everybody that was contacted regarding our recent experience with a leaking gas tanker is an excellent example. Other communities have had similar

experiences and some of them have been tragic. Of course, in something of this nature there are bound to be a lot of differences of opinions but the point I want to make, and keep in mind for all, is to my knowledge we have had no tragic accidents and that is the name of the game—to avoid tragedies.

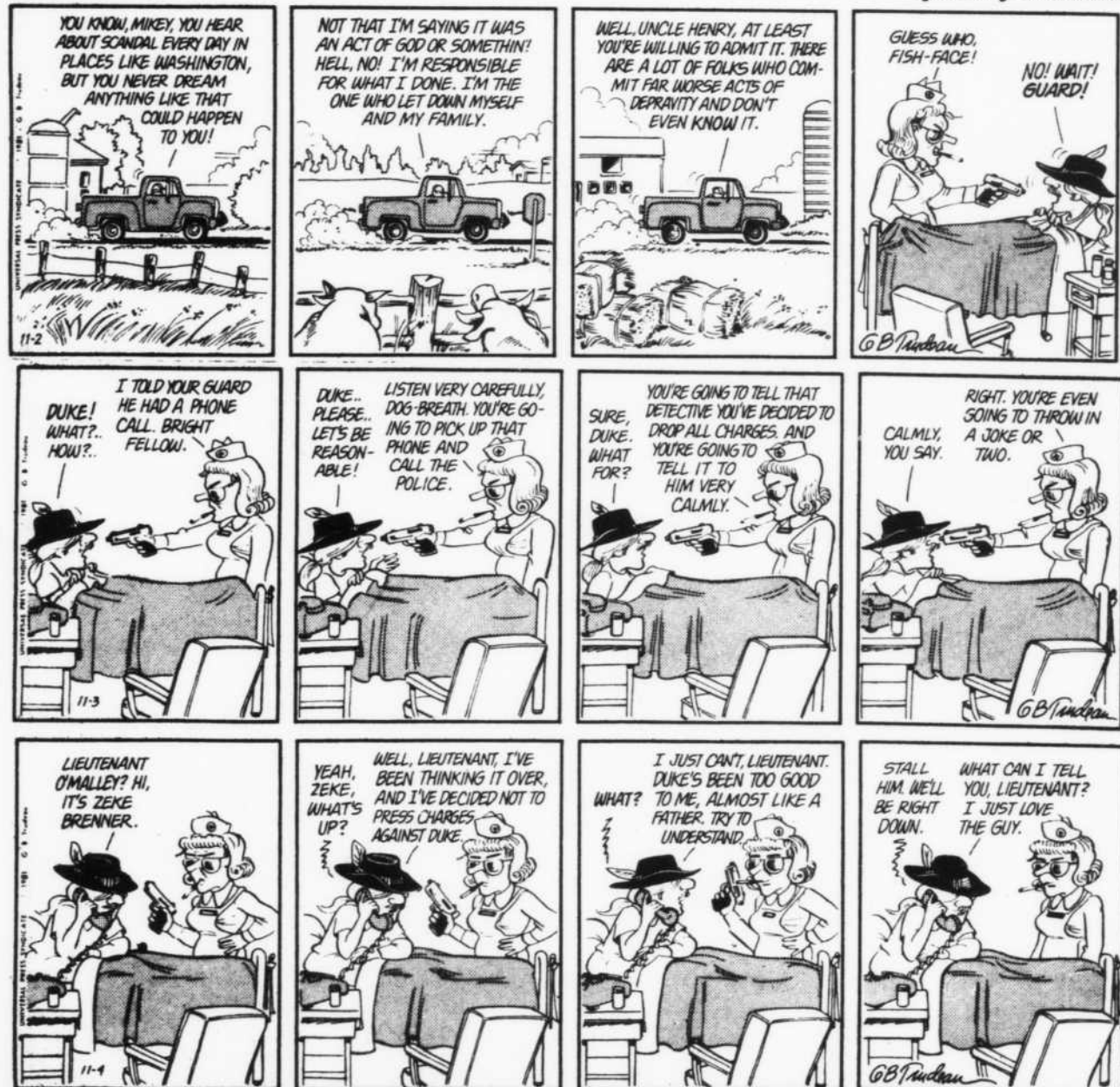
Many thanks go out to all concerned and I'm sure in making a list, many organizations will be missed, but I would like to thank Middle Tennessee State University, Civil Defense, the Rescue Squad, law enforcement personnel, Fire Department personnel and any others that should be mentioned. Please consider this a thanks to them.

Let's remember that when these organizations call for help—the public help—let us respond also in an equally speedy manner.

Ben Hall McFarlin
County Executive

DOONESBURY

by Garry Trudeau



Raiders fumble Homecoming

By DON HARRIS
Sports Editor

For the seventh time in as many years, a Homecoming victory for the Blue Raiders just wasn't meant to be.

The Youngstown State Penguins invaded Murfreesboro Saturday on a Raider Halloween and Tired Middle Tennessee to a few tricks of their own edging the Raiders 13-10.

"WE GAVE it to 'em," head coach Boots Donnelly said after the disappointing loss. "We flat gave it away."

The "give away" Donnelly referred to was a fourth-quarter fumble by Brown Sanford at MTSU's 26 which set up Youngstown's only touchdown of the afternoon and knotted the score at 10 apiece.

"The fumble destroyed us," the third-year coach said. "It became a mental thing."

UNTIL THE Raider miscue, Middle Tennessee held a 10-3 lead behind a 23-yard TD jaunt by Sammy Bryant and a 33-yard field goal by Kelly Potter.

Bryant's score was set up by a Robbie Ridings fumble recovery at the YSU 23. On the first play of the drive, Van Smith pitched out to the sprinting tailback who dashed to pay dirt. Potter added the PAT and the Homecoming crowd was sitting pretty with a 7-0 lead.

With the aid of 28 yards of penalties against Middle Tennessee, the Penguins closed the gap to four points on a Paul McFadden field goal of 38 yards

with just over four minutes to play in the first half.

POTTER'S record-setting field goal in the third quarter gave the Blue Raiders a seven-point edge with 4:21 left in the third stanza.

The freshman's kick set a new school record for most field goals in a season, and also set a Division I-AA record of most field goals in a season by a freshman. Potter is only four kicks shy of the I-AA record of most field goals in a season, which is 15.

From that point on, the Youngstown defense set the tempo for Middle Tennessee holding the Blue Raider offense to -5 yards total offense, while scoring 10 points of their own.

"WE'RE BAD offensively," Donnelly said, "and we're not gonna get a hellova lot better until we bring in some help. We've lost a lot of confidence in ourselves offensively to where we don't think we can perform."

Youngstown's winning field goal was set up by the Penguin punter Jimmy Merryman to kick



Photo by Greg Campbell

Blue Raider Sammy Bryant is on his way to pay dirt. The senior tailback dashed around the left end in the first quarter to give MTSU a 7-0 lead over Youngstown. MTSU's offense, however, could not get untracked as the Penguins ruined the Blue Raiders' Homecoming hopes 13-10.

from the back of his own end zone.

Merryman's 50-yard effort was his best of the day, but the Penguins were still in business at MTSU's 45-yard line. It took YSU eight plays, but McFadden was true on a 20-yard field goal to provide the winning margin.

"WE'RE NOT gonna panic," Donnelly commented. "We're being overpowered offensively and there's not a whole lot we can do about it. Everybody we

go up against is bigger and stronger."

The Blue Raiders will be idle this Saturday and return to action the following weekend when they host Western Kentucky. Donnelly admitted that the team needs to have a few days off, but feels the team really should be wanting to play somebody.

"Now we've got to sit back and suck on this," Donnelly said.

OVC Standings		
TEAM	OVC	ALL
Eastern Kentucky	6-0	8-1
Western Kentucky	3-2	5-3
Youngstown State	4-3	5-3
Akron	4-3	5-4
Austin Peay	3-3	4-3
Murray	3-3	6-3
Middle Tennessee	3-3	5-4
Tennessee Tech	2-3	4-4
Morehead	0-6	0-7

Eastern earns share of OVC championship

FROM WIRE REPORTS

It took a general, a field general named Chris Isaac, to get the Colonels on the move as Eastern Kentucky came from behind on their quarterback's arm to clinch a share of the Ohio Valley Conference football championship.

Ranked No. 1 in the NCAA's Division I-AA ratings, Eastern Kentucky rallied in the fourth quarter against Murray State as Isaac threw a 61-yard scoring strike to Steve Bird to close the margin to three at 20-17 with 8:35 on the clock.

ISAAC, who completed 15 of 30 passes for 318 yards, engineered a 61-yard drive on Eastern's next possession, and Terence Thompson gave the Colonels the lead on a 13-yard run with 5:17 left.

Eastern, 8-1 overall and 6-0 in the conference, got a scare as Murray State, 6-3 on the season and 3-3 in the OVC, scrambled to the Colonels 15-yard line with 24 seconds left before Gino Gibbs intercepted to ice the 24-20 victory.

In other OVC contests, Western Kentucky got by

Morehead State 19-15, Tennessee Tech downed Troy State 37-28, and Akron defeated Austin Peay 23-19.

AKRON'S Dennis Heckman booted field goals of 24, 30, and 23 yards and Dennis Brumfield bulled in from the 3-yard line as the Zips downed Austin Peay.

Akron quarterback Tom Freeman scored on a 4-yard run and Heckman kicked his three field goals before Austin Peay quarterback Rob Christophel scored once in the air and once on the ground.

TROY SNARDON rushed for 121 yards and the winning touchdown from 12 yards out with 8:29 on the clock to pace Western Kentucky to its win over Morehead State.

Western Kentucky, 5-3 overall and 3-2 in the OVC, trailed throughout the second half until Snardon's touchdown run.

Morehead State, 0-7 overall and 0-6 in the OVC, got its scores on a 26-yard jaunt by George Rudd and 10-yard run by quarterback Mike Hanlin.

QUARTERBACK Tony Costantine threw touchdown passes of 13 and 20 yards to tight end Brad Millice as Tennessee Tech posted its non-conference victory over Troy State.

After Costantine hit Millice with his first scoring toss, Troy State tied the game on a 7-yard run by Anthony Folkes before Tech's Ray Mullican booted a 25-yard field goal. Tech then outscored Troy State two TDs to one.

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Lady runners take 1st-ever trip to Region

By MARK TUCKER
Sports Writer

The MTSU Lady Raider cross-country team is traveling to Virginia to compete in the AIWA Region II Cross-Country Championships for the first time in the school's history.

After finishing fourth in Saturday's OVC Women's Cross-Country Championships, the Lady Raiders are preparing to leave tomorrow for a three-day trip to Fairfax, Va., where they will compete with a dozen other schools in a 5000-meter

race at George Mason University.

THE TOP two teams and the top 10 finishers from the regional championships will earn the right to compete in the National Cross-Country Championships next week.

"I believe that Clemson, Appalachian State, or the University of Kentucky will win the meet," coach Mike Rasper said.

"We would consider our venture quite successful if we were to finish in the top five

teams overall," he added.

REFLECTING back on the OVC meet, Rasper noted that the winning time Saturday was two minutes over the school course record and he attributed this to the extra pressure the girls feel when they put their school pride on the line.

"I thought we did well—we just didn't do well enough," Rasper said.

Lisa Mitchell, the freshman running sensation from New Jersey, was the first Lady Raider finisher Saturday as she ran the 5000-meter distance in 19:29 and finished ninth overall.

SHARON Johnson finished 13th in 19:56, followed by Robin Moses who ran the distance in 20:09.

Vickie Wells was 19th with a time of 20:21, and Diane Oleka finished 21st in 20:29.

Millie Daniels and Jenny Knapp wound up 28th and 35th, respectively.

"They have had a long season, and they were pretty tired last Saturday," Rasper said.

SINCE THE Lady Raiders most likely will not finish first or second in the regionals, in order for an MTSU runner to qualify for the nationals, they will have to finish among the top 10 in Fairfax.

"Lisa Mitchell probably has the best chance of any of our runners to finish in the top 10," Rasper said.

Mitchell is one of four freshmen on the team and in every race this season, she has been the first finisher for the Lady Raiders. Not bad for a freshman.



MTSU Photo by Jack Ross

Middle Tennessee's Lady Raider cross country team finished fourth in last weekend's OVC Cross Country Championships.

Cardiac Kids post even record at OVC

By DON HARRIS
Sports Editor

MTSU's Cardiac Kids, Lady Raider volleyball team, staged yet another come-from-behind victory to take over Tennessee Tech, Saturday third place in the OVC volleyball tournament.

"The girls played so well together this weekend," coach Sherry Coker said.

The Lady Raiders finished 2-2 in the tourney, beating Western Kentucky and Tech and losing to Eastern and Morehead.

"**THE WIN** over Tech was the most exciting game that we've played," Coker said. "They had us down 14-8 in the final game, but we came back to win 16-14. We're just a comeback team."

Middle Tennessee whipped Western in their opening best-two-of-three match 15-7 and 15-4, but lost the next one to

Eastern 2-15 and 11-15. The Lady Raiders were ahead in the final game against the eventual tournament champ 9-5 but couldn't hold on to the lead.

With the one victory, Middle Tennessee entered the semi-finals against second-place finisher Morehead, but the Lady Eagles came away victorious in three straight games 7-15, 7-15, and 6-15.

MIDDLE THEN squared off against cross-state rival Tech and edged the Golden Eagles, but it took all five games. The Cardiac Kids lost the opening two matches 12-15 and 7-15, but hung on to claim the last three 15-4, 15-3, and 16-14.

The Lady Raiders' overall slate goes to 11-15 with a tri-match coming up at UTC tonight and another tri-match here tomorrow hosting Maryville and Trevecca.

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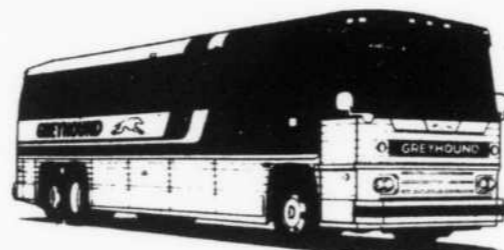
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R.K. Gossett-Agent

"**BEFORE MY** running days are over, I would like to compete in—and finish—a marathon," Mitchell said.

"The longer the distance, the better I like the race," she added.

Mitchell says that Tennessee people are "okay" and that MTSU is truly a "learning experience."

With that in mind, Lisa and her teammates eagerly await their opportunity to take MTSU to its first regional cross-country championship and add to their learning experience with a trip to Virginia to run against the fastest harriers in the Southeast.

The MTSU men's cross-country team finished seventh Saturday in the OVC Cross-Country Championships held in Murray, Ky.

MIDDLE'S premiere man, Joe O'Loughlin, dropped out of the race while running with the leaders of the pack.

O' Loughlin said his legs "felt like jello" which forced the senior to discontinue.

Murray edged Western Kentucky by a 28-36 margin and were crowned OVC champs for the 1981 season.

JEFF SKINNER was the first Raider to cross the finish line as he completed the 10,000-meter course in 33:06.

Skinner's time was good enough to place him 18th in the 51-man field.

John Davis finished 27th, followed by Mark Moses who placed 31st.

Darryl Richards, Tim Johnson, and Richard Smith wound up in the last half and contributed to the Raiders' seventh-place finish.

The Raider runners have begun preparation for defense of their outdoor and indoor champ titles in hopes that this season will be a repeat performance of last year's feat.

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