

Bouillion burglar at large

By DENNIS MYERS
Sidelines Staff Writer

Campus chefs, beware—the supercilious soup stealer of MTSU has a taste for pilfered pottage.

At least that's what coed Christy Higgins learned late Thursday night when the campus bouillion burglar stole into her apartment and mooched her minestrone.

"IT'S A SHAME I couldn't catch him," Higgins lamented, as she recalled her encounter with the late-night gumbo gourmet. "He was a white male with dark hair and moustache—real good looking—about 5 feet 11 inches tall."

Higgins had already retired to her bedroom for the evening when she heard strange sounds emanating from her "J" Apartment kitchen.

"My roommate, Ba, had just left, leaving a pot of Thai soup

on the stove," Higgins told reporters last night. "I heard the door open, and I just thought it was her coming back. But then I heard a knock or something at the door, and I thought it might be someone looking for me."

"I didn't want Ba to tell them I was asleep, so I came sneaking out of the bedroom to see who it was," she continued.

HIGGINS WAS standing there in her nightgown when she realized she was staring at a man she had never seen before. Little did she suspect she had caught the consomme connoisseur red-handed.

"Hey! Where the hell are you going with my soup?" Higgins hollered as the burglar and purloined porridge made their way out of her room.

"It's amazing," she recalled. "The guy walked right by a stereo, a television and a couple

of purses and went straight for the soup."

Almost immediately, Higgins called the University Police to report the poaching.

"When I called the police—they must have thought I was crazy—I told them we had been robbed of soup, and the policeman went into hysterics," Higgins related. "I'm sure at first they must have thought it was a crank call."

OFFICER JOHN Driver, who made the initial investigation, later affirmed, "The suspect was described as good-looking and hungry."

"Both the pot and the lid were recovered," Driver added.

And so it appears, at least for the moment, that campus gourmets must mind their mulligatawny and guard their goulash from the insidious, insatiable "Souperman."



photo by Don Harris

In this re-enactment of the "Missing Soup Caper," the bouillion burglar examines the content of what is about to become his dinner and escapes with a pot of soup from the apartment of Christy Higgins.

Forbert's energy thrills crowd

By BILL WARD
Sidelines Staff Writer

Bouncing spryly across the Tennessee Theater stage, Steve Forbert had the SRO audience in a frenzy.

His punchy, infectious songs and warm, heady exuberance pervading the packed arena, the 24-year-old Mississippian exuded the kind of enthusiasm and self-assurance that everyone his age should have, but so few do.

That was eight months ago, and by a happy turn of events Forbert is back, slated to open for country songstress Emmylou Harris tomorrow night at the Grand Ole Opry House. (Tickets for the concert are still available at CentraTik outlets, including Port O'Call in Murfreesboro.)

IF NOTHING else, Ms. Harris deserves credit for her intestinal fortitude, as Forbert is a mighty tough act to follow. In fact, a couple of years ago, he short-circuited, for a time, the career of Nicolette Larson, who discovered too late into a national tour that her mellow California pop was better suited as an opening act for young Steve's fiery folk/rockabilly tunes and kinetic stage presence.

Emmylou, with her silky, sexy singing and superb repertoire of songs (written by everyone from

Gram Parsons and Lennon/McCartney to the lady herself), should provide the perfect complement to Steve's raw-edged, feisty act.

Forbert went to New York City from Meridian, Miss., in 1977, following what seems to have been a fairly normal Southern Baptist upbringing. (He sang in the church choir for a number of years.) Accompanied by his own guitar and harmonica, he worked days in a mailroom and played nights at sundry Big Apple clubs, bars and coffeehouses, as well as Greenwich Village streetcorners during warm-weather months.

WITHIN A YEAR and a half, he had been hailed by *The New York Times* as the king of "The New Folk Revival" in addition to the obligatory "next Dylan" dubbings.

Naturally, Steve did not relish such hyperbole, but his frank, forward lyrics focusing on the foibles of human relationships justified the praise.

You've traveled so far, the wind in your face,

You're thinkin' you've found the one special place;

Where all of your dreams will walk out in line

And follow the course you've made in your mind;

Well, it isn't gonna be that way.

But while the young singer/songwriter received early acclaim largely because of his poignant, profound lyrics (one critic even called him "rock's foremost poet"), it was Steve's foremost-energy stage show that brought him a cult following and a contract with Nipper Records.

HIS THREE albums ("Alive on Arrival," "Jackrabbit Slim," and "Little Stevie Orbit") all showcase his wry perceptions and scrappy humor, a husky tenor voice, and straight-forward, vigorous riffs. Most of the songs are basically two and three-chord folk tunes, but there is a strong rockabilly influence and touches of traditional country and even Reggae.

Mixing unpretentious ballads with raw-edged rockers better than any American artist this side of Jackson Browne, Forbert's albums are refreshingly resonant and delivered and produced with near-perfect aplomb.

But it's his intelligent lyrics and energetic approach on stage that has brought Forbert widespread acclaim. He is a classic rock 'n' roller while performing, and those who see him won't soon forget him.

Non-smokers to help

Smokers urged to quit for a day

By JIM DE MARCO
Sidelines Staff Writer

A Gallup survey conducted less than a week after last year's "Great American Smokeout" showed that of the 15 million Americans who took part in the event 2.3 million still hadn't gone back to smoking.

For those who tried last year and didn't make it, and others who are looking for an opportunity to finally kick the habit, the American Cancer Society's annual smokeout will be held this year on Thursday, Nov. 20.

All smokers are encouraged by

the American Cancer Society to give up smoking for 24 hours or more. Last year, 5 million smokers actually succeeded in going smokeless for at least one full day.

Non-smokers can also participate in the event by urging smokers to quit and helping them, Josephine Barber, smokeout chairman for MTSU, said.

"The (non-smoking) lover does the best job of helping a smoker quit," she said, adding that a positive approach works better than a negative one.

"Be generous with your praises. Don't nag, preach, teach, harass or jest your friend," she said.

To aid the effort, smokers should try cutting down on the daily number of cigarettes during the days prior to Nov. 20, Barber said.

During the day, all cigarette packages should be removed from the usual convenient places and should be placed where they are hard to get, she added. Eat slowly and drink ample amounts of very cold milk, tea and Coke

during the day, but avoid alcohol.

"The depressant factor in alcohol will kill your motivation and provoke a 'what-the-heck' attitude," Barber said.

She advised keeping a supply of low-calorie nibbles such as carrots, celery and mints around.

As a last resort, she said the (non?)smoker should hold a cigarette without lighting it, or substitute a pencil just to have something to hold in the fingers.

Barber is urging competition between different organizations on campus by submitting pledges not to smoke before Nov. 20. Barber explained that any group, such as a dormitory, fraternity or even a carpool is eligible to participate. The group with the highest number of successful non-smokers for the day will win.

Sign-up sheets will be distributed to fraternities at their weekly meetings, and individuals can sign sheets placed in any building on campus or at tables in the UC on Nov. 12 and Nov. 18.

Friday's headline

misrepresented

'Sidelines' story

The headline of a front-page story about work-at-homecompanies appearing in the Nov. 7 edition of *Sidelines* inaccurately reflected the contents of the article, and may have implied guilt concerning the activities of the two companies mentioned. This was not intended.

Sidelines regrets the misleading headline.

INSIDE

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photo by Lisa Gwin

Dress rehearsal for the cast of "See How They Run" brings out how close opening night is. The University Theatre production will be

shown Nov. 13-15 and 18-22 at 8 p.m. in the DA Arena Theatre. Admission is \$3, but MTSU students are admitted free with ID's.

Sidelights

Women in the arts to be celebrated

"Women in the Arts: A Celebration" will be the focus of artistic accomplishments on display at Mainstreet Music Emporium, 2-6 p.m. on Nov. 16.

Exhibits will include the works of: Maxine Gaither, artist in various medium; Libby Hurt, various medium; Judy Chamberlain, clay; and Mary Ann Fariello, porcelain.

Kris Allen and Susan Wingler, songwriters/vocalists, will each be performing on Sunday afternoon. Anne Holland, assistant professor of HPERS at MTSU will be the emcee for the afternoon as well as director of a dance troupe performance.

Admission is \$1.50. Reservations may be made at 890-5967.

Talent show to benefit day care center

Kappa Alpha Psi is sponsoring a campus talent show in the LRC multi-media room Thursday at 8 p.m.

Money collected for the show, \$2 for adults and \$1 for children, will benefit the We Care day care center in Murfreesboro.

For more information, contact Rodrick Bingham at 890-4444.

Reagan's roots lie deep in County Tipperary

LONDON (AP) — Ronald Reagan's election climaxes a rags-to-eminence saga that began when his great-grandfather left a stone shanty in Ireland during the potato famine of the 1840's, British and Irish genealogists said Monday.

The team of experts from Debrett's research organization of London and Hibernian Research based in Dublin said, after months of investigation, that they have traced Reagan's ancestry to County Tipperary.

But Harold Brooks-Baker, American managing director of Debrett's Peerage, the Who's Who of Britain's bluebloods, noted that probing further back into Reagan's family tree will take a few more months.

What the experts have pieced together so far shows that Reagan will be the ninth president of the United States with ancestors from Ireland.

He will be the second of the nine Irish-American presidents to come from Roman Catholic stock. The other was John F. Kennedy.

The others with Irish roots were Andrew Jackson, James K. Polk, James Buchanan, Chester A. Arthur, William McKinley, Richard M. Nixon and Gerald Ford.

The search centered on parish records in Ireland and gravestones in County Tipperary cemeteries. These showed that Reagan's great-grandfather, Michael O'Regan (with an "O" but no second "a"), left the impoverished village of Doolis between 1845 and 1848 and went to England looking for work.

The family home was a rough, one-story stone cottage. Debrett's genealogical researcher, Hugh Pesketh, said Michael O'Regan probably was the only member of the family who could read or write.

When he married another Irish refugee, Katherine Mulcahy, in St. George's Cathedral in the London borough of Southwark on Oct. 31, 1852, he signed his name "Reagan," dropping the "O" and inserting an "a."

Michael's brother, a witness, could not write and the priest registered his name with the traditional Irish spelling, Regan.

"Michael named his father, though, and gave his birthplace,

which is how we were able to trace him definitely to the O'Regans of Ballyporeen," Pesketh explained. Ballyporeen is near Doolis.

Debrett said Reagan's grandfather, John, was born in Peckham, south of London, before the family emigrated to the United States.

Reagan's father, also named John, was born in Illinois in July 1883 and brought up by his English-born Aunt Margaret after his parents died. Although Reagan's parents were married in a Catholic church in Fulton, Ill., in 1904, his mother, a Protestant of Scottish descent, brought him up in her faith.

Reagan is a member of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) but has attended a Presbyterian church in California for 16 years.

The Reagan homestead in County Tipperary lies at the end of a mile-long muddy lane. The remains of the building still stand.

Until now, the locals had no idea their great-grandparents rubbed shoulders with the forebears of the next president of the United States.

"This is great news," retired Ballyporeen schoolmaster Larry O'Connor said. "The only well-known person to come from these parts before was the film star Pat O'Brien."

New cars alter transportation requirements

NASHVILLE (AP) — Tennesseans driving smaller cars don't need 50 or 60 feet of right-of-way on either side of their highways, House Speaker Ned McWherter said Monday.

Neither do they need to drive on asphalt made of limestone gravel when red gravel is closer and cheaper, he said.

Such antiquated requirements, coupled with monopolies in highway materials, have contributed to bid-rigging and waste, McWherter said in a telephone interview from Dresden.

This, he said, is why he thinks the state should abolish the present Transportation Department and establish an agency with road specifications designed for today's needs.

McWherter elaborated on a weekend proposal to abolish the state Transportation Department and start afresh as Gov. Lamar Alexander said he

couldn't comment until he found out what McWherter had in mind.

"I understand he suggested stopping all highway construction," Alexander told reporters. "I don't think we could do that."

McWherter didn't suggest that. In a weekend speech to the Tennessee Associated Press Managing Editors Association, he suggested abolishing the Transportation Department—and replacing it with an agency in which constructing roads would take a back seat to repairing existing highways.

McWherter also suggested the state no longer needs "all these people they hired to design and build interstate highways when our interstate system is practically complete."

Alexander is considering some form of increase in the 8-cent gasoline tax, earmarked for highway construction which is

down about \$30 million a year because of decreased gasoline consumption. Alexander emphasized, however, that he has not made up his mind.

McWherter said, "If he's interested in increasing taxes to pay for highway construction, he needs to step out and make his recommendations and let us step out and help."

McWherter said he would replace current allocation of motor fuel taxes and auto license fees for highways with a highway trust fund similar to the federal highway trust fund which has financed the nation's interstate system.

Transportation Commissioner William Sansom said, however,

McWherter's proposal for financing highways through a state trust fund would require an increase in revenue. As it is, he said, Tennessee is so short of highway taxes that by spring it will have stopped construction and maintenance of roads financed solely with state revenues.

Since the federal fund includes excise taxes on such things as tires and batteries, McWherter was asked if he had a similar increase in mind. He replied that Alexander should make his proposal.

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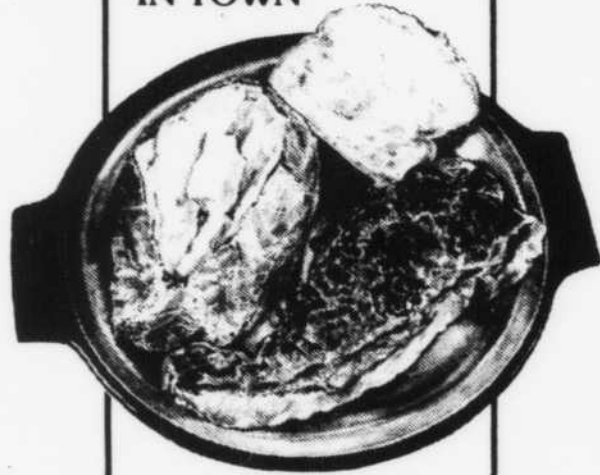
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Actuals avoid punk rock extreme

By KEVIN OARD

Sidelines Staff Writer

If you think New Wave leads to Punk, you haven't heard Actuals.

Last week, Actuals performed New Wave with a tight, refreshing and new sound, avoiding the extremes of a punk rock band, at Mainstreet Music Emporium.

"It's 1980 music," John Elliott said. "Our music is up and definitely good to dance to."

Actuals has such a dynamic and energetic sound that just watching them and listening to them seems to leave audiences breathless. And when dancers are up pogoing on the dance floor, they're usually in a state of exhaustion.

The band is well-stocked with professional musicians: Steve Anderson on guitars and vocals, Robb Earls on keyboard and vocals, Gary Rabasca on bass guitar, and John Elliott on drums. Six months ago, none of Actuals' members had ever played together—adding to their fresh and different sound.

Visually, these four band members have nothing in common. When they start to perform, however, all their musical characteristics combine to form one straight, uniform line.

Most of the songs performed by Actuals are original material written by Anderson and Earls. The emphasis on lyrics in Actuals' music led a local writer to term it "thinking man's punk." The "Vanderbilt Hustler" stated that both the group's lyrics and music are challenging to the listener.

Actuals has such a dynamic and energetic sound that just watching them and listening to them seems to leave audiences breathless.

Actuals' sound is not drastically unlike that of Talking Heads, The B-52s, and Tom Petty. Also, with the keyboard dominant in many of their songs, the band is somewhat reminiscent of DEVO.

Actuals was introduced as a premier dance-oriented band. This became obvious as the night progressed.

They opened with one of their strongest numbers, "I Got Time," which features a keyboard solo by Robb Earls and is sung by Steve Anderson. The abrupt and obnoxious lyrics, which normally would have a negative connotation, add to this number. Anderson's voice in "I Got Time" sounds a lot like Fred Schneider of the B-52s. The ending is abrupt as are many of Actuals' song-endings. The audience didn't know whether to clap or wait for more music.

Actuals use a rhythm machine/automatic drummer in many of their numbers including "To Be Expected," and "No

Regrets." It starts out with a duet by the rhythm machine and Anderson on guitar, and it is strongly vocalized by Robb Earls. "To Be Expected" concludes with Anderson and Rabasca doing a fabulous duet on guitars. A mellower tune, "No Regrets" was a favorite of the audience. It was requested countless numbers of times by listeners.

"Dark Day" is also a very strong number. It accents John Elliott's exclusive style at the drums. Earls seemed to concentrate so hard at the keyboard, as does Rabasca on bass and Anderson on vocals, that he appeared to be in a world of his own. Yet, all of the elements of the song seem to fall together forming a very unified atom. "Dark Day" seemed to stand out in terms of individuality of each band member.

Actuals was introduced as a premier dance-oriented band. This became obvious as the night progressed.

Two instrumental numbers were "Pop-O" and "Treason." "Pop-O," introduced by phenomenal Elliott at the drums, is very danceable. "Pop-O" seemed to be the group's favorite of the audience. "Treason" was dominated by Earls on keyboard. He carried

the melody throughout the number with awesome sharpness and cleanness.

Another very danceable song was "The Result" led by Steve Anderson on vocals. An added factor in "The Result" was the "bop-bop" type of lyrics shared by both Anderson and Earls throughout much of the song.

"Baby's On Fire," from Brian Eno's album, is introduced by Earls on keyboard who also sings this number. Eno produced a couple of David Bowie's albums and the latest Talking Heads album, "Remain In Light."

Although this was Actuals first time to perform in Murfreesboro, the audience's response and the band's fresh style will surely bring them back for future engagements from their home base in Nashville.

To quote Elliott, "party and have a good time, yes; but instead of acting as if the band only exists in the background,

The emphasis on lyrics in Actuals' music led a local writer to term it "thinking man's punk."

like so many audiences do, the people tend to focus directly on Actuals." This seemed to be inevitable after hearing the band's opening number.

Actuals will play at Phrank 'n Steins in Nashville on November 21. It is definitely worth the drive if you like good music and a good time.



photo by Mark Holland
Taking advantage of fair weather, Freshman Jimmy Neal, from Mt. Juliet, and Senior Becky Stevens, Nashville, compete in a game of backgammon outside her dorm.

MTSU dance instructor named association head

Anne Holland, assistant professor of dance, HPERS, has been named president-elect of the Tennessee Association of Dance.

Holland was elected during the association's annual conference held the first weekend in November. She will assume the presidency in 1981 and will host the next dance conference.

TAD is an organization of professionals, teachers, students and others interested in dance. The organization was formed in

1970 by the Tennessee Arts Commission Dance Panel to promote dance in the state. There are currently about 700 members.

Holland has served on the dance panel and was a co-founder of TAD. She has served as an officer and a member of the association's board of directors since its inception.

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from the editor

Reagan: *What to expect from new administration*

The big question on everyone's mind these days has been "What will Ronnie do once he gets in office?"

Young men and women alike wonder if they will need to pack their suitcases and obtain maps for the quickest route to Canada. Is war in the immediate future?

Will his inaugural speech declare the need for taking up arms against another country?

How will he solve the country's economic woes—in particular, unemployment and inflation?

In *U.S. News and World Report*, Reagan claimed his first steps after entering office will be to:

- Freeze the number of federal employees at its current level of 2.8 million;

- Send Congress a tax-cut bill retroactive to Jan. 1, 1981;

- Initiate "discussions" with the Soviet Union about a new strategic-arms-limitation treaty, or SALT III.

In *Time* magazine this week, on the topic of SALT III, Reagan declared, "We could open it by telling them that we have to renegotiate SALT II. We could take what is usable out of SALT II, and then tell them that we are not going to ratify the treaty the way it is and then make it plain that we are ready to sit down to legitimate negotiations."

He said he is definitely in favor of seeking an interim arms-control agreement while a longer-term SALT III is being worked out.

On the subject of tax cuts, Reagan has pledged to push through a plan that would cut personal income tax rates 10 percent each year for three consecutive years, 1981-1983.

Speculated reaction in Congress is legislators fear such hefty rises in spendable income would cause massive inflation. Even conservative Republicans in both houses are unsure just what the result of such sweeping tax-cuts would be.

On the subject of military strength, Reagan is determined to increase the defense budget to make sure the country is equal to that of the Soviet Union.

Experts estimate this increase could add \$100 billion to the currently projected defense budget of \$1 trillion over the next five years.

Some of the people Reagan could appoint to his cabinet include:

Secretary of State—Many have speculated that Henry Kissinger might play a possible role in the Reagan administration, but Reagan said Kissinger is totally against being part of his game plan. Even though Kissinger has said he does not want this appointment he cannot be ruled out entirely. However, the front runner is currently George Shultz who ran Treasury, Labor and the OMB during Nixon's administration;

Secretary of Defense—A Senate Democrat, such as the likes of Henry Jackson or Sam Nunn, might help to sell a bipartisan foreign policy, but some Reagan aides doubt that a democrat would provide loyalty to their camp. Republican contenders for this position include campaign manager Bill Casey, former chairman of the Securities and Exchange Commission, former NATO commander Alexander Haig and former budget director James Lynn;

Secretary of the Treasury—Alan Greenspan, Ford's chief economic adviser, and Washington lobbyist Charles E. Walker are the two top prospects.

With all of his campaign proposals and promises tucked safely in his pocket as he walks through the White House door, Reagan, soon to be 70-years-old and the oldest inaugurated president in the history of the country, will face up to reality when attempting to pass his legislation through congress.

The final question is: Are Reagan's promises and proposals feasible enough to pass through both houses of Congress?

If so, we will all have to consider the effects of his legislation on this country for the next four years.

Sidelines

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Letters Policy

Sidelines welcomes all letters to the editor. Letters must include the author's name, MTSU box number and telephone number. The telephone number will be used for verification purposes only and will not be printed with the letter. Names will be withheld upon request.

We reserve the right to edit all copy for space, grammar and libelous content. *Sidelines* will give priority to those letters which are in disagreement with our stated opinions.

Please address all letters and other inquiries to: *Sidelines*, MTSU Box 42, or come by our newsroom on the third floor of the James Union Building.

Viewpoints



criticisms and witticisms

by Steve Spann

Election day post-mortem exam

"It looked like the country was going out as I was coming in"—Ronald Reagan on election night

THERE WAS an earthquake that swept this country last Tuesday that far surpassed anything recently recorded on the Richter scale. It involved massive shifting in all states, and, when things finally settled, almost everything came to rest on the right.

The election day tremors left incumbent Democrats everywhere wondering what happened to their traditional base of support. The conservative wing of the Republican Party plundered the countryside as governors, congressmen, senators and the president all felt the sting of voter dissatisfaction with performances of politicians in the last four years.

Liberal Democratic Senators George McGovern of South Dakota, Warren Magnuson of Washington, Birch Bayh of Indiana and Frank Church of Idaho were all the marked victims of a conservative political action committee that specifically sought their defeat.

Johnny Carson was not far off base when he said last week that it had been reported that a Democratic politician in Wisconsin had been defeated by the late Joe McCarthy (of the Red Scare fame).

LET US hope that those

senators were defeated because of voters' rational choices, and not because of any mass hysteria created by the charges of immorality by the conservative political action committee.

The overwhelming majority by which Reagan won tells us one thing: voters were extremely dissatisfied with Carter and conditions in the country. In a storm of criticism, the teary-eyed, sponge-backed Carter left the White House in a hail of dead cats. His spotty record included a failure to manage the economy, which was apparently his ultimate undoing. Even those unemployed felt that inflation was the overriding issue in the election.

The other failures in his administration have been emphasized to the point that they don't warrant repeating. The important thing is that voters thought about Carter's problems when they went to the polls.

"Meet the new boss . . . same as the old boss"—Pete Townshend

Television coverage of the election provided viewers with some interesting moments last Tuesday.

AFTER President Carter had given in to the obvious and conceded, Reagan came forth to deliver his first speech. It was somehow more than a speech, though, as Ron had finally

achieved a personal dream he had harbored for the last 12 years. In this moment of glory, the president-elect uttered these prophetic words:

" . . . Well . . . here we are." Here we are indeed.

A couple of minutes later, in the middle of his speech, two characters came running on-stage behind Reagan with a cake shaped like the United States. Given the results of the electoral vote, the cake could have also represented the states that Reagan won.

BUT BEFORE anyone could yank these hucksters off stage, the cake (the U.S.) began to slide off its plate. If not for some last-minute maneuvering, the entire cake would have splattered on the floor.

Let's hope that's not a sign of things to come.

"An election should be a celebration of democracy"—H.G. Wells

John Anderson's concession speech, which could as easily have been delivered a few weeks ago, provided the only genuinely refreshing moments of the evening. In contrast to the other weary candidates, a bright-eyed Anderson spoke with both vigor and humor.

IT WAS more than obvious that the only thing that Anderson had lost was the election. He can rest assured that his candidacy was the saving grace

for millions in this country who were disillusioned with the other choices they were offered.

The line that was repeated throughout the campaign by Carter forces—that a vote for Anderson was a vote for Reagan—was proven false. Even if Carter had captured all of those who voted Independent, he still would have lost.

AT ONE time, I was dismayed by the fact that circumstances did not allow Anderson to be in a better position to occupy the White House. On election day, I climbed out of bed long enough to vote for the silver-haired Independent, then settled back to watch the best-qualified man capture only about 7 percent of the vote.

Actually, that was about all the support that Anderson expected, so the turnout at the polls was not a letdown. However, it is disheartening to think that more voters did not vote their true feelings and pull the lever marked Independent.

That's because most political strategists have concluded that Reagan's victory can best be attributed to anti-Carter sentiment. So it was not so much an election of Reagan as it was a purging of Carter.

THOSE five million people who voted for Anderson should be commended for voting in a positive fashion—for ideas. Because they voted their conscience, they really made this election an exercise in democracy.

retrospect

by Dennis Myers

Church groups' tax-dodging chicanery

THE Nashville-Davidson County Metropolitan government will be considering whether or not to charge churches and religious groups for essential city services soon.

Tax Assessor Jim Ed Clary recommends charging these groups 100 percent of the cost for the essential services.

Presently the city is picking up the tab on church property to the sum of \$404.97 per acre in the urban services district and \$123.30 per acre in the general services district.

Jim Harper, chairman of the committee appointed by Mayor Richard Fulton to study the possibility of generating tax revenue from these services, recommends that the groups pay at least 50 percent of the cost of providing fire, police and garbage services.

WHY SHOULD these groups be getting any tax breaks at all?

For too many years religious organizations have been getting a free ride at the expense of the individual taxpayer. What right

have they to claim exemption from the law?

We must not cloud the issue here—we are talking about religious organizations paying for services they are receiving—we are not talking about an income tax or corporate tax on their earnings or investments.

If these groups refuse to pay their way, then many people who do not affiliate with a religious group will be charged with paying their burden.

Currently, many who do not claim religious affiliation are being charged for church services without their knowledge.

ALSO, many people who do belong to a religious organization are paying, not only for their own church's services, but also for the services of churches they don't belong to.

Proportionately, this means

that those of us who belong to small churches without much land or many buildings are being forced to pay for the upkeep of the larger churches.

Is this not discrimination? MANY will claim that the doctrine of the separation of church and state prohibits taxation of the churches. However, I question whether it does.

It would certainly make a good law case. The question to be decided would be: which part of the Bill of Rights stands supreme? Must one tolerate economic discrimination at the expense of separation of church and state?

One can only hope that the Davidson County Metropolitan government reaches the conclusion that churches must pay their way and not rely on public charity to pay their bills.

Perspective

and so it goes

New job openings on Capitol Hill

by Jeff Bauer

IN LIGHT of a recent political overthrow, certain new job openings have been opened on Capitol Hill. I was reading the *Washington Post* yesterday and I noticed a few new listings in the classified section. Not content to read and forget, (as per my usual policy), I decided to choose some of the best ads and reprint them in this column.

WANTED: Affirmative Personnel (\$16,000-20,000) a.k.a. *Yes Men* Must agree with employer wholeheartedly on any decision he makes. Also required is the ability to pleasantly threaten fellow employees and cabinet members who disagree with employer's policy. Applicants with no background in

economics or foreign policy will receive preference.

WANTED: Morality Specialist (\$22,000-25,000) No experience is necessary. Ability to decide what is *Good* and *Right* for the American People is required. Position involves acting as a liaison between employer and the newly-formed Department of Decency. Initiative in the areas of censorship and defining pornography will be rewarded. Born-Again Christians will receive preference. No homosexuals, perverts, deviants, or "people who have committed lust in their hearts" need apply.

WANTED: Economics Specialist (\$36,000-40,000) Must be versatile. Ability to

confuse the American Public with charts and graphs is essential. Must also be able to explain modern Keynesian economic theory at third-grade level to employer (i.e. Ronald Reagan).

WANTED: Makeup Personnel (\$15,000-17,000) Background in complete theatrical makeup operations is required. There is plenty of free time in this position as employer will not utilize these services (despite the fact that he needs to). Job solely involves complaining to the press that the employer, Ronald Reagan, refuses to wear any makeup. No experience is necessary.

WANTED: Foreign Policy Specialist (\$35,000-40,000)

Basic background in police action and genocide required. Must be openly suspicious of "sneaky foreigners" all over the world. Job involves providing employer a list of countries that should be sent U.S. troops. Applicants should have a basic fear and loathing of all foreign powers, allies and enemies alike. No "bleeding hearts" need apply.

The response to these job offers have been underwhelming, to say the most. Understandably, few people are willing to undergo the frontal lobotomy required to tolerate the employer and the working conditions. However, if anyone is interested in any of these new job openings, give Ronnie a call. Tell him Bonzo sent you.

as i see it

Holy Wars II: 'The Evangelists Strike Back'

by Chuck Keller

note: Pain of the Month: Ronnie and the Morals

THIS month's winner sounds more like a rock group than anything else.

It seems (at least to me) that for the past month, I have heard more "bandwagoning" from a group known as the Moral Majority concerning "The Stand-in Messiah for the '80s: Ronald Reagan." But before we go on any further, let's stop and take a broad look at this new version of "The Holy Wars."

Let's begin by looking at two opposing groups which supported a Reagan presidency—the Ku Klux Klan and the Moral Majority. The Klan (this includes all different Klan organizations) has a long and bloody history known to just about every person in the country. Beatings, lynching, vandalism, even murder has etched this group of "social reformists" a place in history next to Atilla the Hun, Adolph Hitler and Idi Amin.

According to Klan spokesmen, Ronald Reagan was their choice for president because he believes in the same principles as they do. I'm not sure if this includes the theory of rape, burn, pilage and plunder but it does include some very shocking views and opinions.

ON SOCIAL reform Reagan

stands on or next to the abolition of the welfare program, voluntary participation in the Social Security program and doing away with minimum wage. The welfare program includes Medi—cade and Medi—care which pay for most medical services rendered to the elderly and disabled. Do away with this program and you could cut millions of dollars off the federal budget as well as slowly but surely doing away with all the people depending on the program.

Social Security, like welfare, is a means of income for thousands of retired and disabled people across the country. Today, under mandatory participation, the social security program is facing heavy financial problems with a shortage of funds. I leave it to your imagination to consider the chaos caused by a voluntary participation in Social Security. And remember, someday your parents and maybe even yourself might have to rely on this program as a source of income.

THE THEORY behind doing away with minimum wage is the creation of more jobs. If an employer can hire three workers for the price of one, then that should reduce the unemployment rate. But with essential items priced so high

that they can hardly be afforded now, what will happen when that weekly paycheck which barely stretches far enough under present circumstances becomes even smaller? You can forget food stamps or any other type of federally funded aid because they got wiped out in the two paragraphs above this one.

"Once I owned a railroad and it didn't run on time. Now it doesn't run at all, brother can you spare a dime?"

Now from stage right enters the reverend Jerry Falwell and his back-up group, the Moral Majority. Falwell objects (as does God, so he claims): rock 'n' roll, network TV, movies, disco, pornography, abortion, homosexuality, E.R.A., SALT II, Ted Kennedy, election as well as the present administration.

WHILE Falwell's dislike of disco may be justified, his thoughts and beliefs on network TV and E.R.A. contain a few loopholes. The Christian Broadcast Network (CBN) which is operated by Rev. Pat Robertson is the world's largest supplier of cable television programming (no wonder Jerry dislikes the networks). And according to my Christian

upbringing, Jesus Christ, the very son of God, did more to liberate women than any other person. Before Christ, women were counted only as property; but after Christ came on the scene, women were regarded as individuals instead of property.

But to get back to the point, Falwell claims that through divine inspiration that God Himself instructed him to vote for Reagan because of his "Christian views." I never knew or dreamed that God was a Republican. Now back to conflicts of interest.

The KKK supported Ronald Reagan because of his views on "civil reform." Jerry Falwell claims that God supports a Reagan presidency because of Ronnie's "Christian attitude."

I FIND it rather hard to believe that God would support the same man as the KKK. Also, I cannot for the life of me figure out how two groups with totally opposing views can claim that the same man has their support because he stands for what they believe.

Maybe without telling anyone, they have merged to form one new group. And if this is the case, a new song in the hymns of faith and inspiration could be titled, "The Way of the (Fiery) Cross Leads Home."

punchline

by Danny Tyree

Sex, blood and film

MAYBE if the MTSU Films Committee ever decides to rerun "The Man", it will do a better job of promoting it.

I can see the poster now: the president enforces his veto with a bloody knife, while in the background his secretary slips into her leather lingerie.

Of course that would be false advertising—but when the Films Committee took the honest approach and merely told us what an excellent film it was, the audiences were shamefully small.

Whoever decided to show "The Man" committed the unpardonable sin of renting a movie that *doesn't* depend on sex and violence to get its message across. The Films Committee forged bravely ahead, knowing that, with few exceptions, a "G" rating is like an albatross around the neck of a film.

WAS "The Man" really such a bad film? It tells the story of Douglass Dilman, the first black president of the United States. When a freak accident thrusts the awesome responsibilities of the Oval Office upon Dilman, he is caught between a rock and a hard place: the whites expect him to be an Uncle Tom, and the blacks expect him to be the Black Messiah. Rod Serling's gripping screenplay shows Dilman struggling to be his *own* man.

James Earl Jones's forceful, emotional portrayal of Dilman was complemented by an impressive supporting cast. William Windom, Martin Balsam and Burgess Meredith made the conflicts in the plot uncannily believable.

Who should have been interested in watching "The Man"? Certainly political science majors interested in presidential succession and power struggles. Mass Communications majors should have been interested in the brilliant camerawork. Blacks should have been interested in the portrayal of prejudice and reverse prejudice. People who habitually attend movies could have done worse than spending a couple of hours watching "The Man".

Who showed up? Four tickets were sold for the matinee I attended! The largest audience contained about 20 people.

THE sad part isn't that the student body of MTSU is too dense or boorish to appreciate a classy film like this. I think the majority of students would have enjoyed this movie. But they never gave themselves a chance. Attribute it to the Films Committee not advertising the show well enough or the students not bothering to find out about the movie, but the vast majority of the people at MTSU still missed a brilliant production.

Films can be marvelous escapist fare. But we waste their potential if we shy away from movies that have deep themes but lack plenty of laughs and action. The next time the Films Committee shows a more cerebral movie, I hope the student body doesn't boycott it because of a shortage of bare breasts and gory deaths.

I'm glad we Americans have the freedom to choose whether or not to watch a movie like "The Man". But I'm afraid that too many students made the wrong choice.

The narrower the choices we make about the intellectual level of the movies we are willing to watch, the narrower the choices we will be offered.

from our readers

Vietnam veteran traces failings of GI Bill

To the editor:

Being a Vietnam Era veteran, I read with interest the column "Veterans Bitter" in your October 31 edition and noted its appropriate timing, since Veterans Day is close at hand. The U.S. has indeed acted shamefully in its treatment of Vietnam combat veterans, but I wish to mention Congress' neglect regarding educational payments to veterans—the GI Bill.

Have you ever noticed that these payments are not indexed to inflation? Social Security and military retiree's pensions are so indexed, but Congress has seen fit to not extend this indexing to GI Bill payments. No provision is even made for increasing the payments as educational costs rise at the particular academic institution where the veteran is enrolled. Thanks to Congress, the scholastically-oriented

veteran watches helplessly as inflation continually erodes the purchasing power of his benefits.

Congress, sure enough, did grant a 10% increase in educational payments recently; it'll be the first payment increase I've had since I started at MTSU in January of 1978. Not only is this a very shallow compensation for today's inflation rate, but veterans leaving college at the end of this year, such as myself, will not even receive the 10%. A 5% increase becomes effective now with the rest being granted on New Year's Day. I figure that I'll realize a \$40 increase. Since January of 1978, tuition and housing costs at MTSU have risen dramatically, and a \$40 increase over three years doesn't amount to a hill of beans.

Ever since the first GI Bill came about during World War

II, Congress has been good at making finances worse for student veterans. Congress has ignored inflation's impact upon educational payments, but Congress has done more than that by making each succeeding GI Bill worth less in nominal terms.

Under the Vietnam Era GI bill, for instance, I contributed nothing to my educational benefits while I was on active duty; my educational entitlement was 45 months which, for a single, full-time veteran, would amount to over \$14,000. Under the post-Vietnam Era GI Bill (applying to persons who go on active duty on or after January 1, 1977), the serviceman must make monthly contributions to the educational fund up to a maximum of \$2700. With VA matching funds, his educational funding could reach a

maximum of only \$8100. Quite a difference.

The increasing deterioration of the real worth of the GI Bills since World War II leads one to the conclusion that Congress intends to phase out the bill, and Congress now has the power to do this. Under section 408 of Public Law 94-502, nobody on active duty will be allowed to enroll in the post-Vietnam Era Bill after December 1981 unless the president (before June 1, 1981) submits to Congress a request to allow the bill to continue. Once the request is submitted, either the House or the Senate could disapprove it and end the bill.

The GI Bills' history is another example of how Congress has behaved like the south end of a north-bound mule.

Thomas DeRamus
Box 1146

Money Carter's downfall

To the editor:

Regarding the defeat of Jimmy Carter by Ronald Reagan, one wonders what will happen to the United States now. History repeats itself and once against the world is shown what matters most to Americans—MONEY!

There were no sour grapes on Jimmy's part, he said "he was hurt, but he'll support the public decision" (as if he had any choice) and "make an easy transition period" for Reagan.

Many people are doubtful of Reagan's abilities and perhaps one does not need to worry, unless Ronnie tries to replace the eagle with Metro-Goldwynn Meyer's Leo and the "Star-Spangled Banner" with "There's No Business Like Show Business."

As we say a fond farewell to Jimmy on his way home to Georgia, we remain secure in the thought that we prefer Peter Pann instead of Jimmy's brand of peanut butter. Let's hope it's smooth instead of chunky.

Lynne A. Wood
Box 5274

'Being There' combines artists' talents

By BILL WARD
Sidelines Staff Writer

It is quite appropriate that Jerzy Koszinski, Hal Ashby and Peter Sellers combined their formidable talents to produce "Being There," for the three are wonderfully compatible artists. Koszinski and Ashby are

marvelous storytellers—the former an original, wryly witty novelist (*Blind Date*, *the Painted Bird*) with a unique incisive sense of personal relationships and the latter a skilled director ("Harold and Maude," "Shampoo") who mixes and matches fantasy and reality as

well as any temporary American filmmaker.

Sellers is a comic actor nonpareil whose quaint drollery make him the ideal and, perhaps, the *only* suitable person to portray Chance, the movie's disarming protagonist.

In Koszinski's adaptation of

his own novel, Chance is an illiterate middle-aged gardener who has been isolated from the outside world from birth by his rich benefactor (father?), who dies at the film's outset. Forced out of the television-absorbed setting in which he was weaned, Chance accidentally happens

upon Eve Rand (beguilingly portrayed by Shirley MacLaine), the wife of a dying but still powerful financier (Melvyn Douglas, whose raspy straightforwardness suits the role quite well).

Before very long, everyone from the Rands to the U.S. president (Jack Warden, whose clumsy hauteur is a bit overdone) to a national television audience becomes enraptured by Chance's "uncanny ability of reducing complex matters to the simplest of human terms," as Rand himself puts it.

Koszinski's excellent screenplay contains even more crackling dialogue than the novel, and he and editor Don Zimmerman have concocted a smooth, spirited pace that is as refreshing as the lead character.

Interspersed at just the right intervals are scenes of hilarity (Chance being hounded by a black teenage gang and, later, a homosexual), poignancy (an encounter between Chance and Eve, culminating in a single charged with more sexual electricity than any nude film tried in recent memory) and modern-day angst (the president and an attorney unable and/or unwilling to perform in bed).

Director Ashby and

cinematographer Caleb Deschanel have taken this contemporary fairytale and infused it with unsentimental vigor and unsettling whimsy. Deschanel's filming is crisply (figuratively and literally) focused.

Ashby's major coup, besides choosing with Johnny Mandel, some excellent music (the strains of "Basketball Jones" accompanying Chance's arrival at the Rands' creates a stunning effect) and television footage (especially "Mr. Roger's Neighborhood" and a Natural Lite beer commercial), is the casting of Sellers.

Some of the minor characters, particularly the attorneys and the blacks, are a bit heavy-handed, but Sellers does such a magnificent job of unobtrusively occupying center stage that this flaw rarely calls much attention to itself.

Perhaps Chance's most striking trait is his peace of mind. He seems cerebral, even though his intelligence is limited. He is collected and in complete control of himself in a crazed world—a milieu not unlike present-day America. Thus, it is not so absurd that the power brokers consider him for the presidency. Someone like him may be the best Chance we'll ever get.

'Terror Train'

Fraternity pranks end in horror

By JULIE GEE
Sidelines Staff Writer

The boys and girls of Sigma Phi. Some will live. Some will die.

This isn't something from Mother Goose—or is it? But then, what do you expect from a horror flick?

The movie begins by depicting an average New Year's Eve fraternity party, or so it seems.

There's a blazing bonfire, and the Sigma Phi Omega pledges are going through their last phase of initiation, which culminates in the most important part of the young pledges' lives—the loss of their virginity.

So far, all seems normal, even realistic.

It is only when the ominous minor chords are being struck in the background music, that we are given the first clue that this is not our basic, run-of-the-mill frat party.

The story focuses on one particularly homesy pledge, Kenny, believably portrayed by Ben Johnson, and Hart Bochner's portrayal of Doc, a sadistic fraternity brother, who is leading Kenny into the world of sexual enlightenment.

With a very patronizing tone, which goes unnoticed by Kenny, Doc leads him into the house where his first sexual experience will occur.

"Don't worry, everything will be okay," says Doc calmly. "We'll be right down here if you need us—all you have to do is yell."

Kenny slowly walks up the steps, and sees the girl chosen for him retreat into the bedroom.

Another girl, dressed appropriately as a pimp, motions him to follow.

The decor of the scene is perfect—flashing lights, loud music, and smoke everywhere.

Kenny enters the bedroom and sees her—or does he?

He quickly removes his clothing, and glasses, as the throaty voice of the girl (actually Jamie Lee Curtis standing

behind what appears to be a female mannequin) coaxes him on.

"Don't be shy Kenny. This is my first time too. Kiss me Kenny, kiss me," the girl cries.

This is where the movie begins to get gory. He sits beside her and lifts her head to kiss her. But, she falls limply backward across the bed, and Kenny learns that instead of a caressing a beautiful young woman, he has been holding a decaying female cadaver.

The audience screams. The girl, Jamie Lee Curtis, screams. Kenny tangles himself up in the bed's silk canopy, screaming, and appears to hang himself.

Later, we find that Kenny did not suffocate from his strangulation, but he is never "quite right" again.

So much for that prank, huh?

The story line begins again four years later, at another New Year's Eve party.

This time, instead of being at the house, the brothers have rented a pleasure train, for a masquerade party, which will take them on an all-nighter.

The pleasure train provides live music (sounding like Leon Redbone), a magic act, astonishingly executed by David Copperfield, and plenty of liquor.

The party promises to be a great success until people start turning up missing.

Most of the fraternity boys are later found with stab wounds of the chest, slit throats, and one is even found decapitated.

Director Roger Spottiswoode handles these murders with finesse. He emphasizes them without overdoing them.

Music Director, John-Mills Cockel's, score is integral in achieving a terrorizing effect.

Cockel builds the music to a crescendo when something uneventful or humorous is about to happen, but keeps the music subdued as the murders actually occur, leaving the audience completely unaware of the coming scenes.

After a number of the mur-

dered fraternity boys are discovered, the train is stopped and evacuated.

The passengers are told what is happening while the employees search the train for the murderer.

Once the train is reboarded, Curtis, who is still with the brothers, thinks she knows who the murderer is—the magician, Copperfield. They search for him while the train is in motion, only to find that he has disappeared.

Curtis once again is the terrorized heroine, reminiscent of her previous roles in "Halloween," "The Fog," and "Prom Night."

Long after the average heroine would have committed and/or killed herself, Curtis is still on top of things. She refuses to be put down by a madman whose next target promises to be her.

Curtis searches Copperfield's belongings in order to get a clue as to what possible motive he could have for the slayings, she stumbles upon one of his magic tricks and the door swings open. Inside, Copperfield has become the victim of real knives being forced through the crate.

So much for that idea.

The murderer continues his crusade against Curtis, chasing her from one end of the train to the other. The character has definite similarities to the "Halloween" devil figure, as there are many attempts made to kill him, but he never dies.

This is the perfect movie for horror buffs as it contains all the essentials of blood, gore, and suspense.

While the plot is somewhat lacking, and almost childish in parts, as most horror films are, it makes for a great shocker. It is enjoyable for those who don't go to the theatre for intellectual stimulation.

In the final scene, Curtis comes face to face with the murderer (who she thinks is the train conductor). Her face turns to chalk as she realizes her mistake.

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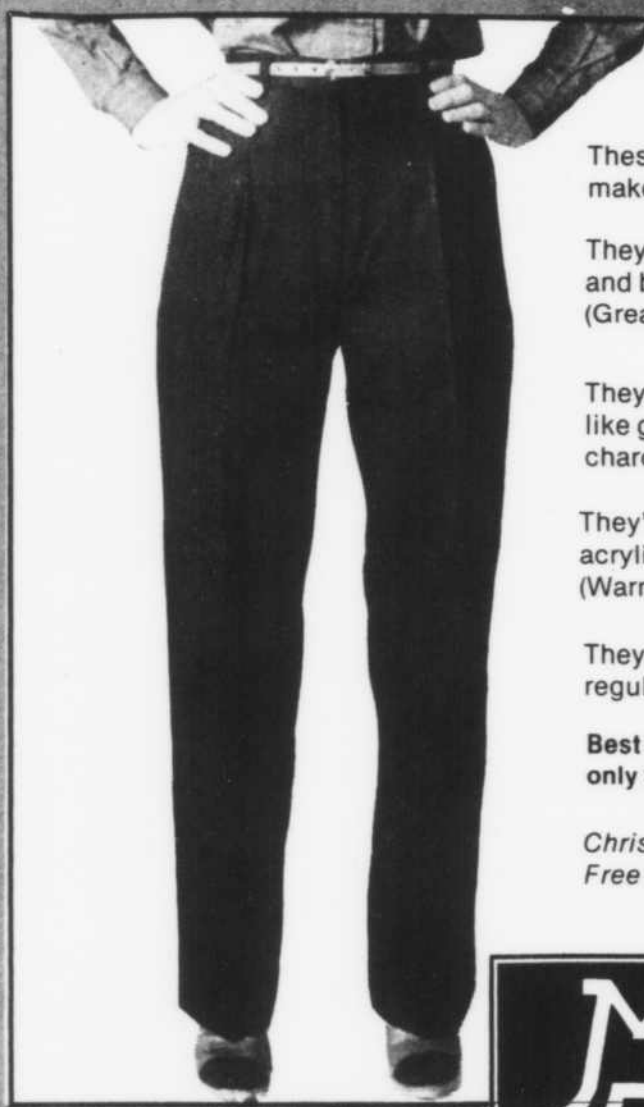
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Western triumphs over Raiders, 30-15

By CAROL A. STUART

Sidelines Sports Editor

BOWLING GREEN, Ky. — Middle Tennessee just can't win for losing.

The Hilltoppers of Western Kentucky claimed the 1980 Ohio Valley Conference football championship here Saturday with a 30-15 routing of the winless Blue Raiders.

Middle Tennessee's defense failed to stop the onslaught of Western's powerful offensive attack, allowing the Hilltoppers to score in each of the four periods.

Western's outstanding

fullback, Troy Snardon, put the Hilltoppers ahead early in the first quarter with a 7-yard touchdown run. The Western drive began after MTSU quarterback Brown Sanford was intercepted by Lamont Meacham at the Western 3-yard line.

Sanford had a rough day with the Western secondary. The Blue Raider offense came back after the Snardon touchdown, moving the ball 61 yards in 11 plays. Sanford was intercepted again at the Hilltoppers' 2-yard line.

"We moved the ball Satur-

day," MTSU head coach Boots Donnelly said, "but until we get serious about finishing a job, then we're going to have problems."

Middle Tennessee got a small taste of "interception fever" itself in the second quarter. After senior kicker Gerald Robinson missed a 43-yard field goal attempt, Blue Raider safety James Griffin intercepted a John Hall pass at the Western 38-yard line and scooted in for a touchdown.

The champion Hilltoppers wouldn't allow to be trifled with, though. The 7-7 score stood, approximately three minutes as Western speedster Nate Jones went over the left side of the line for a 1-yard touchdown. Western kicker Jim Griffiths added a field goal later to push the halftime score to 17-7.

"We did not play well defensively," Donnelly said of his outfit that held Austin Peay to seven points. "I guess it was about time. Our players are small, they're beat up, knocked down and are playing with little knit-picking injuries."

Things continued to look downhill for the Blue Raiders in the third quarter as Sanford once again moved the ball into Western territory, only to be intercepted by Meacham.

With five minutes left in the third period, WKU sophomore reserve quarterback Ralph Antone came on for the injured Hall and threw a 35-yard touchdown pass to Ricky Gwinn. Griffiths' point-after attempt was wide left.

"Anytime you're playing a team that is big, quick and mature as Western is," Donnelly

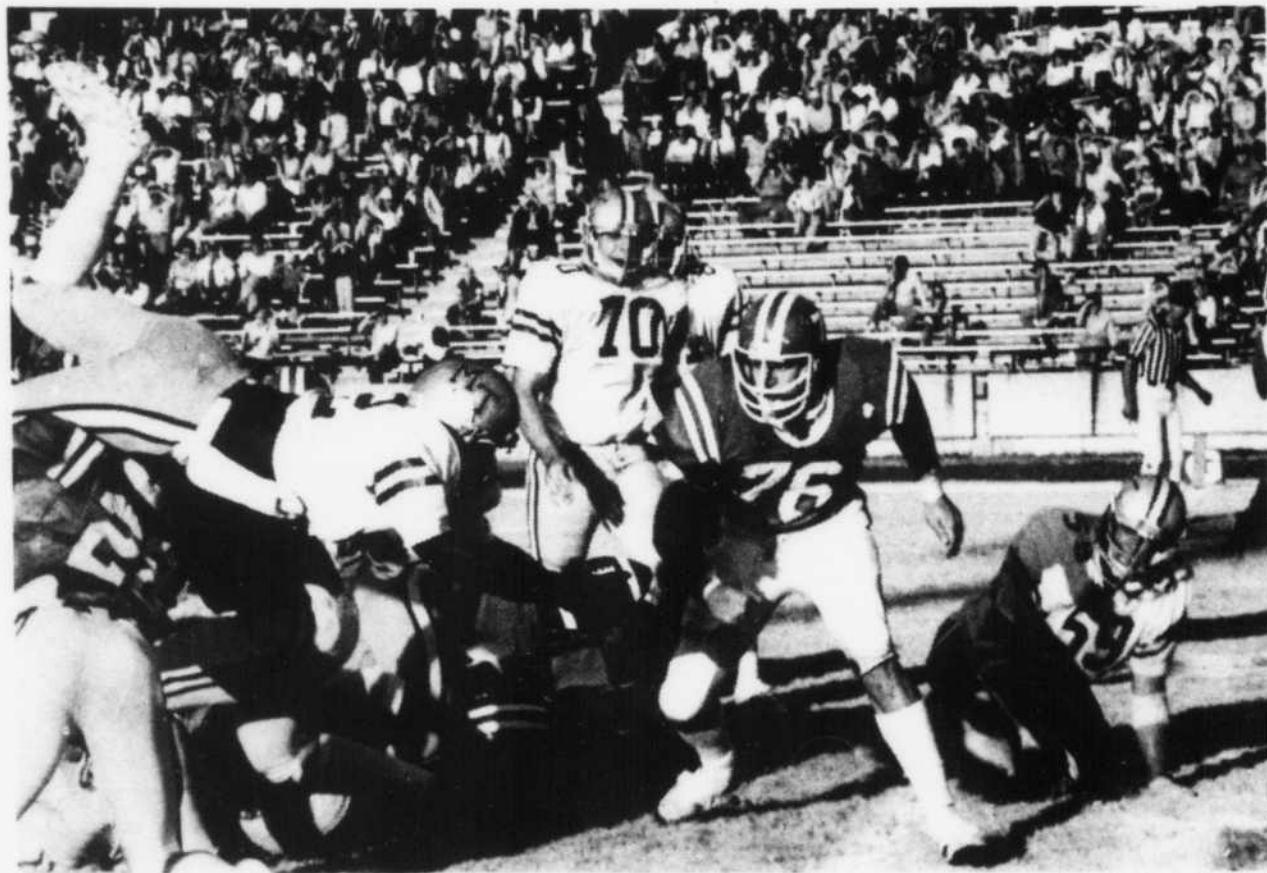


photo by Gene Braham

Middle Tennessee quarterback Brown Sanford dives toward the goal line in the fourth quarter of the Western Ky.-MTSU game. The Blue Raiders were stopped on their last possession at the one-yard line.

said, "and as little as we are, their experience is going to show through."

Middle Tennessee almost got the momentum back on its side during the second half, challenging the Hilltoppers in front of a 20,000 plus homecoming crowd.

Red towels stopped waving when Sanford threw a 23-yard touchdown pass to Brian Roebuck with three and a half minutes left in the third period. The Blue Raiders then successfully completed a point-after conversion, with Henry Bean catching the Sanford pass.

Antone came back for more in the fourth quarter to falter Middle Tennessee's great hopes

of an upset. The Hilltopper signal-caller snuck in on a keeper for six points, and Griffiths added the PAT for the final 30-15 margin.

Middle did not lay down and die until the final five minutes of the game, however, when the Western defense halted the Raiders four straight times near the goal line. Sammy Bryant failed to make it in on the fourth down with one yard to go, and the Hilltoppers kept possession as the clock wound down.

"Western Kentucky is just better than us," Donnelly said. "We could have made it a closer game, but our players know what kind of class program Western has, and it gives us a

great yardstick to measure where we're going with our program."

Sanford completed 16 of 34 passes for 241 total yards, while Western countered with six completions out of only 14 attempts. Bryant led the receiving corps with 53 yards, while Kolas Elion and Steve Burton helped the Raiders out with 45 and 44 yards receiving, respectively. Western's Jones led the rushing department with 120 net yards.

Western, now 9-0 and 6-0 in OVC play, travels to Murray this weekend, while the Blue Raiders, 0-8 and 0-5 in the OVC, hosts Akron at Johnny "Red" Floyd Stadium.



photo by Greg Campbell

MTSU receiver Henry Bean sees a Brown Sanford pass slip out of his hands into the awaiting paws of Davlin Mullen, a sophomore cornerback for the Hilltoppers.

Sports

Buffalo, Browns, Chargers to lead AFC

EAST

By BILL WARD

Sidelines Sports Writer

The surprise team of 1980 is doubtlessly in **BUFFALO**, where Chuck Knox has sparked a doughty defense and an imaginative offense has been molded by super rookie RB Joe Cribbs, the conference's second-leading rusher. Joe Ferguson has led a ball-control unit which has enabled the Bills to hold the ball more than 60 percent of the time thus far. The D is very strong up the middle, as linebacker Joe Hackett and safety Jeff Nixon have roamed like center fielders, picking off passes and making crunching tackles. A late-season stretch against Pittsburgh, Baltimore, L.A. and New England will decide Buffalo's fate.

The schedule definitely favors **NEW ENGLAND**, as the Pats face but two winning teams the rest of the way. The key so far here has been Steve Grogan's maturity, as two balky knees have forced the former freelancer to stay in the pocket and improve his passing. A crunching runner is still needed to complement the league's second-best set of receivers, but the Redskins nixed a Sam Cunningham-for-John Riggins deal. The defensive line and punting, traditionally poor down the stretch, and much improved, which could make the Pats the first AFC East outfit to win a playoff game since 1973.

Perhaps the division's best player is Bert Jones of **BALTIMORE**, but his line (141 sacks the last three years) is not consistent enough to protect the oft-injured signal-caller. Coach Mike McCormack has proved to be a superior offensive tactician, mixing standard 'I' and slot formations, using lots of motion, and keeping burner Curtis Dickey and Joe "Duke" Juke Washington fresh by never playing them at the same time. But the mysterious decision to switch to the 3-4 four games ago has doomed the Colts for this season, as they're 1-3 since then.

Don Shula is rebuilding in **MIAMI**, and rookie David Woodley looks like a comer at QB, where Bob Griese and Don Strock haven't won a big game in three years. The major areas of concern are the offensive line (where Shula really regrets cutting a rookie named Leon Gray a few years ago and the TE position is a shambles) and the secondary, which has allowed the third-most TD passes in the league. The Dolphins still must face the Chargers, Pats and Steelers and look like prime spoilers for this year.

It would be nice to say something good about the **JETS**, but that would require a lot of imagination or a measure of insanity. Amazingly, Jimmy the Greek picked the Jets to win the Super Bowl this year, but asinine drafting has stifled the rebuilding here. The Jets finished last in the loop in '79 in pass defense, then traded their best DB, Burgess Owens, to Oakland, and didn't draft for help there at all. Now the D telegraphs their blitzes and relies too much on old-fashioned single coverage. There is no offensive coordinator, and it shows; wide receivers Lam Jones and Wesley Walker have been hampered by injuries, and their styles (straight-ahead speed, very few moves) are not complimentary at all. New York should have known what kind of season was in store when QB Richard Todd was penalized for holding in the first game.

CENTRAL

Except for a virtually non-existent pass rush, **CLEVELAND** appears to have the tools to dethrone the Steelers. Owner Pruitt Modell renegotiated standouts QB Brian Sipe's and RB Mike Pruitt's contracts early in the season, and the spirited Brownies have rolled to a 7-1 record since an embarrassing Monday night loss to the Oilers. A super receiving corps, headed by Alzabie Newsome (who says he wants to replace Bear Bryant as Alabama mentor someday), has been the key here, but unless the Browns improve their sack total (only 13 at this writing), their playoff chances (and, closing with the Jets, Vikes and Bengals, they should make it to the second season) are the proverbial two: slim and none.



The same problem plagues **PITTSBURGH**, as Mean Joe Greene & Co. have grown long of tooth and slow of foot, and there is wonder if it shouldn't be known as the Rust Curtain. Last year, the Steelers had six Pro Bowlers on defense; this season, they shouldn't have half that many. Their quest for a seventh straight division title looks doomed, and the last time before this year that the Steelers lost three in a row, in 1977, they didn't make the Super Bowl. Still, the offense could get over its many injuries and lead the Steelers into the playoffs, but games on the road (where they're 7-6 over the last two seasons) against Buffalo, Houston and San Diego don't augur well.

The Oilers, on the other hand, face a relatively easy road slate, as **HOUSTON** plays Chicago, Green Bay and the Jets away from the Astrodome. This team has a good blend of no-nonsense veterans and exuberant youngsters, and the offense seems to be meshing after a lot of transition (six new starters since last season). Still, WR Ken Burroughs must return from injury, as Snake Stabler's short passing game, mixing the I-formation with a split-back setup, needs his burning speed. And the defense must stop giving up such huge chunks of yardage in big games.

In **CINCINNATI**, quarterback and attitude problems have prevented the Bengals from beating anyone but the Steelers and Vikes. Bum Phillips feels the Bengals have the best personnel in the league (11 first-rounders on the squad, most of them young), but the sour-grapes bickering of folks like Ross Browner has polarized the players from tough-guy coach Forrest Gregg. Injuries to Ken An-

derson and the immaturity of Jack "the Throwin' Samoan" Thompson, who has trouble picking up secondary receivers, has negated the play of the best young offensive line in the league. But two statistics tell it all: only five TDs rushing on offense and 26 TD passes allowed on D.

WEST

In football's most balanced good division (the NFC Central is balanced bad) the front-runner, despite four losses, is still **SAN DIEGO**. The Chargers still must face the two Pennsylvania powers, but both games are on the coast, and Chuck Muncie should be meshing into a more balanced offense by the time Philly and Pitt invade. The offense has scored 24 or more points in all but one game, as the Chargers are still years ahead of their rivals in taking advantage of the one-bump rule protecting receivers. Receivers John Jefferson, Charlie Joiner and Kellen Winslow, who swarm downfield lanes in a "tree" attack (with many branches), rank 1-2-3 in the AFC in receptions, and Dan Fouts, whose super peripheral vision is well-suited for spotting all potential pass-catchers is a good bet to break last year's passing yardage record. But the offensive line has two 23-year-old starters, and the defense needs to stop playing like a geriatric outfit as well.

Still, the Chargers may not hold off the surprising **OAKLAND** Raiderism, who've moved from Ken Stabler's "lateral" passing game to a "vertical" one behind strong-armed Jim Plunkett. The Raider receivers, especially Cliff Branch, run deeper patterns than anyone else, largely because the outstanding line, spearheaded still by Art Shell and Gene Upshaw, continuously gives Plunkett at least four seconds to pass, compared with the league average of 3.2. And swift, smart cornerbacks Monte Jackson and Lester Hayes may be the loopy's best pair, especially effective in the pass-happy AFC.

Despite their victory over the Chargers, you can count **DENVER** out of this race. There are just too many holes: Matt Robinson's slow release and Craig Morton's slow everything; the conference's worst pass rush, with but 15 sacks throughout the first 10 tilts; horribly unimaginative game plans (only 1 pass in a losing effort against the Pats); and the carping attitude of coach Red Miller, whom insiders say is getting too big for his britches and may be replaced after the season by USC's John Robinson.

The most amazing statistic of the '80 season is that **SEATTLE**, traditionally a strong home team, has yet to win the Kingdome. The Seahawks are facing by far the league's toughest schedule, and with road games ahead against Dallas, San Diego and Denver, the outlook for a winning season isn't good. EXCEPT that the 'Hawks have only lost once away from home. The defense, especially the linebacking, needs shoring up, and rookie DE Jacob Green is a good start there.

If **KANSAS CITY** had the Seahawks' offense, they'd be Super Bowl-bound before very long, for the Chiefs have the best young defense in the NFL, spearheaded by standout DE Art Still. But injuries to an already weak offensive line has all but ruined the passing game.

OVC standings

Team	OVC	Overall
Western	6-0-0	9-0-0
Austin Peay	4-2-0	6-3-0
Eastern	4-2-0	7-2-0
Murray	4-2-0	8-2-0
Akron	2-3-1	3-6-1
Tenn. Tech	1-3-0	4-5-0
Morehead	1-4-0	3-6-0
MTSU	0-5-0	0-8-0
Youngstown*	0-0-0	1-7-1

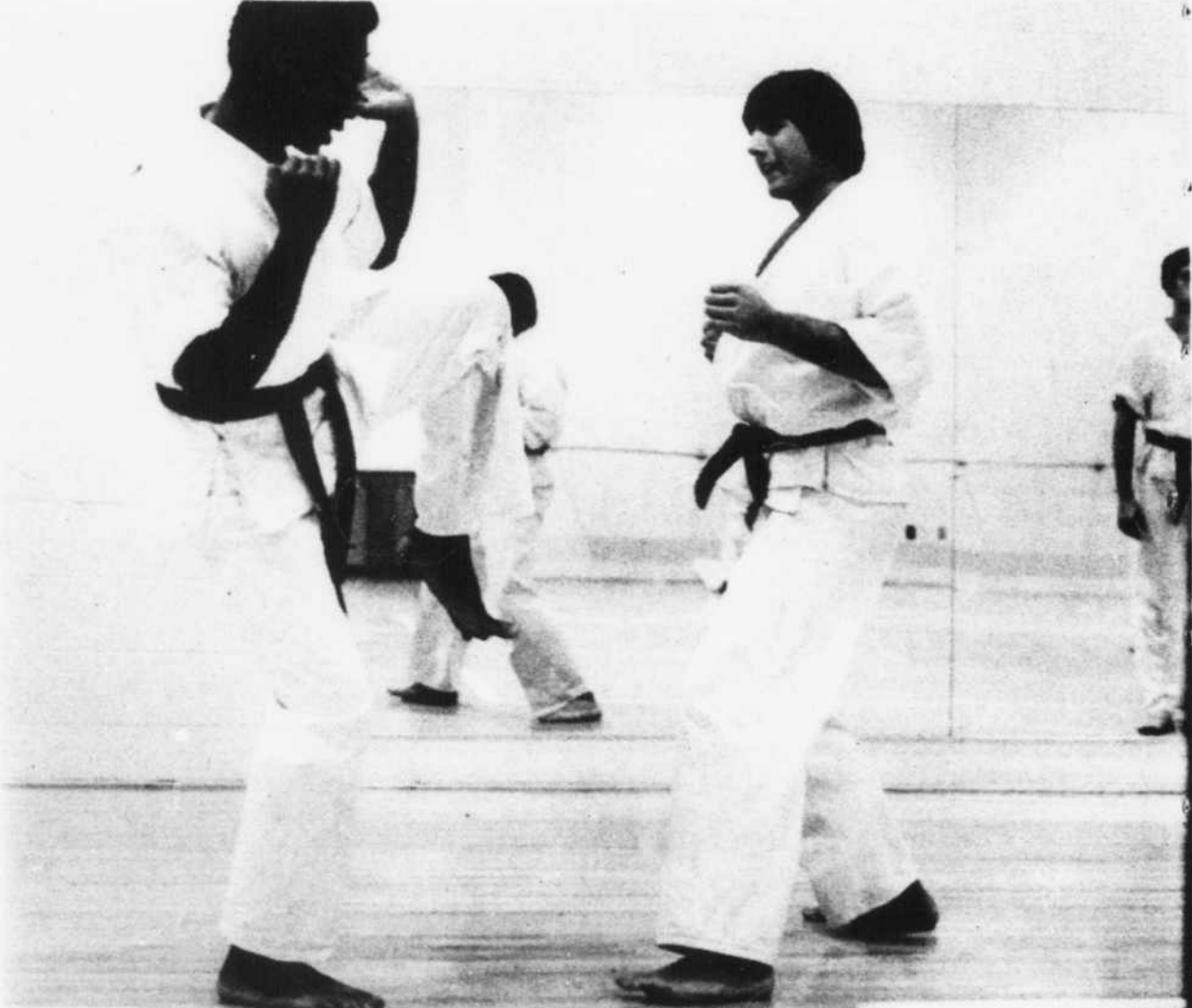
*Ineligible for title

Karate team wins eleven awards at Tri-State meet

The MTSU karate team grabbed 11 awards at the Tri-State Championships in Dalton, Ga., this weekend.

Player-coach David Deaton led the team's performances with first place finishes in both the form and the lightweight fighting categories. Deaton is coming off a recent championship finish at the U.S. Open in St. Petersburg, Fla.

The karate club's president, Debbie Yasut, led the MTSU students at the Tri-State meet with third place form and fighting finishes in the women's Black Belt division.



MTSU's karate team grabbed eleven places out of a field of over 500 competitors last week in the Tri-State Championships.

Govs shutout Murray

By BOB GARY
Sidelines Sports Writer

Western Kentucky captured the 1980 Ohio Valley Conference football title Saturday with their 30-15 win over Middle Tennessee, but the Hilltoppers got a little bit of help from an OVC foe.

Austin Peay won their fifth game in a row and helped clinch the title for Western with their 24-0 whipping of defending OVC champion Murray State. Western sports a 6-0 mark with only one conference game remaining, while Murray, Peay and Eastern Kentucky are all tied for second at 4-2.

In the only other OVC matchup this weekend, Eastern Kentucky bombed Tennessee Tech 48-7. Youngstown State got its first win of the year by a score of 22-0 over Western Illinois, and in two other non-conference games, Morehead lost to Liberty Baptist 23-20, while Akron was whipped by Northern Michigan 38-10.

Austin Peay's offense was excellent as usual, rolling up 307 yards against the Racers. Conference total offense leader Sonny Defillips gained 130 yards through the air and rushed for 50 more. Defillips' main target, senior wide receiver Steve Puthoff, gathered in five passes for 100 yards. Peay's offense was only going against what was the top rated defense in the OVC coming into the contest.

But it was the defense that won the day for the Governors. Led by 225-pound senior defensive end Bret Williams, the Peay defense allowed the high-powered Racer offense almost half of what the Governors rolled up, and more importantly, no points.

Peay's victory assures a fourth straight winning season in Clarksville, as the Govs' record now stands at 6-3 overall. Murray's record falls to 8-2.

Tennessee Tech was outmanned from the start against Eastern Kentucky, who dealt Murray their first loss of the season last week. The Golden Eagles were forced to go without

the OVC's top passer, James Aaron, who was injured.

The limelight shone primarily on the Colonels' Tony Braxton, a reserve tailback coming into the game. Braxton made good on his opportunity to show his stuff, as he rambled for 124 yards in 17 carries and scored three times. ECU showed their ability to make the big play against Tech, as their other two scores came on a 56-yard run by quarterback Chris Isaac, and a 47-yard interception return by Gus Parks.

The Colonels go to 7-2 with the win, while Tech falls to 4-5.

Liberty Baptist also showed that they can cut loose with a big play as they scored on a 65-yard touchdown run by Greg Mosely with five minutes remaining in the game to nip Morehead. The Eagles, who gave Western Kentucky all they could handle last week before succumbing in the final minutes, got 184 yards and atouchdown on 30 carries from tailback Dorrn Hunter, as well as a 94-yard kickoff return for a score from Anthony Chambers.

A Representative from the University of Tennessee at Knoxville Graduate Studies will visit the placement office (UC Room 328) on Nov. 14 to discuss admission, the graduate program, and financial aid.

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What Happened?

Where did all the Christians go? Whatever happened to the faith that 1900 years ago inspired ordinary men and women to gladly give their lives in martyrdom so the cause of Christ could prevail in a hostile pagan world? Whatever happened to Christianity and the way of life that outlived the mighty Roman Empire? To many, it exists today as a mere shadow and sickly form of what so vibrantly lived so many years ago.

We read with interest the reports on every hand of the growing disenchantment with present religious forms which have become trite and meaningless to many. We hear of displeasure with denominational structures and their pronouncements which reflect only the preferences of an influential elite, ignoring the convictions of the rank and file. Because of these aspects of modern religion, some have decided that Christianity is not even relevant to this day and age. We believe they so decided because they are not sufficiently acquainted with the scriptures to be able to distinguish between the relevant gospel of Christ and the power of God, and the rituals and traditions men have since added to religion which truly are not relevant to serving God.

If some of these things have troubled you, and you have felt a need and yearning to return to the simple religion of Christ for meaning and contentment, and if you have felt the desire to remove all the hypocritical and all the confusing non-essential elements of religion and simply abide by the eternal truth of Christ, truth which alone can transform the soul and bind it to God for an eternity, let us suggest that such a possibility actually exists. If you have felt helpless and lost in life, and the need for guidance, purpose and fulfillment from something greater than yourself, this article could be the most important thing you may ever read.

Let us begin with one essential fact. God is our creator who deeply loves each of us whether we like it or not. Jesus Christ is His Son who willingly died for all the sins and injustices you and I will ever commit. His coming(1), His mission(2), and His new message(3) were all foretold in the Old Testament which Jehovah used to govern Israel until the Christ should come and establish the New for all mankind(4).

The New Testament is the law of Christ. It reveals the religion of Christ(5), the words that assure the eternal hope of the obedient and the unfortunate fate of the disobedient. By studying it we become aware that among the followers of Christ no denominational organizations exist whatsoever. All such begins at a latter time when men begin to struggle for political power within the church. We see people gladly hearing the gospel and in faith obeying the conditions of God's grace. That is, they repent and turn to God while putting their trust in Jesus and are baptized in order to be forgiven of their sins. Being thus saved by sincerely obeying God's clear and simple plan, they are added to the Lord's people, or church(6). As the gospel spread, we find them assembling together in congregations in various localities. Each congregation is under its own elders(7) or presbyters and no one else on earth. These pastors could not make or be masters. They are given the responsibility of overseeing or caring for the congregation as shepherds would a flock(8). The only headquarters those disciples know is heaven, where their Lord and head Jesus Christ reigns until this very day(9). These same disciples also believe that the words of Christ and those given by the Holy Spirit to inspired man are all-sufficient to reveal all things that pertain to life and godliness.

Their worship is something to participate in, not something to watch. On the first day of the week they would eat the Lord's supper and hear words of encouragement and strength from God's word(10). They would gladly give God a generous portion of their prosperity as they individually purpose in their own hearts(11). No hierarchy could tax them or badger them into giving a certain amount. They also came together to consider one another and encourage each other because of their sincere love and mutual concern for one another. In their assemblies they would also all sing(12) and pray(13). In all this they are all involved, for each saved person is a priest(14). No one could perform his service and worship for him and it is all done in spirit and in truth.

They live godly lives. They care for their poor and relieve their destitute. They diligently study scriptures and teach and handle them accurately. They send out preachers where they cannot go. With simplicity and fervor of faith there is no need of centralization. Without organized machinery the gospel is preached throughout civilization in a short time(15). These disciples of Christ are known simply as Christians(16). They wear no sectarian names. They are never fragmented into various brands of Christianity. Their religion is not sensual, materialistic, or socially-oriented. They sought not to impress men with pious and too often hypocritical ceremony; they only sought to impress God with the only thing that has ever impressed Him: sincere and contrite obedience(17). Their appeal is not social, humanistic or recreational. They offer true spiritual fulfillment and enlightenment in the gospel of Christ to a troubled and confused world, for it is God's power to save(18). Any other appeal is beneath them.

"If only such could be today!" many honestly seeking people often lament. But it is! If you can sincerely obey from the heart the things God has told you to do in the New Testament, live a godly life and be saved eternally in heaven at last without joining any man-made denomination, why complicate things and join one? Thousands of men and women all over the world have despaired of denominationalism, seeing in it no necessity or relevance and only a cause of division. They desire the simplicity of what Christ authored, and their number is increasing. How many have taken such a stand? Who knows? They are related and connected in Christ and not in some sophisticated ecclesiastical organization with machinery to keep tally.

What is important and what could transform your aimless life to a life of significance, happiness and joy is that such a group of people meet within minutes of where you live. They are just Christians. They worship and serve God in the same way the early disciples did. Christ is their only creed and the scriptures their only guide. They are not members of any human denomination, but they are simply a church, or body of Christ. They would gladly like to share with you the gospel of Christ and His salvation and the abundant life He guarantees to all who obey Him and walk in His love. Please contact us at these numbers listed below if you need to know God's plan for your life.

Why delay? How could you go wrong if you do what you know is ultimately right?

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Footnotes:
(1) Gen. 49:10; (2) Isa. 53; Zech. 6:13; (3) Jer. 31:31-33; (4) Gal. 3:19,23,24; (5) 1 Cor. 9:15-17; (6) Acts 2:36-47; (7) Acts 14:23; (8) Acts 20:17,28; 1 Pet. 5:1-3; (9) Eph. 1:20,23; (10) Acts 20:7; 1 Cor. 11:23-29; (11) 1 Cor. 9:6-7; (12) Eph. 5:19; (13) 1 Cor. 14:15-16; (14) Rev. 1:5-6; (15) Col. 1:23; (16) Acts 11:26; 1 Pet. 4:16; (17) Sam. 15:22; (18) Rom 1:16;