

Aid will hurt under Reagan: Wrenn

By CLAUDIA ROBINSON
Education Editor

MTSU financial aid would suffer a "devastating blow" for fall 1983 if President Reagan's budget passes through Congress without change, Financial Aid Director Winston Wrenn said last week.

Although the effects felt this fall from the president's proposed rescissions would be "light to moderate," Wrenn said, for fall 1983 "it's Katie, bar the door."

The Tennessee Higher Education Commission estimates MTSU will lose ap-

proximately \$527,000 in federal aid money for fall 1982 and approximately \$1.8 million for fall 1983.

That means 736 fewer students this fall and 2,368 fewer students next fall would receive aid from the Supplemental Educational Op-

portunity Grant, Pell Grant (BEOG), National Direct Student Loan and College Work-Study programs.

STATEWIDE THESE student-aid programs lost approximately \$6 million as a result of the December rescissions alone.

The American Council on Education estimates Tennessee's net loss will be approximately \$32.9 million, affecting 44,500 students, if the president's new budget passes.

The president has requested

an additional 9 percent rescission of federal money for state grants which would eliminate 200 students from the program this fall, according to Kenneth Barber, executive director of the Tennessee Student Assistance Corporation.

This is in spite of a reduction in the maximum grant and the inclusion of extra money for TSAC in the governor's proposed budget.

BY DECREASING the maximum grant award to one-

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Aid cuts may raise tuition over state

By CLAUDIA ROBINSON
Education Editor

Tuition and fees at Tennessee colleges and universities could increase as a result of the proposed reductions in student financial aid, according to an official of the Tennessee Higher Education Commission.

The cutbacks in student aid will affect 25 percent of Tennessee's college students, THEC Executive Director Wayne Brown said yesterday before

leaving to meet with Tennessee congressmen in Washington.

BECAUSE many of the students in private schools will not be able to afford fees without aid, Brown said, "there will be pressure for people to migrate from higher-cost to lower-cost institutions."

"There is insufficient money now or in the governor's budget proposal to encourage increased enrollment in state institutions,"

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MIDDLE TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY SIDELINES

Weather

Cloudy with a 30 percent chance of light rain today. High today in the mid-40s, low tonight in the upper 20s.
Partly cloudy tomorrow with a high in the mid-40s.

Inside

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Volume 55 Number 38



Chemistry department chairman Dan Scott stands beside a balance similar to the four which were stolen from the Science Hall Wednesday night.

Police say no suspects

Four scientific balances stolen

By PHIL WILLIAMS
News Editor

Police said yesterday they have no suspects in the Wednesday night theft of four scientific balances with a total value more than \$7,000 from the Science Building.

Four Mettler P-1200 balances, valued at \$1795 each, were taken during the night Wednesday from Room 111 of the Science Hall, according to Chief of University Police John Bass.

BASS SAID entry to the freshman chemistry laboratory

was gained through a window.

"There was no breakage of any kind," Bass noted. "It was simply raised, which would lead to the speculation that it was left unlocked."

The police chief said it was

not known whether leaving the window open was intentional or only carelessness.

BASS NOTED that officers were able to collect some physical evidence at the scene, including footprints and fingerprints.

He said no one person is suspect at this time, adding that there seems to be no connection with other crimes on campus in recent months.

\$500 reward offered for return of eagle stolen 15 years ago

The National Park Service is offering a \$500 reward for information leading to the return

of a bronze eagle taken 15 years ago from Stones River National Battlefield.

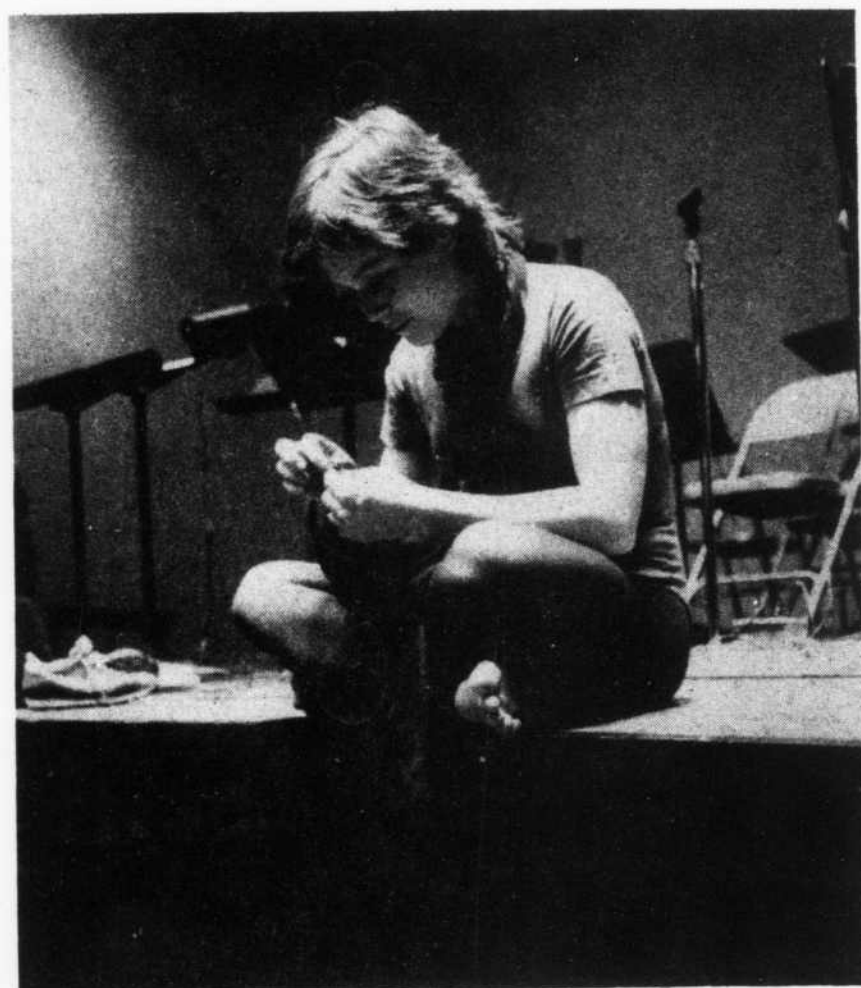


Photo by Greg Campbell

Take five

A dancer from the Student Ambassadors On Tour mends her leotards during a break in rehearsal Tuesday night.

Board of Regents decision

\$100 housing deposit for fall

By PHIL WILLIAMS
News Editor

Students reapplying for university housing for the 1982-83 year will be required to deposit \$100 in pre-paid rent this April due to a recent State Board of Regents decision, Acting Housing Director Ivan Shewmake said last night.

The pre-paid rent fee will take the place of the currently required \$30 deposit. Fifty dollars of the \$100 deposit will be applied to the fall housing rent, with the remainder going to spring rent.

STUDENTS who reapply in April for fall housing will be asked to pay \$70—that is, the \$100 pre-paid rent minus the \$30 currently on deposit.

The change "may appear at first glance to cost you more money," Shewmake says in a letter to be distributed to dormitory residents next week.

"Formally, you gave us \$30 to hold as long as you were a housing resident," the letter says. "You received no benefit from this money except a

guarantee of housing."

"Every dollar of this money is active and you will receive benefit from it."

SHEWMAKE said that in the long-term the change will benefit everyone, in two ways:

- Residents would receive the full use of every dollar.

"We do not want to simply hold your money on deposit in a way that is no benefit to you."

- The plan would encourage students to make a definite commitment about their housing plans—bringing the cost of housing down for everyone.

"We get a lot of bogus ap-

Friday, March 5, 1982

plications from people that have no intention of coming here or only apply in case they don't get housing elsewhere," he said.

"WE HAVE to do projections on expenditures at the first of every academic year," he explained. "You've got to assume that you have a high percentage of applications that are not serious."

"If we had hard figures we would not have to build in a cushion—thus prices would be lower for everyone."

On the short-term, Shewmake said the policy change "is going to be a shock."

"It's going to be a logistic nightmare," he commented. "It's going to be a lot more work for everyone."

"BUT IT'S going to take care of a problem and students will get use out of their money."

The \$70 must be paid at the business office on April 7, 8, or 9. A time assignment will be attached to the re-application form.

"If you do not have the full \$100 on deposit with the business office, we will not be able to confirm your housing reservation for fall semester 1982," the memo warns.

Shewmake said he only learned of the change last week while he was in Mississippi. He said he began work on the logistics Monday morning when he returned to MTSU.

"In the past we've done great harm to everybody by waiting and saying at the last minute, 'Here it is!'"

Probable fee increases this summer

By CLAUDIA ROBINSON
Education Editor

The anticipated fee increases for the 1982-83 academic year may become effective with summer session II, President Sam Ingram said yesterday.

The State Board of Regents' staff is expected to recommend an increase of 10 percent in undergraduate fees and 15 percent in graduate fees at the March 18 meeting of the board at

Cleveland State Community College, Ingram said, "but it's still up in the air."

Full-time undergraduate fees would increase from \$347 to \$380, and graduate fees from \$433 to \$494 if the increase is adopted by the board.

Ingram also confirmed that starting with summer session II graduate students will have to pay graduate fees for undergraduate courses.

'Fair' turnout of 180

15 elected to Faculty Senate

Wednesday's Faculty Senate Election had a "fair" turnout with only 180 people voting, the chairman of the Faculty Senate Election Committee said yesterday.

Republicans go against Reagan on education cuts

From WIRE REPORTS
WASHINGTON — Republicans on the House Education and Labor Committee have broken ranks with the Reagan administration on its proposed cuts in education funds.

"We can't afford the defense budget at the expense of the education budget," Rep. William F. Goodling, R-Pa., told Education Secretary T.H. Bell Tuesday.

Rep. John Ashbrook of Ohio,

"The voting was steady all day," said committee chairman Margaret Anderson. "I wouldn't call it a poor turnout, just fair."

THE FOLLOWING faculty members were elected to the

ranking Republican on the panel and a strong supporter of the administration during last year's budget-cutting, told Bell, "Many of these proposals I can't support."

AND HE complained that "Republican members had minimal impact—next to no impact—on the decisions that are being made."

"You tend to bring us in on the landing but rarely on the takeoff," Ashbrook said.

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Senate:

Robert Hayes, accounting and information systems; George Jacobs, management and marketing; Chester Parker, psychology; Linnell Gentry, youth education; Lon Nuell, art; Roy Shelton, foreign languages; John Ray, geography.

Fred Rolater, history; James Lorenz, industrial studies; Lester Levi, math; James Kemp, industrial studies; Marilyn Chance, nursing; Warren L. Anderson, agriculture; Otha H. Compton, military science; and Jim Norton, mass communication.

"It is customary for the newly elected to attend the regular April meeting of the Faculty Senate," Anderson said.

The new president for the Senate will be elected in April.

Campus Capsule

THE CAMPUS RECREATION DEPARTMENT will sponsor mixed doubles racquetball competition Wednesday. There will be a canoe trip March 13-14, and there will be soccer and softball March 15.

All groups and organizations interested must sign up by 4:30 p.m. Monday in the Campus Recreation Office, Room 203 of the Alumni Memorial Gym.

THE MTSU CATHOLIC CENTER will sponsor its spring "Search" weekend March 12-14 at St. Rose of Lima Catholic Church's gymnasium. The weekend is open to any young adults ages 18 to 26.

For reservations and further information, call or write The Catholic Center, MTSU Box 600, phone 893-9612 or contact St. Rose Church at 893-1843.

MISS EDDITH DASHIELL will speak to the Middle Tennessee Conference of Afro American Scholars on the role of Lydia Maria Child in the crusade against slavery.

The speech will be at 6:45 p.m. in Dining Room B of the James Union Building.

PETITIONS FOR THE ASB ELECTIONS may be picked up in the ASB office, Room 304 of the University Center.

They must be returned by noon Monday, although campaigning may begin Sunday.

Races will be conducted for ASB president, speaker of the House and speaker of the Senate. Elections are also scheduled for five sophomore senators, five junior senators, five senior senators and two graduate senators.

The elections will take place March 17 and 18.

TRYOUTS FOR THE MISS TENNESSEE 1982 PAGEANT will be at the Tennessee Performing Arts Center March 27 and 28.

Contestants are to be from the age of 18 to 26. For more information, contact the American Institute of Modeling at 356-8880.

The Miss Tennessee Pageant will be in Jackson, Tenn. on April 24.

Republicans

(Continued from page 1)

Bell ran into a barrage of criticism as he defended the budget proposals as necessary to bring about a healthy economy, while conceding the quality of education for at least some students would be hurt by such cuts.

"For me to sit before this committee and say you can do this without any sacrifice would not be forthcoming," he said.

"**WHEN YOU** reduce funding, you sacrifice as far as quality is concerned," Bell said.

The Reagan administration

has proposed reducing federal education funds from about \$13 billion to \$10 billion, tightening requirements and pay-back procedures for guaranteed student loans and reducing the Education Department to a foundation.

On Monday, thousands of college students, chanting "books not bombs," urged Congress to reject President Reagan's proposed cuts in federal grants and loans for education.

House Speaker Thomas P. O'Neill Jr. told students rallying

on the steps of the Capitol in the late afternoon that Reagan's budget cuts are "hard and tough, harsh and stern. You can stop them. ...I can see you serving as a helping hand to all of the students of America."

STUDENT leaders estimated that more than 5,000 students, mostly from the Northeast, turned out for the so-called National Student Lobby Day. Lt. R.F. Reginaldi of the U.S. Capitol Police said about 2,000 students attended the day's closing rally.

Financial aid

(Continued from page 1)

half of cost from three-fourths of cost, TSAC was able to make more students eligible for the grants.

If no federal money is appropriated for state grants in 1983-84 as the president proposes, 1700-1800 students will have to be dropped from the program, Barber said.

TSAC's expanded eligibility could help MTSU students, Wrenn said, however.

"I am anticipating us getting maybe double our number of state grants for fall '82," he said.

"**IF WE CAN** get 11-1200 or maybe even 1500 students getting half their fees paid, then it's that much money we don't have to come up with on campus," he explained.

This fall does not look too bad in the other federal programs either.

"If everything is in place as I understand it to be, there are no currently enrolled students [in

SEOG and NDSL] who are going to have the rug jerked out from under them for fall of '82.

"If we can get a good number of people on state grants that weren't on them this year and the BEOG holds its own, I believe we can salvage it this fall," Wrenn said.

"Greatest problems are with incoming students."—Wrenn

"**THE GREATEST** problems I see are with the incoming students," he added.

A shift in emphasis to bank loans will be made for them, he explained.

However, losing 46 percent of the BEOG program in 1983 will cause "some serious problems," he said.

Guaranteed Student Loans are another problem.

"The rules have not been finalized for the fall of '82 yet,"

Wrenn said.

"**THE TRAGEDY** of this is we can't even process a loan for this fall and it keeps backing lending institutions and schools further and further into the corner," he explained.

The schools will do whatever is necessary to get the loans through when the rules are established, he said, even if that means "everybody coming in and working day and night."

It may not be so easy for the lending institutions to get the process finished in time to have the money to students by August, he said.

WHEN THE RULES are established, Wrenn said, probably the only students hurt this fall will be from families with incomes over \$30,000. He also predicted the origination fee will go up to 10 percent from 5 percent.

There are 119 graduate students at MTSU receiving GSLs of 9 percent or less. However, the president's proposal excludes graduate students from this program.

Implementation in Tennessee of a federal program that offers 14 percent guaranteed loans to parents and students, including graduates, is now being considered by the General Assembly.

BUT WRENN remains hopeful for 1983, he said, as long as the budget is still in Congress.

GOV. LAMAR Alexander sent the delegation a letter in January urging them "to

"It's Katie, bar the door."—Wrenn

maintain funding for student-aid programs at the reduced levels" set in December.

Last fall the governor created a stir when he insisted that anyone who wants a college education can afford it if he has a summer job.

In his letter, however, he told the Congressmen: "Inflation and necessary fee increases are eroding students' abilities to fund a college education and will continue to impact this ability even if student aid funding levels off and is held steady."

ADDED TO THE voices of the governor and THEC is that of student financial aid organizations such as the National Association of Financial Aid Administrators, of which Wrenn is a member.

"We're putting all our efforts—everything we've got—into making sure the message gets to where it can do some good," Wrenn said.

Tuition

(Continued from page 1)

he said.

If enrollments do increase at state colleges and universities, fees would have to be increased to meet the cost, he said. The increase would not come this fall, but in fall 1983.

AT THE same time, private institutions will be forced to

increase their fees due to the loss of students, he said.

The cuts in student aid will disproportionately affect poor and middle-income families, Brown said.

Also Tennessee will be less able to compete with other Southern states in attracting new industry, he said.

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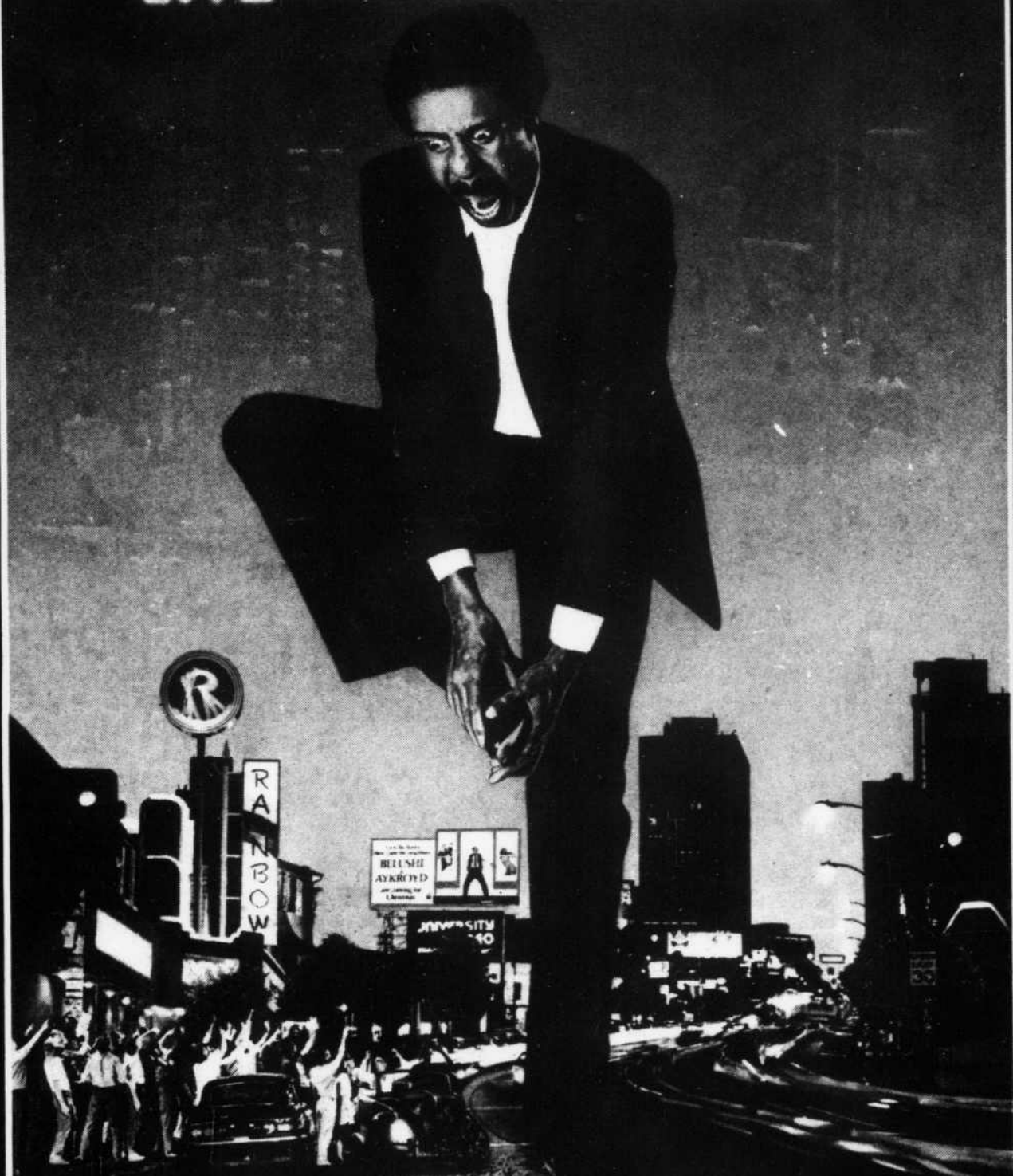
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It's a bird...

MTSU students Robin Baker (below left) and Lee Rice (below right) watch as a member of the MTSU Parachute Club floats to the lawn in front of the University Center Wednesday.

Photo by Greg Campbell



'Annie' a great escape from worries

By PHIL WILLIAMS

News Editor

High unemployment rates, the financial collapse of businessmen and their companies, hungry people and troubles in foreign relations—the scene is all too familiar.

Yet "Annie," which opened Tuesday for a two-week run at the Tennessee Performing Arts Center, provides a wonderful, fanciful escape from the concerns of that Depression era and those of today.

*"Just thinking about tomorrow
Clears away the cobwebs and the sorrows,
Till there's none.*

*"When I'm stuck with a day
That's grey and lonely,
I just stick out my chin and grin
and say:*

*"Tomorrow, tomorrow,
I love you, tomorrow.
You're always a day away."*

"Annie," based on the comic strip "Little Orphan Annie," is a delightfully optimistic tale of an 11-year-old orphan and the search for the parents who abandoned her after her birth. The only key to those relatives is a letter promising they will return for her someday and a locket left on the child as an identifying trademark.

THE PLAY, which is reminiscent of a Charles Dickens tale, opens in the New York

Municipal Orphanage, where Annie and five other girls are under the charge of the tyrannical Miss Hannigan. Hannigan, who admits her hatred for the children in the song "Little Girls," epitomizes Cinderella's stepmother (especially when she forces her underlings to scrub floors at 4 a.m.).

Theatre Review

Annie flees the orphanage in search of her parents, coming upon a shanty camp underneath the 59th Street Bridge. The inhabitants of this area—which is called Hooverville, after the president blamed for the Depression—sing a song thanking Hoover because "you made us what we are today." Yet the eternally optimistic youngster finds a silver lining in all of their woes, including empty pockets ("At least you have pockets") and frozen

fingers ("At least you have pockets").

After being recaptured and sent back to the orphanage, Annie is selected to spend a two-week Christmas vacation with billionaire Oliver Warbucks. Although the attraction between the two grows to the point that Warbucks wants to adopt the child, Annie's dedication to locating her parents forces him to promise, "You won't be an orphan for long."

THE SEARCH leads to the deployment of 50 FBI agents and the offer of a \$50,000 reward to the parents on "Hour of Smiles" radio program. The monetary incentive brings hundreds of would-be parents, including Miss Hannigan's con-artist brother, Rooster, and his wayward girlfriend, Lily St. Regis ("named after the hotel"). Rooster and Lily are given an extra advantage after being informed of the secret locket by Miss Hannigan.

Meanwhile, Annie is urging President Franklin D. Roosevelt to embrace positive thinking about the economy, leading him to conceive his "New Deal."

Under the direction of Martin Charnin, "Annie" is nothing short of exceptional. The production, which opened on Broadway almost five years ago, is fresh and lively in almost every aspect.

OF COURSE, optimum credit must go to 10-year-old Bridget Walsh, who portrays Annie. The child, who was selected from more than 3,000 auditioners, demonstrates marvelous singing and acting abilities in the starring role. At times, however, she does exhibit some of the tediousness and



Bridget Walsh and Moose portray Orphan Annie and Sunday in the captivating production of "Annie" currently being performed at the Tennessee Performing Arts Center.

boredom associated with having acted a part hundreds of times.

Rhodes Reason, who only recently debuted with the "Annie" company, offers a sterling performance in the role of the once-ruthless Oliver Warbucks, *entrepreneur extraordinaire*. ("Making money was all I cared about," he tells Annie. "After all, you don't have to be nice to people on the way

up if you're not coming down.")

Kathleen Freeman, as the evil Miss Hannigan, gives an energetic—but tremendously overacted—performance. (Freeman's portrayal reminds one of thespians in a third-rate television sit-com.)

TWO OTHER actresses deserve special mention. Kathryn Boule adds warmth and energy to the entire production

From Williams to Albee

Directing students to present one-act plays

The Fine Arts Festival continues March 8 through March 11 as students of the theatre department's advanced directing class present a series of one-act plays.

The plays will begin each night at 6:30 in the Dramatic Arts Arena Theatre.

MONDAY, March 8, these plays will be offered:

- "My Cup Runneth Over" by Robert Patrick. Sherri Edelen and Tammy Coffman star in this hilarious romp about two Greenwich Village roommates

coming to terms with success and self-centeredness in the "me" generation. The play is directed by Jerome Davis.

- "The Love Course" by A.R. Gurney Jr. This serio-comic play deals with the conflicts of two teachers and two students in a college literature course. The cast features Tracy Bailey, Diana Fugate, Michael McGee and William Lukemire. The production is directed by Lukemire.

- "Suppressed Desires" by Susan Glaspell, is a sophisticated

comedy concerning the early reactions to Freudian theories of psychoanalysis. Denise McNeil, Denise Schmidt and Kevin Kruse suffer through the agonies of analysis which result in bizzare, yet hilarious dream interpretations. Lisa Seay is the director.

THESE THREE plays are to be presented Tuesday, March 9.

- "27 Wagons Full of Cotton" by Tennessee Williams. Virginia Smart heads the cast in this stark drama about Southern life. It is directed by Jac Stephens.

in her role as the attentive assistant to Warbucks. Also, 8-year-old Monica Miller enlivens the entire production in her role as the orphan Molly.

The music (by composer Charles Strouse), lyrics (by director Charnin) and choreography (by Peter Genaro) are no less marvelous than the acting. The actors portraying the orphan girls offer heartwarming performances, while the adult cast is simply fabulous in the vocal realm.

The sets—from the damp, dark orphanage and Warbucks' elegant mansion to the Hooverville beneath the portentous 59th Street Bridge—are exquisitely designed, accentuating the beautiful story.

"ANNIE" IS a delightful form of escapism. Only in such a production could:

- an orphan child be taken in by a billionaire;
- people believe that anything can happen in New York City ("After New York, every place else is Buffalo");
- 50 "C-men" be assigned to locate parents who have been missing for 11 years;
- a child advise the President of the United States on domestic matters;

- and a president become personally involved in the search for an orphan's parents.

Obviously, if you don't appreciate fairy tales, comic strips and happy endings, "Annie" will probably not interest you.

Yet, if one is willing to set aside all pretense of sophistication, "Annie" is a delightful reminder that "tomorrow is only a day away."

- "Opening Night" by John Cromwell. Tammy Mayo is an aging actress struggling against alcoholism with the aid of Denise Schmidt and under the direction of Tony Davis.

- "Fumed Oak" by Noel Coward. Connie Campbell directs this unusual comedy about family problems in the 1930s.

TWO PLAYS will be staged Wednesday, March 10:

- "Lovers: Winners" by Brian Friel. "Winners" is a bittersweet Irish drama concerning two 17-year-old children dealing with an adult situation; pregnancy. The cast, directed by Catherine Berresheim, includes Connie Campbell, Tim Butler and David Lee.

- "Ex-Miss Copper Queen On a Set of Pills" by Megan Terry. Diana Fugate, Tammy Riden and Elizabeth Jacobs star in this story about two bag ladies and a druggie in New York City whose lives intertwine for a moment. The production is directed by Lorinda Anderson.

THE SERIES of one-acts ends Thursday, March 11 with these plays:

- "Zoo Story" by Edward Albee. Diane Dundee directs this gripping tale of man's inhumanity to man. The two member cast is comprised of Leland Gregory and Tommy Carter.

- "The Golden Fleece" by A.R. Gurney Jr. Sherri Edelen and Barclay Randall star in this unusual tale about a couple's wait for the golden fleece. The play is directed by Terry Randolph.

to start work on a book of unrelated short stories soon.

In the more distant future, Gregory plans to get married. And Lannan...he'll leave society and be a hermit, said Gregory.

"He'll live on an island and make bombs," he added.

"I'm a monk," chimed in Lannan.

WHEN ONE looks at a Stonehenge cartoon, be it "Ronnie Ray-Gun" or just a political cartoon for the editorial page, he can get an idea of the duo's political philosophy.

"I'm liberal," said Gregory, "or a radical conservative."

"I'm a nomad," quipped Lannan.

"Really, we're a cross between Castro and Jim Seignior," concluded Gregory.

Vibraphonist to highlight Tuesday Noon Show

Vibraphonist Ted Piltzecker will perform in a Noon Show in the University Center Theatre Tuesday. Admission is free and open to the public.

A musician experimenting with new sounds, Piltzecker has performed in Colorado, Washington, Ohio, North Carolina and the Yukon Territory.

PILTZECKER, an Eastman

School of Music graduate, received a National Endowment for the Arts Fellowship and a Creative Artists Public Service grant in jazz composition.

A composer as well as performer, Piltzecker writes ensemble pieces for traditionally non-jazz instruments and has been called "a musician of unquestionable skills" by the *East New Yorker* magazine.

Beware, England: MTSU has own Stonehenge

By JANENE GUPTON

Feature Editor

What happens when a telecommunications major with a theatre minor joins forces with a finance major who minors in business law?

The result could be a local edition of "Wall Street Week" or a study of broadcasting profits.

BUT WHEN Leland Gregory, who has a penchant for hats, gets together with Stephen Lannan, who bears some resemblance to John Paul II, the result of the combined talents is neither theatrical nor financial—but political cartooning.

"Stonehenge," as the duo signs their work, has written scripts for Murfreesboro Educational Television, a show for Channel 17 titled "After Hours," which was cancelled after new management took over the station, and a comedy film titled "Sand...Who Cares?" which is "floating around somewhere in California."

Last September, the duo decided to broaden their horizons with cartooning and answered a *Sidelines* advertisement for cartoonists.

"WE THOUGHT it would be a fun thing to do," Gregory said.

With two people taking credit for one cartoon, the question of who does what might arise. Stonehenge has the process divided just about equally. Gregory comes up with the ideas



Leland Gregory with the ever present hat, and Stephen Lannan with the "big John Lennon glasses" are Stonehenge, the art department for *Sidelines*.

from major political topics of the day, then he tells Lannan who helps polish them and draws the final cartoon.

Stonehenge first began as a trio at Hendersonville High School. In high school, however, the only work that ever got anywhere was "After Hours." After coming to Murfreesboro, the group went down to two members and had more

of their works published.

BOTH LANNAN and Gregory agree that they would like to go into cartooning after school—if they start making money at it.

"I'm greedy," said Lannan when asked why he was a finance major.

"I'm talented and greedy," said Gregory about his choice of a telecommunications major.

Actually, said the two,

cartooning presents a bit of a paradox for them. Both like money and have chosen majors accordingly. But cartooning isn't necessarily a lucrative profession.

AFTER concentrating more on cartooning than writing in the past few months, Stonehenge is getting back into writing. Two of their works were published in *Collage* this year, and they plan

MIDDLE TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY SIDELINES

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On this date

On this date in 1870, author Frank Norris was born in Chicago. In his novel *The Pit*, Norris has a character take a potshot at critics: "He's the kind of man that gets up a reputation for being clever and artistic by running down the very one particular thing that everyone likes, and cracking up some book or picture or play that no one has ever heard of."

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Bob Gary
Greg Campbell
Stephen Lannan
Leland Gregory
Mark Carter
Elizabeth Porter
David Badger

SIDELINES is published every Tuesday and Friday by the students of Middle Tennessee State University. Editorials and columns reflect the opinions of their authors and are not those of the MTSU administration, faculty or staff.

Marijuana legalization practical for several different reasons

"It is now much too late to debate the issue: marijuana versus no marijuana. Marijuana is here to stay. No conceivable law enforcement policy can curb its availability."

—from *Licit and Illicit Drugs* by Edward M. Brecher and the Editors of Consumer Reports

One day marijuana use in America will become legal. It is inevitable. But, aside from that, the legalization of marijuana could have some very practical benefits for our country.

Suppose the U.S. government licensed commercial industries to grow marijuana and controlled the potency level so the quality was consistently good, and mandated that the pot, in pre-rolled joints, be sold in licensed stores under the same age restrictions as govern liquor sales. Consider the beneficial effects this could have on our nation:

- The government could place an extremely high luxury tax on marijuana (which would only cost about what cigarettes do to produce), and thus could add tens of billions of dollars to the U.S. Treasury.

- EVEN WITH A VERY high luxury tax (amounting to many times the actual production cost), the legalized pot could be sold for less than the outrageous prices (\$35-40 per oz.) that are said to be paid on the street for pot today. This would virtually end the illegal marijuana market flourishing today and keep billions of American dollars from leaving this country and ending up in South America.

- This, in turn, would free federal, state and local law authorities to concentrate on more crimes and "hard drug" traffic.

- The availability of legal marijuana of a consistent quality would end harmful exposure to contaminants laced in pot,

such as PCP (angel dust) or paraquat.

- WHILE MARIJUANA in and of itself does not lead to harder drugs, buying it through various illegal sources can (if a dealer has other drugs available). This exposure to harder drugs would virtually be eliminated.

- Removing the stigma of illegality from marijuana would diminish peer-pressure among those who smoke it merely to be "in," "cool," or whatever.

- America industry would get an enormous lift and many new jobs would be created.

GRANTED, MARIJUANA is still controversial. After a 15-month, \$454,000 study for the National Institutes of Health, researchers said evidence implies that prolonged heavy usage may lead to lung cancer (much like cigarettes). But, very few people smoke marijuana with the frequency or the addiction of cigarettes.

The study said little is understood about the drug and cites the need for much more research.

But, no matter what your personal views on marijuana, it is here to stay. So far studies have found that, if used in moderation (and not while operating a car or machinery), it is relatively harmless. And, it is a multi-billion dollar business in the United States.

SO, LIKE IT OR NOT, marijuana has become a fixture in American society. Rather than using law enforcement agencies to harass otherwise good citizens who happen to indulge in marijuana smoking now and then, wouldn't we all be better off to accept reality and move on to crimes of more importance?

And, most importantly, wouldn't the U.S. Treasury benefit more from controlled legalization than from the current mammoth underground, where sales are not even taxed? Think about it.

—MICHAEL TOMPKINS
by Garry Trudeau



Fund-raising letters can get old, especially when from R. Reagan

By JENNIFER WELLS

Columnist

My mailbox spits out an average of five to 10 requests for money each week. I am, unfortunately, on every major mailing list for every major magazine and benevolent organization in the country.

Budget-hit, pleading foundations such as Save the Whales and the NAACP contact me frequently.

"URGENT APPEALS for money are made without a flicker of an eyelash. Each request consists of a pleasantly-worded, typed reproduction of a letter. On most, I cannot tell that my name and address has been added later, so cleverly is the print job executed.

An additional card is usually enclosed, with convenient little boxes I can check. The lowest little box may be marked \$15, the highest, \$1,000. There is also a space marked "other." If I'm ever interested in any of this, I am always the "other."

I am to return the little card in the convenient, postage-paid, self-addressed envelope. The forms save me the trouble of thinking, and say such things as "Yes, I support so and so, and realize the necessity of sending you such and such," etc.

I HAVE BEEN deluged with every gimmick imaginable. My conscience has been appealed to. My inherent sensitivity to guilt has been touched.

Sometimes there is an additional little memo in the envelope, usually folded and saying "read this if you decide not to..."

This folksy little memo appears to be handwritten, but is actually press-on letters. It always starts: "Frankly, Ms. Wells, we just don't understand why you would wish to pass up this magnificent opportunity."

I CHUCKIT ALL. Now imagine my dismay, when I found myself on the mailing list of one President Ronald Reagan. Yes, I came

home one day to find a cream-colored envelope with classic blue letters on the upper left-hand corner stating simply "Ronald Reagan."

"Now what could Ronald want?" I bemusingly ask myself as I fumble with my front-doorkeys. Inside, I quickly slit the envelope.

THE FRIENDLY AND familiar IBM typeface greets me at the top of his letterhead. (The paper, by the way, is a different color than the envelope—I'm sure Mrs. Reagan would highly disapprove.)

Worse, my name and address is obviously different from the rest of the letter. Another faux pas, oh dear!

But the message is (sigh) the same.

NOW MR. REAGAN did not come right out and actually ask me for money in the first few paragraphs. First, he talked about his election.

According to President Reagan, his election "to serve you and our country is the highest honor" he will ever have in his life. I agree completely.

Next, he says that with "God's blessings and your help" he can "lead America away from the critical dangers that threaten our nation." (Uh huh.)

Then—here it comes—he asks for my personal help. (Uh oh.)

HAVING AROUSED my curiosity, he then digresses somewhat to discuss his campaign pledges. I won't mention those, and can't for the life of me figure out why he did.

In short, it takes President Reagan 306 words and 11 paragraphs before he asks me for money.

According to Reagan, my "sacrifice" is needed to finance "the most ambitious Republican campaign program ever launched."

NOW, I SHOULD explain here that although I considered registering as a Republican during the Nixon era in order to avoid being thought suspicious,

I simply could not force myself to do it. I am a registered, and somewhat conservative, Democrat. I occasionally vote Republican. I tend to vote for the individual—not the party.

I have never voted for a Republican president.

Reagan continues his plea. It seems that "\$9.4 million is needed to fight the 'incumbent liberal Democrat's' majority in the House of Representatives."

NOW, SINCE GOD is on Reagan's side (remember his blessings in paragraph 17) I can only infer that God is not on the side of the Democrats.

I can also think of several ways that \$9.4 million might be better spent.

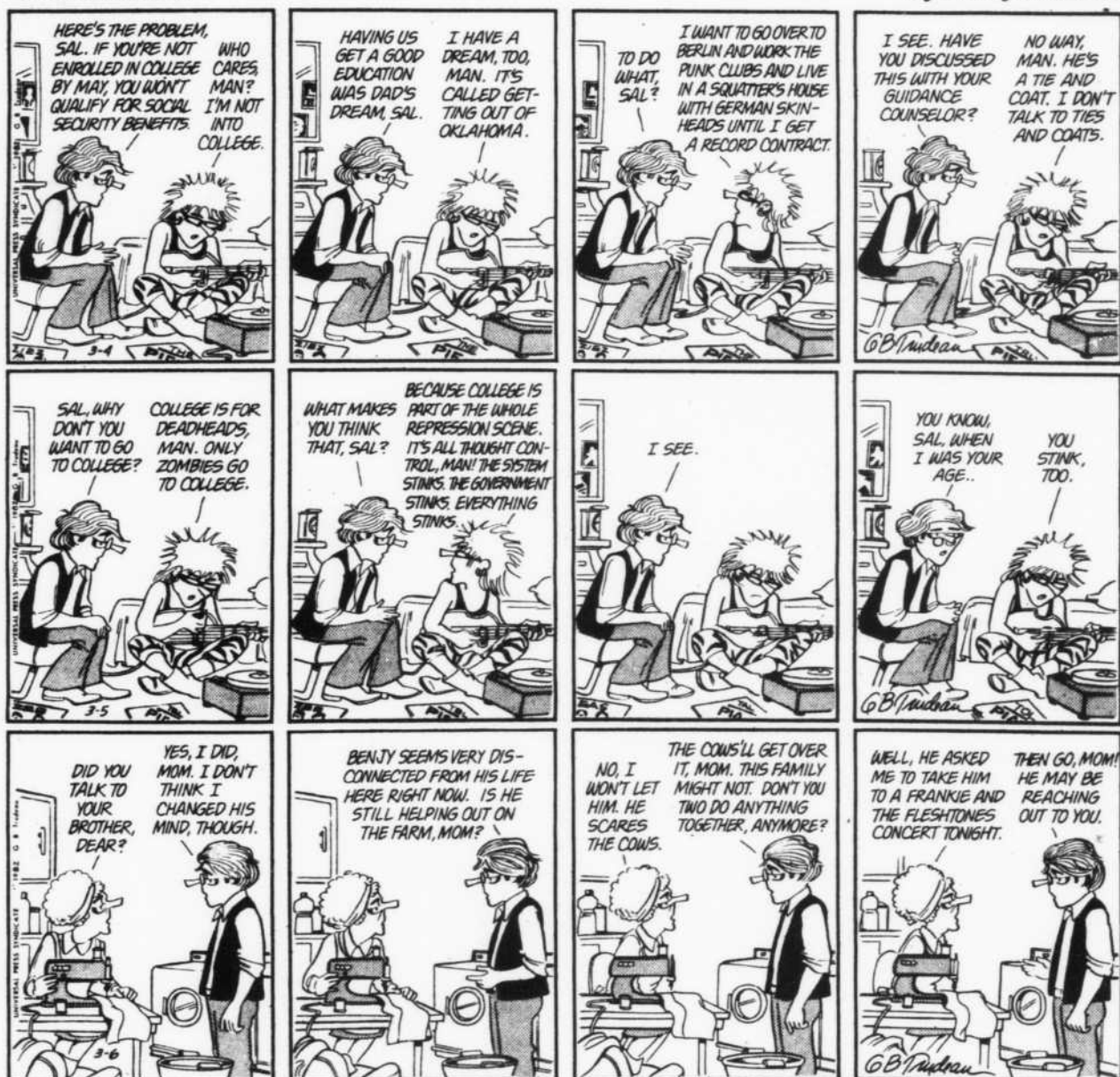
Furthermore, this party-against-party reeks of "Good ole boy," locker-room politics. I have visions of the National Republican Congressional Committee dipping their broiled lobster in seasoned butter under crystal chandelier, while their wives polish their diamonds in the powder rooms. Paid for, in part, by my "sacrifice."

FINALLY, I LOOK at the postage-paid, pre-addressed, convenient envelope. "To the Personal Attention of President Ronald Reagan" is stamped in red ink on the front.

I assume that Mr. Reagan will open my envelope over his morningcoffee. No? Well, perhaps over his mid-morning brunch. Lunch? After his nap? Surely not at dinner!

Perhaps if the letter had been from the Chairman of the Republican Congressional Committee I would not find this particular fund-raising tactic so objectionable. But, coming from the president, I find it—well, tacky.

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Sports

Raiders prepare for OVC tourney *Morehead upsets MTSU; NCAA hopes dwindle*

FROM STAFF, WIRE REPORTS

If there is one thing to be said about this year's Ohio Valley Conference basketball tournament, it's that any of the four finalists are capable of winning it.

Western Kentucky and Murray State, OVC co-champions with 13-3 records, join Middle Tennessee, 12-4,

and Morehead State, 11-5, in the two-day tournament that begins Friday night in Bowling Green, Ky.

The first round pits Murray State against Middle Tennessee and Western Kentucky against Morehead State. The title game will be played Saturday.

The tournament champion will be the conference's

representative in the NCAA tournament that begins next week.

MTSU's game with Murray State will be a rematch of last year's first round OVC Tournament game. The Racers defeated the Blue Raiders in that contest, but lost to Western Kentucky in the finals.

The Blue Raiders will pin their hopes to a large extent on their inside-outside combination of Jerry Beck, the conference's Player of the Year for the second consecutive year, and Rick Campbell.

Beck was the OVC's third-leading scorer with 17.8 and top rebounder with 9.8 a game. The 6-7 senior also led in field-goal percentage with .636. Campbell was fourth in scoring at 17.4.

MTSU head coach Stan Simpson says that the choice for Beck as the league's top player was really no choice at all.

"Jerry has really handled himself well this year," Simpson said. "He had a lot of pressure on him coming into the season as Player of the Year from last season, but he's responded well, played excellent basketball, and deserves the award."

"We're expecting big things from Jerry in the tournament," Simpson concluded.

Western Kentucky gained the homecourt advantage by defeating Middle Tennessee twice during the season. Murray State split with the Blue Raiders, Middle Tennessee gained the only other sweep in the field by taking two games from Morehead State.

The last time MTSU and Murray got together, the Raiders had everything their own way in scoring a shockingly easy 70-53 win at Murray. Simpson, though, realizes that things are likely to be not quite as smooth this time around.

"We did an excellent job on Murray last month," said "Ramrod", "but we can't expect them just to sit there and let us do it again."

"I'm sure they'll be ready for us," Simpson said.

Murray State has the best record in the group at 20-6, followed by Middle Tennessee, 19-7, Western Kentucky, 18-8 and Morehead State 17-9.

The Hilltoppers and Middle Tennessee are both coming into the tourney with four-game winning streaks. Murray State has won three straight while Morehead State whipped Tennessee Tech 97-76 in its season finale.

Western Kentucky, winner of last year's tourney, has to be considered the favorite by its strong victories at home against the other entries. The Hilltoppers ripped Murray State 71-54, Morehead State 68-53 and Middle Tennessee 65-49 in games played at the E.A. Diddle Arena in Bowling Green.

All-OVC players Craig McCormick, a 6-foot-10 center, and guard Bobby Jones led the Hilltoppers this season. McCormick averaged 14.1 points and 5.9 rebounds while Jones, a sophomore from Macon, Ga., ran the offense.

Murray State has two all-conference players in forward Ricky Hood and guard Glen Green. Hood, a transfer from Mississippi, tossed in 13.5 points and 9.1 rebounds a game and Green led the OVC in assists with 4.6 and the Racers in scoring with 15 a game.

All-OVC guard Guy Minnifield averaged 14.7 points and 3.0 assists to lead Morehead State to the postseason tourney.

FROM STAFF REPORTS

COOKEVILLE — MTSU's Lady Raiders' hopes for post-season tournament play outside of the OVC Tournament took a turn for the worse quickly here last night.

Morehead's Lady Eagles took revenge of two regular-season losses and upset the second-seeded Lady Raiders 66-62 in semi-final action of the OVC Tournament.

MIDDLE Tennessee had their chance down the stretch but a 10-foot jump shot by Eva Lemeh with 17 seconds remaining and Morehead 64-62 caromed off the rim sending the Lady Eagles into the final round of the tourney and the Lady Raiders home to Murfreesboro with faint hopes of receiving an at-large bid to the NCAA Tournament.

The key to the game was early foul trouble for MTSU as both Holly Hoover and Jennifer McFall fell victims to the whistle.

Hoover picked up two fouls just barely over one minute into the game before most of the crowd got settled in their seats. McFall had to sit down early in the second half after she picked up two quick fouls early.

NEITHER player returned to the line up until about eight minutes were remaining to play. Hoover then fouled out with 5:55 to play.

With just 35 seconds left, the Lady Raiders had a chance to win the ballgame, but MTSU turned the ball over giving Morehead possession with a one-point lead. Middle was then forced to foul.

Morehead missed the front end of four one-and-one



All-OVC first-team pick Jennifer McFall poured in 15 points last night during MTSU's 66-62 loss to the Lady Eagles. The loss ended most of Middle's hopes of receiving a bid to the NCAA Tournament.

situations that allowed MTSU to get back in the game midway through the second stanza.

LADY EAGLE Edwina Jackson followed a missed shot with 9:11 to play to give Morehead their biggest lead 52-44. The Lady Eagles missed foul shots then set the stage for the comeback.

Cyndi Lindley hit two free throws with 4:58 to play giving MTSU the lead 55-54.

The Lady Raiders placed three players in double figures with Jennifer McFall leading the way with 15 points. Pat Banjlych added 11 and Lindley tossed in 10.

MOREHEAD, however, put four Lady Eagles in double-figure scoring.

MTSU managed to hit only 37.5 percent from the field on 24 of 64 attempts and 14 of 19 from the charity stripe for 73 percent.

Morehead hit 27 of 56 from floor for 48.2 percent and 12 out of 23 from the foul line for 52.2 percent.

For only the second time this season the Lady Raiders were out-rebounded by their opponents. Morehead grabbed 41 rebounds to MTSU's 38.

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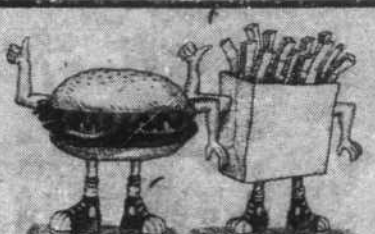
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Sports Stuff Friday

By BOB GARY

Today's column marks a milestone of sorts—my last as sports editor of *Sidelines*. I've resigned that job effective Monday, but, probably to the chagrin of most of you, I hope to continue the column every Friday.

I've been listening to opinions voiced around campus by sports enthusiasts who read the editorial in this publication last Tuesday, and nearly all voices are in unison—sharp disagreement.

LET ME SAY this at the outset before I go any further. The editor-in-chief here is a top-notch individual and a textbook journalist. Everything is by the book, and very well-done at that.

However, he is not a big sports fan, and therefore not able to analyze the event in question with the same perspective that I or any other sports nut would. We're simply looking at the same situations through different sets of glasses, and therefore seeing different things.

You know how he feels. Here's how a lot of folks (dare I say a majority?) feel about the "special cheers" for that Saturday night game with Western Kentucky:

First of all, it was, as college basketball goes, the best, cleanest fun you can have. Saying it was unsportsmanlike and should not be condoned is like saying that it's unpatriotic to make jokes about the president, and that anyone who does should be punished. No way.

SECONDLY, I know for a fact that Western Kentucky coach Clem Haskins got a big laugh out of it, which is the one and only purpose for which the cheers were intended—laughs.

Lastly, have any of you wondered why this particular game was chosen to display such "immaturity and unsportsmanlike conduct?" How about the fact that it was on national TV? After all, if you're going to be on the tube, you've got to have your act together. We did.

There's no way in the world that what was done at the Western game symbolized anything remotely resembling "unsportsmanlike conduct." You want to know about unsportsmanlike conduct?

How about a Big 10 conference game between Ohio State and Minnesota back in 1971, in which the Minnesota coach condoned and even encouraged proceedings when his frustrated team members lost all conception of sportsmanship and began physically assaulting (cute euphemism for "beating the hell out of") the Ohio State players. Two or three OSU players got out with concussions, some had severe lacerations, and one player damn near got his skull caved in when two beefy Minnesota players kicked him repeatedly. And all the Buckeyes were doing to provoke the attack was winning.

I CALL that unsportsmanlike conduct.

Let's get one thing straight. College athletes are tough. They have to be. I can see where things like ice-throwing, charging out of the stands after a player or questioning someone's birthright is taken as unsportsmanlike conduct. I agree completely with that definition. But those "special cheers," which weren't nearly as destructive as

any of the above? I hardly think so. Loosen up, folks. As compared to what goes on in most other major college arenas, your conception of unsportsmanlike conduct compares favorably to maypole dancing.

Now, on to **MY WEEKLY DIG AT THE TWO PRE-EMINENT TENNESSEE VOLS ON CAMPUS, TERRY AND DAVID**: I will assume you've seen the letter we published the other day that was written by your cohort in orangedom, Keith Snyder.

As it happened, we got the letter, didn't have room to run it last week, and my reply ran in last Friday's column, ahead of the letter. For any of you who are not familiar with how this procedure works, the letter is supposed to come first, followed by the reply. Therefore, Mr. K. Snyder, stand at the ready, 'cause here I come.

I will acknowledge that the Vols have played very well this year, perhaps over their heads. As far as their winning the close ones, though, somebody forgot to tell them to win the close ones at Auburn and Georgia to end the regular season.

Following on this last point, I'd like to say this—I'll be the first to admit that Kentucky looked like a grade school team against LSU last Saturday. It happened, and there are no excuses to be made. But consider this—due to the delay in the UT-Auburn game, the Vols knew the outcome of that game before they took the floor against the Tigers. They knew if they beat Auburn, a team in the bottom third of the SEC, they would win their first sole conference title since 1967.

They lost. Now you tell me—I know the 'Cats got blown out, but who choked when they had their destiny in their own hands? Who couldn't come up with the "W" when they knew it meant sole possession of the conference title?

DON'T TALK to me about choking, fellas.

Let me say this in closing: this is something that I've been trying to hold back on because it is unequivocally elitist, but now I don't care.

This is for all you Tennessee fans that think you've got a pretty good thing going in Knoxville: You do have a really good program down there. UT has a great coach, and they'll probably win a few tournament games.

But let me say this to you—when the Vols win SEC championship number 32 (currently the number of SEC titles credited to Kentucky) and their fifth national championship (again, Kentucky's number) **THEN** you can talk to me about Tennessee being better than Kentucky. Not before.

Look in your calendar, and I think you'll find that the date on which Tennessee will equal Kentucky in number of championships and the date on which hell is due to freeze over are roughly the same.

Men's tennis, track in weekend action

MTSU's men's track team is winding down its indoor season, the men's tennis team is just starting their outdoor campaign, and both have big competitions coming up this weekend.

Murphy Center will be the scene for the "Last Chance Invitational," which, as the name implies, will be the last indoor competition anywhere in the nation before next weekend's NCAA championships.

THE MEET commences at 10:30 a.m. with the field events, and continues at 1 p.m. with the running events.

"This particular meet has really helped make our program and school nationally recognized in track," said Blue Raider Coach Dean Hayes.

"It's been a big plus for us, and has always brought outstanding individuals to our campus, and this year should be no exception," he concluded.

The meet will be the final opportunity for tracksters all over the country to qualify for the NCAA championships in Detroit.

AMONG THOSE Blue Raiders due to compete are Miguel Williams in the 60-yard high hurdles, Kenny Shannon in the 60-yard dash, John Davis in the 1,000 yard run, and Joe O' Loughlin in the mile.

The field also includes such standouts as Mississippi's Ralph Spry, who has already qualified for the nationals in the long

jump, Eugene Sanders of Mississippi Valley (the defending national champion in the 600 yard dash), and Darren Pahl of Murray State, the OVC's newly-crowned pole vault champion.

Teams as well as individuals will be competing at Murphy Center this weekend. Mississippi Valley, Arkansas, and Maryland-Eastern Shore will battle for the mile relay title, while Nebraska and Southern Methodist University will compete for top honors in the two mile. Southeastern Conference representatives Tennessee and Louisiana State will join North Carolina State in competition for the title in the distance medley relay.

MEANWHILE, MTSU's men's basketball team won't be the only folks from Murfreesboro going to Bowling Green, Ky., this weekend. Dick LaLance's men's tennis team will journey to Western Kentucky University to take on three different opponents.

The Blue Raider netters will be facing host Western Kentucky, Southeast Missouri State University, and the University of North Alabama.

MTSU will go to the meet having split their first two matches of the year, a 9-0 whitewashing of the University of the South (Sewanee) coupled with a 9-0 loss to Vanderbilt.

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