

Lady Raiders overcome 20-point deficit to win 7

MIDDLE TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY SIDELINES

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 24, 2008

EDITORIALLY INDEPENDENT

VOL. 84 NO. 59

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It's time to grow up

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MT football sets new records

Junior running back Phillip Tanner scored six touchdowns against North Texas, a conference record

SPORTS, 7

COMMUTE

Alumni Drive from Blue Raider Drive to Friendship Street will be closed for the fall semester for road improvements. With the closing of Alumni, there will be no access to the Library parking lot. During the construction period, the northern part of the parking lot by the Honors Building will be changed from green to white. The southern end of the lot by Ezell Hall will remain green for students. You will not be able to access the campus via Womack Lane.

Due to construction, several lots have been rezoned. All legal parking areas are designated by signs, painted stripes, or other marks. Be sure to check the posted signs BEFORE you park your automobile. If it is not marked, don't park!

For more information, visit www.mtsu.edu/~parking.

FAST FOOD CAMPUS



Photo Illustration by Alex Blackwelder, photography editor
For \$3, consumers can purchase a double cheeseburger, small fries and a small soft drink at McDonald's. These items provide 880 calories, which is roughly half of a woman's recommended daily intake.

SEE FAST FOOD CAMPUS, PAGE 3 FOR FULL REPORT

Budget cut panic forces MTSU athletics to focus on essentials

By FAITH FRANKLIN
Assistant News Editor

Amid the university's budget crisis, the athletic department has managed to cut back without immediately impacting the performance of its teams due to its ability to generate its own revenue.

The athletic department has an advantage that a lot of other campus departments lack.

"We are a little bit different than some for the other departments, be-

cause we do have the ability to raise our own revenue," said Chris Massaro, athletic director. "We try to generate revenue, with fundraising, ticket sales and merchandise sales."

In terms of football ticket sales, the department's revenues are well ahead of where they were last year, Massaro said.

Even though the athletic department can offset some of the budget cuts, it has cut three to four percent of its budget "across the board," according to Massaro.

"We have to make some very

tough decisions on what's important and what's not important to us," Massaro said.

The department has cut back on entertainment that it would like to provide in addition to trimming the amount of hospitality provided to donors, Massaro said.

"We used to have these big firework shows at one of our home football games," Massaro said. We have cut [them] out."

The department has also made changes in its recruiting practices,

shortening the amount of time that coaches spend on the road recruiting potential players.

"We basically do all our recruiting by car, said Rick Stockstill, head coach for football. "These are not the easiest of times, but you have to adjust and make the best of it."

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Photo by Alex Teneff, staff photographer

A resident's van and truck were set on fire late Friday night at their apartment.

Early morning car fires near campus 'appear suspicious'

By TIFFANY GIBSON
Campus News Editor

Murfreesboro firefighters responded to a call that a resident's red van and red truck were on fire at the Belle Aire complex on 1207 Sloan St. in front of apartment G6 late Friday night.

Chris Ayers, firefighter, said that when he and four other trucks arrived, they saw the two cars smoking and in a blaze.

"It's 1:10 in the morning and just by judging that both of them are on fire at the same time, it would be hard to say why it happened or who did it, but I would say it's under investigation and appears suspicious," Ayers said.

Neighbor Don Christenson

said that he wasn't home when the incident happened, but quickly returned when his wife called.

"They're the only people here that has had any gas siphoned," Christenson said. "We haven't had any gas stolen from us, and all of a sudden a fire breaks out in the middle of the week, [so] I would call it a coincidence."

Ayers said that two investigators from the Fire Marshals Division would be looking more thoroughly into the situation.

If anyone has any information on this incident please contact the Murfreesboro Fire Department at (615) 893-1422 or the Murfreesboro Police Department at (615) 849-2670.



Photo by Jay Bailey, staff photographer

(Right) Courtney Becky serves Justin Babb at the Smoke Out.

Sorority 'smokes out' arthritis with barbecue

By ALEX MOORMAN
Assistant News Editor

In an effort to raise funds and awareness for arthritis research, Alpha Omicron Pi held its 11th annual 'Smoke Out Arthritis' BBQ.

"This philanthropy is really important because almost everyone knows someone with arthritis," said Amanda Newell, senior education and behavioral science major. "I know personally my mom and dad have arthritis, so I'm bound to have arthritis, so I know how much it can affect peoples' lives. One in every three people have it."

Slick Pig BBQ provided the lunch and tickets were sold

for \$7 a plate. Tickets were sold the day of the event and all proceeds went to benefit arthritis research. The event was last Saturday before the game at Walnut Grove.

"We are really passionate about our philanthropy which is Arthritis research," said Rachel Morris, junior liberal arts major.

"This is a great way to raise awareness and get the community involved on campus."

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CORRECTION

In an article about the new student union building published Thursday, Nov. 20, the completion date for the building is said to be at the end of 2011. This was the proposed date at a presentation about the new student union building held Tuesday, but, according to Campus Planning, the completion date is set for April 2012.

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- Andy Beasley - Brentwood, TN - owner of Brentwood Realty, a leading real estate broker
- Keel Hunt - Nashville, TN - President of The Strategy Group, a public affairs consulting firm
- Andy Bailey - Franklin, TN; entrepreneur - owner of NationLink Wireless

Dyslexia Center helps students get experience

By KELSEY FRANKLIN
Contributing Writer

The Tennessee Center for the Study and Treatment of Dyslexia is joining its efforts with MTSU graduate students to give them the opportunity of hands on experience in dealing with people suffering with dyslexia.

Students in the Psychology Department and the Education Program at MTSU are being given this experience along with students and teachers around Tenn. The program provides testing and monitors the progress of the students while under the supervision of the staff.

"There are many misconceptions about what the symptoms and affects of dyslexia are," said Karen Jones, supervisor of Dyslexia Services and former psychology student. "Dyslexia is not reading backward but instead is a specific learning disability that makes reading, spelling and related skills difficult."

The Katherine Davis Murfreesboro Chair of Excellence in Dyslexic Studies was established in 1989 as a professorship in the College of Education and Behavioral

Science at MTSU. Diane Sawyer is serving as the chair of the organization.

A \$230,000 financial endowment allowed the center to be opened in October 1993. Sawyer oversees the center and works to keep a stable environment to help insure the continuing of her practice.

The Tennessee Center for Study and Treatment of Dyslexia offers services to K-12 students in the form of assessment. It also provides professional development workshops for K-12 teachers so they can better assist their students. The center is affiliated with MTSU and provides awareness workshops for attending students who are in pre-service education programs.

Sawyer has been working with students and families trying to evaluate and support students with dyslexia. Sawyer proposed that the Tennessee General Assembly provide a grant to establish a centralized center for the study and treatment of dyslexia.

The goal of the dyslexia center is to help not only students but also school personnel who have been unable to address the specific problems children with dyslexia face.



Photo by Ava Matsuo, staff photographer
The Dyslexia Center is located on North Baird lane on campus.

Jones said that having dyslexia does not make a person any less intelligent.

"I learned that there are many bright kids who struggle to learn, read and spell," Jones said.

The center has helped to provide around 50 students across Tenn. evaluations each semester. During a students visit to the center, they either come to be evaluated and see if they have dyslexia, or they are returning for follow up testing to ensure they are making progress.

In addition to their student services, the center also provides consultation services to school personnel. In these consultations, a staff member works with a teacher in order to find the root of a student's reading or writing difficulty.

Rather than providing tutoring at the Dyslexia Center, the power is put into the hands of the school. Jones said the goal of the center is to get schools to implement their own intervention programs in order to help students with dyslexia.

Students who are taking the Dyslexia Studies class at MTSU are required to learn about intervention and have the opportunity to tutor students as a part of their class.

The Dyslexia Center is the only one of its kind in the nation and has been helping struggling students for years. With their traveling workshops, the topic of dyslexia is becoming better understood.

The main goal is to help the students, teachers, parents and whoever else is involved understand dyslexia and develop ways to improve the child's skills so dyslexia does not inhibit their ability to learn and progress the same as any other child.

Sawyer said that there is no cost for assessment and consultation services, so anyone who is looking to gain a better understanding of a fairly common learning disability should seek the services provided by the center staff and graduate assistants of MTSU.

FAST FOOD FROM PAGE 1

By ALEX BLACKWELDER
Photography Editor

The convenience and low price of fast food restaurants forces many students to face the negative effects.

According to Children's Hospital Boston, fast food meals provide little nutritional value despite their high calories. Young adults and children who frequent restaurants like McDonald's and Burger King, have a higher risk of obesity, diabetes and other related diseases.

Registered dietician and nutrition professor Janet Colson said that there are some direct health effects students might notice now such as constipation, anemia and the dreaded freshman 15. She attributes these effects to low fiber and iron content as well as high fat.

But some students just can't resist the low cost. The inexpensive cost of fast food attracts many students.

"When comparing the cost of a fast food meal to a meat at a 'sit-down' restaurant, the sit-down one might consist of a nice, heart-healthy grilled salmon, steamed broccoli and a butterless baked potato," Colson said. "[It] would run a tab of \$20 while the Big Mac combo could cost less than \$5.00," Colson said.

Senior political science major Laura Pendleton said that despite recognizing the negative effects of fast food on her health, she probably eats it

once a day.

"I went through a period where I didn't eat any fast food or fried foods, and since I started eating fast food again, I've probably gained twenty pounds," Pendleton said. "I don't have the time to fix anything else."

Students are often seduced by the fast food restaurants that are open late.

Junior recording industry major Taylor O'Connor said he tries to avoid fast food but usually ends up eating his "fourth meal" at Taco Bell once a week.

"I notice the negative effects of fast food when I eat it really late at night, then wake up feeling pretty bad," O'Connor said.

Registered dietician and professor Sandra Poirier says the key to avoiding fast food meals but still eating a healthy meal on a restricted budget is planning ahead and watching for sales.

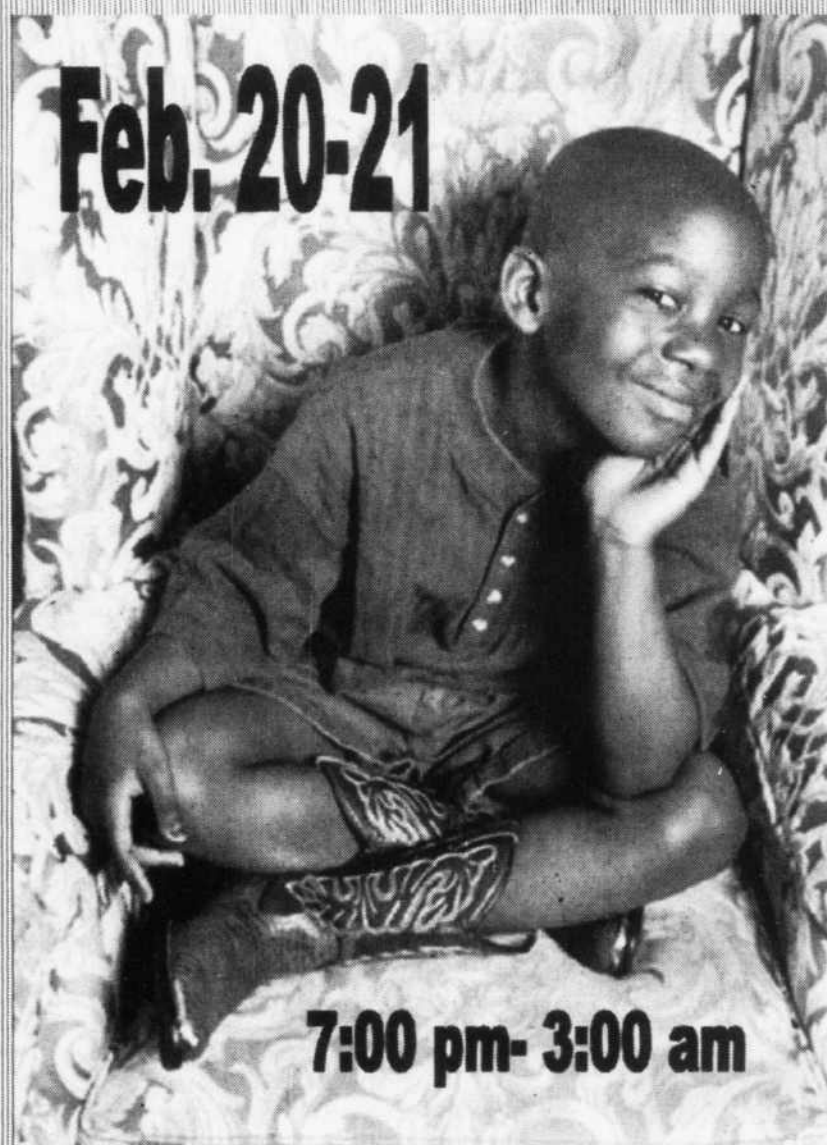
"During these economic times, students need to be fully aware of how they are spending their money," Poirier said. "There are foods that have very little nutritive values, then there are others that are loaded with nutrients."

Poirier suggests students cook more than one serving of a meal and freeze the excess food to extend their food dollars.

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MT Health Services scores higher on Trojan Sexual Health Report Card

By EMMA EGLI
Staff Writer

MTSU placed 98th in this year's Trojan Sexual Health Report Card due to its increase in health educators and easily assessable resources and information which is an improvement from last year's 131st.

The Trojan Sexual Health Report Card is an annual ranking of college and universities measuring the availability of sexual health resources and information to their students.

This year, 139 colleges and universities were scored. Health centers were graded for categories that included condom and contraceptive distribution, HIV and STD testing, and student peer groups.

"We ranked the schools by which ones have the best information provided to students," said Bert Sperling, president of Sperling's BestPlaces. "In the end, however, it ultimately came down to what the student opinions were."

Sperling's BestPlaces, an independent research firm, expanded its research approach by collecting student anecdotes on access to sexual health services, as well as grading them in specific categories. Advertisements were also put on Facebook to attract students willing to answer questionnaires concerning health services at their school.

"We also looked at the web site of health centers to see how up-to-date they are with providing information and resources and using it as a gateway for students," Sperling said.

The Trojan Sexual Health Report Card is part of a national campaign. The purpose of Trojan's "Evolve" campaign is to spark awareness

love to see us make it into the top half of the list next year."

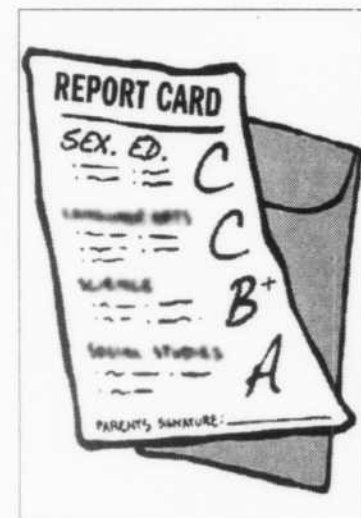
The MTSU Health Center, located at the campus recreational center, offers numerous resources for students, including HIV and STD testing, women's health services, and most recently, a health educator.

"This is my fourth week here and I've already spoken to four university 1010 classes about becoming aware of their sexual health," said Lisa Thomason, health educator at the Health Center. "We are just trying to let students know that I'm here to talk to them about relationships, drug/alcohol abuse, and any other problems they might need help with."

Spangler hopes to get another health educator in the near future that would focus primarily on teaching students about their sexual health.

"Along with another health educator, we would like to expand the web site to include an anonymous advice line," Spangler said. "Students would be able to ask questions that are health related and doctors here could answer them."

"The main goal of this report card was so that the professionals at health centers all as a tool," Sperling said. "When they know how students feel about the services they are providing, they can truly know how to help students."



Graphic by Alicia Wilson, production manager

and dialogue about the state of sexual health in America, thereby giving young people information they need to make responsible decisions about their sexual health.

"It's good to see that we have improved since last year and at least moving in the right direction," said Pat Spangler, medical director of the MTSU Health Center. "With all the resources available here for students, I would

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Martial Arts Club holds fundraiser tournament

By SPENCER MOHEAD
Contributing Writer

The MTSU Martial Arts Club and its associates held their third annual fundraiser for St. Jude Children's Research Hospital in an effort to raise funds and awareness for the hospital.

The event was held at the campus Recreational Center last Thursday at 7 p.m. Over 100 people attended the event, and they raised \$120.50 through the audience donation deposit box. Coupled with other contributions, the event raised \$200.

The tournament consisted of six mixed martial arts sparring matches with a halftime board-breaking presented by MTSU teacher and faculty advisor Thomas Price and Martial Arts Club Vice President senior Aaron Trimble.

"All the fighters had a lot of

courage for getting out there," said Jeff Dunner, MTSU professor.

The first match was a grappling Jujitsu style bout be-

Bohrman won with a technical knockout in the final round.

Guy Barawner, sophomore chemistry major, won

ioral science major, and Jayson Stork, freshman business major, Solomatkin's boxing and grappling won out over Stork's Taekwondo.

"I like the sparring," said Jacob Waggoner. "Learning how to defend yourself is the best part."

Mendoza said the event fell short of last year's tournament because last year they had over 230 in attendance and raised \$250, but it could have been because the event was held on Thursday this year.

It was refereed by Craig Simmons sophomore education and behavioral science major, and judged by Aaron Trimble, Billy Colepaugh and Caleb Paschall.

The club plans to have another sparring fundraiser for St. Jude in the spring.

"All the fighters had a lot of courage for getting out there."

JEFF DUNNER
PROFESSOR

tween Martial Arts Club President Julian Chatham-Tombs and the MTSU wrestling team's Trevor Hutchinson. Chatham-Tombs won with a submission hold.

James Mashnitskiy, junior history major, won in his mixed martial arts bout with Jonathan Kelly, freshman liberal arts major. The third bout was a Muay Thai kickboxing match between Patrick Bohrman and Joe Gordon.

the kickboxing match against Brian Kim, freshman undeclared major, with a throw and flurry of jabs that resulted in a knockout.

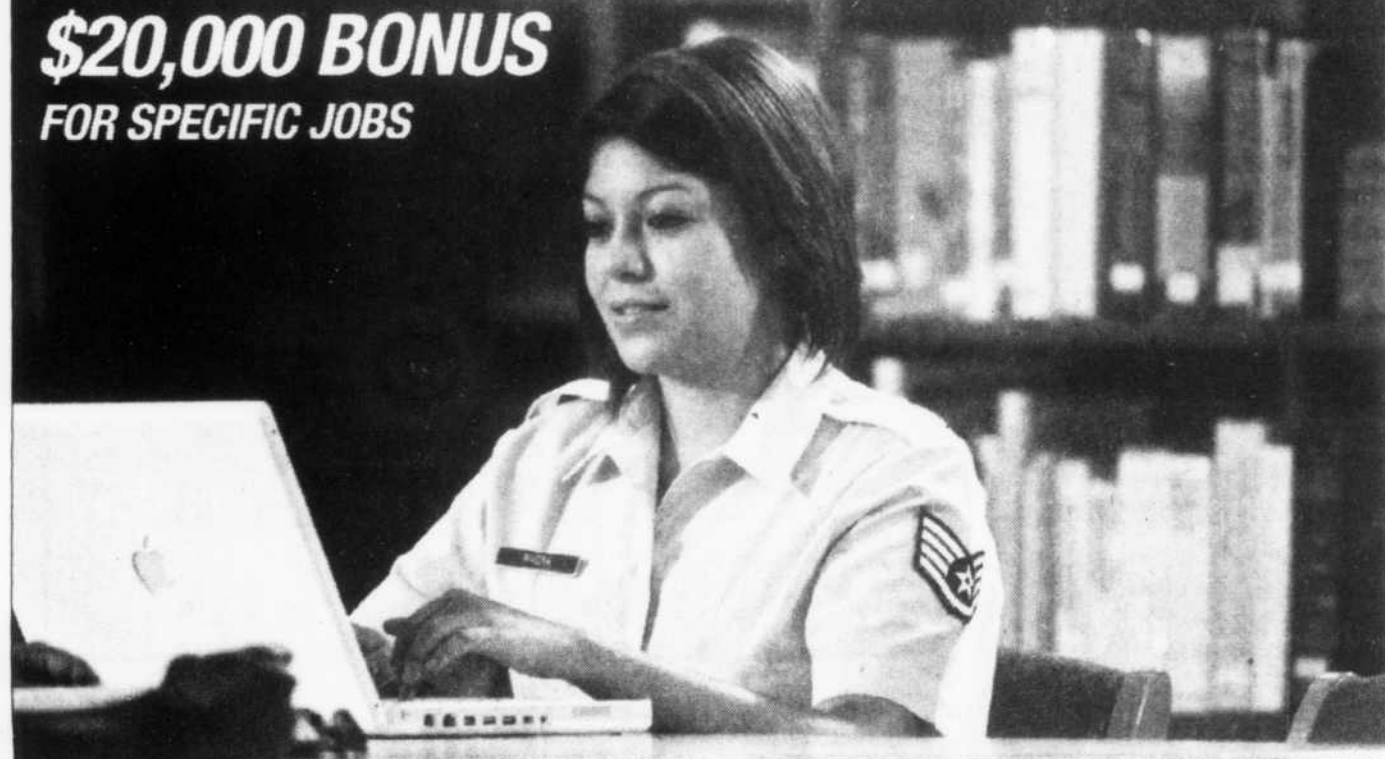
Gilbert "Beto" Mendoza, alumni coach and event coordinator, won a mixed martial arts match against John "Bone" Flowers with a guillotine suffocation move.

The final match was between Stanislav Solomatkin, senior education and behav-



Photo by Jay Bailey, staff photographer
Patrick Bohrman and Joe Gordon fight for St. Jude children.

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Former MTSU student **Hillary Scott** and bandmates Charles Kelley and Dave Haywood of **Lady Antebellum** were named CMA Best New Artist! **Hillary** was also **SESAC's Songwriter of the Year** for "Love Don't Live Here" and "Lookin' for a Good Time."

Congratulations also to frequent MTSU lecturer **Tony Brown** for collaborations with George Strait that produced the CMA Single of the Year and Album of the Year!

eeo/aa

OPINIONS

FROM THE EDITORIAL BOARD

Fast food is not food at all, ironically

Since the majority of our readers are either attending MTSU or working here, we should all know that fast food is bad for us. Throwing out a bunch of statistics or clever reads like Fast Food Nation by Eric Schlosser is absolutely meaningless at this point.

We've all either seen "Super Size Me" or heard about it from a friend obsessed with nutrition. We all know fast food can kill us – or, at the very least, speed up the process of death.

And yet we are exposed and encouraged to partake in convenient alternatives other than waiting in line for Aramark employees to make our food. Compared to standing around for twenty minutes for five people ahead of you to have their food cooked, it's much easier to grab a Pizza Hut pizza or a chicken sandwich from Chick-fil-a.

The truth behind what the fast food industry purports as "food" is startling. If it weren't for the artificial flavors pumped into every menu item, you wouldn't be able to taste the difference between your combo meal and a wet pile of cardboard. What gives a Big Mac its flavor isn't the special sauce, it's the sundry chemical compounds that are painstakingly designed to imitate your favorite menu items, injected into every piece of meat, bun, taco, beverage, sauce, pizza, etc.

But the aspect of the convenient alternative isn't really the problem. The problem is people who constantly rely on the alternative and never give any thought to the main choice. It might not be the most efficient way to gain nutrients, but waiting for food to be prepared in a healthy fashion should be the rule, not the exception.

Healthier eating can be taken even further though. When hunger hits at the most inopportune time, go for a mini-pizza but skip the large drink, French fries and cookie. Instead, get a bag of baked chips, a piece of fruit and water. More times than not, the side dishes are worse for the eater than the main course.

Halving food intake is another great way to stay healthy. If you typically order a foot-long sub sandwich, get a six-inch instead. Eat half of a mini-pizza and share with an equally hungry friend. Get an eight pack of chicken nuggets instead of a twelve.

Portion sizes have bloated in the past couple of years, which shouldn't be any surprise considering the control the fast food industry has over Americans' perception of mealtimes. The fast food industry, while offering a few healthy alternatives, has no major investment in keeping its customers physically fit; its goal is to get as many people as possible to eat, eat, eat.

But the most helpful and healthy way to stay on top of nutrition is to know about what foods are healthy, what foods aren't and what diet is proper for your body type, which is easily solved by visiting a doctor or nutritionist.

Just remember, anything in moderation is okay – even fast food. Don't become dependant on it and always go for the healthier choice when it's available.

It might be wise to grow up

Students need to start taking responsibility, looking to the future



Grammar Gal
Schools You
Jessica Laven

Looking back upon this fall semester, it appears as if not all MTSU students have gotten the memo, so I will relay it to you: this is not high school, folks.

In September, Starlett Custer decided that she should be able to take whatever parking spot she wanted, regardless of the fact that someone else, a 17-year-old freshman in this case, had been waiting for the spot, with her blinker on, long before Starlett came along. Because of Starlett's false sense of entitlement, a young girl now has to endure multiple surgeries and lasting scars – both physical and emotional – for the rest of her life. Luckily, she won't likely have another showdown with Starlett, as she no longer goes to school here.

Justin Davis obviously didn't study for his mid-

terms, did he? So, instead of sucking it up and taking the tests, he decided to threaten bodily harm on students and administrators in October if school was not canceled. Let's run some estimated numbers here. On a college campus of roughly 23,500 students, we'll say that on any given Thursday, 10,000 of them are in class. Average the cost of each class individually, and consider that Friday's classes were canceled too, and Justin Davis collectively cost his fellow students an easy two to three hundred thousand dollars. And that's a conservative estimate. Thank you for being so mature, Justin, and throwing a terrorizing temper tantrum instead of taking responsibility for the fact that you decided not to study. I guess you'll never have to worry about taking midterms again.

Has MTSU added a section on its application for admission? Nestled in between GPA and extracurricular activities, is there now a question that asks, "Are you a spoiled brat?" Obviously it's either an influx of people who answered "yes" to that question, or there's something in the water, but either way, there are some people on this campus who need a reality check.

An excellent example of this is mtsureview.com – you know, that ridiculous Website that supposedly tells you what to expect from a professor? Comb through any random professor's comments, and you're more likely to encounter whining than anything constructive. What?? The professor actually lectured?? And oh my gosh – you had to write a 5-page paper?? Oh, the horror. These comments are a sad commentary on our student body, where people

would prefer to coast through every class without lifting a finger rather than actually work for a good grade and learn something. It would be laughable if it wasn't so sad, but what's worse is the thought that these very students will be entering the workforce soon. I can see it now. "Mom – my boss hates me! I had to work for eight whole hours yesterday! And he never notices me ever!"

As much as you might like to go through life assuming that you are more important than everyone else and that the world does not understand your plight, it may be easier, not to mention more

grown-up, to take responsibility for yourself and your actions and realize that you are but a small speck of dust on this planet.

You can start this evolution today! First, go to class. Seriously. That is why you are here. Second, do the best you can in said class. Yes, there may be a professor that has it in for you, and it sucks, but as a friend of mine said, "Even if a professor doesn't like me, it is not an excuse for me not to do well." Stop

tion by always having some sort of crisis for everyone to sympathize with.

In the end, school is preparing you for the working world. Nowhere in MTSU's mission statement does it state that college is a way to live out more of your high school years. I know that it's super-fun to be Homecoming Queen, and in high school, you might have been right. But now that you are 20 years old, it might be wise to focus your attention on

something more tangible.

Something that will actually help you get somewhere in your career. Because I don't know of many

people who are impressed by a resume that includes "college popularity contest winner." I don't know of any job applications that allow you to write down all of your excuses as to why you had a 2.5 GPA. And I certainly don't know of any bosses who are eager to hire a worker who whines when he or she has to work.

Jessica Laven is in the graduate education program and can be reached at jcl2w@mtsu.edu.

You can go through life constantly making excuses or you can accept the fact that sometimes, you make mistakes."

making excuses. Everyone has stuff to deal with. Everyone gets sick. It's how you handle this that matters.

So, you can go through life constantly making excuses or you can accept the fact that sometimes, you make mistakes. Third, learn from things and move on. Don't hold grudges. Don't dwell. You know LC and Heidi from "The Hills?" Are you totally sick of both of them yet? Don't be that person. The one who garners atten-

SIDELINES is hiring for the spring 2008 semester. We need staff writers, columnists, designers, photographers and copy editors. If you are interested in any of these positions, please attend meetings on Thursdays at 6 p.m. in Mass Comm 269 or send an e-mail to sleditor@mtsu.edu.

We love new writers!

COMICS



"And Friends"

frankhasenmueller@gmail.com

Frank Hasenmueller

FACES IN THE CROWD

Did you attend any of the athletic events on campus this weekend?



Wingo

"I went to the basketball game on Friday. It was alright."

Stephanie Wingo
sophomore, nursing



Carter

"I went to the men's basketball game and the football game. I enjoyed myself, especially at the basketball."

Robert Carter, sophomore
accounting



Voltz

"The football game. I had fun."

Laura Voltz, junior
marketing



Toulson

"I was on the sidelines because I'm on the football team."

Nate Toulson, sophomore
exercise science

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KURDISTAN REVISITED

An MTSU professor documents brutality and genocide in the Middle Eastern country

By Haley Hartsook
Contributing Writer

In Professor Clare Bratten's office, I watch a video of government agents torturing and killing their own citizens and soldiers.

The Kurds that Bratten met while in Iraq wanted others to know exactly what had happened to them.

Bratten, an electronic media communication professor, obtained the video from Iraq's Ministry of Human Rights while on location shooting *Imaging A Nation: Kurdistan of Iraq*. Her documentary is a look into Kurdish life as well as an acknowledgment of the genocide experienced by the people under Saddam Hussein's regime.

The video contains home-video footage of Kurdish men being beaten relentlessly by Iraqi guards. Their dead or dying bodies are piled on top of each other three men high.

In another segment, 14 men are thrown off of a roof with their hands bound behind their backs.

The last segment we watch is of an Iraqi soldier who failed his mission. His arms were broken in front of his unit. Bratten decides to stop the video before the segment "Limb Amputations" begins.

This type of brutality happened under Saddam Hussein's Ba'ath party, which came to power in 1968 and was militarized after Saddam became the party leader in 1979. Its way of dealing with political dissidents was to periodically purge the nation of them.

The Kurds, who had sought autonomy since Kurdistan was divided by the Allies after World War I, were often a thorn in Saddam's side.

"They want people to know, 'Look, this happened,' and people aren't talking about it," Bratten exclaims, referring to U.S.-backed Kurdish rebellions, funded for the purposes of weakening the Iraqi government at a strategic moment. "Afterwards, the Kurds and their cause were promptly abandoned. Nobody is paying attention. They are being ignored, and not appreciated, and they're afraid the U.S. will use them again."

Bratten completed filming during the summer of 2008. She took her first trip to Iraq in the summer of 2005 and decided to go back in 2008 to get more footage of the Kurds' daily life, since most of her footage from 2005 revolved around the genocide.

She decided to do a documentary about the Kurds after learning of a large Kurdish community in Nashville. Bratten heard about them while the Bush administration was trying to decide whether or not to invade Iraq.

Nashville is home to 8,000 Kurds, more than any other city in the United States. As Bratten began making contacts, she heard about Kirmanj Gundi, a leader and activist in the community as well as a professor at Tennessee State University. He would become her co-producer and travel with her



Photos courtesy Clare Bratten

(Top) Kirmanj Gundi, an activist for Nashville's Kurdish population, stands at Kurdistan's border. (Bottom) MTSU Professor Clare Bratten films in Kurdistan with Gundi, who is also a professor at Tennessee State University.

to Iraqi Kurdistan. Much of Bratten's footage of Kurdish daily life is of Gundi's family.

In 1972, Gundi escaped Iraq with his father, a prominent member of Kurdistan's military force, the Peshmerga, into the Kurdish mountains. They later moved to a refugee camp in Iran and stayed two years, until Gundi and his brother moved to the United States in 1977.

When Bratten told Gundi that she wanted to make a documentary about Kurdistan, he told her, "You won't understand the Kurds until you go there."

Bratten doubts that she could even have gotten into Kurdistan without Gundi accompanying her. Once in Kurdistan, he set up interviews for Bratten and provided her with security and a translator.

"The division of Kurdistan was done against our will," Gundi declares gravely. Kurds have faced persecution not only in Iraq, but in Turkey, Syria and Iran.

"We are referred to as unwanted guests," he says.

Things are quite different in Iraq, however, where the Kurds have been given autonomous control over Northern Iraq, where they are the majority. Bratten explains that there were almost



Bratten

no American soldiers because of the Peshmerga seemed to have everything under control.

But during Bratten's time in Iraq, the memories of the atrocities that had been inflicted against the Kurds by Saddam's regime overwhelmed every interview, still fresh in the minds of every survivor and descendant.

"The one thing I noticed when I was there [from] the people I met [was that] almost everyone had a story of someone in their family being killed by Saddam or

imprisoned or forcibly going to war and sent to the front," Bratten says.

She and Gundi visited a prison in Sulaimaniya where people, including children and pets, were tortured and killed. Bratten describes some of the methods of torture, such as being hung by the wrists on hooks, hung by the feet, electrocution and savage beatings.

The two also visited the village of Halabja, where Ali Hassan al-Majid, better known as "Chemical Ali," ordered the use of chemical weapons, particularly sarin gas, against the Kurdish inhabitants. Those who survived were left with severe chemical burns, scarred lungs or blindness. Many were not hesitant to show their scars.

"If you have a shared history and certain stories that you tell over and over again, and there are visual images. . . This is what I was talking about with nation-building," she says. "They remember that they have been targeted as a people for elimination

by various state regimes."

But Bratten did not want the entire documentary to be about torture and death. So when she and Gundi went back in the summer of 2008, they got a better sense of daily life in Kurdistan and created a more well-rounded picture of Kurdistan.

"[The Kurds] laugh; they are very warm," Bratten says with a smile. "You've never seen a people kiss their children so much. Their children are very loved. It's a very warm culture. I wanted to show that."

Over the course of their trips, Gundi says he came to admire Bratten "for her integrity and honesty."

"She is a woman who possesses high ethical values with a world of love for humanity," Gundi says.

Bratten's compassion for humanity was evident to many of the people she met in Kurdistan. The trust she built with the people there has enabled her to give a voice to them and their cause where they have not always had one.

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11/24 - Stand Your Ground, Seven Thunders Spoke, Qui Sumus, Ex Nihilo, Fingers Crossed - The Muse @ 7

11/25 - Alesana, A Static Lullaby, Greeley Estates, Motionless in White, Jamie Elsewhere - Rockettown @ 6 - \$14/ticketweb.com

11/25 - Superficials, Kathleen Haskard, Leslie Jennings, Annie Williams, Jennifer Dixon - The Basement @ 8 - FREE

11/25 - Fiddlesticks, Beg Me Opstriche, Black Dag, Scratch Bomb, Rachel Holland Sex Dreams - The Muse @ 7

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11/29 - Ronnie Pittman Band - Graffiti Bar @ 10

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11/29 - 50:50 Shot, Tequila Mockingbird, Fist of the North Star - The Muse @ 7

11/30 - Psychostick, Retard-O-Bot, Backwater Burial, Downslave, King Tank - The Muse @ 7

Compiled By Katy Coil

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SPORTS



Tanner, MT trample North Texas

Photo by Jay Bailey, staff photographer

Running back Phillip Tanner (21) looks to score a touchdown. Tanner set the SBC records for most touchdowns and points in a game with 36 and six, respectively.

By CASEY BOWMAN
Assistant Sports Editor

Blue Raider fans braved the elements of a cold day inside Floyd Stadium on Saturday to watch Middle Tennessee defeat Sun Belt Conference foe North Texas, 52-13.

Those who actually came were treated to one of the best individual performances that has ever been displayed in Floyd.

Junior running back Phillip Tanner had a record-breaking day for the Blue Raiders, rushing for 159 yards on just 14 carries. Tanner also set a SBC record for touchdowns on the day, reaching pay dirt six times.

Five of Tanner's touchdowns came in the first half, a half in which the Blue Raiders dominated the Mean Green in every aspect of the game.

Tanner's sixth score came in the form of a 92-yard kick-off return to begin the second

half. After the game, Tanner made it clear that he had other things on his mind.

"This entire week has had its ups and downs," Tanner said. "My little girl was born on Monday so that has been on my mind. She was sick at the time. I actually think she got to leave the hospital today, so hopefully when I get home, I'll get to see my little girl."

With the word "faith" written on his right armband, Tanner ran like a man possessed on Saturday — driven and focused.

"He ran the ball extremely well and extremely hard with very physical runs on the goal line and long runs where he was breaking tackles," Head Coach Rick Stockstill said. "He was getting hit on the line of scrimmage or behind the line of scrimmage and making some really nice runs after contact."

Tanner was quick to praise

his offensive linemen for their efforts on Saturday as well.

"The most exciting thing for me was to go across the goal line with [offensive tackle] Mike Williams, looking into his eyes and seeing how happy he was for me to get a touchdown," Tanner said. "I love being able to see those guys as they chase me into the end zone when I score. They are always just as excited as I am."

MT was able to dominate the Mean Green from the very beginning of the game. Quarterback Joe Craddock threw his only touchdown in the opening drive, connecting with receiver Eldred King on a 45-yard play.

Craddock finished the game going 19 of 31 for 251 yards and that touchdown. He also threw one interception on a tipped pass. With a good showing in the season finale, Craddock could pass Clint Marks for the most

passing yards thrown in one season.

MT's second possession saw another record become tied. Kicker Alan Gendreau connected on a 28-yard field goal. This was Gendreau's eighth consecutive made field goal, tying the all-time school record.

Stockstill said after the game that he made a point during the week not to harp on the fact it was senior day.

"We didn't make a big deal out of senior day," Stockstill said. "I talked to the team Monday after practice and I said, 'Let's everybody play as good as we can. Let's play our best game for these seniors,' and that was the last time the word senior came out of my mouth. I didn't want to make it a big deal, I didn't want them to play like this was the last game of their career because it's not."

FOOTBALL, PAGE 8



Top Performers



OFFENSE

RB Phillip Tanner #21 Jr.
14 rushes, 159 yards, 5 TDs



DEFENSE

DE Jamari Lattimore #11 So.
3 tackles, 2 sacks



SPECIAL TEAMS

RB Phillip Tanner #21 Jr.
3 kick-off returns, 139 yards, 1 TD

Lady Raiders post epic comeback against Hoosiers

By TIFFANY GIBSON
Campus News Editor

Getting off to slow start in the first half, the Lady Raiders were able to come back in the second half to match the physicality of Indiana for a 65-59 win.

Junior forward Alysha Clark picked up two fouls early on in the first half, causing sophomore forward Emily Queen to sub in. When Clark finally came back in, she picked up her third foul with 1:15 to go.

At the half, MT was trailing Indiana by 14 points and only shooting 26 percent from the field.

"They were in a match up zone and they play it well," said MT Head Coach Rick Insell. "They were cutting some lanes and we were making some passes, and we were not executing our offense we've got against that."

Insell said that they pulled out a special play to help get the offense flowing.

"We went back to something we had in the bag that we hadn't used in the last couple of years," Insell said.

Sophomore guard Anne Marie Lanning said that

when Insell first called the play in the last two minutes of the first half, none of the girls knew what he was talking about.

"We ran it last year but we weren't familiar with it again," Lanning said. "Whenever we went in at half time he showed it to us on the board, and we ran that until they matched up with us a few times, so we had to change back to normal play."

Lanning scored 18 points, had four assists and one block. She followed team-leading scorer, junior guard Chelsia Lymon, who had 19 points overall.

At the beginning of the second half with 19:22 to go, Clark picked up her fourth foul which caused her to remain on the bench for the majority of the game.

Both Lanning and Lymon were able to step up and make shots from the post and 3 point line when field players Queen, Clark and junior forward Brandi Brown got into foul trouble.

"We needed Chelsia in there knocking down those 3 pointers," Insell said. "I think she knocked down four 3 throws

in a row."

Lymon said that when Indiana began playing very physical she refused to be beaten down at the Murphy Center.

"I told my team when things started getting a little nasty out there that we're not going to be pushed around in our house," Lymon said.

Looking ahead to the next WNIT game against Chattanooga on Tuesday at 7 p.m. in the Murphy Center, Insell said that it would be another important win for the Lady Raiders.

"[UTC Head Coach] Wes [Moore] causes a lot of teams to have match up problems both in Tennessee and Middle Tennessee, so we are going to go in and study some film," Insell said. "We won't go really hard tomorrow, but on Monday we have got to get ourselves really ready."

Lymon said that it's going to be another brutal battle, considering their loss to Chattanooga last year could have kept them out of the NCAA tournament.

"They have a lot to prove and we have a lot to prove," Lymon said. "They got cheated out of

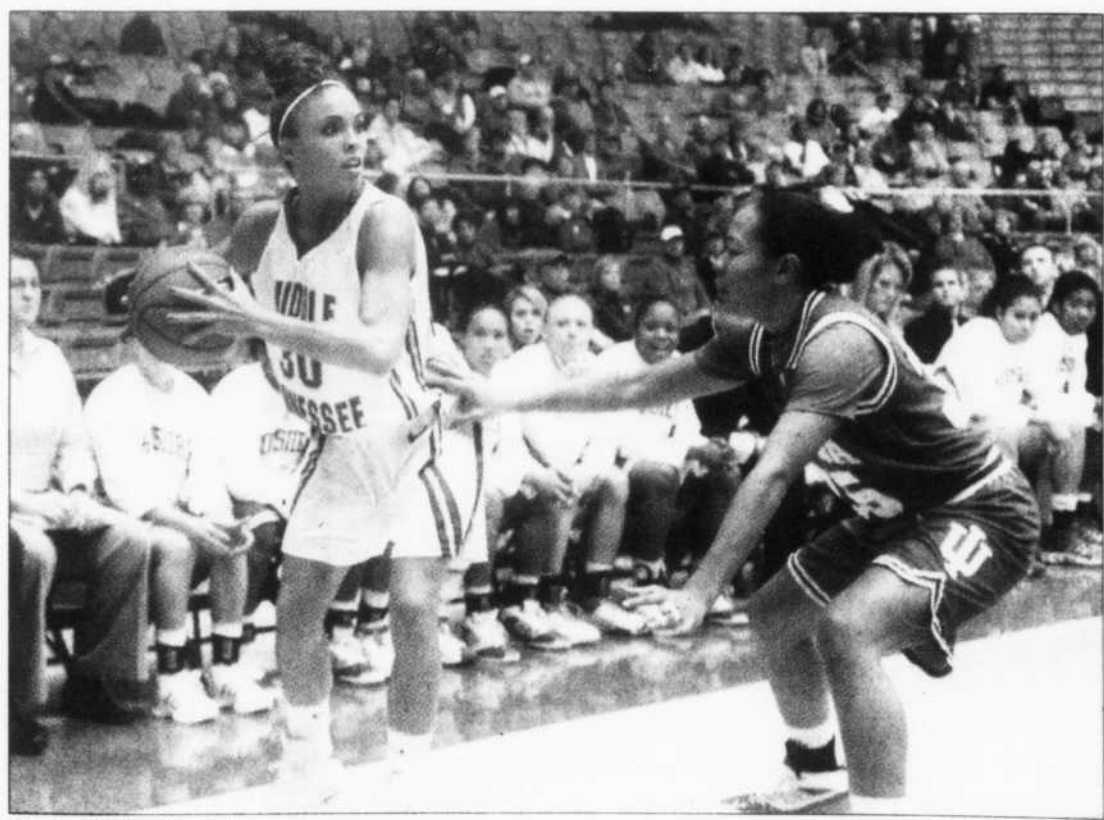


Photo by Alex Trenoff, staff photographer

Sophomore guard Anne Marie Lanning (30) was MT's second-leading scorer with 18 points.

a win against Tennessee, so they are going to come in here hyped up and having a swagger because they beat us last year, and we are going to have a chip on our shoulder because they beat us last year."

"It's going to be a very emotional and physical game, so just

be ready for another battle."

Insell said that he was proud of his team for not giving up and continuing to play with passion.

"I told you it might come down in the end to a win over Indiana because they are going to place high in the big

ten and if not, they are going to go one, two or three in the NCAA tournament," Insell said. "We needed this win because we are playing at home and playing a team that is going to end up being ranked."

"It was a big win for our young ladies."

Free throws prevent MT from pulling off upset

By CHRIS MARTIN
Sports Editor

With 11,802 fans on hand, the Middle Tennessee Blue Raiders were unable to knock down free throws in a 76-66 loss to the No. 14-ranked Tennessee Volunteers.

The crowd, the second largest in the Murphy Center's history, was predominantly full of MT supporters, although there were thousands of UT fans. Regardless of who they were cheering for, they were treated to a back-and-forth game that saw the teams trade the lead 14 times.

"There were people wearing orange [tonight] that'll come back wearing blue because they had a great night, and they saw great basketball," UT Head Coach Bruce Pearl said after the game.

The Blue Raiders converted only 48 percent of their free throw attempts, finish-

ing the game 12-of-25 from the charity stripe. The Blue Raiders' inability to hit foul shots was one of the deciding factors that led to the Volunteers' victory.

"It just got contagious," MT Head Coach Kermit Davis said. "They go 20 for 26 and we go 12 for 25 and that's the game. If they make 12, and we make about 20, then maybe we win the game. It was a pretty good game, but we just couldn't get it to a one or two-possession game because of that."

The Blue Raiders made it to the half with only a four-point deficit despite the fact that leading scorer Desmond "Boogie" Yates played only two minutes in the first half due to foul trouble. He entered the game averaging 19.5 points and five rebounds per game, but only managed eight points and three rebounds against the Vols.

"You don't know how bad

"I wanted to be out there with my teammates tonight," Yates said. "It was one of the most frustrating things I've been through in a game."

UT came out in the second half with a 12-6 run to push the score from 36-32 at the half to 48-38 with 14:02 left in the game.

SEC Preseason Player of the Year, Tyler Smith, posted a double-double, pacing all scorers with 18 points and grabbing 10 rebounds. Junior guard Demetrius Green led MT in scoring with 17 points.

MT was able to navigate UT's full-court pressure efficiently. The Blue Raiders picked up 15 assists while committing only nine turnovers. On the other hand, MT forced the Vols to commit 16 turnovers while holding them to nine assists.

"Middle Tennessee's a good team," Pearl said. "They turned it over nine times.

They turned it over nine times in the first five minutes in Knoxville [last season], Coach [Davis] did a great job getting them ready. They did a great job handling pressure, and they did a great job staying in this basketball game."

MT's two main ball handlers, Kevin Kanaskie and Nigel Johnson, combined for 24 points, 10 rebounds, 12 assists, three steals and only two turnovers in 76 minutes.

"Tennessee is a team that presses you a lot and makes you want to speed up," Johnson said. "We were focusing on keeping control and making our plays."

SEC Preseason Player of the Year, Tyler Smith, posted a double-double, pacing all scorers with 18 points and grabbing 10 rebounds. Junior guard Demetrius Green led MT in scoring with 17 points.

Junior point guard Bobby



Photo by Alex Blackwelder, photoaphy.com
MT guard Kevin Kanaskie (left) put up 12 points and six assists.

Maze was the second-leading scorer for the Vols with 12 points, while guards J.P. Prince and Scotty Hopson each contributed 10 points apiece.

Johnson scored 13 points on four of 10 shooting, and

Kanaskie was right behind with 11 points.

The Blue Raiders face another SEC challenge tonight when they square off against the Vanderbilt Commodores in Nashville. That game is scheduled to begin at 7 p.m.

MT falls in SBC tournament semifinals

By JESSICA STAUFFACHER
MT Athletic Communications

Middle Tennessee fell to rival Western Kentucky 3-0 (25-17, 25-13, 25-21) in the semifinals of the Sun Belt Championships on Friday night.

This is the first semi-final loss for the Blue Raiders since 2002, when they lost to New Mexico State 3-0 in Miami. It will be the first time since 2006 that MT has not played in the championship game of the conference tournament or received an automatic bid to the NCAA tournament.

"We have played matches like this before where we have had to recover and although we put up a fight in game three we just couldn't overcome how well they were playing," MT Head Coach Matt Peck said. "A lot of that was our fault. We didn't do a good job serving and they did a good job of serving us tough and getting us out of system."

Neither team had a player post double-digit kills but WKU had 42 kills for a .442 attack percentage while the Blue Raiders had 33 for a .157 hitting percentage. The Hilltoppers set a number of records including team hitting percentage in a three-set match, and Abbie Siljendahl's hitting percentage of .750 is the best by an individual.

Senior Ashley Asberry and junior Janay Yancey guided the Blue Raiders throughout the match with 13 kills and five block assists between them.

"I thought Ashley Asberry and Janay Yancey did a great job for us tonight especially offensively," Peck said. "I think we had some people let us down in this match and

when you have people, we had three or four, not having a good match, it is going to be tough to win especially at this point in the season."

Junior Ashley Mead led the team in kills with nine and had a team high four block assists.

"It is a disappointing loss for us," Peck said. "We have played in the tournament finals the last three years, and this year we are going home. I think it is an important lesson for our team. We have to regroup, because we have two tough matches coming up and need to win both of them to have a shot at getting an at-large bid to the NCAA tournament."

WKU took control of the first set and never looked back taking an early 16-11 lead and then pulled ahead 23-16 before taking the win.

The Hilltoppers continued to control the match holding the Blue Raiders to just 13 points in the second set. At the break, MT had five less kills than WKU with 21 with a hitting percentage of .093, while the Hilltoppers were hitting .468. The Hilltoppers also had six blocks to MT's three.

MT fell behind early in the third set as WKU took a three-point lead, 7-4. The Blue Raiders closed the gap making it a one-point game but the Hilltoppers pulled ahead by three mid-way through the set, 15-12. The Blue Raiders continued to fight but could not close the gap trailing 22-19 late.

The Blue Raiders will be back in action on Saturday, Nov. 29 when it faces St. Louis at 1 p.m. and Connecticut at 7 p.m. at home in Alumni Memorial Gym.

While he could have kept Tanner in the game to try and break some more records, he decided to sit the junior tailback in favor of some senior backs, something that Tanner was absolutely fine with.

"I'm a humble player and a team player," Tanner said. "Spike McDaniel comes in every day and works hard in the weight room and works hard in practice, so it just put a smile on my face to see him break tackles and make a big run."

McDaniel made the most of his time on the field, rushing for 29 yards on just four carries.

The Blue Raiders know that a three game win streak is great, but their season will all come down to Dec. 3, when they hit the road to battle Louisiana Lafayette.

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Football FROM PAGE 7

After the game was said and done though, Stockstill did state how grateful he was towards this group of seniors.

"I am proud and honored that they can walk off this field, the last time they'll ever play on it, as a winner," Stockstill said. "I'm appreciative of these seniors. Its such a small class, but they mean a lot to me because they bought in from the first day we got here and have done a great job providing leadership not only vocally but by their effort and work ethic."

Late in the game when the outcome was virtually decided, Stockstill was able to put in seniors who otherwise would not have taken the field.