



**MT makes  
miraculous  
comeback**

In Sports, page 5



**Halloween in  
New Orleans**

In Features, page 4

www.mtsusidelines.com

**ONLINE**

How much  
consideration should the  
university give to the  
results of the referendum?

**INSIDE: Aramark should be plastic-friendly**

In Opinions, page 3

An editorially  
independent  
newspaper

# SIDELINES

Middle Tennessee State University

MURFREESBORO,  
TENNESSEE

Volume 76 No. 92

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## Students boot grading scale, attendance policies

### Staff Reports

Many classroom attendance policies and the plus/minus grading system may be one step closer to extinction, thanks to the results of last week's Student Government Association referendum.

Sixty-four percent (1,216) of the 1,902 students who voted on

the grading referendum voted to eliminate the plus/minus scale.

Eighty-three percent (1,646) of the 1,990 students who voted on the attendance referendum voted to prevent professors from lowering students' grades based on attendance.

The results of the referendums do not signify immediate

change in university policy. Each referendum will be offered to the proper university officials for consideration.

In order to vote, students logged on to WebMT from www.mtsu.edu between Oct. 22 and 24. In addition to the referendum, freshmen could vote for senators and all students could vote for homecoming royalty.

Freshman senators elected were Mica Breeden, Jessica Coggins, Ashley Graham, Courtney Goodman, Katie Kuchta, Anthony Martin, Stefanie Martinez and Sarah Menees.

Homecoming royalty will be announced at the football game Saturday. ♦

### Homecoming nominees

#### Queen Candidates

Laurie Cook  
Courtney Cooke  
Blair Fleming  
Shemika Harris  
Lisa Poepsel

#### King Candidates

Joe Greene  
Jonathan Hutzler  
Luke Laird  
James Mason  
Willie Nelson

## Health fair finds students maintain 'normal' body fat

### Survey found vegetable, fruit consumption low

By Lisa Thomason  
Staff writer

A recent health fair found that most MTSU students fall into the 'normal' range based on height and weight but have less than desirable diets.

The booth, sponsored Oct. 16 by the human sciences department and the health, physical education, recreation, and safety department, measured body fat percentage using the Futrex-5000, calculated Body Mass Index and surveyed the amounts of fruits and vegetables consumed within the 24 hours previous to the test.

According to Janet Colson of the human sciences department, the normal range of body fat percentage for females is 20 to 25 percent. According to the department's survey, the average female MTSU student has 27 percent body fat, with the freshmen class being the least fat, weighing in at 23.5 percent

body fat. Female athletes were a trim 19.7 percent, showing that exercise is effective in keeping a person lean.

Colson also said the normal range for males is 15 to 18 percent. The average MTSU male weighed in at 19.5 percent body fat, led by the juniors at 14.4 percent. Male athletes were also quite lean, having only 10.11 percent body fat.

The Body Mass Index is calculated using height and weight, and is effective for screening the general population. Because it does not account for body composition, however, it is not effective when used by athletes.

According to the BMI, the desirable range is 18.5 to 24.9 percent body fat. MTSU females had an average BMI of 23.4 and males had an average of 25. Freshmen females were the lightest, with a BMI of 22.8, and junior males were the heaviest, with a BMI of 26.1.

The results from the questionnaires concerning eating habits showed that 65 percent of males had one or less vegetables the day prior to their screening. More than a third of males had eaten no vegetables at all. Females did slightly better; however, there were still 53 percent who had eaten one or less vegetables and 21 percent who had eaten none.

Colson said that fruit consumption was slightly better, but still not up to the amount recommended by the Food Guide Pyramid. She said overall, the male athletes consumed the most fruits and juices with an average of 2.5 servings.

Students who participated in the screenings were offered advice and suggestions to improve their body composition and their diets. Colson said the statistics were based on 130 reports.

"[The results are] not truly representative of the entire student population," she said. "This is not a hard core scientific study, just a fun way to look at some trends in students' weight and diet." ♦

## MTSU concrete program gets national recognition

By Kelly Smith  
Contributor

MTSU's Concrete Industry Management program was honored and cited as a model for other universities to follow during an Oct. 4 meeting at the White House.

The CIM degree program is offered through the department of engineering technology and industrial studies, and at present, MTSU is the only university in the country to offer such a program, which combines concrete technology and business skills.

The idea for CIM was proposed in October 1995 by Bob Elliot and was started less than a year later with only two students.

Austin Cheney, associate professor and CIM program director, said there was doubt as to whether the program would succeed.

"There was a lot of skepticism if this program would work, and we've proven it wrong," he said regarding CIM, which now has 120 students enrolled.

During the Oct. 4 visit to Washington, D.C., Roderick Paige, the national secretary of education, commended MTSU President Sidney McPhee, and other MTSU representatives on

the CIM program and its unique relationship with the concrete industry.

According to information from the Office of News and Public Affairs at MTSU, Paige told the group that MTSU's program was essential to meet the management needs of the concrete industry, which accumulates about \$80 billion annually.

This multi-billion dollar industry is extremely active in MTSU's CIM program, providing mentors, organizing plant tours, sponsoring guest lectures as well as dinner parties and scholarships for students, Cheney said.

The industry also helped MTSU officials create the CIM curriculum, which includes general studies requirements, required support courses, concrete-related and industrial studies courses and business and marketing courses.

The goal of this curriculum, Cheney said, is to produce broadly educated students who are grounded in basic math and science and are knowledgeable about concrete technology.

Ben Petzinger, a senior CIM major, said he transferred from a university in Utah to MTSU to study the concrete industry because he was impressed with the professionalism and organi-

zation of the program.

"It is by far the best program to give students overall education for concrete management," he said.

Petzinger also said he is impressed with CIM and considers his transfer to MTSU to be the best educational decision he has made.

Cheney said members of the CIM program's faculty and staff contribute to the satisfaction of the students and success of the program.

"Our staff spend a lot of time working with students and they are very dedicated to providing overall development of them," he said.

In addition, Cheney is quick to recognize Ward Poston and Jim Speakman for their hard work in the CIM program.

These individuals, along with other staff members, pushed for the recent White House meeting and helped organize its format, he said.

McPhee said he attended the White House meeting with hopes of encouraging other universities around the country to pursue similar arrangements.

"It is an excellent example of partnership between the university and the business community," he said.

See Concrete, 2

## Hanging by a limb

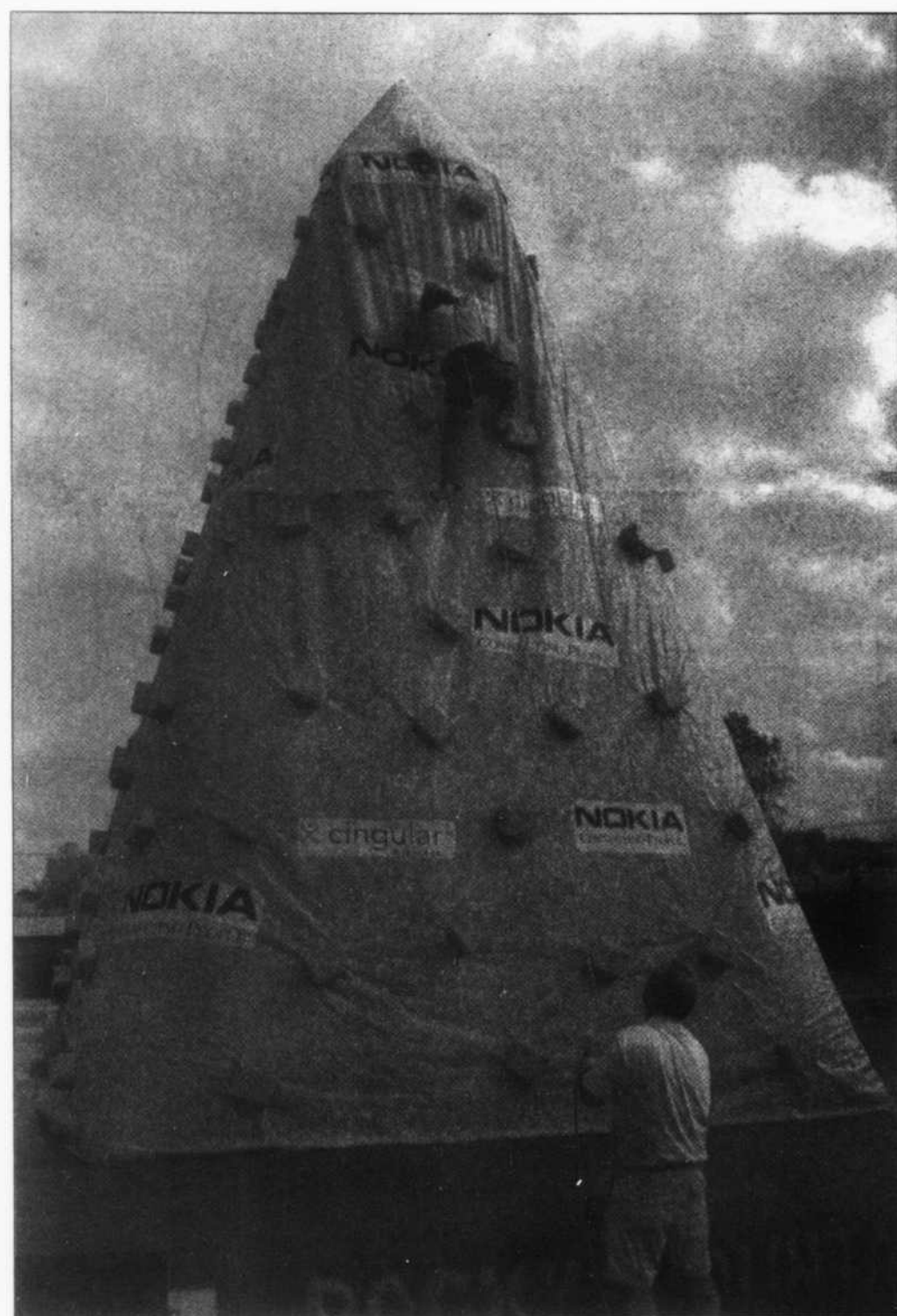


Photo by Amy Jones | Staff

Sophomore Dawn Golson climbs the Nokia-Cingular Rocky Mountain wall Wednesday at the Sports Illustrated Campus Fest on the Knoll.

## Safety agency issues tips for a less scary Halloween

### Annual advice urges parents to inspect candy, costumes

By David Ho  
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — The most frightful things awaiting trick-or-treaters on Halloween are accidents that could put children in emergency rooms, the government warns.

The Consumer Product Safety Commission has issued its annual tips for keeping children safe:

- Get costumes, masks, beards and wigs made of flame-resistant fabrics such as nylon or polyester, or look for the label "Flame-Resistant." Avoid costumes made with flimsy materials, big baggy sleeves or skirts that could fall upon open flames.

- Make sure costumes and bags are bright and easily visible to motorists. Add reflective tape that will glow in a car's headlights. Have children carry flashlights.

- Costumes should not drag on the ground and shoes should fit well — no oversized high heels. Accessories such as swords or knives should be made of soft, flexible material.

- Masks, hats and scarves should fit well and provide adequate ventilation without obstructing vision.

- Children should not eat any treats before an adult has examined them for evidence of tampering.

- Make sure toys received by young trick-or-treaters are not small enough — and do not have components small enough — to present a choking hazard.

- Keep candles and jack-o'-lanterns away from curtains, decorations and the path of trick-or-treaters.

- Make sure lights have been tested for safety; discard damaged sets and don't overload extension cords. ♦



**Sidelines** is seeking a Student Government Association beat reporter. To apply, come by the James Union Building, Room 310 or call 898-2336.

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To learn more visit our facility in LRC 101, visit our website at [www.mtsu.edu/~itsc](http://www.mtsu.edu/~itsc) under the "Facilities" heading, or call Glenda Lewis at 898-5191.

### Concrete:

Continued from 1

Currently, MTSU has 18 CIM graduates now working in concrete-related management jobs across the country.

For more information on the CIM program, contact Cheney at 904-8470. ♦

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Freshmen Dan Seaborg (left) and Mark Tucker (right) bash it out Wednesday during the Sports Illustrated Campus Fest on the Keathley University Center Knoll. Photo by Amy Jones | Staff

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# Tired of the same old t-shirts?



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# Swap Day

Just come to the Murphy Center Track on Friday, November 2 at 5p.m. to swap your shirts that support other schools with one that supports MT!

And don't forget your Homecoming 2001 t-shirt on sale now in the SGA office in KUC 208 for just \$10.

Get yours today!



# OPINIONS

Murfreesboro, Tenn.

Monday, October 29, 2001

SIDELINES ♦ 3

## Editorial

### Aramark should be plastic-friendly

If you plan to eat on campus, you can leave home without your American Express.

Aramark, apparently ignoring 40 years of technological and societal changes, does not offer credit or debit card payment at its multiple campus locations.

Unlike many parts of campus where growth is limited by extremely limited government funding, Aramark is a private corporation with the money to accommodate items such as credit cards.

It wouldn't require too much work. All of the registers are already online and connected to a central server, which eliminates much of the potential for complications. We don't know what the equipment upgrades and additions would cost, but it is certainly a small price to pay for giving potential customers a reason to eat on campus.

One might counter that most fast-food restaurants traditionally don't take plastic. However, the lifestyle of the college student is anything but traditional.

We eat at abnormal times, have erratic sleep patterns and stay busy. In the midst of it all, sometimes we just don't have time to go to the bank or cash a check at the bookstore.

If it's too much to ask for the ability to pay with plastic, perhaps Campus Planning should consider placing ATMs in the James Union Building and CyberCafe cafeterias, the logic being that no one without a meal plan would dare eat at McCallie.

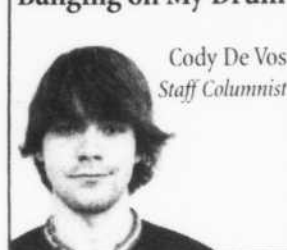
While not a preferred solution, it would at least help with the problem. The fact that there's only one area with ATMs on a campus of 20,000 students doesn't make much sense anyway.

Paying with plastic is an integral part of many a student's budget, for better or worse. If you need evidence, just try walking by the Keathley University Center every day for a week without seeing some credit card company trying to lure students into debt with free T-shirts.

Lest we forget, successful businesses, in theory, work with the notion that the customer comes first. Aramark needs to put MTSU students and staff first and offer paying with plastic as an option. ♦

## Dream dictionaries are made to be burned

### Banging on My Drum



Somebody told me that psychologists did a bunch of studies to find out what dreams meant. Their discovery: They're just something your brain does at night when it has nothing else to do. Dreams, in short, don't mean a damn thing.

I didn't ask for the source he was quoting; it was enough for me to believe that a gathering of stone-faced psychologists somewhere had banded together to kick sand in Sigmund Freud's face and reassure us that our naked-

in-public dreams don't mean that we're helpless pansies.

It's relieving, indeed, to have the weight of dream interpretation lifted because I've spent a lot of my dream life running away from ominous things or throwing weak, helpless punches against one monstrous foe or another.

Thanks to these clandestine psychologists, I no longer have to believe that this means I'm "fighting a losing battle against insurmountable obstacles."

Nobody wants to believe that dreams are completely meaningless. We never did before.

In biblical times, a weird dream was a very big thing.

It could be your only warning that years of rich harvest would be followed by famine or that the reason you kept throwing up

in the morning was that you were pregnant with Jesus.

In much of the world today, dreams are believed to speak volumes about the past, the present and the future.

Dreams and dream interpretation are very lucrative markets as well. Dream diaries and dictionaries sell like hotcakes these days. This is probably because dreams are so freakin' cool. Seriously.

Where else can you assume the role of a Ghostbuster, play bass guitar for Green Day and lead a parade of men in Disney character costumes ... all in the same night? A publishing company would be foolish not to capitalize on dreams.

I recently challenged the elusive scientists in my own petty way: I took a dream personality test

online. It consisted of five simple multiple-choice questions. After I answered them, it offered me the opportunity to "meet myself."

The fact that I dream of wolves means that I have an inner guide who offers me "wisdom and enlightenment."

I find this odd because the last time I dreamed of a wolf, my little brother and I killed it after it flew through a window.

I dream of swimming pools, too. This means that my idea of love is "fun, friendliness and relaxation." Fair enough.

I re-took the test, answering each question differently than I had before.

My idea of love turned out to be "beauty and refinement without emotional entanglement," and I had a "passionate, ener-

getic" character.

I'm inclined to think that the psychologists were at least partially correct. However kickass dreams may be, they don't define who you are or where you're going.

Dream dictionaries are like fortune cookies or horoscopes: they tell us things about ourselves that are true for everyone at least sometimes, and we're so thrilled to hear them that we subconsciously try to live up to them all of the time.

Dream interpretation is a nice tool for entertainment and encouragement, but I think, if anything, dreams serve to cloud our definition of ourselves rather than offer us black-and-white self-portraits.

They're more valuable that way, anyway. ♦

## What happened to my motivation?

### The Imaginary Superhero



Well, after taking a brief hiatus from writing this silly little column, I have decided to return. The cause of my absence: lack of motivation. Yes, it's that time of year again. Classes have been going on long enough to get into the groove of things, also known as a rut.

New responsibilities

pile on top of each other to the point of suffocation. Meanwhile, the chance for fun and spontaneity appears more and more tempting yet harder and harder to come into contact with.

Duties have drained away all signs of an actual life. In desperate attempts to once again be carefree, all responsibilities take backstage to actual interests, which seem to be changing indefinitely.

At this stage, which seems more appealing?

- A) Going to class
- B) Working
- C) Sleeping
- D) Parting
- E) Anything other than

A or B

If you chose E, you have passed this test but have likely failed many of your real ones.

It is rather cruel and ironic that when we are children we eagerly wish to be older in order to seek freedom, and then when we arrive at this glorious age, we realize that we had the most freedom as a child.

Children aren't suspect to the chains and barriers of society. As we grow older with each passing day, our ability to be reckless and worry-free dwindles away. I am just trying to savor the last tastes of "acting like a child."

Don't misunderstand me. I am not really advocating this irresponsible behavior.

The last thing anyone wants to be seen as is undependable. It's just that sometimes you need a break from things, and if it isn't given to you, you just have to create your own. The long awaited fall break has come and gone, and the next chance for a breath of fresh air seems to be Thanksgiving (although I am not quite sure if seeing all types of long lost relatives can honestly count as a breath of fresh air).

After Thanksgiving, the semester is soon to draw

closure, but not without final examinations. We will have Christmas to recuperate, but in January the cycle begins again. As much as I hate to say it, I suppose my flight from commitment now has to end.

I can ignore the responsibilities bestowed upon me, but I cannot dissolve them. I can bitch and complain, but the fact remains that the world just doesn't seem to care if I am motivated or not.

The only thing left to do is wave goodbye to the good old days of childhood excuses and try to accept my place in the land of responsibility. ♦

## Letters to the Editor

### Operation Christmas Child on campus

To the Editor:

I would like to invite everyone on campus to participate in Operation Christmas Child. The operation is a shoebox project that is headed by Franklin Graham, son of Billy Graham. It is one of the many projects done through Samaritan's Purse.

OCC will send shoeboxes filled with daily necessities and other items of pleasure to children who would, under their life circumstances, probably not see any Christmas presents.

These children are children who face the same terror that America faced on Sept. 11 on a daily basis. They are innocent kids who are not fortunate enough to have the same pleasures of life as we do. One shoebox filled with toiletry items such as toothbrushes, toothpaste and soap will bring joy to a child's face that will equal that of one of us winning one million dollars.

An Operation Christmas Child campaign will be running on campus today through Nov. 17. The last day to have boxes in for this year's distribution will be the Nov. 19. All volunteers to get the message out would be appreciated. There will be booths and other activities on campus.

MTSU is such a large campus, and this is an ongoing project. It does not end with this year's distribution. I am hoping that all students will find it in their hearts to become involved. If each one of us gets involved, this could be a very big project on campus and could possibly become an annual event. Any groups or organizations that have not chosen their Christmas project are invited to pick this one up. It is a very worthwhile cause and will not only fulfill your need for a project, but also will let these seemingly forgotten children know that there are people out there who know they exist.

Anyone interested in the project can contact me at mmg2f@mtsu.edu or may call me at 596-5612.

Misty Garret

### Offer assistance to students in need

To the Editor,

I am saddened by the need to submit this letter, as I know that similar ones have been printed within the last two semesters. However, I guess some people just don't get it. While walking to the photo lab Monday evening, I noticed ahead of me a blind student struggling tremendously with maneuvering around a blind gate that had been installed. I had an estimated minute walk ahead of me until

I could get to where he was to assist him. During this minute, I encountered several individuals as well as groups of people who simply walked by, some of who even pointed out to their companions his hardship without stopping to offer any assistance. When I approached him to offer help, he was relieved.

To those insensitive students – yes, perhaps it is an uncomfortable situation to approach someone with such a devastating disability, but I assure you that it was a thousand times more uncomfortable and embarrassing to him. Come on now ... we live in a diverse and beautiful world, and for some (like this grateful student), the way they see that beauty is through others' kindness.

To the staff responsible at MTSU, this situation could have been prevented by a simple means of communication. Why wasn't it?

Like it or not, we share this world, and we have to give a damn.

April Powell

### Football team needs your support

To the Editor:

I graduated from MTSU back in May. I have always been a huge supporter of MTSU. I was a member of the Student Government Association in some form or fashion for every semester I attended.

The biggest concern I, as well as many others, had was how to get student involvement in school activities and get some school pride and spirit instilled in the students at this university.

At the beginning of this football season, the first year of the Sun Belt, MTSU went to Nashville and defeated Vanderbilt. That was a great boost for the football program, and it showed in the stands. It seemed everyone was thinking blue. Home attendance was pushing records every home game. Then MTSU goes on a two-game skid. So the team returns to Floyd Stadium for some relief. How do we repay them? By not showing up for the game. People decided MTSU was over and done with and the proof was in all the fans that left before the comeback. This was probably the most important game of the season. A win would keep our bowl chances alive.

This is a great football team, and they need our support. I implore all Blue Raider fans to come out in force and show support to the Raiders this coming Saturday against Arkansas State. Yes, I know it is homecoming, but don't go to the game for that reason alone. Go to the game because you want to support the people who play their hearts out every Saturday.

Jeremy Baker

## SIDELINES

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Want to voice your opinion?  
E-mail your letters to  
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Just don't embarrass yourself.



# FEATURES

4 ♦ SIDELINES

Monday, October 29, 2001

Murfreesboro, Tenn.

## Halloween in New Orleans



Photo by Stephanie Saujon | Staff

Families go to the cemeteries and whitewash the tombs Nov. 1, known as All Saints Day. All graveyard tombs in southern Louisiana are above the ground.

By Stephanie Saujon  
Staff Writer

When people think of holidays in New Orleans they think of Mardi Gras. However, there is another holiday that attracts smaller crowds and more interesting costumes.

It's called Halloween. Because people in New Orleans tend to believe in the supernatural, Halloween celebrations are abundant. Parades, costume contests and elite masquerade balls are among the most popular ways to celebrate, but in the Big Easy, anything goes.

When searching for a good time on this ghoulish night, look no further than Bourbon Street, which can be found in the Vieux Carre, popularly known as the French Quarter. This notorious party strip is overrun with festivities Oct. 31. In the early evening, several parades proceed down the street showcasing music, banners and costumes, and by 11 p.m., the street is blocked off for costumed revelers.

"I enjoyed the extravagant costumes and large parties on the strip," says Tosha Ward, an MTSU student who has spent the past two years celebrating Halloween on Bourbon Street.

Ghosts, devils, witches, fairies, movie characters, celebrities and dominatrix-style costumes are among the most



Photo by Stephanie Saujon | Staff

Visitors in New Orleans dress up in lavish costumes as they attend the annual Ghostly Galavant.

common disguises to be spotted. Many people spend months on their costumes, so be prepared to see some amazing creations.

If the craziness of Bourbon Street isn't your idea of a good time, try one of the city's haunted tours. The times, prices and places of departure for the tours vary though, so ask a hotel attendant for more information.

Most of the tours are on foot, but the good part is that some-

times companies offer a group rate.

Tourists and residents of the city who are interested in taking one or more of the tours can choose from several different themes, such as vampires, ghosts, voodoo and cemeteries. Sometimes a combination of all four can be found. These tours are a safe and spooky alternative to the often-inebriated merriment on Bourbon Street.

The fact that many people believe New Orleans is a haun-



Photo by Stephanie Saujon | Staff

Marie Laveau, the infamous Voodoo Queen, is buried in the St. Louis Cathedral on Jackson Square and was known for leading voodoo rituals in front of the cathedral.

ed city adds to the festive night's atmosphere.

Founded in 1718 by Jean Baptiste Le Moyne, the city, which rests on the Mississippi River, soon became a haven for pirates, prostitutes, thieves and escaped slaves.

Many ghost stories that circulate around the city are about the mishaps that befell these people. One of the most famous ghost stories in New Orleans tells of a young Turkish sultan and his harem who were butchered to death in their French Quarter house.

Another popular character in New Orleans folklore is Marie Laveau, the infamous Voodoo Queen. Laveau is buried in the St. Louis cemetery and was known for leading voodoo rituals in front of the St. Louis Cathedral, one of the most picturesque cathedrals in America.

People in New Orleans freely admit to believing in ghosts, vampires, witches and voodoo. In fact, one of the most widely acclaimed modern horror writ-

ers, Anne Rice, lives in New Orleans. Author of *Interview With a Vampire*, Rice not only resides in the city, but also hosts an annual Coven Ball on the weekend before Halloween. Admittance to the extravaganza is by costume only, and tickets are usually sold out months in advance.

Most Halloween parties and events are scheduled the weekend before Halloween.

Voodoo at the Bayou is an exclusive charity ball that requires costume attire. The Ghostly Galavant is an annual event held in the oldest part of New Orleans. This daytime celebration invites children and adults of all ages to dress up and explore the private porches in the French Quarter.

Halloween in New Orleans can be a fun vacation for tourists of all ages. The city is brimming with attractions year-round, but in late October, the weather is ideal and the French Quarter is not as crowded as it is during the summer months and Mardi Gras.

But don't forget the Garden District, which was originally intended to encompass the town of Lafayette where the settlers created a cemetery on the edge of the neighborhood.

Lafayette Cemetery is truly a sight to see. Like all graveyards in southern Louisiana, the tombs are above ground. Families of the deceased are very devoted to their loved ones' graves. Families go to the cemeteries and whitewash the tombs Nov. 1, commonly known as All Saints Day. By the end of the ceremony, flowers cover the ground and the vaults cast an eerie glowing light across the burial grounds.

So, if you are seeking an exciting mid-autumn vacation or a great place to party on Halloween, phone your travel agent or go online to book your reservations to New Orleans.

Be sure to pack your costume, for this is the one city that demands participation in the extravagant preparations made for the annual event. ♦



## Stylish tips to spook with

By Phoenix Taylor  
Staff Writer

'Twas the night of All Hallow's Eve and all through the dorm room, not a single dime or penny could be found. What should one do? Don't fret this ghoulish season.

Here are some tips that will scare your friends and not your pocketbooks for this spooky night's eve.

Do you want to be the "freak" of the night but can't afford the gear? Advice from Performance Cosmetic and Costume Company on Church Street in Nashville and Party City on Old Fort Parkway will help you get in to high gear.

"The Statue of Liberty is very popular among the ladies this year," says Tony Dominico, sales representative for Performance, "and for guys, the action/super hero looks of Spiderman, Superman and Batman are in."

Rentals at Performance start as low as \$30 and go as high as \$65. Dominico notes that there are still lots of costumes for sale starting as low as \$20.

"Trendier costumes for adults are not so different from past years' styles," says Nathan Bryant, sales associate at Party City. "Anything that is body-enhancing such as Cat Woman, Cleopatra, belly dancer and vampire outfits are fashionable for the ladies."

"Britney Spears' performance of her new song 'Slave' on MTV's (Video Music Awards) helped me to decide on my Halloween costume," says freshman Tilitia Harris, who might go as a belly dancer this year.

"Men are sticking to the image of being pimps this year," Bryant continues.

Senior L.A. Houston says this Halloween he'll go as a pimp. "I am going to wear a white suit, a wide brim hat, carry cane and flaunt some flashy accessories."

He may even try to have the ultimate accessory — many beautiful women at his side.

Party City's prices start as low as \$12.99, and for the high-end shopper, \$100.99. If you are into wigs, they begin at \$7.99 and range up to \$39.99.

If costume ideas for kids can work, it can have the same

results for adults as well.

Bobby Shaw, a recent guest speaker on Channel 5's *Talk of the Town*, suggests starting with a basic outfit in monochromatic colors of black, red, white or green to make a frightful night a delight.

Buy at least two or three yards of fabric from places like Hobby Lobby, Hancocks or Wal-Mart's dollar bin.

Have safety pins, scissors, tape and glue near you to create inexpensive Halloween creations.

Black is always great for Halloween. You can create a simple look by wrapping up in leopard print for a caveman or cavewoman costume.

For a red devil, go and find an inexpensive horn headband and pin a black scarf to your bottom.

Find a broom and take off the bottom part to create a fork out of cardboard for a devilish look.

White is nice. Put on a slip and buy some netting fabric to wrap around your head to become a beautiful bride.

Try green. Take some green fabric and wrap it around your

whole body and secure it with safety pins. Find an American flag for the Lady Liberty look.

So what will you be for Halloween this year?

Still no clue? Check out some creative ideas from your fellow students that may stimulate your creativity:

"Go as a pregnant Nun," says senior Christa Carnivore.

"I am going as Rift Rafter from the *Rocky Horror Picture Show*," says Kevin Clark, a speech and theater major.

"A *Moulin Rouge* dancer," says costume design major Jennifer Stone.

"Hip Hop artist," says junior McQueen Mitchel.

"Spinderalla," says senior Molly Cullen.

"The drummer Peter Chris from the band Kiss is my theme," says Chris Johnson.

"I am going as the fashion police," says Regina Rizzo.

"Grab some friends and go as the Earth's elements — air, wind, water," says Andrea Eller.

These looks can promote creative thoughts to scare your friends and not your pockets this Halloween season. ♦



## Lagat wins Sun Belt championship again

### Cross country team finishes fifth in meet

#### Staff Reports

Geoffrey Lagat won the Sun Belt Cross Country Championships for the second straight year with a time of 24:14.23 Saturday in Bowling Green, Ky.

"Lagat ran a great race," head coach Dean Hayes said. "He was up with the leaders the entire time, and he took the lead a little over four miles into the race. He kept pushing and won by about 20 seconds."

Lagat received a measure of revenge defeating Seth Bortey from Arkansas State, who had beaten him in an earlier race.

Lagat was out of the spotlight around the conference this

season despite a win and two runner-up finishes in the three races he ran before the Sun Belt Championships.

The Blue Raiders finished fifth in the meet as a team. Levi Sybert placed 12th with a time of 25:59.31. Anthony McGary was the next Blue Raider to cross the finish line in 20th place at 26:37.33.

"I thought all of our guys ran well, especially the top three. We ran about as good a race that we could have," Hayes said.

Other finishers for MT were Steve Safstrom (46th), Carlos Gonzales (51st), Josh Carroll (59th) and Bryan Picklesimer (66th).

The Lady Raiders finished 11th with Erin Russell pacing the team in 48th place.

The cross country teams will run in the NCAA Regionals Nov. 10. ♦

## Women's soccer beats S. Alabama in overtime, 2-1

#### Staff Reports

Danielle LaDuke scored on a breakaway for the game-winning goal in the 104th minute as the Middle Tennessee soccer team beat South Alabama 2-1 in overtime Friday night.

The Blue Raiders scored their first goal of the contest when Emily Carter headed in her ninth goal of the season on a corner kick from Laura Miguez in the 37th minute.

USA tied the game at one in the 53rd minute when Cassia Price assisted leading scorer

Cindy Rainville's goal.

Neither team could muster another goal during regulation until LaDuke broke free with the ball past two defenders, dribbled and shot to the far post for the game-winner.

Goalie Emily Shriner made seven saves in the match. The Blue Raiders tied a school record for most wins in a season. The 1998 and 1999 squads also won 10 games each.

The Blue Raiders played at Louisiana-Lafayette Sunday. Results at press time. ♦



Photo by Amy Jones | Staff

Jenny Cox concentrates on keeping control of the ball as she runs downfield on a breakaway attempt to score.

## Basketball teams picked for top 5 in Eastern Division

#### Staff Reports

The Sun Belt Conference announced its men's and women's basketball preseason coaches' poll and All-Sun Belt teams at Media Day in New Orleans Oct. 24.

The Middle Tennessee women were picked to finish third in the Eastern Division, while the MT men were selected to finish fifth in the Eastern Division.

"I'm optimistic about our team," head coach Stephany Smith said. "We have a talented team, but we're very young. Six of our seven newcomers are freshmen, so you never know how fast they will mature, but if everything shakes out the way we think it will, we will be very competitive."

"These polls are based on the outcome of last season,"

head coach Randy Wiel said. No one really knows what anyone has yet. The final finish really reflects the preseason polls anyway. We will be a competitive team in this league this year."

Jamie Thomatis was a unanimous selection to the league's Preseason All-Conference Team. She is MT's lone selection to the list.

"Jamie led the team in nearly every category last year," Smith said. "She was in the top 10 in the Sun Belt in most of those categories and was among the nation's leaders. I'm not one for individual honors, but she is deserving of this award."

Tommy Gunn was an honorable mention on the All-Sun Belt Team for the Blue Raiders.

Both teams open their season with a home exhibition game Nov. 6. ♦

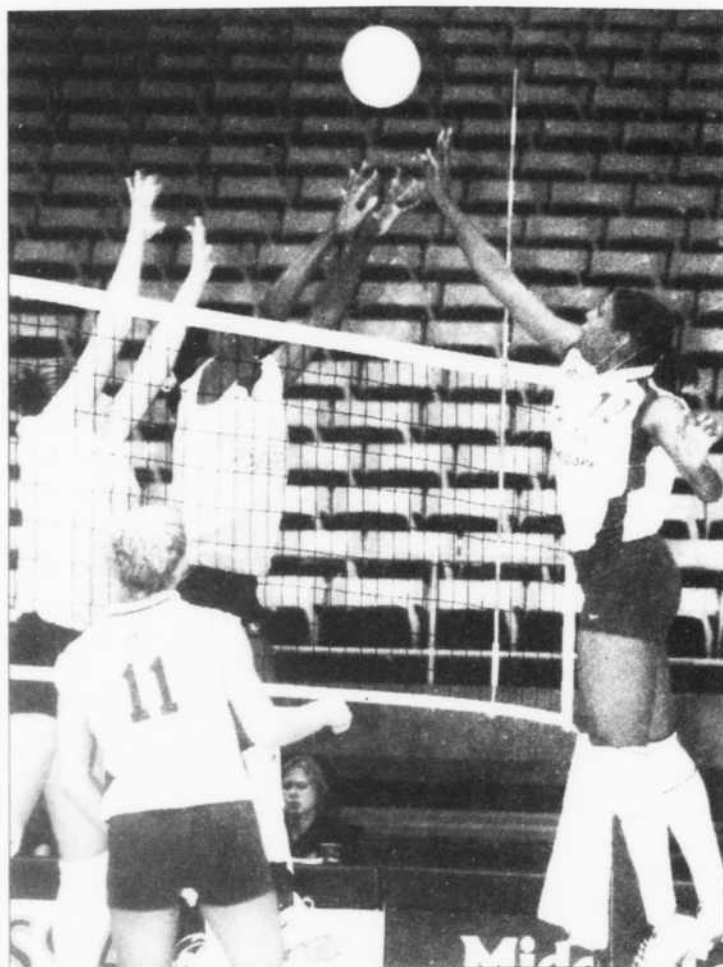


Photo by Amy Jones | Staff

Karisse Baker pushes the ball past the defender's hands.

## Volleyball falls to Arkansas 3-1

By **Erich Heinlein**  
Staff Writer

The Middle Tennessee volleyball team lost to the University of Arkansas-Little Rock 3-1 Saturday at Trojan field house.

The Lady Raiders got off to an impressive start, but they could not keep up the pace when things seemed to start to go bad in game two.

"The positives about this match was a strong start in game one," head coach Lisa Kisse said. "Other than weak serving in game two we had a great attitude to battle throughout the match, but we have got to get more aggressive."

In the second game, the Lady Raiders trailed 29-26. They scored the next three points to tie it at 29 but could not put the game away, losing the next two points to lose the set 31-29.

The Lady Raiders had a high

attack percentage. As a team, their attack percentage was .258.

Shakeitha Deckard recorded a double-double with 22 kills and 12 digs to lead the Lady Raider attack. Karisse Baker contributed 18 kills and 26 attacks for a .538 attack percentage.

Katie Thiesen added 11 kills and 25 attacks for a .250 attack percentage. Erin Hillstrom recorded a double-double with 11 kills and 13 digs.

Kelly Quinn led 12 assists while Goldie Bilyeu contributed 58 assists to the effort.

Jelena Radovanovic racked up a double-double with 16 kills and 10 digs to go along with a .417 attack percentage for ALR. As a team, Arkansas-Little Rock had a .329 attack percentage.

The Lady Raiders host Sun Belt conference opponent Western Kentucky tomorrow night at 7 p.m. ♦

# MT makes comeback



Photo by Amy Jones | Staff

Wes Counts squeezes through the New Mexico State defense to score a touchdown in the Sun Belt win Saturday.

## MT football scores 28 fourth-quarter points

By **Shane Marquardt**  
Staff Writer

A fourth quarter comeback from behind effort propelled the Middle Tennessee football team over New Mexico State 39-35 Saturday at Floyd Stadium.

MT trailed NMSU 35-11 to begin the fourth quarter. Then, the Blue Raider offensive and defensive squads came together to keep the opportunity of a Sun Belt Conference championship alive.

"There was no doubt in our minds that we were going to win this game," cornerback Jykine Bradley said.

It took 28 unanswered fourth-quarter points to keep the Blue Raiders' nine game home winning streak intact.

"You saw a team that never, never gave in," MT head coach Andy McCollum said.

MT seemed out of sync from the beginning when wide receiver Fumford Johnson fumbled an early punt that led to an NMSU touchdown. In a pinch, the Blue Raiders gave the ball to a running back who carried the ball 19 and 15 yards on his first two touches. The momentum led to an MT touchdown and two-point conversion.

NMSU didn't fold against a small but boisterous Floyd Stadium crowd. The Aggies scored the next 15 points before the Blue Raiders answered with a field goal to close the half at 22-11.

"This was our championship game," quarterback Wes Counts said. "If we lost this one, it was over with. The next three games really didn't matter."

NMSU looked as if they wanted to run MT into submission when they went on a 13-

point run on the legs of quarterback K.C. Enzminger.

The Blue Raiders desperately tried to catch up, going as far as pulling Counts for a swing in momentum, but backup quarterback Jason Johnson was ineffective in his lone series and was pulled after throwing an interception. "We had some guys who were not going to give in and were not going to get beat," McCollum said.

The fourth quarter comeback began on a touchdown by running back Reshard Lee and a two-point conversion run by Counts. The much maligned MT defense showed unquestionable character in the fourth quarter by continuously getting the ball back for their offense.

"Everyone's intensity level was up," Bradley said. "We knew

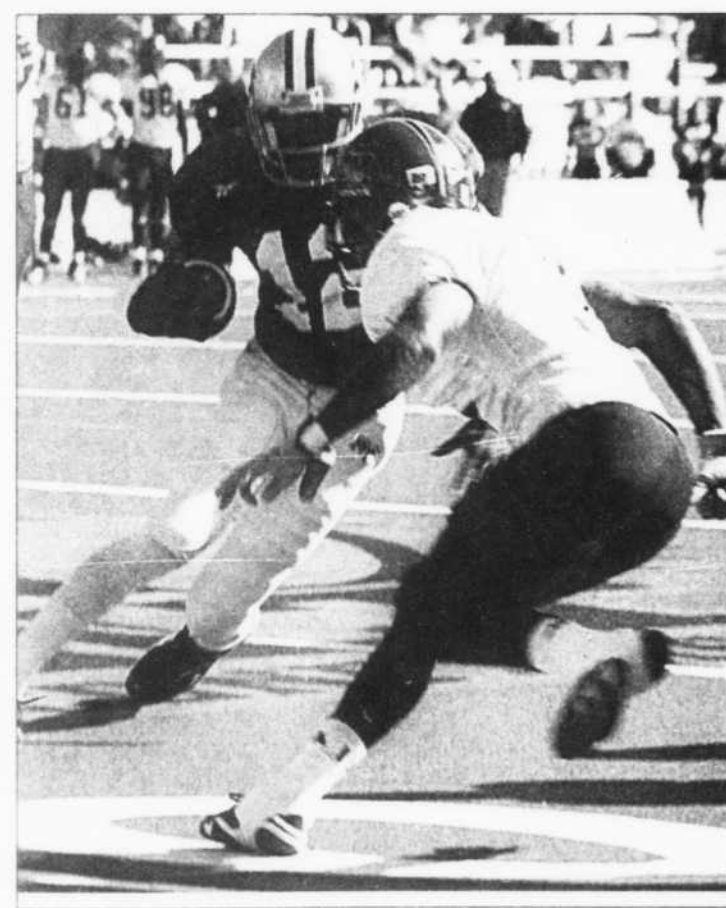


Photo by Amy Jones | Staff

Kendall Newson makes his move on an NMSU defender.



Photo by Amy Jones | Staff

Defensive back Rod Higgins runs to make the tackle on the NMSU running back.



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**Monday,  
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*Carnival on  
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**Wednesday,  
October 31**

*Woodstock:  
"A Celebration  
of Music"*

7:00pm, Wright  
Music Hall

**Thursday,  
November 1**

*Unity Party*

7:00-pm, James Union  
Building, Tennessee  
Room

**Friday, November 2**

*All events at Murphy  
Center*

*Swap Day*

5:00pm

*Homecoming  
Cookoff*

5:30pm

*Raider Rally*

6:00pm, followed  
Immediately by  
Fight Song

**Saturday,  
November 3**

*Parade*

9:00am

*Homecoming  
Tailgating*

11:00am - 1:45pm

*MTSU vs.*

*Arkansas State*

2:00pm

## MIDDLE TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY



## Football: Newson leads offense in the win

Continued from 5

if we were going to get back in the game we had to get a three and out and get the ball to our offense, and let them do what they can do."

"We know that we can score pretty quick, we've proven that before, just as long as we do our jobs," Counts said. "The defense gave us opportunities, and we took advantage of it."

With the determination of wide receiver Kendall Newson, the MT offense resurrected themselves for a 28-point barrage in the fourth quarter. Newson made big catch after big catch to get the MT squad into the game, and none were bigger than his touchdown reception and run of 64 yards

that closed the NMSU lead to 35-32. "Kendall is a game player, and he wants the ball in his hands in that situation," McCollum said.

Newson's final reception of 19 yards tied an MT record of 12 receptions in a game, and set up the clinching score for the Blue Raiders.

Then the game finished where it all began, in Hicks hands. Hicks took a handoff 9 yards for the touchdown that put the Blue Raiders on top 39-35. NMSU never recovered.

"We had a lot of adversity to overcome in this game, and the guys have a lot of heart and a lot of fight in them," MT offensive coordinator Larry Fedora said.

The fight isn't quite over for the MT squad.

"Next week is our last conference game," free safety Michael Woods said. "We have to win that game just like we had to win this one in order to get the ring."

"We've got a big game next Saturday (against) Arkansas State, and it depends on that if we're going to New Orleans or not," Bradley says.

MT will take on ASU in its last conference game Saturday at 2 p.m. in Floyd Stadium. ♦

## Tennis doubles team falls in tournament's semifinals

### Staff Reports

The Middle Tennessee women's tennis doubles team of Manon Kruse and Stacy Varnell fell in the semifinals of the ITA Southeast Regional Saturday at Wake Forest University.

Kruse and Varnell defeated North Carolina State's Katrina Gildemeister and Kristen Nicholls 9-7 in the second round. They also beat Clemson's Laurence Jayet and Alix Lacelarie 8-1 Sunday. The duo then fell to Julie DeRoo and Kelly McCain of Duke 5-8.

In single action, Varnell split her two qualifying matches Thursday. She defeated North

Carolina State's Kristen Nicholls 6-3, 6-0 in her first match then lost to Coastal Carolina's No. 1 singles player, Mezina Bajrambasic, 7-6(2), 1-6, 2-6.

"I think Stacy played extremely well," head coach Randy Holden said. "She just missed making it out of the qualifying rounds and into the singles draw."

No. 14 seeded Kruse lost to the University of Kentucky's Lauren Rookledge 2-6, 3-6 Friday. Kruse ends her fall single season with a 9-2 record.

The team of Varnell and Kruse end the fall campaign 11-2. ♦

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# MT's Klemetz advances to final eight at UT

## Staff Reports

Middle Tennessee men's tennis player Daniel Klemetz advanced to the final eight in the Omni Hotels Region III Championships at University of Tennessee-Knoxville.

Klemetz beat Chattanooga's Jason Ontog 6-2, 6-4 to advance to the Round of 16. He then defeated Todd Widom of Miami 4-6, 6-3, 7-5.

In other singles action, Oliver Foreman lost to South Florida's Paco Antelo 7-6, 0-6,

3-6. Michael Staniak dropped a 4-6, 6-7 decision to Tulane's Victor Romero.

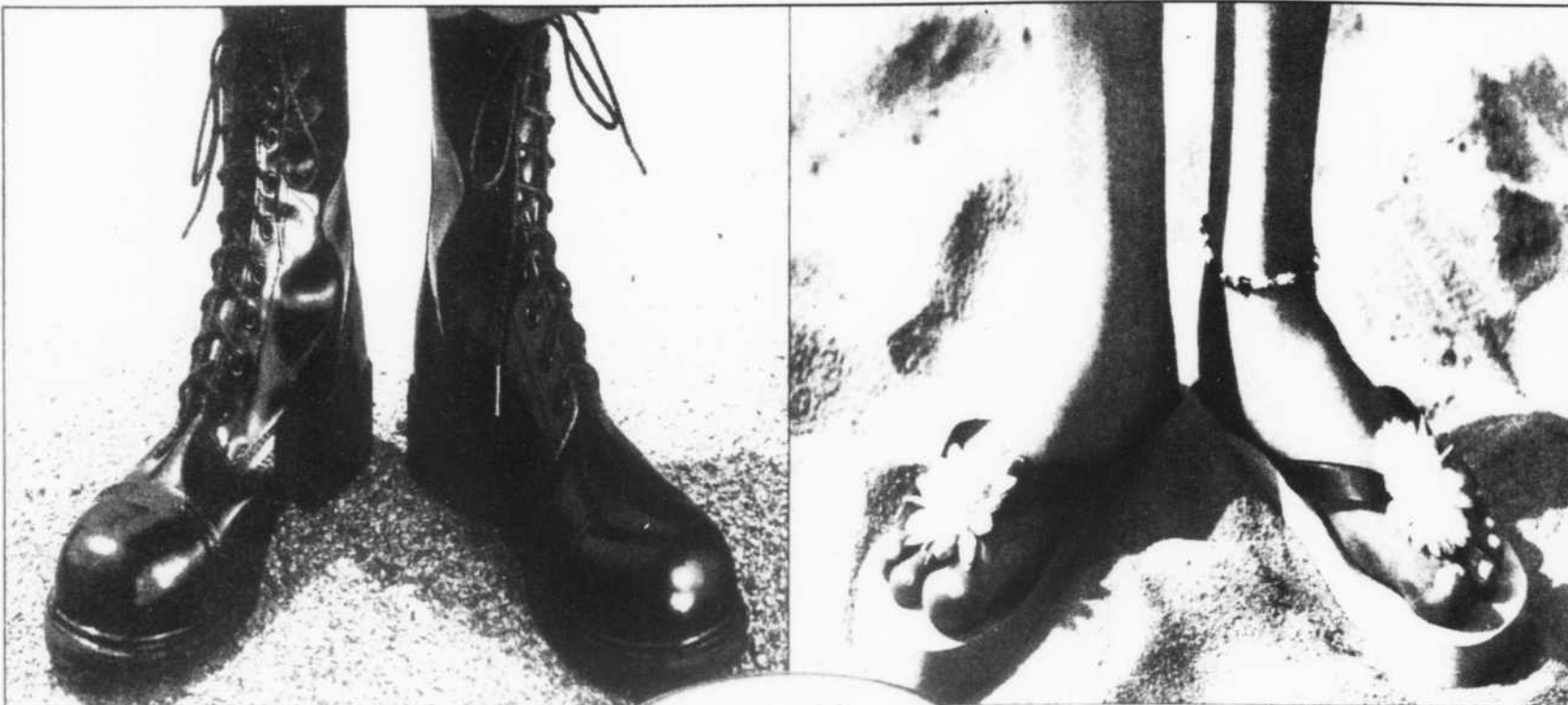
Three doubles teams advanced to the Round of 16 with victories Friday. Foreman and Robert Gustafsson defeated Murray State's Nikola Aracic

and Alex Hoyem 8-5 to advance to the Round of 16.

Kirk Jackson and Klemetz defeated Georgia State's Albano Franco and Miha Lisac 8-5. Klemetz and Jackson defeated Max Fomine and Matt Armstrong of Mississippi State

8-5 in their first match before beating Auburn's Mark Kovacs and Rameez Junaid 8-5 in the second. Klementz and Jackson will face teammates Foreman and Gustafsson. The Region III Championships continue through Monday.◆

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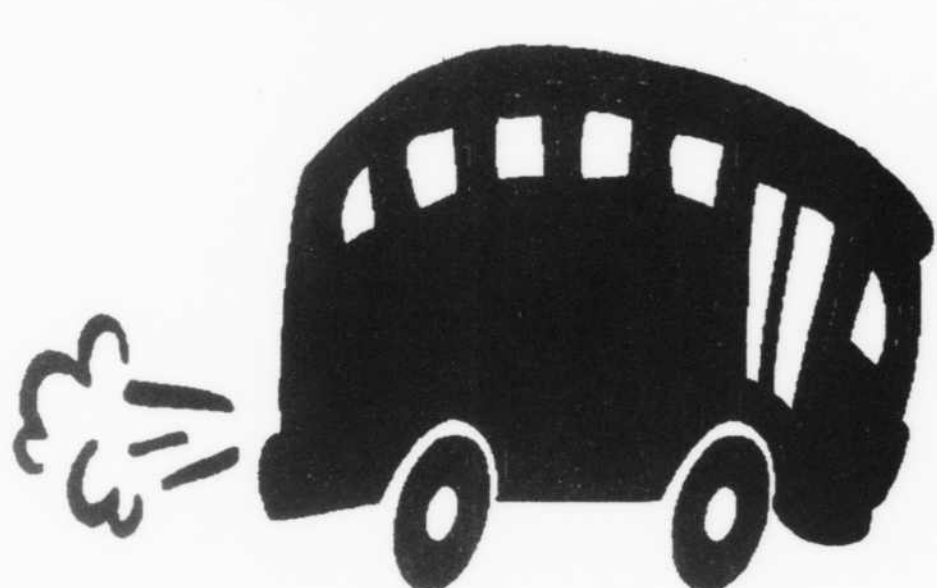
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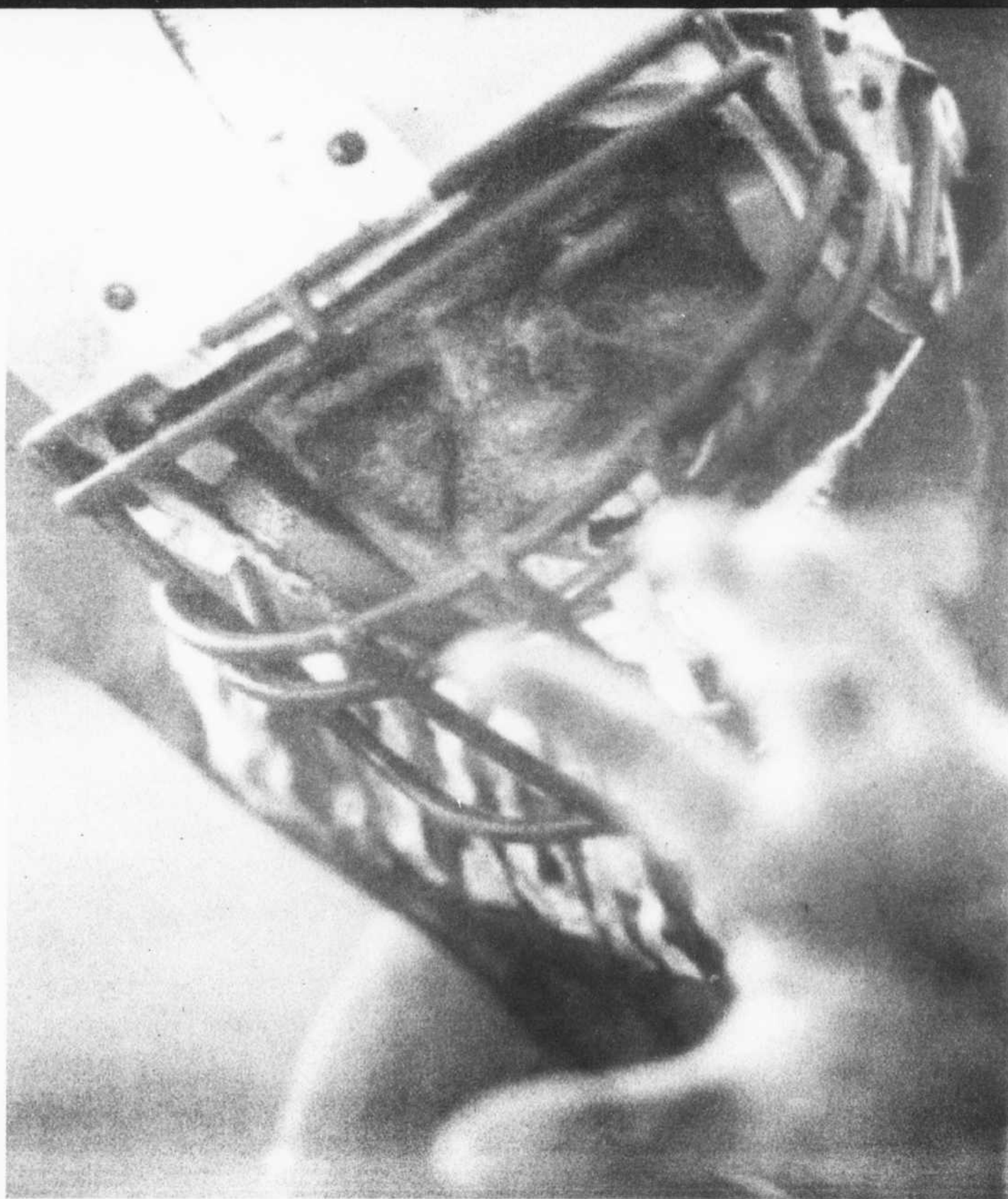
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# Know your Blue Raider history

By Amy Calloway  
Staff Writer

MTSU students have Blue Raider pride and Lightning spirit, but many do not know where these names came from or what they mean.

The mascot Lightning is the most recent addition to MTSU. It was introduced in January 1998 to a crowd of 10,000 people waiting in Murphy Center to see what "Lightning Strikes" really meant.

With flashing lights, lasers and dancers, the new logo – a winged horse snorting a lightning bolt – was introduced to the fans. The lightning bolt and horse was combined with the name "Blue Raiders" to be the new MTSU athletic logo. President James E. Walker set up a search committee in 1996 because a need was seen for a new logo and mascot to carry MTSU into the future and especially into Division I-A sports.

For two decades, MTSU had a variety of mascots and symbols associated with it.

The original mascot, a representative of Confederate soldier Nathan Bedford Forrest, was



abandoned in the late 1960s because of concern that the mascot was offensive to African-American students.

An unofficial mascot, "Ole Blue," a costumed cartoon-like blue tick hound, was popular throughout the 1980s. With the introduction of Lightning, "Ole Blue" was no longer used. Because MTSU had its start as a normal school,

other earlier nicknames included Teacher, Normalites and Pedagogues, but none of these lasted.

In 1934, Murfreesboro's *Daily News Journal* held a contest to come up with an official nickname for the State Teachers College teams. Charles Sarver, a member of the 1934 football team, submitted the winning "Blue Raiders" nickname.

More than 200 entries were submitted to the *DNJ*. These were then narrowed down to 25 that were voted on by the football team.

None of the football players knew that a member of their team had submitted the winning entry until he was awarded the \$5 prize.

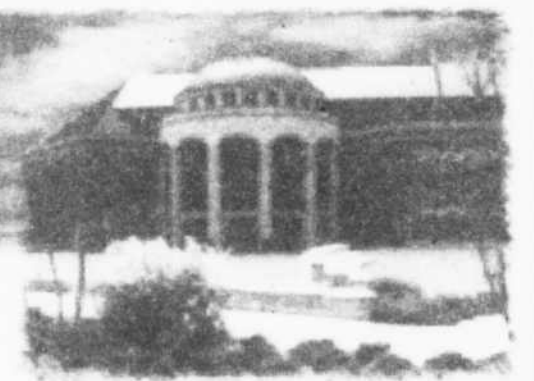
Sarver said he got the idea for the nickname from Colgate University's Red Raiders, a powerful football force at the time.

The name Blue Raiders was combined with Lightning in 1998 to become the official mascot of MTSU. ♦

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# Just say cheers . . .

## Homecoming Week Schedule

**Monday** – Carnival on the Knoll in front of Keathley University Center, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

**Tuesday** – Unity Party, James Union Building, 7:30 p.m.

**Wednesday** – Woodstock, a Celebration of Music, Wright Music Hall, 7 p.m.

**Friday** – Homecoming Day Golf Tournament, 7:30 a.m. registration, 8 a.m. shotgun start, Old Fort Golf Course, 1028 Golf Lane. The cost is \$60 per person.

Swap Day, shirts available at 5 p.m. in Murphy Center.

Homecoming cook off, 5:30 p.m. on Murphy Center track. Cost for community is \$2 for desserts. Tickets will be sold until desserts run out.

Raider Rally, 6 p.m. in Murphy Center, with Fight Song Competition to follow.

Young Alumni Gathering, 7p.m. at Bunganut Pig, 1602 West Northfield

Blvd.

Alumni Gatherings, 7 p.m. at Toot's, 860 Northwest Broad St.; Shoeless Joe's, 1850 Old Fort Parkway; and Davy Crockett's Roadhouse, 801 Northwest Broad St.

**Saturday** – Welcome Back Alumni Coffee, 8 a.m. in MTSU Alumni Center.

Homecoming Parade, 9 a.m.

Dedication of MTSU library in James Walker's name, 11 a.m. in library atrium.

Homecoming barbeque and activities, 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., MTSU picnic pavilion at Greenland Drive, \$10 for adults and \$3 per child. Children's activities will include face painting and clowns. Live music will be held on the Greenland band stage.

Raider Walk, 12:45 p.m., between Murphy Center and football locker rooms.

Alumni Cheerleader Reunion, 1:45 p.m., Floyd Stadium, \$15 per person.

Football Game, 2 p.m., Middle Tennessee vs. Arkansas State. Homecoming Queen will be crowned. The game is free for students. ♦

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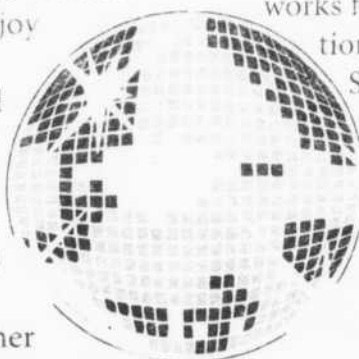
# Woodstock to celebrate '60s, '70s music

## Motown, disco, rock will be featured styles of concert

By Erin Edgemon  
Staff Writer

A trip through the '60s and '70s is in store Wednesday night at the Woodstock concert in Wright Music Hall from 7 to 9.

The homecoming committee added the event so students can enjoy music without feeling they had to compete with someone, said David Scott, chairman of Woodstock. Many of the other homecoming events, such as the kickball tournament, cook-off and fight song, are competitions.



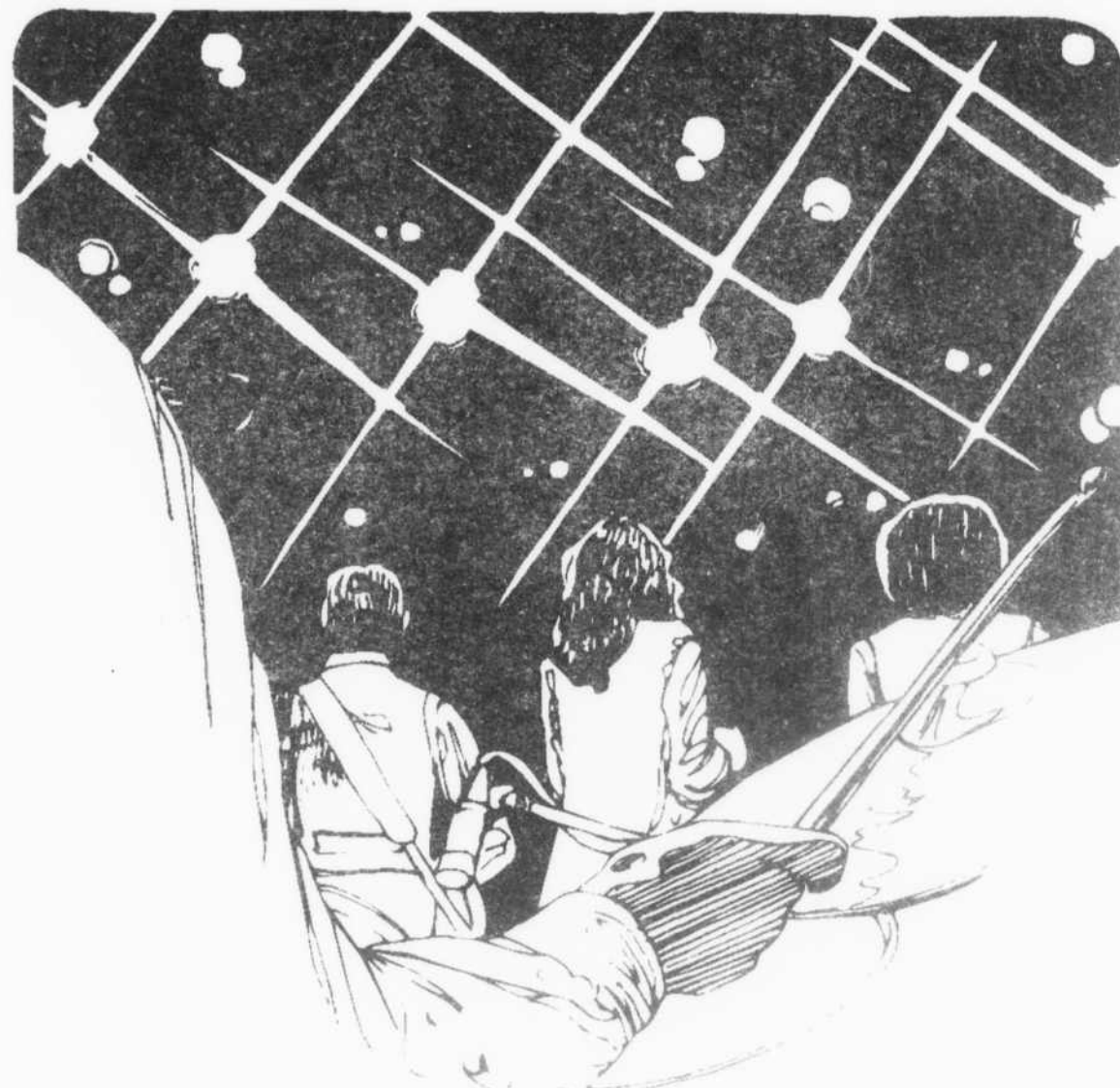
The concert featuring 17 performers will be broadcast live over the campus radio station, 88.3 the Ultimate. The house band will perform a majority of the songs while student artists sing the cover songs.

"We found the house band from someone that works for the radio station on campus," Scott said. "The performers were found at open mic at the Cyber Cafe, or they were discovered through friends."

Some of the performers include Britnee Jade and Kandyce Hansbrough covering "Lady Marmalade" by Labelle. Rob Jordan will sing "Let's Get It On" by Marvin Gaye and Kell Colter is performing "House of the Rising Sun" by Bob Dylan.

Other songs from the Jackson Five, Elton John, Tina Turner and John Lennon also will be performed.

Kandyce Hansbrough is excited about performing. "I think that it will be fun



performing in the show, especially since it is homecoming week," Hansbrough said. "The crowd should be full of energy, support and school spirit."

"Most people in the show will each perform two songs, a solo and then a duet or a group performance," Scott said.

The homecoming committee commissioned art

classes to create designs for the set. The committee picked their favorites. Some of these include giant lava lamps, peace signs and mushrooms that will cover the stage, Scott said.

The show is student produced and funded by the Student Government Association and student activity fees. The planning of the concert and the other

homecoming events began this summer, Scott said.

"The show has been fun to put together," Scott said. "We have put so much work and energy into the show." ♦



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Students demonstrate their MTSU pride and support for Blue Raider football during the game against Vanderbilt.

Photo by Mathew H. Starling | Photo Editor

## Raiders get rowdy in blue

By Charlene Callier  
Features Co-Editor

Blue T-shirts. Blue Faces. Blue down.

Sounds like too much blue?

Not for the Rowdy Raiders, a student organization that requires students to be "blue down" on all home games.

This recent tradition was started in the fall 2000 to encourage students to attend games and increase school spirit along with athletic support.

"This gives the students a chance to make a vocal point of the atmosphere," said Erin Kirian, cheerleading coordinator.

Rowdy Raiders are a group of students that gathered before the games dressed in blue with painted faces to lead the football team on the field and lead the crowds in cheers.

"Students are not required to paint their faces but they must be decked

out in blue," Kirian said.

John Norrell organized the Rowdy Raiders as he involved himself in the MTSU community after he transferred from Delta State University.

Norrell is currently a graduate student at MTSU, but during the year he started Rowdy Raiders, he was involved in a lot of student activities, such as area coordinator for Housing and Residential Life and the Salvation Army Angel Tree.

The Rowdy Raiders added a bit of color and excitement to home football games.

Students interested in Rowdy Raiders should meet 30 minutes before the game at the Keathley University Center.

During this time, students can get their face painted.

Campus traditions are the link between each generation of students to keep the spirit of the school alive.



## Library to be named for ninth president

Staff Reports

MTSU's University Library will finally get a name Saturday, when it is formally dedicated for ninth President James E. Walker.

The reception begins Saturday at 11 a.m. in the library atrium and will be free and open to the public. The new name will be unveiled at approximately 12:15 p.m. after the program featuring Walker and current MTSU President Sidney McPhee.

Walker was instrumental in the construction of the new library more than two

years ago. He felt that, rather than remodeling the Todd Library, the university should seek to build a new, larger and better library for its growing number of students.

McPhee said the ceremony would supply a chance for the university recognize the importance of the library to MTSU's academic efforts.

"We are grateful for the library, which enlightens us, inspires us and shows us what is possible," McPhee told the *Record*. "Our library is a symbol of the importance of quality education

at MTSU."

Under Walker's watch, other important buildings were constructed on campus: Cason-Kennedy Nursing Building, Science Commons, Business Aerospace Building, Recreation Center, and others.

Walker, who served from 1991 to 2000, is now president of Southern Illinois University.

Following the naming ceremony, tours will be given of the library from 12:30 p.m. and 2 p.m.



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Please contact John Jackson, 494-8716, or  
Dustin Rawls, 494-8700, if you have any further  
questions. We look forward to seeing you!





Will MTSU's 6 and 2 record and yesterday's big comeback win that kept them alive in the Sun Belt conference race affect your participation and attendance to Saturday's game? Why or why not?



*"I'm going to the game definitely. It's homecoming. I'm a supporter of the football team, whether they win or lose. I go for the atmosphere."*

Kayla Henry, freshman, Chattanooga, Tenn.



*"I'm going to support them whether they win or not. Everyone has to have a positive attitude and pray."*

Eugene Siebert, freshman, Memphis, Tenn.



*"No, I have to work. But I'd probably go if I didn't have to work."*

Katie Young, sophomore, Knoxville, Tenn.

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*"I'm real big on school spirit. I think the students should be less apathetic and be prouder of their team."*

Susan Wilson, senior, Decatur, Tenn.

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*"Oh, yes! Definitely, if I didn't have to work."*

Andrea West, freshman, Knoxville, Tenn.





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# MT truck shows school spirit



Photo provided

Freshman Whit Casey's GMC truck sits outside Corlew Hall.

**By Courtney Huckabay**  
Staff Writer

The 1953 GMC truck sits regally on the hard-to-get front row parking spot in front of Corlew Hall like it owns the place.

Not only does this classic truck always get its spot, no one ever disputes it.

Maybe it's because this truck is like no other. Probably because everyone loves it. Obviously because it's the new mascot for Middle Tennessee State University, but no one knows it yet.

Freshman Whit Casey is the proud owner, builder, remodeler and painter of this truck. He walks down the steps in front of the all-freshman residence hall and gently rests his hand on the white door bearing the MT logo before getting in. With a smile, he starts the engine just as someone shouts, "Hey, nice truck!" from one of the seven-story windows. Casey is used to this but nods his head in appreciation anyway.

Under the electric blue hood purrs the 350 V-8 engine Casey installed himself. He pulls out and the blue and white beauty catches everyone's eye as it cruises around the corner.

The rounded hood and whole front is painted a blue that is affectionately known as "Raider Blue," while the cab is the color of milk. The huge MT letters are splashed proudly on both doors and the bed is a sea of Raider Blue. There is no other vehicle like it around.

"This summer I knew I wanted to paint it either silver or blue and white," Casey said. "So the week after I got here, I decided it had to be blue and white. I took it home Labor Day weekend and re-painted the whole thing and finished it all that weekend after staying up late and working on it all night and day."

His parents thought he was crazy for wanting to get it done so quickly, but they're used to Casey bringing home new projects.

"Oh, she thought it was a cute idea," Casey said about his mom. "But she knew there would be piles of parts laying all over the yard. And she really wasn't sure I could get

it done in time to go back to school."

But when Casey puts his mind to something, he gets it done and done well. He's been working on cars since he can remember. It is a hobby he picked up from his dad, who likes to fix up classics and restore them to their original glory. Casey, on the other hand, likes to "hot rod" them a bit more.

"Everyone always asks me how I learned to do all the things I do to cars," Casey admitted with a joking sigh. "My dad is big into them, so he taught me a lot. But when I wanted to do and know more, I just picked it up by reading magazines and trying out new stuff. I'm always buying some car or truck cheap and then fixing it up and selling it."

The '53 has seen lots of changes. Casey has fully updated it and given it flare all himself since he bought it when he was 15. In his high school days at Christian Brothers in Memphis, the truck was red and black. He had thought about painting it purple and gold – the high school's colors – but decided against it at the thought of rivalry vandalism. But he's not too worried about vandalism at MTSU.

"If somebody vandalizes it, I'll just re-paint it and fix it up again," he laughed. His nonchalantness seems warranted because there is so much respect for the truck around campus. One MTSU police officer even told Casey he would never give him a ticket because he liked his truck so much. Vice President for Student Affairs Bob Glenn stuck a card on the truck, letting Casey know how much he liked it and was proud of Casey for doing it.

"My good friend Lisa Poepsel wants me to put it in the homecoming parade," Casey said. "And now that she's running for homecoming queen, it would be really cool."

What inspired Casey to plop down the \$50 and the time and energy for this paint job – which he says is not that great and pretty cheap – is not exactly what one would expect. Of course, it comes from pride of his university and from some encouragement from friends, but there's really one big reason why he did it.

"What drove me more than anything is that I hate UT," Casey admitted. "My favorite team is whoever is playing UT."

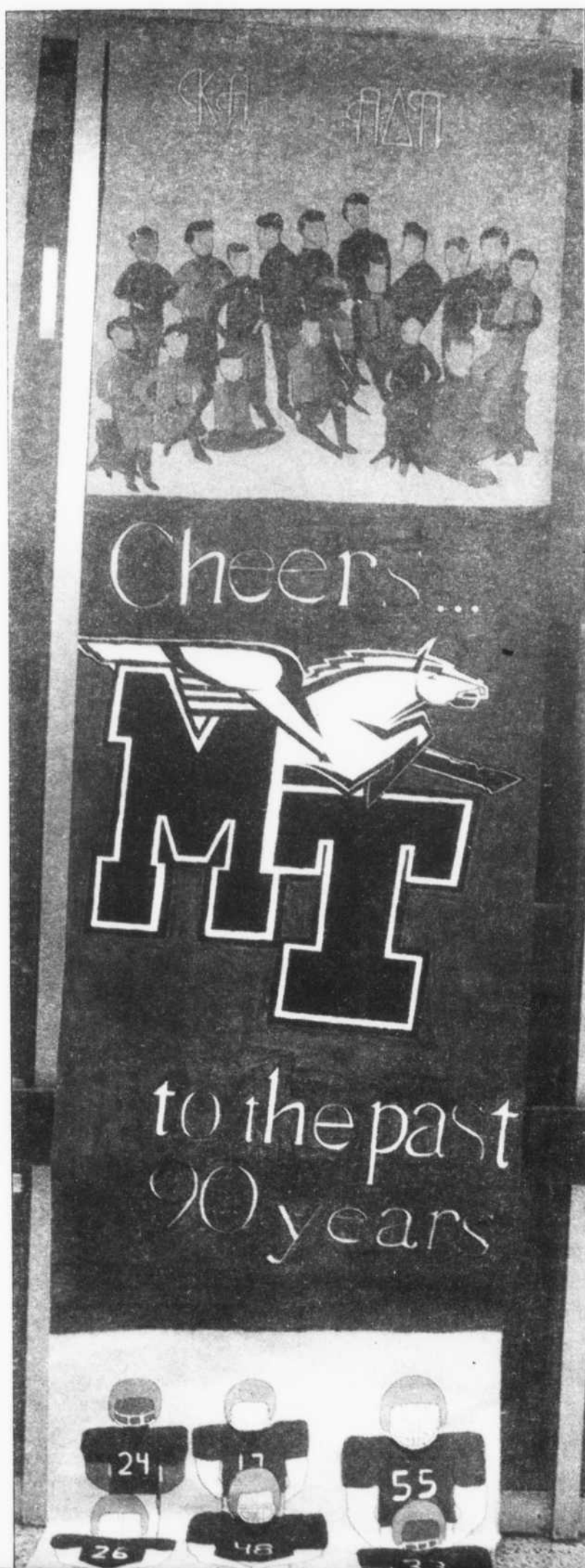
"I want to show people that MTSU is around, that we have fans and we support them and the teams. I want people to know that we do have a camaraderie."

Casey said he could never see himself getting rid of his faithful friend.

"I'll never sell it or get rid of it. She will never go."

The parking spot stays empty for the next few hours, while its royal subject is away. Many cars have slowly passed by, thinking about taking the spot. But after a quick glance and seeing no MT truck, they roll on by knowing that spot is taken. ♦





## Banners depict university's history, present



Staff photo

Alpha Delta Pi and the Kappa Alpha Order are among the Greek chapters that entered the traditional banner competition, which is held among Greek organizations during Homecoming Week.

The top of the banner represents the first Middle Tennessee Normal School football team and the rest of the banner illustrates MTSU's new logo, new jerseys and how the football team has progressed.

Judges chosen by the director of homecoming, Emily Buttrey, will decide today which Greek chapter banner will win.

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# ***BICYCLING ON CAMPUS*** **IMPORTANT** **TIPS**



## **•Bike Racks.**

Bike racks are located throughout campus providing cyclists with a convenient place to secure their bikes. Bicycles should be locked to a bike rack using a U-bolt lock and cable combination.

Do not lock your bike to disability ramps, stair railings, trees, signposts, etc. Bikes locked in places other than bike racks may impede pedestrian or vehicular traffic.

## **•Bike Registration.**

If you plan to ride your bicycle on campus, registration is free and strongly encouraged. A registered bike that is lost or stolen is more likely to be found and returned if registered. To obtain more information on how to register your bike, please contact Public Safety at 898-2424.

## **•Wear a helmet!**

Studies have shown that using a bicycle helmet can reduce head injuries by up to 85%. Select a helmet that fits snugly and comfortably.

## **•Go with the flow of Traffic. Stay on the right side.**

A bicyclist must obey the same traffic laws as motor vehicles. Stop signs and stop lights, road marks and road signs are for a cyclist as well as a motor vehicle operator. Always use hand signals. Do not weave from lane to lane or tailgate or hitch rides on moving vehicles.

## **•Be cautious when bicycling at night.**

When riding at night, have operational front and rear lights on your bicycle.

## **•Check your bike.**

Check your wheels before every ride, after every fall, or after transporting your bicycle to insure that they are properly fastened and secure. Make sure that your tires are properly inflated.

## **•Secure your bike!**

Always secure your bike, even if you are gone for a few minutes. Use a U-bolt lock, securing both wheels and frame to bike racks.

## **•Record your bike serial number.**





## WEEKDAY FEATURES

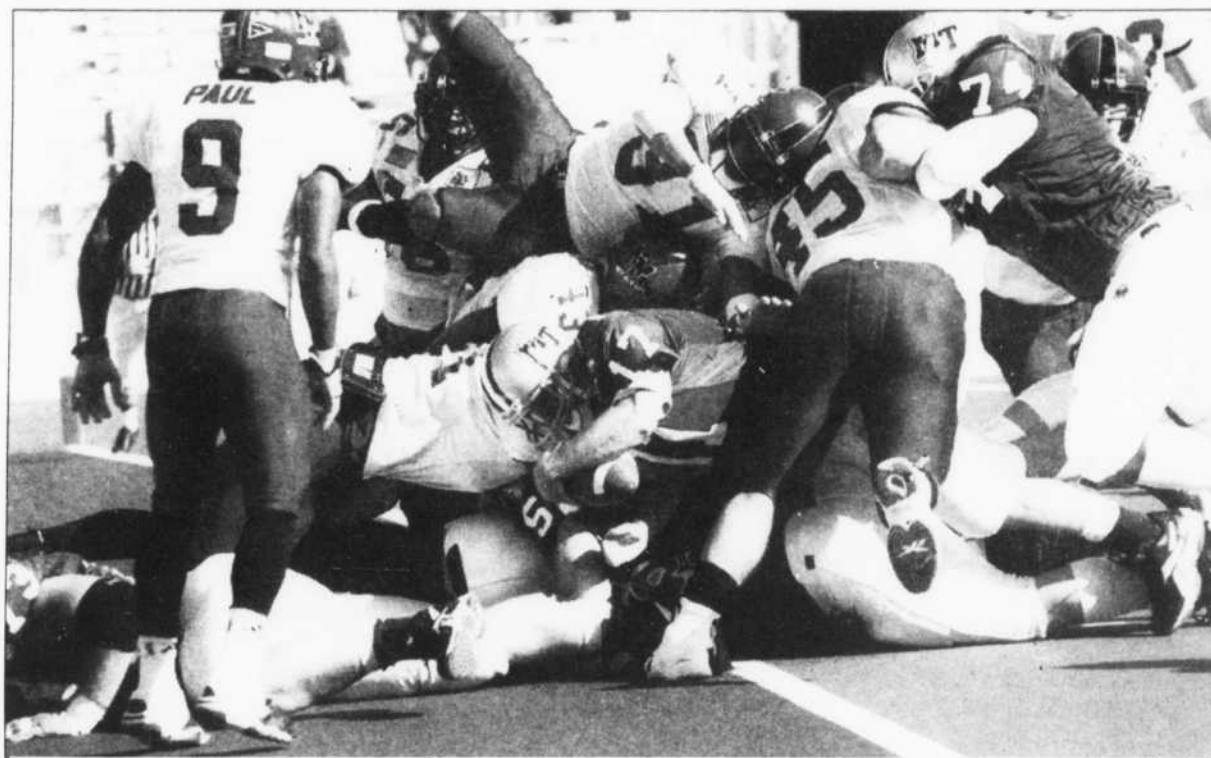
**MORNING BEAT (6-9AM)**

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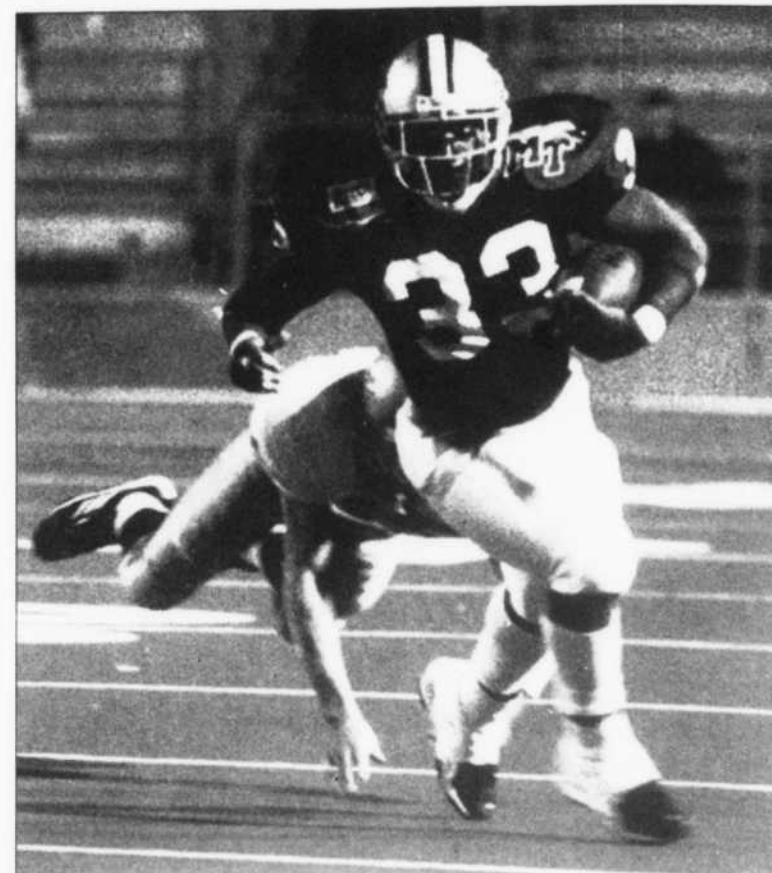


# MT rushes for Sun Belt championship



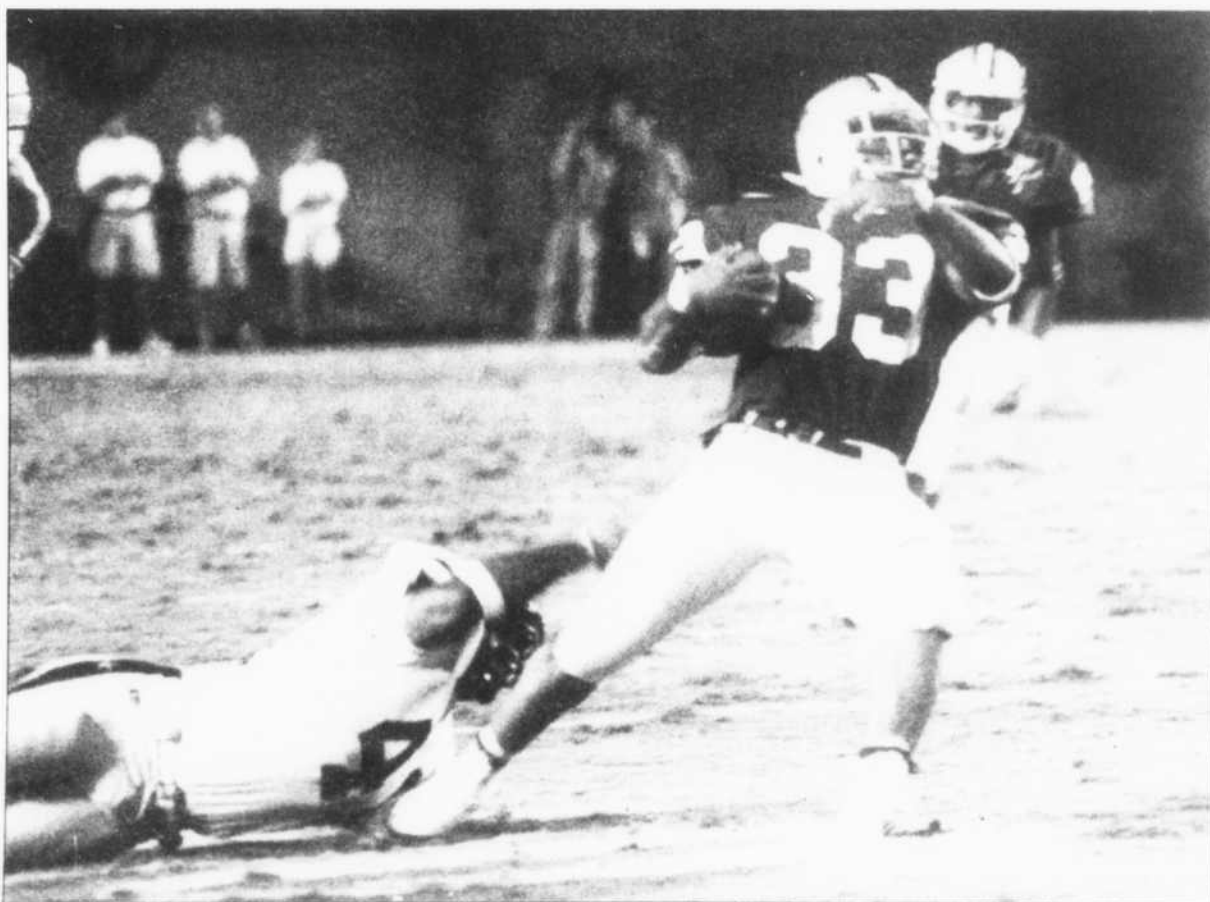
File Photo

Middle Tennessee played New Mexico State in a Sun Belt Conference game Oct. 27. The Blue Raiders won the game with a miraculous comeback in the fourth quarter.



File Photo

MT and Idaho broke several NCAA records in their Sun Belt showdown that turned in to a shootout Oct. 6.



File Photo

The Blue Raiders began their season Aug. 30 with an upset of Vanderbilt. MT fans turned out in big numbers for the biggest win in school history to that point.

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File Photo

The Blue Raiders held on for the Sun Belt win against Idaho Oct. 6 despite a defensive breakdown in the second half.



File Photo

MT lost to North Texas and Ole Miss on the road Oct. 13 and Oct. 20.



File Photo

MT beat Troy State easily Sept. 8. at home.

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Middle Tennessee opened up its Sun Belt Conference schedule Sept. 22 and Sept. 29 with two road wins against Louisiana-Monroe and Louisiana-Lafayette to improve to 4-0 overall.



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