

THURSDAY

OCTOBER 3, 2002

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86

Partly Cloudy

Imaginary
Baseball League:
rockin' it out of
the ball park

In flash*, inside

Blue Raiders
need win at
Saturday game

In Sports, 5



This week's poll question at
www.mtsusidelines.com
When will Middle Tennessee
football get its first win?

An editorially
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newspaper

Middle Tennessee State University

SIDELINES

MURFREESBORO,
TENNESSEE

Volume 78 No. 30

MTSU plane crashes, both passengers safe

Investigation into water wreck ongoing

By Leah Massey
Staff Writer

Last week, a plane from MTSU's pilot training program made an emergency water landing in Watts Bar Reservoir near Knoxville.

The pilots, whose names have not been released, were returning from Knoxville's

McGhee Tyson Airport on Sept. 24 when the problem occurred.

According to Paul Craig, the aerospace department chair, they were running a simulation for an engine cutout.

Things did not go as planned, and when the time came to end the simulation, the pilots were forced to touch down in the water.

The investigation into the crash is ongoing. It is unknown if the problem was the result of mechanical trouble or pilot error. The landing went without incident.

"The good thing," Craig said, "is that both of them got out unharmed."

The plane, a Cessna 152, sank into the lake.

The plane is still at the bottom of the reservoir, and there is a possibility that it will not be found. The cause of failure may never be known if the plane is not found.

Even if the plane is found, it will be a total loss. All of the equipment, such as the radio, the flight instruments and the engines, have most likely been ruined by the water exposure.

Watts Bar Reservoir is located about halfway between

Knoxville and Chattanooga. The maximum depth is 70 feet at the base of the lock.

The Cessna 152, which is at least 15 years old, is one of 12 such planes in MTSU's flight school.

The 152 has a single four-cylinder engine with a two-person seating capacity. It is also one of the most popular training aircrafts.

Craig says that the plane was flown to Knoxville to meet

MTSU and Federal Aviation Administration requirements for cross-country flights.

Pilots are required to navigate over certain distances and to different types of airports. Knoxville is a popular stop for many pilots and meets the requirements.

All planes used by MTSU are insured in case of accidents. There should be no difficulty replacing the plane, Craig said. ♦

Hay Daze continue with more fund-raising events

Farm Safety
Just for Kids
recipient of
contributions
from competing
sororities

By Wendy Caldwell
Staff Writer

Alpha Gamma Rho kicked off the fourth night of Hay Daze with a sports and country music extravaganza Tuesday night.

Sports Night pitted sorority against sorority in a football throwing competition, a softball throw and a basketball shoot-out.

Tuesday's events, organized by AGR's Intramural Chair Brent Lail and Philanthropy Chair Brian Ladd, are part of AGR's week-long fund-raising for Farm Safety for Just Kids.

"Farm Safety was founded in 1986 by a woman who lost her son in a gravity wagon accident," Ladd explained. "We were hoping to create an event that would both raise money for a worthy cause and let everybody have a good time."

All proceeds earned throughout the week will be donated to Farm Safety for Just Kids.

Representatives from Alpha Chi Omega, Alpha Delta Pi, Alpha Omicron Pi, Chi Omega, Delta Zeta, Kappa Delta, Phi Chi, Sigma Alpha and Zeta Tau Alpha participated in Tuesday's events.

"The sororities have been just unbelievable in their support," said Michael Shirley, AGR's public relations Chair and organizer of tonight's bull riding competition. "I look for us to make our goal of \$2,000."

Admission for the evening was a can of food.

Tuesday's Sports Night offered a variety of ways for the competing sororities to earn points for Hay Daze. Sorority members received points for MTSU and Greek apparel, as well as the athletic events of the night.



Photo by Kyle Postlewaite | Staff Photographer
Members of Kappa Delta, Jennifer Febres and Melissa Petsch, hold signs from Alpha Gamma Rho's Sports Night Tuesday night.

"A lot of the participants have had a lot of fun," Lail said of Sports Night.

"I really enjoyed getting to meet people from the other sororities, and get our name out since we're so small," said Barbara Sherman of Sigma Alpha.

Winners from Monday night's Cowgirl Olympics were announced at Sports Night. Sigma Alpha took top honors, followed by Alpha Chi Omega team two in second and Alpha Omicron Pi in third.

The rest of the week's events are expected to be just as successful.

Yesterday's Sweetheart Pageant featured a representative from each sorority competing in areas such as talent and AGR trivia. Results were not available by press time.

Tonight's event begins at 9 at Faces, with doors opening at 7. There will be a \$5 cover charge for the evening.

Faces' kitchen will also be open so people can eat and enjoy the night. Sororities will compete in a mechanical bull riding competition.

This evening is expected to bring in the most money for charity.

"The sororities are competing for points," Shirley explained. However, once the competition is over, there will be an open division competition.

"Anybody who wants to ride can ... get in open division," Shirley added. The events will go on until approximately 2 a.m., and the winner of open division will receive a cash prize.

Hay Daze will end with Friday's awards ceremony, with a trophy going to the sorority with the most points. ♦

Cancer overcomes noted MTSU professor

By Victoria Cumbow
Staff Writer

Don Schneller, professor of sociology, died Tuesday night after succumbing to colon cancer.

Schneller had been a professor at MTSU for 30 years. Later this year, he was scheduled to receive a service award for his years of teaching at MTSU.

He taught a variety of classes, according to Edward Kick, chair and professor in the department of sociology and anthropology. Topics of his classes included abortion, marriage and family and social problems. Schneller had strong beliefs on abortion and was a leader of campus and area anti-abortion efforts.

In 1983, he received the outstanding public service award from MTSU.

Spring semester was his final

one at MTSU. This semester he took a leave of absence for his illness.

"He'd been sick for the past three years," Kick said. "He'd been through several surgeries and had been through a rough time. He would come to work, even when he wasn't able. He struggled valiantly against his illness."

Schneller, who was 62, leaves behind his wife, Diana, and daughter Annie.

Funeral arrangements will be held at Woodfin Funeral Chapel, 1309 Woodfin Place in Murfreesboro.

Visitation is Thursday, 5 to 8 p.m. The funeral will be held at St. Rose Catholic Church Friday at 3:30 p.m. The burial will be in Evergreen Cemetery.

All memorials should be sent to Feed America First or Pregnancy Support Center of Murfreesboro. ♦

Study abroad fair showcases programs

Kenya, Spain,
England trips
available

By Kristy Adams
Staff Writer

Students will have the opportunity to take a brief trip around the world and plan their own unforgettable experience in another country at the Study Abroad Fair Wednesday.

The International Programs and Services Office will hand out information on study abroad programs from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. in the Keathley University Center next to the Grill.

Because less than 1 percent of MTSU students choose to study abroad, the department sets up tables each semester to promote the international experience.

The tables will display differ-

ent study abroad opportunities, including MTSU programs, exchanges, Semester at Sea and other university programs. The International Office is hoping faculty members will also be present to promote their individual programs.

Jennifer Campbell, the study abroad coordinator, is in charge of the Study Abroad Fair Wednesday. She said she hopes the fair will grab students' attention and show them the importance of studying abroad.

"[Studying abroad] is just one of those things in your life that happens that you never forget," Campbell said.

There are pros and cons to studying abroad, but as Campbell said, the former has a longer list.

"Instead of reading it in a book, you're actually seeing it hands-on," Campbell said.

Studying abroad allows

See Study, 3

Professor, student team up to tear down light speed barrier

Physics laws still
intact after \$500
experiment
in science lab

By Lindsay Palmer
Staff Writer

An MTSU instructor and student paired up last spring and conducted an experiment in which they were able to break the speed of light.

"We've done an electrical experiment where we were able to send an electrical pulse like a wave down a coaxial cable," said

Bill Robertson, associate professor of physics.

Robertson explained that Jeremy Munday, a senior physics major, helped him to use a coaxial cable to create a filter axle through which they sent electrical pulses.

According to Robertson, it is not possible to see the speed of the electric pulses, but it is possible to measure the speed by observing the peak of the waves using an oscilloscope.

Robertson noted that, when sent through the filter piece, the wave comes in and is reflected. A small replica of the wave comes out the other side.

"The peak of the wave seems

to go to the other side, it turns out, much faster than the speed of light," Robertson said.

The signal's peak was measured at traveling through the cable at over 4 billion kilometers per hour.

"Even though that sounds like it breaks some kind of physics law, it actually doesn't," Robertson said.

According to Robertson, the experiment's outcome does not challenge the laws of causality or Einstein's theory of relativity because, while the peak of the wave moves faster than the speed of light, the pulse's overall energy does not.

"It's not like you're getting

something for nothing," Robertson said.

He noted that when the peak of the pulse comes through so fast, the energy of the pulse weakens significantly.

Robertson said that he and Munday are not the first to see this effect. According to Robertson, there were other similar electrical experiments a few months ago.

Robertson and Munday said that this experiment's significance is due to the fact that they were the first to use inexpensive, accessible equipment that is available to most typical

See Light, 2



Photo from The Record
Jeremy Munday and Bill Robertson display their tools.



WORLD BRIEFS

Compiled By Patrick Chinnery - Assistant News Editor



Blix returns with Iraq agreement on inspections

UNITED NATIONS (AP) — Carrying an agreement from Iraq on how to resume U.N. weapons inspections, chief inspector Hans Blix returns to New York to face the Security Council.

The council is divided over a U.S. demand that it authorize the use of force against Saddam Hussein before inspectors set foot in Baghdad.

France and China remain opposed to any green light for military action before Iraq's willingness to cooperate with U.N. inspectors is tested on the ground.

Blix reached agreement Tuesday in Vienna with Saddam's special adviser, Gen. Amir Al Sadi, on the logistics of starting inspections again after nearly four years.

The Iraqis agreed to "immediate, unrestricted access" to all sites, he said, including the Ministry of Defense and Republican Guard facilities — but Saddam's palaces remain exempt from surprise inspections.

White House, Congress search for consensus

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Bush and congressional leaders are trying again to find a united approach to dealing with Iraqi President Saddam Hussein.

Agreement on an Iraq resolution could set the stage for a strong vote for the president's policies before Congress recesses for the election campaign.

The Bush administration was also pressing the U.N. Security Council to accept a proposed U.S.-British resolution to disarm Iraq.

The campaign is complicated by an agreement announced Tuesday between Baghdad and U.N. arms inspectors.

Secretary of State Colin Powell said there should be no resumption of inspections until the Security Council comes up with new ground rules for those inspections and spells out the consequences if Iraq does not abide by them.

Bush challenged the Security Council to "show its backbone" by passing a tough resolution.

Islamic militants kill 10 people in Kashmir

JAMMU, India (AP) — Guerrillas in Indian-controlled Kashmir opened fire on pro-India activists Wednesday and were suspected in a bus bombing on a day of violence that left at least 10 dead, police and hospital officials said.

The attacks came a day after voters went to polls in the third of four phases of Jammu-Kashmir state elections. Separatist Islamic militants have vowed to disrupt the elections, saying they are rigged in favor of pro-India politicians.

India also was marking the birthday Wednesday of its independence leader, Mohandas K. Gandhi, who repeatedly called for unity between India's Hindus and Muslims.

He was assassinated by a Hindu fanatic in 1948, shortly after the partition of India and Pakistan.

Democrats seek to replace Torricelli's name on ballot

PRINCETON, N.J. (AP) — Taking their fight for continued control of the Senate to the state Supreme Court, Democrats are asking justices to let them put former Sen. Frank Lautenberg on the November ballot instead of scandal-tainted Sen. Robert Torricelli.

Party leaders took one day to name the 78-year-old, three-term senator as their preference to replace Torricelli, who dropped out of the race Monday amid questions about

his ethics.

But Republicans said Torricelli missed a deadline to quit the race and that Democrats could not replace him on the ballot.

The seven justices of New Jersey's Supreme Court have agreed to let attorneys sidestep lower courts and argue Wednesday on whether Democrats can switch names on the ballot.

Hurricane Lili leaves Cuba, takes aim at Louisiana

NEW IBERIA, La. (AP) — Residents dug in for the state's second major storm in a week as Hurricane Lili gained strength and ripped toward the Gulf Coast.

Coastal residents scrambled for higher ground and barricaded their homes and businesses.

Louisiana Gov. Mike Foster declared a state of emergency, less than a week after Tropical Storm Isidore blew through the region.

The storm flooded hundreds of homes and caused an estimated \$100 million in damage.

Lili, which was expected to make landfall Thursday, entered the Gulf of Mexico on Tuesday as a Category 2 hurricane with winds of 110 mph.

Forecasts showed Lili heading for the middle of Louisiana's coast.

Officials warned that areas could be inundated with as much as 20 feet of water.

"It would take us under water, it would be disastrous," said Ruth Fontenot, mayor of New Iberia, a historic Cajun town of 35,000.

Prosecutors bring criminal charges against Fastow

WASHINGTON (AP) — The government is bringing criminal charges against Andrew Fastow, the alleged mastermind of the financial schemes that toppled Enron Corp.

Fastow, who was Enron's chief financial officer, is said to have devised the company's complex web of off-the-books partnerships used to hide some \$1 billion in debt from shareholders and federal regulators. He is the most prominent company figure targeted so far by the Justice Department.

In August, a once-trusted Fastow aide, Michael Kopper, pleaded guilty to money laundering and conspiracy to commit wire fraud.

Kopper said in federal court in Houston that it was Fastow who provided loans for investments, received kickbacks or negotiated deals that benefited the partnerships rather than the big energy-trading company, now bankrupt.

A law enforcement source, speaking Tuesday only on condition of anonymity, said prosecutors were bringing criminal charges against Fastow as early as Wednesday.

Wall Street welcomes big rally, remains skeptical

NEW YORK (AP) — The latest big finish on Wall Street was one of the largest single-day gains ever, but it is not likely to last.

While the market welcomed a 346-point win Tuesday for the Dow Jones industrials. It was their best one-day point gain in two months and their eighth-best daily advance ever, market analysts were more skeptical than excited by the upturn.

Analysts have been increasing wary of Wall Street's advances, saying the market has fallen into a pattern of having one big up day for every two or three big drops. It's a trend, but not one with any upward momentum.

The rally on Tuesday sent the Dow soaring to 7,938, a gain of more than 346 points.

The broader market also rose. The Nasdaq composite index went up 41.66, or 3.6 per-

cent, to 1,213.72. The Standard & Poor's 500 index advanced 32.64, or 4 percent, to 847.92.

Magazine publisher sues O'Donnell for backing out

NEW YORK (AP) — The publisher of *Rosie* magazine sued Rosie O'Donnell for \$100 million Tuesday for abruptly pulling out of the venture last month.

Gruner + Jahr Printing and Publishing Co. said in court papers that the former talk show host breached her contract and publicly disparaged the magazine when she quit *Rosie* on Sept. 18.

O'Donnell's spokeswoman, Cindi Berger, said that O'Donnell will also seek justice from the court.

"Rosie plans on fighting this aggressively. Her name and integrity is at stake," Berger said. "She will be countersuing."

The publisher and O'Donnell had been feuding for months about the direction of the magazine.

Rosie debuted in April 2001. The joint venture gave O'Donnell and G+J each a 50 percent stake in the business.

During the first six months of the year, *Rosie's* total average paid circulation was 3.5 million — the 13th-highest magazine circulation nationwide for the first half of 2002, according to *Advertising Age* magazine.

Fifteen die in attacks during Kashmir elections

SRINAGAR, India (AP) — Militants struck polling stations, set off explosions and fired on security forces in Indian Kashmir on Tuesday, killing at least 15 people in the third and most violent round of balloting for the state legislature.

More than 135 political activists, candidates, soldiers and civilians have died since the elections were announced in

August.

Nevertheless, 41 percent of registered voters in the disputed Himalayan province braved the violence and ignored a separatist call for a boycott.

Minutes before the polls opened, suspected Islamic militants killed nine people in a raid on a bus near the Pakistan border in Kashmir's Kathua district.

Thousands of Indian soldiers patrolled the region's militant heartland to secure polling stations.

Just after polls closed, six paramilitary troopers escorting poll officials were killed when their vehicle was blown apart in Panzgam, 35 miles south of Srinagar, the summer capital. Four troopers were injured.

Students balk at classroom animal dissections

Increasing numbers of students are asking to opt out of the science class ritual of dissecting frogs or fetal pigs, branding the practice cruel and insisting they can learn as much from computer simulations.

A 16-year-old honor student in Baltimore was removed from her anatomy class last week after refusing to dissect a cat, then allowed back in — with the option of computer alternatives — after protesters picketed the high school.

In Las Vegas, the Clark County School Board voted earlier this year to let students opt out of dissections if they have parental support.

The new policy was adopted after a petition drive led by eighth-grader Laurie Wolff, an A student who received a C in a science class two years earlier after declining to cut up an earthworm.

Anti-dissection students also appealed for policy changes this year at a school board meeting in Little Chute, Wis., and last year before a state Senate committee in Vermont. ♦

Detroit officials worried after Canadian committee OKs pot

By Pete Hayes
The South End
(Wayne State U.)

(U-WIRE) — In early September, the Special Committee on Illegal Drugs of the Canadian parliamentary senate released a report saying that marijuana use should be legalized for adults.

"The committee recommends that cannabis should be from here on in legal and of restricted use, so that Canadians can choose whether to consume or not in security," said Sen. Pierre Claude Nolin, chair of the committee.

The report stated, among other things, drug policy should focus on harm reduction, prevention and treatment; the government should wipe clean the records of anyone convicted of marijuana possession; and there is no good reason pot smokers should be subject to criminal law.

"In many ways, prohibition is a cop-out," Nolin said.

The committee concluded that cannabis is less harmful than alcohol and rejected the idea that smoking pot leads to harder drugs.

This item caused an uproar in Detroit. If Canada legalized dope smoking, it would send Michigan residents across the border into Canada to use the drug, which has been outlawed in the United States since the 1930s.

Drug-control advocates were fearful, but this sentiment was not shared in Detroit's cultural

center.

John Sinclair, a former Wayne State University instructor, WDET radio personality, dope activist and poet who has performed at the Detroit Festival of the Arts and at the Scarab Club, commented that it was about time to legalize drugs. Then, he lit what he termed to be "a felonious cigarette" and shared it with some old friends.

Nolan Finley, editorial page editor of the *Detroit News* came out in favor of legalizing pot.

"Canada's flirtation with legalization is pragmatic," he wrote. "No matter what it has done to curb marijuana cultivation and use, the people there still choose to smoke pot. And so do the people here. Roughly 10 million Americans use marijuana on a regular basis."

Even before the senate report, here was strong support in Canada for decriminalizing marijuana. The move is supported by the Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police, the Canadian Medical Association and Justice Minister Martin Cauchon.

Decriminalization is not the same as legalization. The former would reduce the penalty for getting caught with the drug to the equivalent of a traffic ticket.

Legalization would permit the open sale and use of marijuana without any legal consequence whatsoever.

In early September, John Walters, a federal drug law enforcer, visited Detroit and

Lansing and spoke out about the dangers of smoking pot.

"You don't make a major decision involving a dangerous drug without telling people what the dangers are," Walters said. "Marijuana is not harmless. Marijuana is not medicine. I wish it were, but it isn't."

In California, where a legal medicinal marijuana statute has been on the books for a number of years, agents of the Drug Enforcement Administration raided a marijuana farm near Santa Cruz. They arrested the owners, Valerie and Michael Corral.

This was no ordinary drug bust. The Corals helped write the 1996 law that allows patients and their care givers the right to consume or dispense marijuana for the medicinal use. They were growing the plants for a medical users group.

In Canada, cannabis can be legally cultivated and consumed for medicinal purposes. Despite the law, medical marijuana is not available across the bridge. Mary Lynn Becker, public affairs director for the Canadian Counselor General's Office in Detroit explained that since cannabis is being used as medicine, the distribution of the seeds or the plants to qualified patients is worked out by the provincial governments — different in Ontario than it would be in Nova Scotia — and the system has not been established.

While not discounting the value of the Canadian senate's report and recommendations, Becker said that it would likely

be years before legal cannabis is available for consumption in Windsor.

As if to underscore the point, the drug enforcement czar met with Canadian officials to lobby against any effort at liberalizing drug laws.

His agency and the office of homeland security have beefed up efforts at the U.S.-Canada border.

"American drug users are contributors to terrorism," Walters said, citing the funneling of drug profits to violent groups in Mexico and Colombia.

Walters told his audience that if Canada decriminalized or legalized marijuana use, the United States might take additional actions at the Detroit-Windsor tunnel and at the Ambassador and Blue Water bridges.

He declined to elaborate what those additional actions might be.

A WSU adjunct professor in English and woman's studies, Nicole Newton and her doctors would like her to use medicinal marijuana for controlling pain.

"For me, smoking a good sativa marijuana cigarette releases my neuro-muscular tension," she said. "It keeps me from feeling like a contorted cripple. Unfortunately, I don't smoke anymore because of the legal risk. Laws are so disproportionate to the crime that I literally choose between feeling like a truck ran me over every day and possible imprisonment." ♦

Medalist to share story

Staff Reports

Olympic Gold Medalist Jim Shea Jr. will share his story of focus, determination and success despite learning disabilities.

Shea's grandfather, Jack, was the oldest living American gold medalist at the Olympic Winter Games until the 91-year-old died in a car accident right before the 2002 games.

Shea won the 2002 Winter Olympics gold medal in the skeleton competition that was just recently brought back to

the games. With a picture of his gold medal-winning grandfather in his helmet, Shea went on to win the competition while his father watched on.

His father also competed in the 1964 Olympics and served as the Olympic biathlon coach in 1972.

Shea will speak in the Learning Resources Center, Room 221, Oct. 11 at 12:30 p.m.

For more information, contact News and Public Affairs at 898-2919 or Beverly Keel at 898-5150. ♦

Light: Skeptics abound

Continued from 1

university programs.

"We wanted to try to figure out a way to do these experiments. And so we just looked at what we had," Munday said.

Robertson and Munday had previously worked together on similar experiments involving acoustics. Munday came up with the idea to use the coaxial cables.

The experiment resulted in the publication of Robertson and Munday's collaborative paper being published in the Sept. 9 edition of the *Applied Physics Letter*. According to Robertson, getting their work published in such a noted journal was quite an accomplishment.

The publication resulted in a great deal of attention from the science society.

A writer for the *New Scientist Journal* published an article giving an overview of Robertson and Munday's research. Both

Robertson and Munday have received several e-mails from various people stating their opinions on what the experiment could imply.

"Some people think you might be able to send information faster than the speed of light," Robertson said. "That's a real tricky question. Information and energy are not the same thing."

Robertson and Munday's research has also been greeted with some skepticism from the public as well.

"To the general public it's ingrained [in their minds] that nothing can travel faster than the speed of light," Munday said. "This type of experiment can help overcome that kind of misconception."

Robertson and Munday are scheduled to have another paper published within the next couple of months.

For more information on the research project, contact Robertson at 898-5837. ♦

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Study: Costs can be prohibitive

Continued from 1

students to live in another culture and experience new surroundings.

Students studying abroad still receive credit hours for the classes they take. The experience also looks good on a resume and can help students find a career.

"It's such an empowering experience," Campbell said. "You are so independent. You are out there facing your fears and studying and learning new cultures and new languages."

The only negative part of studying abroad is the money, Campbell said. Because tuition at MTSU is lower than most study abroad programs, she said the extra expenses may turn students away from the experi-

ence.

There are two programs affiliated with MTSU to help students with their experience. The Cooperative Center for Study Abroad helps students wanting to study in an English-speaking country. The Kentucky Institute for International Students helps students interested in foreign language countries.

CCSA offers programs in Australia, New Zealand, Scotland, England, Kenya and other countries.

KIIS has programs in Spain, Mexico, Germany, Japan, Italy and more.

Campbell also said she believes students are afraid of the unknown.

"A lot of study abroad experiences put the student out of

something that may have been familiar into something that's a little bit unfamiliar," Campbell said. "But what a growth period."

Campbell has been the study abroad coordinator for a month, so this will be her first fair with the office. She said she hopes the event will inform students about studying abroad.

"It's not just taking a trip," Campbell said. "It's so much more than that."

Further information about these programs and others will be available to students at the fair.

For questions about the Study Abroad Fair or any study abroad programs, call International Programs and Services at 898-2238 or stop by the office in Cope, Room 202. ♦

congratulations sidelines' staffers of the month September 2002

News – Kristy Adams, Senior, Mass Comm

Opinions – Callie Elizabeth Butler, Junior, Journalism

Sports – Kasimu Harris, Senior, Entrepreneurship

Features – Stephanie Hughes, Senior, Mass Comm

Flash – Rachel Robinson, Senior, English

Photographer – Steve Cross, Junior, Photography



One out of every six children in America is living in a state of poverty. And that's one too many American dreams broken. One too many American childhoods at risk, threatened by the daily struggle to secure enough food, enough shelter, enough medicine just to survive. Nearly 12,000,000 precious lives hanging in a brutally uncertain balance. Sixteen percent of all our children — a poverty rate that's higher than any other age group. But who cares to notice?

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the
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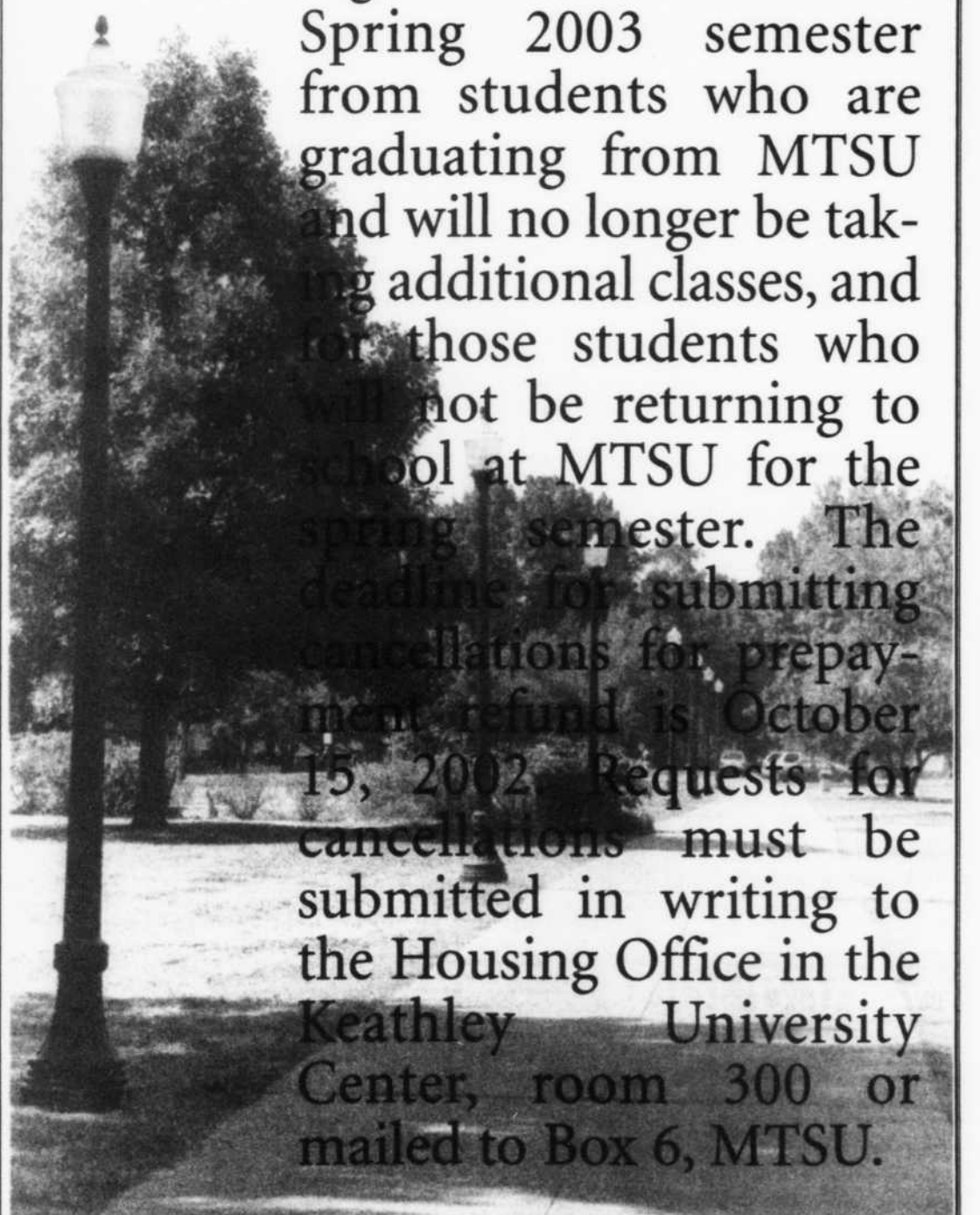
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Graduating? Not Returning to MTSU?

The Housing and Residential Life Office is currently accepting housing cancellations for the Spring 2003 semester from students who are graduating from MTSU and will no longer be taking additional classes, and for those students who will not be returning to school at MTSU for the spring semester. The deadline for submitting cancellations for prepayment refund is October 15, 2002. Requests for cancellations must be submitted in writing to the Housing Office in the Keathley University Center, room 300 or mailed to Box 6, MTSU.



OPINIONS

4 ◆ SIDELINES

Thursday, October 3, 2002

Murfreesboro, Tenn.

From the Editorial Board Alternate uses for our beloved stadium

With the Blue Raiders having blown an opportunity to bowl over an inferior team in front of a large (by MTSU standards) crowd, one has to wonder when Floyd Stadium will see these sorts of crowds again.

Attendance has gone down steadily the past two years as the season winds on, and with the next game scheduled during MTSU's Fall Break (thanks, Boots), the next game will likely not be an exception.

Therefore, *Sidelines* has come up with some ideas to use the space now consumed by the aluminum wonder that is Floyd Stadium.

Good old-fashioned gladiatorial battles would go great on Horace Jones Field. Students on academic probation could fight each other to the death for the right to stay in school or have to fight the real winged pegasus that Boots is hiding in one of the barns. You might say it's barbaric, but we'll bet a copy of Macintosh OS 8 that you'll show up, especially if students get in free with their IDs.

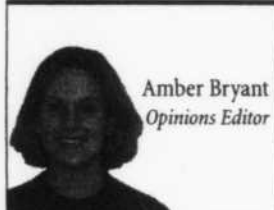
Student theater could take the place over for a production of the Stephen King classic, *The Stand*.

We could finally pull up the turf at Floyd and truly make it grass! The MTSU School of Nursing could be on the forefront of medical marijuana research while scholarship workers tend the fields and make sure the buds are nice and sticky. Oh yeah, and MTSU could sell it to raise funds for its student newspaper. If the CIA can sell drugs, why can't a university? Go Blue Reefer!

Desks could be lined up for the professors currently stuck in closets or sharing space. Just think, the whole thing could be a field of cubicles, a la *Office Space*. Just leave the grenade launcher at home.

Lastly, if nothing else, we suggest daisies. Daisies are pretty. At least prettier than losing to Southeast Missouri State. ◆

From the Opinions Editor Prison inmates don't deserve a free ride



Amber Bryant
Opinions Editor

If you're angry because you couldn't get a scholarship to go to college, prepare to spit fire.

A growing number of states are supporting higher education programs for prison inmates under 25, often funded by the same federal money awarded to non-incarcerated college students.

A decade ago, much of this funding was dropped because politicians were upset with the idea of giving inmates grants and scholarships.

Jesse Reed, a graduate from California's San Quentin college program, told CNN, "You have a lot of men in here who made mistakes in life partly because they didn't feel that they could compete in society. We turned to a life of crime."

Prison is supposed to be a punishment, not a second-rate resort. Criminals have no right to a college education, let alone money from the same pot new high school graduates get to begin a career. They chose to steal or hurt

someone and don't merit the kind of sympathy that comes out of taxpayers' pockets.

Of course, there are those who undeservingly end up in prison, due to holes in the judicial system, but rules can't be set by exceptions. It just won't work.

Supporters of college programs argue that inmates can turn a new leaf if educated. I certainly agree that education is imperative for personal growth, but there are other solutions requiring more work and less free ride. Perhaps prisons could reward good behavior with donated literature or textbooks.

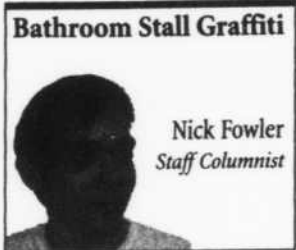
Considering the textbook turnover rate at Phillips Bookstore, I'm sure MTSU has plenty to give away.

Or, if an inmate wishes to toil toward a degree, he or she can save the money earned from a work program or borrow money from a trusting family member or friend.

There are plenty of ways to be fair without being too accommodating.

It should never be my or anyone else's responsibility to fund the education of criminals. If inmates don't deserve freedom, they certainly don't deserve a free college degree. ◆

Hussein just wants to be hugged



Nick Fowler
Staff Columnist

It must be great being an insane dictator.

I sure wish I had a country full of people to rule over with an iron fist.

I wish I were Sadaam Hussein.

What a life he must live. I bet he just can't wait to get up in the morning and crush the spirits of small village people who live in the outskirts of Baghdad.

I wonder if he's evil or just misunderstood.

Maybe it's just indigestion causing him to be such a troublemaker. Maybe he just wants to be loved. I think he wants the Western world to embrace him, to give him a big hug.

I think that's why he doesn't wear a turban. He wears a suit when he's not wearing his little army outfit.

It's like Hussein is saying, "Hey guys, I'm one of you. Look at my suit, I got it from the Sears and Roebuck catalog."

He wants nuclear weapons so he can be part of the club. Who wouldn't want nuclear weapons? I want nuclear weapons. I unsuccessfully tried to turn my microwave oven

into a dirty bomb last summer. Now my neighbor's cat can't grow hair on its left side.

Hussein is like new money, and the Western world is like the country club. Thanks to their uppity ways, Hussein feels all alienated.

I accept the fact that Hussein is a bit insane. Nonetheless, he must think Bush is all the more insane. He must feel like a stoner pulled over by the cops.

I don't quite get it. Hussein knows Bush is ready to kick his ass and there's nothing he can do about it but try to talk his way out of it. When he tries to talk his way out of

it, Bush doesn't even care. That's gotta be scary as hell.

I think if Bush decides to attack Iraq, Hussein should sit back and take it. This would serve a twofold purpose. One, it would be keeping with Hussein's insane dictator way of doing things. Two, it would make America look like an ass.

Should this actually happen, America would of course take advantage and get all of Iraq. How awesome would that be?

Iraq could be the 51st state in the union.

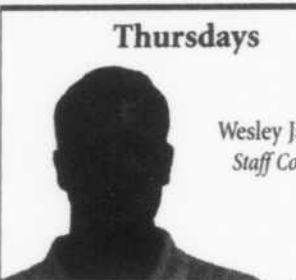
Hussein could be the governor. I suppose he would have to be a Republican.

Hussein would get to be part of the club. Other Middle Eastern countries would be lining up to follow suit. Of course, they would have to give up all their culture. The only proper place to get culture is from television and the mall.

It seems I've solved another international crisis. I suppose I should've been an international relations major. Why bother, though? With ideas like mine I could probably get a job with the United Nations tomorrow. ◆

Nick Fowler is a junior journalism major and can be reached via e-mail at nrf2b@mtsu.edu.

Materialism is downfall of humanity



Thursdays

Wesley Jackson
Staff Columnist

Recently I read an article in *Victoria* magazine about Harvard historian and Pulitzer Prize-winning author Laurel Thatcher Ulrich.

Her works highlight the stories of early American women, particularly as they relate to clothmaking, bringing respect and dignity to the traditional domestic lifestyle.

I hope that Ulrich and others like her are merely the swell of a tidal wave of culture change.

The past few decades have saturated America with the message that home, the family and domestic life are, at best, secondary when compared to the immense importance of bureaucratic paper pushing in the corporate world.

Mothers these days dare not imply that they are stay-at-home

moms, lest they be socially ostracized. Many fathers and husbands constantly confront business ultimatums to choose either time with the wife and kids or a promotion. They often can't have both.

How did we come to value the professional world more than our own homes? When did family time get replaced by overtime?

The way I see it, the answer is rather simple. We are materialists.

Our culture's value system places greater importance on "me and my stuff" than it does on the family and relationships.

We act like we really believe that "he who dies with the most toys wins."

Neither the corporate world nor material wealth is evil. But they become bad when we value those toys more than we do people, relationships and our families. And that's just what a materialistic value system promotes.

In a materialistic culture, people are valued for how much money they make, how much stuff they have or how prestigious their job is.

For example, there's very little possibility in a materialistic soci-

ety that a stay-at-home mom would ever be viewed as anything but old-fashioned. Motherhood is not a particularly glamorous or lucrative business and, therefore, is considered unimportant.

Dedicated fathers don't get much recognition in a materialistic culture either. When was the last time you heard of a corporate company rewarding a guy, not because he was bringing in new business, but because he had a stable and loving family?

A culture with this value system is in danger of becoming inhuman.

Our materialistic mindset has created largely self-centered society. No one really cares about anyone else (our families least of all) unless they can help us win more toys.

When we break the chains of family relationships, we enslave ourselves to a chaotic, shallow and barbaric existence (it can hardly be called a culture).

The domestic life, on the other hand, promotes selfless love and always views the family and relationships as the most important things.

Home is where real life, love and dreams thrive. Families are difficult to live with at times, but the work and effort are worth it. The home gives us sanity. It keeps us human.

Both men and women need to re-evaluate their value systems and make the family and those relationships top priority, over and above their careers. This does not mean that careers are unimportant or unnecessary.

We just shouldn't slight the things that matter most, namely our family relationships.

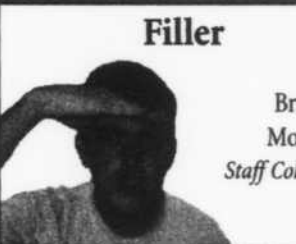
We need to trade our barbaric materialism for a human value system of home and the family.

I pray there are more people like Laurel Thatcher Ulrich who cherish the home and the domestic lifestyle.

May their crashing waves of domesticity wash away the shallow, inhuman ideas of materialism back to the chaotic hell they came from. ◆

Wesley Jackson is a sophomore English major and can be reached via e-mail at ViolentWisdom@aol.com.

Video games addictive



Filler

Brandon Morrison
Staff Columnist

I've become a video game geek. Last Tuesday I bought "Final Fantasy X." For those of you who shy away from role-playing games, "FFX" is the role-playing experience.

The game follows a band of travelers who are trying to protect a sorcerer who is trying to defeat the ultimate evil - sin.

For the next five days, I spent hours in front of my Playstation doing nothing but making my characters stronger.

People would walk in and out of my dorm room during the course of the day. They'd try to talk to me and attempt to make me be social.

"No way, I've got to get Titus to learn how to use Thunder or else I'm toast!"

Five days after acquiring my latest distraction to the real world, I'd just gotten back from work and wanted to forget my troubles. I turned on the game and loaded up the scenario I was on.

When a game is loaded, it tells you how long you've been playing. I couldn't believe what it told me. Twenty-two hours.

I've spent, on average, four

hours a day locked away in the bowels of Schardt Hall doing nothing but pushing random buttons on the controller in order to learn the next intimate details of my virtual romance novel on the TV screen.

"FFX" is a game that sucks a lot of time out of the day. A lot of video game tend to do that.

Recently, online games such as "Everquest" have come under fire for being addictive to players. Cases have been reported where players may play for days at a time, doing nothing else but taking bathroom breaks.

The problem isn't the video game itself.

Like alcohol, drugs or cigarettes, the object itself isn't what's wrong. It's the obsession of the object that overtakes everything else in life that causes the dilemma.

When anything, including something as insane as video games, take up so much time that it interferes with sleeping, eating and other important stuff, it's unhealthy.

So I put up my video game. I decided that I needed a break from it because it overtook my weekend.

Maybe I'll finally get some work done. ◆

Brandon Morrison is a sophomore graphic communications major and can be reached via e-mail at bjm2k@mtsu.edu.

Letter to the Editor

History should be preserved

To The Editor:

I am extremely angered by Luke Schneider's letter regarding Vanderbilt and the "intelligence and academic credibility" of its faculty ("Vanderbilt decision to rename hall impetuous," Sept. 23).

I was amazed that *Sidelines* chose to run Amber Bryant's column, and I appreciated every word. However, my appreciation was short lived. Schneider seems to believe that Bryant's status as a poor, pathetic undergraduate at a state school gives her no grounds to question the omnipotent, omniscient and omnipresent faculty at Vanderbilt.

It's my belief that the only difference between an MTSU diploma and a Vanderbilt diploma is approximately \$48,000.

The Civil War was a very complex and involved conflict and I don't feel that Schneider possesses the training or educational background in history to make such general and asinine statements involving the South and everything it stood for and continues to stand for today. It's obvious that he knows very little about the average Confederate soldier.

The Civil War was about slavery, and, as much as I wish I could erase that part of my Southern heritage, I cannot. However, to remove "Confederate" from the name of the Vanderbilt dormitory won't erase it either. It's a shame that the PC police will never be satisfied until all remnants of the Confederate South are wiped from the face of the Earth.

What's next, Vietnam? How many innocent Vietnamese citizens were slaughtered in that conflict? How many American soldiers died?

Since many atrocities were committed against the Vietnamese, I move to change the name of the Vietnam War Memorial to something more politically correct. How about just calling it War Memorial? Should we not mourn the loss of life if someone deems the conflict unworthy? That's a ludicrous concept.

Many people possess open minds, but it seems the door only swings in one direction. I will now and always be proud of my heritage.

John J. Brandon
Senior, psychology

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SPORTS

5 ♦ SIDELINES

Thursday, October 3, 2002

Murfreesboro, Tenn.

Soccer team to play against Little Rock

Staff Reports

The Blue Raider soccer team will host the University of Arkansas-Little Rock Trojans tomorrow.

The Trojans just came from a 6-3 loss from conference rival North Texas. The game proved as a high mark for the Trojan offense but somewhat lacking in defense. The Trojans took 20 shots, which is more than any other game for them this season.

The game was close until the Mean Green's Marilyn Marin scored the second of her three goals of the game early in the second half.

The loss puts the Trojans at 4-6 with a conference record of 0-2.

The Trojans' problem with defense doesn't bode well for them Friday. The Blue Raiders' last game was against Stetson in Deland, Fla. The match ended with a Blue Raider 9-1 victory.

Sunday's game proved to be an ego boost for the Blue Raiders. The score boosted their record to 4-6. Their conference record is 0-1.

One of the high scoring Blue Raiders is Laura Miguez, who scored three goals against Stetson Sunday. Miguez already has a total of 11 goals to her credit this season, as compared to her 18 goals last season.

Also scoring during Sunday's

game were Danielle LaDuke and Sarah Linder with two goals each.

MT proved to be very aggressive against Stetson, outshooting them 29-14.

The Trojans' offensive game should match up well with the Blue Raiders. MT goalkeeper Emily Shrum has 41 saves for the year over 11 games.

Shrum had a 1.43 goals-allowed-against average last year, the best in school history. This year, Shrum's GAA is 1.68.

MT won't have an easy game offensively either. Trojan goalkeeper Marsha Stewart recorded an impressive 10 saves in last week's game against the Mean Green.

The soccer team spends rest of the season mostly at home with six of the last nine games at home.

MT head coach Aston Rhoden is confident that this season schedule will be beneficial to the team.

"Hopefully the tough early-season schedule we have played will pay off in the conference," Rhoden said.

The match at home begins tomorrow at 4 p.m.

After playing the Trojans, the Blue Raiders continue their home stretch with Arkansas State at home Sunday.

The Trojans' next game is at Western Kentucky Sunday. ♦

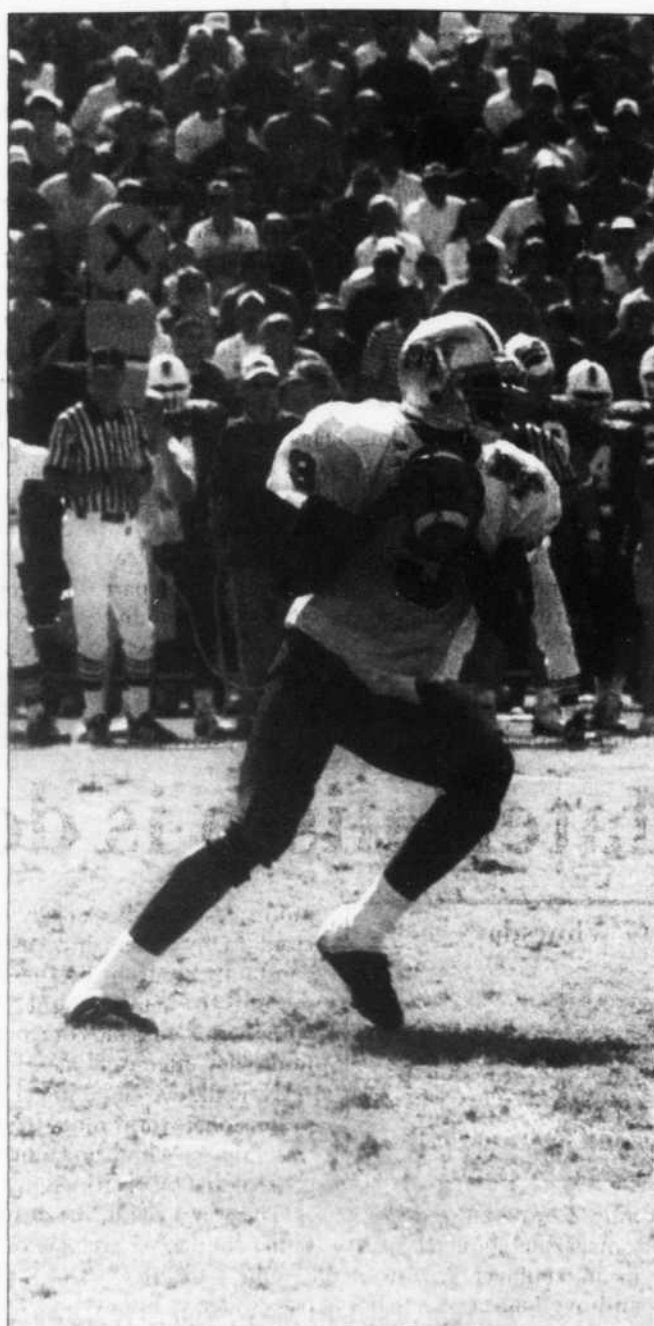


Photo by Steve Cross | Staff Photographer

Andrico Hines is critical to MT's passing game.

By David Hunter
Staff Reporter

The Middle Tennessee football team will open up the Sun Belt Conference schedule this Saturday vs. Arkansas State University Indians.

The Blue Raiders are coming off an upset loss this past Saturday to former Ohio Valley Conference rival Southeastern Missouri State University, 24-14. The loss dropped MT's record to 0-4, the worst start since 1980. In that season the Blue Raiders began 0-8. However, they have an all-time SBC record of 5-1.

On the other side, ASU comes into the contest with a 3-3 record under new head coach Steve Roberts. The Indians already have a conference win earlier this year when they defeated the University of Louisiana-Monroe 33-21 on Sept. 21. Last week ASU beat the University of Tennessee-Martin 30-10. The record is already an improvement from last season when the Indians finished 1-10.

"They're a lot better than a year ago," MT head coach Andy McCollum said. "They're almost a different football team. They have a lot of conference and we've got to go to their place. We've been road tested and gone through some tough environments, so this is another tough challenge for us."

"They're doing good things, the kids are playing hard and they've bought into the new staff. So we know it's going to be a challenge for us, so we have to get Middle Tennessee ready."

Last year, the Blue Raiders handled ASU easily winning 54-6 to grab a part of the 2001 SBC championship.

"They have three wins," said MT defensive back Muhammad Rashada. "They are a pretty good football team and are a lot different than last year. We beat them last year but that has nothing to do with this year."

Blue Raiders need win at Saturday game

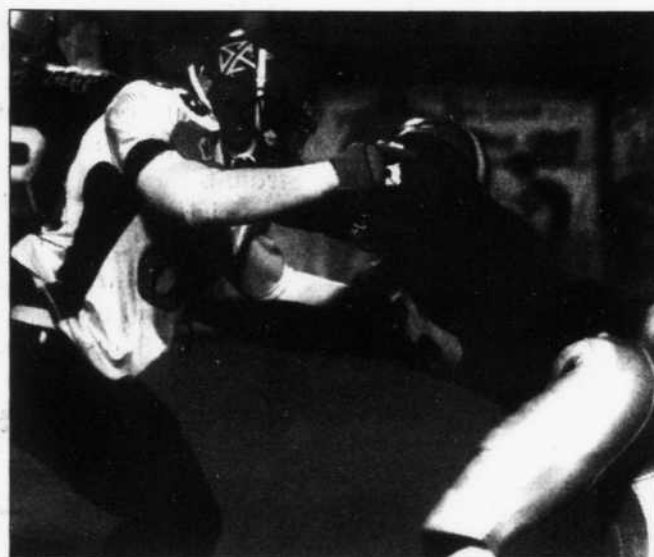


Photo by Kevin Jones | Staff Photographer

The defensive line at Middle Tennessee will have to step up to lower their opponents points.

The Indians are led by the Sun Belt's leading rusher, Danny Smith. Smith has rushed for 453 yards and four touchdowns so far this season. MT running back, Dwone Hicks is out again for the second straight week with a knee injury. However, ReShard Lee rushed for 113 yards and a touchdown in the loss last week. Last year, Lee ran the ball for 146 yards against ASU.

MT quarterback, Andrico Hines is third in the SBC in passing, going 59-93 for 609 yards and a touchdown. Hines has a 63.4 completion percentage and has rushed for 187 yards. Last week, Hines completed 20-27 of his passes for 133 yards. In prior Sun Belt contests the offense has averaged 41.3 points a game. MT had 469.7 yards in total offense during the SBC games last season.

"This is what you play for, a conference championship," said MT quarterback Andrico Hines. "The other games are 'exposure' games, the big games, but the conference is what you set your goals for. You want to win the conference and go to a bowl game, so right now we're 0-0 in the conference and that's all that matters."

See Football 8



Photo by Amy Jones | Chief Photographer

Middle Tennessee running backs are seeking their first win this weekend against Arkansas State University. This game is the first game of importance for MT in Sun Belt play.

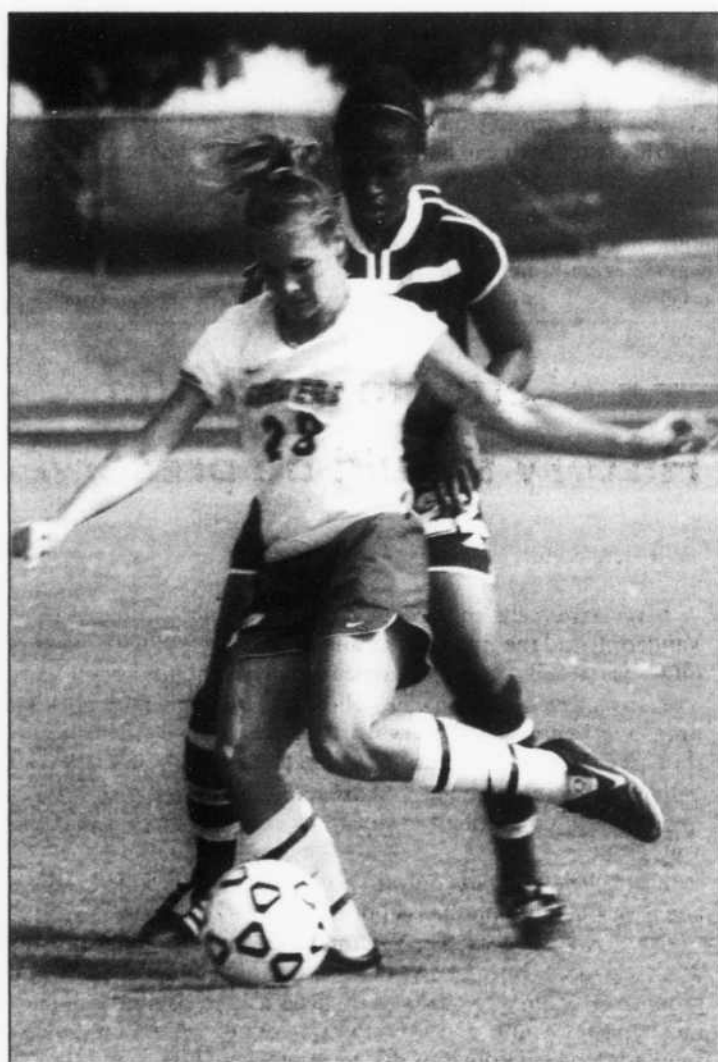


Photo by Amy Jones | Chief Photographer

No. 28 Sarah Linder and team are looking to continue Sunday's blowout vs. Stetson this weekend at home.

Moosemen tear through Chattanooga RFC and Lee College last Saturday



Photos by Steve Cross | Staff Photographer

The Middle Tennessee Moosemen had a successful weekend vs. Chattanooga and Lee College this weekend at home, scoring 33 points against UTC and 18 points against Lee. Players Michael Robbins (left), B. J. Williams (above) and Chris Redd (right) are all part of the nationally known Rugby team. The Moosemen take on Arkansas State University this weekend in Jonesboro, Ark.

Putting right focus on sports

Sports commentary

Jared Hastings
Staff Writer

Yesterday, a number of people in the mid-state area, including myself, received a wake-up call that many of us probably needed but nobody, and I mean nobody, ever wants to receive.

Monday evening Michael Bochette's parents reported him missing to the Wilson County Sheriff's Department. He had left their home Sunday night to meet someone at the Seven Points boat ramp on Percy Priest Lake and had not come back. It wasn't like him. He was responsible. An honor student and football player at Cumberland University.

Tuesday afternoon, the Bochette's worst fears were realized. Michael's truck had been found submerged in the lake a mere 100 feet from the boat dock. His body was inside. He had been shot.

I hadn't seen Michael in about five years, not since he was a freshman at Mt. Juliet High School. Even when he was in middle school you knew he was going to be a player. He was hard nosed and loved the game. He was a good kid.

Friday night some friends and I were talking and his name came up. To be honest it was the first time I thought about him in years. And then came Tuesday, right on the heels of the death of Chad Franklin, a junior football player at Forrest High School in Chapel Hill's death during a game last Friday.

And that word just bounced around my head. Game. These are games. We call them wars, battles, life or death situations, but they are just that: games.

We put so much stock in winning or losing that we never stop to think that perhaps the person we're watching play or watching the game with might not be there for the next one.

We cuss and scream. We stay upset for days if our teams don't do as well as we think they should.

Unfortunately, it's things such as Michael Bochette's and Chad Franklin's deaths that have to bring us back to reality—make us realize that in the big picture, what happens on a field with a ball doesn't matter much at all. ♦

Sports Writer

You know you want to be one. Don't lie.
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2002 Sun Belt Conference Football Overview

2002 Sun Belt Conference Football Standings (as of September 28, 2002)

	Conference		Overall				
	W-L	Pct.	W-L	Pct.	Pts.	Opp	Streak
Arkansas State	1-0	1.000	3-3	.500	112	205	W2
New Mexico State	0-0	.000	1-3	.250	71	122	L1
UL Lafayette	0-0	.000	1-3	.250	69	102	W1
Idaho	0-0	.000	1-4	.200	131	224	L1
North Texas	0-0	.000	1-4	.200	49	90	L3
Middle Tennessee	0-0	.000	0-4	.000	73	133	L4
UL Monroe	0-1	.000	0-4	.000	43	156	L5

Arkansas State Indians

Arkansas State University has rushed for more than 200 yards as a team in three of the past four games. This is the first time since the 1998 season that the Indians have been .500 through six games. Receiver Mike Cox broke a bone in his foot and will be out a minimum of two more weeks after sitting out the University of Tennessee-Martin contest. The Indian defense allowed less than 100 yards of offense in the second half to an opponent for the second consecutive week.

The ASU offense has posted consecutive games of 30 or more points for the first time since the 1996 season, a span of 66 games played. Receiver James Hickenbotham has already set a new career high in receiving yards for a season, with 314. His best before this season was 310 yards, set last season. Hickenbotham continues his consistency on yards per touch. He had eight touches for 143 all-purpose yards against UTM, an average of 17.9 yards per touch. His career average is 17.4.

The Indians have won consecutive games for the first time since the 1999 season, when ASU downed the University of North Texas and the University of Louisiana-Lafayette in the eighth and ninth games of the season. In four of the past five games (taking out the Illinois contest) the Indian defense has surrendered under 300 yards per game of total offense to the opposition. Included in those totals are an astounding 2.03 yards per rushing attempt against the Indian defense.

New Mexico State University Aggies

Aggie starting quarterback Paul Dombrowski set career highs for attempts (26), completions (11) and yards passing (152). The Aggie defense held the Georgia offense to 299 total yards, that's the fewest yards allowed by the Aggie defense this season. The

92 rushing yards is also the fewest rushing yards allowed in 2002.

Punt kicker Dario Aguiniga made one of two field goal attempts on the afternoon, making a 32-yard field goal in the fourth quarter and missing a 52-yard attempt in the third quarter. Aguiniga is now seven of nine for the year, with both misses coming from better than 50 yards (51 and 52). The Aggie offense posted season lows of 81 yards rushing and 275 total yards. Georgia came into the game ranked 23rd in the nation in total defense.

Paul Dombrowski's 33-yard first quarter completion to H.B.

Briscoe was the longest pass completion in Dombrowski's four-game career at NMSU. With that first-quarter catch, senior wide receiver H.B. Briscoe extended his streak of games in which he has played with at least one catch to 14 games.

Everyone knows Robert Canidate's older brother, former University of Arizona and current St. Louis Rams tailback Trung Canidate. But little brother's performance in the first quarter against Georgia proves he's stepping out of his shadow. Canidate picked off his first career interception in the first quarter that led to an Aggie touchdown. He broke up a pass and was credited with three solo tackles.

Punter Brian Copple pinned the Bulldogs back on their 7-yard line on his second punt of the first quarter and kicked one out of bounds on the Georgia 12-yard line on the next to the last play of the first half. He tied a career best with a punt of 57 yards on his first punt of the second quarter.

North Texas Mean Green

North Texas' field goal in the first quarter was the first points scored against the University of Arizona in the first quarter this season. UNT had more rushing yards in the first quarter than it totaled in either of its previous two games.

Seven of nine UNT opponent touchdown drives this season have come from 50 yards or less. UNT wasn't forced to punt until the 6 minute 30 second mark of the fourth quarter

and only punted two times in the game.

UNT had a 36-yard field goal attempt blocked and returned for a

touchdown on the final play of the first half. It was the first blocked field goal returned for a touch-

down against the Mean Green since McNeese State returned a blocked field goal 70

yards for a touchdown in 1990.

UNT's 165 rushing yards and 239 yards of total offense in the first half

was the second most yards it totaled in any game this season.

Nick Bazaldua's 31-yard field goal in the third quarter was the first time UNT has scored in the third

quarter this year.

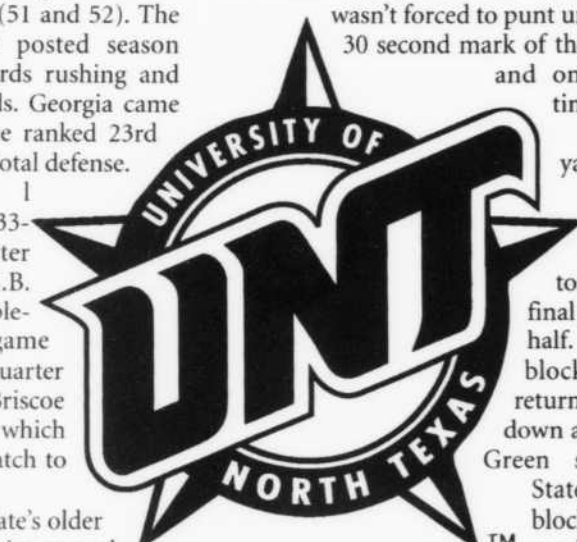
UNT moved the ball 66 yards on its opening drive of the third quarter, which is only 10 yards less than the Mean Green have totaled in

offense the third quarters of all four games combined.

UNT threw its first interception of the year UA picked off a tipped

pass in the third quarter. The Mean Green's three turnovers are the most it has committed this

season. ♦



Watson clowns around with basketball team

By Erich Heinlein
Staff Reporter

Blue Raider center Demario Watson gets a kick out of life on and off the court.

When describing Watson, Blue Raider forward John Humphrey put it in the most blunt of terms; he simply said, "He's a comedian."

Talking to other Blue Raiders about Watson, there certainly was not a disagreement.

As Watson exited the training room, Humphrey jumped towards Watson, and goes "Wham!" as he pretends to jump into him.

"Whoa, what is this – kill Demario day?" Watson exclaimed, which was proceeded by a laugh by Humphrey.

Although it appears he has an attitude, on the inside he really doesn't.

"From what I have seen on Demario's transcript's, Watson has a good GPA, which is a sign he is a very dedicated student," said Blue Raider head coach Kermit Davis.

"He has a great smile and he also dropped 21 pounds this summer, which says a lot about his work ethic."

"Gee, that's news to me," Watson said laughingly about Davis' comments on his GPA. "I don't even know what my GPA is."

"During the off-season coach cared how we did in school," Watson explained.

"Demario fits in well with the team and he won't moan or complain," Humphrey explained. "He could be having a bad day and you would never know it."

Last year Watson red shirted, transferring from Northeast Mississippi Community College the year before.

"I remember we finished either fifth or sixth, but I can't remember which," Watson recalled. "But I can remember that it was out of a 12 team

"Demario fits in well with the team and he won't moan or complain. He could be having a bad day and you would never know it."

—John Humphrey,
MT basketball forward

tournament and I still have the shirt at home."

Watson is pursuing a liberal arts degree.

"Truthfully, the reason I am a liberal arts major is because that is the major in which I can graduate the fastest," Watson explained.

Watson went on to explain that he started off as an elementary education major but there were problems with his credits transferring.

At least at first, Watson's immediate plan after college is to play somewhere overseas.

He did not comment about playing for the National Basketball Association.

After competing overseas, Watson plans on returning to earn his degree in elementary education.

"He's a workhorse with a great personality and can often make other people

smile," Blue Raider forward William Pippen said of Watson. "He brings out the best in everybody and he never criticizes."

Pippen describes Watson even further.

"The characteristics in his personality are that in which he will often step up and do the unexplainable. He sometimes shocks us with what he does, but that is in a good way."

When asked about why he chose Middle Tennessee, his first response was, "That's a good question."

Watson pondered. After a minutes thought he responded, "I came to Middle Tennessee

because of the proximity to home. I want to be close to home, because of my little boy."

Watson became a father while attending NMCC.

"Overall, it taught me some responsibility on and off the court because now I realize I have a family to take care of," Watson said thoughtfully.

In Watson's upbringing another big part of his life was religion.

"My Mom was a preacher," Watson said. "Church was a big emphasis growing up, and it wasn't unusual that I was there two and three times a week."

Watson attended church on Sunday, went to Bible studies on Wednesday and had "Friday Night Live" on Friday nights.

"That's when you could just go hang out and play basketball, or whatever," Watson said.

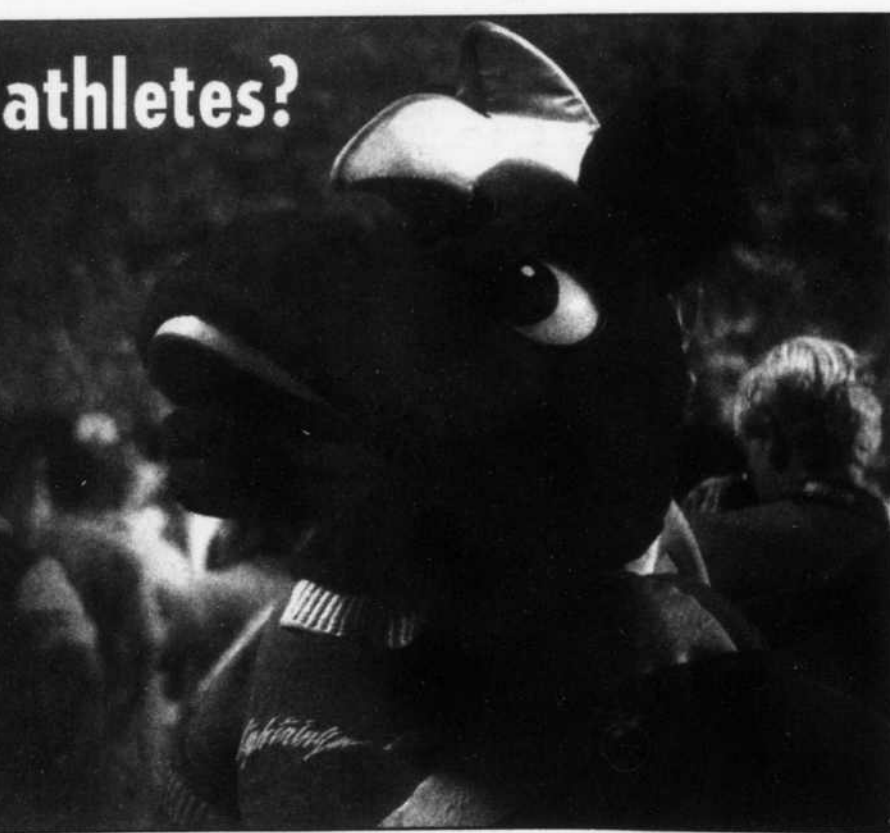
Watson play's his first official regular season game as a Blue Raider Nov. 22 at 7 p.m. at Murphy Center when they take on the University of East Carolina. ♦

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Sports Briefs

Compiled by Angelica Journagin
Sports Editor

Valentine fired by Mets

NEW YORK (AP) — Manager Bobby Valentine was fired by the New York Mets, two days after they finished last in the National League East and two seasons after the team reached the World Series.

Valentine just finished the second year of a three-year contract, and the Mets will be responsible for his 2003 salary of about \$2.7 million.

The Mets finished 75-86, in last place in the NL East for the first time since 1993 and below .500 for the first time in six years. In his six-plus seasons with the Mets, Valentine was 536-467, reaching the playoffs in 1999 and 2000.

Hockey team makes trade

DENVER (AP) — The Colorado Avalanche traded forwards Chris Drury and Stephane Yelle to the Calgary Flames for defenseman Derek Morris in a five-player deal. Colorado also got forwards Dean McAmmond and Jeff Shantz.

Rangers tell Narron chao

ARLINGTON, Texas (AP) — Jerry Narron was fired as manager of the Texas Rangers after the team's third straight last-place finish in the AL West.

Narron went 134-162 after taking over in May 2001, including a 72-90 mark this season.

The Rangers also fired trainer Danny Wheat, who joined the organization in 1976 and had been with the big-league team since 1985.

Player left off series roster

PHOENIX (AP) — Right-hander Woody Williams, bothered by a sore muscle in his side, was left off the St. Louis Cardinals' roster for their play-off series against the Arizona Diamondbacks. Williams tentatively was scheduled to start Game 3 Saturday in St. Louis.

Freeman returns as Pres.

PITTSBURGH (AP) — Dick Freeman, the Pittsburgh Pirates' executive vice president and chief operating officer, is returning to his old job as president of the San Diego Padres. Freeman worked for the Padres from 1981-95, serving at various times as president, executive vice president and chief operating officer.

Jackson considers U.S.

EL SEGUNDO, Calif. (AP) — Lakers coach Phil Jackson would consider coaching the United States at the 2004

Olympics. Lakers center Shaquille O'Neal said a day earlier he would play only if Jackson coached the U.S. team.

Pistons trade with Nuggets

DENVER (AP) — The Detroit Pistons sent Rodney White to the Denver Nuggets for a conditional first-round draft choice, forward Don Reid and Chinese center Menk Batear.

Center to face charges

STAMFORD, Conn. (AP) — New York Knicks center Kurt Thomas was ordered to stay away from his wife and home at his arraignment on charges he assaulted her during an argument over a laptop computer. Thomas did not enter a plea to charges of third-degree assault, a misdemeanor, or risk of injury to a minor, a felony.

Viking caught with pot

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — Minnesota Vikings star receiver Randy Moss was charged with possession of a small amount of marijuana, adding to charges last week that he pushed a traffic officer with his car.

IOC might postpone vote

LONDON (AP) — A decision

on whether to add golf and rugby to the Olympic program might be put off until next summer.

IOC officials said they still plan to vote in Mexico City next month on proposals for dropping baseball, softball and modern pentathlon, but may wait until July to decide whether to add sports.

Evidence released on Dele

PHOENIX (AP) — Former NBA center Bison Dele considered financially cutting off his brother before the ex-player and two companions disappeared while boating in the South Pacific, according to a Phoenix Police Department report.

Jets have highest payroll

NEW YORK (AP) — The New York Jets, who spent lavishly in the last six weeks to re-sign three key players, have the NFL's highest payroll at \$87,343,231.

The Green Bay Packers' payroll of \$39,720,069 is the lowest, according to figures compiled by the NFL Players Association.

US team beats Venezuela

BUENOS AIRES, Argentina (AP) — The United States volleyball team beat Venezuela 26-24, 25-18, 33-31 to complete the first round unbeaten in the

World Championships, and will next face powerful Yugoslavia.

Tapia loses IBF title belt

EAST ORANGE, N.J. (AP) — Johnny Tapia was stripped of his International Boxing Federation featherweight belt. Tapia, required to defend his IBF title by Oct. 27, instead scheduled a Nov. 2 non-title bout against Marco Antonio Barrera.

Players, owners sign papers

NEW YORK (AP) — Baseball players and owners signed off on their new labor contract, approving a memorandum that outlines the agreement that avoided a strike.

Maier passes up opener

VIENNA, Austria (AP) — Two-time Olympic gold medalist Hermann Maier, whose career was nearly ended by a motorcycle accident last year, decided to delay his return to competitive skiing. He will pass up the season's opener, a giant slalom in Soelden, Austria, on Oct. 27.

Golf limits 'spring' drivers

ST. ANDREWS, Scotland (AP) — Golf's rule-making body is limiting the spring-like effect

on drivers at next year's British Open to bring it in line with the other three majors. The Royal & Ancient Club said new technology such as thin-faced, so-called "hot" drivers, were giving some players an unfair advantage.

NCAA sanctions reversed

ATHENS, Ga. (AP) — An NCAA appeals committee overturned one-game suspensions Georgia's Ezra Williams and Damien Wilkins received for playing in an unsanctioned summer basketball league.

Finalist loses in Kremlin

MOSCOW (AP) — Wimbledon finalist David Nalbandian lost to Rainer Schuttler 7-6 (6), 6-4 in the Kremlin Cup first round.

Also, defending men's champion Yevgeny Kafelnikov rallied from a set down to beat Vladimir Votchkov, and women's eighth-seed Silvia Farina-Elia was upset by wildcard entrant Dinara Safina.

Japan Open swept by rains

TOKYO (AP) — Tenth-seeded Jan-Mikael Suzuki was upset by Takao Gami 6-4, 3-6, 6-3 in the Japan Open first round, where heavy rain and strong winds wiped out several matches. ♦

CLASSIFIEDS

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Fill out the form by noon Friday so your ad will appear in the following week's paper.

Georgia romps on New Mexico 41-10

By Casey Stege
The Round Up

LAS CRUCES, N.M. — No. 8 Georgia scored 27 second-quarter points and held New Mexico State scoreless for more than two quarters on the way to a 41-10 win in Athens, Ga. Saturday.

NMSU (1-3) struck early in the first quarter after Robert Candidate intercepted a tipped David Greene pass on Georgia's first play from scrimmage. The Aggies parlayed the turnover into a touchdown on quarterback Paul Dombrowski's 2-yard run with 10 minutes left in the quarter.

Georgia (4-0) scored later in the quarter when Damien Gary returned a punt for 71 yards and a touchdown. Gary's return opened a flood of Bulldog points, as Georgia would score two minutes later on a 20-yard pass from Greene to Gary.

"We were sky high after the touchdown," NMSU head coach Tony Samuel said following the game on KVLC 101.1-FM. "It took that one big play by them and the emotion was down after that."

Running back Musa Smith scored on a 10-yard run with 10 minutes in the quarter followed by a Terrance Edwards 10-yard touchdown reception three

minutes later.

Smith scored again on a 13-yard run with 3:21 left after NMSU's H.B. Briscoe fumbled on Georgia's 49-yard line. Smith's second touchdown put the Bulldogs up 34-7 at halftime.

"At halftime I think the kids were in shock," Samuel said. "We made too many mistakes and started pressing when things got bad."

In the second half, the Aggies kept Georgia's offense out of the end zone. The Bulldogs' lone second half score came with 12 minutes in the fourth quarter, when Kentrell Curry returned a Dombrowski interception 79 yards for a touchdown.

The interception was the first of Dombrowski's career and the Aggies' first of the season.

Dario Aguiniga added a 32-yard field goal in the final minutes for the Aggies, after missing a 52 yard try in the third quarter. The Aggies dominated the time of possession, keeping the ball for just over 41 minutes, while the Bulldogs had the ball for 19 minutes.

"We gave up field position, had turnovers and mistakes, and that makes it hard to win against a good football team," Samuel said.

The Aggies' running game was stalled by a swarming Georgia defense

that held NMSU to a season-low 81 yards on the ground. Seldom-used Keith Mouton led NMSU with 26 yards on seven carries, and Walter Taylor had 19 yards on seven carries. Mouton was one of several little-used Aggies, including quarterback Doug Brady, who saw time in the fourth quarter.

"We played quite a few people that we hadn't got a look at in game situations," Samuel said. "A lot of guys who were hurt in two-a-days and haven't really got on track got some looks."

Defensively, Georgia's David Pollack had three sacks and six tackles. Meanwhile, Shedrick Wynn had three tackles — two of them sacks — as the Bulldogs sacked NMSU quarterbacks six times.

Richard Glover led NMSU with seven tackles, while Siddeeq Shabazz had five.

Dombrowski rotated at quarterback in the first half with Buck Pierce, who made his return from a shoulder injury suffered Sept. 3 at Cal. Pierce did not play in the second half and finished three of three for eight yards.

Dombrowski finished 11-for-52 for 152 yards.

Georgia's Smith finished with 79 yards on 12 carries, while Greene was 19-of-34 for 207 yards. ♦

Injuries racking up on MT athletics

By Jarod Hastings
Staff Writer

After a month of competing, Middle Tennessee athletic teams are trying to do a little healing, and with conference play opening up in all sports healthy players are a coach's best friend.

The Lady Raider volleyball team has escaped the first 16 matches of the season relatively unscathed. However, the soccer team hasn't been as fortunate.

Midfielder Ashley Hicks is out indefinitely, while forward Jenny Cox and defender Sarah Schmidt are both out to three weeks with knee injuries. Freshman



Estes

an Outland Trophy candidate, will return to the lineup for Saturday's game against Arkansas State University after sitting out last week's home loss to Southeast Missouri State University.

Senior tailback Dwayne Hicks is listed as questionable for this week's game after suffering a knee injury in the second half of the University of Kentucky game Sept. 21.

"Hicks is day-to-day and we should get [Brandon] Westbrook back," head coach

Andy McCollum said. "Not having those two, who are two of our leaders offensively is a blow to the team. Westbrook will get back, and not only as a good football player, but also as a leader on the offensive line."

It was a rough weekend on the courts for the Lady Raider tennis team, as junior Manon Kruse went down and sophomore Jennifer Klaschka broke a bone in her foot.

Their status is still uncertain. ♦



Hicks



Kruse



Westbrook

Football: Next home game against Louisiana-Lafayette

Continued from 5

The quarterback for ASU is Elliot Jacobs who has passed for 873 yards and six touchdowns already this season.

The ASU defense is one of the top ones in the SBC. The leader of defense is defensive lineman Corey Williams. Williams last week was named SBC defensive player of the week for his performance against UTM.

On Sept. 9 he was named SBC defensive player of the week. He leads the SBC with seven sacks on the season. The team in total has 20 sacks on the season.

The Blue Raiders are first in the Sun Belt in sacks given up with seven.

The X-factor in Saturday's game could come down to special teams. Two of the best in the SBC playing in this game.

ASU has James

Hickenbotham who is 25th in the nation in all-purpose yards with average of 147.33 yards per game. The stats are broken down with 314 yards receiving, 170 in punt returns and 361 yards returned on kickoffs. He was named SBC special teams player of the week Sept. 16. He leads the SBC in all-purpose yards.

MT's Lee also won the award on Sept. 2 against Alabama. He is second in the SBC with an

average of 121.2 yards per game. Lee has 205 yards rushing, 61 catching and 219 on kickoff returns.

"You could say it was an embarrassment for us to lose Saturday, but things happen for a reason," Hines said.

"I'm just glad it didn't happen in a conference game," Hines continued. "We still have a lot of goals ahead of us and our season is far from over." ♦

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