

SIDELINES SPORTS

REPORT



WHEN LIGHTNING STRIKES

Blue Raiders gear up
for Big East opponent

page 2

Middle Tennessee
vs
Temple University
Saturday, October 4, 2003
6:00 p.m.

MT kicks travel
to Austin Peay

page 8

Raiders ready for the Owls

By **Wes Wyrick**
Staff Writer

Middle Tennessee will face its fourth Bowl Championship Series opponent Saturday as Temple University Owls of the Big East come to Murfreesboro.

The Blue Raiders are coming off a bye week following three consecutive road games against Top 40 opponents.

"We spent three good, solid days improving in areas where we felt we needed to improve the most," Blue Raiders head coach Andy McCollum said.

Temple comes into this game winless, including two overtime losses to Villanova and Cincinnati.

"They went to triple overtime with Cincinnati, had another double overtime game and played Penn State in another close game, so we know what caliber of team we're playing," McCollum said.

Temple has had some great offensive performances this year, including 522 yards against Cincinnati two weeks ago.

Quarterback Mike McGann, who is averaging 262 yards per game this season,

leads the Owls' offense.

The Blue Raider secondary will be facing another top-quality quarterback when they meet McGann.

MT's defense has allowed 269 yards per game passing in their last three.

"They have a 6-foot-6-inch quarterback who throws it well," McCollum said.

"He'll be another in a long line of good quarterbacks we've seen that executes well."

McGann has put the ball in the air 108 times in the past two weeks, so MT expects to be tested in the passing game this week.

"We've got to do a good job disguising and doing some things to present him [McGann] some problems and not just let him sit back and throw the football," McCollum said.

This will be MT's first home game since a loss to the Florida Atlantic Owls on Aug. 28.

Fans left that game discouraged and in disbelief, but McCollum is hoping students and fans will embrace this team and give them another chance.

"Our fans were no more disappointed than the players



Photo by Steve Cross | Staff Photographer

MT receiver Kerry Wright runs from FAU defensive tackle Bryan Clancy. The Blue Raiders lost to the Owls 19-20 in their home opener at Floyd Field.

and coaches in that locker room after our last home game," McCollum stated.

"But I think we've seen a team go on the road against Georgia, Clemson and Missouri and improve each week, give itself a chance to win games each week, and

work their tails off representing Middle Tennessee."

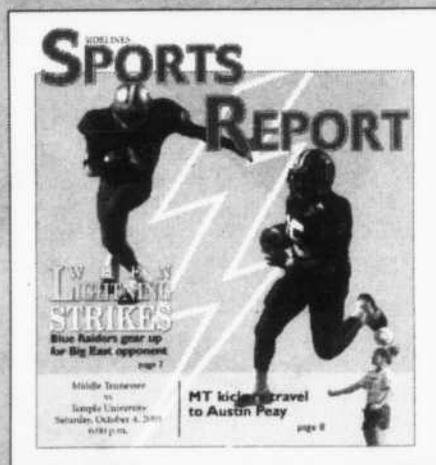
MT quarterback Andrico Hines will be looking for a good day passing against a vulnerable Temple defense.

The Owls' defense has allowed more than 300 yards passing in two of their four

losses including 347 yards to Division I-AA Villanova.

MT needs this win for momentum going into next week's Homecoming date with Sun Belt Conference rival New Mexico State University. ♦

On the Cover ...



Photos by Jamie Lorange and Steve Cross | Chief Photographer and Staff Photographer
Cover by Brandon Morrison | Photo Editor

Don Calloway and Eugene Gross look to lead the Blue Raiders to a home victory against Temple University Saturday night at 6 p.m.

Sidelines Sports Report

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MT to host first BCS team at Floyd

Passing defense key to defeating Owls

Sports commentary



Brad Jameson
Staff Columnist

There's one major thing both Middle Tennessee and Temple University will be looking for in Saturday's contest at Floyd Stadium — a first win of the season.

Both the Blue Raiders and the Owls are winless this season, entering the game with identical 0-4 records.

Saturday's game will actually be the first time this season that Temple will meet a team with a n y losses on its record. Penn

State, Villanova, Cincinnati and Louisville were all undefeated at the time Temple faced them.

Both teams have also dealt with heart-breaking overtime losses, with MT losing two of its four games by just one point.

Basically, the win Saturday will go to the team that's hungrier for victory, the team that wants it more.

Unless MT's defense steps up in a big way, Temple quarterback Mike McGann will have a field day. McGann is averaging 262 yards per game, with 1,048 yards already this season.

MT head coach Andy McCollum knows McGann will be a challenge.

"After coming off of games against the quarter-backs we've seen, it's hard to

imagine that we would see a fourth one, but now we are," McCollum said. "We'll have our work cut out for us."

The MT secondary has allowed 1,022 passing yards on the season off of such quarterbacks as Georgia's David Greene and

Missouri's Brad

Smith.

MT's pass-

ing attack

has only been able to produce 789 yards.

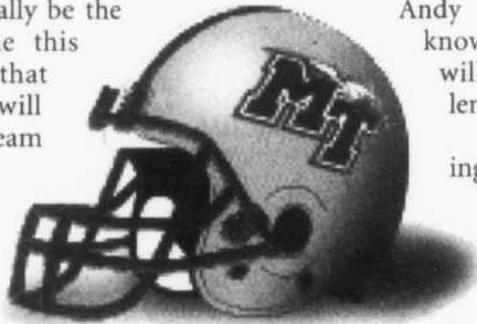
"I think they're a lot better football team than their record shows, just like I think our football team is better than our record indicates," McCollum said.

"Temple ... [has] had a chance to win every game they've played."

Two winless programs, both reportedly better than a 0-4 record suggests, will meet Saturday.

One team will come away with its first win of the season; the other will walk off the field 0-5.

It simply depends on who wants it more. ♦



Raiders return home after three losses on the road

Sports commentary



Jon Leffew
Staff Columnist

The Temple Owls have had a heartbreaking season.

Like the Middle Tennessee football team, this team is 0-4, having played in more overtimes (5) than total games.

The team opened its season with a loss at Penn State, then followed this with a loss in two overtimes against Villanova.

Those losses were followed by a three-overtime loss to Cincinnati, then last week's 21-12 loss to Louisville.

Much like the Blue Raiders, the Owls have had a season full of disappointing losses and bounces gone the wrong way.

One constant in this mayhem has been the play of Temple's starting quarterback Mike McGann.

McGann, a six-foot-six-inch, 220-pound junior, is a two-year starter who is the focal point of the Temple offense.

He ranks in the top 10 in every passing category for his career at Temple.

McGann has lived up to his preseason hype thus far this year, already amassing 1,000 passing yards.

His completion percentage is more than 50 percent, while

he has thrown for four touchdowns in the Owls' four losses.

Along with McGann, coach Bobby Wallace has several other offensive options, most coming from the wide-receiver position.

The Owls have four wide receivers who have more than 100 total yards receiving, led by senior Zamir Cobb. Cobb ranks No. 8 nationally in receiving, averaging 108.5 yards. He is 12th in the nation in catches per game, averaging 7.25.

Along with Cobb, wide receiver Ikey Chuku is coming off last week's seven-catch, 103-yard game. Chuku returned this season after two reconstructions on the

same knee, and this senior appears to be healthy for the matchup with MT.

Last week marked

the fourth straight week the

Owls had a 100-yard receiver. Cobb achieved this mark in all three previous games. Phil Goodman, a transfer from Sacramento Junior College, has had two 100-yard games as well.

While the passing game gets most of the attention, the Owls also average more than 100 yards per game rushing.

However, with the talent and experience of McGann and his receivers, this game looks to be another struggle for the MT defense. ♦



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MIDDLE TENNESSEE Blue Raiders



1	Kerry Wright	WR	5-9	176	r-Jr.	49	Paul Wheeler	K	6-1	226	r-So.
2	Michael Woods	SS	6-1	211	Sr.	50	Paul Cantrell	OL	6-4	324	r-Fr.
3	Tony Sutton	DB	5-11	196	Sr.	51	Kyle Ringley	OL	6-2	256	r-So.
4	Tyrone Hicks	DB	5-10	204	Fr.	52	Leon Cesar	LB	6-1	236	Jr.
5	Muhammad Rashada	DB	5-11	174	r-Sr.	53	Joey Montalbano	LB	5-9	210	r-Sr.
6	Will Martin	FS	5-11	205	Sr.	54	Randy Arnold	LB	5-11	231	r-Sr.
7	Danny Tolbert	DB	5-10	170	Jr.	55	Josh Willoughby	OL	6-4	354	r-Sr.
8	Hashem Joyner	WR	5-9	160	r-Jr.	56	Kenny Edwards	LB	6-0	229	Sr.
9	Andrico Hines	QB	6-2	209	r-Sr.	57	Marcus Gates	DL	6-2	262	r-Fr.
10	Chris Johnson	DB	5-10	188	r-Sr.	58	Marcel Home	LB	6-1	215	Fr.
11	Pedro Holiday	WR	6-1	175	Jr.	59	Brandon Westbrook	OL	6-6	305	r-Sr.
12	Wardell Alsop	WR	5-9	152	Sr.	60	Willie Hall	OL	6-6	318	r-Fr.
15	Justin Rainey	SS	5-10	198	r-Fr.	61	Germayle Franklin	OL	6-4	304	r-Fr.
16	Josh Harris	QB	6-3	180	So.	62	Lance McCullough	OL	6-4	309	Fr.
17	Clint Marks	QB	6-2	188	r-Fr.	67	Julius Gant	OL	6-4	310	r-Jr.
18	Shawn Allen	DB	6-0	195	r-So.	69	Brett Trott	OL	6-4	295	r-So.
19	Aaron Pitts	DB	5-11	188	Sr.	71	Joe Evilsizer	OL	6-1	298	Jr.
20	Robert Billings	P	6-0	209	r-Sr.	73	Bill Brasch	OL	6-3	308	Sr.
21	Jonathan Harris	DB	5-10	185	Fr.	74	Ty Goodrich	OL	6-5	300	Fr.
21	Chris Hough	SS	6-1	214	r-Jr.	75	Brandon Parker	OL	6-7	306	Sr.
22	Brian Kelly	PK	6-0	186	Sr.	76	Shavaskey Brown	OL	6-1	338	r-So.
23	Alvin Fite	LB	6-0	227	Jr.	77	John Henry	DL	6-4	315	r-Fr.
24	LaRue Beck	WS	6-2	216	So.	78	Kenyon Buford	OL	6-6	385	Fr.
25	Eugene Gross	RB	5-9	208	r-Fr.	80	Tommy Manus	WR	6-4	222	Jr.
26	Terry Jackson	RB	5-10	185	Fr.	81	Luke Paschall	WR	5-10	184	r-Fr.
27	Kelvin German	RB	5-11	203	So.	82	Jerrin Holt	WR	6-3	228	r-So.
28	Don Calloway	RB	5-6	186	Sr.	83	Pierre Ingram	WR	6-4	204	r-Fr.
30	Alex Weaver	RB	5-10	186	r-Sr.	84	Chris Sapp	TE	6-5	258	r-Fr.
31	Nick McAfee	FB	6-0	248	Jr.	85	Chris Henry	WR	5-8	163	r-So.
32	Kevin Davis	RB	5-9	220	r-Fr.	86	Michael Watkins	WR	6-1	170	r-Fr.
33	Jonathan Bonner	LB	6-0	220	So.	87	Ryan Edmiston	WR	6-0	200	r-Sr.
34	Kevin Copeland	WS	5-9	188	r-Fr.	88	Sam Williams	WR	6-1	180	r-Fr.
35	Jonathan Ward	LB	6-1	222	Fr.	89	Seth Grabo	TE	6-4	250	r-Jr.
36	John Crawford	DS	6-0	260	So.	91	Joe Smith	DL	6-3	235	Fr.
37	Clinton Corder	TE	6-3	243	Fr.	92	Jeff Littlejohn	DL	6-2	318	r-So.
40	Dennis Burke	LB	6-1	227	So.	93	Thomas Johnson	DL	6-2	289	r-Jr.
42	Brandon Lynch	WS	6-0	188	Sr.	94	Devarick Scandrett	DL	6-4	262	So.
43	Darren Mustin	LB	6-1	224	Fr.	95	Jonathan Callahan	DL	6-3	258	r-So.
44	Matt Little	FB	6-0	228	r-Fr.	96	Bobby Payne	DL	6-4	258	r-Fr.
45	Sean Mosley	LB	6-3	253	Fr.	97	Jerry Vanderpool	DL	6-3	306	r-Jr.
46	Colby Smith	P	5-9	183	r-Fr.	98	Demetrios Walker	DL	6-3	254	Sr.
47	Walt Bell	DB	5-10	190	r-Fr.	99	Dominic Jones	DL	6-3	294	Sr.
48	Ralph Gunter	FB	6-0	265	Fr.						

2003 SEASON SCHEDULE



Aug. 28	Florida Atlantic	Murfreesboro, Tenn.	L, 19-20
Sept. 6	Georgia	Athens, Ga.	L, 10-29
Sept. 13	Clemson	Clemson, S.C.	L, 14-37
Sept. 20	Missouri	Columbia, Mo.	L, 40-41
Oct. 4	Temple	Murfreesboro, Tenn.	6 p.m.
Oct. 11	New Mexico State	Murfreesboro, Tenn.	2 p.m.
Oct. 18	Idaho	Moscow, Idaho	4 p.m.
Oct. 25	North Texas	Murfreesboro, Tenn.	6 p.m.
Nov. 1	Utah State	Logan, Utah	4 p.m.
Nov. 8	Troy State	Murfreesboro, Tenn.	6 p.m.
Nov. 15	Louisiana-Lafayette	Murfreesboro, Tenn.	2 p.m.
Nov. 20	Arkansas State	Jonesboro, Ark.	6 p.m.

TEMPLE UNIVERSITY Owls



No.	Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Elig.	No.	Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Elig.
1	Goodman, Phil	WR	6-3	215	Jr.	43	Ferguson, Umar	RB	6-1	210	Jr.
2	McBride, Pete	DB	5-10	171	Jr.	44	Bennett, Troy	LB	6-2	240	Sr.
3	Stubbs, Terrence	WR	6-1	195	Sr.	45	Mendenhall, Mike	DE	6-3	250	So.
4	Hartsfield, Jeremy	WR	6-1	185	Jr.	46	Dunbar, Christian	DE	6-2	240	Jr.
5	Jackson, Yazid	FS	5-10	185	Sr.	49	Ringwelski, Garvin	P	6-5	235	Sr.
6	Coleman, Donnie	CB	5-10	175	Sr.	50	Blomvall, C.J.	OL	6-2	305	Jr.
7	Bhakta, Satyen	QB	6-1	220	Jr.	51	DeGannes, Anthony	DE	6-4	252	Jr.
7	Gray, Joel	DB	5-10	180	Jr.	53	Nembhard, Anthony	DT	6-4	285	Sr.
8	Holley, Mike	CB	5-9	170	So.	54	Stanley, J.D.	DE	6-3	255	Sr.
9	Chuku, Ikey	WR	6-3	196	Sr.	55	Sanders, Tariq	OL	6-6	290	R-Fr.
10	Harris, Jamel	WR	6-1	186	R-Fr.	56	Harris, Chris	OL	6-4	295	Jr.
11	Washington, Walter	QB	6-2	246	So.	57	Harrison, Tyrone	LB	5-10	210	So.
12	Mixon, Andre	WR	6-3	200	Jr.	58	Fichter, Adam	DT	6-3	280	So.
13	Fulmore, Bobby	DB	5-11	180	Jr.	63	McAndrew, Frank	OL	6-3	310	Jr.
14	Ibeh, Buchie	WR	6-3	205	Jr.	65	Laudano, Joe	OL	6-2	290	Sr.
15	Hannigan, Collin	TE	6-5	260	Jr.	66	Bell, Stephen	OL	6-4	326	Jr.
16	McGann, Mike	QB	6-6	220	Jr.	67	Perry, Yohance	OL	6-5	330	So.
17	Wallace, Rian	LB	6-4	240	So.	68	Denman, Leigh	OL	6-6	325	R-Fr.
18	Douglas, Matt	DB	6-2	200	Jr.	70	Seifert, Elliott	OL	6-8	295	R-Fr.
19	Price, Roger	K	5-10	165	So.	71	Lippo, Joey	C/LS	6-3	315	Sr.
20	Lamb, Ray	DB	5-11	180	Jr.	72	Primus, Stan	OL	6-5	340	Jr.
21	McPhee, Jonathan	FS	5-11	185	So.	75	Portillo, Jose	OG	6-4	305	Sr.
22	Porter, Jamil	RB	5-10	190	Jr.	76	Bonczar, Larry	OL	6-8	290	R-Fr.
23	Davis, Durrel	DB	5-11	197	Fr.	78	Gross, John	OT	6-6	285	So.
25	Gore, Ryan	LB	6-1	205	R-Fr.	80	Nwodim, Emeka	WR	5-11	185	So.
26	Szarka, Sean	RB	6-2	210	So.	81	Monan, Bill	WR	6-3	200	R-Fr.
27	Cobb, Zamir	WR	6-1	185	Sr.	82	Pristas, Scott	WR	6-2	210	Jr.
28	Wade, Lawrence	DB	6-1	195	Jr.	83	Bradley, William	WR	5-5	145	So.
29	Bullard, Shawn	SS	6-3	215	Sr.	84	Carpenter, Eric	DL	6-5	255	Jr.
31	Smith, Andrew	DB	5-11	190	So.	85	Spencer, Rogel	WR	6-1	180	Sr.
32	Miller, Mark	RB	5-10	235	Jr.	88	Martinez, Anthony	TE	6-5	260	Jr.
33	Johnson, Justin	DB	6-1	205	Jr.	89	Wormley, Rodney	DE	6-4	226	So.
34	Fenton, Makonnen	RB	5-10	200	Sr.	90	Johnson, Jason	DE	6-2	255	So.
35	Konte, Sadeke	SS	6-1	215	Jr.	91	Johnson, Randy	DT	6-2	315	Jr.
36	Wilbourn, Delonne	CB	5-10	185	So.	93	Apostolidis, Taso	DT	6-1	285	Sr.
37	McLaughlin, Mike	P/H	6-1	215	So.	94	Lumpris, Luis	DT	6-3	295	Sr.
38	Davis, Jared	K	5-6	145	Sr.	96	Tapia, Manuel	LB	6-3	235	So.
40	Fatherly, David	LB	6-2	250	R-Fr.	97	Seals, Ismael	DL	6-4	290	Jr.
41	McClellan, Alex	DB	6-1	210	Jr.	98	Josephson, Stephen	K	6-2	260	So.
42	Yasenchak, Vince	LB	6-2	240	Fr.	99	Burton, Antwon	DT	6-4	330	Jr.

Aug. 30	Penn State	State College, Pa.	L, 10-23
Sept. 6	Villanova	Philadelphia, Pa.	L, 20-23
Sept. 20	Cincinnati	Cincinnati, Ohio	L, 24-30
Sept. 27	Louisville	Louisville, Ky.	L, 12-21
Oct. 4	Middle Tennessee	Murfreesboro, Tenn.	7 p.m.
Oct. 11	Boston College	Philadelphia, Pa.	3:30 p.m.
Oct. 18	Miami	Miami, Fl.	TBA
Oct. 25	Rutgers	Philadelphia, Pa.	1 p.m.
Nov. 8	Syracuse	Syracuse, N.Y.	TBA
Nov. 15	Virginia Tech	Philadelphia, Pa.	1 p.m.
Nov. 22	Pittsburgh	Philadelphia, Pa.	1 p.m.
Nov. 29	West Virginia	Morgantown, W. Va.	1 p.m.

2003 SEASON SCHEDULE



SBC teams prepare for games

By David Hunter
Staff Writer

Four games highlight this week's action in the Sun Belt Conference, including two conference games.

The only team off this weekend is the University of North Texas. Last week, UNT increased their SBC winning streak to 12 after defeating the University of Louisiana-Lafayette 44-28.

The streak is still second to the University of Miami. The Hurricanes have won 25 games in a row inside the Big East Conference.

One of the conference games has the University of Idaho (0-5) traveling to New Mexico State (1-3). Both teams are playing their first SBC game of the season.

Last week, Idaho was defeated by the University of Montana 41-28. NMSU lost to in-state rival the University of New Mexico 24-17.

In last season's game, the Aggies were able to take home a 35-31 victory. The past three games between

the two teams have finished by a total winning margin of 10 points.

Kickoff is set for 7 p.m. Saturday night.

The SBC matchup has Arkansas State University (2-3, 0-1) hosting the University of Louisiana-Monroe (0-5, 0-1).

Both teams have played a conference game, with ULM losing to Utah State University 28-10 last week.

ASU lost their conference game on Sept. 20 54-7, but it was to Western Athletic Conference member the University of Tulsa.

The game still counted in the SBC standings.

Last week, ASU lost to the University of Memphis, 38-16. ASU won last year's matchup between the two teams, 33-21.

The game will take place at War Memorial Stadium in Little Rock, Ark., at 6 p.m. Saturday night.

University of Louisiana-Lafayette (0-5, 0-2) goes on the road to face Big 12 member Oklahoma State University (3-1, 0-1).

OSU comes into the game with one of the best wide receivers in the nation, Rashaun Woods. Woods

caught seven touchdown passes in a victory over Southern Methodist University earlier this season.

On the season, Woods has 30 catches for 502 yards and nine touchdowns. Currently, the Cowboys are in both the Coaches Poll and Associated Press Poll. The Raging Cajuns will be looking for their first win of the season.

The game starts at 6 p.m. Saturday night.

The final SBC game has Utah

State University (1-3, 1-0) going to the University of New Mexico (2-3, 0-1) to face the Lobos. This is the second consecutive game in which UNM has faced a member of the SBC.

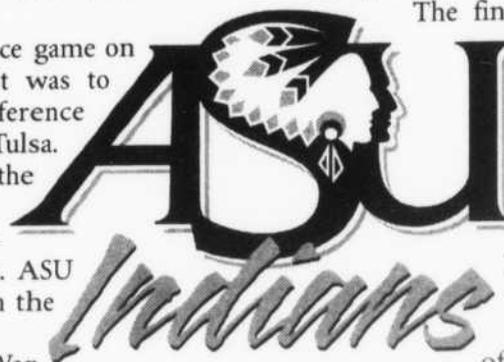
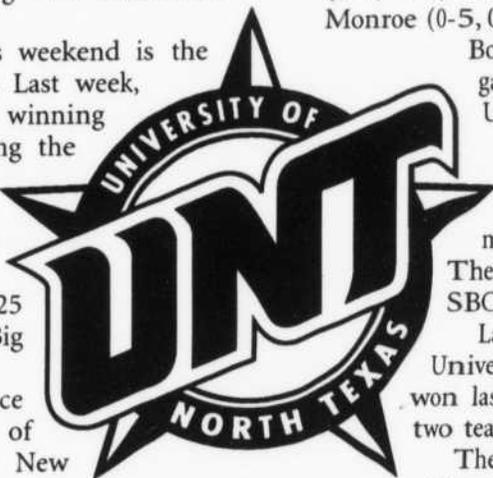
Utah State is coming off their first conference

victory as an SBC member.

Last year, USU defeated UNM in 45-44. The winning margin for the last three years has been a combined seven points.

Kickoff is set for 7 p.m. Saturday night.

None of the SBC games will be televised. ♦



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Kissee prepares squad for road trip

By Colby Sledge
Staff Writer

The Middle Tennessee volleyball team continues its Sun Belt Conference road trip this weekend with a two-match swing through Arkansas.

The Lady Raiders take on the University of Arkansas-Little Rock on Friday and Arkansas State University on Sunday.

Although the Lady Raiders dropped their first two conference matches at North Texas University and Western Kentucky University, MT head coach Lisa Kissee isn't ready to panic. She thinks the schedule is the real enemy.

"We know we have a challenge ahead of us," Kissee said. "We know we are the only Sun Belt team to have to play four [conference] matches on the road. Not one other team out of the 11 has to do that."

Sunday's match against ASU (13-4, 1-0) will be the third conference game for the Lady Indians, which will be a change for MT (7-10, 0-2). The Lady Raiders have gotten used to opening the SBC schedule for several teams.

"We were the first home conference match for North Texas, we were the first home conference match for Western Kentucky and we're going to be the first home conference match for Arkansas-Little Rock," Kissee said.

"No other team has to do that. It's going to



Kissee

be a big challenge for us, and we're just going to take it on. We have no other choice."

ASU features five players with more than 100 kills this season, led by junior Giedre Tarnauskaite, who hails from Kaunas, Lithuania. Tarnauskaite has 231 kills this season while averaging just under four kills a game. Setters Kelly Linder and Tristan Erford have a combined 743 assists.

The Lady Indians have won nine of their last 11 matches, all on the road. They return home to face defending SBC champion WKU on Friday before playing MT.

Although ASU comes into Sunday's match with a much better record, Kissee feels her team has faced much stiffer competition.

"Our schedule has been much tougher, much more challenging, which definitely gets us prepared to play [ASU]," Kissee said.

"The only two like opponents we have are Memphis and TCU, and they beat Memphis in 5 [games] and they lost to TCU. We know that just looking at that and how they matched up with them, it's going to be a tremendous challenge, but we will be prepared for it."

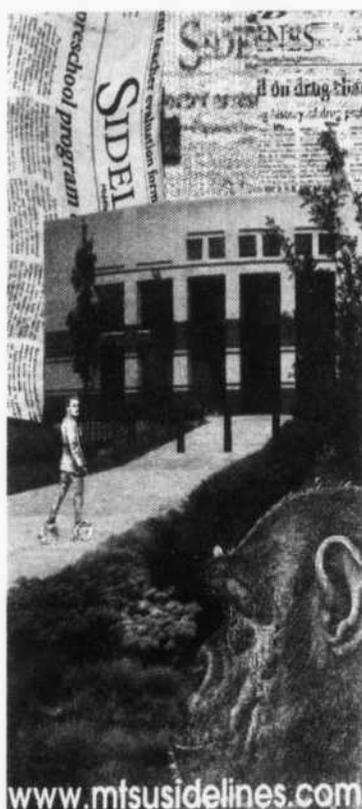
The Lady Raiders face ASU at 1 p.m. Sunday before playing a non-conference match against University of Tennessee-Chattanooga Wednesday.

MT then returns home for its SBC home opener against Florida International University Oct. 12. ♦



Photo by Amy Jones | Staff Photographer

Middle blocker Victoria Monasterolo (10) digs the ball while teammate Kimberly Moeller (23) prepares to help during a match against Murray State Sept. 20.



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MT kickers travel to Austin Peay

By Colby Sledge
Staff Writer

The Middle Tennessee soccer team begins a three-match road trip this Sunday when they travel to Clarksville to face in-state rival Austin Peay State University.

Although the match is one of only two non-conference matches left on the Blue Raiders' schedule this season, MT head coach Aston Rhoden expects a tough match against the second-year Lady Governors (2-6-1).

"They don't play like a second-year team," Rhoden said. "Their coach [Kelley Poole] has done a great job of getting some quality kids in, and they have a very strong goalkeeper that they have from last year."

That goalkeeper is sophomore Sarah Broadbent, who has played every minute for APSU this season while surrendering 16 goals in nine games. She has had only one bad match this season, a 5-0 loss to Southeast Missouri State University. However, the Lady Governors are struggling offensively, having scored eight goals on the season.

Last year, the Blue Raiders defeated APSU 2-1 despite 17 saves from Broadbent. MT outshot the Lady Governors 44-2 with goals from current Blue Raiders Laura Miguez and Emily Carter, who had her nose broken during



Rhoden

the match on a Lady Governor's attempted header.

The Lady Governors will be returning to Clarksville for a four-match homestand, beginning with the match against the Blue Raiders, after traveling to Western Kentucky University this Friday. APSU is currently on a three-match losing streak, including a 2-1 loss to Tennessee Tech University last Friday.

MT (4-5) will be coming off its Sun Belt Conference opener this Friday at home against Florida International University. With the bulk of the SBC schedule coming up, Rhoden knows his team can't afford to take APSU lightly simply because they are a non-conference opponent.

"Austin Peay is another one of those teams that we can't take for granted," Rhoden said. "They've had good results against other non-conference teams where they may have lost the game, but they lost 1-0 or maybe 2-1. We are expecting them to be a very tough game for us."

Rhoden also expects home-field advantage to play a major role in the match.

"We're playing them at their place, where it's quite different than ours in terms of the dimensions of the field," Rhoden said. "There are going to have to be some adjustments that we will have to make if we want to come away from there with some kind of positive result."

The Blue Raiders face APSU on Sunday at 2 p.m. before diving back into conference play against University of Arkansas-Little Rock and Arkansas State University next weekend. ♦

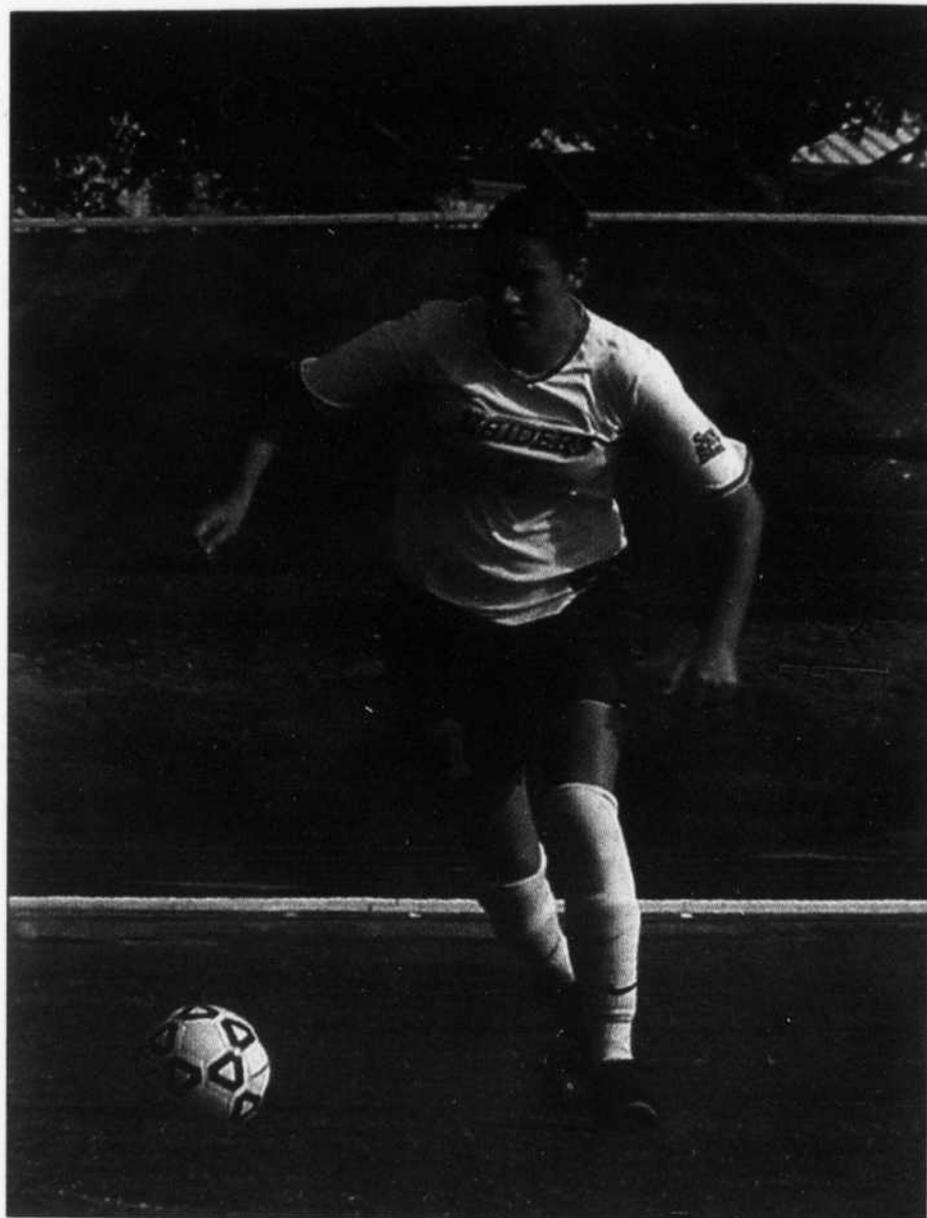


Photo by Micah Miller | Staff Photographer

Midfielder Claire Ward runs the ball Sept. 21 against BSC.

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