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The Blue Raiders celebrate winning the 2001 Sun Belt Outdoor Championships in New Orleans, La. The Blue Raiders and Lady Raiders claimed three of the four league championships last season, winning both indoor titles and the men's outdoor championship.



All-American  
Kim Freeman

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### CREDITS

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### MISSION STATEMENT

The Middle Tennessee athletic program is committed to quality athletics that bring the campus community together and promote a sense of pride and tradition in academic and athletic excellence. These programs also bring the University regional and national recognition and provide a link between the University, its alumni, and the community at large. They give students, faculty and alumni opportunities for innovative public service activities that better the community. Athletics uses financial and physical resources to maintain and develop sports programs to accomplish the mission of the University.

## QUICK FACTS

### GENERAL INFORMATION

Location	Murfreesboro, Tenn.
Enrollment	20,073
Founded	1911
Nickname	Blue Raiders
Colors	Royal Blue and White
President	Dr. Sidney A. McPhee
Athletic Director	Boots Donnelly
SWA	Diane Turnham
Athletics Phone	615/898-2450
Website	GoBlueRaiders.com
Conference	Sun Belt
Indoor Facility	Murphy Center
Outdoor	MT Track Complex

### MEDIA RELATIONS

Director	Mark Owens
Assistant	Ryan Simmons
Assistant	Denise Gideon
Assistant/Track	Jo Jo Freeman
Freeman's e-mail	jfreeman@mtsu.edu
Freeman's Office Phone	615/898-5270
Freeman's Home Phone	615/243-4628
Media Relations Fax	615/898-5626

### COACHING STAFF

Head Coach	Dean Hayes
Alma Mater	Lake Forest, 1959
Track Office Phone	615/898-2571
Assistant Coach	Roger Kerr
Assistant Coach	Thomas Keith

# DEAN HAYES



Head Coach Dean Hayes has gained great respect since coming to Middle Tennessee 37 years ago.

His men's teams dominated the Ohio Valley Conference and the women's program has duplicated that success since Hayes took over the program in 1987.

The team has picked up where it left off since joining the Sun Belt Conference, capturing four of the six indoor and outdoor titles for which it has been eligible since joining the league two years ago.

Overall, Hayes has guided the programs to 28 OVC titles, four Sun Belt championships, and 16 NCAA Top 25 finishes, while 30 of his athletes have earned 61 All-American honors, three have become national champions, and a number of them have gone on to compete internationally in the Olympic Games, World University Games and Pan-American Games. There could have been more awards, but Middle Tennessee did not sport a track and field program from 1987 to 1990.

Hayes has added four Sun Belt Coach of the Year awards to compliment his 15 Coach of the Year honors, including 10 in a row from 1977 to 1986, from the Ohio Valley Conference. He was inducted into the Blue Raiders Hall of Fame in 1982 and the Tennessee Sports Hall of Fame in 1994. Hayes became a member of the Illinois Sports Hall of Fame in 1993.

Following the 1981 season, Hayes was voted the NCAA Outdoor Coach of the Year by the Division I Coaches Association, a group he served as president 1982-83.

In his first attempt at a Sun Belt Championship, Hayes delivered again as his Lady Raiders took first place in Miami, Fla. in 2000. For leading the women's team to victory, Hayes earned his first Sun Belt Coach of the Year award.

Since taking its place in the Sun Belt full-time prior to the beginning of the 2000-01 season, Hayes has brought Middle Tennessee three of four league titles in indoor and outdoor track and field. He and his charges were instrumental in capturing the school's first-ever Vic

Bubas Cup, the league's all-sports trophy.

Hayes has indeed put Middle Tennessee on the world map in terms of collegiate track and field.

However, Hayes' experience is not limited to the collegiate level. In fact, Hayes has coached several teams sponsored by either the United States Olympic Committee or USA Track and Field.

His international experience began at the first Olympic Sports Festival in Colorado Springs (1978) and includes working as the head coach at the World University Games in Kobe, Japan (1985), Goodwill Games in Seattle (1990), World Cup in London, England (1994), World Championships in Athens, Greece (1997) and again at the Goodwill Games in New York City (1998).

The Naperville, Ill., native also has served as an assistant at several international events. Aside from the first Olympic Sports Festival, Hayes worked as an assistant at the World University Games in Bucharest, Romania (1981), World Championships in Helsinki, Finland (1983) and the Summer Olympic Games in Seoul, South Korea (1988).

In 1996, Hayes served as a referee at the Summer Olympic Games in Atlanta.

Because of Hayes' international success, numerous foreign athletes have sought out Middle Tennessee as their college of choice.

However, Hayes' most successful collegiate athletes at Middle Tennessee would have competed in the NCAA triple jump—an event Hayes specializes in. He has coached champions Tommy Haynes (1974) and Barry McClure (1972 and 1973) as well as NCAA high hurdle champion Dionne Rose (1994). Hayes also guided Roland McGhee to nine All-American honors while both McClure and Greg Artis have won All-American honors seven times.

Hayes earned his B.A. at Lake Forrest (Ill.) where he competed in the 800, long and triple jump, an event in which he was an NCAA qualifier. After earning his M.A. at Northern Illinois, Hayes began his coaching career at the high school level in Chicago (three years) and Minneapolis (one year) before returning to Lake Forrest and then moving on to Middle Tennessee in 1965.



## HAYES AT A GLANCE

### Personal

Birthdate: 12-14-37  
Hometown: Morrison, Illinois  
Family: Wife, Jan; daughters, Erin and Kara

### Education

High School: Naperville (IL) Central  
College: Lake Forest (1959)

### Head Coach Experience (College)

Middle Tennessee: 1965 - present

### Head Coach Experience (World)

Goodwill Games: 1998 (New York, New York)  
World Championships: 1997 (Athens, Greece)  
World Cup: 1994 (London, England)  
Goodwill Games: 1990 (Seattle, Washington)  
World University Games: 1985 (Kobe, Japan)

### Assistant Coach Experience (World)

Olympic Games: 1988 (Seoul, South Korea)  
World Championships: 1983 (Helsinki, Finland)  
World University Games: 1981 (Bucharest, Romania)  
US Olympic Festival: 1978 (Colorado Springs, Colorado)

\*Hayes also served as a referee at the 1996 Olympic Games in Atlanta, Georgia.

### NCAA Top 25 Finishes (16)

Women's Indoor: 1994, 8th  
Men's Indoor: 1993, 21st; 1982, 11th; 1981, 11th; 1980, 19th; 1979, 20th; 1974, 14th; 1973, 8th; 1972, 7th; 1971, 22nd  
Men's Outdoor: 1976, 19th; 1974, 17th; 1973, 25th; 1972, 22nd; 1971, 25th  
Men's Cross Country: 1966, 14th

### Ohio Valley Conference Titles (28)

Women's Indoor: 1996, 1995, 1994, 1991 and 1988  
Men's Indoor: 2000, 1993, 1991, 1986, 1985, 1983, 1982, 1981 and 1979  
Women's Outdoor: 1996, 1994 and 1991  
Men's Outdoor: 1994, 1993, 1986, 1985, 1984, 1983, 1982, 1981, 1980, 1978 and 1977  
Men's Cross Country: 1983

### Sun Belt Championships (4)

Women's Indoor: 2001  
Men's Indoor: 2001  
Women's Outdoor: 2000  
Men's Outdoor: 2001

### Honors

Tennessee Sports Hall of Fame: 1994  
Blue Raiders Hall of Fame: 1982  
OVC Coach of the Year: 2000, 1996, 1995, 1994, 1991, 1986, 1985, 1984, 1983, 1982, 1981, 1980, 1979, 1978 and 1977  
Sun Belt Coach of the Year: 2000, 2001 (3)  
NCAA Outdoor Coach of the Year: 1981

# ROGER KERR & THOMAS KEITH



Roger Kerr possesses more experience than most head coaches around the country.

With him on board as an assistant coach, the Middle Tennessee track program can boast of one of the top coaching staffs in collegiate

track and field.

The former head coach at Arizona State, Illinois State and Evansville is still involved in collegiate track and field competition for one simple reason, the Iowa native enjoys teaching and working with young athletes. In his two previous years with the Blue Raiders, Kerr has focused much of his energy on working with sprinters, hurdlers and weights. Kerr also deals with team equipment and helps head coach Dean Hayes with recruiting duties.

Kerr earned his B.S. and M.A. in physical education at the University of Iowa, where he was a three-year star on the track and field team. By the time Kerr graduated from Iowa in 1963, he held school records in the 600 and 660 as well as a share of the indoor and outdoor one-mile relay. Both the 600 and 660 records stood the test of time for more than 20 years.

Upon earning his M.A., Kerr became the head coach

at the University of Evansville for both men's track and field and cross country before moving on to the University of Purdue. In his six years at Purdue, Kerr served as head coach of the men's cross country team while working as an assistant to the men's track and field program. Kerr also earned his Ph.D. in educational administration while at Purdue.

Kerr then had a four-year stint at Illinois State, thanks in part to Dean Hayes. While at Illinois State, Kerr also served as an assistant to the athletic director.

A midwestern boy all his life, Kerr uprooted himself and moved to Tempe, Ariz., where he spent eight years as the head women's track and field coach for the

Arizona State Sun Devils, as well as assistant coach for the men's program. While in the

"Valley of the Sun," Kerr's teams accumulated five national placings, two conference titles, 12 individual Olympians, two gold medalists and one Olympic silver medalist.

At that point, Kerr took his 20 years of coaching experience and 26 years of being involved in track and field at the collegiate level and focused his attention on international competition.

Kerr has worked at both the Summer Olympic Games in Los Angeles (1984) and Atlanta (1996). The 58-year-old has also worked the Winter Olympic Games in Calgary, Alberta, Canada (1988) and Lillehammer, Norway (1994) as well as the Pan-American Games in Indianapolis (1987) and Buenos Aires, Argentina (1995). With his vast experience at the college level, it should come as no surprise that Kerr has worked at the World University Games in Buffalo (1993) and San Francisco (1995).

Kerr's experience includes, but is

not limited to, athletic ticket coordination, athletic transportation arrangements, and athletic coordination for ABC television (USA) and BBC television (UK) for post-event interviews at the Summer Olympic Games in Los Angeles. He also has carried out tasks in the areas of administrative preparation and arrangements and equipment and clothing distribution.

He also has taken part in the United States Olympic Festival in Baton Rouge (1985), Houston (1986) and Colorado Springs (1995). During the time Kerr worked at various international events, he also worked as an independent commodities and financial broker before returning to the love of his life—college track and field.

## KERR AT A GLANCE

### Personal

Birthdate: 11-2-41  
Hometown: Wapello, Iowa  
Family: Sons, Michael, Richard, and James

### Education

High School: Wapello (IA) High School  
College: Iowa (1963), B.S. & M.A.; Purdue, Ph.D.

### Head Coach Experience (College)

Arizona State: 1977 - 85 (Women's track & field/XC)  
Illinois State: 1973 - 77 (Men's track & field/XC)  
*Note: during this time Kerr also served as assistant to the Illinois State University athletic director*  
Purdue: 1967 - 73 (Men's XC)  
Evansville: 1965 - 67 (Men's track & field/XC)

### Assistant Coach Experience (College)

Middle Tennessee: 1997 - present  
Arizona State: 1977 - 79 (Men's track & field/XC)  
Purdue: 1967 - 73 (Men's track & field)  
Evansville: 1965 - 67 (Men's basketball)

### Assistant Coach Experience (World)

Olympic Games: 1996 (Atlanta, Georgia)  
Pan-American Games: 1995 (Buenos Aires, Argentina)  
US Olympic Festival: 1995 (Colorado Springs, CO)  
World University Games: 1995 (San Francisco, Calif.)  
Winter Olympic Games: 1994 (Lillehammer, Norway)  
World University Games: 1993 (Buffalo, New York)  
Winter Olympic Games: 1988 (Calgary, AL, Canada)  
Pan-American Games: 1987 (Indianapolis, Indiana)  
US Olympic Festival: 1986 (Houston, Texas)  
US Olympic Festival: 1985 (Baton Rouge, Louisiana)  
Olympic Games: 1984 (Los Angeles, California)

### Honors

University of Iowa Hall of Fame: 1986  
Finkbine Leadership Award: 1963  
Held records for both the 600 and 660 at the University of Iowa for over 20 years



Thomas Keith has been a valuable member of Dean Hayes' track and field coaching staff since 1976.

Known for his positive attitude and uncanny patience, Keith is considered among the nation's top coaches in terms of dealing with athletes.

Exceedingly versatile, Keith is able to run practices, coach events, handle equipment, as well as work with athletes in a professional manner.

Keith transferred to Middle Tennessee in the fall of 1976 and immediately went to work as team manager. He has been with the program ever since.

The Tullahoma, Tenn., native currently teaches at Mitchell Neilson Elementary School in Murfreesboro.

Keith, who is single and resides in Murfreesboro, has a daughter, Desiree.

His extensive history with Dean Hayes and the Middle Tennessee track and field program makes him an extremely valuable cog in the machinery of the Blue Raider success.



# TEAM ROSTERS

## LADY RAIDERS

NAME	EVENT(S)	HT.	WT.	CL.	DOB	HOMETOWN
Naomi Ansah	400 M	5-4	125	Sr.	11/13/78	Accra, Ghana
Tori Blander	Hurdles/Javelin	5-2	135	Sr.	8/6/80	Pontiac, MI
LaToya Brown	High Jump	5-8	130	So.	4/17/81	Memphis, TN
Jameka Collins	Sprints/Jumps	5-6	120	Sr.	3/31/80	Virginia Beach, VA
Kiki Deckard	Jumps	5-9	155	Fr.	11/13/81	Nacogdoches, TX
Letitia Eady	Jumps	5-5	117	So.	4/22/82	Orlando, FL
Amanda Forrester	Jumps	5-8	128	Jr.	12/13/80	LaFollette, TN
Kim Freeman	Sprints/Jumps	5-7	140	Jr.	8/19/80	Mobile, AL
Kishara George	400 M	5-5	117	Fr.	9/22/83	St. David, Grenada
Fran Goodwin	Multi	5-7	120	So.	7/18/79	Nashville, TN
Lanora Gray	400 M	5-9	130	Fr.	7/2/83	Clarksville, TN
Bromeka Holmes	Sprints	5-7	130	Jr.	1/7/80	Arlington, TX
Jennifer Howard	Pole Vault	5-5	130	Fr.	8/13/83	Oak Ridge, TN
Rolando Howard	Hurdles/Jumps	5-3	120	Fr.	4/6/83	Elkridge, MD
Nicolette Jarrett	Sprints/Jumps	5-11	150	Fr.	3/24/81	Grand Rapids, MI
Lashon Kennedy	400 M	5-8	139	Sr.	9/21/80	Evanston, IL
Dara McLean	Javelin	6-1	150	Fr.	8/6/83	Belmont, Manitoba
Margaret Mungora	Distance	5-0	100	So.	2/17/79	Nairobi, Kenya
Rosemary Okafor	Sprints	5-9	135	Fr.	5/22/81	Lagos, Nigeria
Coleen Parker	800 M	5-9	139	Sr.	9/2/79	Baltimore, MD
Stephany Reid	Jumps	6-2	170	Jr.	4/13/80	Riverview, N. Brunswick
Kelley Smith	Hurdles/Javelin	5-3	135	Sr.	8/21/79	Chattanooga, TN
Tedra Watkins	Sprints	5-3	123	Fr.	2/7/83	Brownsville, TN



Senior Jameka Collins

## BLUE RAIDERS

NAME	EVENT(S)	HT.	WT.	CL.	DOB	HOMETOWN
Omar Ali	400M-800M	5-9	158	Jr.	5/12/80	Stockbridge, GA
Josh Carroll	Distance	6-5	185	Jr.	11/3/80	Murfreesboro, TN
Travis Clevenger	Hurdles	6-1	178	So.	5/20/81	Lenoir City, TN
Jasper Demps	Hurdles	6-4	190	Sr.	10/22/79	West Palm Beach, FL
Wesley Dupar-Scott	Sprints/Jumps	5-7	140	Fr.	5/21/83	Savannah, GA
Marcus Fritz	Hurdles	6-0	163	Fr.	4/28/83	Chattanooga, TN
Godfrey Herring	Sprints	6-0	150	Sr.	5/18/78	Pontiac, MI
Greg Jones	Jumps	6-0	165	Fr.	8/24/83	Knoxville, TN
Rob Jordan	Jumps	6-0	165	Sr.	7/29/80	Orlando, FL
Edwin Koech	Distance	5-7	124	So.	4/16/79	Kapsabet, Kenya
Chris Koger	Jumps	6-4	175	So.	8/29/80	Lavergne, TN
John Kosgei	Distance	5-6	146	So.	8/26/79	Kapsabet, Kenya
Geoffrey Lagat	Distance	6-0	140	Jr.	1/1/80	Kapsabet, Kenya
Matthew McFarland	Jumps	6-1	165	Fr.	9/13/82	Trenton, GA
Clarence McFerren	400M	5-5	126	So.	4/13/81	Memphis, TN
Anthony McGary	Distance	6-1	142	So.	12/18/81	Dallas, TX
Victor Okorie	Sprints	6-0	175	Fr.	7/10/81	Lagos, Nigeria
Brad Orr	Hurdles	6-0	174	Jr.	9/16/81	Valdosta, GA
Steve Safstrom	Distance	5-10	130	Fr.	5/22/82	Franklin, TN
Mardy Scales	Sprints	5-9	160	So.	9/10/81	Franklin, TN
Lindsey Sims	Throws	5-10	195	So.	7/28/82	Antioch, TN
DJ Spann	Sprints	6-0	161	Jr.	11/11/80	Augusta, GA
Levi Sybert	Distance	6-0	160	Jr.	7/12/79	Pemberville, OH
Fred Williams	400M	6-2	160	So.	3/20/82	Franklin, TN



Junior Geoffrey Lagat

# 2002 LADY RAIDER PREVIEW

Middle Tennessee's women's track and field team has one thing in mind entering the 2002 season: maintaining the level of excellence that has marked the team's ascension to one of the elite programs in the Sun Belt Conference.

The women's team holds the distinction of being the first team at Middle Tennessee to capture a SBC crown when it was victorious at the 2000 Outdoor Championships. Last year, the Lady Raiders took the top honors at the league's indoor meet.

According to head coach Dean Hayes, it's time for the Lady Raiders to put it all together in one season.

"Our primary goal is to defend our indoor championship, but we want to reclaim the outdoor title, too."

If things go according to plan, Hayes just might get his wish. A strong core of veterans is back for the 2002 season, but he has bolstered the team by bringing in several talented newcomers that should make an immediate impact on the squad. Here is a detailed look at what to expect from Lady Raider track and field this season:

## SPRINTS

Traditionally, the Lady Raiders have been strong in the sprints and 2002 should be no exception. Gone from last year's squad is Willisa Heintz, one of the league's best sprinters, but several athletes are lining up to replace her.

Leading the charge in this department is junior Bromeka Holmes, the team's top returning runner in the 400-meters. Nicolette Jarrett, a returning sophomore who showed great improvement as last season progressed, should find herself among the team's top sprinters this season. Freshman Lanora Gray, the 2000 Tennessee high school state champion in the 400m, also heads the list.

The Lady Raiders should get a big boost from two extremely talented newcomers. Rosemary Okafor, a native of Nigeria, brings a wealth of international experience into the program. Okafor

competed for her home country in the 2000 Olympics in Sydney and should be the team's top threat in the 100 and 200-meters.

Kishara George, a freshman from Grenada, is a versatile sprinter that will especially help the Lady Raiders efforts in the 4x100 and 4x400 relays.

## DISTANCES

Distance races have not always been the specialty of the Lady Raider program, but fortunes could change this season with the addition of two newcomers.

Kenyan Margaret Mungora, a freshman, has the inside track as the team's top runner in both the 3,000 and 5,000-meters. Senior Coleen Parker, who came to Middle Tennessee for graduate studies, will be the team's top competitor in the 800-meters.

## HURDLES

The Lady Raiders were strong in the hurdles a year ago and things seem to have remained on track. Senior Tori Blander won the 2000 intermediate hurdles title at the Sun Belt meet and is hoping to improve even more this season.

Joining Blander are seniors Kelley Smith and Jameka Collins, both of whom are strong threats in the high hurdles. However, sophomore Jerkita McClorin, who was one of the team's top hurdlers a year ago, is sitting out the season for personal reasons, giving the team a bit of a void to have to fill in this area.

## JUMPS

There is no question that the jumps, in particular the horizontal jumps, are the strength of this year's Lady Raider squad. Junior Kim Freeman returns to the team after posting an All-American season in the triple jump. Freeman took home the conference indoor title in the triple jump and went on to be named Most Outstanding Performer in the meet.

However, Freeman is not the team's only threat in the jumps. Sophomore Letitia Eady placed second in the long jump and the triple jump at the SBC indoor meet and will certainly be a factor this year. Stephany Reid, fresh off of two bronze medals at this summer's Canada Games, has been a solid competitor in the Sun

Belt and should continue that role in 2002. Collins should also have a presence in the jumps.

Bolstering the team's depth in the jumps is freshman Kiki Deckard, who also competes for the MT volleyball team. Deckard has shown a great deal of potential in the early going despite having not competed in nearly two years. Freshman Rolanda Howard has also shown potential in the early going for the Lady Raiders.

The high jump should also be a strength for the Lady Raiders this season. Junior Amanda Forrester placed at last year's Sun Belt meet and should pick up where she left off last year. Joining Forrester in the high jump are sophomore LaToya Brown and newcomer Fran Goodwin.

There is one answer to a trivia question with this year's squad. Who is the first-ever women's pole vaulter at Middle Tennessee? Freshman Jennifer Howard is the answer and the native of Oak Ridge has already shown potential. In the team's only pre-holiday meet, Howard eclipsed the 10-foot mark, setting a personal best in her first competition at the collegiate level.

## THROWS/MULTI-EVENTS

The Lady Raiders feature a mix of veterans and newcomers in these events. Smith and Blander each made noise at the Sun Belt meet in the javelin and both should continue on that path this season. Newcomer and javelin thrower Dara McLean, also a member of the volleyball team, should give the Lady Raiders a competitive force in the shot put.

Smith placed third in last year's SBC Heptathlon and should maintain her status as one of the league's best in this event. Joining Smith in the multi-events will be Goodwin and Brown.

## FINAL WORD

The Lady Raiders have already cemented themselves as the Sun Belt's top team. Now the team can begin to put its grip on a dynasty label with an excellent showing in this year's league competition.

Hayes concluded, "We gear everything that we do to get us ready for the Sun Belt and for the NCAA. If we can avoid injuries, we will be very competitive this year. I believe that we have some real horses on this team that can carry us a long way. If we get the performances out of our newcomers that we are expecting, we should be really tough."



Bromeka Holmes



Amanda Forrester

# LADYRAIDERBIOS

## NAOMI ANSAH



5-4, 125, Sr.  
Accra, Ghana  
St. Mary's Secondary  
School  
PR: 54.20 (400)

**Inside Story:** Has only an outdoor season of eligibility remaining ... has a lot of potential ... can be very tough ... has run in 54's in 400 and 53's in relays.

**High School:** Named All-Region and Athlete of the Year at St. Mary's ... also participated in volleyball and field hockey ... set 400m record of 56.30.

**Personal:** Daughter of Daniel and Emelia Ansah ... born 11/13/78 ... majoring in physical education ... enjoys movies, reading and swimming ... hopes to further her education in graduate school in community and public health.

## TORI BLANDER



5-2, 135, Sr.  
Pontiac, MI  
Pontiac Northern HS  
PR: 59.78 (400H)

**Inside Story:** Strong in the hurdles ... one of the top competitors in the Sun Belt ... loves to compete ... also a relay team member.

**2000-01:** Placed second in the 400-meter hurdles at the Southern Mississippi Invitational ... finished fourth in the SBC Outdoor Championships in the 400-meter intermediate hurdles.

**1999-00:** Placed fifth in the 55-meter hurdles at the MT Winter Invitational ... won the 400-meter hurdles at the All-Sport Classic ... won the 400-meter hurdles at the OVC Outdoor Championships ... also won the 400-meter hurdles at the Sun Belt Outdoor Championships ... became first athlete in NCAA history to win individual titles in two different conferences in the same year.

**1998-99:** Won the intermediate hurdles at the OVC Outdoor Championships ... placed third in the 400-meter hurdles at the Spec Towns Invitational.

**High School:** A two-time state champion in the

300-meter hurdles ... an All-State performer ... ran 24.9 in the 200-meter dash and 42.9 in the 300-meter hurdles ... also played basketball and volleyball.

**Personal:** Daughter of Charles and Roberta Blander ... born 8/6/80 ... named to *Who's Who Among American High School Students* ... majoring in computer information systems.

## LATOYA BROWN



5-8, 130, So.  
Memphis, TN  
Wooddale HS  
PR: 5-3 (HJ)

**Inside Story:** Good all-around athletic ability, which will most likely translate into multi-events in spring ... also plays on the Lady Raider volleyball team.

**2000-01:** Year's best finish was fifth place at the Bulldog Invitational ... jumped 5-3 at SBC Indoor Championships.

**High School:** Was the regional champion in the pentathlon as a sophomore ... went to the state meet in the high jump and triple jump as a senior ... also played volleyball and basketball.

**Personal:** Daughter of Michael Brown and Donna Brown ... born 4/17/81 ... hopes to become an air traffic controller ... majoring in aerospace administration.

## JAMEKA COLLINS



5-6, 120, Sr.  
Virginia Beach, VA  
Hampton Univ.  
PR: 19-3 (LJ)/  
41-1 (TJ)/  
14.58 (100H)/  
1:02.45 (400H)

**Inside Story:** One of the team's top returning jumpers ... also a strong competitor in the sprints and hurdles ... possesses versatility that makes her valuable in several events.

**2000-01:** Showed consistency in the jumps ... placed fifth in the 100-meter low hurdles at the SBC Outdoor Championships ... was among the team's best in the long jump and triple jump

in both the indoor and outdoor seasons.

**1999-00:** Took second in the triple jump and fourth in the long jump at the MT Indoor Invitational ... also placed fourth in the 400-meters ... placed third in the long jump and triple jump at the OVC Outdoor Championships ... member of school record-setting 4x400 relay team.

**High School:** Ran first leg of 4x100 relay that finished third in the state at Salem High School ... placed second in the state and fourth in the nationals in the triple jump.

**Personal:** Daughter of James and Gloria Collins ... born 3/31/80 ... majoring in fashion merchandising ... hopes to work as a fashion buyer.

## KIKI DECKARD



5-9, 155, Fr.  
Nacogdoches, TX  
Nacogdoches HS  
PR: 19-8 (LJ)/  
40-6 (TJ)

**Inside Story:** Gifted athlete who adds depth in the jumps and is very athletic ... great leaping ability will carry over to long jump and triple jump ... made national list in both events in high school.

**Middle Tennessee:** Played volleyball during fall, earning Sun Belt Freshman of the Year honors ... also named conference Player of the Week for October 22 and broke the school record for kills in a match with 36 against Arkansas State.

**High School:** Holds school records in long jump (19-8), 200m (24.85) and 400m (57.12) ... named Junior All-American in the triple jump, holding high school record at 40-6 ... also three-year letterwinner in volleyball, earning First Team All-District and Team MVP honors twice.

**Personal:** Born 11/13/81 ... daughter of Sherbert Deckard and granddaughter of Curtis Deckard ... majoring in social work.

# LADYRAIDERBIOS

## LETITIA EADY



5-5, 117, So.  
Orlando, FL  
Cypress Creek HS  
PR: 19-4.25 (LJ)/  
41-6.75 (TJ)

**Inside Story:** A strong young jumper for the Lady Raiders ... could

become a force in the Sun Belt with continued improvement.

**2000-01:** Placed third in the triple jump at the MT Invitational ... took third in the long jump at the MT Invitational with a distance of 18-11.25 ... grabbed a second place long jump finish at the Sun Belt Indoor Championships with a leap of 19-4.25 ... took third in the Southern Miss Invitational in the long jump.

**High School:** Was her team's MVP for four consecutive years at Cypress Creek High School ... a state champion in the long jump ... had the second-longest jump in the history of the Florida state meet ... possesses conference records in both the long jump and triple jump ... also lettered in cross country and soccer along with track.

**Personal:** Daughter of Donald Eady and Martha Eady ... born 4/22/82 ... undecided on a major ... enjoys shopping and working out.

## AMANDA FORRESTER



5-8, 128, Jr.  
LaFollette, TN  
Campbell Co. HS  
PR: 5-8 (HJ)

**Inside Story:** Has been consistent in the high jump ... gives the team an opportunity for

points.

**2000-01:** Took the high jump crown at the MT February Invitational ... finished second at the MT Invitational ... also finished second at the MT Valentine Invitational ... took seventh place at the Southern Mississippi Invitational ... finished eighth at the Sun Belt Outdoor Championships.

**1999-00:** Finished second at the MT Valentine Invitational ... placed sixth in the OVC Indoor Championships with a jump of 5-3.75 ... was

ninth at the OVC Outdoor Championships ... came in seventh at the Sun Belt Outdoor Championships.

**High School:** Two-time state high jump champion ... two-time winner of the Clinch Valley Invitational Girls Field MVP award ... won the Knoxville News-Sentinel Relays high jump twice ... holds the Campbell County High School High Jump record with a leap of 5-8 ... jumped 17-8.75 in the long jump and 35-0 in the triple jump for coach Bill Higginbotham.

**Personal:** Daughter of Danny Forrester and Scott and Sharon Bowman ... born 12/13/80.

## KIM FREEMAN



5-7, 140, Jr.  
Mobile, AL  
Williamson HS  
PR: 19-11 (LJ)/  
42-4.25 (TJ)

**Inside Story:** One of the team's top returning jumpers ... also a

strong competitor in the sprints ... possesses versatility that allows her to jump and run the relays.

**2000-01:** Named first team All-SBC in the indoor season ... was a member of the SBC All-Sportsmanship team ... earned All-American status in the triple jump by placing 11th at the NCAA Indoor Championships ... set a new SBC indoor record in the triple jump with a leap of 42-4.25 and was third in the long jump (19-2.25) ... named Outstanding Meet Performer at the SBC Indoor Championships ... placed second at the MT Indoor Invitational in the long jump (18-10.75) ... won the long jump (18-5) and the triple jump (39-0.25) at the Arkansas State Indoor Invitational ... took first place in the triple jump at the Indiana Indoor Invitational ... finished second at the MT Indoor Invitational in the triple jump (41-7.25) ... was second in the triple jump (41-9.25) at the SBC Outdoor Championships while placing third in the long jump.

**1999-00:** Won the indoor long jump at the Valentine Invitational at MT with a jump of 18-10.75 ... placed third at the Indoor Winter Time Invitational at MT in the long jump with a mark of 18-7.75 ... took third at the Indoor OVC Championships in the triple jump with a mark of 40-4.75 and was second in the long jump (19-0) ... was fifth at the Outdoor OVC Championships in the

long jump with a mark of 18-10 ... became the first athlete to capture an individual title for MT in the Sun Belt Conference by winning the long jump.

**High School:** Named All-County and All-Metro at Williamson High School ... turned in a distance of 39-2 in the triple jump ... state champion in long and triple jump, as well as 400m and 4x100m relay ... also played volleyball and basketball.

**Personal:** Born 8/19/80 ... daughter of Leon Freeman ... majoring in athletic training ... cousin Lauretta Freeman was an All-American basketball player at Auburn and played in the ABL.

## KISHARA GEORGE



5-5, 117, Fr.  
St. David, Grenada  
St. David Catholic  
PR: 54.0 (400)

**Inside Story:** Talented with the ability to run full-range of sprints and can therefore really

help on relay teams.

**High School:** Named Most Outstanding Prep three straight years ... also voted Sports Woman of the Year and Most Outstanding Student-Athlete ... personal best times include 54.0 in 400m and 11.7 in 100m.

**Personal:** Born 9/22/83 ... daughter of Terrance and Anthea George ... enjoys running and going to church.

## LANORA GRAY



5-9, 130, Fr.  
Clarksville, TN  
Kenwood HS  
PR: 55.68 (400)

**Inside Story:** Should provide help on the relays ... is competitive and mentally tough ...

could especially be a help on the 4x400 relay.

**High School:** State champion in 400-meters ... placed sixth in the nationals ... named All-State and All-Region ... named team MVP ... ran personal best in the 400-meters at 55.68 and in the 200-meters at 24.69 ... also competed in the

# LADYRAIDERBIOS

4x400 and the 4x200 relays ... a three-year track letterwinner at Kenwood High School.

**Personal:** Daughter of Lynn and Catherine Gray ... born 7/2/83 ... planning to major in nursing ... hopes to attend graduate school in nursing ... has set a goal of competing in the Olympics in 2004.

## BROMEKAHOLMES



5-7, 130, Jr.  
Arlington, TX  
Kansas State  
PR: 24.06 (200)/  
53.59 (400)

**Inside Story:** One of the team's top returning sprinters ... a mentally tough competitor ... can be counted on to score several points in meets.

... can be counted on to score several points in meets.

**2000-01:** Placed second at the MT Indoor Invitational in the 200 meters (25.10) ... was fourth at the Sun Belt Conference Indoor Championships in the 400 meters (56.36) ... named first team All-SBC for the outdoor season ... owned the Sun Belt's third best time in the outdoor 400 meters (54.45) ... was second at the SBC Outdoor Championships in the 400 meters (53.59) ... tied for 16th overall at the SBC Championships for most points scored (12) among female athletes ... a member of the 4X100 relay team which won the SBC title (44.99) and was a member of the 4X400 relay team that placed third.

**Kansas State:** Transferred to Middle Tennessee from Kansas State ... was a member of the sprint medley team that won the Drake Relays ... led the Wildcats in the 200 and 400 meters.

**High School:** Was a member of the state championship 4x100 relay team at Sam Houston High School as a sophomore ... state runner up in the 4x200 for two years ... elected to the Arlington Hall of Fame in 1998 ... named Female Athlete of the Year as a senior ... also lettered in basketball.

**Personal:** Born 1/7/80 ... daughter of Vonwitta and Herbert Fulson ... majoring in sociology ... hopes to run in the 2004 Olympic Trials.

## JENNIFERHOWARD



5-5, 130, Fr.  
Oak Ridge, TN  
Oak Ridge HS  
PR: 9-11.75 (PV)

**Inside Story:** Has the potential to add points in an event that has rarely been utilized at

Middle Tennessee.

**High School:** Recorded a height of 9-11.75 in the pole vault ... also competed in cross country, swimming, and crew at Oak Ridge High School ... also served as honor society treasurer and was a member of the class advisory board for three years.

**Personal:** Daughter of Steve and Terry Howard ... born 8/13/83 ... plans to become an elementary school teacher upon graduation ... enjoys sports and singing.

## ROLANDAHOWARD



5-3, 120, Fr.  
Elkridge, MD  
Long Reach HS  
PR: 19-0 (LJ)/  
38-10 (TJ)

**Inside Story:** Very competitive in long jump and triple jump ... can

also hurdle ... being in with all the other jumpers should help her.

**High School:** Named Indoor Athlete of the Year as a senior for coach Joe Thomas at Long Reach HS in Columbia, Md. ... Four-time Outdoor All-County and three-time Indoor All-County ... All-Metro as a junior and a senior ... Four-time state champion in the long jump and two-time state winner in triple jump ... Tied the county record in 55m hurdles with time of 8.40 ... Personal-bests include 19-0 in long jump and 38-10 in triple jump.

**Personal:** Daughter of Roland, Jr., and Terry Howard ... born 4/6/83 ... undecided on a major.

## NICOLETTEJARRETT



5-11, 150, So.  
Inkster, MI  
John Glenn HS  
PR: 24.24 (200)/  
55.12 (400)

**Inside Story:** Made tremendous improvement in her first year of

college track in both the 400 and 200 meters, bringing both times down significantly.

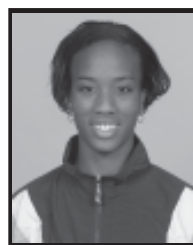
**2000-01:** Ran 55.12 in 400 meters and 24.24 in 200 meters at Sun Belt Outdoor Championships.

**1999-00:** Took a redshirt year.

**High School:** Was the team MVP as a senior at John Glenn High School ... was named All-Area in the long jump, 200-meters, and 400-meters ... ran 24.8 in the 200 and 49.1 in the 4x400 relay ... holds school record in 200 and 4x200 relay ... placed in four events - long jump, 400m, 4x200 and 4x400 relay, all four years ... also participated in cross country ... member of National Honor Society and Student Council.

**Personal:** Born 3/24/81 ... daughter of David and Valerie Jarrett ... majoring in political science/pre-law ... enjoys writing poetry, acting, and reading.

## LASHONKENNEDY



5-8, 139, Sr.  
Evanston, IL  
Township HS  
PR: 56.6 (400)

**Inside Story:** Changed from jumps to 400 meters in her senior year.

**2000-01:** Was second in the long jump at the ASU Indoor Invitational (17-7.5) and came up with another second place showing at the ASU Outdoor meet in the long jump (17-8).

**1999-00:** Finished third at the MT Indoor Christmas Meet in the long jump (18-5).

**1998-99:** Did not compete.

**High School:** Ran 56.6 in the 400-meters ... jumped 18-9 in the long jump and 38-5 in the

# LADYRAIDERBIOS

triple jump at Evanston Township High School.

**Personal:** Born 9/21/79 ... daughter of Charlene Kennedy ... hopes to work in the recreation field ... majoring in therapeutic recreation.

## DARAMCLEAN



6-1, 150, Fr.  
Belmont, Manitoba  
Glenboro HS  
PR: 130-1 (JV)

**Inside Story:** Versatile athlete who also excels on the Lady Raider volleyball team

... has good credentials in the javelin and will help outdoors ... should score well in the Sun Belt.

**High School:** Named Manitoba province High School Athlete of the Year as a senior ... placed first in javelin in provincial championships as a senior ... took second in event as a sophomore and third as a junior ... won shot put in provincial championships as a junior and second as a sophomore ... participated in Canada Games in summer of 2001 ... Student Council Vice President ... named team MVP in track, basketball and volleyball ... provincial all-star in basketball and volleyball.

**Personal:** Daughter of Don and Dianne McLean ... born 8/6/83 ... enjoys reading and water skiing.

## ROSEMARYOKAFOR



5-9, 135, Fr.  
Lagos, Nigeria  
Isolo School  
PR: 23.2 (200)/  
51.3 (400)

**Inside Story:** Ran in 2000 Sydney Olympics for Nigeria and is very

competitive in relays.

**Personal:** Born 5/22/81 ... daughter of Daniel and Joesphine Okafor ... competed for Nigerian national team in 2000 Olympics in 4x400-meter relay ... personal best times include 11.3 in 100m, 23.2 in 200m and 51.3 in 400m.

## COLEENPARKER



5-9, 139, Sr.  
Baltimore, MD  
Maryland-Eastern  
Shore  
PR: 2:11.68 (800)

**Inside Story:** Should give MT a presence in an event in which the

team had no entry last season ... could also be a factor in the mile relay.

**Maryland-Eastern Shore:** Holds the 800-meter record at Maryland-Eastern Shore ... posted a time of 2:11.68 in the 800-meters ... a two-time member of the Dean's List.

**High School:** Ran the 800-meters and triple jumped at Howard High School in Baltimore ... ran 2:16 in the 800-meters ... jumped 38-11 in triple jump ... named All-State and All-Region ... participated in indoor and outdoor track.

**Personal:** Daughter of Elroy and Valerie Parker ... born 9/2/79 ... is currently pursuing a graduate degree in recreation ... holds a BS in Rehabilitation Services from Maryland-Eastern Shore.

## STEPHANYREID



6-2, 170, Jr.  
Riverview, New  
Brunswick, Canada  
Nebraska  
PR: 19-10 (LJ)/  
41-10 (TJ)

**Inside Story:** A solid performer in the jumps

... a fierce competitor ... one of the league's top jumpers.

**2000-01:** At the 2001 Canada Games, Reid won a bronze medal in the triple and long jump ... was third in the triple jump (40-0.75) and fifth in the long jump at the SBC Indoor Championships (18-8.5) ... finished third in the triple jump (41-2.25) and eighth in the long jump (18-9) at the SBC Outdoor Championships.

**1999-00:** At the MT Indoor Invitational she finished second in the long jump (18-6.25) and was third in the triple jump (37-11) ... placed fourth at the Wintertime Indoor Invitational in the long jump with a leap of 18-0.75 ... was sixth at the OVC Outdoor Championships in the triple

jump (39-9.75).

**High School:** Three-time track MVP at Riverview High School ... twice named Female Athlete of the Year ... was a provincial record-holder in the 100, 200, long jump, and triple jump ... Canadian Junior National Record Holder in the triple jump (12.75 m) ... also participated in volleyball, badminton, and cross-country.

**Personal:** Born 4/13/80 ... daughter of Neil and Marguerite Reid ... enjoys playing all sports.

## KELLEYSMITH



5-3, 135, Sr.  
Chattanooga, TN  
Tyner HS  
PR: 14.50 (100H)

**Inside Story:** All-around athletic ability makes her competitive in the multi-events and

has really improved in the hurdles this season.

**2000-01:** Placed seventh in the 55-meter hurdles (8.57) at the Sun Belt Conference Indoor Championships ... was fifth in the javelin throw (123-5) at the SBC Outdoor Championships ... voted All-SBC for the outdoor season.

**1999-00:** Finished first in the 55-meter hurdles and second in the long jump at the Arkansas State Indoor Track Classic ... best indoor finish was second place in the 55 meters at the Blue Raider Invitational ... was fourth in the 55 meter-hurdles at the OVC Indoor Championships (8.09) ... was third in the 100-meter hurdles at the OVC Outdoor Championships (14.50) ... set a new school record at the Sun Belt Outdoor Championships in the javelin with a distance of 127-3 ... also was the first Lady Raider to compete in the pentathlon ... won the javelin throw at the 2000 OVC Outdoor Championships (125-11).

**1998-99:** Took a redshirt year.

**High School:** Ran track at Tyner High School ... also participated in basketball and volleyball.

**Personal:** Born 8/21/79 ... daughter of Ralph Smith, Sr., and the late Vivian Smith ... majoring in physical education.

# LADYRAIDERRECORDS

## Lady Raider Indoor Records

EVENT	RECORD HOLDER	RECORD	YEAR
LONG JUMP	Dionne Rose	20-8 1/4	1994
TRIPLE JUMP	Andreja Ribac	43-7 1/4	2000
HIGH JUMP	Veronica Tipton	5-8	1991
	Mia Florence	5-8	1995
SHOT PUT	Shelly Johnson	48-7 1/4	1996
55 METER DASH	Dionne Rose	:06.89	1994
200 METERS DASH	Nadia Graham	:23.54	1996
400 METER DASH	Nadia Graham	:55.56	1996
800 METER RUN	Leigh Weathers	2:14.97	1990
ONE MILE RUN	Dianne DeOliveira	5:01.73	1991
3000 METER RUN	Kiya Thomas	10:21.57	1990
5000 METER RUN	Lea White	18:46.26	1992
55 METER HURDLES	Dionne Rose	:07.59	1994
ONE MILE RELAY	Hall, Parrish, Phillips, Graham	3:42.78	1996
DISTANCE MEDLEY RELAY	Barnes, McGill, Smith, DeOliveira	12:22.45	1992

## Lady Raider Outdoor Records

EVENT	RECORD HOLDER	RECORD	YEAR
LONG JUMP	Dionne Rose	21-9	1994
TRIPLE JUMP	Andreja Ribac	43-7 1/2	2000
HIGH JUMP	Veronica Tipton	5-10 1/2	1992
SHOT PUT	Rhonda Hall	47-0 1/2	1995
DISCUS	Shelly Johnson	168-5	1995
JAVELIN	Kelley Smith	127-3	2000
100 METERS	Natalie Douglas	:11.34	1994
200 METERS	Willisa Heintz	:23.35	2001
400 METERS	Nadia Graham	:53.30	1996
800 METERS	Leigh Weathers	2:13.15	1991
1500 METERS	Dianne DeOliveira	4:35.09	1991
3000 METERS	Sharon Smith	10:21.74	1989
5000 METERS	Joan Becker	18:01.70	1986
10000 METERS	Lea White	37:38.5	1992
100 METER HURDLES	Dionne Rose	:13.14	1994
400 METER HURDLES	Tori Blander	:59.78	2000
4 X 100 METER RELAY	Douglas, Rose, Brown, Watson	:44.87	1994
4 X 200 METER RELAY	Holmes, Jarrett, Heintz, Ansah	1:35.87	2001
4 X 400 METER RELAY	Hall, Parrish, Phillips, Graham	3:42.25	1996
4 X 800 METER RELAY	Smith, Barnes, DeOliveira, Weathers	9:06.63	1992
4 X 1500 METER RELAY	Barnes, Smith, DeOliveira, Thomas	19:57.23	1991
SPRINT MEDLEY RELAY	Ralls, Phillips, Hall, Graham	1:44.83	1995
DISTANCE MEDLEY RELAY	Barnes, McGill, Smith, DeOliveira	12:07.74	1991
SHUTTLE HURDLE RELAY	Dean, Williams, McGill, Rose	:58.53	1994



Andreja Ribac jumped 43-7 1/2 in 2000 to set the triple jump mark.



Senior Tori Blander set the 400m hurdles record at Middle Tennessee in 2000.

### NCAA Champion

**Dionne Rose**  
1994 NCAA High Hurdle Champion

### Other Honors

**Nadia Graham**  
1996 OVC Female Athlete of the Year  
**Dionne Rose**  
1994 OVC Track Woman of the Year

## LADYRAIDERHONORROLL

Event	Name	Record	Year	Event	Name	Record	Year
Long Jump	1. Dionne Rose	21-9	1994	400 Meters	1. Nadia Graham	:53.30	1996
	2. Jacqui Brown	21-3 1/4	1994		2. Bromeka Holmes	:53.59	2001
	3. Michelle Welch	20-5	1990		3. Naomi Ansah	:54.22	2000
	4. Sherrie Bingham	20-2	1987		4. Nicolette Jarrett	:55.12	2001
	5. Ursula Langford	20-1 1/4	1988		5. Melanie Hall	:55.37	1995
Triple Jump	1. Andreja Ribac	43-7 1/2	2000	800 Meters	1. Kapreia Kirk	2:11.64	2000
	2. Jacqui Brown	43-1	1994		2. Leigh Weathers	2:13.15	1991
	3. Kim Freeman	42-4.25	2001		3. Sabrina Smith	2:13.90	2000
	4. Jameka Collins	41-1	2000		4. Elissa Davis	2:15.67	1990
	5. Stephany Reid	41-2 1/4	2001		5. Dianne DeOliveira	2:16.66	1991
High Jump	1. Veronica Tipton	5-10 1/2	1992	1,500 Meters	1. Dianne DeOliveira	4:35.09	1991
	2. Ursula Langford	5-8 1/2	1989		2. Sharon Smith	4:43.11	1990
	3. Mia Florence	5-8	1994		3. Karen Barnes	4:44.90	1992
	4. Krista Hare	5-6 1/2	1989		4. Kiya Thomas	4:50.33	1991
	5. Koko Rowley	5-6	1992		5. Sharon Johnson	4:50.94	1981
	Amanda Forrester	5-6	2001	3,000 Meters	1. Kiya Thomas	10:21.57	1990
Shot Put	1. Shelly Johnson	48-7 1/4	1996		2. Sharon Smith	10:21.74	1989
	2. Rhonda Hall	47-0 1/2	1995		3. Karen Barnes	10:22.37	1992
	3. Shauntel Jennings	44-9	1999		4. Dianne DeOliveira	10:29.06	1991
	4. Tina Rumsey	39-8	1994		5. Vicki Wells	10:39.24	1981
	5. Holly Hoover	39-6	1982	5,000 Meters	1. Joan Becker	18:01.72	1986
Discus	1. Shelly Johnson	168-5	1997		2. Lea White	18:27.01	1992
	2. Tina Rumsey	139-6	1993		3. Lisa Mitchell	18:47.68	1982
	3. Rhonda Hall	133-8	1995		4. Robin Moses	18:48.34	1981
	4. Deidre Mitchell	128-6	1987		5. Kiya Thomas	18:53.14	1991
	5. Tracy Edens	126-7	1989	10,000 Meters	1. Lea White	37:38.8	1992
Javelin	1. Tracy Edens	124-6	1989		2. Debbie Morrison	38:33.09	1986
	2. Kelley Smith	123-5	1999		3. Lisa Mitchell	39:46.32	1982
	3. Tori Blander	116-3	2000		4. Robin Moses	40:01.30	1981
	4. Tina Rumsey	114-11	1994		4 X 100-Meter Relay	1. Douglas, Rose, Brown, Watson	:44.87
	5. Angie Venable	109-11	1997	2. Cain, Heintz, Davis, Holmes		:44.99	2001
100-Meter Hurdles	1. Dionne Rose	:13.14	1994	3. Purham, Heintz, Brent, Davis		:45.83	2000
	2. Jerkita McClorin	:13.46	2001	4. Phillips, Douglas, Brown, Watson		:45.84	1994
	3. Sherrie Bingham	:13.90	1987	5. Jackson, Cody, Wells, Welch		:46.28	1991
	4. Latonia Jackson	:14.15	1992	4 X 400-Meter Relay	1. Hall, Parrish, Phillips, Graham	3:42.25	1996
	5. Koko Rowley	:14.16	1992		2. Jarrett, McClorin, Holmes, Ansah	3:43.68	2001
400-Meter Hurdles	1. Tori Blander	:59.78	2000		3. Blander, Kirk, Smith, Ansah	3:45.33	2000
	2. Alicia Moore	1:01.78	2000		4. Hall, Henderson, Phillips, Graham	3:45.56	1995
	3. Saran Dunmore	1:02.07	1996		5. Blander, Jarrett, Ansah, Holmes	3:46.97	2001
	4. Nadrian McGill	1:02.31	1994	Heptathlon	1. Kelley Smith	4,367	2001
	5. Jameka Collins	1:02.45	2001				
100 Meters	1. Natalie Douglas	:11.34	1994				
	2. Willis Heintz	:11.47	2001				
	3. Nadia Graham	:11.67	1995				
	4. Kim Watson	:11.79	1994				
	5. Stacy Aklin	:11.83	1999				
200 Meters	1. Willis Heintz	:23.35	2001				
	2. Nadia Graham	:23.54	1996				
	3. Dionne Rose	:24.02	1994				
	4. Natalie Douglas	:24.14	1994				
	5. Donna Sims	:24.21	1981				

# 2002 BLUE RAIDER PREVIEW

The Blue Raider track and field team has lofty goals and expectations as it heads into the 2002 season.

The Blue Raiders captured both the Sun Belt indoor and outdoor titles last season and produced two All-Americans in the process. This year, the team is hungry to repeat their conference successes. However, it also aspires to put even more athletes into NCAA competition.

"The strength of our team is the sprints, and that also translates into the relays," said Head Coach Dean Hayes. "We want to defend our titles and get even more athletes into the NCAA meets. If everything goes according to plan we should have a good shot at achieving our goals."

Following is a detailed look at the Blue Raider track and field team for the 2002 season:

## SPRINTS

There is no secret that the Blue Raiders' strength lies in these events. It is also no secret that senior All-American Godfrey Herring is the man that leads the charge in this area. Herring was the Sun Belt's Most Outstanding Performer in last year's SBC Outdoor Championships. He is a three-time All-American, placing in the 400-meters in the national meet last year. He is a threat in the 400 and 200 and is the team's anchor in the relays.

However, the sprint corp is not a one-man show. Sophomore Mardy Scales was impressive last season, qualifying for the NCAA Outdoor Championships in both the 100 and 200-meters. Scales provisionally qualified in the 60-meter dash at the team's only meet prior to the holiday break this season.

Junior DJ Spann is another solid sprinter returning for the 2002 season. He is a versatile athlete that can run in several events. Newcomers Brad Orr and Omar Ali, both juniors, will certainly be in the mix in the sprint events during the season as well.

Freshmen Wesley Dupar-



Jasper Demps

Scott and Victor Okorie, a native of Nigeria, have been impressive in the preseason and are likely to make an impact as the season progresses.

The Blue Raiders also seem to have all of the pieces in place to put together an impressive relay team in 2002. Three of the four members of last year's Sun Belt record-setting 4x100 relay team return and hope to improve their standing in the rankings. The 4x200 relays squad took home top honors at the prestigious Texas Relays and were second at the Penn Relays.

The 4x200 relay squad ended the year ranked fourth in the nation according to Track Wire, while the 4x100 team was ranked ninth. The team was disappointed with last season's showing at the NCAA meet, so a bit of unfinished business remains for 2002.

## DISTANCES

When discussing the distance events, one man comes to mind: Geoffrey Lagat. Lagat, a junior from Kapsabet, Kenya, has made an impact on the program since arriving on campus three years ago. Lagat is the defending champion in the 5,000 and 10,000-meters at the Sun Belt Outdoor Championships and is the two-time individual champ at the SBC Cross Country Championships. His status as one of the SBC's elite distance runners should continue to be solidified this season.

The team's depth in the distance races will be much improved this season. Juniors Levi Sybert and Josh Carroll, sophomores Anthony McGary and Steve Safstrom, and freshmen natives of Kenya John Kosgei and Edwin Koech will make the team very tough in the distance events. Carroll and McGary will also be the team's main threat in the steeplechase.

## HURDLES

Senior Jasper Demps, the defending SBC champion, leads the hurdlers into battle this season after posting an All-American season a year ago. Demps placed in the 60-meter high hurdles at the NCAA Indoor Champion-

ships and qualified for the NCAA Outdoor meet in the 110-meter hurdles.

DJ Spann is also a capable competitor in the intermediate hurdles, qualifying for the NCAA meet a year ago.

Newcomers Orr and Okorie will also find a spot in the hurdles during the season.

## JUMPS

The Blue Raiders will have a big lift in the jumps as the 2002 season gets underway, due to the return of senior Rob Jordan. Jordan, who was a member of the junior national team in the long jump and triple jump, is back after undergoing knee surgery last season that kept him out of action during the outdoor season. Jordan qualified for the NCAAs as a freshman and looks to regain that form again for his final campaign.

Sophomore Chris Koger will be a big factor of the team in the vertical jumps this season. Koger is the defending Sun Belt champion in the high jump and gives the Blue Raiders points in a key area.

Triple jumper Greg Jones and long jumper Wesley Dupar-Scott should also score points for the Blue Raiders at the conference meet.

## THROWS

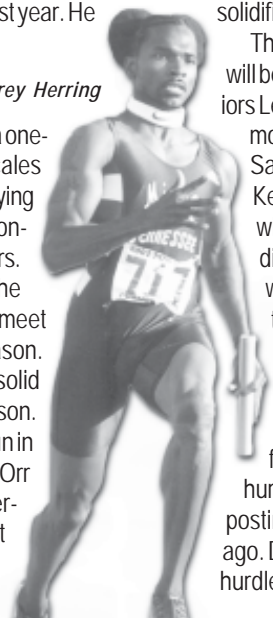
Sophomore Lindsey Sims will be the man to watch in this area. He gives the Blue Raiders points in the javelin and seems to have improved heading into the season.

## FINAL WORD

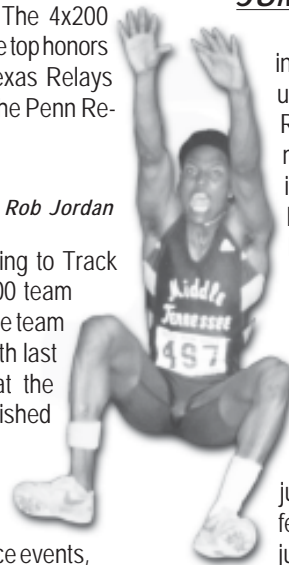
The Blue Raiders will have their work cut out for them in defending the conference championships, but it is a task that the team seems ready to face. Barring injury, the 2002 Blue Raiders could be a special team to watch.

Even their veteran coach seems excited for the prospects that 2002 could bring.

"We have put together a fairly impressive roster, especially in the sprints," said Hayes. "We were hurt last year when Rob Jordan went down, so having him back healthy gives us a boost. We could have one of the fastest 4x100 and 4x200 relay teams in the country this year, so it really could be a fun season. We really want to have a good showing not only in the Sun Belt but also in the NCAA."



Godfrey Herring



Rob Jordan

# BLUERAIDERBIOS

## OMARALI



5-9, 158, Jr.  
Griffin, GA  
Albany State  
PR: 47.6 (400)

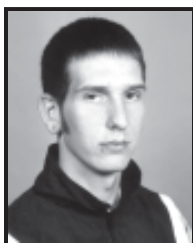
**Inside Story:** Has a competitive fire ... can be a factor in the 800-meters.

**Albany State:** Ran 47.6 in the 400-meters and 21.5 in the 200-meters ... participated in the NCAA meet a year ago.

**High School:** Was named team MVP for three straight years.

**Personal:** Son of Yosuf Ali ... born 5/12/80 ... undecided about a major ... hopes to own a general contracting business upon graduation.

## JOSH CARROLL



6-5, 185, Jr.  
Murfreesboro, TN  
Oakland HS  
PR: 9:44.34 (3000 ST)

**Inside Story:** A valuable part of Middle Tennessee's distance attack ... also a strong

cross country runner.

**2000-01:** Posted season best 8K time of 28:37.41 at Austin Peay Invitational cross country meet ... placed in the top five on the team's best list in the 800-meters, the mile run, the 3,000-meters, and the 5,000 meters during indoor season ... posted the team's best 3,000-meter steeplechase time, a 9:50.55 effort, at the Southern Miss Invitational ... also ended the season in the top five team times for the 1,500-meters and the 3,000 meters during the outdoor season.

**1999-00:** Placed sixth in the mile run at the Middle Tennessee Indoor Invitational ... ran 10:08.28 in the 3,000-meter steeplechase for 10th place at the Sun Belt Outdoor Championships.

**High School:** Ran in the state meet in both 1999 and 1998 ... also ran in the State cross country meet in 1999 ... a two-time member of *Who's Who Among American High School Students*.

**Personal:** Son of Joseph and Susan Carroll ... born 11/3/80 ... hopes to one day coach high school athletics.

## TRAVIS CLEVENGER



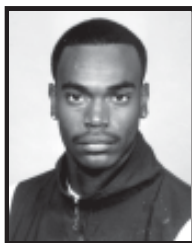
6-1, 178, So.  
Lenoir City, TN  
Lenoir City HS  
PR: 54.30 (400H)

**Inside Story:** Working very hard to prepare himself for the intermediate hurdles.

**High School:** Won the state decathlon championship as a senior at Lenoir City High School for coach Gray Williams ... was a standout athlete in football and basketball ... named All-State as a wide receiver and All-Region in basketball as a senior ... named to *Who's Who Among American High School Students*.

**Personal:** Son of Wayne and Sue Clevenger ... born 5/20/81 ... majoring in finance ... enjoys sports and fitness.

## JASPER DEMPS



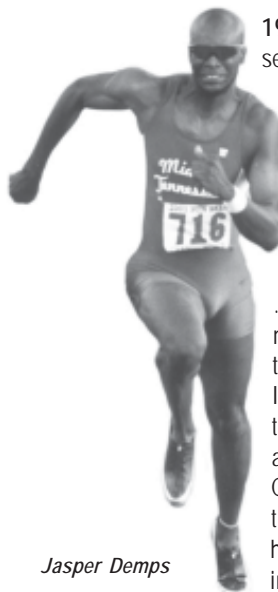
6-4, 190, Jr.  
West Palm Beach, FL  
Troy State  
PR: 13.75 (110H)/  
53.91 (400H)

**Inside Story:** Returning All-American in the indoor 60-meter high

hurdles ... the team's top returning hurdler ... possesses outstanding size and technique.

**2000-01:** Had a huge indoor season with six wins in the 55-meter and 60-meter hurdles ... posted the best times in the Sun Belt in both the 55-meter and 60-meter hurdles ... team best time of 7.24 in the 55-meter hurdles came at the Middle Tennessee Valentine Invitational ... medalist at the Sun Belt Indoor Championships in the 60-meter hurdles ... placed sixth in the NCAA Indoor Championships to earn All-American honors ... ran second at the Southern Miss Outdoor Invitational in the 110-meter high hurdles ... was fifth at the Alabama Relays and second at the Mississippi State Invitational in the 110-meter hurdles ... medalist at the Sun Belt Outdoor Championships in the 110-meter hurdles

... qualified for the NCAA Outdoor Championships, running a personal best 13.75 in the preliminaries.



Jasper Demps

**1999-00:** Placed second in the MT Invitational in the 55-meter hurdles ... won the 60-meter hurdles at the Kentucky Wildcat Invitational ... won the 55-meter hurdles at the MT February Invitational ... captured the top spot at the OVC Indoor Championships in the 55-meter hurdles ... medalist in the 110-meter hurdles at the Sun

Belt Outdoor Championships.

**High School:** Was a seven-time All-Region and five-time All-State selection at Palm Beach Lakes High School ... was ranked seventh in the nation in the 110-meter high hurdles with a time of 13.74 ... school record holder in the 110-meter high hurdles and the 300-meter intermediate hurdles.

**Personal:** Son of Sena Demps ... born 10/22/79 ... majoring in criminal justice ... plans to pursue a career in law enforcement.

## WESLEY DUPAR-SCOTT



5-7, 140, Fr.  
Savannah, GA  
Groves HS  
PR: 48.07 (400)/  
22-7.5 (LJ)

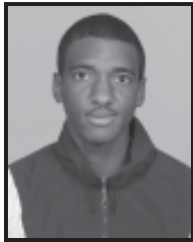
**Inside Story:** Hurt in senior year ... very competitive in 400 meters.

**High School:** Ran 48.07 in the 400 ... posted a long jump distance of 22-7.5 ... also participated in wrestling.

**Personal:** Son of Tami Willis ... born 5/21/83 ... planning to major in athletic training.

# BLUERAIDERBIOS

## MARCUSFRITZ



6-0, 163, Fr.  
Chattanooga, TN  
Brainerd HS  
PR: 39.7 (300H)

**Inside Story:** A walk-on that will provide some depth in the hurdles.

**High School:** Placed third in the state in 300-meter hurdles ... part of a fourth place 4x400 relay team at the state meet ... ran the second leg of the 4x400 relay that finished in 3:21.78 to set a school record at Brainerd HS ... was a three-year letterwinner in track ... also participated in the school band.

**Personal:** Son of Kenneth and Gretchen Fritz ... born 4/28/83 ... named to *Who's Who Among American High School Students* ... majoring in pre-law ... hopes to attend law school upon graduation.

## GODFREYHERRING



6-0, 160, Jr.  
Pontiac, MI  
Pontiac Northern HS  
PR: 20.91 (200)/  
45.35 (400)

**Inside Story:** Should contend for further All-American honors ...

excels in the 400-meters ... is a staple as the anchor leg of Middle Tennessee's sprint relays.

**2000-01:** Earned All-American honors in the Indoor 400-meters ... qualified for the NCAA Outdoor Championships in 400-meters ... was the Sun Belt's Performer of the Week on Jan. 23 ... medalist in the 400-meters at the Sun Belt Indoor Championships ... anchored the 4x100 and 4x200 relay teams that finished ranked ninth and fourth in the country ... smoked the field in the 400-meters at the Arkansas State Indoor Invitational, finishing 2.2 seconds faster than the second-place competitor ... won the 400 at the Indiana Invitational ... doubled up with wins in the 200-meters and the 400-meters at the MT February Invitational ... won the 200-meters at the Southern Miss Outdoor Invitational ... won the 400-meters at the Alabama Relays ... set meet and league records with a time of 45.55 at the Sun Belt Outdoor Championships while

winning the meet's Most Outstanding Performer award.

**1999-00:** Won 400-meters at the OVC Indoor Championships ... captured the 800-meters at the MT Valentine Invitational with a time of 1:54.20 ... won the 400-meters at the MT Winter Invitational ... got a win in the 400-meters and placed third in the 200-meters at the Kentucky Wildcat Classic ... was second in the 800-meters at the MT Invitational ... earned All-American honors in the 400-meters during outdoor season ... battled injuries during the outdoor season, but rallied to place ninth in the 400-meters at the NCAA Championships ... was Sun Belt track performer of the week for April 18 ... won the 400-meters in the Sea Ray Relays with a time of 45.59 ... placed third at the Alabama Relays in the 400-meters ... anchored indoor and outdoor sprint relays.

**1998-99:** Finished second in 800 at the MT Invitational ... paced the field with a time of 46.70 in the 400-meters at the Kentucky Wildcat Invitational ... won the 200-meters at the MT Winter Invitational ... was second in the 400-meters at the IKON Invitational ... claimed the 400 at the OVC Indoor Championships ... ran second in the 400-meters at the Alabama Relays ... was second in the 400-meters at the SPEC Towns Invitational ... won the 400-meters at the Sea Ray Relays with a time of 46.25 ... placed second in the 800-meters at the Jace Lacoste Invitational ... finished second at the OVC Outdoor Championships in the 400-meters.



**High School:** Won three Michigan state titles in the 100-meters, 200-meters, and the 400-meters at Pontiac Northern HS ... named state Athlete of the Year as a junior and a senior ... also voted Gatorade Runner of the Year as a senior ... member of the basketball team.

**Personal:** Born 5/18/78 ... son of John and Janice Herring ... majoring in physical education.

## GREGJONES



6-0, 165, Fr.  
Chattanooga, TN  
Farragut HS  
PR: 46-6.5 (TJ)

**Inside Story:** Was injured a year ago ... could provide some points in the jumps, especially the triple jump.

**High School:** Leaped 46-6.5 in the triple jump and 22-0 in the long jump ... a four-year letterwinner for coach Scott McKenzie at Farragut High School ... named to the All-Region team.

**Personal:** Born 8/24/83 ... hopes to major in one of the sciences ... plans to attend medical school after graduation.

## ROBJORDAN



6-0, 165, Sr.  
Orlando, FL  
Lake Howell HS  
PR: 25-10 (LJ)/  
51-10 (TJ)

**Inside Story:** An All-American candidate ... has been a force in the

jumps throughout his career ... also a capable sprinter with a spot on the relays.

**2000-01:** Missed the entire outdoor season with a knee injury ... won the long jump and the triple jump at the MT Christmas Invitational ... placed second in the MT Winter Invitational in the 400-meters with a time of 49.19 ... placed third in the long jump at the Arkansas State Invitational.

**1999-00:** Named OVC Indoor Track Man of the Year ... won the long jump and the triple jump at the OVC Indoor Championships ... won the 400-meters, the long jump, and the triple jump at the MT Valentine Invitational ... placed second in the long jump at the Kentucky Wildcat Invitational ... won the triple jump and placed second in the long jump at the MT Invitational ... swept the long jump and triple jump at the OVC Outdoor Championships.

**1998-99:** Began his collegiate career by winning the long jump and the triple jump at the MT Indoor Invitational ... pulled the trifecta with wins in the long jump, triple jump, and 400-meters at

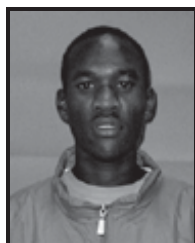
# BLUERAIDERBIOS

the MT Winter Invitational ... won the long jump and the triple jump at the Indiana Invitational ... took the triple jump and placed fourth in the long jump at the Illini Classic ... won the long jump and triple jump while placing third in the 400 and fourth in the 200 at the OVC Indoor Championships ... posted league bests in the long jump and triple jumps for the season ... took the long jump and the triple jump at the SPEC Towns Invitational ... was first in the long jump and second in the triple jump at the Jace Lacoste Invitational ... named OVC Male Athlete of the Year ... qualified for the NCAA Outdoor Championships in the long jump.

**High School:** Was ranked the No. 1 junior in the country in the long jump at 25-8 ... four-year All-Region selection ... holds records at Lake Howell High School in the long jump (24-1), triple jump (48-1), and 400-meters (48.0) ... participated under coach Vince Manna ... also played basketball.

**Personal:** Son of Robert Jordan, Jr. and Carolyn Jordan ... born 7/29/80 ... majoring in recording industry and hopes to start his own recording company.

## EDWINKOECH



5-7, 124, So.  
Kapsabet, Kenya  
Lelmokwo Boys HS  
PR: 1:51.02 (800)/  
3:48.03 (1500)

**Inside Story:** Another member to add to the distance corps who will

hopefully make us a better cross country team next year ... a mid-year addition, which is tough for the athlete ... has good range, running anything from the 800m to 8K ... will likely learn the steeplechase this season.

**High School:** Ran the 800 and 1500m at Lelmokwo Boys HS in Kapsabet, Kenya.

**Personal:** Son of James and Pauline Bunei ... born 4/16/79 ... majoring in business administration.

## CHRISKOGER



6-4, 175, So.  
LaVergne, TN  
LaVergne HS  
PR: 6-10.75 (HJ)

**Inside Story:** A strong competitor in the high jump ... became the first Blue Raider to score in

the high jump in three years as a freshman.

**2000-01:** Placed second in the high jump in his first collegiate meet, the MT Christmas Invitational ... grabbed second again at the Rod McCravy Memorial ... won the high jump at the MT Invitational with a leap of 6-7 ... won the high jump at both the Arkansas State Invitational and the MT February Invitational ... set an indoor personal best at the SBC Indoor Championships, winning the event with a jump of 6-9.75 ... placed third at the high jump at the Alabama Relays ... won the MSU Bulldog Invitational with a jump of 6-6 ... placed second in the SBC Outdoor Championships.

**High School:** Won the state high jump as a senior in 1998 ... was the 1998 National Junior Youth Champion ... set personal-best of 6-7.

**Personal:** Son of Chris and Towana Koger ... Born 8/29/80 ... enjoys running, fishing, bowling and playing basketball.

## JOHNKOSGEI



5-6, 146, So.  
Kapsabet, Kenya  
Naseno University  
PR: 14:20 (5000)

**Inside Story:** A strong distance runner that will add to the Blue Raiders' efforts in that area

... will also participate in cross country next season ... hails from same hometown as current Blue Raider Geoffrey Lagat.

**Club:** Participated in both track and cross country ... ran 14:20 in the 5,000-meters and has logged a time of 24:25 in the 8,000-meters.

**Personal:** Son of Peter and Pauline Keino ... born 8/26/79 ... majoring in business ... hopes to establish a business consultation firm ... aspires to compete at the Olympic level.

## GEOFFREYLAGAT

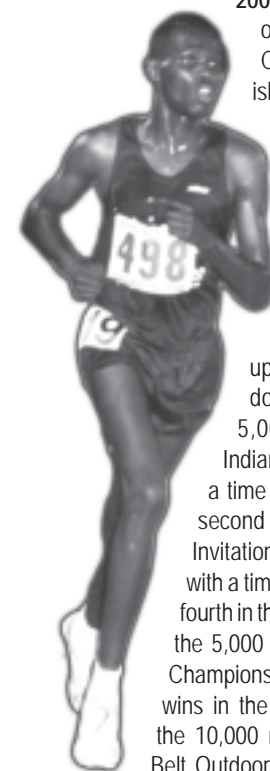


6-0, 140, Jr.  
Kapsabet, Kenya  
Moi Forces Academy  
PR: 14:33.40 (5000)/  
30:52.70 (10000)

**Inside Story:** Has been the leading distance force for the Blue

Raiders since his arrival ... has a knack for excelling in big races ... is a two-time Sun Belt Cross Country Individual Champion ... very competitive.

**2000-01:** Won the first of his two SBC Cross Country titles ... finished second in the



3,000-meters at the MT Christmas Invitational ... placed second in the mile run at the Arkansas State Invitational ... picked up first win of the indoor season in the 5,000-meters at the Indiana Invitational with a time of 14:39.99 ... ran second at the MT Indoor Invitational in the mile run with a time of 4:22.35 ... was fourth in the 3,000 and third in the 5,000 at the SBC Indoor Championships ... put together wins in the 5,000-meters and the 10,000 meters at the Sun Belt Outdoor Championships.

**1999-00:** Was instrumental in the Blue Raiders' victory in their final OVC Indoor Championships with a fifth place finish in the 3,000 and a second place finish in the 5,000 ... placed second in the 3,000-meters in the MT Indoor Invitational ... finished second in the 5,000-meters at the OVC Outdoor Championships.

**Personal:** Son of Grace Jesang ... born 1/1/80 ... also enjoys basketball, table tennis, and lawn tennis ... majoring in marketing ... hopes to attend graduate school upon graduation.

# BLUERAIDERBIOS

## MATTHEW MCFARLAND



6-1, 165, Fr.  
Trenton, GA  
Dade County HS  
PR: 6-6 (HJ)

**Inside Story:** Picked up the drills and techniques rather quickly in the fall ... should provide some help in the high jump.

provide some help in the high jump.

**High School:** Posted a personal best of 6-6 at Dade County HS ... placed second in the state meet ... also lettered in XC and basketball.

**Personal:** Son of Donald and Laura McFarland ... born 9/13/82 ... majoring in recording industry ... hopes to one day open a recording studio.

## CLARENCE MCFERREN



5-5, 126, So.  
Memphis, TN  
Watkins Overton HS  
PR: 54.74 (400)

**Inside Story:** Possesses competitiveness ... will provide depth in the 400-meters.

**High School:** Participated in track, cross country, and tennis ... member of the National Honor Society and *Who's Who Among American High School Students* ... named All-American Scholar.

**Personal:** Son of Clarence McFerren, Sr. and Janet Stevenson ... born 4/13/81 ... pursuing a degree in radio/TV broadcasting ... plans to become an active member of the US Army following his stint in ROTC.

## ANTHONY MCGARY



6-1, 142, So.  
Dallas, TX  
Bryan Adams HS  
PR: 9:46.19 (3000 ST)

**Inside Story:** A strong runner ... improving with experience ... can run in several distance

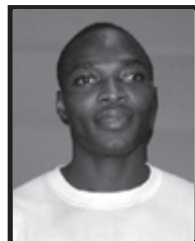
... also a strong competitor in cross country.

**2000-01:** Ran well in the indoor season ... placed second in the mile run at the MT Invitational ... ran fourth in the 3,000-meters at the MT Winter Invitational ... placed third in the 3,000-meters at the MT February Invitational.

**High School:** A three-year district champion in cross country ... also a two-year district champion in the 1,600-meters and the 3,200-meters.

**Personal:** Son of Tony and Margaret McGary ... born 12/18/81 ... majoring in computer information systems ... would like to run track professionally.

## VICTOR OKORIE



6-0, 175, Fr.  
Lagos, Nigeria  
Isolo School  
PR: 20.8 (200)/  
46.4 (400)

**Inside Story:** Great range from 100 meters through intermediate

hurdles ... Nigerian Festival record holder in intermediate hurdles.

**Personal:** Born 7/10/81 ... son of Pius and Marie Okorie ... enjoys swimming ... wants to be a coach and/or manager once he finishes athletic competition ... personal best times include 10.2 in 100m, 20.8 in 200m, 46.4 in 400m and 50.2 in 400 intermediate hurdles ... two-time Nigerian National Sports Festival champion in 1998 and 2000.

## BRAD ORR



6-0, 174, Jr.  
Valdosta, GA  
Albany State  
PR: 14.55 (110H)

**Inside Story:** Ran strong races at Albany State a year ago ... should be competitive

in the hurdles and will fight for a spot in the relays.

**Albany State:** Ran 14.55 in the 110-meter hurdles and 21.6 in the 200m at Albany State ... went to the NCAA meet.

**High School:** Didn't begin running track until his junior year, but went on to set school records in the 110-meter and 300-meter hurdles ... won

the regional meet in the 110-meter high hurdles and the 300-meter intermediate hurdles as a senior ... named team MVP as a senior ... also lettered in cross country.

**Personal:** Son of Harvey and Linda Orr ... born 9/16/81 ... pursuing a degree in computer science ... enjoys working with computers during his spare time.

## STEVE SAFSTROM



5-10, 130, Fr.  
Franklin, TN  
Centennial HS  
PR: 4:30 (Mile)

**Inside Story:** Was a factor during the cross country season ... should help the team in

the distance races.

**High School:** Ran in the state cross country meet during his junior and senior seasons ... went to the state meet in track as a senior ... ran 16:04 for three miles, 9:52 for two miles, and 4:30 in the mile.

**Personal:** Son of Doug Safstrom and Beryl Barnett ... born 5/22/82 ... planning to major in recording industry ... hopes to pursue a career as a studio musician after graduation ... enjoys playing the guitar.

## MARDY SCALES



5-9, 160, So.  
Franklin, TN  
Centennial HS  
PR: 10.25 (100)/  
20.65 (200)

**Inside Story:** Developed quickly as a freshman ... one of the

league's top sprinters ... a big player on the relays ... a full year of training will help him improve even further.

**2000-01:** Struggled a bit during the indoor season with only two top three finishes ... placed second in the 55-meters at the MT February Invitational with a time of 6.44 ... won the 100-meters at the Southern Miss Invitational with a time of 10.52 ... took second in the 100-meters at the Sun Belt Outdoor Championships ... won

# BLUERAIDERBIOS

the 200-meters at the SBC meet with a time of 20.65 ... was SBC Outdoor Track Performer of the Week on March 18 ... qualified for the NCAA Outdoor Championships in the 200-meters.

**High School:** Named All-State and All-Region in track and football at Centennial HS ... won state titles in 100m and 200m as a senior.

**Personal:** Son of Melvin and Gail Scales ... born 9/10/81 ... majoring in computer information systems ... enjoys playing with his dog and riding four wheelers.

## LINDSEYSIMS



5-10, 195, So.  
Antioch, TN  
Ezell Harding HS  
PR: 188-1 (JV)

**Inside Story:** Will help the team in the throws ... provided points in nearly every meet as a

freshman.

**2000-01:** Placed third in the javelin at Southern Miss Invitational with a throw of 168-4 ... threw 169-4 at Arkansas State to place third ... was second at Mississippi State Invitational with a throw of 156-8 ... placed fourth at the Sun Belt Championships with a throw of 188-1.

**High School:** Is the school record holder at Ezell Harding in the discus at 153-7 ... placed third in the state in the discus as a senior ... threw 165 ft. in an AAU meet ... placed fifth in the AAU nationals in the javelin ... was a three-year letterman in football as well as track and field.

**Personal:** Son of Robert and Angela Sims ... born 7/28/82 ... majoring in business administration ... also enjoys fishing and golf.

## DJSPANN

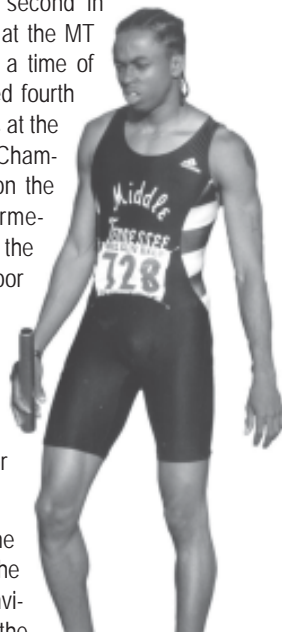


6-0, 161, Jr.  
Augusta, GA  
Hephzibah HS  
PR: 10.58 (100)/  
50.75 (400H)

**Inside Story:** Valuable in sprints and hurdles ... a key member of the

relay teams ... can be counted on to score points in several events.

**2000-01:** Took second in the 200-meters at the MT Invitational with a time of 21.84 ... finished fourth in the 55-meters at the Sun Belt Indoor Championships ... won the 400-meter intermediate hurdles at the Sun Belt Outdoor Championships ... tallied the 10th most points of any competitor at the SBC Outdoor meet.



DJ Spann

**1999-00:** Won the 200-meters at the MT Valentine Invitational ... won the intermediate hurdles at the OVC Outdoor Championships ... finished second in the intermediate hurdles at the Sun Belt Championships.

**High School:** A two-year All-State selection in track ... finished fourth in the AAU Nationals in the 400-meter hurdles in 1998 and followed with a second place finish in 1999 ... ran a best of 52.96 in the 400-meter hurdles ... also jumped 45-9 in the triple jump ... earned the prestigious Sports Award ... also played basketball ... ran for coach Alphonza Griffin at Hephzibah HS.

**Personal:** Born 11/11/80 ... son of Raymon and Linda Spann ... would like to run professionally ... majoring in computer information systems.

## LEVISYBERT



6-0, 160, Jr.  
Pemberville, OH  
Eastwood HS  
PR: 1:57.48 (800)

**Inside Story:** A strong competitor in the distance races ... can run in several distance

events ... also one of the top Blue Raider competitors in cross country.

**2000-01:** Placed sixth in the mile at the Sun Belt Indoor Championships ... placed eighth in the 1,500-meters during the SBC Outdoor Championships ... turned in the second-best mile time

of the season at 4:24.29 ... also ran cross country ... best cross country finish was second in the Austin Peay Invitational in a four mile race.

**High School:** Earned letters in cross country and track and field in each of his four years at Eastwood High School ... was a four-time All-League performer in cross country ... was a six-time All-League selection in track ... qualified for the state meet ... posted a 5K time of 16:45 and ran the 800-meters in 1:58.6.

**Personal:** Born 7/12/79 ... son of Tim and Ginger Sybert ... majoring in Technology Education ... hopes to become a teacher and track and field coach after graduation.

## FREDWILLIAMS



6-2, 160, So.  
Franklin, TN  
Centennial HS  
PR: 48.11 (400)/  
53.67 (400H)

**Inside Story:** Continuing to improve ... mainly competes in the 400-

meters ... gives the Blue Raiders depth in the sprints.

**2000-01:** Placed fourth in the Sun Belt Outdoor Championships ... was a big contributor to the Blue Raiders' victory at the SBC Outdoor meet.

**High School:** Named All-Region in both football and track at Centennial HS ... lettered in football, basketball and track ... holds the 400m school record and was a member of record-setting 4x100m and 4x200-meter relay teams.

**Personal:** Son of Garrett and Freddie Williams ... born 3/20/82 ... majoring in recreation management ... enjoys playing video games ... hopes to own his own record label.

# BLUERAIDERRECORDS

## Blue Raider Indoor Records

EVENT	RECORD HOLDER	RECORD	YEAR
LONG JUMP	Roland McGhee	27-0 3/4	1993
TRIPLE JUMP	Tommy Haynes	54-6 1/2	1974
HIGH JUMP	Skipper Willbanks	7-0 1/2	1985
SHOT PUT	Brian Oldfield	57-7	1966
POLE VAULT	Tom Yelverton	15-8 1/2	1981
55 METER DASH	Roland McGhee	:06.20	1994
	Keith Watkins	:06.20	1995
200 METERS DASH	Roland McGhee	:20.99	1993
400 METER DASH	Godfrey Herring	:46.52	1999
800 METER RUN	Dennis Votava	1:51.84	1977
ONE MILE RUN	Joe O'Loughlin	4:03.47	1982
3000 METER RUN	Joe O'Loughlin	8:12.64	1981
5000 METER RUN	Jeff Lingwall	15:19.64	1993
55 METER HURDLES	Micah Otis	:07.23	1992
ONE MILE RELAY	Ellis, Newton, Johnson, Mitchell	3:09.93	1983
DISTANCE MEDLEY RELAY	Johnson, Mitchell, Davis, O'Loughlin	9:48.04	1981

## Blue Raider Outdoor Records

EVENT	RECORD HOLDER	RECORD	YEAR
LONG JUMP	Roland McGhee	27-6	1993
TRIPLE JUMP	Eddie Loyd	55-2	1982
HIGH JUMP	Skipper Willbanks	7-1	1985
POLE VAULT	Tom Yelverton	16-0	1985
SHOT PUT	Brian Oldfield	59-2	1966
DISCUS	Harrison Salami	182-9	1977
JAVELIN	Jeff Sims	220-11	1984
100 METERS	Roland McGhee	:10.24	1994
	Ron Lloyd	:10.24	1994
200 METERS	Roland McGhee	:20.44	1994
400 METERS	Godfrey Herring	:45.35	2001
800 METERS	Jerry Singleton	1:49.6	1969
1500 METERS	Gary Perry	3:42.9	1977
5000 METERS	Ross Dowland	14:20.84	1981
10000 METERS	Robert Willis	30:51.20	1983
110 METER HURDLES	Miguel Williams	:13.69	1983
400 METER HURDLES	Russell Holloway	:50.14	1977
4 X 100 METER RELAY	Spann, Scales, Braumh, Herring	:39.30	2001
4 X 200 METER RELAY	Lloyd, McGhee, Gupton, Otis	1:21.17	1994
4 X 400 METER RELAY	Ellis, Nsbitt, Johnson, Mitchell	3:07.28	1983
4 X 800 METER RELAY	Yates, Anderson, Bandy, Singleton	7:34.4	1967
SPRINT MEDLEY RELAY	Shannon, Mitchell, T. Johnson, Davis	3:20.68	1982
DISTANCE MEDLEY RELAY	Lawrence, Farris, Davis, O'Loughlin	9:50.64	1982
SHUTTLE HURDLE RELAY	R. Davis, Kirnes, Nesbitt, Williams	:56.73	1983

## NCAA Champions

### Barry McClure

1972 and 1973 NCAA Triple Jump Champion  
Set Collegiate Records at 52-10 1/2 and 54-1 3/4

### Tommy Haynes

1974 NCAA Triple Jump Champion  
Set Collegiate Record at 54-6 3/4 (1974) and  
American Record at 56-5 1/4 (1975)

## Other Honors

### Brian Oldfield

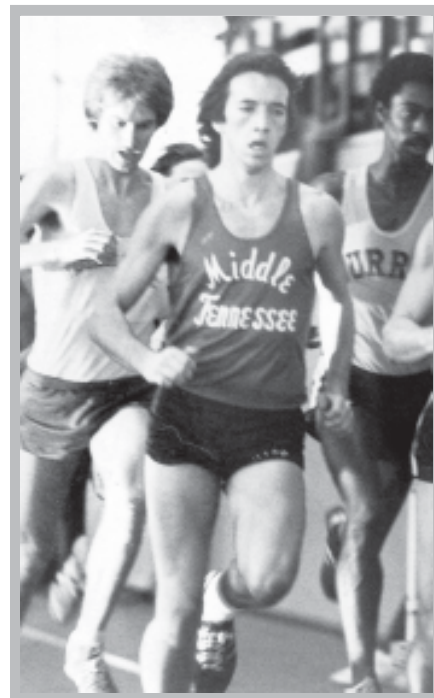
Set Professional Shot Put World Record at 75-0  
(1974) and American Record at 72-9 3/4 (1984)

### Greg Artis

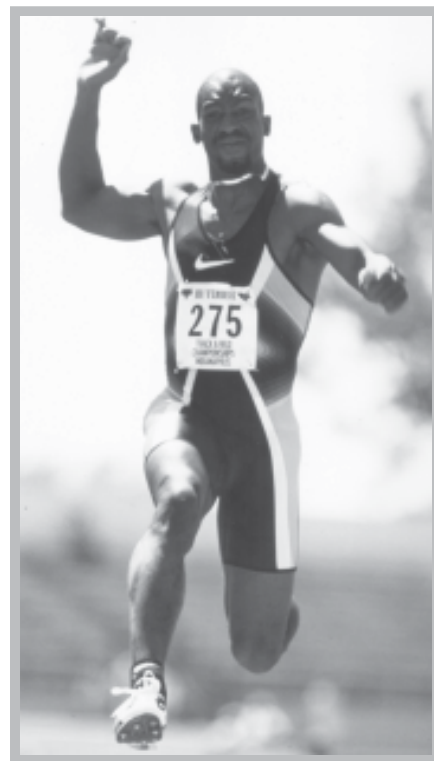
1981 OVC Athlete of the Year and OVC Indoor/  
Outdoor Trackman of the Year

### Rob Jordan

1999 OVC Trackman of the Year



Joe O'Loughlin holds the Blue Raider indoor records in the mile run and 3,000 meters.



Roland McGhee holds three indoor and four outdoor Blue Raider records, including the long jump mark of 27-6.

# BLUERAIDERHONORROLL

Event	Name	Record	Year	Event	Name	Record	Year
Long Jump	1. Roland McGhee	27-6	1993	800 Meters	1. Jerry Singleton	1:49.74	1969
	2. Tommy Haynes	26-8 1/2	1974		2. John Davis	1:49.96	1981
	3. Greg Artis	26-7 1/2	1981		3. Gary Perry	1:50.34	1977
	4. Dwight Johnson	26-6	1985		4. Dana McCutcheon	1:50.84	1978
	5. Andre' Kirnes	26-3 1/2	1982		5. Dennis Votava	1:50.94	1977
Triple Jump	1. Eddie Loyd	55-2	1982	1,500 Meters	1. Gary Perry	3:42.9	1977
	2. Tommy Haynes	54-6 3/4	1974		2. Joe O'Loughlin	3:44.8	1982
	3. Barry McClure	54-4 1/2	1973		3. Dennis Votava	3:46.0	1977
	4. Roland McGhee	54-4	1993		4. Dana McCutcheon	3:52.0	1980
	5. John DoDoo	54-0 1/2	1979		5. Charles Dahlgren	3:54.5	1967
High Jump	1. Skipper Willbanks	7-1	1985	3,000-Meter Steeplechase	1. Danny Green	9:08.37	1986
	2. Roscoe Kidd	7-0	1978		2. Eric Kiauka	9:24.34	1998
	3. Linwood Harris	7-0	1984		3. Curt Arthur	9:37.95	1995
	Sean Smith	7-0	1985		4. <b>Josh Carroll</b>	<b>9:44.34</b>	<b>2001</b>
	5. <b>Chris Koger</b>	<b>6-10 3/4</b>	<b>2001</b>		5. <b>Anthony McGary</b>	<b>9:46.19</b>	<b>2001</b>
Pole Vault	1. Tom Yelverton	16-0	1982	5,000 Meters	1. Ross Dowland	14:20.84	1981
	2. David Cleveland	15-7	1978		2. Joe O'Loughlin	14:21.80	1981
	3. Jack Warner	15-6	1976-77		3. <b>Geoffrey Lagat</b>	<b>14:33.40</b>	<b>2000</b>
	Scott Ellis	15-6	1981		4. Jeff Skinner	14:44.24	1982
	5. Mike Stevens	14-9	1967		5. Richard Russo	14:48.44	1972
Shot Put	1. Brian Oldfield	59-2	1966	10,000 Meters	1. Robert Willis	30:51.20	1983
	2. Ted Hausauer	56-10 3/4	1976		2. <b>Geoffrey Lagat</b>	<b>30:52.70</b>	<b>2001</b>
	3. Steve McQuiston	55-7 1/2	1985		3. Jeff Skinner	31:01.44	1984
	4. Buck Edwards	53-5	1970		4. Jeff Lingwall	31:50.94	1993
	5. James McClellan	53-1	1982		5. Jason Smith	32:57.25	1997
Discus	1. Harrison Salami	182-9	1977	110-Meter Hurdles	1. Miguel Williams	:13.69	1983
	2. Steve McQuiston	167-1	1985		2. Ron Bramlett	:13.72	1999
	3. Brian Oldfield	166-5	1966		3. <b>Jasper Demps</b>	<b>:13.75</b>	<b>2001</b>
	4. Buck Edwards	162-9	1970		4. Micah Otis	:13.90	1993
	5. Vince Akridge	156-2	1997		5. Kenny Nesbitt	:13.97	1984
Javelin	1. Jeff Sims	220-11	1984	400-Meter Hurdles	1. Russell Holloway	:50.14	1977
	2. Harrison Salami	217-0	1976		2. <b>DJ Spann</b>	<b>:50.75</b>	<b>2001</b>
	3. Keith Cromartie	198-0	1974		3. David Wyatt	:50.84	1970
	4. Bill Elmer	197-8	1976		4. Kenny Nesbitt	:50.97	1984
	5. <b>Lindsey Sims</b>	<b>188-1</b>	<b>2001</b>		5. Ed Thomas	:50.99	1980
100 Meters	1. Roland McGhee	:10.24	1994	4 X 100-Meter Relay	1. <b>Spann, Scales</b>	<b>:39.30</b>	<b>2001</b>
	Ron Lloyd	:10.24	1994		<b>Braimah, Herring</b>		
	3. Mardy Scales	:10.25	2001		2. Lloyd, McGhee,	:39.55	1993
	4. Albert Agyemang	:10.36	1999		Gupton, Otis		
Tanko Braimah	:10.36	2000	3. Lloyd, McGhee		:39.62	1994	
200 Meters	1. Roland McGhee	:20.44	1994	Primm, Otis			
	2. Dwight Johnson	:20.65	1985	4. Shannon, Kirnes,	:39.64	1982	
	<b>Mardy Scales</b>	<b>:20.65</b>	<b>2001</b>	Farris, Mitchell			
	4. Tanko Braimah	:20.77	2001	5. Nsiah, Maynard,	:39.83	1997	
	3. Albert Agyemang	:20.85	2000	Watkins, Amuzu			
400 Meters	1. <b>Godfrey Herring</b>	<b>:45.35</b>	<b>2001</b>	4 X 400-Meter Relay	1. Ellis, Nesbitt,	3:07.28	1983
	2. Kenden Maynard	:46.12	1997		T. Johnson, Mitchell		
	3. Ed Stegall	:46.44	1977		2. <b>Paul, Spann,</b>	<b>3:07.39</b>	<b>2000</b>
	4. Tim Johnson	:46.78	1983		<b>Jordan, Herring</b>		
	5. Carlos Gupton	:46.99	1993		3. Ellis, Newton,	3:07.55	1983
			T. Johnson, Nesbitt				
			4. Mitchell, Nesbitt,	3:07.56	1984		
			T. Johnson, Ellis				
			5. James, Mitchell,	3:07.61	1982		
			Newton, T. Johnson				

# TRACK AND FIELD HISTORY

The track and field program at Middle Tennessee has been in existence for 46 years and has utilized this time to become the school's most dominant athletic program.

Blue Raider and Lady Raider track has racked up 17 NCAA Top 25 finishes, 33 conference titles, and 10 Olympians. During this span, 30 individuals have brought 61 All-American awards back to the Murfreesboro campus.

There have been only two coaches in the history of the program. Joe Black Hayes got the program started in 1955, heading the program for a decade before a new coach was named in 1965.

A young head coach named Dean Hayes, no relation to the previous track and field coach, took over the program during that year. During the 1965

campaign, Middle Tennessee began to garner national attention with Brian Oldfield's second-place finish in the NCAA shot put. Oldfield would go on to set a world record with a throw of 75' and compete for the United States in the 1972 Olympics in Munich, Germany.

The Blue Raiders' march toward track and field supremacy continued during the 1970s. Barry McClure became the first Middle Tennessee athlete ever to earn All-American honors at the Division I level in 1970. McClure went on to further greatness in the triple jump by becoming the NCAA champion in the event in 1972 and 1973. He set the NCAA record for the triple jump during this span, also.

Tommy Haynes followed up McClure's success by breaking all of his triple jump records. He earned All-American honors in both the long jump and triple jump in 1974. He went on to set the NCAA and American records in the triple jump before competing for the United States in the

1976 Olympics in Montreal.

The first indoor meet in the Ohio Valley Conference was held in the Murphy Center in 1976, and the event was a watershed moment for the NCAA. The current qualifying system for the NCAA championships was derived from this event and is still in use today.



*Dionne Rose was featured in this photo in Sports Illustrated during the Atlanta Grand Prix just prior to her appearance in the 1996 Olympics.*

The Blue Raiders won their first OVC Outdoor title in 1977 and returned with another outdoor championship in 1978. The squad took home its first OVC Indoor championship in 1979. From there the championships came at a fast and furious pace. The Blue Raiders and Lady Raiders would go on to capture a combined 29 titles in OVC competition.

Greg Artis would become one of the most decorated track and field athletes ever to participate at Middle Tennessee during the early 1980s. Artis became a seven-time All-American in the long jump and triple jump and was named the Ohio Valley Conference Athlete of the Year in 1981.

During this boom period for the track and field program, a very quiet championship was won that has not yet been repeated at Middle Tennessee. The 1983

men's cross country team won its only conference championship that season.

Success in the cross country realm would not again be repeated until Geoffrey Lagat won the first-ever individual title in the sport at the 2000 Sun Belt Conference meet.

The 1988 Olympics in Seoul, Korea, perhaps shed the best light on the Middle Tennessee program as Dean Hayes was af-

forded the privilege of serving the United States Olympic Team as an assistant coach.

The Lady Raiders would burst upon the scene with the women's indoor title in 1988 following Dean Hayes' ascension to the helm of the program that year. However, the women's championship would be the only one for the program until 1991. The men's program was discontinued following the 1986 season and was not revived until 1990.

Dionne Rose would become the first female at Middle Tennessee to earn All-American honors with her performances in the long jump and the hurdles in 1994. In fact, she won the NCAA Indoor title in the 55-meter hurdles. Rose would go on to compete for her native Jamaica in both the 1996 Olympics in Atlanta and the 2000 Games in Sydney, Australia. Rose is one of four female All-Americans in the history of the program.

1996 would see yet another outstanding individual performance for the Lady Raiders as Nadia Graham took home OVC Female Athlete of the Year honors.

The 1990s proved to be a solid decade for Middle Tennessee track and field. The Blue Raiders and Lady Raiders combined to win 11 OVC titles during this span and saw the men's 4x200 relay team ranked No. 1 in the NCAA in 1994.

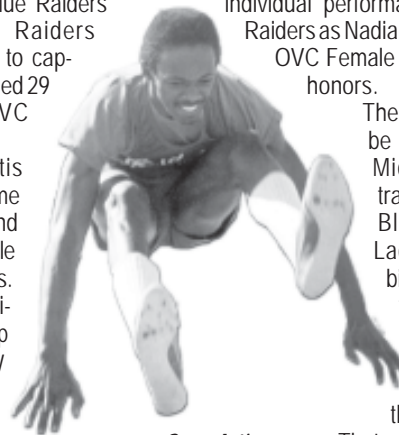
That year, the 4x200 team captured the title at the prestigious Penn Relays.

The 2000 season would be the last in the OVC for Middle Tennessee and both squads went out in style. Both teams placed well in both the indoor and outdoor meets, with the men taking the indoor title for the first time in seven years. However, the events that followed put the track and field program on the fast track in the school's new league.

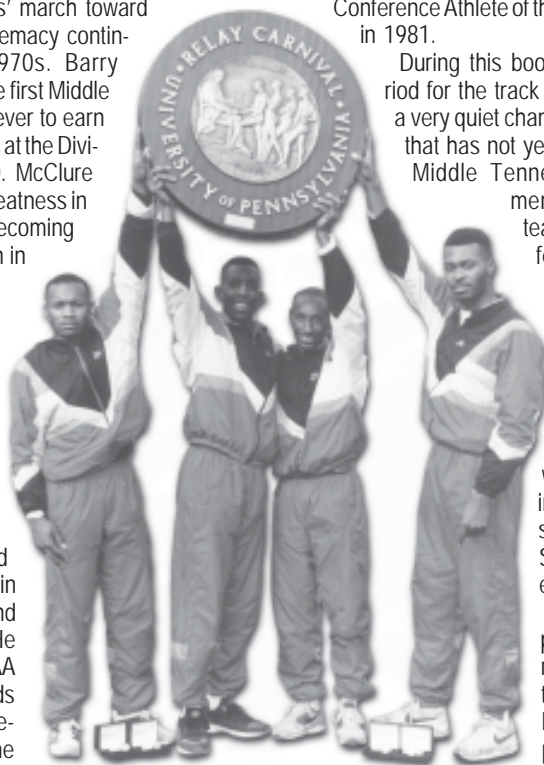
Middle Tennessee announced that it would move into the Sun Belt Conference for the 2000-01 season during the fall of 1999, but the track team got a call that it didn't expect as the 2000 track and field season wound down.

Both the men's and women's teams were invited to participate in the 2000 Sun Belt Outdoor meet and the women's team responded by winning the championship, giving the school its first-ever SBC title.

Both squads would continue a reign of supremacy in the Sun Belt by taking both the men's and women's indoor titles and the men's outdoor championship. At the end of the 2001 track and field season, Middle Tennessee had captured four of the six championships for which it was eligible.

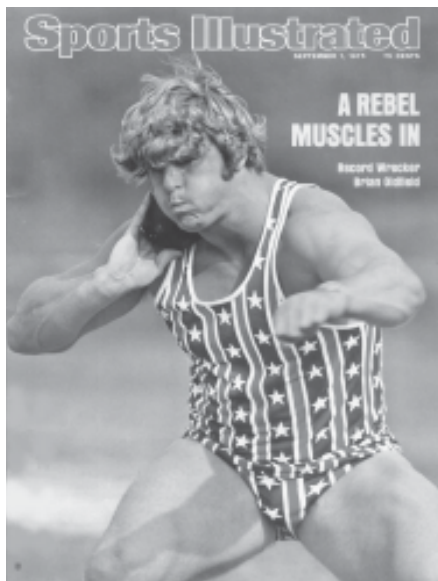


*Greg Artis*

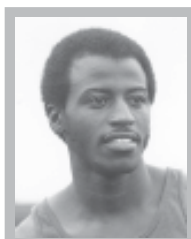


*The 1994 4x100 relay team won the Penn Relays.*

# ALL-AMERICANS



Brian Oldfield  
Shot Put 1965  
World Record (ITA) 75-0  
Olympic Team 1972



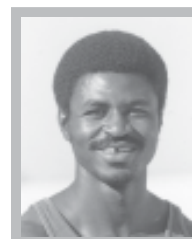
Jimmy Washington  
Triple Jump 1976



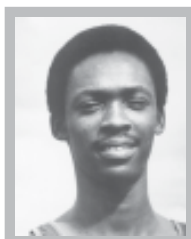
Sheik Faye  
Long Jump 1976, 77, 78



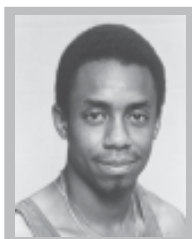
Rayfield Dupree  
Triple Jump 1977  
Olympic Team 1976



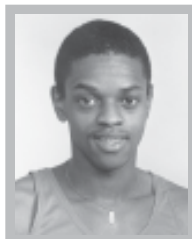
John DoDoo  
Triple Jump 1978, 79



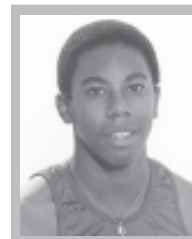
Greg Artis  
Long Jump 1979, 80, 81  
Triple Jump 1981



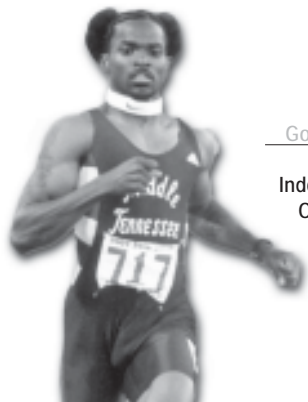
Andre Kimes  
Long Jump 1980, 83



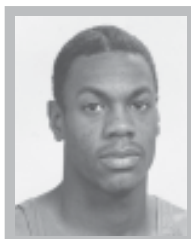
Eddie Loyd  
Triple Jump 1982



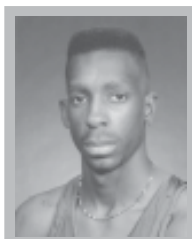
Orestes Meeks  
Long Jump 1982



Godfrey Herring  
400-meters  
Indoor 2000, 2001  
Outdoor 2001



Dwight Johnson  
Long Jump 1984



Roland McGhee  
Long Jump 1991, 92, 93, 94  
55-meters 1993, 94



Jacqui Brown  
Triple Jump 1994  
Long Jump 1984



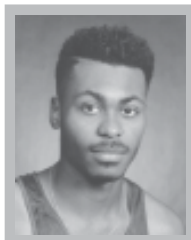
Dionne Rose  
Hurdles 1994  
Long Jump 1994  
1994 NCAA  
Champion

## EXCELLENCE

Middle Tennessee Track and Field has long been recognized as one of the nation's elite programs and one glance at the All-American list at the school proves that the school deserves the praise it receives.

Middle Tennessee has produced 31 All-American athletes and 61 All-American awards. Among the All-Americans, several have set American or Collegiate Records in their events and five have gone on to compete in the Olympics. In fact, Middle Tennessee has produced one world record holder.

All-told, the Blue Raider and Lady Raider tradition of excellence has made the program a household name in the sport across the country and the world.



Micah Otis  
Long Jump 1994



Christian Nsiah  
200-meters 1996  
60-meters 1999



Ron Bramlett  
110 Hurdles 1999

Kim Freeman  
Triple Jump 2001



# ALL-AMERICANS



1981 Mile Relay Team

Barry Gambrell, Mike Davidson, Gary Mitchell, Tim Johnson



1982 Mile Relay Team

Herb Newton, Gary Mitchell, Tim Johnson, Floyd James



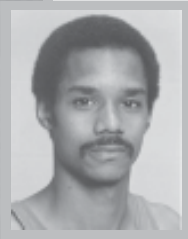
Tommy Haynes

Long Jump 1974  
Triple Jump 1974  
Collegiate Record  
American Record  
Olympic Team 1976  
NCAA Champion 1974 - Triple Jump



1982 Distance Medley Team

Herb Newton, Joe O'Loughlin, Tim Johnson, John Davis (inset)



Andreja Ribac

Triple Jump 2000

## MIDDLETENNESSEE'S OLYMPIANS

- Sheik Faye, Gambia, 1972-1976*
- Tommy Haynes, United States, 1976*
- Rayfield Dupree, United States, 1976*
- Dean Hayes, US Assistant Coach, 1988*
- Albert Agyemang, Ghana, 1996-2000*
- Christian Nsiah, Ghana, 1996*
- Dionne Rose, Jamaica, 1996-2000*
- Tanko Braimah, Ghana, 2000*
- Andrew Owusu, Ghana, 2000*



Barry McClure

Triple Jump 1970, 71, 72, 73  
Collegiate Record  
NCAA Champion 1972-73 - Triple Jump

# TRACK AND FIELD FACILITIES



*Middle Tennessee's Outdoor Track and Field Complex played host to the 2000 Ohio Valley Conference Championships.*

Middle Tennessee's track and field teams benefit from some of the finest facilities in the Southeast.

The Blue Raiders and Lady Raiders utilize an outdoor complex that is in only its third year of use. The Olympic-size track was recently certified by a United States Track and Field Association official and was the host site of the 2000 Ohio Valley Conference Outdoor Championship.

The facility has also been mentioned as a potential site for the Sun Belt Championships in the future.



*Head Coach Dean Hayes monitors the photo finish area in the Murphy Center Indoor Track.*

The running surface features eight lanes measuring 42 inches each, which allows ample space for each competitor without feeling closed in by other runners.

Like the running surface, the infield portion of the complex is user friendly. It features the unique aspect of having two long jump runways, allowing both the men's and women's team to

either compete or practice at the same time.

A pole vault runway, javelin runway, high jump area, and a hammer/discus cage is also located in the infield area.

The infield also doubles as the home of the Lady Raider soccer team, which inaugurated the complex on Oct. 14, 1998, when they defeated Tennessee Tech 4-0.

Middle Tennessee's track and field teams consider themselves doubly lucky when considering the Murphy Center Indoor Track and Field facility.

Located on the upper level of the Murphy Athletic Center, the Indoor Track is one of only two such facilities in the Sun Belt Conference.

Murphy Center is scheduled to play host to the 2002 Sun Belt Indoor Track and Field Championships Feb. 23-24, 2002. The Indoor Track is no stranger to championship competition, as it played host to numerous Indoor Championships in the Ohio Valley Conference.

The Indoor Track facility measures a staggering 50,000 square feet and is capable of hosting every track and field event. The six-lane, sixth-of-a-mile long oval features two photographic finish lines.

The Murphy Center, built in 1972, also serves as the home of Middle Tennessee's

men's and women's basketball teams along with the Lady Raider volleyball team. The Monte Hale arena seats 11,520 fans.

It is also the location of the athletic department offices, the HPERs department, and the Blue Raider Athletic Association office.

Murphy Center features two auxiliary gyms for team practices or physical education classes, racquetball courts, and two dance studios. It is also home to a newly-renovated Athletic Training Room that features state-of-the-art modalities for the treatment and care of athletic injuries.

Murphy Center has a long and storied history in high school athletics, as well. The facility has long been host to the Tennessee Secondary School Athletic Association boys and girls state basketball championships, the state volleyball championships, and the state cheerleading finals.

Aside from athletics, the facility has staged countless concerts for some of the world's most renowned artists, including Elvis Presley, Elton John, U2, The Judds, and three consecutive sold-out shows by country music superstar Garth Brooks.

Throughout the year, Murphy Center is also the site for several large conventions and trade shows and is the site for MT's commencement ceremonies three times a year.



*The Murphy Center boasts one of only two indoor track facilities in the Sun Belt Conference.*

# THE UNIVERSITY

Founded on September 11, 1911, Middle Tennessee State University is the oldest, largest, and fastest-growing public university in central Tennessee. For the past three years, MTSU has been the number one college choice of mid-state high school valedictorians and salutatorians in an independent survey.

The University has a long history of and commitment to educating middle Tennesseans. With a current enrollment of more than 20,000 students, MTSU educates more people in this region than any other school. More than 90 percent of the student body are Tennessee residents, and the majority remain in middle Tennessee after graduation. Of almost 70,000 alumni, approximately 77 percent live in Tennessee.

During 90 years of existence, the University has seen some remarkable changes, growing from a 100-acre campus with 125 students and 19 faculty to a 500-acre campus with more than 750 faculty members.

A comprehensive university, MTSU offers more than 140 undergraduate programs in its five colleges—Basic and Applied Sciences, Business, Education and Behavioral Science, Liberal Arts, and Mass Communication—and some 65 graduate programs, including doctoral degrees.

Middle Tennessee State University has developed a comprehensive institution-wide Academic Master Plan that will implement 20-plus strategies to continue moving the University forward during the 21st century. An important com-

ponent of the Academic Master Plan was the establishment of an Honors College, which was approved by the Tennessee Board of Regents and became a reality in Fall 1998.

The University's progress and forward momentum are clearly evidenced by the ongoing capital projects on campus. The four-story University Library opened for student use in January 1999. A new approach to on-campus living, Scarlett Commons opened in Fall 1999, and the Greek Row Project was completed for the Spring 2000 semester. Over \$200 million in construction projects were completed in the 1990s or are currently underway.

A teachers' college in its earliest days, MTSU still educates more teachers than any other school in Tennessee. The University also has one of the largest recording industry programs in the nation; strong programs in business, aerospace, and agriscience; and a nationally recognized graduate program in public history. Among MTSU's graduates are a Nobel Laureate; National Teacher of the Year; U.S. Senator; U.S. Congress members; state legislators; scientists; art-



*The James E. Walker Library*

ists; engineers; and Grammy, Emmy, and Peabody award winners. A May 2000 music graduate, Alysa Cannon, holds the distinction of being the first MTSU student to participate in the Fulbright Scholar Program; she studied in Spain during the 2000-01 academic year.

Academic programs are enriched through the establishment of chairs dedicated to the support of particular disciplines. Funded by gifts to the University Foundation, the Martin Chair of Insurance and the Weatherford Chair of Finance are administered through the Economics and Finance Department. MTSU houses nine Chairs of Excellence, established with a combination of private, university, and state funds. They are The Jennings A. Jones Chair in Free Enterprise, The Jennings and Rebecca Jones Chair in Urban and Regional Planning, The John Seigenthaler Chair in First Amendment Studies, The Dr. Carl Adams Chair in Health Care Services, The National HealthCare Chair in Nursing, The Robert E. and Georgiana West Russell Chair in Manufacturing Excellence, The Katherine Davis Murfree Chair in Dyslexic Studies, The John C. Miller Chair in Equine Reproductive Physiology, and The Mary E. Miller Chair in Equine Health.

MTSU is also the site of two Centers of Excellence established by the Tennessee General Assembly—The Center for Historic Preservation and The Center for Popular Music. Another boon to scholars is the Albert Gore Research Center, a repository of manuscripts and other materials.



*Former Vice-President Al Gore greets students on his way to teach his Community Building course.*

# DR. SIDNEY MCPHEE



Sidney A. McPhee became the tenth president of Middle Tennessee State University on August 1, 2001. Dr. McPhee's appointment, which followed a national search, was unanimously approved by the Tennessee Board of Regents on May 30.

Prior to his current appointment, McPhee served as executive vice chancellor of the Tennessee Board of Regents (TBR) since April 2000. He was interim chancellor from January to

April 2000 and prior to that was vice chancellor for academic affairs and strategic planning. Before joining the TBR staff in 1999, McPhee spent five years at the University of Memphis, first as vice provost for academic affairs, then as senior vice provost.

Before the move to Tennessee, McPhee was at the University of Louisville where he was associate provost for academic programs, assistant university provost, and director of the preparatory division. Earlier in his academic career, he was at Oklahoma State University where he served as director of the Division of Freshman Programs and Services and head of the University Academic Assessment Center, coordinator of advisement services and senior academic counselor, and assistant adjunct professor.

McPhee holds the B.A. degree from Prairie View A & M University, Prairie View, Texas; an M.S. from University of Miami, Coral Gables, Fla.; and a doctorate from Oklahoma State University, Stillwater, Okla. He grew up in Nassau, Bahamas.

In commenting on McPhee's appointment, Tennessee Governor Don Sundquist said, "Dr. McPhee brings outstanding credentials to this post. He is a man of vision and intelligence, who will continue MTSU's long standing tradition of excellence in higher education. I wish him the best in this new endeavor."

In accepting the appointment, McPhee said, "To MTSU faculty, staff, students, alumni, and friends, I want you to know that I am totally committed to building on the excellent tradition of the institution. I will provide strong leadership in helping MTSU reach the status of a major, top-rated and comprehensive university in this region and the nation. We will continue to focus on improving the quality of our academic programs and students. We will continue our efforts to recruit and retain quality faculty and staff. My priority will be on working together as a team to achieve common goals of the university such as strengthening partnerships with the community, business, industry, and the public school system."

McPhee's current research interests include traditional counseling approaches and their relevance to cross cultural practices; academic advising; and attitudes of college students toward issues of diversity. He is one of three authors of *Understanding the Campus Culture: An Introduction to College*, published in 1991. He has authored numerous articles in scholarly journals, chapters in books, and grant publications. Recent examples include "Advising Multicultural Students" in *Academic Advising: A Comprehensive Handbook*; "Assessing Cultural Adaptation: Psychometric Properties of the Cultural Adaptation Pain Scale," in *Journal of Multicultural Counseling and Development*; and "Promoting Student Development Through Intentionally Structured Groups," in *College Student Affairs Journal*.

His extensive professional involvement includes service on a national advisory panel for development of advisor training video-based program; work as a book reviewer for Prentice-Hall Publishing Company; membership on the Tennessee Higher Education Commission Master Planning Committee; and membership on the College Board National Community College Advisory Committee.

McPhee and his wife, Elizabeth, have a son and daughter: Sidney-Anthony, 18, and Seneca, 15. His hobbies include collecting CDs and listening to music of all types.

# BOOTS DONNELLY



When it comes to athletics at Middle Tennessee, James "Boots" Donnelly is among the most recognized names and faces.

Having served 20 years as head coach of the Blue Raider football program, Donnelly retired after the 1998 season and moved into the role of director of community relations. In that capacity, he spent time working with the Varsity Club, Letterman's Club, car dealers, and football.

Now Donnelly has taken the reins of the entire athletic department, serving as the athletic director.

Donnelly began serving as the school's interim athletic director on Oct. 1, 2000, after former Athletic Director Lee Fowler took the A.D. position at North Carolina State.

Donnelly was named to the permanent post on Jan. 15, 2002, following a national search conducted by University President. Dr. Sidney McPhee.

Donnelly's loyalty and love for the University has always been unquestioned as noted by former University President James Walker, who named Donnelly to the interim athletic director post before departing the University himself.

Donnelly certainly proved his mettle in the athletic director's job during his interim period. He led the Blue Raiders to their first-ever Vic Bubas Cup, the Sun Belt Conference's All-Sports Award.

Donnelly also saw four teams win Sun Belt titles along with an individual medalist in cross country. During his first year at the helm of the Blue Raider Athletic Department, five teams made NCAA Tournament appearances and the women's basketball program made its second trip to the WNIT.

In his 20 years at the helm of the Blue Raiders, Donnelly amassed an overall record of 140-87-1, making him the 8th most successful head coach in NCAA Division I-AA history.

When Donnelly came back to his alma mater to assume the head coaching position, the Blue Raiders had not had a winning season in six seasons and hadn't won an Ohio Valley Conference title in 13 years. It took him three seasons to post a winning mark at Middle Tennessee, but from there the results speak for themselves.

During his illustrious career, Boots won four Ohio Valley Conference championships, had 10 National Top 25 finishes, made seven I-AA playoff appearances, had 14 players go on to play in the NFL, coached nine First Team All-Americans, had 12 OVC Players of the Year, was a three-time OVC Coach of the Year, and a two-time Regional Coach of the Year. Boots also received the National Football Foundation "Contribution to Football" award in 1989 and was named the Tennessee Sports Writers Coach of the Year in 1988 and again in 1994.

A member of the Blue Raider Hall of Fame (1993), Donnelly was inducted into the Tennessee Sports Hall of Fame in 1997.

His coaching career began at Nashville's Father Ryan High School, where he had been a top-flight, all-around athlete. He was an assistant coach there for eight years before becoming head coach in 1974, leading Ryan to a 21-1 record over two seasons, including a perfect 13-0 mark and the Tennessee Class AAA title in '74.

Donnelly had been the Nashville Interscholastic League's Player of the Year in 1960, before enrolling at Middle Tennessee, where he played as a defensive back for three seasons. He passed up his final year of eligibility with the Blue Raiders in 1965 to complete his degree. He added the master's degree from Middle Tennessee in 1966.

Donnelly's ties to Middle Tennessee don't begin with coaching. He played football for the Blue Raiders from 1962-64 under another legendary MT coach, Charles "Bubber" Murphy. During his time as a player, Middle Tennessee compiled an overall record of 22-8-1.

Donnelly is married to the former Carole Holzapfel. The couple has three daughters – Bunny, Helen, and Lauren – two grandsons and one granddaughter.

# ACADEMIC ENHANCEMENT

The Student-Athlete Enhancement Center at Middle Tennessee houses the academic support system and the B.R.A.S.S. Life Skills Program for all 17 Division I-A sports. The Center is housed at the Johnny "Red" Floyd Football Stadium on Raider Drive.



Jeanne Massaquoi

The new facility opened its doors on January 4, 1999, to the delight of student-athletes, coaches, and administrators.

Blue Raider student-athletes can take advantage of the library-like atmosphere as they report for their required study hall hours under the watchful eyes of the director, Mrs. Jeanne Massaquoi, and the assistant director and coordinator of B.R.A.S.S., Wynnifred Counts.



Wynnifred Counts

The Center consists of administrative offices, fully equipped individual and group tutor rooms, a computer center and spacious study carrels equipped with task lighting. Services provided by the center include help with registration

and pre-registration, help with study skills, and updates on NCAA legislation.

In an effort to accommodate the student-athlete's busy schedules, the Center is open from 7:00 a.m. until 10:30 p.m. Monday-Thursday and from 7:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. on Friday. The Center uses an innovative time-clock system activated by the student's ID card for daily and

weekly reports. Tutors in various subjects are scheduled in the tutoring rooms throughout all hours of operation and all tutoring takes place only at the Center.

In addition to providing the academic support needed to be successful in the classroom, the Center is committed to meeting the needs of student-athletes in life skills development through the very popular B.R.A.S.S. Program. MTSU's Life Skills Program has the acronym "BRASS" which means Blue Raider Athlete Skills for Success.

As coordinator, Mrs. Counts is dedicated to helping prepare student-athletes for life after college. Blue Raiders volunteer, when possible, to help teachers and students at elementary and middle schools throughout Rutherford County during the academic year.

In the spring of each year, Special Olympics at MT uses Blue Raider student-athletes to run each event. Career night, and substance and alcohol abuses seminars are yearly, well attended events. Social events such as the Fall Welcome Back Picnic and the Spring Student-Athlete Ball are eagerly anticipated as the only times during the year when all student-athletes can be together.

"We are very grateful for the cooperation we receive from our supervising office, Academic Affairs, from the Athletic Department, and from the faculty and staff throughout the MT community," said Massaquoi. "This success of the Center depends on this cooperation and we have been very fortunate to experience an outpouring of support in our efforts."

Despite the move and upgraded facility, the mission of the Center remains to help student-athletes utilize skills like teamwork that were learned on the field and turn them into positive preparation for life after college. The Center is also committed to meet-



ing the changing needs of student-athletes. The Center also continues to promote partnerships between University, the NCAA, and the Murfreesboro community to help achieve its goals.

The Student-Athlete Enhancement Center is just one way that Middle Tennessee is helping to prepare student-athletes for life after college. Programs such as B.R.A.S.S. help student-athletes learn to take personal responsibility for their lives after college and help them become self-sufficient. By taking advantage of these opportunities, student-athletes can get ahead of their competitors in the game of life.

## Community Involvement

### Reading Raiders Program

The Reading Raiders program began in the summer of 1993 and was designed to allow MTSU athletes the opportunity to give back to the community by getting involved in the lives of the community's children. Within this program, Middle Tennessee athletes serve as role models and motivators in encouraging the importance of reading and proper study skills to students in the Murfreesboro City Extended Schools Program.

### B.R.A.S.S.

The B.R.A.S.S. program is another vehicle that encourages student-athletes to become involved in service activities. The MTSU Athletic Department, through the B.R.A.S.S. program, became the state's first to take an active role in the Special Olympics. This relationship is strengthened every year, as the student-athletes begin to look as forward to working with the Special Olympians as much as the Olympians look forward to interacting with college athletes.



# CITY OF MURFREESBORO

Murfreesboro, Tenn., the home to Middle Tennessee State University, is one of the fastest growing communities in the state. Located just 32 miles from Nashville, Murfreesboro has a storied past and an extremely bright future.

The city was founded in 1811 as Cannonsburgh. However, the name was changed to Murfreesboro after only 33 days in honor of Revolutionary War Col. Hardy Murfree, one of the early settlers of the town. Murfreesboro, which is the state's geographic center, served as the state capital from 1819 to 1825. However, the larger economic base and river port of Nashville drew the capital status away. Murfreesboro has remained a significant economic center, however, due mainly to its central location between Nashville and Chattanooga.

The geography of Murfreesboro continues to aid its development. Its proximity to three major interstate routes makes it readily accessible from nearly anywhere in the state or region. Also, the middle Tennessee area is located in the demographic center of 70 percent of the population of the United States. These factors combine to generate and sustain considerable growth in Murfreesboro.

Industry is an important cornerstone of Murfreesboro's economy. Manufacturers such as Aladdin, Nissan, Bridgestone/Firestone, and Georgia Pacific have located in the Murfreesboro/Rutherford County area and make a significant economic impact on the area. Recently, new shopping centers, restaurants, and other developments have helped Murfreesboro become one of the most popular communities in the mid-



*The NHC Building is the tallest in Murfreesboro state region.*

Murfreesboro is the largest city in Rutherford County with an estimated population of over 69,000. The county as a whole is home to approximately 182,000 residents.

Rutherford County has seen unprecedented growth over the past few years. The most recent census shows Rutherford County to be the fastest-growing in the state of Tennessee and the fifth-fastest in the South.

Murfreesboro offers the benefits of living in a large city with a small town atmosphere. The town sports two golf courses, a mall, several shopping centers, and restaurants of every variety. Residents also enjoy a 4.5-mile Greenway that circles the northwest quadrant of the city.

The community hosts several events throughout the year that celebrate the cultural and historical aspects of the area. JazzFest in April, the Street Festival in May,

and Uncle Dave Macon Days in July are just a few of the popular events.

History buffs enjoy visiting the Stones River Battlefield, site of one of the most critical Civil War battles fought in Tennessee. Regular tours of the park are available along with occasional re-enactments of the events that took place there.

The expanding population and increasing economic growth have made Murfreesboro a vibrant community. However, growth has not left behind the core values that have made Murfreesboro one of the area's most preferred cities in which to live. With all indicators pointing toward a continuation of the area's growth trend, Murfreesboro will maintain its place among the state's most outstanding and livable cities.

## AROUND THE 'BORO

- Cannonsburgh Village
- Fortress Rosecrans
- Stones River Greenway
- Geographic Center of Tennessee
- Oaklands Historic House
- Stones River Battlefield
- Children's Discovery House
- Sam Davis Home
- JazzFest
- Uncle Dave Macon Days
- Smyrna Air Show



*The Rally in the Alley is a popular event in the business community.*

## Nashville's Close, Too

*One thing that makes Murfreesboro appealing to MT students is the fact that Nashville is only 30 miles away. Nashville boasts the NFL and NHL along with venues for major concert tours, Broadway plays, and symphony performances. Music City, USA, is also a haven for restaurants, clubs, and shopping, making it a fun place to visit.*

# UNIVERSITY TRADITIONS

## Legend of Lightning

In Greek mythology, the winged horse possessed superior cunning and speed. The thundering horse of the gods was entrusted to carry awesome lightning bolts and could only be harnessed by a noble being with a pure heart. Character, talent, and strength were required to mount and ride the fabled winged horse.

Today, this winged horse is a fitting symbol of a university that has earned its wings and excels in many academic arenas, including historic preservation, teacher training, aerospace, political science, horse science, and recording industry. But the winged horse is more than a symbol of physical accomplishment; it's also a symbol of character and the responsible wielding of power.

The challenge of all great universities and university athletic departments is to help student-athletes build character as well as strength. This winged horse, Lightning, is a symbol to Middle Tennessee students, athletes, and alumni of the soaring school spirit they experience at sporting events.

For its nobility and character, the winged horse was immortalized in the stars. Now, with breathtaking speed and thundering, unbridled power, Lightning strikes, forevermore, fear in the hearts of Blue Raider opponents and leads Middle Tennessee to victory!



## Blue Raider Nickname

In the early days of athletics at Middle Tennessee State University, the teams were known by several nicknames. Among these were Teachers, Normalites, and Pedagogues.

In 1934, it was decided that the school needed a specific nickname. During football season that year, the Murfreesboro *Daily News Journal* held a contest to name the team.

Charles Sarver, then a Middle Tennessee football player and later principal at White County High School in Sparta, Tenn., won the \$5 prize for his entry of "Blue Raiders." Sarver later indicated he had "borrowed" the nickname of the Colgate Red Raiders, but substituted MTSU Blue for Colgate Red. Ever since then, Middle Tennessee athletic teams have been known as the Blue Raiders.

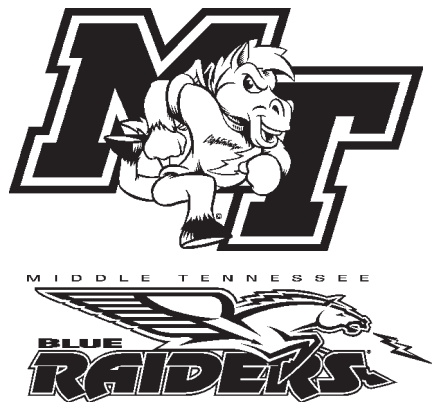
The symbol of Confederate General Nathan Bedford Forrest on a horse was first used about 1945, when then-university President Q.M. Smith instructed Public Relations Director Gene Sloan to use the figure in conjunction with the nickname.

In 1965, the Associated Student Body established strict specifications regarding the size of the student who would emulate Forrest. It is believed that this was done because there was only one uniform available and a "good fit" was desired.

Later, in sensitivity to the African-American community, the figure of General Forrest was abandoned.

For a time, the "unofficial" mascot for the Blue Raiders was a costumed, cartoon-like dog. A reasonable facsimile of a blue tick hound, the affable character was dubbed "Ole Blue."

On January 17, 1998, the current mascot, "Lightning," was born. The mascot was unveiled, along with an attractive eye-catching logo, at a basketball game in Murphy Center. The introduction of Lightning gave a new identity to the nickname Blue Raiders.



## Fight Song

Blue Raiders ride on to vic-t'ry  
 Never failing in the fight  
 Upholding honor and tradition  
 Of the name that's held most high

M-T-S-U marching onward  
 This will be our battle cry  
 For the one, true pride of the Blue  
 M-T-S-U Raiders Ride

## Alma Mater

We sing thy praises  
 faithful guide of youth,  
 Through all the ages  
 affirmed and strong in truth.  
 Alma Mater, Middle Tennessee  
 We proudly offer  
 our hearts in loyalty.