

September 6, 2003

## MT vs. Georgia Recap and Game Notes

MT Media Relations

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**ATHENS, Ga.** - The eighth-ranked Georgia Bulldogs topped Middle Tennessee 29-10 in front of 92,058 fans, the largest crowd to ever witness a football game in the state of Georgia.

The Blue Raiders hung tough in the first half behind **Andrico Hines'** 36 rushing yards and 7-of-12 passing for 49 more yards. Trailing just 10-3 late in the second quarter, the Blue Raiders were driving inside the Georgia 30-yard line when **Don Calloway** lost a fumble to give it back to the Bulldogs. Fortunately, the Blue Raiders held as UGA missed a 45-yard field goal.

The Bulldogs opened the second half strong, taking a 20-3 advantage into the final quarter of the game and holding the Blue Raiders without a first down in the third period.

However, the Blue Raiders would not go quietly. Trailing 29-3, Hines hooked up with WR **Kerry Wright** for a 71-yard TD strike, posting the career bests for both players. Wright ended the game with a career high 103 yards on five receptions while Hines completed the game with an 18-of-29 effort passing for 173 yards.

In fact, Hines also led the team with 39 yards rushing, making him responsible for 212 of the team's 240 total offensive output.

The Blue Raiders next test comes next week when the team travels to Clemson for a 4 PM start.

**ALSUP HAS CAREER DAY:** Senior **Wardell Alsup** reeled in a career-high three catches for 34 yards against the Bulldogs. Alsup now has five catches on the season.

**HOLT HAS BIG DAY:** WR **Jerrin Holt** turned in his biggest day as a Blue Raider. Holt hauled in a career-best four catches for 25 yards. His four catches ranked as the team's second-highest receiving tally in the game. Holt turned out to be a secret weapon of sorts for MT in the game as he recorded only one catch last week against Florida Atlantic.

**BIG PLAY:** QB **Andrico Hines** and WR **Kerry Wright** hooked up on the longest career play for both players on a 71-yard TD strike in the fourth quarter. For Hines, it bested his career long of 69 yards, turned in against Utah State last season. The play also established a new career high TD pass, topping a 63-yard TD pass in the USU game. On Wright's end, the play outdid his personal best catch of 58 yards, registered against Idaho in 2001.

**MORE SACKS:** The Blue Raider defense tallied two more QB sacks this week, running their season total to seven. **Devarick Scandrett**, who had two sacks last week against FAU, recorded his third of the year while **Jonathan Bonner** had his first. The team's seven sacks puts them only six away from last year's team total of 13.

**FIRST TO:** Middle Tennessee recorded its first turnover of the season in the second quarter against Georgia with just over four minutes remaining in the half. RB **Don Calloway** caught a pass out of the backfield and had the ball jarred loose. The Blue Raiders went nearly six quarters without a miscue.

**ANOTHER FIRST:** Middle Tennessee became the first team to score against Georgia this

season when Bryan Kelly booted a 41-yard field goal with 10:30 remaining in the second quarter. The team later became the first team to score a TD against the Bulldogs when Hines and Wright went deep for a 71-yard scoring play.

**GIVING IT UP FOR TEAM:** Sophomore deep snapper **John Crawford**, who injured his knee in preseason camp, made the start today against Georgia. With the inconsistencies in the snapping game last week, Crawford took one for the team and came back early to handle the chore. Crawford, who was perfect on all his snaps today, was originally expected back for the Clemson game.

**TIDBITS:** Junior **Danny Tolbert** made his first collegiate start at right corner today for MT ... WR **Jerrin Holt** made his first collegiate start today ... OL **Willie Hall** played in his first collegiate game today when he replaced **Julius Gant** in the first quarter when Gant was injured ... Today's crowd of 92,058 was the largest to ever see a football game in the state of Georgia and was the second largest crowd the Blue Raiders have ever played in front of ... **Brandon Westbrook** made his 33rd career start today.

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