MIDDLE TENNESSEE

2006-07 BLUE RAIDER WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

THREE-TIME SUN BELT CHAMPIONS

14 Conference Championships, 10 NCAA Appearances, 2 WNIT Appearances

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2006-07 SCHEDULE/RESULTS

Overall Record: 0-1

Date	Opponent	Time/Results
November		
1	Henderson State (Exh.)	W, 102-48
10	(1) Maryland	L, 80-76
13	South Dakota State	5 PM
18	vs. Maine%	1 PM
19	vs. Princeton/Minnesota%	1/3 PM
24	Chattanooga	7 PM
26	at Tennessee	2 PM
29	at Tennessee Tech.	5 PM
December		
4	Austin Peay	5 PM
7	at Georgia	7 PM
14	at South Alabama	7 PM
17	Louisiana-Monroe	1:30 PM
19	Old Dominion	7 PM
27	Western Kentucky*	7 PM
January		
2	North Dakota State	7 PM
6	Troy*	7 PM
9	at Florida International*	TBA
11	at Florida Atlantic*	TBA
13	at New Orleans*	TBA
18	Arkansas State*	7 PM
20	at Arkansas-Little Rock*	4:30 PM
24	at North Texas*	7 PM
28	Louisiana-Lafayette*	2 PM
31	Denver*	7 PM
February		
3	South Alabama*	3 PM
7	at Louisiana-Monroe*	7 PM
11	at Western Kentucky*	2 PM
15	Florida International*	5 PM
22	at Troy*	5:15 PM
24	Florida Atlantic*	2 PM
28	1st Round SBC Championships	TBA
March		
3-6	Sun Belt Championships	TBA

% - Subway Classic, Minneapolis, Minn.
* - Sun Belt Conference Game
All Game Times are Central Time

GAME 2

Middle Tennessee (0-1) vs. South Dakota State (0-0)
Monday, November 13 ● 5 PM ● Murfreesboro, Tenn.
Murphy Center (11,500) ● Blue Raider Network (David Reed)

Middle Tennessee Blue Raiders (0-1)

Probable Starters			Ht.	Cl.-Exp.	PPG	RPG	APG
G	2	Johnna Abney	5-4	SO-1L	5.0	1.0	3.0
G	22	Chrissy Givens	5-10	SR-3L	14.0	4.0	7.0
G	1	Amber Holt	6-0	JR-TR	28.0	8.0	2.0
F	4	Krystle Horton	6-2	SR-3L	2.0	3.0	1.0
F	21	Brandi Brown	6-3	FR-HS	2.0	4.0	2.0*

* - Blocks

Off The Bench							
G	14	LaToya Barclay	5-4	JR-2L	3.0	0.0	2.0
G	00	Chelsia Lymon	5-5	FR-HS	13.0	0.0	0.0
G	12	Starr Orr	5-8	JR-2L	2.0	1.0	0.0
F	31	Lakira Boyd	6-2	JR-2L	4.0	5.0	0.0
G	3	LaCondra Mason	5-9	SO-1L	0.0	0.0	0.0

HOLT EXPLODES IN DEBUT: Junior Amber Holt tallied a game-high 28 points in Friday's four-point loss to top-ranked Maryland, connecting on 11-of-24 shots and 5-of-6 free throws, as well as pulling down eight rebounds in her regular season debut for the Blue Raiders. The Duluth, Ga., native practically carried the squad in the first half, scoring 15 of the team's 33 points. Holt added two assists and two steals in 39 minutes in the see-saw affair. She scored 14 points in 14 minutes of action in the exhibition contest versus Henderson State on 7-of-10 shooting coming off the bench.

Tip Time: 5 PM
Television: None
Radio: WMTS 88.3 FM, WZMG 1400 AM and on the internet at GoBlueRaiders.com. Play-by-play by David Reed.

Series Record:
Series tied 1-1
Last Meeting: W, 79-72 (Dec. 2, 2005)

Head Coaches:
MT - Rick Insell, 20-12 at MT (2nd season)
SDSU - Aaron Johnston, 126-20 at SDSU (eighth season)

LYMON CONNECTS OFF THE BENCH: Freshman Chelsia Lymon took advantage of her limited playing time in Friday's four-point loss to top-ranked Maryland, totaling 13 points on 5-for-7 shooting and adding a steal in just nine minutes of action. Eight of her nine minutes of playing time came in the second half when she took all of her shots, including hitting a pair of 3-pointers. Her first trifecta pulled the Blue Raiders within a point four minutes into the second period and Lymon scored six of her team's points during a 10-2 run late in the period that gave the Blue Raiders a five-point lead with five minutes to play in the contest. Included in the run was her second 3-pointer and a 360-spin move that also drew a foul. Lymon did not play in the exhibition game versus Henderson State because of an ankle injury.

DEPTH NOT AN ISSUE: Middle Tennessee's full-court pressing style of play can sometimes become an issue for many teams. Last season the Blue Raiders played coach Rick Insell's preferred style of play despite using just eight players for most of the season. But in Friday night's contest against No. 1-ranked Maryland, Insell substituted freely, with a dozen players seeing action in the contest, though only seven logged double-digit minutes. Five newcomers were included in the 12 and five underclassmen as well. Freshman Brandi Brown started and played the most minutes of the three freshmen who saw action (21 minutes), while newcomer Amber Holt logged 39 minutes,

QUICK FACTS

Location . . . . . Murfreesboro, Tenn.
Enrollment 22,863
Founded 1911
Nickname . . . . . Blue Raiders
Colors . . . . . Royal Blue and White
President . . . . . Dr. Sidney A. McPhee
Director of Athletics. . . . . Chris Massaro
Associate Athletic Director . . . . . Diane Turnham
Athletics Phone. 615/898-2450
Web Site . . . . . GoBlueRaiders.com
Conference . . . . . Sun Belt
Home Court . . . . . Murphy Center (11,500)

MEDIA RELATIONS

Director . . . . . Mark Owens
Assistant/WBB Contact . . . . . Jo Jo Freeman
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Assistant . . . . . Denise Gideon
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Press Row 615/898-2807

COACHING STAFF

Head Coach . . . . . Rick Insell
Alma Mater . . . . . Middle Tennessee, 1977
Record at MT . . . . . 20-11 (1 year)
Career Record . . . . . Same
Basketball Office Phone 615/898-2968
Assistant Coach . . . . . Myra Fishback
Assistant Coach . . . . . Allison Clark
Assistant Coach . . . . . Kevin McMillan
Dir. of Basketball Operations . . . . . Tom Hodges
Athletic Trainer . . . . . Alison Ness
WBB Secretary . . . . . Debbie Bartlett
Bartlett's Phone 615/898-2968

TEAM INFORMATION

2005-06 Record 20-11
2005-06 SBC Rec./Finish . . . . . 10-4/2nd East
2005-06 Postseason. . . . . NCAA/1st Rnd.
Letterwinners Returning/Lost 7/3
Starters Returning/Lost. 4/1

topped only by senior Chrissy Givens' 40 minutes of action.

GIVENS FILLS THE STAT SHEET: Senior Chrissy Givens led Middle Tennessee in points, rebounds, assists and steals as a junior and continued outstanding all-around play in Friday's four-point loss to top-ranked Maryland. The Monroe, La., native totaled 14 points, four rebounds, seven assists and three steals in the contest, playing all 40 minutes. Givens hit double figures in scoring for the 85th time of her career and played all 40 minutes for the 17th time as a Blue Raider. Givens was named the Preseason Sun Belt Player of the Year by coaches and the media during the SBC Media Days in Lafayette, La., and was a Preseason Honorable Mention All-America selection by Street & Smith's magazine in October.

ALMOST PERFECT FROM THE LINE: Middle Tennessee took advantage of its opportunities at the foul line in Friday's four-point loss to top-ranked Maryland, hitting 10-of-11 (.909) from the free throw stripe, including 5-of-6 by Amber Holt. Middle Tennessee shot 69 percent from the foul line last season, ranking fourth in the Sun Belt Conference.

SERIES HISTORY: The series between the Blue Raiders and the Jackrabbits is a short and evenly-played one. South Dakota State's Shannon Schlagel netted 26 points and Sarita DeBoer added 15 in a 58-56 SDSU victory at Murphy Center on January 3, 2005. The Blue Raiders returned the favor last season at Frost Arena, with Chrissy Givens scoring 27 and Krystle Horton 26 in a 79-72 Blue Raiders win.

SCOUTING THE JACKRABBITS: South Dakota State returns seven players who participated in last season's 79-72 Middle Tennessee victory in Brookings, but head coach Aaron Johnston welcomes six freshmen to the squad. SDSU's regular-season opener was canceled Saturday at Kent State because of inclement weather. The Jackrabbits defeated Bemidgi State, 78-60, and Minnesota-Crookston, 107-45, in exhibition contests. Senior Megan Vogel was SDSU's leading scorer and rebounder last season with 16.1 points and 6.4 boards. No other Jackrabbits player averaged double figures during last season's 19-9 campaign.

BY THE NUMBERS

MT	Stat	SDSU
76.0	Points	69.3
29.0	Rebounds	40.1
16.0	Assists	14.8
7.0	Steals	10.2
2.0	Blocks	2.9
.417	Field Goal Percentage	.388
.375	3-Point Percentage	.343
90.0	Free Throw Percentage	.727
11.0	Turnovers	16.3

BLUE RAIDERS SET ATTENDANCE RECORD: The crowd of 10,010 on hand for the Blue Raiders-Terrapins game on November 10 at Murphy Center set a new single-game attendance record for women's basketball at Middle Tennessee. The previous single-game high was 4,813 against Western Kentucky in the championship game of the 2006 Sun Belt Championships.

GIVENS MOVES INTO TOP 10: With three steals against No. 1-ranked Maryland Friday, senior Chrissy Givens moved into the Top 10 on the all-time steals list at Middle Tennessee. Givens tied Jamie Thomatis (1998-2002) for 10th place with 191 career steals and now needs just four steals to overtake Priscilla Robinson for ninth place.

MORE ON GIVENS: Dating to her last three games of the 2005-06 season, Chrissy Givens has been dishing the rock to her teammates at an astounding rate. With a game-high seven assists against Maryland, Givens has 35 assists in

A QUICK LOOK AT BLUE RAIDER BASKETBALL

No.	Name	Pos.	Ht.	Cl.	Hometown/HS/JC/Transfer	Notes
00	Chelsia Lymon	G	5-5	FR	Georgetown, Ky./Scott County HS	Tallied 13 points on 5-of-7 shooting in Blue Raider debut vs. Maryland
1	Amber Holt	G	6-0	JR	Duluth, Ga./Southeastern Illinois	Scored game-high 28 points on 11-of-24 shooting vs. No. 1 Maryland
2	Johnna Abney	G	5-4	SO	Mt. Vernon, Ky./Rockcastle HS	Led the team in 3-pointers with 66 last season
3	LaCondra Mason	G	5-9	SO	Chattanooga, Tenn./Chattanooga Christian School	3rd in Sun Belt in 3-pt. percentage at .436 in 2005-06
4	Krystle Horton	F	6-2	SR	Murfreesboro, Tenn./Riverdale HS	Preseason Second Team All-Conference
10	Jackie Pickel	G	5-10	FR	Cleveland, Tenn./Bradley Central HS	Miss Basketball Candidate for 2006
11	Whitney Tate	G	5-9	SR	Shelbyville, Tenn./Shelbyville Central HS	Redshirted last season
12	Starr Orr	G	5-8	JR	Danville, Ala./Speake HS	Played in 23 games last season
14	Latoya Barclay	G	5-4	JR	Harvest, Ala./Sparkman HS	Was 18-of-19 from the free throw line
15	Carden Cobb	F	5-10	SR	Pulaski, Tenn./Giles County HS	Redshirted last season
21	Brandi Brown	F	6-2	FR	Jamestown, Tenn./York Institute	Drew start in first career game, vs. Maryland
22	Chrissy Givens	G	5-10	SR	Monroe, La./Ouachita HS	Preseason Sun Belt Player of the Year; First Team Selection
23	Angelique Burtts	F	6-0	FR	Conyers, Ga./Rockdale HS	High School All-American nominee in 2005-06
31	Lakira Boyd	F	6-2	JR	Memphis, Tenn./Kirby HS	Played in 31 games and started 11 last season

Head Coach: Rick Insell Assistant Coaches: Myra Fishback, Allison Clark, Kevin McMillan Director of Basketball Operations: Tom Hodges

TRACKING THE BLUE RAIDERS

Opponent	Largest Lead	Largest Deficit	Best Run	Opp. Run	Record
#1 Maryland	5	15	10-0	12-2	0-1

her past four games for an average of 8.8 per game. For her career, Givens has 289 assists and is just 45 away from moving into the Top 10 at Middle Tennessee.

GIVENS PRESEASON PLAYER OF THE YEAR: Senior Chrissy Givens was voted the Sun Belt Preseason Player of the Year by the league coaches at the conference media days at the end of October. The Monroe, La., native was also voted to the Sun Belt Preseason First Team. The honor is in conjunction with the 5-11 guard being voted Sun Belt Player of the Year in the 2005-06 season. She was also voted Sun Belt Defensive Player of the Year and Sun Belt Tournament MVP. She is just the second player in Sun Belt Conference history to win all three awards in the same season. Givens' preseason honor is the second time in school history a Blue Raider women's basketball player was awarded the honor. In 2004 former Middle Tennessee standout Patrice Holmes was voted Sun Belt Preseason Player of the Year.

BLUE RAIDERS TOPS IN THE EAST: For the second time since joining the Sun Belt, Middle Tennessee has been tabbed to finish first in the Sun Belt preseason poll in the Eastern Division. The Blue Raiders received 74 points and nine first-place votes to take the top spot in the Eastern Division. Middle Tennessee was also picked first to finish first in 2004.

HORTON SECOND TEAM: For the third straight season, Horton has been recognized on a preseason list being placed on the Sun Belt Second Team preseason team. The senior forward was a Third-Team selection to close out the season last year, averaging 11.9 points per game and ranking second in the Sun Belt in field goal percentage with 51.2 percent.

GIVENS NAMED PRESEASON ALL-AMERICAN: Senior Chrissy Givens was named a Preseason Honorable Mention All-America by Street & Smith's magazine in October after leading Middle Tennessee in points, rebounds, assists and steals in 2005-06. It is the second time in school history a Blue Raider player was named a Preseason All-American, with former standout Jonelda Buck garnering the accolade before the 1998-99 season.

RECEIVING VOTES: The ESPN/USA Today preseason women's college basketball poll was released on October 31 and Middle Tennessee received two votes. The Blue Raiders joined Western Kentucky as the only teams from the Sun Belt Conference to receive votes.

HOME COURT ADVANTAGE: Middle Tennessee ended the 2005-06 season 15-1 at home with its lone loss to then No. 17 Georgia on November 30, 2005. The Blue Raiders had their 12-game home winning streak snapped in the season-opener against top-ranked Maryland, losing 80-76. But Middle Tennessee owns an overall mark of 302-88 at Murphy Center, a winning percentage of .774.

NATIONAL, SUN BELT RANKINGS FROM LAST SEASON: Middle Tennessee finished the 2005-06 season ranked 25th nationally in scoring offense at 72.0 points per game and 23rd in the country in field goal percentage (.450, tops in Sun Belt Conference). The Blue Raiders were also 28th nationally in 3-point FG percentage (.365, tops in Sun Belt Conference), with Maryland tops in the nation last season at .400. Middle Tennessee ended last year sixth in the country in steals per outing with 11.9. Individually Chrissy Givens was eighth nationally in points per game (21.5), 12th in steals per game (3.2) and 46th in assists per game (4.8). Givens led the Sun Belt Conference in both points and steals last season. Johnna Abney ranked 33rd in the country in 3-point FG percentage at .407, while LaCondra Mason ranked first in the Sun Belt in 3-point FG percentage (34-of-78, .436), though she did not qualify nationally with enough attempts.

HORTON FINDS THE BASKET: Senior and three-year starter Krystle Horton ranks in the Top 10 in Middle Tennessee history in FG percentage (.536, 501-935). The Murfreesboro, Tenn., native is the one constant on Middle Tennessee's three straight Sun Belt Tournament title teams and three consecutive NCAA Tournament appearances. She has missed out on notoriety because of teammate Patrice Holmes and now Chrissy Givens, but has averaged double-figure points (15.0 as freshman, 11.3 as sophomore, 11.9 as junior, 12.7 for career) and 5.5 rebounds (5.7, 5.4, 5.7, 5.6 for career) in her three seasons.

MEDIA INFORMATION

Blue Raiders on Radio

■ All Blue Raider basketball games can be heard on WMTS FM 88.3 in Rutherford County and 1400 AM WZNG in Shelbyville. David Reed is in his second season as the Blue Raiders' play-by-play announcer.

Interview Protocol

■ After a 10-minute cooling off period, requested players and head coach Rick Insell will be available for members of the media. The Blue Raider locker room is CLOSED both at home and on the road. At home, the interview area is located just off the northeast corner of the playing floor. On the road, requested players and Coach Insell will be brought to an area designated by the home team. Player requests should be directed to assistant media relations director Jo Jo Freeman.

Credentials

■ Arrangement for media credentials for the 2006-07 basketball season should be directed to the Athletic Media Relations Office. Requests by accredited media members should be made in writing and submitted on company letterhead to Jo Jo Freeman. Priority issuance of credentials will be given to daily newspapers and television stations that cover Middle Tennessee basketball on a regular basis. Other credential requests will be fulfilled on a space available basis.

GoBlueRaiders.com

■ Middle Tennessee basketball statistics and notes are available 24 hours a day, seven days a week at GoBlueRaiders.com. Media are invited to use the official web site for Middle Tennessee athletics for information regarding all Blue Raider athletic teams.

INSELL'S SUCCESS: Head coach Rick Insell enjoyed unprecedented success at Shelbyville Central High School in Shelbyville, Tenn., before becoming the seventh head coach in Middle Tennessee history before the 2005-06 season. Insell posted a 20-11 mark last year and led the Blue Raiders to their third straight Sun Belt Tournament title and third consecutive NCAA Tournament appearance. The 20 wins in his first campaign mark only the second Blue Raider coach to win 20 contests in his rookie season (Lewis Bivens, 22-8, 1988) and just the 14th 20-win season in Blue Raider history.

Middle Tennessee 20-win seasons

Pat Jones (20-5, 1977)
Larry Inman (23-10, 1980; 20-5, 1982; 26-5, 1983; 23-7, 1985; 20-10, 1986)
Lewis Bivens (22-8, 1988; 21-6, 1989; 21-7, 1993; 21-7, 1994; 24-6, 1996)
Stephany Smith (24-8, 2004; 24-8, 2005)

LAST TIME OUT FOR MIDDLE TENNESSEE

Blue Raiders push No. 1 Maryland, fall by 4
By MONTE HALE JR.
hale@dnj.com

Women's college basketball has seen the gap narrow between the have's and have not's.

MTSU proved Friday night that it, too, has closed the gap in terms of competing with the top teams in the nation.

However, MTSU also found out why Maryland is the defending national champion as it overcame a five-point deficit with 5:14 remaining and stormed back to defeat the Blue Raiders 80-76 before a women's record crowd of 10,010 at Murphy Center.

"You can see why their national champions," said MTSU coach Rick Insell. "They did the same thing in the finals last year against Duke.

"They've got great players, but we've got great players. They didn't luck into winning the national championsihp."

MTSU led the Terrapins 72-67 with 5:14 left in the game after freshman guard Chelsia Lymon scored on a three-point play.

However, after a Maryland timeout, it reeled off a 13-4 run to close the game and hold on to its preseason No. 1 national ranking.

Game 1 **Murphy Center (10,010)**

#1 MARYLAND 80

MIDDLE TENNESSEE 76

Nov. 10, 2006 - Murfreesboro, Tenn.

UMD (1-0)	*FG*	*3FG*	*FT*	*REB*	*F*	*TP*	*A*	*T*	*B*	*S*	*MIN*
01 Langhorne*	7-9	0-0	2-3	5-6-11	1	16	0	1	0	2	37
15 Harper*	4-7	0-0	3-4	1-5-6	3	11	0	1	0	1	20
20 Toliver*	3-3	1-1	2-3	0-0-0	2	9	4	4	1	1	25
22 Doron*	4-11	0-3	8-9	0-2-2	2	16	1	5	0	1	35
25 Coleman*	8-12	2-3	1-3	1-14-15	2	19	4	5	3	1	38
11 Marrone	1-1	0-0	0-0	0-0-0	0	2	1	3	0	0	8
21 Newman	2-3	1-1	0-0	0-0-0	2	5	1	2	0	0	20
44 Noirez	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0-0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
55 Perry	1-3	0-0	0-0	1-2-3	3	2	0	1	0	0	16
TEAM				2				1			
Totals.....	30-49	4-8	16-22	8-29-37	15	80	11	23	4	6	200

FG	1st (16-23) 69.6	2nd (14-26) 53.8	Game (61.2)
3FG	1st (1-3) 33.3	2nd (3-5) 60.0	Game (50.0)
FT	1st (5-6) 83.3	2nd (11-16) 68.8	Game (72.7)

MT (0-1)	*FG*	*3FG*	*FT*	*REB*	*F*	*TP*	*A*	*T*	*B*	*S*	*MIN*
01 Holt*	11-24	1-3	5-6	6-2-8	4	28	2	2	0	2	39
02 Abney*	1-1	1-1	2-2	0-1-1	1	5	3	1	0	1	24
04 Horton*	1-7	0-0	0-0	0-3-3	2	1	2	0	0	25	
21 Brown*	1-8	0-4	0-0	1-3-4	2	2	0	2	2	0	21
22 Givens*	6-18	0-1	2-2	2-2-4	4	14	7	2	0	3	40
00 Lymon	5-7	2-3	1-1	0-0-0	1	13	0	0	0	1	9
03 Mason	0-1	0-1	0-0	0-0-0	1	0	1	0	0	0	7
10 Pickel	1-2	1-2	0-0	0-0-0	1	3	0	0	0	0	3
12 Orr	1-1	0-0	0-0	1-0-1	0	2	0	0	0	0	7
14 Barclay	1-1	1-1	0-0	0-0-0	0	3	2	1	0	0	11
15 Cobb	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0-0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
31 Boyd	2-2	0-0	0-0	1-4-5	2	4	0	0	0	0	13
TEAM				3-0-3				1			
Totals.....	30-72	6-16	10-11	14-15-29	19	76	16	11	2	7	200

FG	1st (12-33) 36.4	2nd (18-39) 46.2	Game (41.7)
3FG	1st (2-6) 33.3	2nd (4-10) 40.0	Game (37.5)
FT	1st (7-8) 87.5	2nd (3-3) 100	Game (90.9)

Officials: Gator Parrish, Doug Williams, Felicia Grinter
Technical fouls: Maryland-TEAM. Middle Tennessee-None.

Score by Periods	1st	2nd	Total
Maryland	38	42	80
Middle Tennessee	33	43	76

"I want to thank Middle Tennessee," said Maryland coach Brenda Frese. "They made us a better basketball team tonight. It was tremendous, it was one of the better college basketball games I've ever been a part of. Middle Tennessee is going to be very, very good. They obviously showed it and they've got to be excited about what's ahead."

Added Maryland sophomore forward Marrissa Coleman: "We knew we would be a target, but we didn't know it would be like this."

The Blue Raiders trailed 76-74 with less than a mintue left, but Amber Holt's jumper was off the mark. On Maryland's next possession, All-American Crystal Langhorne scored on an offensive putback to with 25 seconds left to seal the victory.

"I think the biggest thing we got out of it is to see where we are — and we're a pretty good basketball team," said MTSU senior guard Chrissy Givens, who had 14 points, seven assists and three steals. "I think we got a little bit better. ... I think we saw what type of team we are and who we can be. We saw the little things we need to do to be a great team and take it to another level.

"It's frustrating, but I think everything happens for a reason. We had a couple of people really disappointed with this loss, and I think that will be their wake-up call."

Holt made a sterling debut, scoring 28 points and pulling down eight rebounds, and freshman point guard Chelsia Lymon — the Gatorade player of the year in Kentucky last year — scored 13 points in only nine minutes of play.

"I'm glad I signed here to play," said Holt, who was a junior college All-American at Southeastern College last year. "I want to play hard and I want to play with a team that plays hard. It's a big step up (in competition). Against the old schools I played against, it wasn't like this. The pace was faster."

Maryland was led by Coleman with 19 points and 14 rebounds, while Langhorne had 16 points and 11 rebounds.

While the Blue Raiders pushed Maryland to the limit, it didn't look like it that way early.

Coming out of the final media timeout in the first half with 2:55 remaining, MTSU trailed 36-23. Maryland had hit 15 of its first 21 shots for a sizzling 71-percent clip, while MTSU had made only 9 of its first 27 attempts.

However, after Maryland took its biggest lead of the half at 38-23, MTSU scored the final 10 points to close within 38-33 at intermission.

Holt scored six in a row and Givens drove in the length of the floor in just six seconds and hit a layup to pull the Blue Raiders within five.

"They're the national champions, but I'm proud of my team," Insell said. "They just made the plays that had to."

Maryland shot 61 percent from the field and outrebounded MTSU 37-29. The Blue Raiders shot 42 percent and forced 23 Terrapin turnovers.

MTSU plays South Dakota State at home Monday night, while Maryland plays host to George Mason Sunday.

POSTGAME NOTES

BLUE RAIDERS SET ATTENDANCE RECORD: The crowd of 10,010 on hand for the Blue Raiders-Terrapins game is a new single-game attendance record for women's basketball at Middle Tennessee. The previous single-game high was 4,813 set against Western Kentucky in the championship game of the 2006 Sun Belt Conference Tournament.

GIVENS MOVES INTO TOP 10: With three steals against No. 1 ranked Maryland, senior Chrissy Givens moved into the Top 10 on the all-time list. Givens tied Jamie Thomatis (1998-2002) for 10th place with 191 career steals and now needs just four steals to overtake Priscilla Robinson for ninth place.

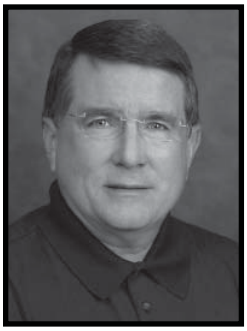
NICE OPENING ACT: Transfer Amber Holt made a nice debut in her first game as a Blue Raider and showed she will be a player to be reckoned with in 2006-07. Holt, from Duluth, Ga., scored 28 points on 11 of 24 shooting and pulled down eight rebounds to pace the Blue Raiders. Holt also added two steals and two assists.

DISHING IT OUT: Dating back to her last three games of the 2005-06 season, Chrissy Givens has been dishing the rock to her teammates at an alarming rate. With a game-high seven assists against Maryland tonight, Givens has 35 assists in her past four games for an average of 8.8 per game. For her career, Givens has 289 assists and is just 45 away from moving into the Top 10 at Middle Tennessee.

FRESHMAN SHINES: In her first live action at the collegiate level, true freshman Chelsia Lymon shined on one of college basketball's biggest stages. The Georgetown, Ky., native did not play against Henderson State in the team's exhibition due to an ankle injury, but made the most of her minutes tonight against No. 1 ranked Maryland. Lymon scored 13 points on 5-for-7 shooting in just nine minutes of action and all of her points came during the eight minutes she played in the second half. The point guard also added a steal while making 2-of-3 three-pointers.

QUICK HITTERS: Nov. 10 is the earliest starting date ever for the Middle Tennessee program ... Chrissy Givens hit double figures in scoring for the 85th time of her career and played all 40 minutes for the 17th time as a Blue Raider ... The Blue Raiders were outshot at the free throw line in the second half, 16 to 3 ... Middle Tennessee saw its 12-game home winning streak come to an end with the loss to Maryland ... MT is now 21-11 in home openers and 19-13 in season openers ... The Blue Raiders played 12 total players in tonight's game, while Maryland played nine ...The Blue Raiders played three true freshman, including Brandi Brown who earned a start.

Head Coach Rick Insell



Rick Insell made a huge splash is first year at the helm of the Middle Tennessee women's basketball program, guiding the Middle Tennessee program to its third consecutive Sun Belt Championship and doing so in front of a record-setting home crowd in the finals of the SBC Tournament.

Insell can now drop the title former high school coach and add his name to the list of Middle Tennessee coaches with conference titles. He directed one of the most thrilling comebacks in Sun Belt Tournament history, leading Middle Tennessee to an 84-73 win over Western Kentucky after being down by as many as 14 points in the first half.

Insell's first season at the helm of his alma mater also included a Top 10 recruiting class for the 2006-07 season and an unprecedented third consecutive trip to the NCAA Tournament.

Insell also developed one of the most prolific scorers for a single-season in school history in Chrissy Givens, who registered 667 points, the second most in a season on the all-time scoring list. It also makes Givens one of just five players to score 600 or more points in a season as a Blue Raider.

The 2005-06 campaign also saw another first in program history as three players - Givens, Tia Stovall and Krystle Horton - all joined the 1,000-point club. This marks the first time in school history three current players all were represented on the prestigious list, and the Blue Raiders were one of only four teams in the 2006 NCAA Tournament to boast such an honor.

Insell's biggest influence may have come at the turnstiles, where the Blue Raiders averaged 2,699 fans per outing in 2005-06, a 300 percent increase over the previous season and the largest increase in the NCAA for 2005-06.

Middle Tennessee notched one of its biggest wins of the season when the Blue Raiders shocked Big 10 powerhouse Penn State, 79-65, in the UAB Blaze Tournament in December.

A 1977 graduate of Middle Tennessee, Insell built a high school girls basketball dynasty at nearby Shelbyville Central High School, where he guided the Golden Eaglettes to a record 10 TSSAA Class AAA state championships and two USA Today national championships (1989, 1991) as he compiled a sparkling 775-148 worksheet during his 28-year tenure. Insell was named USA Today National High School Coach of the Year in 1989 and 1991 and he also was been named Converse National High School Coach of the Year on two occasions (1990, 1992). Insell called the women's basketball position at Middle Tennessee his "dream job".

"Dreams do come true," Insell said after Director of Athletics Chris Massaro announced his hiring on May 18, 2005. "It's something you think about. I'm a coach and it's all I've ever done, from elementary to junior high to junior pro, AAU and high school. To be able to come on board at Middle Tennessee, a Division I school, that's a dream come true, not only for me, but for all of the high school coaches and junior high coaches across the country and it says if you stay in there long enough and dream big enough, one day it will eventually happen."

Insell said Middle Tennessee will be a pressing basketball team on defense and force the issue, and he added that the Blue Raiders would back down from no one on the recruiting trail.

"We are going after the best players in the state of Tennessee every year," Insell said. "If Tennessee or Vanderbilt is after them, then Middle Tennessee is going to be after them, too. We will recruit alongside of them. We are not going to be intimidated, nor will we back down because they are in the Southeastern Conference. We are Division I and they are Division I. We are going to use all of our contacts."

A name synonymous with high school girls basketball in Tennessee, Insell's teams hold the Tennessee state records for consecutive wins with 110, consecutive state titles with four (1989-1992), most state championships for a coach with 10 (1986, 1989, 1990, 1991, 1992, 1995, 2000, 2001, 2003 and 2004), and his 1990 Golden Eaglette squad was named the Tennessee Sports Hall of Fame Team of the Year, the first high school team so honored.

Under Insell's guidance, Shelbyville Central High School won 23 district championships, 16 regional championships and appeared in the Class AAA state championship game a remarkable 15 times, winning 10. Insell developed six Tennessee Class AAA Miss Basketball Award recipients, 15 high school All-Americans and 57 of his players received either athletic or academic scholarships to continue their careers at the collegiate level.

While Insell built a basketball dynasty at Shelbyville during his time there, he also made sure his players got the job done in the classroom, as evidenced by his teams receiving the TSSAA Distinguished Award for Academic Success from 1989-2000, an award based on team GPA. The lowest cumulative GPA at Shelbyville from 1989-00 was 3.4 and the highest was 3.98.

Additionally, Insell's Shelbyville team received a special invitation to the Oval Office by President George Bush for academic and athletic achievement and his teams also have been honored in the United States Senate and House of Representatives, the Tennessee State House and Senate and by two Tennessee Governors.

Insell is married to Debbie and the couple have three sons, Tom, Kyle and Matt.

INSELL'S INS AND OUTS

Appeared on *Dateline* on December 26, 2004. The program produced a one hour segment on Insell, focusing on him and his Shelbyville Eaglettes. The program was shown internationally.

March 22, 2003, Rick Insell was inducted into the Tennessee Secondary School Athletic Association Hall of Fame.

Insell and his Shelbyville Eaglettes received a special invitation to the Oval Office by President George Bush for academic and athletic achievement.

In 1989, ESPN did a feature story on the Shelbyville Eaglettes that aired nationally several times. The story won the National Television Journalism Award later that year. It was the first of several stories ESPN did on Insell and his team.

In 1992, Rick Insell was named Head Coach of the Girls High School All-American Game and from 1992-96 he was a member of the All-American Selection Committee. He became the chairman of the All-American Selection Committee in 1996 and began serving as an advisor in 1999.

Insell was named to the Women's Basketball Coaches Association (WBCA) Board of Directors as High School Representative in 2001.

THE STAT CREW SYSTEM
Middle Tennessee Season Box Score (as of Nov 13, 2006)
All games

RECORD:	OVERALL	HOME	AWAY	NEUTRAL
ALL GAMES.....	(0-1)	(0-1)	(0-0)	(0-0)
CONFERENCE.....	(0-0)	(0-0)	(0-0)	(0-0)
NON-CONFERENCE.....	(0-1)	(0-1)	(0-0)	(0-0)

					---TOTAL---|	|---3-PTS---|						----REBOUNDS----|										
##	Player	GP-GS	Min	--Avg	FG-FGA	Pct	3FG-FGA	Pct	FT-FTA	Pct	Off	Def	Tot	Avg	PF	FO	A	TO	Blk	Stl	Pts	Avg
00	Lymon, Chelsia.....	1-0	9	9.0	5-7	.714	2-3	.667	1-1	1.000	0	0	0	0.0	1	0	0	0	0	1	13	13.0
01	Holt, Amber.....	1-1	39	39.0	11-24	.458	1-3	.333	5-6	.833	6	2	8	8.0	4	0	2	2	0	2	28	28.0
02	Abney, Johnna.....	1-1	24	24.0	1-1	1.000	1-1	1.000	2-2	1.000	0	1	1	1.0	1	0	3	1	0	1	5	5.0
03	Mason, LaCondra....	1-0	7	7.0	0-1	.000	0-1	.000	0-0	.000	0	0	0	0.0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0.0
04	Horton, Krystle....	1-1	25	25.0	1-7	.143	0-0	.000	0-0	.000	0	3	3	3.0	3	0	1	2	0	0	2	2.0
10	Pickel, Jackie.....	1-0	3	3.0	1-2	.500	1-2	.500	0-0	.000	0	0	0	0.0	1	0	0	0	0	0	3	3.0
12	Orr, Starr.....	1-0	7	7.0	1-1	1.000	0-0	.000	0-0	.000	1	0	1	1.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	2.0
14	Barclay, Latoya....	1-0	11	11.0	1-1	1.000	1-1	1.000	0-0	.000	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	2	1	0	0	3	3.0
15	Cobb, Carden.....	1-0	1	1.0	0-0	.000	0-0	.000	0-0	.000	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
21	Brown, Brandi.....	1-1	21	21.0	1-8	.125	0-4	.000	0-0	.000	1	3	4	4.0	2	0	0	2	2	0	2	2.0
22	Givens, Chrissy....	1-1	40	40.0	6-18	.333	0-1	.000	2-2	1.000	2	2	4	4.0	4	0	7	2	0	3	14	14.0
31	Boyd, Lakira.....	1-0	13	13.0	2-2	1.000	0-0	.000	0-0	.000	1	4	5	5.0	2	0	0	0	0	0	4	4.0
	TEAM.....										3	0	3	3.0	0			1				
	Total.....	1	200		30-72	.417	6-16	.375	10-11	.909	14	15	29	29.0	19	0	16	11	2	7	76	76.0
	Opponents.....	1	200		30-49	.612	4-8	.500	16-22	.727	8	29	37	37.0	15	-	11	23	4	6	80	80.0

SCORE BY PERIODS:	1st	2nd		Total
Middle Tennessee.....	33	43	-	76
Opponents.....	38	42	-	80

DEADBALL REBOUNDS:	OFF	DEF	TOTAL
Middle Tennessee.....	0	0	0
Opponents.....	2	0	2

THE STAT CREW SYSTEM
Middle Tennessee Combined Team Statistics (as of Nov 13, 2006)
All games

RECORD:	OVERALL	HOME	AWAY	NEUTRAL
ALL GAMES.....	(0-1)	(0-1)	(0-0)	(0-0)
CONFERENCE.....	(0-0)	(0-0)	(0-0)	(0-0)
NON-CONFERENCE.....	(0-1)	(0-1)	(0-0)	(0-0)

				---TOTAL---			---3-PTS---					----REBOUNDS----										
## Player	GP-GS	Min--Avg	FG-FGA	Pct	3FG-FGA	Pct	FT-FTA	Pct	Off	Def	Tot	Avg	PF	FO	A	TO	Blk	Stl	Pts	Avg
00 Lymon, Chelsia.....	1-0	9 9.0	5-7	.714	2-3	.667	1-1	1.000	0	0	0	0.0	1	0	0	0	0	1	13	13.0
01 Holt, Amber.....	1-1	39 39.0	11-24	.458	1-3	.333	5-6	.833	6	2	8	8.0	4	0	2	2	0	2	28	28.0
02 Abney, Johnna.....	1-1	24 24.0	1-1	1.000	1-1	1.000	2-2	1.000	0	1	1	1.0	1	0	3	1	0	1	5	5.0
03 Mason, LaCondra....	1-0	7 7.0	0-1	.000	0-1	.000	0-0	.000	0	0	0	0.0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0.0
04 Horton, Krystle....	1-1	25 25.0	1-7	.143	0-0	.000	0-0	.000	0	3	3	3.0	3	0	1	2	0	0	2	2.0
10 Pickel, Jackie.....	1-0	3 3.0	1-2	.500	1-2	.500	0-0	.000	0	0	0	0.0	1	0	0	0	0	0	3	3.0
12 Orr, Starr.....	1-0	7 7.0	1-1	1.000	0-0	.000	0-0	.000	1	0	1	1.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	2.0
14 Barclay, Latoya....	1-0	11 11.0	1-1	1.000	1-1	1.000	0-0	.000	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	2	1	0	0	3	3.0
15 Cobb, Carden.....	1-0	1 1.0	0-0	.000	0-0	.000	0-0	.000	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
21 Brown, Brandi.....	1-1	21 21.0	1-8	.125	0-4	.000	0-0	.000	1	3	4	4.0	2	0	0	2	2	0	2	2.0
22 Givens, Chrissy....	1-1	40 40.0	6-18	.333	0-1	.000	2-2	1.000	2	2	4	4.0	4	0	7	2	0	3	14	14.0
31 Boyd, Lakira.....	1-0	13 13.0	2-2	1.000	0-0	.000	0-0	.000	1	4	5	5.0	2	0	0	0	0	0	4	4.0
TEAM.....									3	0	3	3.0	0			1				
Total.....	1	200	30-72	.417	6-16	.375	10-11	.909	14	15	29	29.0	19	0	16	11	2	7	76	76.0
Opponents.....	1	200	30-49	.612	4-8	.500	16-22	.727	8	29	37	37.0	15	-	11	23	4	6	80	80.0

TEAM STATISTICS	MT	OPP
SCORING.....	76	80
Points per game.....	76.0	80.0
Scoring margin.....	-4.0	-
FIELD GOALS-ATT.....	30-72	30-49
Field goal pct.....	.417	.612
3 POINT FG-ATT.....	6-16	4-8
3-point FG pct.....	.375	.500
3-pt FG made per game..	6.0	4.0
FREE THROWS-ATT.....	10-11	16-22
Free throw pct.....	.909	.727
REBOUNDS.....	29	37
Rebounds per game.....	29.0	37.0
Rebounding margin.....	-8.0	-
ASSISTS.....	16	11
Assists per game.....	16.0	11.0
TURNOVERS.....	11	23
Turnovers per game.....	11.0	23.0
Turnover margin.....	+12.0	-
Assist/turnover ratio..	1.5	0.5
STEALS.....	7	6
Steals per game.....	7.0	6.0
BLOCKS.....	2	4
Blocks per game.....	2.0	4.0
WINNING STREAK.....	0	-
Home win streak.....	0	-
ATTENDANCE.....	10010	0
Home games-Avg/Game....	1-10010	0-0
Neutral site-Avg/Game..	-	0-0

DATE	OPPONENT	W/L	SCORE	ATTEND
11/10/06	MARYLAND	L	76-80	10010

SCORE BY PERIODS:	1st	2nd		Total
Middle Tennessee.....	33	43	-	76
Opponents.....	38	42	-	80