Blue Raiders Win 28-21 in OT

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HINES BACK IN THE SADDLE: After leaving the Temple game two weeks ago with a back injury, senior quarterback Andrico Hines made it back under center when he entered the Idaho contest in the second quarter. Hines went on to pass for 227 yards and rush for 61 yards and two scores. Hines effort was even more valiant today than most people realized. The Riverdale, GA, native played with a nasty stomach virus that had him vomiting and cramping during the game.

GROSS OVER 100 AGAIN: RB Eugene Gross topped the 100-yard mark for the second consecutive game by rushing for a career-high 141 yards on 26 attempts. Gross' 51-yard TD run in the second period was the longest run of his career. Gross' yardage total is the most for a Blue Raider since Dwone Hicks rolled up 169 yards against Utah State last season.

HENRY HAS CAREER DAY: Sophomore Chris Henry turned in his best statistical day as a Blue Raider in today's game against Idaho. Henry, who entered the Idaho game with just one reception, reeled in five catches for 76 yards. Henry's previous high was three receptions set against Utah State in 2002.

ROAD WIN: The Blue Raiders have struggled on the road of late, but a win over the Vandals today broke a streak of four straight Sun Belt road losses. The win is the first away from home since upending Vanderbilt in Nashville last season.

OT AGAIN: The Blue Raiders saw overtime for the second time this season today against Idaho. The Blue Raiders are now 1-1 in overtime this season. During the 1-A era, the Blue Raiders are 2-1 when playing the extra period. The OT win is also the first on the road for the Blue Raiders in the I-A era.

MAKING PLAYS: Andy McCollum's offensive philosophy has always been to get the football in the hands of playmakers. Today, the Blue Raiders did just that. The Blue Raider receivers tallied 123

yards of the 298 total passing yards after the catch against the Vandals. The team was led in that category by Chris Henry's 35 yards with Eugene Gross picking up 32. Six Blue Raider tallied yards after the catch today.

COMING UP BIG: Redshirt freshman Kevin Copeland couldn't have picked a better time to notch his first career interception. The Warm Springs, GA, native snatched the ball from the grasp of Vandal QB Brian Lindgren, who was down field on an attempted halfback pass to seal the Blue Raider win in overtime.

BONNER SETS CAREER MARK: LB Jonathan Bonner set a new career mark with 14 tackles against the Vandals. He also forced a fumble during the game.

TIDBITS: Senior Brandon Lynch made his 24th consecutive start today, which ranks as the longest streak on the team ... Middle Tennessee's second quarter touchdown was the sixth of the year the Blue Raiders have scored on a drive in less than one minute ... Devarick Scandrett had his fourth sack of the season today, while Thomas Johnson recorded his third ... WR Chris Henry's 36-yard catch in the third quarter was the longest of the season for the sophomore ... The blocked field goal in the third quarter was Brian Kelly's first miss of the season ... Middle Tennessee's fumble recovery in the third quarter was its first forced turnover of the season on the road ... The Blue Raiders improved to 2-4 all-time in games played indoors with today's loss ... Kerry Wright's two-point conversion catch in the fourth quarter was his second of the year ... LB Dennis Burke tallied a career best 3 tackles-for-loss (-10 yards) ... Entering today's game, the Blue Raiders had tallied just one sack in two previous meetings with Idaho. Today, the Blue Raiders came up with three sacks, including one in the overtime period ... MT's 520 total offensive yards was a season high and the most by the Blue Raiders since gaining 520 against UL-Lafayette last year.

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