

Lucas Taylor

Big plays cost Vols

'Disastrous' plays, mistakes add to UT's struggles. **Sports, C1**

Officials: Taliban hid behind children

Taliban fighters with guns and grenades used children as shields during a battle, forcing U.S.-led coalition soldiers to hold their fire. **World, A4**

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Vol. 197—No. 263 © 2007 The Leaf-Chronicle Co.

Thursday, September 20, 2007

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YOUR DAY



86° 62°

Sunny and pleasant.

Full weather report, **Page A2**

ONLINE TODAY



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LIVING



David Baker

Purchase plants from the masters

Some of the 70 master gardeners in Montgomery County will be selling some of their handiwork at a plant sale from 8 a.m. to noon on Saturday at Veterans plaza. **Page D3**

COMMUNITY



Sgt. Robert Freeman and Kathy Begue

Mobile USO Canteen makes local stop

A mobile USO Canteen with nine laptop computers, three DVD players, five Xbox 360s, three 46-inch flat-screen TVs, treats and more is at Fort Campbell's Blanchfield Army Community Hospital. **Page B1**

QUOTABLE

"Men hate those to whom they have to lie."

—Victor Hugo
French author
(1802-1885)

INSIDE

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Christian outreach gets extreme for God

Motocross sports, tricks, stunts and bands all part of fun-filled event

RELIGION

By **JAMIE DEXTER**
The Leaf-Chronicle

A jamming rock band, a motorcycle rider jumping over three nervous volunteers and a man riding a 10-foot-tall unicycle — these things may not sound like your average church service, but parents and kids got eyes and ears full of those things Wednesday night in the parking lot of Rossvie High School.

Bikers and musicians, who are part of Real Encounter Outreach, entertained, while at the same time spread the word about God.

Janelle Bagsley stood near her daughter, 13-year-old Rebecca, who watched the band Time of Favor with a group of friends from her church, First Baptist Church of St. Bethlehem.

Bagsley said ways of worship for her daughter are a lot different than when she was a child.

"Quite a bit different," Bagsley said. "I was raised Lutheran ... there wasn't this much entertainment and this much excitement to share Christ ... I think it's wonderful."

"It was really cool," Rebecca said, standing with her teenage friends who screamed for the band on stage. "I like the band the most."

After the crowd saw a skateboarder perform tricks while blindfolded, stunt rider Brad Bennett jump over people on his motorcycle and other extreme feats, Bennett told the crowd his story of how he came to know God.

Bennett, who had been an avid motocross racer, met his motocross hero Steve Wise at the age of 19, and Wise witnessed to him about God.

"I was famous in the area of motocross, but I knew something was missing," Bennett said, and shortly after he began sharing the same



Robert Smith/The Leaf-Chronicle

Ricky Mosley, a member Real Encounter Professional Motocross Outreach Ministry, does a jump during the start of the program Wednesday night at Rossvie High School.

message through extreme sports. The group, Bennett said, tours the nation sharing that message, and is what he calls a "Billy-Gra-

ham-like crusade with action sports."

See **Extreme, A2**

FORT CAMPBELL

Army testing soldiers' brains before sending them to Iraq

Tests give doctors baseline to help treat soldiers with brain injuries

By **KRISTIN M. HALL**
Associated Press

Before they leave for Iraq, thousands of troops with the 101st Airborne Division line up at laptop computers to take a test: basic math, matching numbers and symbols, and identifying patterns. They press a button quickly to measure response time.

It's all part of a fledgling Army program that records how soldiers' brains work when healthy, giving doctors baseline data to help diagnose and treat the soldiers if they suffer a traumatic brain injury — the signature injury of the Iraq war.

"This allows the Army to be much more proactive," said Lt. Col. Mark McGrail, division surgeon for the 101st. "We don't want to wait until the soldier is getting out of the Army to say, 'But I've had these symptoms.'"

The mandatory brain-function tests are starting with the 101st at Fort Campbell and are expected to spread to other military bases in the next couple of months. Commanders at each base will decide whether to adopt the program.

The tests provide a standard,



Associated Press

Soldiers of the 101st Airborne take a cognitive skills test Sept. 7 in preparation for deployment to Iraq at Fort Campbell. Before they leave for Iraq, thousands of troops with the 101st line up at laptop computers to take a test: basic math, matching numbers and symbols and identifying patterns. They press a button quickly to measure response time. It's all part of a fledgling Army program that records how soldiers' brains work when healthy, giving doctors baseline data to help diagnose and treat them if they come back with a traumatic brain injury.

objective measurement for each soldier's reaction time, their short-term memory and other cognitive skills. That data would be used when the soldiers come home to identify mild brain trauma that can often go unnoticed and untreated.

One veterans group wants to ensure the Army doesn't use the results to deny treatment by claiming that soldiers' problems came from pre-existing conditions. "We certainly think these tests should not be used to reduce the

responsibility that the Army has to treat the soldiers who have served," said Jason Forrester, director of policy for Veterans for America.

About 7,500 Fort Campbell soldiers have completed the tests, said Dr. Robert Schlegel, a University of Oklahoma researcher who administers the 10-minute exams to soldiers as they file quickly through a testing center.

See **Testing, A2**

CITY GOVERNMENT

Bryden gender lawsuit settled

City agrees to pay \$20K to keep discrimination lawsuit out of court

By **ERIC SNYDER**
The Leaf-Chronicle

For the third time this month, the Clarksville Finance and Administration Committee voted unanimously to settle a Clarksville Police Department discrimination lawsuit out of court.

The committee voted Wednesday to settle the discrimination lawsuit filed by Officer Teresa Bryden for \$20,000, part of a settlement that had been negotiated and agreed to by both parties' attorneys.

The city will not be paying for any legal expenses incurred by Bryden or her attorney, Rob Martin.

Bryden filed suit against the city in August 2006. Her lawsuit alleged she was denied several promotions because of her age or because she was not afforded the same training opportunities given to her male colleagues.



Bryden

See **Lawsuit, A2**

TENNESSEE

Judge says state's lethal injection procedure cruel

Court's ruling interrupts plans to execute killer next week

By **ERIK SCHELZIG**
Associated Press

NASHVILLE — A federal judge ruled Wednesday that Tennessee's new lethal injection procedures are cruel and unusual punishment, interrupting plans to execute a killer next week.

The protocol "presents a substantial risk of unnecessary pain" and violates death row inmate Edward Jerome Harbison's constitutional protections under the Eighth Amendment, U.S. District Judge Aleta Trauger said.

The new protocol, released in April, does not ensure that inmates are properly anesthetized before the lethal injection is administered, Trauger said, which could "result in a terrifying, excruciating death."

A spokeswoman for the state attorney general's office said officials are reviewing the ruling and haven't decided whether to appeal. Gov. Phil Bredesen's office had no immediate comment.

Harbison was scheduled to be executed early next Wednesday for beating an elderly woman to death during a burglary in 1983.

Trauger did not issue a stay or throw out the death sentence for Harbison, who has lost all his appeals. He can be legally executed once the state adopts a valid method of execution, she said.

Kent Scheidegger, legal director for the Criminal Justice Legal Foundation, a nonprofit group that supports the death penalty, said the 6th Circuit Court of Appeals might reverse Trauger's ruling.

"They have been fairly hostile to these sorts of claims," Scheidegger said.

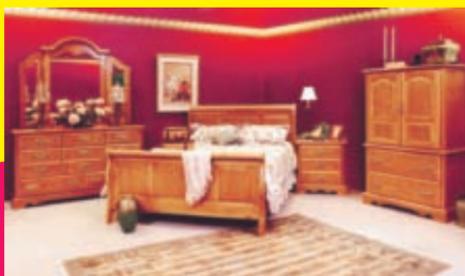
Another federal judge in Nashville earlier this year ordered a delay in the execution of convicted killer Philip Workman, citing the likelihood that the state's new guidelines could still cause unconstitutional pain and suffering.

See **Ruling, A2**

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