

# Authorities: McNair's death a homicide

### Police not ready to say if girlfriend shot him

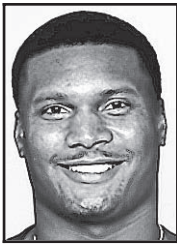
ASSOCIATED PRESS

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — Shot twice in the head and two more times in the chest, former NFL quarterback Steve McNair was the victim of a homicide, police declared yesterday. But authorities weren't ready to call it a murder-suicide, even though his 20-year-old girlfriend was found dead at his feet from a single bullet.

McNair had been dating Sahel Kazemi for several months, and Nashville police spokesman Don Aaron said that a semiautomatic pistol was found under her body. She had been shot in the head.

McNair, who was married and had four sons, had a permit to carry a handgun in Tennessee. Police said they had not determined who owned the gun found at the scene.

Investigators weren't looking for a suspect but were questioning friends of the couple, as well as Kazemi's ex-boyfriend. They were also waiting for results of drug and other laboratory tests before deciding whether McNair was killed in a



Steve McNair



Sahel Kazemi

lovers' quarrel.

"That's a very important part of the investigation as we work to ultimately classify Miss Kazemi's death," Aaron said.

The details surfacing after McNair's death stand in stark contrast to the public persona he enjoyed in his football career.

McNair repeatedly played through serious injuries and pain to win. Generous, he frequently took part in charity work for both the Tennessee Titans and later the Baltimore Ravens after a 2006 trade. McNair even helped load donated food, water and clothes onto tractor-trailers that he had arranged for Hurricane Katrina victims, and paid for three football camps for children this year.

McNair and Kazemi were found dead at a Nashville condominium



JOSH ANDERSON | ASSOCIATED PRESS

Steve McNair and a friend rented this Nashville condominium, the scene of the shooting deaths of the former quarterback and his girlfriend.

that he rented with his friend Wayne Neeley. Police believe the couple died early Saturday. Neeley found the bodies hours later and called a friend, Robert Gaddy, who was a college teammate of McNair's at Alcorn State.

Gaddy dialed 911.

"People have certain things that they do in life," Gaddy said. "We don't need to look on the situation

at this time (but) on the fact we just lost a great member of society."

McNair's agent, Bus Cook, said he had never heard Kazemi's name until news of the shooting. What McNair's wife knew wasn't clear: Cook said Mechelle McNair was "in and out of it." He said she had no comment after the police called his death a homicide.

Steve McNair split his time be-

tween Nashville and his farm in Mount Olive, Miss. He recently opened a restaurant near Tennessee State University in Nashville.

McNair was seen so often at Kazemi's apartment that a neighbor thought he lived there.

McNair met Kazemi when his family ate at a restaurant where she worked as a server, and the two began dating in a relationship that included a vacation. Photos posted on TMZ.com showed McNair gazing and smiling at his young girlfriend.

Kazemi's sister, Soheyla, told *The Florida Times-Union* in Jacksonville that Saleh had expected McNair to get a divorce. "She said they were planning to get married," Soheyla said.

Kazemi often was dropped off by limousine in the early morning hours and recently went from driving a Kia to a 2007 Cadillac Escalade registered to both her and McNair. Her niece told *The Tennessean* of Nashville that Kazemi thought McNair was divorcing his wife of 12 years soon.

Nashville courts had no record of a McNair divorce case.

Besides his wife, McNair is survived by the four sons.



CHRISTOPHE ENA | ASSOCIATED PRESS

Mark Cavendish of Britain, left, leads the sprint to win the 116.2-mile Stage 2 in 4 hours, 30 minutes, 2 seconds.

### TOUR DE FRANCE

## Briton overcomes heat to win in split-second finish

By Juliet Macur  
THE NEW YORK TIMES

BRIGNOLES, France — In the final moments of Stage 2 of the Tour de France yesterday, Mark Cavendish gritted his teeth, dropped his head and zoomed toward the finish line, pedaling wildly as the peloton disappeared into the horizon.

When he crossed the finish line, he raised his hands and flashed a big smile.

Cavendish, a 24-year-old British rider, won the stage for his fifth career stage victory at the Tour. He won the other four last year. After his victory yesterday, he wore the green jersey given to the rider, usually a sprinter, who has the most points.

"Wearing the green jersey is one of the biggest things a sprinter can do; it's a beautiful, beautiful moment," said Cavendish, who was still sweaty and red-faced from the humidity and temperatures in the mid- to upper 80s. "It's emotional for me, and it's an emotional day for me to wear it. We took control of the race and finished off in spectacular fashion."

His teammates guarded him from the wind to help set up his blazing sprint to the finish, and Cavendish finished the 116.2-mile course in 4 hours, 30 minutes, 2 seconds. All but two of the 180 finishers were given the same time.

A whisker's width behind him was Tyler Farrar of the United States, who is in his first Tour. Romain Feillu of France was third.

Fabian Cancellara, the winner of the time trial Saturday to kick off the three-week, 21-stage Tour, remained in the leader's yellow jersey with the fastest overall time.

"It has been a very busy last 24 hours for me," Cancellara said. "Now I'm longing for a massage."

The sprinters will receive

messages, but no rest.

Today's Stage 3 is a 122.1-mile route from Marseille to La Grande-Motte on terrain that flattens near the end, perfect for a sprint finish.

Lance Armstrong and teammate Alberto Contador finished yesterday much the way they started. Armstrong remained in 10th place, 40 seconds behind Cancellara. Contador was still second, 18 seconds back.

Armstrong and Contador started Stage 2 together in Monaco before riding along the French Riviera, with the cool blue water of the Mediterranean to their left. The peloton headed through Nice before turning inland, straight into an oven: The humidity was thick as the sun beat down. "The worst person to contend with this heat is an Englishman," Cavendish joked.

Along the route, legions of fans dressed in yellow — some with yellow caps, others with yellow sneakers — waved French flags and cheered the riders. Some escaped the sun under giant yellow umbrellas.

Among the spectators in one village were nuns standing shoulder to shoulder dressed in white habits. They too joined the party; a few wore polka-dotted caps that had been tossed at them from the publicity caravan. Most fans, however, could not see the drama of the race that unfolded seconds before the finish. The contenders did not separate themselves from the pack until the final meters.

Several of Cavendish's teammates stuck together like a freight train as they ushered him to the finish.

At this Tour, helping Cavendish win the green jersey is one of his team's biggest goals. The Columbia riders who had hoped to contend for the overall victory are not considered favorites because of injuries and fatigue.

### JUNIOR WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP | UNITED STATES 41, CANADA 3

## U.S. football team romps to title

### OSU recruit Klein helps squad roll past No. 1 seed

By Zach Swartz  
THE COLUMBUS DISPATCH

CANTON — The IFAF Junior World Championship game didn't get off to the kind of bang that Team USA was used to, but it didn't really matter.

The No. 2-seeded U.S. team, which had scored a combined 133 points in its first two tournament games, led No. 1 seed Canada 18-3 at halftime; it was the Americans' smallest halftime lead in the tournament.

Also, Canada had done something that neither of America's first two opponents had been able to do: score.

But Canada wouldn't score again. The U.S. team, which had lost to Canada in the previous three NFL Global Junior Championships, won 41-3 to lock up the first International Federation of American Football Junior World Championship gold medal.

"The kids came from all over America with a couple things to bind them together — a love of the game of



BOB ROSSITER | THE (CANTON) REPOSITORY

Members of the U.S. team crowd around the IFAF Junior World Championship trophy after yesterday's win.

football and the love of their country," said coach Chuck Kyle.

Ohio State freshman and U.S. team captain Storm Klein helped lead a defense that allowed a three-game total of 91 yards. On the second play of the game, the former Licking Valley linebacker picked off Canada quarterback Jeremie Doyon-Roch, and the U.S. team scored on the next play: a 17-yard pass from

future Baylor quarterback Bryce Petty to Jamal Davis of Florida Atlantic.

The U.S. team finished with 408 total yards, its fewest in the tournament.

"We understood that we were going into this tournament against a Division-I football team in the making," said Canada coach Glen Constantin, whose team finished with 49 total

yards. "We're humble enough to understand that."

Petty, the game's MVP, was 14-for-14 passing for 190 yards and three touchdowns. Soon-to-be Virginia Tech running back David Wilson ran for 87 yards and a touchdown.

Both Klein and offensive lineman Jack Mewhort, a future Buckeye teammate, started each of the three games. Klein finished the tournament with six tackles, one sack and the interception. Fellow Ohioans Pat Hinkel, a safety from Cleveland St. Ignatius, and David Herman, a Cincinnati St. Xavier linebacker, added 2½ and three tackles, respectively.

"We went out there, and we had something to prove," Klein said. "Whoever ranked us No. 2, hopefully next time there is something like this, he thinks about that next time we play. I think our game and what happened out on the field speaks for itself, and we're No. 1."

Attendance at the final game was 15,473, bringing the event's total at Canton's Fawcett Stadium to 40,043. zswartz@dispatch.com

### Team USA by the numbers

Total points-points allowed: 174-3  
Total yards-yards allowed: 1,451-91

### ROAD TO THE TITLE

June 27: U.S. 78, France 0  
July 1: U.S. 55, Mexico 0  
Saturday: U.S. 41, Canada 3

### Tournament final results

1. United States (No. 2 seed)
2. Canada (1)
3. Japan (4)
4. Mexico (3)
5. Germany (5)
6. Sweden (6)
7. France (7)
8. New Zealand (8)

## Local Clinic Opens Columbus Doctors Treat Erectile Dysfunction

BY JEFF GOESTLER  
Men's Health Consultant

**Columbus** • A team of local physicians are part of a new medical clinic that opened recently in Columbus, specializing in only one unique, niche area — men's sexual performance.

Erectile dysfunction and premature ejaculation have long been a problem for millions of men nationwide. In spite of recent medications such as Viagra, Levitra and Cialis, many men either are not helped by these medications or cannot take them due to medical conditions and adverse side effects.

The Ohio Male Performance Clinic employs several local physicians including Dr. Michael Kirwin, MD, and Dr. David Rath, MD. "We successfully help almost every patient we see here," according to Steven Zak, Clinic Director, "and we've treated men from as young as twenty-one to as old as eighty-nine. Men with diabetes, heart conditions, bypass surgery, high blood

pressure, prostate problems and surgery, you name it and we've treated them. Regardless of age or medical condition, our results everyday are amazing."

All medications are FDA approved and no surgery is involved. "Our doctors can adjust the dosage for a man's performance to 45-minutes, an hour, 90-minutes or longer," according to Zak, "and we offer a simple guarantee: 'If you don't respond to our medication on the first visit, it's free.'"

With that guarantee, local patients have nothing to lose. Patients are assured of utmost privacy and professionalism with private waiting rooms and an all-male staff. Further information is available by calling (614) 538-2200. Out-of-towners can call Toll Free (800) 241-8440. Ohio Male Performance Clinic, 3802 Olentangy River Road, Columbus Ohio 43214. www.ohiomaleclinic.com

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