## **Blue Raiders Drop Decision to North Texas**

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MOBILE, Ala. - The North Texas Lady Eagles scored twice in both halves and held off Middle Tennessee for a 4-1 victory in the first round of the Sun Belt Tournament Wednesday night. North Texas (13-4-1) got on the board early when defender Caree Ridenour made a 60yard run by everyone and scored in the 12th minute for an early 1-0 lead. Just seven minutes later Melinda Pina scored after a scramble in front of the net for a 2-0 UNT advantage. Both teams played very physically, especially in the first half, and tempers flared late in the half. Middle Tennessee's Ashley Elliott and Marilyn Marin of North Texas got tangled up in the 38th minute and Marin took a



swing. Head referee Jason McQueen gave Marin, the nation's leading scorer, a red card, disqualifying her from action for the rest of the match. Two more yellow cards were handed out before the end of the first half, both on the Blue Raiders, but Middle Tennessee (8-12-1) was unable to capitalize with an man up for the rest of the half. The Lady Eagles added another goal in the first minute of the second half, as Pina fed Michelle Uselton and a 3-0 UNT lead. Pina added her second goal of the match in the 74th minute. The Blue Raiders got on the board in the 76th minute when Lindsey Bopp scored on a corner kick, Bopp's fourth goal of the season. Middle Tennessee keeper Danielle Perreault made six saves, while her counterpart, Erin Johnson, had 17 saves. The Blue Raiders took 27 shots in the match, 20 in the second half. **NOTES:** Freshman keeper Danielle Perreault made the start versus UNT, her third of the season and first since September 13 at Auburn ... Three seniors - Sheri Robbins, Sarah Schulz and Megan McGregor - started and played their final match as a Blue Raider tonight ... The Blue Raiders have lost all three first-round matches in the Sun Belt Tournament since joining the league in 2000 ... Lindsey Bopp's goal was the first for the Blue Raiders in three-game SBC Tourney matches

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