Murray State Nips MT 79-72

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MSU Continues Dominance: Murray State improved to 100-34 all-time against the Blue Raiders with the victory tonight, including 43-19 in Murfreesboro. The MSU win also snapped a two-game winning streak by Middle Tennessee.

The Streak Continues: Marcus Robinson's three-pointer midway through the first half continued a streak of 194 straight games with a trifecta for the Blue Raiders.

Watson Sighting: Senior Demario Watson made his first appearance of the season and in more than a year at the 12:28 mark of the second half. Watson missed the first seven games of the year after having knee surgery and redshirted the 2001-02 season. Watson played eight minutes, totaling four points and two rebounds.

Robinson Hits for Career-High: Marcus Robinson's hit on 4-of-6 shot opportunities in the contest to score a career-high 11 points. Robinson's previous high this season was 10 points against UT Martin.

Quick Hits: Eric Parham equaled a season-high with four assists ... The Blue Raiders made eight three-pointers in the contest, tying a season-high for the third time this season. MT also made eight against UT Martin and IUPUI ... Head coach Kermit David used his fourth different starting lineup this season, with point guard Eric Parham drawing his first start of the year ... The Blue Raiders were outrebounded for just the third time this season, 31-28, and fell to 0-3 in those contests ... MT made 11-of-13 (.846) free throws in the game, their highest percentage of the season.

QUOTES

MT Head Coach Kermit Davis: "I just don't think that everything that we are trying to represent in our program happened at times tonight. We didn't have anybody quit. Offensively, we were pretty good. You shoot 51 percent on your home floor, and you get beat. Things we try to stress from a defensive standpoint, rebounding and toughness, we just had lapses tonight."

"The last two games we have shot 50 percent from the field. We are getting better in that aspect. Seventy-two points should be enough. We play like heck, fly around and get down by eleven and then get the game back to two. We just couldn't get stops. You have to get consecutive stops late in the game."

MT Guard Tommy Gunn: "We got off to a slow start in tonight's game. The shooting that came along in the game is what we focused on coming into the game. We had some lapses offensively as well as defensively before we got it back. We just fell short in the end."

"The [second half run] was a crucial point in the game. If we could have gotten some defensive stops and maintained our intensity on offense as well as defense, I think it could have been the turning point in the game. When they went on that eleven point run, I felt it hurt our confidence and dampen the spirits that were in the gym."

Murray State Head Coach Tevester Anderson: "I am very excited. This is a big road win. Anytime you get a win on the road against a quality team like Middle Tennessee, it is a big win. This is a big win for our program. It is a quality win against a quality team with a very good coach. Kermit Davis is an absolute good coach. Since we left Auburn, I had been concerned about Middle Tennessee. Their record is not indicative of what kind of team they have. They have played a very tough schedule. They are a good basketball team."

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