

UL Nips MT 71-65

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GUNN GETS CAREER

FIRST: Junior Tommy Gunn, whose play of late has propelled him into a First Team All-Sun Belt candidate, collected his first-ever double-double against UL-Lafayette. The Syracuse, NY, native scored 18 points and snagged a career-high 11 boards against the Ragin' Cajuns. Gunn's night was efficient on the offensive end as he connected on 5-of-9 shots including 2-of-3 from behind the 3-point line.

REBOUNDIN' RAIDERS:

The Blue Raiders bounced back from a two-game stretch in which they were outrebounded

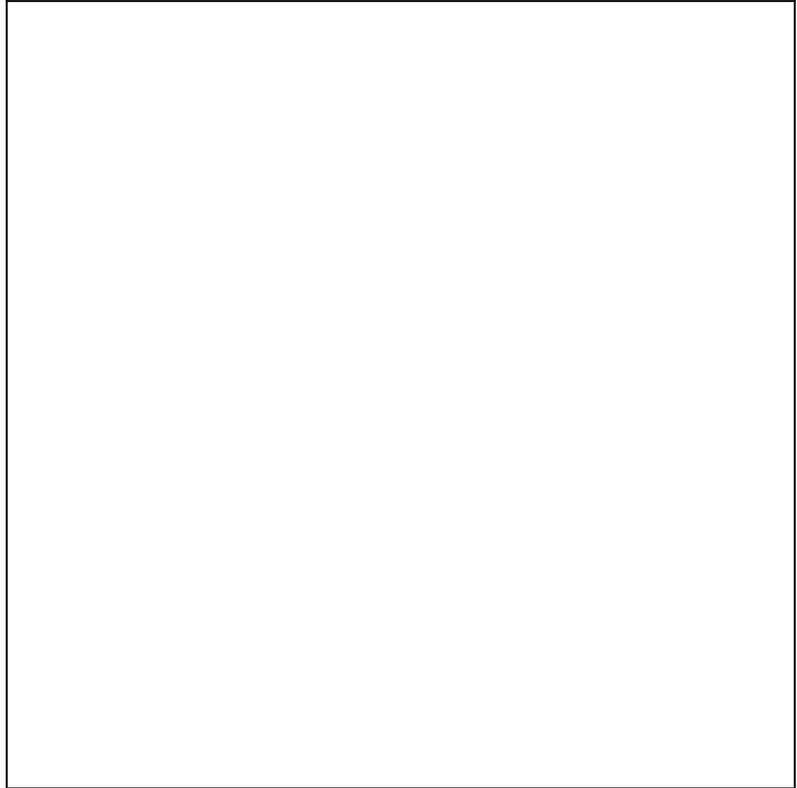
by snaring seven more rebounds than the bigger Ragin' Cajuns. The Blue Raider effort gives the Blue Raiders a +1.4 rebounding margin during their seven conference games.

DAVIS, TYNDALL SUPPORTERS ABOUND: Middle Tennessee head coach Kermit Davis and associate coach Donnie Tyndall had plenty of support in Lafayette on Saturday night. Both men spent several years coaching in nearby Baton Rouge at LSU. Several old friend were on hand from their Tiger days were on hand for the game as were both Davis' and Tyndall's families.

WILLIAMS VISITS WITH BLUE RAIDERS: Former Mississippi State head coach Richard Williams was on hand to visit with the Blue Raiders before Saturday's game. Williams, who came to Murfreesboro during the preseason to observe the Blue Raiders, sat on the bench with the team during the game.

HANGING IN THE RACE: Despite the Blue Raider loss against UL Lafayette, the team got help from New Mexico State and remains only one-half game out of first place in the East Division. The Aggies downed the Hilltoppers 92-82 on Saturday night. Elsewhere around the league it was UALR over Arkansas State 77-70, South Alabama over North Texas 76-71, and New Orleans knocked off Denver 75-65.

CAJUN EXPERIENCE: The Blue Raiders got a true taste of Cajun life on Friday night as the team



dined at Randol's Cajun Restaurant and Dancehall following practice. The team dined on a meal that included boiled crawfish and listened to the Jambalaya Cajun Band, which played traditional zydeco music. Some of the Blue Raiders weren't quite sure about the food and music in the beginning, but several players, including Eric Parham and Tommy Gunn, were heard singing their own versions of some of the Cajun tunes on the bus on the way back to the team hotel.

HAPPY RETURNS: Even though they were dressed in enemy colors on Saturday night, the Sun Belt welcomed back two key UL Lafayette players. Brad Boyd returned to the Ragin' Cajuns lineup after a very serious car accident a few weeks ago that, according to UL sources, Boyd was very fortunate to walk away from with such minor injuries. Also back in uniform was Kenneth Lawrence, whose 1-year-old daughter was killed in a tragic house fire with two other family members just last week. Both players received a raucous ovation when they checked into the game in the first half.

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