Volleyball Takes Two at Tourney

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CHARLESTON, S.C. - Middle Tennessee volleyball opened the season with a 2-0 start after taking both matches at the College of Charleston Tournament Friday.

In the first game of the day Middle Tennessee and TCU battled for five games with Middle Tennessee coming away with the win. The Lady Raiders got on the board first by taking the first game 30-17 but TCU took the next two games 30-24 and 30-23. The Lady Raiders came back to take the fourth and fifth games 30-23 and 15-13 for the match victory 3-2.

Allison Liptak got a starting nod because junior outside hitter KeKe Deckard had to sit out the game because she was awaiting a grade to be turned in from a class over the summer. Both teams suffered through first match jitters and suffered through numerous errors.

"The flow of the offense and the defense just seemed to keep going away from Karisse [Baker] so we didn't see the numbers she's capable of in this match," said head coach Lisa Kissee. " But she was still a good leader - calm and determined throughout."

Deckard was cleared to play in the second match as the Lady Raiders defeated Delaware 3-1. Down 29-26 the Lady Raiders came back to score five straight points to take the game and the match.

"Karissee had a clutch pass in game four that really set up the win," Kissee said. "She passed the ball and KeKe came up with a great kill for the point."

The Lady Raiders conclude the tournament by playing host College of Charleston at noon Saturday.

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