Three Players Score Double Figures in 78-48 Triumph

Raiders run win streak to 11, tying fourth longest streak in school history

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BOCA RATON, Fla. - Chrissy Givens scored 19 of her 23 points in the first half, Amber Holt scored 14 points and Krystle Horton added 12 in a 78-48 victory over Florida Atlantic at FAU Arena Thursday night. The victory is the 11th straight for the Blue Raiders, who improve to 14-3 this season and 6-0 in Sun Belt action. The Blue Raider defense was on full display in the first half, forcing 20 FAU turnovers and converting those into 18 points. Givens was 9-of-10 from the field in the opening 20 minutes, scoring 19 points, while Holt and Horton both had eight. The Owls were just 5-of-22 in the first half from the field, shooting 18 percent, and had only one field goal over the final 11:22 before intermission. Middle Tennessee outscored the home team, 29-7, during the final 11 minutes of the half. "We were going more to score in first half [against their pressure]," Horton said. "It's a long road trip and it's good to get another win. It's unusual to be on this long a trip, but it's good for us to maintain concentration on what we're doing, executing and staying healthy. It also gets us ready for the [Sun Belt] tournament." In the second half the game turned very physical, with the two teams combining for 19 fouls. Freshman Chelsia Lymon scored seven of her eight points after the break and Holt netted six. Middle Tennessee shot just 31 percent in the second half but hit the offensive glass for 20 rebounds in the contest. The Blue Raiders also forced 35 turnovers in the game by the Owls, tying a season high for an opponent. FAU was led by Brittney Crenshaw's 10 points off the bench. The Owls shot just 34 percent from the field in the contest. "We played hard in the first half and forced them into turnovers," head coach Rick Insell said. "In the second half we didn't focus as well and it was really a poorly played game from our side. We're thankful to get a win and get out of here without anyone getting hurt." Middle Tennessee ends

the three-game road trip Saturday, facing New Orleans at 11 a.m. CT in the Big Easy. The Blue Raiders return home on Thursday, January 18, taking on Arkansas State at 7 p.m. **NOTES**
TAKE A KID TO THE GAME: Middle Tennessee is sponsoring Take a Kid to the Game night on Thursday, January 18 when the Blue Raiders face Arkansas State at 7 p.m. at Murphy Center. Adults purchase a ticket for $7 and your child gets in free. Tickets are available in advance at the Middle Tennessee Ticket Office by calling 615/898-2103 or 1-888-YES-MTSU or they may be purchased the day of the game. Also, the game is Scales Elementary Night with the Scales cheerleaders performing at halftime. **NATIONAL GIRLS AND WOMEN IN SPORTS DAY UPCOMING:** Middle Tennessee will host the annual Girls and Women in Sports Day on Saturday, February 3, in conjunction with the women's basketball game against South Alabama that begins at 3 p.m. Interested parties may purchase a $10 that include a game ticket, a hot dog and a soda. A two-hour clinic prior to the game is also part of the day as well as all of the girls begin recognized at halftime of the game. There will also be postgame autographs that day with the team. Call the Middle Tennessee Ticket Office at 615/898-2103 or 1-888-YES-MTSU. **GAME TIME CHANGE:** Middle Tennessee's game at New Orleans on Saturday, January 13 has been changed to an 11 a.m. tipoff to accommodate the New Orleans Saints playoff game that day. The game was originally scheduled for 2 p.m. **RICK INSELL LIVE SET TO BEGIN JANUARY 15:** Middle Tennessee's weekly radio show with the head coach, Rick Insell Live, will begin Monday, January 15 at 6 p.m. at Bluesboro in downtown Murfreesboro. The one-hour program is hosted by the voice of the Blue Raiders, David Reed, and allows fans in the audience as well as those listening to ask questions of the second-year coach. Shows will run each Monday until the end of the season at Bluesboro on January 15, 22 and 29 and February 5, 12, 19 and 26. **POSTGAME NOTES**
RAIDERS RUN STREAK TO 11: Middle Tennessee extended its current winning streak to 11 games with the victory, tying for the fourth longest streak in school history. The Blue Raiders have not won this many games consecutively since posting 12 straight triumphs from December 15, 1995-January 29, 1996. The squad is chasing the school record of 15 consecutive wins set in 1987. **HORTON REACHED TOP 15:** Senior Krystle Horton pulled down a team-high eight rebounds in Thursday's victory, passing Robin Hendrix (620, 1981-82) and tying Jessica Beaty (626, 1994-97) on the all-time rebounding list at Middle Tennessee. Horton needs eight more boards to pass Cyndi Lindley-Allen (633, 1982-84, '86) for 13th on the career list. Just ahead of Lindley-Allen is Joanne Aluka (644, 1998, 2000-02), who is currently an assistant coach at Florida International. **HORTON MOVES UP SCORING LIST AS WELL:** Senior Krystle Horton also moved into 12th place on the all-time scoring list at Middle Tennessee after netting 12 points in Thursday's victory. Horton passed Heather Prater (1,348, 1993-96) for 12th place on the all-time needs and needs just two points to move into 11th place, ahead of former teammate Tia Stovall (1,351, 2003-06). **GIVENS MOVES UP FIELD GOALS LIST:** Senior Chrissy Givens was 10-for-15 in Thursday's contest, moving past Stephanie Capley (578, 1988-91) for eighth in field goals made and now has 585 in her career. Givens needs 24 more field goals to pass Sharon McClanahan (6-8, 1976-79) for seventh all-time. **TIDBITS:** Middle Tennessee improved to 2-0 all-time against Florida Atlantic, with the other victory coming during the 2004-05 season at Murphy Center. The Owls visit Murfreesboro on February 24 for the second meeting of the season ... The Blue Raiders improved to 7-1 away from home this season, including 6-1 in road games, one more win than last year's team in road games ... Middle Tennessee is now 14-0 this season and 32-4 under head coach Rick Insell when leading at the half. The Blue Raiders have won their six Sun Belt games this season by an average margin of 32.0 points per game ... Florida Atlantic shot just 34 percent in the game, the lowest by a Middle Tennessee opponent this season. The Blue Raiders have held their last two opponents under 40 percent (Florida International - 38 percent on January 9) ... FAU committed 35 turnovers in the

contest, tying the single-game high by a Middle Tennessee opponent this season. Troy also turned the ball over 35 times on January 6 ... The Blue Raiders moved to 6-0 in Sun Belt play to start the conference slate for the second time in three years. The 2004-05 squad also began SBC play 6-0.

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