Middle Tennessee Defeats Austin Peay 61-46

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CLARKSVILLE, Tenn. - Middle Tennessee (7-2) defeated Austin Peay (4-4) 61-46 Saturday in the Dunn Center. Leading by eight with 5:40 left to play, the Lady Raiders dejected Austin Peay's attempt to cut the lead even more when senior Keisha McClinic hit a three-point shot on the right side of the key. McClinic came back in the next possession and put the game out of reach with a three-point play after hitting the bucket and being fouled by Kera Bergeron. The Lady Raiders relied on their defensive play as they went through an 11-minute drought without scoring. Middle Tennessee denied Austin Peay shots under the basket and forced them to try and shoot from the perimeter. Neither team was successful from the three-point line as Middle Tennessee was 2-of-14 and Austin Peay was 2-of-17. Middle Tennessee was out rebounded by Austin Peay 32 to 42 but had 14 steals in the game. Overall the Lady Raiders shot 47.2 percent from the field and Austin Peay connected on 32.8 percenet. Freshman Krystle Horton led the Lady Raiders with 13 points, as she was one of four players in double figures. Tia Stovall scored all of her 12 points in the first half, as she got into foul trouble in the second half and Jennifer Justice had 11. After only scoring two points in the first half, Patrice Holmes ended the game with 10 and recorded a double-double as she also had 11 rebounds. The 7-2 start for the Lady Raiders is the best start under the direction of Head Coach Stephany Smith in her seven-year tenure. Middle Tennessee will host South Carolina State at 7 p.m. on Monday in the Murphy Center before breaking for the Christmas holiday.

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