

Volleyball Wins Season Opener

Team led by freshman Izabela Kozon

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Omaha, Neb. - Three players reached double digits in kills for the Middle Tennessee volleyball team as it took the season opener in a quick three-game set (30-24, 30-14, 30-27) over the Montana State Bobcats Friday morning in game one of the Creighton Bluejay Invitational. "It was a good opening match for us to get the nerves out of the way," Middle Tennessee head coach Matt Peck said. "I think we were very balanced and played very well." Junior Ashley Adams (Columbus, Ohio) led the attack with 15 kills and seven digs. And junior Ashley Asberry (Murfreesboro, Tenn.) added 10 kills. Izabela Kozon (Warsaw, Poland) was the lone freshman to appear in the match, playing all-around and starting all three games. In her debut, she nearly accumulated a double-double with 12 kills and nine digs. Montana State took a quick 4-1 lead in game one behind the hitting of senior



outside hitter Patti Anderson, but the Blue Raiders battled back, tallying 21 kills to the Bobcats' 12. Montana State held on to narrow the margin to five, but Adams put the game away with a kill. The Blue Raiders kept up the momentum in game two behind the serving of junior Megan Carter (Murfreesboro, Tenn.) and hitting by senior Quanshell Scott (Bakersfield, Calif.). Scott paced the team with five kills on seven attacks with Asberry and Kozon each earning four. Game three proved to be a little more challenging for the Blue Raiders with a tie score 14 times. Montana State put the pressure on, getting within three of taking the game, but Adams sealed the win for the team with a kill down the right line. Anderson led the Bobcats with nine kills, while freshman libero Meghan Albiston led the team in digs with 20. The Blue Raiders out hit the Bobcats with 64 kills on 131

attacks (.344) to Montana State's 34 kills on 122 attacks (.107). Middle Tennessee will face host Creighton at 7:00 p.m. for game four of the Creighton Bluejay Invitational. **Notes:** With her 15 kills, Adams moved into eighth all-time for career kills with 918. Mead's nine kills set a new career high. Her previous high was six kills set last season on August 26 against Marshall. Middle Tennessee took a 16-point lead (29-13) in game two, the largest margin of the match. Montana State's senior middle blocker Monique Schaal went down in game three. She ended the match with three kills and one block solo.

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