

Blue Radiers Prepared for Home Matches

Middle Tennessee looks to extend win streak to six.

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MURFREESBORO, Tenn. -

Middle Tennessee will look to extend its win streak to six this weekend as it opens the home conference season. The Blue Raiders (15-1, 2-0) will face West Division leader Denver (8-7, 2-0) at 7 p.m. on Friday. Then on Sunday the team will play North Texas (5-11, 1-1) at



1 p.m. "We are excited to be home and have a four-game stand. The two teams this weekend have been the best in the West the last couple of years. North Texas won the West last year and Denver the year before," head coach Matt Peck said. Arkansas State and UALR are also competitive. We are fortunate to have these teams at home this year after playing them all on the road last year." Denver is currently on a four-game win streak after defeating Florida Atlantic and Florida International to open conference play. North Texas defeated UALR but fell to Arkansas State to begin conference play last weekend. "I think our big test will be against Denver as they have played a very tough schedule. They have done some good things and had some good wins. I think it will be a good test for us," Peck said. "I don't think North Texas is playing up to where they played last year. I'm not sure what is going on but they are a good team." Middle Tennessee leads each series with the two teams 5-4 and defeated the two teams in 2006 on its way to a conference title. Sophomore Leslie Clark is currently ranked first in the NCAA for assists per game with 14.63. As a team the Blue Raiders are third in assists per game in the NCAA with 16.81. Junior Ashley Adams leads the team in kills (262), kills per game (4.68) and points (311). Adams is second on the team in service aces (13) and blocks (69). "Leslie and Ashley Adams have been doing a great job this year and it is evident as we didn't have Leslie in the only match we lost this year. They have both provided good leadership," Peck said. "If you look across the board, in the NCAA national statistics, we have Ashley Adams, Ashley Asberry, Quanshell (Scott) and Leslie all ranked in different categories." "I think we are playing very well and Denver on Friday is a good match-up for us. They have an experienced team this year. We beat them in four last year at their place but we are going to have to play well to come away with a win this weekend," Peck said. The Blue Raiders will wrap-up a four match home stand on Friday, Oct. 5 and Sunday Oct. 7 as they face UALR and Arkansas State. Web streaming of Friday's match with Denver will be available on www.goblueraiders.com. Admission to all home volleyball matches is free.

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