Middle Tennessee Set to Close Season at Home

Blue Raiders ready for South Alabama and Troy.

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MURFREESBORO, Tenn. - Middle Tennessee will play host to South Alabama and Troy on Friday and Saturday at 7 p.m. as it begins to wrap-up the 2007 season. The Blue Raiders are currently first in the East Division of the Sun Belt conference with a 13-1 overall record and will look to remain atop the divisional race this weekend. Middle Tennessee can clinch the conference title with three wins over South Alabama, Troy and Western Kentucky to end the 2007 season. "Obviously we have a very big match against Western looming. However, that match will mean nothing if we were to lose either one of these matches," head coach Matt Peck said. "We are focused just on South Alabama tomorrow. Then we will be focused just on Troy. Then after the Troy match we will take a couple of days off and focus on Western." Troy must win one of two its two matches this weekend to earn a spot in the Sun Belt Conference tournament while South Alabama is out of the conference tournament race. "Troy is playing to get into the conference tournament that makes me nervous. South

Alabama is a hugely improved team over last year and they have some very young players. They have more wins in the conference this year than the last two combined. We are very mindful of the fact that those schools are going to come in here and give it everything they have," Peck said. The Blue Raiders will recognize three seniors, Megan Carter, Alicia Lemau'u and Quanshell Scott, in a pre-game ceremony on Saturday for their contributions to the volleyball program during their careers. "I am really excited we are playing at home. We have had some great crowds here. We have a lot of positive things coming out of this season so far. I think our players are very mindful of what happened when we went to Western and are going to play accordingly," Peck said. Middle Tennessee will play Western Kentucky on Friday, Nov. 9 at 7 p.m. in a match that will likely determine the Sun Belt Conference Champion. Middle Tennessee's will be looking for redemption as its only loss in conference play is to the Lady Toppers. "We have to play some good ball this ball this weekend to make the Western match mean something but also heading into the conference tournament. We want to be playing our best ball this time of the year," Peck said.

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