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Lanning Leads Four Double-Digit Scorers in Victory

Holt posts a double-double; Queen, Lymon also score in double figures

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MURFREESBORO, Tenn. - Freshman [Anne Marie Lanning](#) scored 18 points, leading four double figure scorers, and senior [Amber Holt](#) netted 12 points and grabbed 14 rebounds in just 19 minutes of action, as Middle Tennessee defeated North Alabama, 82-36, in women's exhibition action Thursday night at Murphy Center.

Middle Tennessee scored 20 of the game's first 22 points, but went cold late in the half and led just 31-22 at the break. But the Blue Raiders went on a 21-3 run to start the second half and pull away from the Lions.

Middle Tennessee won the battle of the boards, 54-30, with Holt leading with way with her 14 caroms, including 12 in the first half. Freshman [Emily Queen](#) scored 11 points and sophomore [Chelsia Lymon](#) added 10 for the Blue Raiders in front of 1,681 in the first of two exhibition games over the next five days.

The Blue Raiders scored 20 of the game's first 22 points, including an 11-0 run to start the game over the first three minutes. Amber Rutherford netted UNA's first basket at the 16:45 mark and she also scored the Lions second bucket at 13:48.

UNA got back into the game when Middle Tennessee went six minutes with just one basket. The Lions put together a 14-5 run over an eight minute stretch to pull within 29-21, but the Blue Raiders scored the final four points of the half on free throws, two each from Lanning and Queen.

Holt scored eight points and grabbed 12 rebounds in the first half, while Lanning added seven points.

In the second half Lanning netted eight of her 18 points during the 21-3 run, while Holt and [Latoya Barclay](#) each added four. Lanning was a perfect 8-for-8 at the foul line in the contest, grabbed six rebounds, dished out four assists and made four steals.

Sophomore [Jackie Pickel](#) had seven rebounds for the Blue Raiders, sophomore [Brandi Brown](#) added nine points and five boards, and redshirt freshman [Angelique Burtt](#) netted nine points in her first career game.

Middle Tennessee hosts Henderson State on Monday at 7 p.m. at Murphy Center in its final exhibition game before the regular season opener on November 10 at Old Dominion.

Freshman Guard [Anne Marie Lanning](#) Her thoughts on her first game as a Blue Raider

"Of course there were nerves at the beginning. I knew that playing on this floor before and playing with a new team that I would have some nerves. With the 17 practices and everything, eventually my nerves left with handling the ball."

On the team's performance

"I think we did a good job. There are a couple of things on defense that we need to get better at, but I thought we did pretty good. Our execution on offense at times was pretty good. There were good things here and there, but then there are things we need to work on."

On playing the three spot

"I wasn't sure if I was going to be playing the two or the three, but once I got moved to the three I knew that I had to get something done and adapted to the change and tried to do my best."

Middle Tennessee Head Coach Insell On the pace of the game

"We are really young and you didn't really see me say a whole lot going into the half. I really wasn't upset because we have such young people. But I know we've got some speed. I'm not really sure about the quickness yet, but we do have some speed. We are playing a lot of sophomores and freshmen and they've got to play some major minutes and I wanted to get as many minutes out of



Freshman Anne Marie Lanning scored 18 points, grabbed six rebounds, dished out four assists, made four steals and was a perfect 8-for-8 at the foul line in Middle Tennessee's 83-26 victory over North Alabama Thursday night. (Bradley Lambert)

them as I possibly could. I know what [Latoya Barclay](#) and [Amber Holt](#) can do, so I wanted to look at some other people like a [Brandi Brown](#) and a [Chelsia Lymon](#)."

On the performance of [Anne Marie Lanning](#)

"Anne Marie did a great job. She did exactly what we asked. She didn't have a great shooting night, but she did a lot of other things for us. That's not too bad for her first game even being an exhibition game at the Division I level."

On the overall performance of the team

"I was really pleased with all of them. There are a lot of areas we have to come back and work on tomorrow. Games like this are suppose to expose your weaknesses. They had four young ladies that put up double figures last year."

North Alabama Head Coach Terry Fowler

On his teams play in the first half

"It was good to sustain that first half of pressure [Middle Tennessee] put on us. We knew that we were going to have trouble handling their pressure, but I was proud of what we were able to do in the first half.

On being outrebounded 54 to 30

"Middle Tennessee is one of the best teams in the country and they proved it tonight by getting a lot of offensive rebounds. They hurt us on that aspect tonight and that is something we will need to work on when we get into regular season play."

On Middle Tennessee's defensive pressure

"Coach Insell does a really good job mixing up players and playing different zones. They did a good job pressuring us tonight and this game will only help us player better as a team later on in the season."

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