

Blue Raiders Fall at UTC, 57-54

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CHATTANOOGA, Tenn. -

Amber Holt scored 15 of her 19 points in the second half, but Jenaya Wade-Fray's 3-pointer from the corner with 2:11 to play broke a tie and Chattanooga held on for a 57-54 victory over Middle Tennessee Wednesday night at McKenzie Arena. The two teams played a nip-and-tuck game almost from the start, but especially in the second half when the Lady Mocs (5-2) started quickly and raced out to a 39-33 advantage after a layup from Shanara Hollinquest. The Blue Raiders (3-2) struggled offensively most of the night and especially after the intermission, hitting just 12-of-33 attempts. But Middle Tennessee battled back after going down six points in the second half, tying the game at 45 with 6:05 left after a Holt layup. Two more ties ensued before Wade-Fray's 3-pointer



gave UTC the lead for good. The Lady Mocs were 16-of-20 at the foul line, including 5-of-6 in the final two minutes, while the Blue Raiders shot just two free throws in the contest after UTC head coach Wes Moore was whistled for a technical foul midway through the first half. Blue Raider Starr Orr played her best game of the season, scoring 11 points with four rebounds, two assists and three steals, while Anne Marie Lanning netted 10 points, all in the first half. Holt's effort epitomized Middle Tennessee's game, as the senior was 9-of-21 from the field, with numerous shots in the lane not on the mark. She grabbed a team-high seven rebounds as well. The Blue Raiders were 6-of-29 from 3-point range, including just 1-of-12 in the second half. In the first half Lanning was the big story, scoring all 10 of her points on 4-of-7 shooting. The Blue Raiders led 25-16 with 5:34 left in the half after a Holt layup on a feed from Lanning. But the Blue Raiders scored just four more points before intermission, allowing the Lady Mocs to get back in the contest. Middle Tennessee was just 2-for-9 the rest of the half and led only 29-28 at the break. The Blue Raiders return home for the first time in

18 days this Sunday, hosting Western Carolina at 2 p.m. at Murphy Center. **GAME NOTES**
With the loss, Middle Tennessee dropped to 24-17 all-time against Chattanooga and head coach Rick Insell's record versus the Lady Mocs is now 1-2 with both losses on the road ... For the second time in five games this season the Blue Raiders shot below 36 percent, hitting only 23-of-64 (.359) shots in the contest. Middle Tennessee made only 22-of-64 (.344) in the season opener at Old Dominion. The Blue Raiders had just one game last season where they shot worse, making 20-of-65 (.308) against South Dakota State on November 13. The squad has posted just two other games with a worse shooting percentage under head coach Rick Insell - at Chattanooga on November 18, 2005 (24-of-70, .343) and at Florida International on February 27, 2006 (22-of-67, .328) ... Senior Amber Holt continued her offensive barrage in the second half, netting 15 of her 19 points after intermission. For the year Holt has scored 72 of her 109 points this season in the second half, and average of 14.4 per contest.

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