

# Holt's Career-High 33 Leads Blue Raiders at Austin Peay

## Blue Raiders get back on winning track with 95-60 victory

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### CLARKSVILLE, Tenn. -

Senior Amber Holt scored a career-high 33 points and grabbed 14 rebounds and freshman Emily Queen added a season-high 14 points, as Middle Tennessee turned up the defensive pressure after halftime and pulled away from Austin Peay, 95-60, Saturday night at the Dunn Center. Chelsia Lymon also scored 14 and Anne Marie Lanning posted 11 points, as the Blue Raiders outscored the Lady Gobs, 59-27, in the second half. Middle Tennessee (4-5) scored the first eight points of the first half and 20 of the first 29 and then opened the second half with a 7-0 run. Holt was dominant in both halves, scoring 15 in the first half and 18 more after the break. "We had a little talking to at halftime and came out with more intensity in the second half and that's what we wanted," head coach Rick Insell said. "We got the ball to Amber and she converted and then we hit a couple of 3's and that got us rolling. But really



we wanted to work on our pressure and we executed that much better after halftime. The Blue Raiders scored the first eight points of the game to get out to a fast start. Brandi Brown hit a 3-pointer from the corner, Queen made 1-of-2 foul shots, Holt connected on both of her free throws and Starr Orr had an uncontested layup after a turnover by the Lady Gobs. Holt added seven straight points over a three-minute stretch, including a 3-pointer, and Lanning's 3-pointer from the corner

gave the Blue Raiders a 20-9 advantage just over seven minutes into the contest. Holt scored 15 with eight rebounds in the half and seven players scored in the opening 20 minutes, as Middle Tennessee took a 36-23 lead to the locker room. In the second half APSU had 19 turnovers and committed 39 miscues in the game, and the Blue Raiders converted those into 43 points in the contest. Queen scored nine of her 14 points after the break and Lymon netted 12 of her 14. Middle Tennessee opens Sun Belt play Wednesday at 7 p.m. at Murphy Center, facing Florida International.

### **POSTGAME NOTES**

Senior Amber Holt recorded her sixth career double-double and her third this season, netting a career-high 33 points to go along with 14 rebounds as well as five assists and three steals. Holt also has double-doubles this season at Houston and at Maryland ... Sophomore Chelsia Lymon tied her career-high with six field goals in the contest. She also had six FG at Maryland on Dec. 5 ...

Freshman Emily Queen scored a career-high 14 points on 5-of-7 shooting and added six rebounds in her second straight start ... Freshman Anne Marie Lanning had her fourth double-figure scoring outing of the season, netting 11 points, including a pair of 3-pointers ... Middle Tennessee improved to 51-4 under head coach Rick Insell when leading at the half and 52-5 when leading with five minutes to play. The Blue Raiders also upped their record to 45-4 under Insell when holding an opponent under 65 points ... Middle Tennessee shot better from the field than its opponent for the first time this season, knocking down 51 percent from the floor compared to 46 percent for Austin Peay. The Blue Raiders are now 30-2 under Insell when shooting better from the field than its opponent ... Middle Tennessee scored a season-high 95 points and also had team season-highs for FG made (36) and FG attempts (71) and tied the team season-high for FT made (15). Austin Peay committed 39 turnovers, the most by a Blue Raider opponent this season, and Middle Tennessee converted those into 43 points. **POSTGAME QUOTES**

#### **Freshman Forward Emily Queen**

##### **On getting a nice road win**

"It feels good to win on the road. We needed to get a road win and we wanted to discontinue our losing streak. It felt good to come in here and get a good win and push the ball like we did." **On the team not losing any intensity after playing Maryland and Tennessee**

"I think the team was really pumped up for those games and everyone came out with a lot of intensity. We knew we could not lay down against Austin Peay and we came out with the same intensity we had against Maryland and Tennessee. In the second half I thought we came out with a better effort and put more pressure on the ball." **On becoming comfortable with Middle Tennessee's system**

##### **Tennessee's system**

"I feel like I have gotten more into the flow as the season has progressed." **Middle Tennessee Head Coach Rick Insell**

##### **On snapping a four-game losing streak**

"A couple of those games we should have won. Our fans and our coaching staff knew we should have won a couple of those games and nothing pleases me more than our fans and our coaches to expect wins. We should have won against Western Carolina and against Chattanooga, but we could not close the deal. Austin Peay is a good team and we knew we had to put pressure on them and keep them from shooting the three. We played Lady Raider basketball tonight instead of worrying about what everyone else is doing." **On forcing 39 turnovers while only committing 15**

"I can handle only committing 15 turnovers. Sometimes you get a little greedy. You want to see them have around 10 to 12. I was proud of our effort. We had all the young ladies play. We still have some things to work on and we are going to have them come in tomorrow and work on them. We are going to return to Murfreesboro tonight, give them a meal and get them some rest." **On the play of Emily Queen**

"That is why we started putting her in the lineup. She is a good young woman. She comes from a good family and she wants to play hard and win. She goes to the boards hard and she is a good shooter. She is what we want at Middle Tennessee as far as a student-athlete is concerned." **On the play of Amber Holt**

"She is amazing. If she is not player of the week in the conference then there is not one. What she did against Tennessee and come out here tonight on the road and score 33 points is amazing." **On overall play for the rest of the team**

"I thought Anne Marie [Lanning] had a good night. She had a pretty good average tonight. Jackie [Pickel] had pretty good shots tonight. She had been down on herself lately, but if she keeps making shots like she did tonight, she is eventually going to knock them down". **On opening conference play on Wednesday**

"We have a lot of work ahead of us. Florida International is a good team and they have played a tough schedule. We look forward to returning home and having a good crowd."

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