

September 5, 2001

Freshmen Lead MT to 3-2 Victory

MT Media Relations

MARTIN, Tenn. - Freshman **Danielle LaDuke** scored the first and last goal, including the game-winner in the 90th minute, and fellow frosh **Laura Miguez** added a pair of assists as the Blue Raiders defeated UT-Martin, 3-2, in soccer action Wednesday afternoon.

The Blue Raiders (1-1) held a 2-0 advantage early in the second half but watched it evaporate as the homestanding Skyhawks scored twice to tie the match. But MT continued to attack, outshooting UTM 24-6 in the match. Miguez made a run down the right side and deep into the eight-yard box, crossed the ball and LaDuke found the back of the net with 51.7 seconds remaining in the contest for the win.

MT outshot the Skyhawks (0-3) 11-2 in then opening half but couldn't find the back of the net until Miguez fed LaDuke down the left side and the newcomer, playing in her first match because of injury, beat UTM goalie Caryn Schuefler with a left-footed shot in the 36th minute for a 1-0 Blue Raider advantage.

Redshirt sophomore **Megan McGregor** added to the lead just over a minute into the second half with an unassisted goal for the 2-0 cushion.

But defensive play broke down midway through the final period, as the Blue Raiders played the final 45 minutes without defensive leader **Sheri Robbins**, who injured her left leg late in the opening half. The Skyhawks took advantage, with Lydia Loyd scoring on an assist from Meghan Jordan in the 62nd minute before another unassisted goal, this one off the foot of Sherrie Weeks, sailed just over the outstretched arms of MT goalie **Emily Shrum**, knotting the match at two in the 78th minute.

The Blue Raiders continued to shoot and attack and the two freshmen hooked up for the game-winner to give the squad its first win of the season.

"We played well in spurts," MT head coach Scott Ginn said. "We had some real good offensive play at times, and some excellent defensive play at times, but we weren't able to maintain both for the full 90 minutes and they took advantage to tie the game.

"I do like how we continued to fight and scored the game-winner. Danielle is going to be a big contributor for us this season, and she played very well today."


The Blue Raiders moved to 5-0 all-time against the Skyhawks.

MT opens home action this Saturday with a 1 p.m. match against Jacksonville State on the Middle Tennessee campus.

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Freshman Danielle LaDuke fights for the ball in Wednesday's match at UT-Martin. LaDuke scored twice as the Blue Raiders won, 3-2. (MT) 

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