Blue Raiders Defeat Chattanooga 3-1

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MURFREESBORO, Tenn. - Middle Tennessee volleyball (1-4) picked up its first victory of the season with a 3-1 (30-13, 21-30, 30-17, 30-15) win over Chattanooga (0-3) at the MT Invitational Friday in Alumni Memorial Gym. The Blue Raiders came out of the gate dominant, setting a definite tone in the first match. Middle Tennessee recorded a .379 hitting percentage with 15 kills and just four errors, and holding Chattanooga to a .000 hitting percentage with seven kills and seven errors. Game two, in which the Blue Raiders fell 21-30, was the polar opposite of game one. The Blue Raiders hit an anemic .032 with 10 errors as opposed to Chattanooga's four. "I have no answer as to what happened in game two," said head coach Matt Peck. "I think we just lost our focus some." Whatever the reason for game two, Middle Tennessee came back in game three and four a totally different team. The Blue Raiders were focused on the court with a .355 hitting percentage in game three and a .429 hitting percentage in game four. Overall Middle Tennessee ended the match with a .302 hitting percentage and recorded 60 kills. "The most important thing about this match was how well we played in games three and four after playing so poorly in game two," Peck said. "I looked up at one point and we had four freshman and two sophomores on the court and we were still able to battle back, and that says something about this team." Senior outside hitter KeKe Deckard who recorded 21 kills, the second consecutive match she has achieved 20 or more kills, led middle Tennessee. Fellow senior Dara McLean recorded 18 kills and Andressa Lyra had an impressive attack percentage with .462 on 13 kills and just one error. Middle Tennessee returns to action on Saturday for two matches in the MT Invitational. The Blue Raiders square off against in-state rival Austin Peay at 1 p.m. and face a red-hot Toledo team in the nightcap at 7 p.m. Earlier in the day, Toledo (4-0) easily handled Austin Peay (0-6), defeating the Lady Govs 3-0 (30-16, 30-28, 30-26).

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