

Blue Raiders Get First Road Win of the Season

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OXFORD, Ohio - Middle Tennessee volleyball (3-7) picked up its first road win, with a 3-2 (30-23, 26-30, 26-30, 30-17, 18-16) victory over Miami University of Ohio (2-7) Saturday at the Miami Classic.

The Blue Raiders had three players record double-doubles in the match and also had eight service aces.

Middle Tennessee received a big game from senior Dara McLean who recorded her first double-double of the season with 25 kills and 10 digs. The 25 kills was a season-high for the Belmont, Manitoba, Canada native.

The Blue Raiders also got big numbers from sophomore Andressa Lyra, who was named to the All-Tournament team, and had 22 kills and 14 digs. Tara Mikuzis had 18 kills and 15 digs.

Angie Zent opened the first game with back-to-back kills, but Middle Tennessee went on a 6-1 run and never looked back as the Blue Raiders posted the 30-23 win. McLean and Tara Mikuzis each had seven kills for Middle Tennessee.

Two Alicia Lemau'u service aces helped Middle Tennessee to an early 7-3 lead, but Miami was able to tie the game, 11-11, off a Miami service ace. Following a 19-19 tie, Miami went on a 6-0 surge to post a 25-19 lead. Another Jenna Staun service ace, a pair of blocks and two kills from Carli Reihman sparked the RedHawks.

The Blue Raiders pulled within two of Miami 26-28, but a Middle Tennessee attack error and a big block by junior setter Megan Clark (Solon, Ohio/Solon) and Kate Norris iced the game for the RedHawks, 30-26. Reihman connected on all six attack attempts, making no errors for the RedHawks.

Despite trailing 4-12 early in the third game, Miami regrouped and chiseled away at the Blue Raider lead to knot the game, 20-20, off a block by Norris, Zent and Buroker. Kills by Clark and Norris helped Miami build a three-point cushion, 26-23, and eventually the RedHawks took the game, 30-



26. Norris knocked down five block assists for the RedHawks who amassed 7.5 blocks as a team in the third game.

In the fourth game, Middle Tennessee took a commanding 15-7 lead and never looked back as the Blue Raiders posted the 30-17 Game Four win to send the match to a fifth set.

McLean and Lyra each had six kills apiece for the Blue Raiders. No team lead by more than a point in the fifth game until Middle Tennessee put the match away on a kill and block to win the set, 18-16.

Earlier in the day, Georgia Tech edged Middle Tennessee by three points in the first game, 30-27 and rolled to 30-19, 30-22 wins in the next two sets to seize the match in three games.

Trailing 12-18 in the first game, the Yellow Jackets staged a 10-0 run to capture a lead it would not relinquish. Georgia Tech extended its lead to five, 27-22, but Middle Tennessee went on a 5-1 run to pull within one of the Yellow Jackets, 27-28. A kill by Lynnette Moster and a block by Moster and Jayme Gergen iced the game for the Yellow Jackets, 30-27.

In the second game, Georgia Tech jumped out to a 10-3 lead and never looked back as it posted a 30-19 win. Laura Kuhn tallied five kills to lead the Yellow Jackets in the second game, while Andressa Lyra notched six kills for the Blue Raiders.

The third game was a close battle with Georgia Tech holding a one-point edge, 22-21, until going on an 8-1 run to win the match with a 30-22 Game Three win. The Yellow Jackets posted an impressive .455 hitting percentage in the third set and were led by Ulrike Stegemann and Jennifer Randall, who had five kills apiece in the game. Lyra tallied a match-high 20 kills.

Middle Tennessee returns home on Friday September 24 to host Western Kentucky in the Blue Raiders first Sun Belt Conference match of the season. Match time is set for 7 p.m. in the Alumni Memorial Gym.

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