

Stovall, Horton Score Big in 62-54 Victory

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LITTLE ROCK, Ark. - Middle Tennessee's Tia Stovall scored 18 points and Krystle Horton added 13, as the Lady Raiders overcame a five-point halftime deficit to defeat Arkansas-Little Rock, 62-54, Thursday night at Trojan Fieldhouse.

Stovall had her most points in 10 games, since netting 22 against UALR in the first meeting of the season, to lead three Lady Raiders in double figures in the contest. Middle Tennessee allowed the home team to shoot just 33 percent in the second half, as UALR scored only eight field goals in the final 20 minutes.



Middle Tennessee (17-7, 9-2 SBC) scored the first nine points of the second half to take the lead, but the Trojans tied the game at 40 five minutes into the second half. Chrissy Givens scored on two straight possessions, the second on a steal and layup to give the Lady Raiders the lead for good.

Horton added a pair of buckets and Middle Tennessee held a four-point lead in the final two minutes after a desperation three-pointer by UALR's Kim Davis banked in. Patrice Holmes came off a screen to hit a 15-footer and Horton drew her second charge of the half. Stovall then hit a short jumper in the lane and was fouled in the process.

Middle Tennessee had a season-low 11 turnovers in the contest and 17 assists, as well as shooting 56 percent in the second half. Holmes added 12 points for the Lady Raiders and had seven rebounds, while Horton added a game-high nine boards. Givens had eight points and a team-high five assists.

UALR (9-16, 3-8) took a 32-27 edge into halftime thanks to 55 percent shooting and 12 points from Jocelyn Love. Middle Tennessee got off to a miserable shooting start, hitting just four of its first 13 shots, but rebounded to make nine of the final 15 in the half. The Lady Raiders scored only one bucket in the final six-plus minutes of the half, enabling the Trojans to take the lead to the locker room.

Alicia Cash had 16 points to lead the Trojans, while Love ended the game with 12.

The Lady Raiders finish their three-game road swing Saturday at Arkansas State with a 7:05 p.m. matchup against the Indians. Middle Tennessee returns home next Thursday with a 6 p.m. contest versus Western Kentucky.

GAME NOTES

The Lady Raiders committed a season-low 11 turnovers in the contest. The previous low was 14 at Florida International on February 7. Middle Tennessee also won for just the fourth time this season when being outrebounded ... The squad won for just the second time this season when trailing at the half. The other came against Austin Peay on December 21 ... The Lady Raiders shot exactly 50 percent in the contest, going 28-for-56. It marks just the fourth time this season the team has shot 50 percent or better after achieving the feat 10 times last season ... The Lady Raiders tied season-lows with six three-point attempts and 11 personal fouls in the game ... Middle Tennessee used a different starting lineup for the first time in eight outings (New Orleans, January 20), with Ciara Gray starting instead of Ditte Jakobsen. It was Gray's fifth start of the year and just the 14th of her career ... Krystle Horton's nine rebounds was a game-high, her most caroms since grabbing 10 versus Austin Peay, a span of 14 games ... Tia Stovall's 18 points led the Lady Raiders, her most since netting 22 against UALR on January 13, a span of 10 games. Stovall also tied her Sun Belt career high of nine field goals made and attempted a Sun Belt career high 16 field goals.

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