

# Morrison, Vogelsberg key comeback win at Portland State

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## **PORTLAND, Oregon -**

Marcus Morrison and Adam Vogelsberg combined for 25 second-half points and the tandem came up big in the clutch to lead Middle Tennessee to a 65-62 come-from-behind win against Portland State here Saturday night, ending the Vikings' 12-game homecourt winning streak. Trailing 62-61, Morrison connected for two free throws to give the Blue Raiders a 63-62 lead with 31 seconds remaining. Middle Tennessee came up with a big stop on the other end of the floor and Vogelsberg bucketed two charity tosses to extend the advantage to 65-62 with nine seconds remaining. Portland State's Jake Schroeder, the all-time leading 3-point shooter in program history, missed a potential game-tying trey as time expired as Middle Tennessee (3-1) secured its first road win of the season. "I'm proud of our team and the way they battled here tonight against a very good Portland State team," Middle Tennessee coach Kermit Davis said. "We



defended really well and held their leading scorer (Schroeder) without a field goal so that was big. It was a tough game and a big win to get on the road, especially after traveling across country and then playing a team that had one of the longest home win streaks in the West. I really though Marcus Morrison stepped up and gave our team leadership with the game on the line at the end."

Vogelsberg led Middle Tennessee with 15 points, while Morrison added 10. Junior forward Kyle Young continued his strong start to the season with 12 points (on 4-of-5 shooting) and nine rebounds, while Tim Blue and Theryn Hudson each tallied eight. Fats Cuyler was solid all-around with six points, four assists and four steals. Morrison and Vogelsberg did their damage when it mattered most, combining to score Middle Tennessee's last 13 points in the comeback win. In a game that saw 20 lead changes and was tied 15 times, Middle Tennessee finally saw the pendulum swing its way in the waning minutes. "We just kept battling and never let up," Vogelsberg said. "Coach Davis challenged us at the half and I think we took that to heart. We have several road games this season, especially this current stretch, so it was good for us to prove we can come back on the road and find a way to win." Vogelsberg's long trey tied the game 55-55 with 3:32 remaining and Morrison, who put together his best game of the season, followed with a mid-range jumper to give the Blue Raiders a 57-55 cushion with 2:46 remaining. After Portland State tied the game, 57-57, Morrison's monster dunk once again gave Middle Tennessee the lead with 1:35 remaining. The Vikings (2-5) came back on Ryan Sommer's 3-pointer to take their final lead, 60-59, before Morrison and Vogelsberg continued their late-game dramatics. While those two dominated at the end, it was reliable and steady Young who kept the Blue Raiders within reach throughout. Young, along with solid post play from Blue and Hudson, dominated the inside game and came within one rebound of his second double double. Middle Tennessee dominated the glass, pulling 44 rebounds to Portland State's 30. The Blue Raiders corralled 13 offensive boards and held the Vikings to just 35 percent shooting from the field. The Blue Raiders, who overcame an eight-point halftime deficit, return to action when they play at Utah State Monday at 8 p.m.

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