

Middle Tennessee heads to Arkansas for SEC test

Blue Raiders aim to remain undefeated

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MURFREESBORO, Tenn. -

The Middle Tennessee women's basketball team will travel to Fayetteville, Ark., this weekend for a 2 p.m. Sunday tip at SEC foe Arkansas in the first meeting between the two schools since 1983.

The Blue Raiders are off to their first 2-0 start since 2003-04 and 14th overall in school history after earning a 74-60 road win at Austin Peay Tuesday night. Middle Tennessee had begun the campaign with a 71-59 home victory against USF Sunday.

Freshman Ebony Rowe collected her first Sun Belt Player of the Week honor after leading all players with 25 points and 16 rebounds in the season opener. She had another solid game at Austin Peay, finishing with 18 points and 12 rebounds for her second career double-double. She became just the second player in school history, and the first since Robin Hendrix in 1980-81, to register a double-double in her first two MT games.

Rowe currently leads the squad with 21.5 ppg and 14.0 rpg, converting 15-of-20 (75.0 percent) field goals with a team-high three blocked shots and a team-best tying five steals on the defensive end.

Senior Anne Marie Lanning is the only other Blue Raider averaging double-figure scoring at 12.5 ppg, while also ranking second on the team with 5.0 rpg. Her 12 assists are twice as many as



second-place Kortni Jones.

Jones netted a career-high 14 points in Tuesday's win on the strength of a 5-of-6 performance from the floor.

Arkansas, under the direction of fourth-year head coach Tom Collen, brings a 3-0 record into Sunday's meeting. The Razorbacks have played their first three games all at home inside Bud Walton Arena, including a slim 65-64 triumph against Mississippi Valley State Wednesday.

Lyndsay Harris and C'eira Ricketts share the high scoring honors for Arkansas, leading the team with 16.3 and 14.0 ppg, respectively. Harris has drained 12 of the team's 17 3-pointers, while Ricketts tops the squad with 11 steals and 10 assists. Keira Peak has come off the bench in each game to haul in a team-best 24 rebounds.

The two teams have met just once previously with the Razorbacks pulling out a 73-72 win in Fayetteville Feb. 5, 1983.

All the action can be heard on the Blue Raider Network with Dick Palmer on the call. Radio stations broadcasting the game include WGNS (100.5 FM, 101.9 FM, 1450 AM), WMOT (89.5 FM) and WBRY (96.7 FM, 1540 AM).

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