

Blue Raiders to close home December slate Sunday

MT live on ESPN3.com for second-straight game

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MURFREESBORO, Tenn. –

The brief December home slate for the Middle Tennessee women's basketball team will come to an end at 12:30 p.m. Sunday as the Blue Raiders play host to James Madison in the first game of a doubleheader inside the Murphy Center. The contest will be followed by the Middle Tennessee men's team playing host to Furman at 3 p.m.

The game will be broadcast live on ESPN3.com with Chip Walters handling play-by-play and Kyle Turnham serving as the color analyst. The Blue Raider Network will also have the game live on the radio, as Dick Palmer and Duane Hickey will call all the action on WGNS (100.5 FM, 101.9 FM, 1450 AM), WMOT (89.5 FM) and WBRY (96.7 FM, 1540 AM).



The Blue Raiders and Dukes are meeting on the hardwood for the first time. James Madison is the second of three first-time opponents on Middle Tennessee's schedule this season.

Freshmen Ebony Rowe and Jordyn Luffman paced the Blue Raider offensive attack in its last outing, a 65-52 setback Thursday to No. 4/5 Xavier. The pair scored 13 and 10 points, respectively, as Middle Tennessee shot a season-low 29.3 percent from the floor against the Musketeers to drop to 6-3 on the season. The three Blue Raider losses have come against opponents who have posted a combined 25-4 record thus far.

Middle Tennessee will be looking to get back on track against a James Madison squad that will come to Murfreesboro with a 5-3 ledger. The Dukes, under the direction of ninth-year head coach Kenny Brooks, won the Colonial Athletic Association crown last season and knocked off Liberty in their last game, 54-51, a week ago.

Clarksville, Tenn., native Dawn Evans paces the James Madison offense with 23.0 ppg after being selected as a co-Preseason Player of the Year in the CAA. Evans, annually among the nation's top scorers, finished behind former Blue Raider Alysha Clark in the scoring race each of the last two seasons.

The Blue Raiders will return to the road after the contest, taking a week off for final exams, before traveling to San Antonio for the UTSA Holiday Classic just before Christmas.

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