

# Four-match homestand kicks off Friday

## MT soccer plays host to Arkansas State, UALR

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### **MURFREESBORO, Tenn. –**

Middle Tennessee soccer will be searching for its first Sun Belt win when it begins a four-match homestand at 7 p.m. Friday by playing host to Arkansas State at Dean A. Hayes Track and Soccer Stadium. MT will also welcome UALR to town for a 2 p.m. Sunday start.

“We had a tough time on the road last weekend and hope being at home will give us some comfort playing in front of our own fans,” head coach Aston Rhoden said. “Every match from here on out is vital and we cannot afford to look ahead at all. We have to turn things around starting now to put ourselves in a competitive situation one month from now.”

The Blue Raiders enter the weekend following road losses to Denver and North Texas last weekend, dropping their record to 3-7 overall and 0-2 in the league. Middle Tennessee managed just two goals in the pair of games, including the team-leading third this season by senior Shan Jones.

Arkansas State owns a 3-5-2, 1-1 ledger coming into Friday’s match. The Red Wolves split their first conference weekend action, defeating Florida Atlantic before falling in overtime to FIU in Jonesboro, Ark. Jessica Jingblad paces the squad with five goals and four assists, one more score than Kara Nitti.

UALR will start its weekend by traveling to Bowling Green, Ky., Friday to face Western Kentucky before making the trek to Murfreesboro. The Trojans own a 5-6 overall and 1-1 SBC mark heading into the weekend’s action. Rachael Maina’s four goals are one more than Christina Veasley and



Ariel Galletti's total.

As part of the University's Homecoming weekend celebration, Middle Tennessee soccer will help celebrate by welcoming its alumnae back to campus and at the games.

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