Blue becomes pink Sunday afternoon in TV battle

Play4Kay game live on CSS

February 11, 2012 · Athletic Communications

MURFREESBORO, Tenn. – Middle Tennessee will go pink for one game, as the Blue Raiders welcome UALR to town for the annual Play4Kay contest at 3 p.m. Sunday inside the historic Murphy Center. The game will be broadcast locally on Comcast/Charter Sports Southeast (CSS) as part of the Sun Belt Network TV package with Lyn Rollins (play-by-play) and Debbie Leonard (color analyst) on the call.

Middle Tennessee wears the pink uniforms once a year to raise breast cancer awareness in conjunction with the Women's Basketball Coaches Association (WBCA).

"We are excited to continue this great annual women's basketball tradition of wearing the pink uniforms for breast cancer awareness," Director of Athletics Chris Massaro said. "As an athletic department, any time Middle Tennessee can use athletics as platforms like this for the greater good of the community, we proudly jump on board."

In recent years, Middle Tennessee has held a postgame jersey auction to raise monies for the Kay Yow Cancer Fund and Middle Tennessee Medical Center with a high of $23,597.05 in 2010. However, this season, the Blue Raiders will not be holding the postgame auction.

"Again, we'd like to thank our corporate partner Middle Tennessee Medical Center, along with our

coaches, players and staff who put on this special occasion every year," Massaro continued.

Middle Tennessee brings a 14-game win streak this year and 59-1 home conference game record the last seven seasons into Sunday's matchup after knocking off rival Western Kentucky, 67-64, Wednesday night to improve to 20-5 overall and 12-0 in the Sun Belt. It marks the ninth-straight season in which MT has won at least 20 games and the 20th time overall in school history.

Junior Kortni Jones netted a game-high 23 points, including six 3-pointers, on her way to setting the single-season school record for triples. She has now raised the bar to 90 entering Sunday, while needing one more attempt from behind the arc to match another single-season school standard. Jones is also within reach of the respective Sun Belt marks.

UALR is making its first trip to Murfreesboro since February 2008. The Trojans, who won the Sun Belt Tournament title last season, have risen to the top of the league's West Division again this year with a 13-11 overall and 8-3 SBC ledger under 10th-year head coach Joe Foley.

Taylor Gault paces UALR with 16.0 points per game, while Marian Kursh adds an average of 12.0 points and team-high 8.0 rebounds per contest. The Trojans have won six of their last seven and nine of their last 11 games.

The Blue Raiders lead the all-time series 15-5 but are just 6-4 under Insell's watch. The four UALR victories are the second most by any opponent against the Middle Tennessee head coach.

Dick Palmer and Duane Hickey will call all the action on the Blue Raider Network of WMOT (89.5 FM) and WGNS (1450 AM, 100.5 FM, 101.9 FM).

In addition, 2012 Sun Belt Conference Tournament booklets are on sale at the Middle Tennessee athletic ticket office. Cost per booklet is $83 and includes a ticket to all eight sessions of the Sun Belt Championships, March 3-6, in Hot Springs, Ark. Fans can purchase booklets by calling 1-888-YES-MTSU or visiting goblueraiders.com.

Printed on April 24, 2014
Original URL: http://www.goblueraiders.com/content.cfm/id/58404