

Blue Raiders square off against rival WKU in regular-season finale Saturday

Contest will air on CSS at 5 p.m. CT

February 24, 2012 · Athletic Communications

MURFREESBORO, Tenn. -

The regular-season concludes for the Middle Tennessee men's basketball team with a contest against rival WKU on Saturday. The Blue Raiders and Hilltoppers will tip off at 5 p.m. CT and the game will air on CSS with Joe Davis and Mark Wise on the call. **GAME INFORMATION**

Date: Saturday, Feb. 25

Time: 5:00 p.m. CT

Location: Bowling Green, Ky.

Facility: E.A. Diddle Arena

TV: CSS

Play-by-play: Joe Davis

Analysis: Mark Wise

MEDIA INFORMATION

Radio: WGNS (1450 AM, 101.9 FM, 100.5 FM)/WNSR (560 AM)/WMOT (89.5 FM)

Play-by-Play: Chip Walters

Live Video: Available [here](#)

Live Audio: Available [here](#)

Live Stats: Available [here](#)

SERIES INFORMATION

Overall: WKU leads, 91-35 //

As Sun Belt foes: WKU leads, 17-9

At WKU: WKU leads, 37-6 (dating back to 1957) // As Sun Belt foes: WKU leads, 10-3

Under Davis: WKU leads, 13-9 // Under Davis at WKU: WKU leads, 8-3

First meeting: WKU 32, MT 21 (1914-15, location unavailable)

Last meeting: MT 72, WKU 64 (2/9/12 in Murfreesboro)

Last WKU win: WKU 68, MT 49 (2/28/09 in Murfreesboro)

Last MT win at WKU: MT 69, WKU 60 (2/10/11) // Last WKU win at home: WKU 63, MT 61 (1/15/09)



Current Streak: MT, 5 games

Longest MT streak: 6 games (1924-1930) // Longest WKU streak: 23 games (1931-1955)

Noteworthy: MT has won the last two meetings in Bowling Green.

BLUE RAIDER FASTBREAK POINTS

--With MT's 71-66 win over FIU on Dec. 29, head coach Kermit Davis surpassed Jimmy Earle as MT's all-time winningest coach. It marked Davis' 165th MT victory, eclipsing Earle's mark of 164.

--MT's 20-2 start was the best in program history, topping the previous mark of 18-2 in the 1974-75 season.

--MT's 10-0 league start was the best in program history. It topped the previous mark of 9-0 set in the 1974-75 season when the Blue Raiders were a member of the OVC.

--MT's 12-game winning streak from Dec. 10 through Jan. 26 was the longest in 26 years and is tied for the third-longest in school history.

--MT has won 18 games by a double-figure margin, including 10 of the last 15 contests.

--As of the NCAA statistics on Feb. 23, MT ranks fourth in the nation in field goal percentage (49.6). MT also ranks 19th in field goal percentage defense (38.9). The Blue Raiders ranked in the top three in field goal percentage for six consecutive weeks to open the season.

--As of Feb. 23, MT is one of only seven teams in the nation to crack the 25-win mark this season, currently tied for the fourth-most victories in the nation.

--MT's 10 road wins this season are the most in school history and tied for the sixth-most in the country as of Feb. 23. The Blue Raiders also lead the Sun Belt with 46 league road victories in the past 10 years.

--MT set a school-record with a 71.4 shooting percentage at UCLA on Nov. 15. The Blue Raiders shot 70.8 percent in the first half and 72 percent in the second half of the contest.

SCOUTING THE HILLTOPPERS

Since the last meeting between the two teams, WKU (10-18, 6-9 SBC) has split four contests. The Hilltoppers dropped a pair of road contests at Troy and South Alabama while claiming home victories over Florida Atlantic and Arkansas State. In their last outing, WKU topped the Red Wolves with a late trey to capture the 79-76 win on Thursday. The Hilltoppers have won four in a row at home heading into Saturday's contest. WKU is led by Derrick Gordon with 11.8 points per game, while George Fant is the team's second-leading scorer at 9.8 points per game. Both Gordon and Fant are averaging a team-best 6.4 boards per game. The Hilltoppers are now under the direction of Ray Harper, who was serving as the interim head coach in the last meeting between the two teams.

IN THEIR LAST MEETING

LaRon Dendy posted career-highs with 26 points and 14 rebounds for his fifth double-double of the season, powering Middle Tennessee to a 72-64 win over Western Kentucky University on Feb. 9 at Murphy Center. In addition to the double-double, Dendy also matched his career-high with four assists and chipped in a block and a steal. He was especially effective in the second half, scoring 19 points and collecting 10 boards in the latter frame. Marcos Knight posted 12 points and grabbed eight rebounds, while Raymond Cintron scored 11 and Kerry Hammonds added 10 points. Bruce Massey facilitated the offense with eight assists, matching his career-best, and Hammonds tacked on two assists, two blocks and three steals. The Blue Raiders collected a season-high 51 rebounds and capitalized on 21 offensive boards for 15 second-chance points. The MT defense held the Hilltoppers to 33.8 percent shooting, while the Blue Raiders hit 38.8 percent of their own shots. T.J. Price led the way for WKU with 14 points and George Fant tallied 12 points to go along with 11

boards.

ALL ABOUT MT (25-4, 14-1 SBC)

Vote For Dendy

LaRon Dendy has been named as one of the 25 finalists for the Lou Henson Player of the Year Award, given to the nation's top mid-major player. Fans can vote for Dendy by visiting VoteLouHenson.com beginning Feb. 18 and running through March 12. The fan vote will count for one-third of the final decision.

Sun Belt Champions

With the win over Florida Atlantic on Saturday, MT clinched the Sun Belt's regular-season title and the No. 1 seed for the upcoming conference tournament, March 3-6 in Hot Springs, Ark. It marks the program's first No. 1 tournament seed as a member of the Sun Belt. Additionally, MT's victory over ULM clinched the league's best record this season. The Blue Raiders have now finished atop the Sun Belt standings in two of the past three seasons, tying Troy and North Texas with a 13-5 record in 2009-10.

Dendy is Dandy

After sitting out last season due to NCAA transfer rules, LaRon Dendy has made an impact in his lone season for the Blue Raiders. He netted 21 points in the season-opener against Austin Peay and was one rebound shy of a double-double, collecting nine boards. He notched his first double-double of the season at UCLA, collecting 16 points and 13 rebounds, then added his second double-double with 19 points and 11 rebounds against Akron. In the Sun Belt opener against FIU, Dendy posted his third double-double of the season with 11 points and 10 rebounds, then added his fourth with 21 points and 11 rebounds against South Alabama (12/31). Dendy added his sixth performance of 20 or more points with 22 points at Vanderbilt (1/28), then posted his fifth double-double with career-highs in both points (26) and rebounds (14) against WKU on Feb. 9. He followed that up with a 23-point showing against UALR and made it three straight games of 20-or-more points with 20 against FAU. He added 10 rebounds in the contest for his sixth double-double of the season and second in the last three games. He now has nine games of at least 20 points. He has also shown versatility on the court, ranking first on the team in scoring (14.7 ppg) rebounding (7.0 rpg) and blocks (46) and third on the team with 59 assists.

More on Dendy's Dominance

Senior forward LaRon Dendy was named the Sun Belt Player of the Week on Jan. 30 then again on Feb. 13. Dendy picked up his first career weekly honor and the second of the season for the Blue Raiders after averaging 19.5 points, 5.5 rebounds and 2.0 assists in two games during the week of Jan. 23. Dendy put together back-to-back double-digit scoring performances, including a career-high 22 points against Vanderbilt on Jan. 28. Over the two games, he shot an impressive 70 percent from the field while hitting 10-of-13 from the line. He also scored 17 against Troy on Jan. 26. He earned his second weekly accolade after averaging 24.5 points, 10.0 rebounds and 3.0 assists in wins over WKU and UALR. Dendy had a career day against rival WKU, posting his fifth double-double of the season with 26 points and 14 rebounds, both career-highs. He matched his career-high with four assists in the contest as well. The Greenville, S.C., native followed that up with his eighth game of 20-or-more points this season, scoring 23 as MT clinched the Sun Belt East Division title with a 68-60 victory over West-leading UALR. Not only did Dendy score 19 points in the first half of the contest, but he also scored 12 in a row for the Blue Raiders to start the game. He finished the contest shooting nearly 82 percent from the field. Dendy joined Marcos Knight as the Blue Raiders

who have received weekly honors this season. Dendy becomes the first Blue Raider to receive multiple weekly honors in the same season and the third to earn multiple accolades in their career. He is the fifth Blue Raider overall to receive the league's weekly award. It marks the eighth weekly accolade in program history and the first time since the 2001-02 season MT has had multiple player of the week awards.

Amazing Assists

MT has been one of the best assisting teams in the nation this season, and the Blue Raiders demonstrated that on Thursday with a season-high 30 assists on 35 field goals against ULM. It marked the most assists in a game for a Blue Raider squad since MT tallied 32 against Trevecca on Nov. 14, 2008. The mark was also just two assists shy of the Sun Belt's record between two league teams, set by Louisiana against UTPA on Jan. 17, 1998.

Records Abound

With 25 wins this season, the Blue Raiders set a new single-season school record. MT has had 23 wins four times, with the most recent coming in the 1988-89 season. The Blue Raiders cracked the 20-win mark for the first time since the 1990-91 season when they went 21-9. The last time MT cracked the 20-win mark during the regular season was the 1988-89 season when the Blue Raiders were 23-8, including three postseason victories. MT have also set the record for most league wins in a season with 14. The Blue Raiders' previous record was 13 Sun Belt wins in 2009-10.

Among the Nation's Elite

MT is one of only seven schools in the country to have reached the 25-win plateau this season, and the 25 victories are currently tied for the fourth-most wins in the nation behind Syracuse (28), Kentucky (27) and Murray State (27). Oral Roberts, Missouri and Wichita State also have 25 wins.

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Nation Taking Notice

The Blue Raiders are currently receiving votes in the ESPN/USA Today Coaches poll. In the latest Coaches poll released on Feb. 13, MT received six votes, putting the Blue Raiders at 36th nationally. It marks the ninth-straight week MT has received votes in the Coaches poll. The Blue Raiders received votes in the AP Top 25 earlier twice this season. MT garnered nine votes on Jan. 23 and also received two votes for the Nov. 21 edition of the AP poll. It marks the first time in program history the Blue Raiders have received votes in either poll. The Blue Raiders are also ranked No. 5 in the current CollegeInsider.com Mid-Major Top 25. In addition, MT currently sits 43rd in the Sagarin ratings, the highest rating of any Sun Belt team. The Blue Raiders also rank 38th in the NCAA RPI, best of any league team.

Starting It Off Right

The Blue Raiders got off to a 4-0 start this season, marking the first 4-0 start since the 1994-95 season. It also marked the first time in program history MT defeated three Division I opponents to

open the season. MT's 20-2 start marked the best in school history. It topped the previous mark of 18-2 in 1974-75. Additionally, MT's 13 wins before the new year are the most in school history, surpassing the previous mark of nine in 1991. **And For League Starters**

MT's 10-0 Sun Belt start was the best conference mark in program history. The Blue Raiders broke the record of 9-0 set in the 1974-75 season as a member of the Ohio Valley Conference. **Gender Wars**

Both the Blue Raider men's and women's basketball programs got off to 10-0 starts in the Sun Belt. It marked the second time in the last four years both teams have started league play 5-0 or better (2008-09). WKU is the only other Sun Belt school to have both programs start at least 5-0, which occurred in 1992-93. No Sun Belt program has had both teams earn 10-0 starts.

Streaking Raiders

The Blue Raiders 12-game winning streak spanning from Dec. 10 through Jan. 26 was the longest since MT won a school-record 14 straight during the 1985-86 season. It ties the third-longest streak in school history, matching the 12-game mark during the 1980-81 season, and marks only the fourth time history MT has won at least 12 straight games. **One-Two Punch**

Bruce Massey and Marcos Knight are a dual threat when it comes to ball-handling. The duo ranks No. 1 and 2, respectively, in assist-to-turnover ratio in league games. Massey holds a 2.3 ratio, while Knight is at 1.7. Massey also ranks first overall in the league with a 2.2 ratio. Additionally, Massey holds a just over a 1.0 ratio in steals (47) and blocks (5) to turnovers (51), a stat that ranks among the nation's elite point guards.

Road Warriors

MT is currently 10-3 on the road after starting the season 4-0 in away contests, marking the first time since 1967-68 the Blue Raiders won four straight road games to start the season. The last time the Blue Raiders won at least four consecutive road games in a season was 2006-07 when MT reeled off five in a row during Sun Belt play. The Blue Raiders' 10 road victories this season are tied for the sixth-most nationally and are the most in program history. MT has won nine road games three times in history, with the most recent coming in the 1997-98 season. And with six of road victories coming in league games this season, MT has collected 46 league road victories in the past 10 years, the most of any Sun Belt school.

Offense vs. Defense

The Blue Raider offense got off to a hot start during non-conference play, but its the defense that has dominated in MT's 13 Sun Belt victories. In non-conference action, the Blue Raiders averaged 76.1 points per game, held opponents to 64.1 points per game, and shot 52.9 percent from the field, including a 41.2 percent from beyond the arc. Compare that to MT's 69.1 points per game, 46.8 percent shooting and 31.8 percent 3-point shooting in conference play. Despite cooling off offensively in league games, the Blue Raiders are holding opponents to 58.2 points per game, best in the conference, and have outscored their league foes by an average of 10.9 points per game. In fact, 11 of 14 conference foes have scored 61 points or less.

Davis becomes all-time winningest coach

Head coach Kermit Davis became Middle Tennessee's all-time winningest coach in the Blue Raiders' 71-66 win over FIU on Dec. 29. It marked Davis' 165th victory at the helm of the Blue Raiders, surpassing former coach Jimmy Earle, who held the record with 164 wins. This season, Davis joins Earle, who spent a decade guiding the Blue Raiders, as the longest tenured coaches in program history.

Unselfish Play

MT has been one of the top assisting teams in Sun Belt this season, currently ranking second in the league with 15.6 assists per game. The Blue Raiders have 451 assists on 752 field goals, marking the most assists of any team during head coach Kermit Davis' tenure. Prior to this year's total, the 2006-07 squad had 401 assists.

Home Sweet Home

MT currently owns a 13-game winning streak at Murphy Center. The streak is the longest since MT won 14 in a row spanning the 1996-97 and 1997-98 seasons. It is the fifth-longest mark in history. With 14 wins at home this season, the Blue Raiders have collected double-digit home victories in each of the past five seasons and in eight out of 10 years during Davis' tenure. The 14 home wins are also tied for the most during the regular-season in program history. MT won 14 regular-season home games in 1973-74 and twice won 15 home games (1978-88, 1975-75), but each of those seasons included two postseason home victories. Additionally, this season marks the first since 1996-97 that the Blue Raiders suffered only one loss at home. MT finished 13-1 at home during the 1996-97 campaign. MT has finished undefeated at home four times in program history. MT's 8-0 home record in conference play is the best since the Blue Raiders finished 6-0 in 1988-89 as a member of the OVC. It marks the sixth time in program history MT has finished undefeated at home in conference play, but the first time during the Sun Belt era.

Cracking 300

MT head coach Kermit Davis earned his 300th career victory in the Blue Raiders' 65-62 win over Belmont on Dec. 13. Davis, in his 10th season at the helm of the Blue Raiders, holds a 249-180 record as a Division I head coach and was 66-25 as a junior college head coach.

Quadruple Threat

It's no surprise MT's offense is not only one of the best in the Sun Belt, but also in the nation. Four of the top 10 shooters in the league are Blue Raiders. Shawn Jones (.554) is third, JT Sulton (.542) is fifth, LaRon Dendy (.536) is sixth and Marcos Knight (.489) is 10th. That kind of shooting has helped MT to shoot 50 percent or better in 13 contests, including five performances of better than 60 percent.

It's Not Just Offense

While the Blue Raider offense has been hot, the defense is no slouch either. MT leads the Sun Belt in field goal percentage defense (.387) and 3-point defense (.306), holding 25 of its 28 opponents under 50 percent shooting. In fact, 18 of 28 opponents have shot 40 percent or worse against the Blue Raiders, with South Alabama's .263 percentage marking a season-low for MT opponents.

Statistically Sound

MT has remained one of the hottest teams in the nation throughout the season, currently ranking fourth in the country in field goal percentage (.496) and 19th in the country in field goal percentage defense (.389) according to the NCAA as of Feb. 23. Additionally, the Blue Raiders rank in the top 50 in five other categories:

Win-Loss Percentage: 6th (.862)

Field Goal Percentage: 7th (.493)

Field Goal Percentage Defense: 18th (.387)

Scoring Margin: 22nd (11.4)

Assists Per Game: 26th (15.6)
 Blocks Per Game: 44th (4.7)
 Scoring Defense: 41st (61.1)

MT also tops the Sun Belt in five categories (scoring offense, scoring margin, field goal percentage, field goal percentage defense and 3-point percentage defense) and ranks second in four more (scoring defense, assists, assist-to-turnover ratio and steals).

Double-Double Duo

LaRon Dendy and JT Sulton each posted double-doubles against Akron on Dec. 4. Dendy collected 19 points and 11 rebounds, while Sulton had 16 points and 11 boards. It marked the fourth double-double of Sulton's career and the second for both Dendy and Sulton this year. It also marked the first time two Blue Raiders had a double-double in the same game since Michael Cuffee (24 pts, 10 rebs) and Marcus Morrisson (10 pts, 11 rebs) did it against Arkansas State on Jan. 13, 2005. It is the 75th time in program history at least two Blue Raiders have had a double-double in one game.

Speaking of Double-Doubles

Dendy added his third and fourth double-doubles of the season in back-to-back games to open Sun Belt play. Dendy had 11 points and 10 rebounds against FIU on Dec. 29, then followed that up with 21 points and 11 boards against South Alabama on Dec. 31. It marked the first time a Blue Raider had back-to-back double-doubles since Steve Thomas accomplished the feat in 2005. Altogether, he has 21 double-figure games this year, nine games of 20 points or more and six double-doubles. He is the first Blue Raider since Steve Thomas and Michael Cuffee to have at least five double-doubles in one season. Thomas had six in 2004-05, while Cuffee had five. **The 10-Win Mark**

MT won 10 games within the first 12 this year, marking the fastest the program has reached the 10-win plateau since the 1990-91 season. It also marks the first time the Blue Raiders have collected at least 10 non-conference victories since the 2004-05 season when MT had 12 non-conference wins.

Halfway There

MT is 23-0 when leading at halftime. The Blue Raiders are outscoring opponents 1122-948 in the second half compared to a 965-805 advantage in the first half. MT is shooting 54.0 percent in the second half, including a 41.7 percent clip from beyond the arc, while holding opponents to 39.5 percent in the second stanza. MT also hasn't trailed in the second half in 11 of the last 16 games.

Oden in the Clutch

Senior guard Jimmy Oden was clutch against Tennessee State on Dec. 1. Oden finished with a career-high 14 points, going 11-for-12 from the stripe. In the final two minutes of the contest, Oden hit 10 consecutive free throws to seal the 77-62 victory. **Knight of Honor**

Marcos Knight was named the Sun Belt Player of the Week on Nov. 22. Knight averaged 16.3 points and 7.0 rebounds during a three-game stretch for the Blue Raiders. He became the first Blue Raider to earn the league's weekly honor since Desmond Yates on Jan. 25, 2010 and is the fourth Blue Raider in program history to earn the award. **Painting the Town Blue**

In 25 of 29 games this season, including 21 of the last 24, the Blue Raiders have dominated their opponent in the paint. Altogether the Blue Raiders own an 926-650 advantage in the paint and have outscored their opponents by an average of 9.5 points per game in the paint. The widest margin came against Cumberland when MT owned a 42-8 advantage in the paint (+34). The Blue Raiders' season-high for paint points was 44 at South Alabama. The only contests where MT did not outscore its opponent in the paint were against Belmont on Nov. 20 when the Bruins held a 42-34 advantage, at FIU on Jan. 12 when both teams tied with 26 points in the paint, at Vanderbilt on Jan. 28, with the Commodores holding a 38-32 advantage and at Denver on Feb. 4, with Denver holding a 40-24

advantage. **Sulton Reigns**

Junior forward JT Sulton has developed into one of MT's most consistent players. He has started 40 consecutive games, the longest streak of any current Blue Raider. Sulton hasn't missed a start since Jan. 29, 2011. He became the first Blue Raider to record a double-double this season, collecting 12 points and 11 rebounds at Loyola Marymount. It marked the third double-double of his career, with his last coming against UALR (21 pts, 11 reb) in the 2011 Sun Belt tournament. Sulton has reached double figures in 19 contests this season and in those 40 consecutive starts, he has produced a total of 26 double-figure scoring performances. **Shooting the Lights Out**

MT's shooting performance against UCLA on Nov. 15 was one for the ages. The Blue Raiders smashed the school record, shooting a 71.4 percent clip from the field and surpassing the previous mark of 68.9 percent set in 1981. MT has now had five halves of basketball this season shooting 70 percent or better:

2/11 vs. UALR 1st half: 70.0%

11/22 vs Cumberland 2nd half: 75.0%

11/15 vs. UCLA 2nd half: 72.0%

11/15 vs. UCLA 1st half: 70.8%

11/11 vs. Austin Peay: 70.0%

On record, the Blue Raiders had only bettered the 70-percent mark in one half three times in program history prior to this year:

.833 vs. Akron (2/4/82)

.800 vs. Tennessee Tech (1/8/81)

.724 vs. Austin Peay (1/12/87)

Raining Three's

Not only did MT set a record from the field, but the Blue Raiders also hit a Sun Belt record 90.9 percent of their 3-pointers against UCLA. The mark, also a school record, surpassed the previous league record of 90.0 percent set by UAB in 1986 and is tied for fourth in NCAA history.

(Min. 10 made)

03/06/11 - 93.3%, Ohio State (14-15) vs. Wisconsin

12/03/00 - 91.7%, Drexel (11-12) vs. Delaware

12/11/04 - 91.7%, Northern Arizona (11-12) vs. Willamette

11/15/11 - 90.9%, Middle Tennessee (10-11) at UCLA

02/01/88 - 90.9%, Duke (10-11) vs. Clemson

01/16/93 - 90.9%, Hofstra (10-11) vs. Rhode Island

And One More Thing

MT hit its first nine treys and finished 10-of-11 from beyond the arc against UCLA. The Blue Raiders didn't miss a trey until 1:39 to go in the game. Before the streak ended, MT's 9-for-9 performance matched an NCAA record for highest perfect 3-point field goal percentage in a game, set by Minnesota against Penn State on Jan. 11, 2009. **Keeping Up with the Jones'**

Both Shawn and Jason Jones have played key roles for the Blue Raiders this season. Shawn has had eight double-figure games, including a 15-point performance, matching his career-high, against FIU on Dec. 29. Jones ranks second on the team with 32 blocks. After missing the first four games and nine total, Jason has produced five double-figure games in 18 appearances, including three starts. He also has chipped in 16 assists and seven steals. **Playing Extra**

MT and Belmont played into double overtime on Nov. 20, marking the first overtime game of the season for the Blue Raiders. Last season, MT played four overtime games, including one double-

overtime contest, ironically, a loss to Belmont on Dec. 7, 2010. The two contests against Belmont are the only double-overtime games for the Blue Raiders since a triple overtime loss to New Mexico State in 2002. **Spreading the Wealth**

MT's 10-of-11 3-point performance against UCLA was far from a one-man show. In fact, it was a six-man show. Six different Blue Raiders hit a triple, led by Raymond Cintron and Bruce Massey, who each went 3-for-3. In addition, five Blue Raiders scored double-figures. Altogether, 10 Blue Raiders have had at least one double-digit performance this year and nine of them have had multiple double-figure games. **Hammonds Stepping Up**

Sophomore guard Kerry Hammonds reached double-figures for the third time in his career with 11 points against Cumberland, including a 3-for-3 performance from beyond the arc. Hammonds also recorded career-highs in assists (5) and blocks (4) in the contest. After missing seven games, Hammonds picked up where he left off, scoring a season-high 13 points against Arkansas State on Jan. 19. He earned his first start back from injury against WKU on Feb. 9. **Tremendous Transfers**

In addition to Dendy, three other transfers have made a considerable impact this season: Chipola Junior College transfer Marcos Knight has started each contest. Knight is the team's second-leading scorer with 11.7 points per game points and is third with 5.3 rebounds per game. He posted his first career double-double with 17 points and 11 rebounds against Belmont. Knight became the third Blue Raider to post a double-double this season and has reached double-figure scoring in 21 contests. His career-high of 19 points came against North Texas on Feb. 2.

Bruce Massey dished out a career-high eight assists against Belmont, then matched that against WKU on Feb. 9 and leads the team with 113 assists this season. In addition, the Dodge City Community College transfer went 3-for-3 from beyond the arc against UCLA, marking his first 3-point attempts of the season, and scored a season-high 14 points. He made it back-to-back games in double-figures with 11 against UNC Greensboro. His 47 steals are the most on the team.

Mississippi Gulf Coast Junior College transfer Raymond Cintron came off the bench and sank a pair of free throws in his first D-I contest against Austin Peay, then added his first D-I triple against Loyola Marymount. He heated up against UCLA, draining 3-of-3 treys to finish 4-for-4 from the field with 11 points. He followed that performance with a career day against Belmont, going 5-for-9 from 3-point land en route to a career-high 18 points. Cintron added his third double-figure game with 12 points, including 6-of-6 free throw shooting, against UT Martin. He then matched his career-high of 18 points against Ole Miss and made it back-to-back double-figure performances with 12 points against FIU on Dec. 29. Against Troy on Jan. 26, Cintron matched his career-high of six field goals and five treys, finishing with 17 points in the contest. **Sun Belt Championship Information**

Booklets for the 2012 Sun Belt Men's Basketball Conference Championship are now on sale. Cost is \$83 and includes a ticket to all eight sessions for the tournament in Hot Springs, Ark., March 3-6. Fans can purchase tickets by calling 1-888-YES-MTSU or visiting GoBlueRaiders.com.

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