

Blue Raiders head to Bowling Green for regular-season finale

MT vs. WKU on CSS and ESPN3.com starting at 1 p.m.

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MURFREESBORO, Tenn. –

Middle Tennessee women's basketball will put a cap on its 2011-12 regular season when it travels to Bowling Green, Ky., to face rival Western Kentucky at 1 p.m. Sunday inside E.A. Diddle Arena. The contest will be broadcast regionally the Sun Belt Network, which is shown locally on Comcast/Charter Sports Southeast (CSS), with additional coverage on ESPN3.com. The Blue Raiders have won their last 17 games, the third longest streak in school history and tied for the third best current run across the country. Overall, MT has won 19 of its last 20 games since early December, raising its record to 23-5 and 15-0 in the league. Middle Tennessee enters Sunday's game on the heels of a 67-53 road victory at ULM Thursday night. Junior Kortni Jones matched her career high with 25 points, while sophomore Ebony Rowe added a double-



double of 12 points and 17 rebounds. Jones became the single-season Sun Belt record holder for 3-pointers made (101) and attempted (280) against the Warhawks after draining her first five from behind the arc. She is the first player in school and conference history to reach the century mark for one season and currently lists second nationally for 3-pointers made. Rowe's double-double was her 12th of the campaign and 28th of her career. She has moved within 11 points of 1,000 and 16 rebounds shy of 600 in her career entering Sunday's action. Rowe currently places 20th in school history with 584 boards and has a chance to become just the 18th player to grab at least 600.

Should she join the 1,000-point club, she will become only the 26th in program history to eclipse the milestone. Western Kentucky brings an 8-19 overall and 5-10 league ledger into Sunday's contest after dropping its last two outings. The Lady Toppers have won just three times in their last 12 games, dating back to early January, under the direction of 10th-year head coach Mary Taylor Cowles. Senior LaTiera Owens paces the squad with averages of 11.3 points and 7.8 rebounds per game. She is the lone WKU player with a double-figure scoring average. The Blue Raiders have won the last eight in the series to claim a 28-23 all-time edge. Middle Tennessee head coach Rick Insell is 13-3 against the Lady Toppers during his seven seasons at the helm of the program. Lyn Rollins and Debbie Leonard will have the call on the Sun Belt Network TV feed. Dick Palmer and Duane Hickey will have all the action live on the Blue Raider Network on 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 4-6, in Hot Springs, Ark. Fans can purchase booklets by calling 1-888-YES-MTSU or visiting goblueraiders.com.

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