

December 1, 2001

Blue Raiders Fall at Radford

MT Media Relations

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The Blue Raiders dropped a disappointing 72-53 decision to Radford on Saturday afternoon to drop to 3-2 on the year.

The Blue Raiders were led offensively by **Tommy Gunn's** 12 points and **Iiro Tenngren** set a career high with 12 rebounds. Unfortunately for the Blue Raiders, the team's road losing streak increased to 12 games.

The Blue Raiders shot a dismal 32.8 percent for the contest and were only 4-of-16 from behind the 3-point arc on the night.

The poor shooting put Middle Tennessee behind the eight ball early in the contest. The Blue Raiders trailed by nine at the 8:09 mark of the first half after a layup by Mike Hornbuckle made the score 20-11.

The Blue Raiders would cut the lead to three before the half, but Radford continued putting pressure on the MT offense and stretched the lead back to 33-23 at the intermission.

The Blue Raiders found life less hospitable in the second half. The Blue Raiders would cut the lead to eight at the 18:32 mark after two free throws from **William Pippen**, but the single digit lead didn't last long for the Highlanders. Three minutes later the lead was 15 and Radford never looked back.

Gunn was the only Blue Raider in double figures while four Highlanders notched 10 or more. Andrey Savtchenko led both teams with 19 points and 11 boards.

The Blue Raiders will return to Murphy Center on Tuesday night for a 7 PM tipoff against Rice.

NOTES AND QUOTES

Gunn' Streak Continues

Tommy Gunn's 12 points against Radford gives him six straight games in which he has netted double figures in scoring.

Tenngren Homecoming

Iiro Tenngren played in front of several friendly fans against Radford. Tenngren played his high school ball in Lynchburg, VA, which is only a few miles away from Radford. Also playing in Tenngren's high school league was Radford's Andrey Savtchenko.

Rebounding Best

Iiro Tenngren's 12 rebounds against Radford is a personal high for the Helsinki, Finland, native. He is also the first Blue Raiders to tally double figure rebounds this season.

Schedule Notes

Middle Tennessee's game against East Carolina has been moved from Dec. 19 to Dec. 20 due to the Pirates' participation in a bowl game. The Blue Raiders' game against IP-Fort Wayne has been readded to the schedule after permission to play the Mastadons was granted by the Sun Belt Office. The game in Fort Wayne will be played on Jan. 31.

Head Coach Randy Wiel

We turned the ball over some, but that's not the issue here. We're sputtering on offense

and we need to get out of it. We need to have a combination of the inside and outside game and right now both parts are sputtering.

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