Goeglein picks up Sun Belt Player of the Week honor

Senior midfielder leads the nation with eight game-winning goals

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MURFREESBORO, Tenn. - Middle Tennessee's Paige Goeglein was honored on Tuesday by the Sun Belt Conference as the Offensive Player of the Week after her hat trick performance against Troy last weekend.

The senior midfielder became the first Blue Raider to register the trifecta in a game since 2009 as the Raiders knocked off the Trojans, 3-1. On Sunday, Goeglein followed up with an assist in Allison Stallard's critical equalizing goal at the 72nd minute against South Alabama.

"This is good recognition for Paige," said head coach Aston Rhode. "Anytime a student-athlete scores three goals in a game, that shows the level of competiveness she has. Her contributions have been tremendous for our team this season."

Goeglein leads the nation with eight game-winning goals, a MT single-season record. With her three goals on Friday, the Fort Wayne, Ind., native moved to fourth all-time at MT with 14 goals in a season, while she rose to ninth in school history with 23 career goals. Goeglein's 14 goals and four assists for 32 points is the fifth best Blue Raider performance in a season.

On Monday, Goeglein was named the Sun Belt Player of the Week by College Sports Madness. She was previously the Sun Belt Player of the Week on Sept. 4 and was named to the College Soccer 360 Weekly Primetime Performer Honor Roll on Oct. 3.

Middle Tennessee's Emily Hartshorn (defensive, Sept. 4) and Kate Loye (offensive, Oct. 1) have garnered Sun Belt weekly accolades this season.

The Blue Raiders (13-3, 8-0 Sun Belt) currently sit atop the Sun Belt standings with 24 points. The

National Soccer Coaches Association of America (NSCAA) ranked the Blue Raiders ninth in the South region poll. Conference rival North Texas sits eighth.

MT and North Texas square off in a pivotal conference matchup on Thursday. The Mean Green sits in second place with 22 points. The match is slated for 7pm in Denton, Texas.

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