

# Raiders fall to North Texas in four sets

## Hervey tallies career-high 17 kills in defeat

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**DENTON, Texas** - The Middle Tennessee volleyball team was defeated by North Texas in four sets on Sunday at the Mean Green Volleyball Center. With the loss, the Blue Raiders fall to 9-6 and 1-1 in Conference USA, while the Mean Green improve to 10-8 and 2-0 in C-USA.

Freshman Jale Hervey tallied a career-high 17 kills in the defeat, while sophomore Chelsea Ross added 12. Redshirt-freshman Jazmyne Johnson recorded five blocks.

North Texas jumped ahead to leads of 11-3 and 14-7 in the first set before MT ran off five straight points to make it 14-12 behind two kills from Hervey and one from redshirt-sophomore Tyler Richardson. The Mean Green would expand their advantage to 20-14 before kills from Hervey and sophomore Rachel Shaughnessy and a North Texas attack error cut it to 20-17. The Mean Green would rebound to finish off the opening set with a 25-20 victory.

The Mean Green took an early lead again in the second set, taking a 6-1 advantage. The Raiders would answer though, knotting the set at 11-11. North Texas would move back in front, 16-14, before MT closed the set on an 11-3 run, aided by four kills from Ross, to even the match with a 25-19 win.

The Raiders trailed 5-1 in the third set, and were forced to play catch-up throughout the frame. An ace by sophomore Shelby Anderton and a Shaughnessy kill cut the deficit to 16-15, before North Texas answered to go up 21-16. The Mean Green brought the Blue Raiders to set point at 24-20, but MT would not go quietly, scoring the next five points to turn the tables and take a 25-24 lead. North Texas would respond, closing out the set with the final three points for a 27-25 win.

In the fourth set, Middle Tennessee would avoid the early North Texas run of the match's first three sets, with the two teams neck-and-neck before four straight Mean Green points gave North Texas a 19-15 cushion. They would extend the lead to 21-16 and eventually bring the Raiders to match point at 24-20. MT would pull closer with the next two points before North Texas closed out the match with a 25-22 fourth-set win.



The Blue Raiders return to action Sunday, Sept. 6 for Middle Tennessee's first home match in a month, as the Raiders host UAB at Alumni Memorial Gym at 1:00.

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