Men's Tennis Falls to No. 8 Vandy

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MURFREESBORO, Tenn. - Eighth-ranked Vanderbilt won the doubles point and five of the six singles matches to defeat Middle Tennessee, 6-1, Wednesday afternoon at the Racquet Club. The match was moved inside due to inclement weather.

The visiting Commodores won all three doubles matches to take the first point of the match.

VU's Zach Dailey and Lewie Smith defeated Kirk Jackson and Anant Sitaram at No. 3, 8-1, while Chad Harris and Matt Lockin gave the Commodores the point with an 8-6 victory over Trevor Short and Michael Staniak at No. 2. Bobby Reynolds and Scott Brown capped things, winning 8-6 at No. 1 over Daniel Klemetz and Brandon Allen.

The showcase match of the afternoon came at No. 1 singles, as the 15th-ranked Harris collided with the 20th-ranked Klemetz. This match displayed incredible baseline performances by both players.

Harris was able to grab the first set, 6-4, after breaking Klemetz's serve late. Klemetz then battled back to grab the second set after stealing a break at 3-3. With both players giving it their all in the final set, Harris grabbed a 5-3 lead and seemed to be on his way to victory, but Klemetz broke Harris' serve at love to get the match back on serve. Both players held serve to force a tiebreaker, where Klemetz was able to grab the early advantage and win, 7-2, for the Blue Raiders only point of the match.

Second-ranked Reynolds defeated Jackson, 6-2, 6-3 at No. 2, while Dailey took care of Rishan Kuruppu, 6-0, 6-2, at No. 5.

Lockin, Brown and Smith kept things going at the No. 3, No. 4 and No. 6 positions, respectively. The 55th-ranked Lockin held off Staniak in three sets, while Brown defeated Sitaram and Smith edged out Short in three sets.

The Blue Raiders play their final regular season match of the year Sunday at UAB before participating in the Sun Belt Championships in Mobile, Ala, beginning April 25.

#8 VANDERBILT 6, MIDDLE TENNESSEE 1

SINGLES

1. (20) Daniel Klemetz (MT) def. (15) Chad Harris (VU), 4-6, 6-3, 7-6 (2)
2. (2) Bobby Reynolds (VU) def. Kirk Jackson (MT), 6-2, 6-3
3. (55) Matt Lockin (VU) def. Michael Staniak (MT), 6-4, 6-7 (5), 6-4
4. Scott Brown (VU) Anant Sitaram (MT), 7-5, 6-2
5. Zach Dailey (VU) def. Rishan Kuruppu (MT), 6-0, 6-2
6. Lewie Smith (VU) def. Trevor Short (MT), 6-2, 3-6, 10-2

DOUBLES

1. Reynolds-Brown (VU) def. Klemetz-Brandon Allan (MT), 8-6
2. Lockin-Harris (VU) def. Short-Staniak (MT), 8-6
3. Dailey-Smith (VU) def. Jackson-Sitaram (MT), 8-1

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