# Klemetz Wins Two Deciding Matches in 4-3 Triumph

April 27, 2003 · MT Media Relations

**MURFREESBORO, Tenn.** - Senior Daniel Klemetz won the deciding doubles match with partner Brandon Allan before taking the final singles match in a tiebreaker to give Middle Tennessee a 4-3 victory over 71st-ranked Louisiana-Lafayette Sunday morning at the Mobile Tennis Center in the final day of competition at the Sun Belt Championships in Mobile, Ala.

The Blue Raiders finished third in the tournament with the victory and picked up their second win of the season over a ranked opponent. The other came against No. 30 Harvard on March 14 at the Blue-Gray National Tennis Classic in Montgomery, Ala.

Klemetz and Allan gave the Blue Raiders (8-16) the doubles point with an 8-6 win at No. 1 over Lafayette's Jakub Ilowski and Ivan Kovalev. Middle Tennessee's Kirk Jackson and Anant Sitaram lost 8-1 at No. 2 to Amanjot Singh and Evghenii Corduneanu before Trevor Short and Michael Staniak won at No. 3, 8-4, over Michael Tarkowski and Marc Castellana to set up the deciding match at No. 1.

The two teams battled in singles play, as the Cajuns won two of the first three matches completed.

Staniak was the first off the court, defeating Castellana, 6-2, 6-2, at No. 3, but Lafayette's Kovalev won 6-3, 6-3, over Allan at No. 6 and Corduneanu took care of Rishan Kuruppu, 6-2, 6-2, at No. 5 to even the match at two.

But unlike so many other matches this season, the Blue Raiders did not fold and were able to find a way to win.

Sitaram gave Middle Tennessee a 3-2 edge with a 6-3, 3-6, 6-2 victory over Tarkowski at No. 4, but the Cajuns won a nail-biter at No. 2 to even the match again, as Singh defeated Jackson, 7-6, 7-6

(8) at No. 2, setting up Klemetz and Ilowski at No. 1 in the deciding match.

The 16th-ranked Middle Tennessee senior won the opening set, 6-3, but trailed in the second set, 5-6, before breaking No. 83 Ilowski and forcing a tiebreaker. Klemetz battled in the tiebreaker before winning, 10-8, and giving the Blue Raiders a victory in their final match of the season.

Middle Tennessee ends the team season but Klemetz will get a bid into the NCAA Singles Championships for the second straight year. The Championships are set for May 17-25 at the Dan Magill Tennis Center in Athens, Ga., on the University of Georgia campus.

**MIDDLE TENNESSEE 4, #71 LOUISIANA-LAFAYETTE 3**
**SINGLES**
1. (16) Daniel Klemetz (MT) def. (83) Jakub Ilowski (ULL), 6-3, 7-6 (8)
2. Amanjot Singh (ULL) def. Kirk Jackson (MT), 7-6, 7-6 (8)
3. Michael Staniak (MT) def. Marc Castellana (ULL), 6-2, 6-2
4. Anant Sitaram (MT) def. Michael Tarkowski (ULL), 6-3, 3-6, 6-2
5. Evghenii Corduneanu (ULL) def. Rishan Kuruppu (MT), 6-2, 6-2
6. Ivan Kovalev (ULL) def. Brandon Allan (MT), 6-2, 6-3

**DOUBLES**
1. Klemetz-Allan (MT) def. Ilowski-Kovalev (ULL), 8-6
2. Singh-Corduneanu (ULL) def. Jackson-Sitaram (MT), 8-1
3. Trevor Short-Staniak (MT) def. Tarkowski-Castellana (ULL), 8-4

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*Printed on March 14, 2014*
*Original URL: http://www.goblueraiders.com/content.cfm/id/1980*