

December 1, 2006

Blue Raider Volleyball NCAA Diary for Friday Team Shocks Louisville

MT Media Relations

9:00 a.m. - Middle Tennessee volleyball starts the day with a nice breakfast in the Marriott hotel where the team is staying. It was buffet style and some players a nice omelet for breakfast.

1:45 p.m. - The Blue Raiders have a one hour practice prior to the 7 p.m. match-up with Louisville. It was a nice, relaxed practice and the team seemed relaxed and ready to play.

LUNCH - Pre-game meal was at a quaint little bistro across from the convention center. The players, coaches and the rest of the travel party rushed across the street to try and combat the biting cold that was intensified by the windy conditions.

5:00 p.m. - The Ohio State and Belmont game gets underway. The team heads to the locker room to prepare for their match and warm up.

7:00 p.m. - It was over a decade in the making but the Blue Raiders are back in the NCAA Tournament. There was a huge contingency of fans in the stands for Middle Tennessee. A combination of player's families, fans and even a few Blue Raider student-athletes made the trip to Louisville to support the team. A special hello to Blue Raider softball players Muriel Ledbetter, Ashley Katinas, Katie Mielke and Kristine Reed who made their way to the game to support their fellow student-athletes. Also thanks to the Blue Raiders cheerleaders and Lightning and Dr. Bob Glenn and his family.

RAIDERS WIN, RAIDERS WIN - It was a hair-raising match. One of those storylines you find in a Hollywood film. Middle Tennessee down but not out. Pushing the match to game five and then having to come from behind to win. After the last kill by **Ashley Adams** the team swarmed the court and collapsed on Adams. The fans cheered, the players celebrated and Louisville walked off the court failing to advance to the second round of the NCAA Tournament for the first time since 2000.

DINNER - Middle Tennessee celebrated its win over Louisville at the Spaghetti Factory. A meal sure tastes so much better after a win.

It was a late night and the team headed back to the hotel with one more match added to their season.



Members of the Blue Raider volleyball team pause for a picture at dinner after defeating Louisville.

(MT Media Relations) 

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