Blue Raiders Open with Victory

Win doubles point, first four singles matches

January 28, 2007 · MT Media Relations

MURFREESBORO, Tenn. - Middle Tennessee's 31st-ranked men's tennis team won the doubles point and the first four completed singles outings, defeating 55th-ranked Western Michigan, 5-2, Sunday at the Racquet Club of Murfreesboro. The Blue Raiders play again Sunday evening at 6 p.m. against 66th-ranked East Tennessee at the Racquet Club. In doubles, Middle Tennessee picked up victories at Nos. 1 and 3 to get the first point of the match. Seniors Andreas Siljestrom and Marco Born, ranked 16th nationally, defeated No. 21 Brady Crosby and Tim Bradshaw, 8-2, at No. 1, and Morgan Richard and Marc Rocafort won 8-2 as well at No. 3 over Alejandro Staub and Kevin Hayward. The Broncos' Bryan Norville and Alex Birchmeier won 8-4 at No. 2 over Joao Paoliello and Marc Boiron. In singles Middle Tennessee won at the top four positions to clinch the match. Born defeated Bradshaw at No. 2, 6-3, 6-4, before Rocafort picked up a 1-6, 6-3, 6-1, triumph over Birchmeier at No. 4. Richard won 7-6 (4), 7-5, at No. 3, and 41st-ranked Siljestrom defeated No. 52 Crosby, 6-2, 6-7 (5), 6-4, at No. 1. Western Michigan's Hayward won 6-3, 3-6, 10-7, over Paoliello at No. 5, and WMU's Norville defeated Alex McCann, 8-1, at No. 6. "It was good to get a win to start the season. The guys played a little nervous and tight, but I was proud to come out with a win," head coach Dale Short said. "We need to pull out some tight matches and we did that. "It was good to see our seniors [Born and Siljestrom] leading the way. The freshmen [Paoliello, Rocafort] started off shaky, but played better in the second and third sets. It gives us some confidence going into [Sunday night]." After Sunday evening's match, the Blue Raiders host 33rd-ranked Kentucky Wednesday at 1:30 p.m. and then take on Chattanooga at 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday. Both matches will take place at the Racquet Club of Murfreesboro. **#31 Middle Tennessee 5, #55 Western Michigan 2**

SINGLES

1. (41) Andreas Siljestrom (MT) def. (52) Brady Crosby (WMU), 6-2, 6-7 (5), 6-4

2. Marco Born (MT) def. Tim Bradshaw (WMU), 6-3, 6-4
3. Morgan Richard (MT) def. Milan Petercak (WMU), 7-6 (4), 7-5
4. Marc Rocafort (MT) def. Alex Birchmeier (WMU), 1-6, 6-3, 6-1
5. Kevin Hayward (WMU) def. Joao Paoliello (MT), 6-3, 3-6, 10-7
6. Bryan Norville (WMU) def. Alex McCann (MT), 8-1

DOUBLES

1. (16) Born-Siljestrom (MT) def. (21) Crosby-Bradshaw (WMU), 8-2
2. Norville-Birchmeier (WMU) def. Paoliello-Marc Boiron (MT), 8-4
3. Richard-Rocafort (MT) def. Alejandro Staub-Hayward (WMU), 8-2

Printed on May 21, 2013
Original URL: http://www.goblueraiders.com/content.cfm/id/23702