

March 24, 2007

## Blue Raiders finish third at Cincinnati Spring Invitational

### Wilkins finishes tied for fifth overall

MT Media Relations

**CRYSTAL RIVER, Fla.** - Middle Tennessee's bid to become the first women's golf team in program history to win three straight tournaments fell short here Saturday as the Blue Raiders shot a second-round 317 and fell from first to third at the Cincinnati Spring Invitational.

The Blue Raiders owned a slim one-stroke lead over Princeton entering the final round, but Florida Atlantic (620) passed both teams to win the tournament, and Princeton (622) was second. Middle Tennessee (626) settled for a third-place finish and was six shots off the lead. It is the fifth top 5 finish for the Blue Raiders this year.

"Shooting a 317 in the final round was disappointing," Middle Tennessee head coach Rachael Short said. "We struggled at times and left some shots out there and that was the difference in a six-shot finish, but we had some really good moments, too, and we need to carry that into this tournament Monday."

[Leigh Wilkins](#) followed her impressive first-round performance at the par-72 Plantation Inn Golf Course with a 79 in the second round and led Middle Tennessee with a 154, which was tied for fifth overall.

[Clara Leathers](#) bounced back after shooting an 80 in the opening round and improved by three shots to total a two-day 157 and tie for ninth overall. [Taryn Durham](#) shot an 82 Saturday and tied for 14th with a 158, along with teammate [Maggie McGill](#). [Mallory Bishop](#) finished with a 163.

The Blue Raiders will play in the UALR/North Texas Classic at the Diamante Club in Hot Springs, Ark., Monday and Tuesday.

#### Cincinnati Spring Invitational

Crystal River, Fla. - Plantation Inn GC

##### Final Team Results

1 Florida Atlantic 311 309 620

2 Princeton 310 312 622

**3 Middle Tennessee 309 317 626**

4 Cincinnati 313 315 628

5 Illinois 320 312 632

6 Yale 326 324 650

UAB 326 324 650

8 Sienna 333 340 673

9 Rutgers 337 341 678

##### MT Individual Scores

3 Middle Tennessee 309 317 626

T5 [Leigh Wilkins](#) 75 79 154

T9 [Clara Leathers](#) 80 77 157

T14 [Taryn Durham](#) 76 82 158

T14 [Maggie McGill](#) 79 79 158

T25 [Mallory Bishop](#) 79 84 163



Murfreesboro native Leigh Wilkins tied for fifth overall at the Cincinnati Spring Invitational. (Bradley Lambert)

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