

May 21, 2007

## Blue Raiders win fourth All-Sports Trophy

### Blue Raiders score an SBC record 141 points

MT Media Relations

**MURFREESBORO, Tenn.** - For the fourth time in seven years since joining the Sun Belt Conference, Middle Tennessee's athletic department has won the Vic Bubas Cup. The award is given each year to the University that comes in first in the Sun Belt's all-sports standings.

The Blue Raiders, who scored a conference record 141 total points, will receive the official announcement from the SBC office and be presented their fourth trophy on Tuesday night during the league meetings in Destin, Fla.

Middle Tennessee won or shared six conference championships during the 2006-07 campaign to secure its first all-sports title since 2005. The Blue Raiders also won the prestigious title in 2001, which was their first year in the SBC, and again in 2004 and 2005. Middle Tennessee becomes just the fourth school in Sun Belt history to win the award four times.

"This honor speaks highly to the student-athletes, coaches, administration and support staff within our athletics department," said Chris Massaro, Director of Athletics at Middle Tennessee. "Winning the award for the fourth time in seven years as a Sun Belt member speaks volumes regarding the total athletic department at Middle Tennessee. Everyone in our athletic department, the University, and community should take great pride in this because this was a total team effort and that's the great thing about an All-Sports Championship."

Middle Tennessee defeated Western Kentucky for the award, while South Alabama was third. The Blue Raiders' All-Sports championship was bolstered by regular season titles in football, volleyball, and women's basketball, and conference post season championships in volleyball, men's outdoor track, and women's basketball. Additionally, four Middle Tennessee coaches earned Sun Belt Conference Coach of the Year honors - Rick Stockstill (football), Rick Insell (women's basketball), Johnny Moore (men's golf) and Dean Hayes (men's outdoor track and field.)

The Blue Raiders also aided their cause with a significant upgrade in men's golf where they gained 10 points from the previous season. Middle Tennessee also gained five points in baseball, women's tennis, and volleyball, while earning four more points in women's basketball from 2006. The football team added 3.5 additional points and softball and women's indoor track provided three more points.

Another impressive number for the Blue Raiders in 2006-07 was their record on the road in conference play. In the sports of football, men's basketball, women's basketball, and baseball (totals include results of entire weekend series) the Blue Raiders went an impressive 28-4. Football was 6-0, men's basketball 7-4, women's basketball 10-0, and baseball 5-0.

Demonstrating tremendous balance, Middle Tennessee earned six points or more in 16 of the 17 sports it sponsors. Points are awarded based on the number of schools sponsoring the sport. Institutions not sponsoring a sport do not receive points in that sport. Institutions tying for positions split the combined points of their positions.

Middle Tennessee is the only football-playing member to win the Bubas Cup since football became a league-sponsored sport in 2001. The Blue Raiders do not field teams in men's and women's swimming and diving.

Middle Tennessee sponsors sports in men's cross country, women's cross country, women's soccer, volleyball, football, men's indoor track and field, women's indoor track and field, men's basketball, women's basketball, men's golf, women's golf, men's tennis, women's tennis, softball, men's outdoor track and field, women's outdoor track and field, and baseball.



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