

Blue Raiders shatter school record in tournament win

Bulle sets individual mark, ties for first individually

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MOBILE, Ala. - Members of the Middle Tennessee men's golf team believed they had something to prove after losing the Sun Belt Conference championship in a playoff and being left out of the NCAA Championships in 2007.

It's still early in the 2007-08 season but the Blue Raiders appear to be on a mission at the outset of the fall campaign

after providing first-year head coach Whit Turnbow with his first team tournament title in record-setting fashion at the South Alabama Jaguar Intercollegiate.



Middle Tennessee shot an astounding 38-under par 826 on its way to shattering the previous school record of 853 for best three-round tournament. The Blue Raiders won the tournament by 13 strokes over host South Alabama and they shot the low round in each of the three rounds at the Azalea City Golf Course Monday and Tuesday.

"It's not easy to come back and shoot the low score in the third round after the two rounds we posted Monday but these guys wouldn't let up," Turnbow said. "It really shows their maturity, their approach, their work ethic and their heart. I'm very proud of our team and the way they approached this tournament. We said during the summer they feel they have something to prove. They are playing like it at the start of the fall season."

Sophomore Kent Bulle, who tied for first, set the individual record for best three-round total with a 13-under 203, besting the previous mark of 208 set by Maine Brock at the Peach State Invitational in 1996. Bulle had two rounds in the 60s and was under par all three rounds. In fact, Middle Tennessee had three golfers (Bulle, Chas Narramore, Rick Cochran) who were under par for each of their rounds.

In all, Middle Tennessee broke six team and individual records as all six players who made the trip finished in the top 20, paced by Bulle, Narramore and Cochran - all of whom finished in the top 10.

Bulle tied for the individual lead with a 13-under 203 but lost the playoff to South Alabama's Daniel Burns. Narramore was 7-under 209 and tied for fourth and Cochran tied for 10th with a 4-under 212.

Narramore's 209 tied for the seventh-best score for three rounds in program history. The All-Sun Belt performer has shot par or better in all six rounds to start the fall season, including three rounds in the 60s.

Nick Bailes and Jason Millard tied for 14th at 3-under and Craig Smith was even through three rounds and finished 19th.

Bulle's second-round 65 tied for the second lowest round in program history. Narramore and Bailes each had a 66 to tie for the fourth lowest round in school history.

The Blue Raiders shot par or better in 14 of the 18 rounds they played and they combined to post seven rounds in the 60s. The team not only set the record for best three-round tournament, but also top first-round score (270), top second-round score (272), and top third-round score (284).

South Alabama Jaguar Intercollegiate

Azalea City Golf Course, Par-72

Final Team Scores

- 1 Middle Tennessee 270-272-284 826 -38**
- 2 South Alabama 278-277-284 839 -25
- 3 Kennesaw State 286-274-290 850 -14
- 4 Eastern Michigan 288-290-285 863 -1
- 5 Louisiana-Monroe 289-284-293 866 +2
- Miami (Ohio) 284-288-294 866 +2
- Mercer 289-286-291 866 +2
- 8 South Florida 292-281-295 868 +4
- 9 Louisiana Tech 288-284-298 870 +6
- 10 Rhode Island 291-288-302 881 +17
- 11 UALR 289-291-300 889 +25
- 12 Arkansas State 296-296-301 893 +29

MT Scores

- T1 Kent Bulle 68-65-70 203 -13
- T4 Chas Narramore 66-71-71 209 -7
- T10 Rick Cochran 68-72-72 212 -4
- T14 Nick Bailes 74-66-73 213 -3
- T14 Jason Millard 68-74-71 213 -3
- 19 Craig Smith 71-69-76 216 E

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