

March 16, 2008

Blue Raiders Down Golden Eagles 4-2

MT has solid performance against Tennessee Tech

MT Media Relations



Sophomore Joao Paoliello clinched the match for the Blue Raiders with his win in No. 5 singles. ()

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MURFREESBORO, Tenn. - Middle Tennessee's men's tennis team defeated Tennessee Tech 4-2 on Sunday.

Middle Tennessee (7-9) took the doubles point to begin the match with a 1-0 lead. Freshmen **John Peers** and **Richard Cowden** defeated Borja Zarco and Tiago Gilioli 8-4 to begin play.

The Blue Raiders clinched the point as freshman **Chris Nowak** and sophomore **Joao Paoliello** teamed up to defeated the Golden Eagles' Lloyd Harris and Juan Pablo Gomez 8-4.

Since the doubles point had already been clinched play was suspended in No. 1 singles as Giovanni Vaglietti and Dean O'Brian lead junior **Morgan Richard** and sophomore **Marc Rocafort** 5-4.

In singles play the Blue Raiders continued to perform well as Peers extended the lead with his 6-1, 6-4 win in No. 1 singles over Zarco. Then in No. 2 singles Rocafort defeated Vaglietti 6-4, 6-4 while Nowak lost 6-4, 7-6 to Mario Gutierrez in No. 6 singles.

Paoliello clinched the match for Middle Tennessee with his 6-2, 6-3 win over Gomez in No. 5 singles to put Blue Raiders up 4-1.

Cowden rounded out play as he lost his match with Gilioli in No. 4 singles 6-2, 4-6, 6-4 giving Tennessee Tech its second win of the day.

The Blue Raiders will be back in action March 21-23 when they travel to Houston, Texas to compete in the Rice Invitational.

Singles

1. **John Peers** (MT) def. Borja Zarco (TTU) 6-1, 6-4
2. **Marc Rocafort** (MT) def. Giovanni Vaglietti (TTU) 6-4, 6-4
3. **Morgan Richard** (MT) vs. Dean O'Brian (TTU) 4-6, 5-4, unfinished
4. Tiago Gilioli (TTU) def. **Richard Cowden** (MT) 6-2, 4-6, 6-4
5. **Joao Paoliello** (MT) def. Juan Pablo Gomez (TTU) 6-2, 6-3
6. Mario Gutierrez (TTU) def. **Chris Nowak** (MT) 6-4, 7-6

Doubles

1. **Morgan Richard/Marc Rocafort** (MT) vs. Giovanni Vaglietti/Dean O'Brian (TTU) 4-5, unfinished
2. **John Peers/Richard Cowden** (MT) def. Borja Zarco/Tiago Gilioli (TTU) 8-4
3. **Chris Nowak/Joao Paoliello** (MT) def. Lloyd Harris/Juan Pablo Gomez (TTU) 8-4

Match Notes:

Tennessee Tech University 7-2

Middle Tennessee 7-9; National ranking #70

Order of finish: Doubles (2,3,1); Singles (1,2,6,5,4)

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