

March 23, 2008

Blue Raiders' Rally Just Short in 4-2 Loss

Rocafort and Cowden each posted wins against Iowa

MT Media Relations



Sophomore Rocafort started a rally against Iowa as the Blue Raiders trailed 3-0 with his 6-2, 6-3 win over Ritchie. ()

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HOUSTON, Texas - Middle Tennessee performed well on Sunday but could not pull out the win as Iowa defeated the Blue Raiders 4-2.

Middle Tennessee lost the doubles point to begin the match as J.P. Ritchie and Reinoud Haal defeated freshmen **John Peers** and **Richard Cowden** 8-5. Then Christian Bierich and Greg Holm won their match 8-2 over freshman **Chris Nowak** and sophomore **Joao Paoliello** to clinch the point.

In singles action, Peers fell to Bart van Monsjou 6-4, 1-6, 6-2 in No. 1 singles while Richard lost his match 6-2, 6-4 to Bierich.

Rocafort started a rally as the Blue Raiders trailed 3-0 with his 6-2, 6-3 win over Ritchie. Cowden then won his match with Haal 6-2, 6-3 to close the gap and make it a 3-2 match.

Freshman **Alex McCann** rounded out play for the Blue Raiders as he fell to Holm 6-2, 6-3 as Iowa clinched the match.

Middle Tennessee will be back in action on Saturday, April 4-5 when plays host to the Sun Belt Shootout at the Buck Bouldin Tennis Center.

Singles:

1. Bart van Monsjou (Iowa) def. **John Peers** (MTSU) 6-4, 1-6, 6-2
2. Christian Bierich (Iowa) def. **Morgan Richard** (MTSU) 6-2, 6-4
3. **Marc Rocafort** (MTSU) def. J.P. Ritchie (Iowa) 6-2, 6-3
4. **Richard Cowden** (MTSU) def. Reinoud Haal (Iowa) 6-2, 6-3
5. Tommy McGeorge (Iowa) v. **Joao Paoliello** (MTSU) DNF
6. Greg Holm (Iowa) def. **Alex McCann** (MTSU) 6-2, 6-3

Doubles:

1. Ritchie/van Monsjou (Iowa) def. Peers/Cowden (MTSU) 8-5
2. Kauss /Haal (Iowa) def. Rocafort/Richard (MTSU) DNF
3. Bierich/Holm (Iowa) def. Nowak/Paoliello (MTSU) 8-2

Printed on November 21, 2009

Original URL: <http://www.goblueraiders.com/content.cfm/id/30872>