Lagat Leads Blue Raiders To Fourth-Place Finish

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LOUISVILLE, Ky. - Geoffrey Lagat turned in his strongest showing of the season to lead the Middle Tennessee cross country team to a fourth-place finish at the Cardinal Classic, hosted by Louisville, Saturday. Middle Tennessee was fourth of the 12 teams participating with a total of 128 points, 20 behind third-place Morehead State. Lagat, who took a medical redshirt in 2003, was 11th for the Blue Raiders with a time of 26.22.04 on the 8K course. Newcomers Derek Dell (26:43.78) and Jonathan Guillou (26:50.17) also continued their strong season, finishing 20th and 22nd, respectively. "Geoffrey ran a very good race and that really gives us a solid three runners as far as the way this season has been going," Middle Tennessee coach Dean Hayes. "I still feel like we have other guys developing and we are counting on their continued progress for the Sun Belt meet. Overall, I thought it was a good day." Steve Safstrum (27:34.57) and Carlos Gonzeles (27.38.74) closed out the scoring for the Blue Raiders. The Lady Raiders were led by Sara Lunning, who finished 31st with a time of 20:54.09. Marjorie Gombert (21:50.44) and Miranda Gallaway (22:07.93) were 53rd and 63rd, respectively, for Middle Tennessee. **MEN 8K**

Team results

1. Louisville 18
2. IUPUI 71
3. Morehead State 108
4. **Middle Tennessee 128**
5. Evansville 129
6. Missouri-Rolla 142
7. Vanderbilt 158
8. Campbellsville (Ky.) 210
9. Bellarmine 214
10. Danville Area CC 293

Middle Tennessee

11. Geoffrey Lagat 26:22.04
20. Derek Dell 26:43.78
22. Jonathan Guillou 26:50.17
40. Steve Safstrum 27:34.57
45. Carlos Gonzeles 27:38.74

WOMEN 5K

1. Eastern Kentucky 29
2. Bellarmine 60
3. IUPUI 116
4. Evansville 117
5. Morehead State 137
6. Vanderbilt 189
7. Missouri-Rolla 205
8. Campbellsville (Ky.) 232
9. Lindsey Wilson 235
10. Georgetown (Ky.) 245
11. Danville Area CC 260
12. Middle Tennessee 278

Middle Tennessee

31. Sara Lunning 20:54.09
53. Marjorie Gombert 21:50.44
63. Miranda Gallaway 22:07.93
84. Catherine Chester 24:52.85
93. Kerry Barrow 32:29.97

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