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## Baseball announces 2009 schedule

### Missouri State, Tennessee and WKU will visit Reese Smith Field

*MT Athletic Communications*

**MURFREESBORO, Tenn.** - The Blue Raider baseball program will open the 2009 season at the newly renovated Reese Smith Field as announced by head coach Steve Peterson on Thursday.

#### · [Complete 2009 Schedule](#)

Middle Tennessee will play host to a three-game series with Missouri State, Feb.20-22 to open the season and begin a stretch in which the Blue Raiders will play six of its first seven games at home.

"Our home opener is Missouri State, a ball club not far removed from the College World Series, who is one of the strongest teams in the Missouri Valley conference. So we will have our hands full early with a team that we have not had much success against," Peterson said.

After a short trip to Nashville to face Belmont on Feb. 24 the Blue Raiders will return home to play Tennessee Tech, Jacksonville State and Memphis.

Middle Tennessee will then open Sun Belt Conference action at New Orleans, La., March 6-8.

After that three-game series, the Blue Raiders return to Reese Smith Field for nine games which will include Lipscomb, Arkansas State, Southern Illinois and Florida Atlantic.

The squad will hit the road after that to play nine away which will include Arkansas Little-Rock, Austin Peay and Louisiana-Lafayette.

Middle Tennessee plays host to Vanderbilt on April 7 after its long stretch on the road and will play Florida International at Reese Smith Field that weekend.

"It is another good schedule. It is even better than last year because we had to play so many road games by design due to the stadium being under construction. We have more home games than normal with some being very attractive including conference and non-conference that it should be a very demanding schedule as it is every year," head coach Peterson said.

The Blue Raiders then return the favor to the Commodores traveling to Nashville, Tenn., before heading up to Knoxville, Tenn., to face SEC foe Tennessee on April 15.

Middle Tennessee will travel to Mississippi State for at two-game series in return for visiting the Blue Raiders in 2008.

The Blue Raiders will round out the 2009 season by playing it last seven games at Reese Smith Field. Mississippi Valley Sate will play Middle Tennessee in a three-game series before the team plays host to Tennessee on May 12.

Then rival Western Kentucky will visit the Blue Raiders in their final games of the season before the conference tournament begins on May 20.



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