

November 24, 2008

## Blue Raiders earn NSCAA Team Academic Award Honored for seventh-straight season under Rhoden

David Powell

**MURFREESBORO, Tenn.** - Middle Tennessee soccer was honored as a recipient of the 2008 College Team Academic Award as announced by the National Soccer Coaches Association of America. This year's award marks the seventh-consecutive season the Blue Raiders have picked up the honor under head coach Aston Rhoden.


The award is given at the conclusion of each collegiate season to teams that demonstrate outstanding performance in the classroom and earn a grade-point average of 3.0 or higher (on a 4.0 scale).

"This is a great honor for our student athletes," head coach Aston Rhoden said. "One of our goals each year is to have a team GPA above 3.0 and our players did an outstanding job this year in accomplishing that goal. All credit goes to the players and the administration. The staff at our Student Athlete Enhancement Center, and in particular Ms. Carroll, did a great job in ensuring our student athletes meet or exceed their academic responsibilities."

The honor adds to a growing list of academic awards Middle Tennessee has won this season. The Blue Raiders received the Sun Belt Conference's team academic award for the first time in program history prior to the conference tournament in early November.

**About the NSCAA:** Based in Kansas City, Kan., the NSCAA is the largest coaches' organization in the United States. Since its founding in 1941, it has grown to include more than 26,000 members who coach both genders at all levels of the sport. In addition to a national rankings program for colleges and high schools, NSCAA offers an extensive recognition program that presents nearly 10,000 individual awards every year.



Middle Tennessee picked up the honor for the seventh-consecutive season under head coach Aston Rhoden. (MT) 

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