Blue Raiders set to begin postseason

Will play Miami (Ohio) on Friday

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MURFREESBORO, Tenn. - Middle Tennessee will travel to West Lafayette, Ind., this weekend to begin play in the 2008 NCAA Tournament, in its third consecutive appearance.

· **West Lafayette Tournament Central**

The Blue Raiders will begin play on Friday, Dec. 5 at 3 p.m. when it faces Miami (Ohio). This is the third consecutive year the Blue Raiders will compete in the NCAA Tournament after receiving the Sun Belt automatic bid the previous two years. Middle Tennessee will make its fourth trip to the NCAA Tournament after making its first appearance in 1995. This is the first time in three years the Blue Raiders will not go to Louisville, Ky., but will not escape the Cardinals as they are also at Purdue for the first/second rounds. Miami reached the semi-finals of the MAC Tournament where it fell to eventual champion Ohio. Then The RedHawks defeated IPFW and Marquette at Western Michigan's Thanksgiving tournament. This is the third at-large bid the RedHawks have received and the second consecutive bid after an automatic bid in 2007 after winning the MAC Tournament. This is the first time Miami has received an at-large bid without winning the MAC regular season title. The RedHawks have played eight NCAA tournament teams this season which included wins over Western Kentucky, Ohio and Tennessee Tech. With a win, the Blue Raiders will face the winner of Louisville and host Purdue, who is the overall No. 10 seed in the tournament. Live stats and video streaming will be available through www.goblueraiders.com and the West Lafayette Tournament site as linked on this page. Russell Luna will call the play-by-play on www.goblueraiders.com. Results from the Blue Raiders performance at the NCAA tournament will be posted as soon as they become available.

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