

March 1, 2009

Blue Raiders face Arkansas State in SBC Championships

Postseason begins Wednesday at Murphy Center; tickets on sale now

Athletic Communications

MURFREESBORO, Tenn. - Middle Tennessee will be the No. 5 seed and play host to No. 12 seed Arkansas State in a first round game in the SBC Championships at Murphy Center Wednesday at 7 p.m.

Seeds for the 2009 SBC Championships were finalized following North Texas' 73-59 win at Denver Sunday afternoon. WKU is the overall champion and No. 1 seed, followed by West Division champion UALR (2) and Troy earned the No. 3 seed and subsequent first-round bye into the quarterfinals.

The remaining 10 teams play first round games on the campus site of the higher seeded team. Middle Tennessee closed the regular season with a 17-13 overall mark, 10-8 in the SBC, while Arkansas State (13-16, 5-13) lost nine straight and slipped to the No. 12 seed with a series of narrow losses down the stretch.

Middle Tennessee won the only meeting between the teams, 60-57, at Murphy Center earlier this season. Winners of the five first-round SBC Championship games join WKU, UALR, and Troy for the remainder of the event at Hot Springs, Ark.

Tickets for Wednesday's game are not part of the regular-season package. They are on sale at the MT Ticket Office and available at \$12 each as set by the SBC Office. Students with a valid Middle Tennessee ID will be admitted free of charge. Student guest tickets are available for \$7 each.

Fans can reserve their seat by calling the MT Ticket Office at 1-888-YES-MTSU, or tickets also may be purchased via GoBlueRaiders.com, or by visiting the MT Ticket Office. All tickets for first-round game are general admission.


Seeding for SBC Championships

- 1 WKU (Overall champion)
- 2 UALR (East Division champion)
- 3 Troy
- 4 North Texas
- 5 Middle Tennessee**
- 6 South Alabama
- 7 Denver
- 8 Louisiana-Lafayette
- 9 FIU
- 10 ULM
- 11 New Orleans
- 12 Arkansas State
- 13 Florida Atlantic

First-Round SBC Games

- (12) Arkansas State at (5) Middle Tennessee**
- (9) FIU at (8) Louisiana-Lafayette
- (13) Florida Atlantic at (4) North Texas
- (11) New Orleans at (6) South Alabama
- 10) ULM at (7) Denver



Middle Tennessee Head Coach Kermit Davis will lead the Blue Raiders against Arkansas State in the SBC Championships Wednesday. (MT) 

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