

April 16, 2009

McKenzie, Peers named SBC All-Conference Duo will lead team at conference tourney

MT Athletic Communications

DENTON, Texas - Senior **Robert McKenzie** and sophomore **John Peers** have been named to the Sun Belt All-Conference team as voted on by the league coaches.



McKenzie, currently 96th in the ITA poll, has posted 17-1 record in dual matches to earn all-conference honors in 2009. ()

The two were named individually in singles and as a pair in doubles. The duo has paired up throughout the season to post a 9-1 record, all at the No. 1 position and are currently ranked 41 in the ITA poll.

"It is a magnificent effort for a very hard working pair who have led the team through out the season. It is something they should be extremely proud of and we look forward to watching them grow into better tennis players as they continue their careers," head coach David McNamara said.

McKenzie, currently 96th in the ITA poll has posted 17-1 record in dual matches with his one loss coming against No. 40 Austin Childs of No. 14 Louisville.

Peers is also 17-1 in singles action this season and is ranked 104th in the ITA poll.

These two players led Middle Tennessee to the championship title in the Sun Belt Shootout which the Blue Raiders hosted two weeks ago and will use those matches headed in the Sun Belt Championships which begin on Friday in Denton, Texas hosted by North Texas.

"We are looking forward to starting the tournament tomorrow and are expecting good performances from everyone. This is what we have been working toward all season and now it is time to put all of the hard work and effort into the tournament," McNamara said.

The Blue Raiders are seeded first in the tournament and will play eighth seeded Western Kentucky. Middle Tennessee defeated the Hilltoppers 4-0 to begin the Sun Belt Shootout.

Middle Tennessee is undefeated against conference opponents at 4-0 and is 13-9 on the season.

The Blue Raiders will begin the tournament at 3 p.m. on Friday, April 16. Results from the match will be posted on goblueraiders.com when they become available. Further information on the Sun Belt Championships may be found on the Sun Belt website, sunbeltsports.org.

Men's Singles

#69 Sergio Ramirez, South Alabama

#96 Robert McKenzie, Middle Tennessee

#104 John Peers, Middle Tennessee

#111 Marek Sramek, South Alabama

#120 Marc Abdelnour, Florida Atlantic

David Simson, Denver

Men's Doubles

#41 John Peers/Robert McKenzie, Middle Tennessee

#55 Ben Smith/Calvin Kemp, New Orleans

#70 David Simson/Martin Zimmermann, Denver

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