

April 17, 2009

Women defeat UNO 4-2 in opening round

Will face top-seeded Denver in second round of tourney

MT Athletic Communications

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DENTON, Texas - Middle Tennessee opened the Sun Belt Championships with a 4-2 win over New Orleans.

The Blue Raiders first took the doubles point to go up 1-0 in the match. Junior [Natalie Araya](#) and freshman [Taylor Coffey](#) teamed up to defeat Amber Garza and Sofija Karalic 8-2. Senior [Marlene Chemin](#) and junior [Anna Djananova](#) won their match 8-5 over Ceara Howey and Kir Kemp.

Then Middle Tennessee went up 2-0 after Djananova defeated Howey 6-1, 6-1. UNO cut the lead to one after Kemp defeated Herrera 6-2, 6-2.

Araya won her match 6-4, 6-3 over Kozue Matsumoto putting the Blue Raiders within one point of clinching the match.

Chemin fell to Amber Garza 6-3, 6-2 and then Coffey won the match for Middle Tennessee with her 7-5, 6-1 over Karalic.

Middle Tennessee will play Denver in the second round of the tournament at 11:30 a.m. on Saturday, April 18.

Singles

1. Kir Kemp (UNO) def. [Andrea Herrera](#) (MT) 6-2, 6-2
2. Cassandra Escobar (UNO) vs. [Marietta Bigus](#) (MT) 6-3, 0-6, 5-1, unfinished
3. [Natalie Araya](#) (MT) def. Kozue Matsumoto (UNO) 6-4, 6-3
4. [Taylor Coffey](#) (MT) def. Sofija Karalic (UNO) 7-5, 6-1
5. [Anna Djananova](#) (MT) def. Ceara Howey (UNO) 6-1, 6-1
6. Amber Garza (UNO) def. [Marlene Chemin](#) (MT) 6-3, 6-2

Doubles

1. Kozue Matsumoto/Cassandra Escobar (UNO) vs. [Andrea Herrera/Marietta Bigus](#) (MT) 6-1, unfinished
2. [Taylor Coffey/Natalie Araya](#) (MT) def. Amber Garza/Sofija Karalic (UNO) 8-2
3. [Anna Djananova/Marlene Chemin](#) (MT) def. Ceara Howey/Kir Kemp (UNO) 8-5

Match Notes:

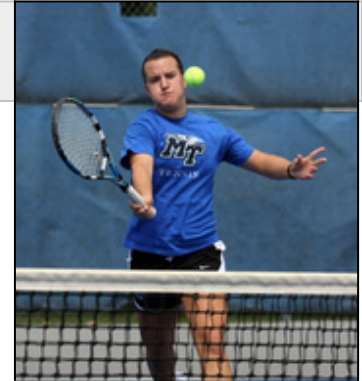
Middle Tennessee 9-13

New Orleans 9-9

Sun Belt Conference Tournament First-Round Match

Order of finish: Doubles 2,3, (1 unfinished) ... Singles 5, 1, 3, 6, 4, (2 UF)

T-3:00



Freshman Taylor Coffey won the match for Middle Tennessee with her 7-5, 6-1 over Karalic. ()

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