Blue Raiders to run in Bowling Green

Teams earn top 10 rankings in USTFCCCA poll

September 17, 2009 · Christian Lemon

MURFREESBORO, Tenn. - Saturday, the Middle Tennessee cross country teams will travel to Bowling Green, Ky. to compete in the 28th Annual "Old Timer's" Classic meet on the Kereiakas Park running course.

For the first time in the program's history, both men's and women's teams will take a top 10 ranking in South Region in the U.S. Track and Field and Cross Country Coaches Association (USTFCCCA) rankings with them as they travel north for the event. This marks the first time the women's team has been ranked in the USTFCCCA South Region in the program's existence.

USTFCCCA Rankings

"I am proud of both teams.
This is the first time this season the women's team has earned a ranking. They have worked really hard and run well. This gives them something early in the season," said head coach Dean Hayes.

The team veterans are very familiar with the rolling hills of the Kereiakas course as the Blue Raiders have competed the in the Old Timer's meet the last two years as well as the conference championships that were held there in 2007 and 2008.

The course is the home course of Sun Belt rival and defending men's and women's 2008 Sun Belt Champions Western Kentucky. It will be the first race of the season to use the full distances that will be the same as at the Sun Belt Championships on Oct. 31 in Monroe, La.

"Western is the defending conference champions on both sides. This will be a nice opportunity to compare against them on the full distance."

The meet will commence with the women's 5,000 meter race starting at 10 AM followed by the men's race 8,000 meter race. Full meet results and coverage will be available on goblueraiders.com following the event.

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