Melo wins first ITA All-American Pre-Qualifying match

Langley, McCann advance to finals of UTC tourney

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TULSA, Okla. - Victor Melo won his opening match at the ITA All-American Pre-Qualifying tournament on Saturday. Melo defeated Holden Ching of Sacramento State in straight sets, 6-2, 6-4. "Victor had a good first round match today, it's a long tournament and he should gain some confidence as he progresses through each round," head coach David McNamara said. "He has prepared himself over the last three weeks to make a run in this tournament." On Sunday at 9 a.m., Melo will face Jake Hendrie of Saint Louis in the third round. With a win, Melo advances to the fourth round and will be one win away from advancing to the qualifying portion of the tournament. The rest of the men's team continued play at the UTC Stave Baras Memorial Tennis Tournament in Chattanooga, Tenn., on Saturday. Matthew Langley, the second seed, won a three set battle over Leo Locatelli of Austin Peay 5-7, 6-2, 6-0 to advance to the finals in A1 singles. "I am very excited for Matthew to be in the final tomorrow. He has one more match to go to make it a very successful tournament. I am looking forward to seeing his result tomorrow," McNamara said. Langley will play Eastern Kentucky's Alex Das, the one seed, at 10:30 a.m. on Sunday. Alex McCann defeated Kennesaw State's Gianni Kubin 1-6, 6-4, 6-4 to advance to the first championship final in his Blue Raider career. "I am also very excited for Alex, he is a senior and it is his first final so I am thrilled for him to get this far. I hope that he can perform to his potential and bring home the goods," McNamara said. McCann will play Michael Hayes of Memphis on Sunday at 10:30 a.m. in the finals of A2 singles. Also in A2 singles, Richard Cowden fell to Hayes 6-2, 3-6, 6-4 in the semifinals of A2 singles. In A1 doubles, Cowden and Langley fell to Memphis' Specer Heflin and John Taylor, seeded third in the bracket, 8-6. Results from the Blue Raiders action on Sunday at both the ITA All-American tournament and the

UTC Steve Baras Memorial Tennis Tournament will be posted on goblueraiders.com when they become available.

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