

March 7, 2010

Blue Raiders finish 2nd at USF Invitational

Simons has career best finish

Athletic Communications

DADE CITY, Fla. - Middle Tennessee shot a 5-under par 283 in the final round of the USF Invitational to finish second in the 23-team field on Sunday. The Blue Raiders registered a 54-hole score of 857 on the Lake Jovita Golf and Country Club Course (par 72, 7153 yards).

The 32nd ranked Blue Raiders finished five shots behind Florida Southern who is ranked 12th nationally in Division II and three shots ahead of No. 22 North Florida. South Alabama placed fourth, while Xavier rounded out the top five.

"We are getting better with each round and that is encouraging," said Head Coach Whit Turnbow. "Everybody has shown that they can go low in pressure situations but we just have to put it all together at the same time. I like the direction we are heading."

Sophomore [Brad Simons](#) was the story of the day and the tournament as the Mountain Home, Ark., native recorded his best career finish by tying for 11th with a 214. Simons, who had seven birdies, registered a personal-best round on Sunday with a 67 which equaled the second-best round of the day.

"Brad had a great tournament and he deserves it because of all the hard work he has put in," said Turnbow.

Also turning up his play on Sunday was sophomore [Hunter Green](#). The Evansville, Tenn., product fired a 68 in the final round to tie Simons for 11th. Green, who birdied all four par 5s Sunday, finished the tournament with a 214.

Seniors [Kent Bulle](#) and [Craig Smith](#) both tied for 33rd with scores of 216. Bulle had a 74 in the final round while Smith added a 77.

[Jason Millard](#) rounded out the Blue Raider scoring by tying for 41st with a 222.

The Blue Raiders will be back in action on March 15 at the Rio Pinar Invitational in Orlando, Fla.

TEAM SCORES

1 Florida Southern -12 F -5 288 281 283 852
 2 **Middle Tennessee** -7 F -5 288 286 283 857
 3 North Florida, U. of -4 F -3 286 289 285 860
 4 South Alabama, U. of E F +1 294 281 289 864
 5 Xavier University +1 F +2 291 284 290 865
 T6 Nebraska, U. of +5 F +4 297 280 292 869
 T6 Campbell University +5 F E 288 293 288 869
 8 Eastern Michigan U. +10 F +4 291 291 292 874
 T9 Arkansas State U. +11 F +8 289 290 296 875
 T9 Troy Univ. +11 F -3 293 297 285 875
 11 Louisville, U. of +13 F +10 294 285 298 877
 12 Jacksonville St. +14 F +4 290 296 292 878
 T13 Missouri State +16 F -4 296 300 284 880
 T13 So. Florida, U. of +16 F +8 291 293 296 880
 15 Villanova University +27 F +6 294 303 294 891
 16 Florida Atlantic U. +32 F +8 295 305 296 896
 T17 De Paul University +36 F +18 298 296 306 900
 T17 Austin Peay State U. +36 F +1 302 309 289 900
 T19 Columbus St. U. +37 F +24 297 292 312 901
 T19 Marquette University +37 F +13 297 303 301 901
 21 Rhode Island, U. of +38 F +7 302 305 295 902
 22 Cincinnati, U. of +46 F +21 300 301 309 910
 23 Marshall University +57 F +16 315 302 304 921

MT SCORES

T11 [Hunter Green](#) (3) 72 74 68 214



Brad Simons registered his best career finish and his best scoring round at the USF Invitational. ()

T11 [Brad Simons](#) (4) 71 76 67 214
T33 [Kent Bulle](#) (1) 76 68 74 218
T33 [Craig Smith](#) (2) 72 69 77 218
T41 [Jason Millard](#) (5) 73 75 74 222

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