

March 15, 2010

Blue Raiders in sixth at Rio Pinar

Green has to withdraw

Athletic Communications

ORLANDO, Fla. - After 36 holes of the Rio Pinar Invitational, Middle Tennessee is in sixth place with a 596 total on the 7,001-yard, par 72 course.

Host UCF is the overall leader with a 569, 7-under par total which is 15 shots better than second place Charlotte and North Texas. North Florida is fourth with a 590 and Liberty rounds out the top five with a 594.

The 32nd ranked Blue Raiders were in second place, just 10 shots back of UCF after round one despite playing with just four golfers. Sophomore [Hunter Green](#) got food poisoning Sunday night and had to withdraw from the tournament.

"We had a valiant effort all day playing four on five," said Head Coach Whit Turnbow. "But I don't care what adversity we face, this team is still too good to shoot anything over 300. Tuesday is a big day as we will see what we are made of over the final 18 holes."

The team struggled in the second round with a lack of depth to shoot a disappointing 307 and slip to sixth place.

Junior [Jason Millard](#) is leading the way for the Blue Raiders with a 147 total which is good enough to tie for 16th. Millard opened with an even par 72 before carding a 75 in the second round.

Senior [Craig Smith](#) and sophomore [Brad Simons](#) are tied for 24th as both own a 36-hole total of 149. Smith shot a 72 over the first 18 but struggled during the second round for a 77. Simons, fresh off his best career finish, fired a 2-under par 70 to begin the tournament. However, Simons had a complete turnaround in the afternoon with a 79.

Senior [Kent Bulle](#) is tied for 40th after shooting a 141 (75-76).

The Blue Raiders will play the final round on Tuesday beginning with a shotgun start at 7:30 AM CST.

TEAM SCORES

1 UCF 279 290 569 -7
 2 Charlotte 291 293 584 +8
 North Texas, U. of 291 293 584 +8
 4 North Florida, U. of 293 297 590 +14
 5 Liberty University 295 299 594 +18
 6 **Middle Tennessee** 289 307 596 +20
 7 Toledo, U. of 296 301 597 +21
 8 Miami (Ohio) 304 296 600 +24
 Wichita State Univ. 298 302 600 +24
 10 Akron, U. of 299 303 602 +26
 Louisiana-Lafayette 294 308 602 +26
 Southern Mississippi 293 309 602 +26
 South Alabama, U. of 302 300 602 +26
 14 So. Florida, U. of 306 302 608 +32
 15 Charleston, Coll. of 305 304 609 +33
 UT-Arlington 293 316 609 +33
 17 Florida Atlantic U. 303 307 610 +34
 18 Marquette University 308 315 623 +47

MT SCORES

T 16 [Jason Millard](#) 72 75 147
 T 24 [Craig Smith](#) 72 77 149
 T 24 [Brad Simons](#) 70 79 149
 T 40 [Kent Bulle](#) 75 76 151
 WD [Hunter Green](#) WD WD



Jason Millard leads the way for MT after 36 holes at the Rio Pinar. ()

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