Peers, Melo receive All-Sun Belt honors

Peers receives second All-SBC honor

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NEW ORLEANS - Junior John Peers and senior Victor Melo have received All-Sun Belt honors as announced by the league office on Thursday night. Peers, who is currently ranked 34th, received honors in singles and doubles. After the Blue Raider's win over UL-Lafayette, Peers is now 18-4 on the season and has won seven of his last nine matches. "I am very excited for John receiving his second all-conference honor. He certainly deserves it as he is the highest ranked player in the Sun Belt. He has a lot going on in next month with NCAA Individual Championships and this is just another accolade in his resume that will hopefully propel him for bigger and better things in the future," head coach David McNamara said. It is the second All-Sun Belt honor for Peers as he received the honor last season as well. This season Peers has been named Sun Belt Player of the Week three times while Melo took home the first weekly honor by a Blue Raider earlier in the season. Peers and Melo received All-Sun Belt honors as a doubles pair as they are still ranked from their stellar performances last spring. The pair is currently 87th in the ITA Poll and have a 5-2 record on the season. In dual matches they are 1-1 at the No. 1 position. "John and Victor have shown they are a ranked team when they play together. I'm happy for them. They have both been team players in that I have had to split them up this season to help the team. I am glad they have responded well to that and this is a great credit to them," McNamara said. "They also have an opportunity to go to NCAA Championship as well since they are highest ranked doubles team in the conference. They were ranked as high as 33rd but have not played together most of this season to help the team. John and Victor as still ranked as a pair because they have shown they can win when

they play together." Several Blue Raiders were honored at the pre-tournament banquet Thursday night for their academic success. Melo receive All-Academic honors while senior Alex McCann, junior Kyle Wishing, and sophomores Richard Cowden and Matthew Langley were awarded Commissioner's List honors. "Congratulation's to Victor for being honored as an All Conference Academic. It is something that he should very proud of and something all student athletes should strive towards," McNamara said. "What a great honor this is for these four guys to be recognize as some of the top students in the Sun Belt Conference. I am very proud of each one of these guys and I want to congratulate them for taking pride in their studies and grades. I want to thank Angel Nathan for her continued hard work that goes unnoticed." Peers and Melo along with the rest of the Blue Raiders will play top seeded Denver in the semi-finals of the Sun Belt Championships at 3 p.m. on Friday, April 23.

Men's Singles All-Sun Belt Conference
Enej Bonin, Denver
Andrew Landwerlen, Denver
Marc Abdelnour, Florida Atlantic
Georg Matschke, Florida Atlantic
John Peers, Middle Tennessee
Luis Henrique Grangeiro, Troy

Men's Doubles All-Sun Belt Conference
Yannick Weihs/Jens Vorkefeld, Denver
John Peers/Victor Melo, Middle Tennessee
Luis Henrique Grangeiro/Mario Rolmberg, Troy

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