Nomoto keeps Blue Raiders alive at regionals

Sophomore advances in main singles draw

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KNOXVILLE, Tenn. - Sophomore Yuiri Nomoto garnered Middle Tennessee's lone women's tennis win Thursday and will remain as the only Blue Raider left to compete in the main singles draw at the ITA Ohio Valley Regionals in Knoxville, Tenn. Two other members of the squad, Taylor Coffey and Marietta Bigus, dropped to the consolation draw after losing their respective main singles flight matches.

Nomoto knocked off Kentucky's Misha Testerman in straight sets 6-3, 6-3 in the Round of 64. She advances to the Round of 32 to square off against Evansville's Kate Chybowski Friday.

Coffey, still battling back from an injury, dropped a 6-1, 4-6, 6-2 decision to Katie Thome of Miami (Ohio) in the Round of 64. Coffey will have a bye in the consolation Round of 32 and await the winner of Chattanooga's Shaina Singh and Kentucky's Caitlin McGraw in the Round of 16.

Bigus fell in her Round of 64 match to ETSU's Kelly Holtzhausen 6-1, 6-4. Bigus will begin consolation Round of 32 action against Murray State's Alexis Webb.

Middle Tennessee did not fare well, either, in doubles play as both tandems lost in Thursday's Round of 32 main draw. Nomoto and Carla Nava, also fighting an injury, were defeated by Tennessee's Whitney Wofford and Jennifer Meredith 8-5. ETSU's Holtzhausen and Karina Kedzo handed an 8-1 setback to Bigus and Coffey.

Friday's singles matches are set to get underway Friday morning. The tournament continues through Monday's championship tilts.

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