Blue Raiders garner four opening day wins in Nashville

Middle Tennessee pick up three of four in singles action

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NASHVILLE, Tenn. - The Middle Tennessee women's tennis team earned three singles victories and a doubles triumph during opening day action Friday at the June Stewart Invitational in Nashville, Tenn. Blue Raiders tallying singles wins included juniors Alex Dachos and Marietta Bigus, along with sophomore Yuiri Nomoto, while the duo of Dachos and Nomoto also advanced after collecting a victory Friday.

Dachos won her Brett Peterson Draw match against Belmont's Lindsay Bennett 6-2, 6-3 to set up a meeting with host Vanderbilt's Erica Robertson in Saturday's semifinals.

Nomoto also picked up a straight-set win, defeating Purdue's Remi Martin 6-4, 6-1 during the quarterfinal round of the Lori Alexander Draw. The Middle Tennessee sophomore will face Chelsea Preeg in the semifinals Saturday.

In the Laina Balafas Draw, Bigus knocked off Belmont's Abby Leatherwood 6-4, 6-2. She will face yet another Commodore, Rachael Dillon in the semifinals Saturday.

Junior Taylor Coffey dropped a 6-2, 6-1 match to Memphis' Stefanie Mikesz in the Lori Alexander quarterfinals. She will now battle Murray State's Ashley Canty in the consolation semifinals.

Junior Carla Nava also lost in the quarterfinals, falling 6-1, 6-2 to Austin Peay's Vanja Tomic in the Jeannie Stotts quarterfinals. She will now compete in the consolation semifinals Saturday against Murray State's Alexis Webb.

Dachos and Nomoto captured an 8-2 doubles triumph over Lipscomb's Elizabeth Keevil and Danielle Hansen in the Round of 16 Professor Valentine Draw. The MT pair will next face Vanderbilt's Preeg and Jackie Wu Saturday.

Another Blue Raider tandem, Bigus and Nava, dropped its contest 9-7 to Vanderbilt's Megan Gornet and Nelly Radeva.

Competition in the three-day tournament will continue Saturday and Sunday at the Currey Tennis Center.

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