Tough road match sends Middle Tennessee to first loss

Blue Raiders pick up win at No. 2 doubles

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HUNTINGTON, W.Va. - Middle Tennessee women's tennis faced its toughest task of the season yet, traveling to Huntington, W.Va., to battle No. 55 Marshall, and the Blue Raiders came up short in a 7-0 defeat Sunday afternoon at the Huntington Tennis Club.

"We knew this match would be a big challenge coming in," first-year head coach Melissa Schaub said. "We have to learn from our mistakes today and make sure we do not continue to repeat them in the future."

Middle Tennessee (3-1) was only able to mount one victory against the nationally-ranked Thundering Herd, taking a win at No. 2 doubles. The Blue Raider pairing of junior Marietta Bigus and sophomore Lexi Brand knocked off Catherine Kellner and Maria Voscekova, 8-6.

In singles action, Marshall (8-2) swept all six singles matches despite Brand forcing an extra game in her second set. Brand, playing at the No. 4 spot, eventually fell to Kristina Koprcina 6-4, 7-5 in the closest contest of the afternoon.

Middle Tennessee will return to action when it plays host to Murray State at 1 p.m. Friday at the Nashboro Village Indoor Courts in Nashville, Tenn.

No. 55 Marshall 7, Middle Tennessee 0

Singles

No. 1 #27 Michaela Kissell (MARSH) def. Yuiri Nomoto (MT) 6-1, 6-2
No. 2 Dominika Zaprazna (MARSH) def. Marietta Bigus (MT) 6-3, 6-2
No. 3 Catherine Kellner (MARSH) def. Carla Nava (MT) 6-1, 6-3
No. 4 Kristina Koprcina (MARSH) def. Lexi Brand (MT) 6-4, 7-5
No. 5 Maria Voscekova (MARSH) def. Alex Dachos (MT) 6-0, 6-1
No. 6 Kara Kucin (MARSH) def. Lisa Maas (MT) 6-2, 6-1

Doubles

No. 1 #63 Kissell/Zaprazna (MARSH) def. Maas/Nomoto (MT) 8-2
No. 2 Bigus/Brand (MT) def. Kellner/Voscekova (MARSH) 8-6
No. 3 Koprcina/Kucin (MARSH) def. Dachos/Nava (MT) 8-2

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