Women's tennis victorious in home outdoor opener

Blue Raiders sweep doubles en route to 6-1 win

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MURFREESBORO, Tenn. - Middle Tennessee women's tennis took full advantage of its first chance to compete outdoors in 2011 by knocking off visiting Murray State, 6-1, Friday afternoon at the Buck Bouldin Tennis Center in Murfreesboro, Tenn.

"I am pleased with how we played today," first-year head coach Melissa Schaub said. "We continue to get better every day and will need to continue that as we start facing some stiffer competition."

The Blue Raiders jumped out to an early 1-0 lead when they captured the doubles point for the third time in their first five matches. Middle Tennessee (4-1) started the afternoon with an 8-0 victory at No. 1 doubles, as sophomore Yuiri Nomoto and freshman Lisa Maas blanked the Racers' Ashley Canty and Cassidy Cunitz.

The point then fell in MT's favor following the No. 3 meeting with juniors Carla Nava and Alex Dachos combining for an 8-4 triumph against Carla Suga and Taylor Vick.

The sweep was completed at the No. 2 spot when junior Marietta Bigus and sophomore Lexi Brand handed Alexis Webb and Lindsey Wiseman a 9-7 setback.

Momentum continued for the Blue Raiders in singles action, as Murray State (0-3) was only able to manage one win among the six contests.

Nava and Dachos each posted identical scores in their matches, tallying 6-4, 6-2 decisions over Webb and Vick at the No. 3 and No. 6 positions, respectively.

Nomoto handed Canty a 6-1, 6-4 defeat at the No. 1 slot, while Bigus earned a 6-0, 6-3 triumph against Cunitz at the No. 2 position to solidify the top of the Middle Tennessee lineup.

Maas picked up her second collegiate victory with a 6-2, 6-2 win over Suga during the No. 5 matchup.

The Blue Raiders will return to action at Noon Sunday when they travel to Nashville, Tenn., to face No. 14 Vanderbilt, the second nationally-ranked opponent on the early-season slate.

Middle Tennessee 6, Murray State 1

Singles
No. 1 Yuiri Nomoto (MT) def. Ashley Canty (MUR) 6-1, 6-4
No. 2 Marietta Bigus (MT) def. Cassidy Cunitz (MUR) 6-0, 6-3
No. 3 Carla Nava (MT) def. Alexis Webb (MUR) 6-4, 6-2
No. 4 Lindsey Wiseman (MUR) def. Lexi Brand (MT) 4-6, 7-6, 10-7
No. 5 Lisa Maas (MT) def. Carla Suga (MUR) 6-2, 6-2
No. 6 Alex Dachos (MT) def. Taylor Vick (MUR) 6-4, 6-2

Doubles
No. 1 Maas/Nomoto (MT) def. Canty/Cunitz (MUR) 8-0
No. 2 Bigus/Brand (MT) def. Webb/Wiseman (MUR) 9-7
No. 3 Dachos/Nava (MT) def. Suga/Vick (MUR) 8-4

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