

April 15, 2006

Raiders End Home Slate Undefeated with 7-0 Victory

MT Media Relations

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MURFREESBORO, Tenn. - Middle Tennessee won all three doubles matches in tiebreakers and all six singles outings, as the 32nd-ranked Blue Raiders defeated Memphis, 7-0, Saturday afternoon at the Buck Bouldin Tennis Center.

Middle Tennessee ended the home slate a perfect 10-0 at home and has won seven matches in a row overall.

The Blue Raiders (15-6) outlasted the Tigers in doubles, winning all three matches in tiebreakers.

[Andreas Siljestrom](#) and [Marco Born](#), ranked fifth nationally, won 7-4 in the breaker over Sam Withell and James Spence at No. 1. The two teams traded breaks at 1-2 and the match stayed on serve until the tiebreaker, where the Blue Raiders won the first four points. UM scored three in a row before Middle Tennessee won three of the last four points for the victory.

At No. 2 Blue Raiders [Brandon Allan](#) and [Kai Schledorn](#) struggled for almost the entire outing. UM's Matt Brewer and Bryan Bankester got an early break and led 7-4 before Middle Tennessee got the break back to put the match on serve. In the tiebreaker the Blue Raiders won 7-3.

Middle Tennessee's [Greg Pollack](#) and [Morgan Richard](#) broke early, but Tigers Garrison Pilant and Michael Jetter came right back to put the match back on serve. The two traded games until the tiebreaker, where the Blue Raiders won 7-5.

In singles Middle Tennessee won the first four completed matches in straight sets and the other two in supertiebreakers.

Senior [Rishan Kuruppu](#) was the first off with a 6-1, 6-0, victory over Bankester at No. 6, and Born defeated Spence, 6-3, 6-3, at No. 2. Siljestrom's 6-4, 7-5, win over Withell at No. 1 was the match clincher, and Pollack took care of Pilant, 6-4, 6-4, at No. 5.

Allan defeated Jetter, 7-5, 3-6, 10-5, at No. 4, and Schledorn won 4-6, 6-4, 10-5, at No. 3 over Brewer.

"We had some bright spots and some not-so-bright spots. My wish was for us to play our best match of the year going into the conference tournament," head coach Dale Short said. "We played a whole lot better at No. 1 doubles, but then we were playing well at No. 2 doubles and did not play very well there but won.

"One positive was that we won every tiebreaker there was ever though we didn't play our best. Finding ways to win is the mark of a good team."

Middle Tennessee heads to the Sun Belt Championships, April 21-23, in Mobile, Ala. The tournament will take place at the Bruce David Lubel Memorial Tennis Courts on the South Alabama campus and the Mobile Tennis Center.

#32 Middle Tennessee 7, Memphis 0

SINGLES

1. (74) [Andreas Siljestrom](#) (MT) def. Sam Withell (UM), 6-4, 7-5
2. [Marco Born](#) (MT) def. James Spence (UM), 6-3, 6-3
3. [Kai Schledorn](#) (MT) def. Matt Brewer (UM), 4-6, 6-4, 10-6
4. [Brandon Allan](#) (MT) def. Michael Jetter (UM), 7-5, 3-6, 10-5
5. [Greg Pollack](#) (MT) def. Garrison Pilant (UM), 6-4, 6-4
6. [Rishan Kuruppu](#) (MT) def. Bryan Bankester (UM), 6-1, 6-0

Order of Finish: 6,2,1*,5,4,3

DOUBLES

1. (5) Born-Siljestrom (MT) def. Spence-Withell (UM), 9-8 (4)
2. Allan-Schledorn (MT) def. Brewer-Bankester (UM), 9-8 (3)
3. Pollack-Richard (MT) def. Jetter-Pilant (UM), 9-8 (5)

Order of Finish: 1,2*,3

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