Nomoto takes point in loss to No. 14 Vanderbilt

Sophomore knocks off nationally-ranked player

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NASHVILLE, Tenn. - Middle Tennessee sophomore Yuiri Nomoto scored the lone Blue Raider point in a 6-1 setback at No. 14 Vanderbilt Sunday afternoon in Nashville, Tenn.

"We played a very tough team in Vanderbilt today," first-year head coach Melissa Schaub said. "They are always a top team in the country.

"I am really happy with the way we competed. We fought hard and played a really good match. Yuiri had the best win of her young career and she could not deserve it more. The others are ready to follow, they just need to believe it."

Nomoto, playing at No. 1 singles, knocked off No. 109 Jackie Wu after dropping the first set. The Feb. 9 Sun Belt Player of the Week rallied for a 2-6, 6-2, 10-6 triumph to earn the lone MT point.

Middle Tennessee (4-2) junior Carla Nava also went the distance in her matchup with Lauren Mira in the No. 3 contest, winning the first set before dropping a 3-6, 6-2, 10-2 decision.

Three of the Commodores singles players were nationally ranked in the latest Top 125 by Campbell/ITA rankings, while one of the doubles pairings for Vanderbilt (6-2) also received notice in the Top 80.

The Blue Raiders return to action for their second-straight SEC contest, facing Mississippi at 2 p.m. Friday in Oxford, Miss.

No. 14 Vanderbilt 6, Middle Tennessee 1

Singles
No. 1 Yuiri Nomoto (MT) def. #109 Jackie Wu (VAN) 2-6, 6-2, 10-6
No. 2 #69 Alex Leatu (VAN) def. Marietta Bigus (MT) 6-2, 6-2
No. 3 #111 Lauren Mira (VAN) def. Carla Nava (MT) 3-6, 6-2, 10-2
No. 4 Keilly Ulery (VAN) def. Lisa Maas (MT) 6-0, 6-1
No. 5 Nelly Radeva (VAN) def. Lexi Brand (MT) 6-2, 6-0
No. 6 Megan Gornet (VAN) def. Alex Dachos (MT) 6-4, 6-3

Doubles
No. 1 #71 Rachael Dillon/Leatu (VAN) def. Maas/Nomoto (MT) 8-4
No. 2 Chelsea Preeg/Wu (VAN) def. Bigus/Brand (MT) 8-5
No. 3 Mira/Ulery (VAN) def. Dachos/Nava (MT) 8-2

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