

# Blue Raiders unable to hold off Cajuns

## MT wins doubles point, but only two in singles action

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**NASHVILLE, Tenn.** - In a match moved indoors due to inclement weather, the rain was not just the only factor that seemed to hamper the effort, as the Middle Tennessee women's tennis team could not keep its momentum from winning the doubles point and visiting Louisiana rallied by winning 4-of-6 singles matches to claim a 4-3 victory Saturday afternoon.

"We played well, but not well enough," head coach Melissa Schaub said. "Louisiana is traditionally a solid team so I am happy with our effort today. We know we have things to work on, and that will be our focus in practice the next couple days."

Hints of rain made playing conditions difficult at the Nashboro Village Indoor Facility; however, the Blue Raiders made the most of the situation early by winning two of the three doubles matches to take an early 1-0 lead.

Middle Tennessee (4-4) started the day with an 8-5 triumph at the No. 2 doubles slot with Marietta Bigus and Lexi Brand handing Milou Israel and Briggitt Marcovich the setback. The point then fell in the Blue Raiders' possession, as MT's No. 3 tandem of Alex Dachos and Carla Nava knocked off Sandra Alhqvist and Mia Gordon by an identical 8-5 score.

However, the momentum quickly shifted to the Ragin' Cajuns, as three of the first four singles matches to conclude gave the visitors points. Louisiana (6-4) started with its trio of victories at the No. 1, 4 and 3 positions to claim a 3-1 edge.



Dachos then halted the surge with a 6-4, 6-2 win against Alhqvist during the No. 6 contest to pull the Blue Raiders within one.

Knowing that the next UL point would clinch the match, Nava forced three sets in her No. 2 meeting with Audrey Wooland before falling 7-6, 4-6, 6-3, as the Ragin' Cajuns locked up the victory.

With the outcome already decided, Brand fought to three sets in her No. 5 matchup and was able to come away with a 2-6, 7-5, 7-5 triumph over Gordon to make the final score just a one-point difference.

Middle Tennessee, which started an eight-match homestand with today's contest, will return to action at 11 a.m. Tuesday when it plays host to ULM.

### **Louisiana 4, Middle Tennessee 3**

#### *Singles*

- No. 1 Julie Mazinova (UL) def. Yui Nomoto (MT) 6-0, 6-1
- No. 2 Audrey Wooland (UL) def. Carla Nava (MT) 7-6, 4-6, 6-3
- No. 3 Milou Israel (UL) def. Marietta Bigus (MT) 6-4, 7-6
- No. 4 Briggitt Marcovich (UL) def. Lisa Maas (MT) 6-0, 6-4
- No. 5 Lexi Brand (MT) def. Mia Gordon (UL) 2-6, 7-5, 7-5
- No. 6 Alex Dachos (MT) def. Sandra Alhqvist (UL) 6-4, 6-2

#### *Doubles*

- No. 1 Mazinova/Wooland (UL) def. Maas/Nomoto (MT) 8-6
- No. 2 Bigus/Brand (MT) def. Israel/Marcovich (UL) 8-5
- No. 3 Dachos/Nava (MT) def. Alhqvist/Gordon (UL) 8-5

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