

Blue Raiders battle rain in loss to Warhawks

Three singles matches reach third set

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MURFREESBORO, Tenn. -

Rain again played a factor during a Middle Tennessee women's tennis match, as the inclement weather forced the outdoor match with No. 46 ULM to be suspended for an hour and a half and moved indoors before the visiting Warhawks prevailed, 7-0, Tuesday afternoon. The contest started on-campus at the Buck Bouldin Tennis Center, but once the rain appeared and the courts became wet, the decision was made to continue the meeting at the Nashboro Village Indoor Courts in Nashville, Tenn., after allowing both teams ample time to arrive on-site and resume preparation. "We fought hard all day despite the conditions," head coach Melissa Schaub said. "Our effort was there but a few breaks here and there cost us a chance to pull out the win. We will continue to work on improving every day and get ready for our next match."



Middle Tennessee (4-5) started the day with its best effort at No. 3 doubles, where the pairing of Alex Dachos and Carla Nava forced a tiebreaker with Ana Burjaili and Vivian Polak after it was square at 7-7. Unfortunately for the Blue Raiders, the Warhawk tandem captured the tiebreak 7-5 to win the match 8-7 and complete a sweep of doubles. In singles action, three Middle Tennessee players went the distance of three sets, but none of them were able to earn a victory against nationally-ranked ULM (11-1), which posted its 10th straight triumph Tuesday. Marietta Bigus won her first set but could not maintain the momentum before falling 1-6, 6-4, 6-3 to Monica Winkel at the No. 2 position. Nava put up a solid effort at the No. 3 slot against Medy Blankvoort before dropping a 6-3, 4-6, 6-3 decision. Brand also battled to the end with Polak in the No. 5 tilt, but could not pull out

the win in a third-set super tiebreaker, as she fell 7-6 (2), 3-6, 10-7. The Blue Raiders will look to get back on track as they continue their eight-match homestand with a 10 a.m. Saturday contest with UALR. **#46 ULM 7, Middle Tennessee 0 Singles** No. 1 Claire Clark (ULM) def. Yui Nomoto (MT) 6-2, 6-3 No. 2 Monica Winkel (ULM) def. Marietta Bigus (MT) 1-6, 6-4, 6-3 No. 3 Medy Blankvoort (ULM) def. Carla Nava (MT) 6-3, 4-6, 6-3 No. 4 Ana Burjaili (ULM) def. Lisa Maas (MT) 7-6 (4), 6-3 No. 5 Vivian Polak (ULM) def. Lexi Brand (MT) 7-6 (2), 3-6, 10-7 No. 6 Letha Gaigher (ULM) def. Alex Dachos (MT) 6-3, 6-1 *Doubles* No. 1 Blankvoort/Gaigher (ULM) def. Maas/Nomoto (MT) 8-4 No. 2 Clark/Winkel (ULM) def. Bigus/Brand (MT) 8-3 No. 3 Burjaili/Polak (ULM) def. Dachos/Nava (MT) 8-7 (5)

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