Blue Raiders preparing for Sun Belt Championships

Team will face Ragin' Cajuns on Thursday

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2011 Sun Belt Championships Bracket

MURFREESBORO, Tenn. - Middle Tennessee will open play at the 2011 Sun Belt Championships on Thursday, April 21 against UL-Lafayette in Mobile, Ala., played host by the University of South Alabama as announced by the league office. The Blue Raiders, the four seed, will begin play in the tournament at 2 p.m. at the Mobile Tennis Center against UL-Lafayette, who is the five seed. The winner will advance to the semifinals and will face Denver, the one seed, on Friday, April 22 at 2 p.m. The championship game will be held on Saturday, April 23 at 2 p.m. on the campus of South Alabama. Middle Tennessee and the Ragin' Cajuns met earlier this season with the Blue Raiders taking home a 4-3 win at the Sun Belt Shootout. The team lost the doubles point but strong performances from Shaun Waters, Ben Davis, Dimitri Pippos and Kyle Wishing, who each won in straight sets, handed Middle Tennessee the win. Middle Tennessee ended the regular season with a 5-2 win over UAB and enters the Sun Belt Championships with a 10-12 overall record. The Blue Raiders have won three of their last five matches. Freshman Ben Davis, who arrived on campus in January, hit the ground running winning seven straight matches, all but one by straight sets. Davis is 17-4 on the season in singles including 14 wins in straight sets. Newcomers have been the key this season as freshman Elliot Barnwell and r-freshman Dimitri Pippos have been strong contenders down the stretch. There is no live scoring at the Sun Belt Championships. Results will be posted on goblueraiders.com as soon as they become available.

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