Bailey medals on opening-day of SBC Championships

Senior sets PR in women's 10,000 meters

May 14, 2011 · Athletic Communications

MURFREESBORO, Tenn. - Middle Tennessee track and field saw little action on the first day of competition at the 2011 Sun Belt Outdoor Championships as only four athletes took the track on Friday.

With opening-day competition consisting of multis, a handful of field events and the 10,000 meters, four Blue Raiders distance-runners represented their squads on Friday.

In a rain-delayed women's 10,000 meters, Marla Bailey medaled for the second season, taking third-place in the event. The senior began her final conference meet with a bang, clocking a career-best 37:21.60. Her time just missed breaking Jackie Serem's school-standard of 37:16.11 set in 2010. Bailey took second in the 3,000-meter steeplechase at last year's championships.

Bailey's points slot Middle Tennessee seventh after the first day of competition. Arkansas State leads the meet with 34, while Western Kentucky (19) and FAU (13) round out the top-three.

Chris Mason earned the men five points, taking fourth in the 10,000 meters. Mason finished in a time of 31:22.88. He took sixth in the event last season.

WKU's Shadrack Kipchirchir won the event in a Dean Hayes' Stadium record of 30:16.87.

Teammates Frederick Kipsang and Justin Cacaro took 10th and 11th with respective times of 32:26.94 and 32:30.40.

The Blue Raider men sit in eighth after one day. South Alabama leads with 16 points. Louisiana is second with 12 points. North Texas and Western Kentucky are tied for third with 11 points.

The squads did have to sit through an hour and half rain delay before the 10,000 meter races were run.

Middle Tennessee's men's and women's full squads will begin competition on Saturday. The Blue Raider women are expected to show well in both the long and high jump events tomorrow. Saturday night's session will also begin the preliminary rounds of most of the track events.

WOMEN'S TEAM STANDINGS - DAY 1

Arkansas State - 34
Western Kentucky - 19
Florida Atlantic - 13
Troy -13
North Texas - 11
South Alabama - 7.5
UALR - 6
FIU - 6
Middle Tennessee - 6
ULM - 1
Louisiana - 0.5

MEN'S TEAM STANDINGS - DAY 1

South Alabama - 16
Louisiana - 12
North Texas - 11
Western Kentucky - 11
ULM - 8
UALR - 7
Troy - 6
Middle Tennessee - 5
Arkansas State -2

Printed on March 10, 2014
Original URL: http://www.goblueraiders.com/content.cfm/id/53361