

Cross Country treks to Greater Louisville Classic

Men's 8k at 8:30 a.m., Women's 5k at 9:15 a.m.

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MURFREESBORO, Tenn. --

The Middle Tennessee men's and women's cross country teams will return to action this weekend when they head to Louisville, Ky., to take part in the Greater Louisville Classic on Saturday morning.

The day will begin with the first of three men's 8k races beginning at 8:30 a.m. CDT. The first women's 5k race is scheduled for 9:15 a.m. with the rest of the races following. The Blue Raiders are expected to run in the first men's and women's races.

More than 90 schools will participate in the meet, headlined by host Louisville, Eastern Kentucky, Michigan, Vanderbilt, Alabama and Southern Illinois.

"This will be a good test for our teams," said cross country head coach Dean Hayes.

"The meet will feature more teams than the three meets we have run so far this season. Also, the course is very nice and will provide us with a good challenge."

Senior Justus David will lead the Blue Raider men into



Louisville. The Kitui, Kenya, product is coming off consecutive top-five finishes including an individual title at



the UTC PowerAde Invitational on Sept. 9. He was accordingly named Sun Belt Male Runner of the Week the weeks of Sept. 14 and 21.

The men's squad will also hope to receive solid performances from freshmen Robinson Simatei and Silas Taiget. Simatei has finished in the top 15 in each of the first three races while Taiget has finished no worse than 18th thus far this season.

Lucy Kapkiaai will look to continue her remarkable freshman season when she takes the course on Saturday morning. She has collected back-to-back individual titles following an eighth-place finish at the season-opening Belmont Opener.

"I look forward to seeing how well all of our runners do this weekend," Hayes said. "The meet will allow us to see where we are as a team."

Sophomore Deanna Brasz led the Blue Raider women at last season's Greater Louisville Classic, placing 38th with a season-best 5k time of 17 minutes, 48.21 seconds. The Vineland Station, Ontario, native has notched two top-25 finishes this season.

"Deanna had a great race at this meet last season," said Hayes. "Hopefully she can have a similar result on Saturday and build off it for the remainder of the year."

Complete meet information can be found [here](#).

Results of the meet will be posted on the teams' Facebook and Twitter pages as soon as they become available. A full recap and results will be available on GoBlueRaiders.com on Saturday evening.

Follow the Blue Raider men's and women's cross country teams on Twitter @MTTrackField and on Facebook at the MT Track & Field page. Also, stay up-to-date on the teams on the new Track & Field Notebook, which can be found [here](#) as well as linked on the Track & Field page on GoBlueRaiders.com.

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