Blue Raiders sweep at Front Runner Invitational

Middle Tennessee wins both team, individual titles

October 15, 2011 · Athletic Communications

CHATTANOOGA, Tenn. -- The Middle Tennessee men's and women's cross country teams won the team titles while Justus David and Lucy Kapkiai won the individual titles on Saturday afternoon at the Front Runner Invitational in Chattanooga, Tenn.

The men's and women's team and individual titles marks the first time the Blue Raiders have claimed all four titles since the 2008 Agnes Scott Invitational.

"I am obviously very happy with today's results," said cross country head coach Dean Hayes. "We came here with the goal to run fast and I feel we did that. Both teams put forth great efforts and ran great races."

In the men's 5k race, David held off Chattanooga's Chris Berry at the finish line by one second, clocking a time of 14 minutes, 58 seconds.

Freshman Robinson Simatei placed fourth with a time of 15:19. He was followed by Silas Taiget, Vincent Bett and Keith Davis who all placed in the top 11 to help the Blue

Raiders edge Chattanooga by a single point for the team title.

Meanwhile Kapkiai easily won the women's two-mile competition as she ran an 11:07 to outpace Chattanooga's Tara Gietema by 26 seconds.

Autumn Gipson, Deanna Brasz, Rachel Islam and Stephanie Smith all finished in the top 10 as the women collected 26 points, winning their first team title of the season. Chattanooga placed second with 42 points.

Middle Tennessee will break next weekend before the teams head to Bowling Green, Ky., for the Sun Belt Championships on Oct. 29.

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.

Men's Team Results Finish, Team, Points **1, Middle Tennessee, 29** 2, Chattanooga, 30 3, UT-Martin, 66 4, Tennessee State, 117 5, Trevecca, 128 **Men's Individual Results (Winner and MT Finishers)** Finish, Name, Time 1, Justus David, 14:58 4, Robinson Simatei, 15:19 7, Silas Taiget, 15:48 10, Vincent Bett, 15:56 11, Keith Davis, 16:11 13, Lyle Haywood, 16:28 23, Jamarious Jones, 17:53 **Women's Team Results** Finish, Team, Points **1, Middle Tennessee, 26** 2, Chattanooga, 42 3, UT-Martin, 55 4, Tennessee State, 120 5, Trevecca, 127 **Women's Individual Results (Winner and MT Finishers)** Finish, Name, Time 1, Lucy Kapkiai, 11:07 3, Autumn Gipson, 11:49 5, Deanna Brasz, 12:13 7, Rachel Islam, 12:32 10, Stephanie Smith, 12:46 14, Tressanique Hampton, 13:02

Printed on July 25, 2014
Original URL: http://www.goblueraiders.com/content.cfm/id/55788