# Homestand concludes with Senior Day Sunday

## MT welcomes Western Kentucky in next-to-last home match

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**MURFREESBORO, Tenn. –** A four-match homestand for the Middle Tennessee women's tennis team will come to a close at 3 p.m. Sunday when the Blue Raiders welcome Western Kentucky to the on-campus Buck Bouldin Tennis Center. Prior to the contest, the MT program will recognize the on and off-court accomplishments of its three seniors (Marietta Bigus, Taylor Coffey and Alex Dachos) as part of Senior Day festivities.

"Sunday is a special day," head coach Shelley Godwin said. "We will be recognizing the careers of our three seniors: Marietta, Taylor and Alex. They have each helped bring this program along in a positive direction during their four years. I couldn't have asked for a better group of seniors to adopt when I arrived at MT.

"We are playing with a lot of confidence right now and look to send our seniors out on a winning note."

The trio has guided the program to 36 dual-match wins in their careers and a spot in the national team rankings after starting their sophomore campaign with five-straight victories.

This season, Middle Tennessee is off to a 9-4 start with a chance at double-digit triumphs for the first time since that 2010 campaign and only the third in the last eight years.

All seven active members of the squad have reached double-digit singles victories, including the fall tournament campaign, with sophomore Flavia Nagayama pacing the group with 17. However, in the spring dual-match season, junior Lexi Brand and freshman Nayara Moraes are on top with nine apiece.

The doubles pairing of Dachos and Nagayama has moved into a tie with Bigus and Brand as the team's top tandem at three triumphs each. Five other duos have earned two wins this spring, while Moraes and Carla Nava own the Blue Raiders' most combined victories at eight, including the fall.

Middle Tennessee enters the contest having won its last four matches, a season-long win streak. The Blue Raiders have posted victories in six of their last seven with the lone setback to No. 18 Vanderbilt last month.

The last 10 meetings in the series have been won by Middle Tennessee, including five consecutive shutouts. The last time Western Kentucky won a dual match against the Blue Raiders was 1989 in Bowling Green, Ky.

The Lady Toppers own a 7-3 record this spring but only a 3-2 mark against Division I opponents. WKU captured four triumphs in a five-match span during a week-long journey to Alabama, where it defeated Alabama A&M twice, Alabama-Huntsville and Alabama State.

Although Senior Day festivities will take place Sunday afternoon, it does not mark the end of the Middle Tennessee home slate this spring. All admission to home matches is free.

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