No. 56 men's tennis ends the regular season with win over UCF

Blue Raiders' 16 wins are most since 2009

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TAMPA, Fla. - Ben Davis ended the regular season with his ninth consecutive singles victory as the No. 56 Blue Raider men's tennis team registered a 5-2 win over UCF on Saturday morning at the USF Varisty Courts. Davis earned a 6-3, 6-7, 10-4 win to lead Middle Tennessee to its eighth win in the last nine matches. MT finishes the regular season with a 16-7 record, the most wins since the Blue Raiders went 16-10 in 2009. "I was impressed with the way Ettore Zito and Matthew Langley bounced back from tough matches yesterday to pick up wins today," head coach Jimmy Borendame said. "I'm also proud of the performances from our doubles teams. They have been playing their best of the season and are really hitting their stride at the right time heading into the conference championships next week." Marlon Brand and Yannick Born paired to win the opening doubles match in the top slot, 8-1, then Matthew Langley and Ettore Zito secured the doubles point with an 8-2 win in the No. 3 position. Zito made it a 2-0 MT lead with his 6-0, 6-2 win in the four-slot, and Christoph Lang's 6-4, 7-5 triumph put the Blue Raiders within a point of claiming the match. But the Knights (9-12) battled back with back-to-back singles victories in the four and five slots to make it a 3-2 contest. Those would be the only two points for UCF, however, as Langley clinched the match with a 6-4, 7-6 win and Davis' win accounted for the final score. The Blue Raiders head to the Sun Belt Championships next week. The tournament will take place April 19-22

in Denton, Texas. Seeding for the tournament is based on ITA ranking and will be announced on Tuesday. **#56 Middle Tennessee 5, UCF 2**

Singles competition

1. Ben Davis (MT) def. Jorge Blasco (UCF) 6-3, 6-7, 10-4
2. Matthew Langley (MT) def. Erik Brunskog (UCF) 6-4, 7-6
3. Christoph Lang (MT) def. Mitch Thams (UCF) 6-4, 7-5
4. Ettore Zito (MT) def. Juan Bolona (UCF) 6-0, 6-2
5. Mario Samson (UCF) def. Edwards, Forrest (MT) 6-4, 6-2
6. Joe Delinks (UCF) def. Born, Yannick (MT) 0-6, 7-6, 6-2

Doubles competition

1. Marlon Brand/Yannick Born (MT) def. Joe Delinks/Mitch Thams (UCF) 8-1
2. Mario Samson/Jorge Blasco (UCF) def. Ben Davis/Christoph Lang (MT) 8-5
3. Matthew Langley/Ettore Zito (MT) def. Juan Bolona/Erik Brunskog (UCF) 8-2

Match Notes

Middle Tennessee 16-7; National ranking #56
UCF 9-12
Order of finish: Doubles (1,3,2); Singles (4,3,6,5,2,1)

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