No. 53 men's tennis advances at Sun Belt Championships with win over WKU

Blue Raiders will face Louisiana on Friday at 3 p.m.

April 19, 2012 · Athletic Communications

DENTON, Texas – No. 2 seed Middle Tennessee eliminated No. 7 seed Western Kentucky 4-0 in the first round of the 2012 Sun Belt Conference Men's Tennis Championship on Thursday at the Waranch Tennis Complex on the campus of the University of North Texas.

MT (17-7) advances to No. 3 seed Louisiana-Lafayette, who defeated No. 6 seed Troy, 4-1. Match time is set for 3 p.m. CT on Friday.

The No. 53-ranked Blue Raiders surged ahead to a 1-0 lead off dominating 8-1 performances on the first two courts to notch the doubles point. MT's Yannick Born and Marlon Brand, and Ben Davis and Christoph Lang recorded victories at the No. 1 and No. 2 positions, respectively.

MT swept through singles competition en route to defeating WKU (7-11). Ettore Zito only dropped two points in his 6-2, 6-0 win over Craig Kirchgessner at the No. 4 position, while Dimitri Pippos gave up just three points to Bobby Freeman for a 6-0, 6-3 win in the No. 6 slot. Matt Langley clinched the match with a 6-1, 6-2 victory over Arul Selvan.

To follow the 2012 Sun Belt Conference Men's and Women's Tennis Championships, visit the Championship Central page or follow along on Twitter (@The_Sun_Belt) and Facebook (facebook.com/theSunBeltConference).

Radio Tennis will be broadcasting the matches throughout the championships free online at radiotennis.com.

#53 Middle Tennessee 4, WKU Men's Tennis 0

Singles competition

1. Ben Davis (MT) vs. Josh Smith (WKUM) 6-2, 2-1, unfinished
2. Matthew Langley (MT) def. Arul Selvan (WKUM) 6-1, 6-2
3. Christoph Lang (MT) vs. Lance Freeman (WKUM) 6-1, 3-2, unfinished
4. Ettore Zito (MT) def. Craig Kirchgessner (WKUM) 6-2, 6-0
5. Forrest Edwards (MT) vs. Andrew Fish (WKUM) 3-6, 3-2, unfinished
6. Dimitri Pippos (MT) def. Brody Freeman (WKUM) 6-0, 6-3

Doubles competition

1. Yannick Born/Marlon Brand (MT) def. Josh Smith/Arul Selvan (WKUM) 8-1
2. Ben Davis/Christoph Lang (MT) def. Craig Kirchgessner/Andrew Fish (WKUM) 8-1
3. Ettore Zito/Matthew Langley (MT) vs. Brody Freeman/Lance Freeman (WKUM) 7-0, unfinished

Match Notes

WKU Men's Tennis 7-11
Middle Tennessee 17-7; National ranking #53

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