Raiders in NCAA regionals for fifth straight year

Will compete in Norman Regional May 17-19

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MURFREESBORO, Tenn. – For the fifth consecutive year, Middle Tennessee's men's golf program is headed to the postseason. The Blue Raiders earned an at-large bid to the NCAA Regionals as announced on NCAA.com Monday night. Middle Tennessee will be one of 14 teams participating in the regional at the Jimmy Austin OU Golf Club in Norman, Okla., hosted by the University of Oklahoma May 17-19. The low five teams from six regionals will advance to the NCAA National Championships at Riviera Country Club in Los Angeles, Calif., May 29 - June 3. Middle Tennessee's spot among the nation's top 81 teams came during the second to last announced regional by the Men's Golf Selection Committee's selection show on NCAA.com. The Blue Raiders will be the No. 8 seed in a field that includes No. 1 ranked Texas, No. 12 ranked Georgia Tech, No. 13 ranked Washington, No. 23 ranked Florida State, and 31st ranked Oklahoma. It matches the second highest seed for the Blue Raiders in school history. MT was also an eight seed in last year's regional. It is the sixth NCAA berth in program history and the fourth as an at-large. The Blue Raiders also made NCAA Regional appearances in 2000, 2008, 2009, 2010, and 2011. In 2008, Middle Tennessee advanced all the way to the NCAA Championships where it finished 15th nationally. Head Coach Whit Turnbow believed Middle Tennessee's body of work was easily strong enough to gain an at-large berth after the team finished second in the Sun Belt Conference. Middle Tennessee is ranked No. 48 nationally and owns two

tournament wins. "This is a testament to the hard work the players have put in all season and a sign our program continues to move in the right direction," said Head Coach Whit Turnbow. "They were really excited to hear Middle Tennessee's name called tonight. "This is the most difficult field we will play in all year so we have to be ready. We still have a little more than a week to prepare but we look forward to the opportunity to compete against the best." The Blue Raiders' lineup will be led by senior Hunter Green, a three-time all-conference performer. Green, who ranks first in the SBC and 65th nationally in scoring average, will be appearing in his third straight NCAA Regional. "This is a tremendous opportunity for this team and we can't wait to compete," said Green. "For our program to make five straight regionals says a lot about our consistency." Follow all the scoring at golfstat.com or ncaa.com. **Jimmy Austin OU Golf Club – Norman, Oklahoma**

Hosted by the University of Oklahoma

Teams:

1.Texas
2.Georgia Tech
3.Washington
4.Florida State
5.Oklahoma
6.St. Mary's
7.Illinois
8.Middle Tennessee
9.South Carolina
10.San Diego
11.Arizona
12.Sacramento State
13.IUPUI
14. Loyola (Ill.)

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