Men's Tennis opens spring season with Lipscomb, Murray State

Duals held at Nashboro Village on Sunday

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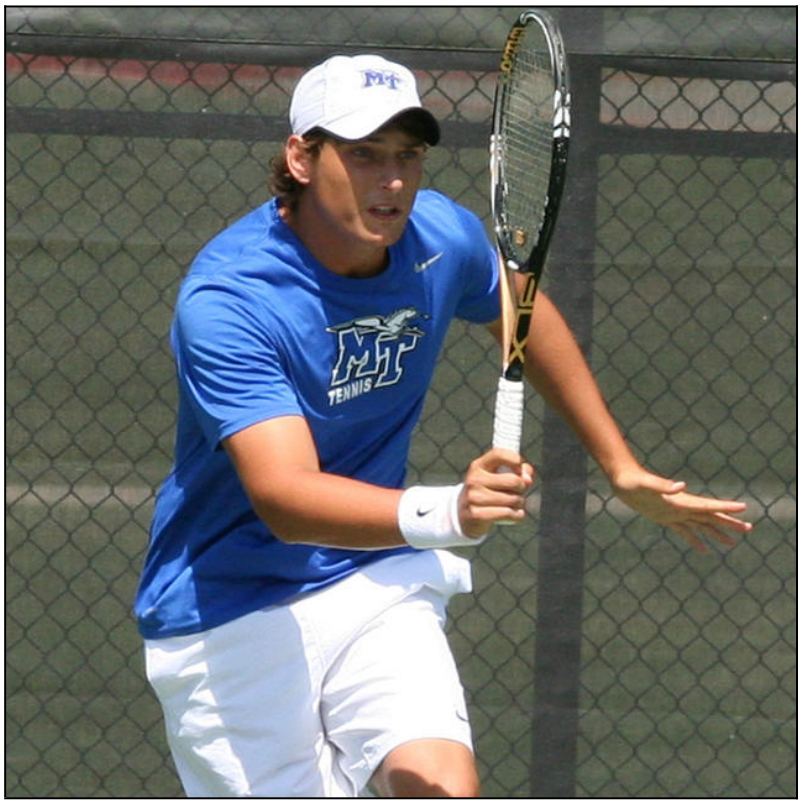

MURFREESBORO, Tenn. - The Middle Tennessee men's tennis team opens its spring season Sunday with duals against Lipscomb and Murray State at Nashboro Village in Nashville, Tenn. The Lipscomb match will begin at 10 a.m., followed by Murray State at 2:30 p.m.

"Our guys are ready to go," head coach Jimmy Borendame said. "Practice has been really good this week. There has been a lot of energy and intensity."

The two-time defending Sun Belt champion, Middle Tennessee is the highest-ranked of three Sun Belt schools ranked in the top-75.

Individually, junior Ben Davis is ranked no. 101 in the national singles rankings. This fall, Davis reached the quarterfinals of the USTA/ITA Ohio Valley regional in Memphis. He also won a pair of matches at the ITA All-American Championships in Tulsa, Okla. Davis was named All-Sun Belt last season along with Christoph Lang. Those two will help lead a team that has several new weapons.

The Blue Raiders have one of their deepest lineups since the arrival of Borendame, and will look to use that this season.

"I'm really impressed with our depth, one through 10 this season. With three new players arriving in January, we will have a lot of different double combinations early in the season until we find that perfect fit," Borendame said. "It will be important for us to figure out which teams have good chemistry and work well together before setting anything completely."

Lipscomb is coming off its most successful season to-date with a fourth place finish in last year's Atlantic 10 Conference, and will count on seniors Tanner Brown, Oliver Strecker and Colby Shaw this spring.

Murray State, which lost its first dual of the spring, 7-0 to Louisville, is anchored by seniors Tyler Jeffers and Ryan Kennedy, and their No. 1 singles player, Adam Taylor.

The Blue Raiders will face five teams this spring currently ranked in the top-40, including a matchup with no. 5 Duke on Jan. 25. Middle Tennessee also has matches against no. 11 Mississippi State, no. 33 Memphis at the Buck Bouldin Tennis Center, no. 37 Vanderbilt, and no. 40 North Carolina State.

Live stats are available here.

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