Men's golf announces upcoming schedule

Will face every team in Top 25

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MURFREESBORO - The Middle Tennessee men's golf program is set to tee off on the 2013-14 season with another demanding and challenging schedule. The Blue Raiders will open play for the fall portion of the season on Sept. 6.

Middle Tennessee, who has been to five NCAA Regionals the last six years, welcomes back all five starters in Brett Patterson, Lucas Armstrong, Payne Denman, Andrew Cho,



and Jordan Jennings. Patterson missed most of the season last year with an elbow injury so his return will be a huge boost to a very solid lineup.

"We have had a great summer," said Head Coach Whit Turnbow. "Our guys have been out competing and winning. There is no substitute for winning. On top of that, thankfully, we are finally healthy."

The Blue Raiders will get things started with the Carpet Capital Collegiate on Sept. 6-8 in Dalton, GA. The 54-hole event will be held at the Farm Club and will feature a 15-team field consisting of 10 of the top 25 teams in the nation. Georgia, Georgia Tech, Texas, North Carolina, South Carolina, Auburn, LSU, Wake Forest, Tennessee, Clemson, and North Florida.

"I say this every year, but in order for us to take this program to the level we want it to be, we have to go through the best teams in the country," added Turnbow. "Over the course of the year, we will play almost every team ranked in the Top 25. We will play anyone, anytime, anywhere, and will be battle tested by the time the post-season rolls around. I truly believe our guys are ready for it and that this type of schedule gives us the best possible chance to make some noise when it counts."

The team will then travel to Daufuskie Island, SC on Sept. 22-24 for the Rees Jones Invitational hosted by the University of South Carolina. The 54-hole tournament, a first for the Blue Raiders, will take place at Haig Point Golf Club.

Two weeks later, the Blue Raiders will compete in the David Toms Intercollegiate hosted by LSU in Baton Rouge, LA before completing the fall campaign with a trip to Kauai, Hawaii. While on the

island, MT will participate in the Warrior Wave Intercollegiate hosted by the University of Hawaii at Makai Golf Club.

After a demanding fall, the Raiders will begin a challenging spring at the Mobile Bay Intercollegiate in Mobile, AL on Feb. 17-18. MT won this event in 2012.

Within an eight-day span, the Blue Raiders will play two tournaments beginning with the USF Intercollegiate on March 3-5 in Tampa, FL and ending with the Gene Hackler Invitational in Murrells Inlet, SC March 10-11.

The Blue Raiders will wrap up the month of March at the FAU Spring Break Challenge in Lake Worth, FL. The 54-hole tournament will take place at the Fountains Country Club.

Middle Tennessee will open a busy April close to home at the Mason Rudolph Championship in Franklin, TN before heading to Madison, MS for the BancorpSouth Intercollegiate April 14-15.

The Blue Raiders will conclude the regular season at their first-ever Conference USA Championship on April 20-22. The event will be held in Texarkana, AR.

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