Records Fall as Lady Raiders Sweep New Mexico State

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MURFREESBORO, Tenn. - Middle Tennessee softball (24-28, 7-9 SBC) completed the sweep of New Mexico State (19-41, 2-14 SBC) with 5-4, 5-1 wins on Sunday at Lady Raider Field on Senior Day. Laura Brockman scored on a Lady Aggie error in the bottom of the eighth inning to give the Lady Raiders a 5-4 win in the first game. New Mexico State tied the game in the top of the sixth inning with three runs on three hits and two Lady Raider errors. Middle Tennessee opened the game when Kristina Hieb scored on a Lady Raider error. Brockman hit a two run homer, her sixth of the year and 23rd of her career, which scored pinch runner Katie McCraw to push the lead to 3-0. Hieb hit an RBI single in the fourth inning which sent home short stop Steffi Silva to make it 4-0. New Mexico State got on the board in the fifth inning with a solo homerun by left fielder Kelly Rhyne. Junior hurler Stayc Preator came into relief in the fifth inning and pitched three scoreless innings, allowing only one hit, to pick up the win and improving to 8-11. Senior Amanda Kendall started the game going five innings and striking out two. Hieb began the scoring in the second game when she crossed the plate on an RBI double by Lindsay Azevedo. Steffi Silva moved into a tie for third place in the career record books for runs scored with 96 when she scored on an RBI double by Hieb in the second inning. New Mexico State got on the board in the fifth inning when Tiffany Ruiz hit a solo homerun in the top of the fifth. Grothause got the run back when her double sent home Brockman in the bottom of the fifth. Records fell in the bottom of the sixth inning. Brockman took over the school record for RBI in a career, with 80, when her double sent home Martinez. Earlier in the inning Azevedo doubled for the second time in the game, which ties the school record. Martinez's double scored Azevedo and moved her into third place for doubles in a career with 30. Martinez pitched the complete game and improves to 15-12 on the year. She had four strikeouts and moves to 185 on the year. As a team, the Lady Raiders tied the school record for doubles in a game with five. The four game sweep, over New Mexico State, is the first time this season Middle Tennessee has won four games in a row. Middle Tennessee will try to ride its streak into the Sun Belt Tournament which begins on Thursday in Miami, Florida on the Florida International campus.

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