Mitchell's Two Homeruns Aids in Lady Raider Sweep

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BIRMINGHAM, Ala. - Senior Cortney Mitchell belted two homeruns to help Middle Tennessee softball (16-12) pick up a 4-0, 5-1 sweep of Birmingham Southern (16-25) Tuesday at Panther Field.

Middle Tennessee took game one off the arm of hurler Crystal Bobo and the bat of Cortney Mitchell. Bobo tossed her ninth complete game in the Lady Raider's 4-0 win over the Panthers.

Bobo recorded nine strikeouts and only allowed one hit for her fifth shutout of the season. She sat down the first seven Panther batters before allowing a single to Lillie Bradfield in the bottom of the third inning. After hitting Kerri Owens to start the fourth inning, Bobo sat down the last 11 batters to end the game.

Mitchell knocked in three of the Lady Raider runs as she went 3-of-4 with a homerun and two doubles. She opened the game with a homerun over the centerfield wall to give Middle Tennessee a 1-0 lead. After centerfielder Michelle Wilkes reached on an error in the third inning, Mitchell drove in her second run of the game with a double off the left field wall. She came back in the sixth inning for her second double of the game to score Muriel Ledbetter and came around to score the Lady Raiders fourth run of the game off an RBI single by Leah Grothause.

Middle Tennessee took the second game of the doubleheader 5-1. After four scoreless innings to start the second game, Middle Tennessee finally pushed four runs across when Muriel Ledbetter's RBI single sent home Wilkes. Mitchell added two runs when she hit her second homerun of the night 235 feet over left centerfield. First baseman made the score 4-0 when she hit her second homerun of the year over the right centerfield wall. Catcher Angie Huebner tacked on another run when her double off the centerfield wall plated Grothause.

Bobo came back in the second game to toss four scoreless innings allowing just one hit and striking out two. She evened her record to 8-8 on the season as the Lady Raiders prepare to enter Sun Belt

Conference play. Freshman Trish White came into the game in relief in the fifth inning, to pick up her third save of the season.

Birmingham Southern plated a run in the bottom of the seventh when Panther Shannon Cantrell hit a RBI single to score Dawn Treadwell.

Herald, Katie Tompkins and Grothause each went 2-for-4 in the game, with Herald and Grothause each scoring a run. Mitchell had two RBI in the game.

The Lady Raiders begin Sun Belt Conference play on Friday when the team travels to Bowling Green, Kentucky to take on Western Kentucky. The first pitch is set for 3 p.m.

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