

# Middle Tennessee Drops 7-1 Decision to #2 Alabama

## Will play in consolation game of Crimson Classic on Sunday

February 16, 2008 · David Powell

**TUSCALOOSA, Ala.** - Ashley Cline went 1-for-3 with a stolen base but Middle Tennessee did not manage any runs until late as the Blue Raiders (1-7, 0-0) fell 7-1 to the Alabama Crimson Tide (10-0, 0-0) at the Crimson Classic on Saturday evening. This was the second time in two days that Middle Tennessee was matched up against the #2 ranked team in the nation. Lindsey Vander Lugt gave up six runs on eleven hits as the Blue Raider lost 6-0 on Friday evening. Vander Lugt (0-4) made her second straight start against the Crimson Tide and fourth of the season in the loss. The left-handed pitcher gave up two earned runs on seven hits in 3.0 innings of action. Kellie Head made a relief appearance for MT. The freshman gave up two earned runs on four hits in 3.0 innings of action. Crimson Tide starter



Chrissy Owens (3-0) picked up the win. She gave up no runs and one hit, while striking out five and walking one in the complete game. Allison Moore worked the final 2.0 innings. The right hander gave up one run on two hits while striking out two and walking two. The Blue Raiders had a chance to take the lead in the opening inning but they could not take advantage of a bases loaded opportunity. Caitlin McLure walked to begin the inning before Ashley Cline and Brittney Banania struck out swinging. Corrie Abel reached on a ground ball error by the shortstop before Ives was hit by a pitch to put three runners on base. Katie Mielke flied out to right field to end the inning. Alabama scored twice in their half of the 1st inning to take a 2-0 advantage. Lead-off hitter Brittany Rogers reached base when Whitney Padgett's throw from left side pulled Ashley Cline off first base. Kelley Montalvo

then nailed an RBI triple into the gap in right-center just passed the outstretched glove of centerfielder Martha Davis. The Crimson Tide finished their scoring two batters later when Whitney Larsen singled to left field, driving in Montalvo. Alabama added another in the 3rd inning with a Ashley Holcombe RBI double to right field to take a 3-0 lead. They added two more runs in the 4th inning to put themselves up 5-0. The Blue Raiders almost put their first run on the board in the 5th inning but Whittney Padgett's deep drive to center field fell just short of the outfield fence. Middle Tennessee pulled one back in the 6th inning when Whitney Darlington hit a looping RBI double down the left field line, scoring an agile Corrie Abel from first base. Katie Mielke flew out to left field to end the inning with the Crimson Tide leading 5-1. Darlington was 1-for-2 with an RBI for the Blue Raiders. Alabama added two more runs in their half of the 6th inning to make it 7-1 as the Blue Raiders lost their third game of the Crimson Classic. Middle Tennessee plays either New Mexico or Georgia Tech in consolation game of the Crimson Classic on Sunday at 11 AM. Follow the action live at GoBlueRaiders.com with Russell Luna calling play-by-play.

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*Printed on July 22, 2014*

*Original URL: <http://www.goblueraiders.com/content.cfm/id/30128>*