

Blue Raiders lose 9-1 in second game of doubleheader

Conclude series against South Alabama on Saturday at Noon

March 21, 2008 · David Powell

MOBILE, Ala. - Jessica Ives hit her first homerun of the season but Middle Tennessee could not do much else as the Blue Raiders (7-16, 2-5) lost 9-1 to the South Alabama Jaguars (15-13, 3-2) in the second game of a doubleheader at the Jaguar Softball Complex on Friday night. Middle Tennessee fell 2-0 in the first game of the series earlier on Saturday. Kellie Head (3-7) picked up the start and the defeat for the Blue Raiders. The Freshman gave up six earned runs on 10 hits, while striking out one and walking six in the complete game. Jaguar starter Amanda Legget (3-6) got the win, giving up one run on five hits while striking out one and walking for in 4.1 innings. Shannon Smith worked the final two batters for the Jaguars, striking out one. The Blue Raiders had a chance to take the lead in the opening inning but Whitney



Darlington's towering shot with two outs fell just short of left field fence. South Alabama took a 5-0 lead in their half of the inning. Corey Race hit a two RBI single to left centerfield before Tara Donaldson crossed the plate following an illegal pitch by Head. Race scored off an error by Blue Raider rightfielder Kelsey Dortch and Ashley Elmore hit an RBI single through the left side to round out the scoring for the home team. Middle Tennessee pulled a run back in the top of the 2nd inning to make it 5-1 when Jessica Ives smashed a two-out, solo homerun to deep centerfield. Ives was 1-for-2 with a homerun, a RBI and a run scored to lead the Blue Raiders. South Alabama increased their lead to 7-1 in the bottom of the

2nd inning. Donaldson scored off another illegal pitch before Jenny Stevens hit a RBI ground out to first base. The hosts added another run in the next inning to increase their lead to 8-1. Caitlin McLure dropped a bunt single to start the 5th inning as the Blue Raiders tried to cut into the deficit but Whitney Padgett hit into a fielder choice with the bases loaded to end the attempted rally. The Jaguars scored a run in the bottom of the inning to end the game on run rule as the Blue Raiders dropped their fifth straight game in Sun Belt Conference play. Middle Tennessee concludes the series against South Alabama on Saturday at Noon.

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