

# Blue Raiders blast off in 7-4 win over Jacksonville State

## Crush season-high four homeruns in game

April 15, 2008 · David Powell

JACKSONVILLE, Ala. -

Martha Davis belted two home runs, including a grand slam in the 1st inning, as the Blue Raiders (26-12, 14-3) powered their way to a 7-4 win over the Jacksonville State Gamecocks (26-12, 14-3) in the second game of a non-conference doubleheader at University Field on Tuesday evening. Kellie Head (6-9) picked up the start and win for the Blue Raiders. The freshman gave up four runs on five hits, while striking out two, in 2.2 innings. Lindsey Vander Lugt worked the final 4.1 innings for her second save of the season. The righthander gave up no runs and just one hit, while striking out two. Kayla Collins (0-2) got the start and loss for the Gamecocks. The Niceville, Fla. native gave up five runs on five hits in just 0.2 innings. Melissa Dowling also pitched for Jacksonville State. The righthander gave up two runs



on five hits in 3.2 innings of relief. Ashley Eliasson worked the final 2.2 innings for the Gamecocks, giving up no runs and one hit, while striking out one. The Blue Raiders took a 5-0 lead in the opening inning highlighted by Davis' four-run shot. Ashley Cline led off with a double to centerfield and Caitlin McLure was hit by a pitch before Abel loaded the bases with a single to centerfield, bringing up Davis. Jessica Ives nailed a grand slam in last week's 5-3 win over Southeast Missouri, and Davis duplicated the feat with the first her career. The Gamecocks responded in the bottom of the 2nd inning with two long balls of their own to make it 5-2. Alana Hicks and Whitney Elder nailed back-to-back solo homeruns to cut the Blue Raiders lead to three runs. Middle Tennessee increased their lead to 6-1 in the top of the 3rd inning. Whitney Darlington, batting .333 in her last 10 games after a

slow start to the season, nailed a rocket to left-center field for the third Blue Raider homerun of the game. Jacksonville State cut the lead to 6-4 in the bottom of the 4th inning. Courtney Underwood singled through the left side and Allie Barker hit the game's fourth homerun of the game to put pressure on the visiting Middle Tennessee squad. The Blue Raiders continued the back-and-forth slugfest in the top of the 5th inning, improving their lead to 7-4 off homerun by Martha Davis' second homerun of the contest, this time a solo shot to centerfield. That was all Middle Tennessee would need as they rebounded from a tough defeat in the first game of a doubleheader to pick up their third win in five game. The Blue Raiders return to action for on Wednesday for a doubleheader against the UT Martin Skyhawks in Martin, Tenn. at 3 PM.

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