MT Softball defeats Tennessee Tech 3-2

Vander Lugt picks up 13th win of season in stellar performance

April 23, 2008 · David Powell

COOKEVILLE, Tenn. - Lindsey Vander Lugt provided the stellar pitching and Corrie Abel the offense as the Middle Tennessee Blue Raiders (19-25, 9-8 SBC) won 3-2 over the Tennessee Tech Golden Eagles (23-26-1, 7-9 OVC) in the first game of a non-conference doubleheader at Tech Softball Complex on Wednesday afternoon. Vander Lugt (13-16) got the start and the complete-game win for Middle Tennessee. The sophomore began the week ranked first in the nation in least walks allowed per seven innings and continued her strong play, giving up no earned runs and four hits, while striking out two and walking one. Sarah Street (12-15) picked up the start and loss for the Golden Eagles. She gave up three runs on 10 hits, while striking out five and walking one, over 7.0 innings. The Blue Raiders started off strong, taking a 1-0 lead in the opening inning. Ashley Cline led off the game with a walk before advancing to third base after a sacrifice bunt by Caitlin McLure. Corrie Abel nailed a hard shot just over the glove of shortstop Beth Boden and into left field, scoring Cline. Abel went 3-for-4 with a RBI to lead the Blue Raider offense. Tennessee Tech evened the game at a run apiece in the bottom of the 2nd inning when Sarah Street hit a RBI single over a jumping Cline at second base and into right field. Middle Tennessee regained the lead in top of the 4th inning to make it 3-1. Whitney Darlington doubled to the gap in right field before advancing to third base off Whittney Padgett's ground out to second baseman Lacie Coquerille. Darlington scored off a passed ball by catcher Kristyn Castonzo. The Blue Raiders

rounded out the inning when Brittney Banania doubled to left-center field and was driven home by a Cline RBI single to short left field. Cline went 2-for-3 with a RBI and a run scored for Middle Tennessee. The Golden Eagles cut the lead to a single run at 3-2 in the bottom of the 4th inning when Katie Spieser scored following after what would have been third out of the inning if not for third basemanPadgett bobbling a ground ball on the third base side. MT's Vander Lugt did not allow a single hit over the final three innings as the Blue Raiders rebounded from 1-and-3 performance last week with the 3-2 win. The Blue Raiders conclude their doubleheader with the Golden Eagles at 6 PM.

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