

April 29, 2008

Softball seniors to be honored at WKU series finale

Ceremony set for Saturday at 12:30 PM

David Powell

MURFREESBORO, Tenn. - Senior's **Ashley Cline**, **Whitney Darlington**, **Katie Mielke** and **Amy Candioto** will be honored in a pre-game ceremony at Blue Raider Field beginning Saturday at 12:30 PM.

The festivities will precede Middle Tennessee's final game of the series against rival Western Kentucky, with the first pitch slated for 1 PM.

Cline, Darlington and Candioto finish their two year careers as Blue Raiders after transferring to Middle Tennessee from the University of Tennessee, Motlow State Community College and Central Michigan University respectively. Mielke completes her third season after playing for one season at Illinois State University.

Cline ends her stellar career on pace to break into the top 10 list of several single-season records, ranking in 10th in batting average (.346, 2008) and seventh in triples (3, 2008). She stole 32 bases in 2007, the second most in single-season in school history. This season, her .379 in-conference batting average ranks third among infielders and ninth overall in the Sun Belt Conference.


Darlington concludes her career tied for sixth all-time in career homeruns (9) and is also on several single-season lists after a stellar 2007 campaign. The Tullahoma HS product ranks in fourth in extra base hits (22, 2007), third in RBI (38, 2007), sixth in stolen bases (19, 2007), ninth in doubles (12, 2007) and fourth in total bases (94, 2007).

Candioto finishes her time as a Blue Raider after sitting out 2008 due to injury. Last season, the Portland, Ore. native pitched in 15 contests, posting a 2-2 record with a 4.20 ERA in 40.0 innings.

Mielke ends her career as one of best catchers in program history. The Lombard, Ill. native is third on the team with a .283 batting average. She is fifth all-time in career homeruns (13) as well as ninth in extra-base hits in a single season (19, 2007).

Middle Tennessee heads to the Sun Belt Conference Tournament on May 8-10 in Troy, Ala. to play an opponent that will be determined following the conclusion of this weekend's conference games.



Seniors Whitney Darlington, Ashley Cline, Amy Candioto and Katie Mielke play the last home series of their careers this weekend against the Western Kentucky Hilltoppers. (MT) 

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