

# Blue Raider Softball Drops Two to Lipscomb

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**MURFREESBORO, Tenn. -** Middle Tennessee softball (3-11) dropped a doubleheader with Lipscomb (9-7) 10-2, 6-4 in the Blue Raiders home opener on Thursday.

Middle Tennessee fell behind early and could never catch up in the first game, losing 10-2. Lipscomb jumped on the Blue Raiders early and often as the Bisons picked up four runs in the first inning to start the game.

Freshman hurler Ashley Katinas picked up two quick outs to start the game, but Lipscomb rallied for the four runs with two outs. Katinas gave up and back-to-back doubles for the first runs of the innings and rounded out the inning with an RBI single and RBI double.



The Blue Raiders held Lipscomb scoreless for the next two innings before the Lady Bisons struck again in the top of the fourth with a solo homerun from Julia Davidson. Middle Tennessee answered with a homerun of their own in the bottom of the fourth when Melissa Weiland hit a two-run homer over the left field wall. It was the first homerun of the season for the sophomore from Murfreesboro.

Lipscomb tacked on five more runs in the top of the fifth and shortened the game to just five innings. Katinas took the loss walking five and striking out five. Weiland led the team going 2-for-2, a homerun, a double, two RBI and a run scored.

In the second game, the Blue Raiders gave up two runs in the first inning and one run in the second inning to find themselves down by three after two innings. Middle Tennessee pulled within two runs in the bottom of the second inning when Jennifer Dorais went home as Lipscomb was throwing out the runner at first.

Lipscomb put the game out of reach when the Lady Bisons tacked on three runs in the top of the fourth inning to make the score 6-1. Middle Tennessee did try to claw back in the next three innings.

The Blue Raiders picked up their second run of the game when senior Leah Grothause scored on a

passed ball by Lipscomb catcher Alysha Forsythe in the fourth inning. In the fifth inning Weiland hit her second homerun of the day, and the second of the season, on a solo shot to centerfield. Middle Tennessee's scoring in the game was rounded out by an RBI double by freshman catcher Brandi Boehner which plated Liz Davis.

Katinas pulled double duty on the mound and took the loss again. She falls to 0-8 on the year as she tossed two complete games. In the second game she allowed six runs on six hits and struck out two.

Middle Tennessee will enjoy a few days off before the Blue Raiders are back in action on Tuesday. They travel to Tuscaloosa, Alabama to take on Alabama at 5 p.m.

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