Moore's Two-Hitter Gives Blue Raiders First Win of the Season

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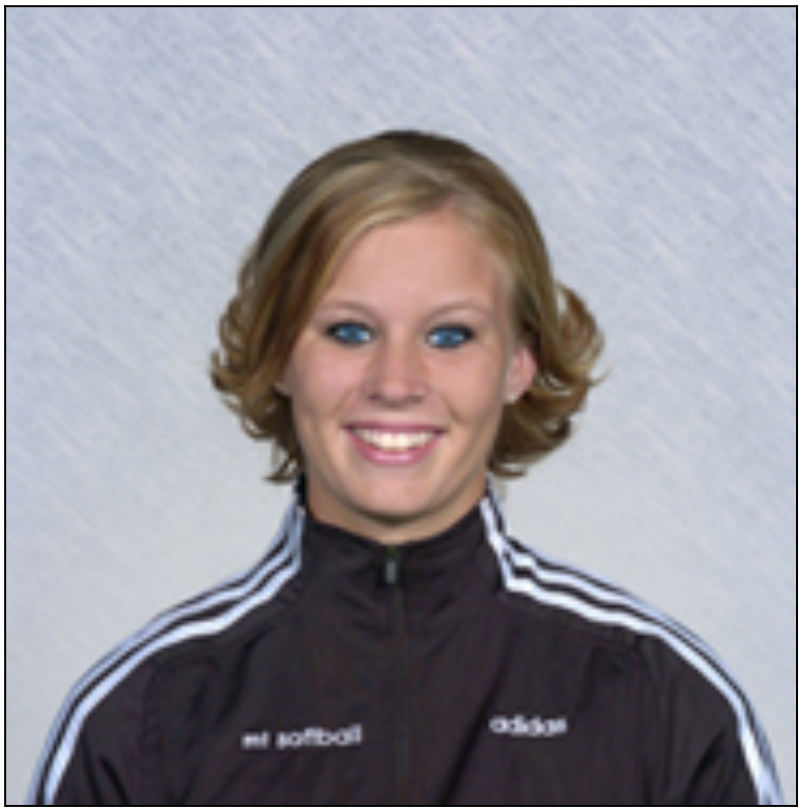

AUBURN, Ala. - Middle Tennessee softball (1-5) picked up its first victory of the season with a 3-1 win over Furman (3-4) Sunday in the final day of the War Eagle Classic hosted by Auburn University.

Freshman pitcher Laura Moore notched her first win as a Blue Raider, improving to 1-2, tossing a two-hitter and allowing no earned runs in the contest. Middle Tennessee's club backed Moore, with a season-high 10 hits in the game.

The Blue Raiders found themselves down early to start the game, as Furman struck first with a run in the bottom of the third. Moore gave up a two out single to Stephanie Cushing and she scored when Megan Jaudon's fly ball to right field was misplayed.

With two outs in the fifth, Shelby Stiner and Kristine Reed laced back-to-back doubles to left field to knot the game at 1-1. Muriel Ledbetter followed with a single to right and Reed scored when the base hit was misplayed by Furman right fielder Amber Nelson. Blake Murray entered the game in relief of Paladin starter Vanessa Williams and retired the side.

Samantha Floyd added to the Blue Raiders' lead with an RBI double scoring Justine Cerda in the top of the seventh.

Moore worked 5.1 innings striking out four. Trish White earned the save tossing 1.2 innings without allowing a hit. Floyd went 2-for-2 with a double and an RBI to lead the Blue Raiders.

Senior outfielder Michelle Wilkes was named to the War Eagle All-Tournament Teams. In the three-day tournament, she went 6-for-15 with a .400 batting average. Wilkes also scored two runs, had one RBI and stole a base.

Middle Tennessee returns to action on Wednesday when the Blue Raiders travel to Nashville to take on Belmont. The doubleheader begins at 1:30 p.m. at Aquinas Field.

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