Softball falls in heartbreaker to Georgia Southern

Toney ropes fourth double of the weekend

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AUBURN, Ala. - The Middle Tennessee softball team lost in heartbreaking fashion on Saturday night, dropping a 6-5 contest to Georgia Southern on the second day of competition at the 2011 War Eagle Classic. MT moves to 4-6 on the year.

The Blue Raiders held a 5-3 lead, entering the seventh inning before the Eagles mounted a three-run comeback to take the victory. GSU wins the 2011 series 2-1.

MT opened up the scoring in the second inning as freshman Kayla Toney came home on the patience of a bases-loaded walk by Brittney Banania. Toney reached base on her fourth double of the tournament. Kaycee Popham also reached in the inning on a walk and Kelsey Dortch got on via a fielder's choice. The Blue Raider led 1-0 after two.

Toney scored again in the third on a Natalie Ysais double, moving to total to 2-0 after three. The Hendersonville, Tenn., native went 2-4 in the game.

Middle Tennessee added two more in the fourth. First, Nina Davenport stroked her second triple of the year to plate Dortch, who earlier walked. Then, Kandra Singleton singled to bring home Davenport. Corrie Abel also doubled in the frame, but would not be brought home. Abel sits one hit shy of tying the school record for most hits in a Blue Raider career.

Dortch added an insurance run in the bottom half of the fifth a double to center. Nina Dever scored on the play after reaching earlier on the fielder's choice.

Georgia Southern struck back in the top in the seventh, touching up the Middle Tennessee for three

runs off four hits. The Eagles led 6-5. They would not relinquish the lead.

Freshman Jordyn Fisherback was strong in her fourth start of the year, going four innings and allowing just three runs in the fourth. She also struck out two and walked a pair before handing the ball to Caty Jutson in the fifth. Jutson threw three innings, giving up three unearned runs with two strikeouts in the loss. She falls to 2-3 on the season.

The Middle Tennessee softball team will conclude play at the 2011 War Eagle Classic on Sunday as the square off with host Auburn at 2 p.m. Live statistics and coverage will be available on GoBlueRaiders.com and Twitter.com/MT_Softball.

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