It Was a Blue Ribbon Day For Blue Raider Softball

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MURFREESBORO, Tenn. - Middle Tennessee softball (15-31-1) unveiled the renovated Blue Raider Softball Field with a 4-2, 6-2 sweep of Tennessee Tech (38-12) Tuesday.

- **Photos:** Ribbon Cutting Ceremony

Middle Tennessee took game one on the arm of hurler Laura Moore and the bat of junior Shelby Stiner. Moore made her second consecutive start an won her seventh game of the season, 7-10, allowing two runs on six hits and striking out three. Stiner was 2-for-4 with an RBI and a run scored and hit her third triple of the season, which ties her for fifth place for triples in a season.

Stiner opened the game with a lead-off triple and scored when Martha Davis hit an RBI double. Middle Tennessee added another run in the fourth inning and it was Stiner in the mix again. Justine Cerda led off with a double and scored off an RBI single by Stiner.

Middle Tennessee's two runs in the fifth inning would prove to be the insurance runs the Blue Raiders would need. Melissa Weiland and Muriel Ledbetter hit back-to-back singles to start it off and Weiland scored when Kristine Reed hit and RBI single. Ledbetter scored thanks to a sacrifice fly to left field by Cerda.

Tennessee Tech attempted a rally in the top of the seventh inning. Moore gave up two walks and a single to load the bases and was replaced by relief pitcher Trish White. Pinch hitter Kristan Glover hit a single to give the Golden Eagles their first run of the game. Tennessee Tech picked up its second run of the inning off a Blue Raider miscue. White came back to force a ground out and a pop up to end the inning and the game to earn the save.

Tennessee Tech took the early lead in game two. With one out in the second inning Katie Speiser hit a double and scored off a fielder's choice.

Middle Tennessee came back to tie the game in their half of the second inning. White led off with a single and advanced to second thanks to a sacrifice bunt by Cerda. White moved to third on a passed ball and scored when Reed hit an RBI single.

Tennessee Tech regained the lead with one swing of the bat. Speiser hit a lead-off homerun to give the Golden Eagles a 2-1 advantage.

A single by pinch hitter Brandi Boehner started things off for Middle Tennessee in the fifth inning. Mielke picked up a single of her own and the Blue Raiders had something going with one out. Stiner's sacrifice bunt put runners on second and third for the Blue Raiders. A fielder's choice allowed Boehner to score and Mielke moved to third while an indecision by the Golden Eagle second baseman allowed Davis to reach first. Davis stole second and when she did, the Tennessee Tech catcher threw the ball into centerfield allowing Mielke to score on the error. A sacrifice fly by White scored Davis for the third run of the inning.

A Reed double opened up the sixth inning for the Blue Raiders and a Samantha Floyd's sacrifice bunt moved Reed to third. Stiner drew a walk and stole her 12th base of the season and Davis hit a two RBI single to plate Reed and Stiner.

White took the win in the game and improved to 4-11 on the season. Davis led the Blue Raiders in game two going 2-for-3 with three RBI and one run scored.

Middle Tennessee returns to action on Saturday as the Blue Raiders host Sun Belt Conference foe Troy. First pitch of the doubleheader begins at 12 p.m.

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