

Jutson lights-out as Blue Raiders sweep North Texas

Softball's first conference-series sweep in seven years

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MURFREESBORO, Tenn. -

Caty Jutson threw her first complete game of the season, giving up no earned runs to help the Middle Tennessee softball record their first conference sweep in seven seasons. The team defeated North Texas 4-1, in Saturday's series finale at Blue Raider Field.

MT advances to 8-16 on the season, 3-3 in the Sun Belt.

Jutson went the distance, in her third win of the season, allowing just four hits and no earned runs. She had one strike out and one walk in the game.

"It felt great to go out and get the series sweep," Jutson said. "I have been throwing better lately. Confidence is the biggest part of my improvement."

Entering the game, designate player Corrie Abel needed just two total bases to pass Martha Davis for most in an MT career. The senior wasted no time, breaking the mark on a double to right, giving her 271 for her career. Kaycee Popham drove Abel in on the following at bat, singling down the third base line. MT led 1-0 after one inning.

Nina Davenport got her sixth RBI on the season in the second on a shallow single to center field. Kristi Marquez scored from second on the play. Marquez reached earlier on a fielder's choice and then advanced to second a wild pitch. The Blue Raiders held a 2-0 at that point.

Abel added four more total bases in the third on a home run to left. Kaycee Popham came home on the play, moving the score to 4-1. Popham singled previously. Brittney Banania and Natalie Ysais recorded hits in the inning, but were not driven home.



The defense did the rest giving up no runs in the next four innings to take the victory 4-1. This weekend's three-game sweep of North Texas is the team's first conference sweep since 2004, when the Blue Raider took four from the New Mexico State Aggies on April 24-25.

"We are hitting the ball well," head coach Sue Nevar said. "Our confidence is high and we proved we can compete in this conference. Next weekend we travel to Monroe to take play a scrappy team we will put up strong competiton."

Middle Tennessee softball team will return to action on Wednesday as they play host to the Gamecocks of Jacksonville State. Live audio and statistics will be available on GoBlueRaiders.com and Twitter.com/MT_Softball.

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