Middle Tennessee drops Sunday match to in-state foe

Rain slows second-half pace down

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MURFREESBORO, Tenn. – Middle Tennessee controlled much of the offensive attack, including a series of good scoring opportunities early in the second half, but was unable to find the back of the net in falling, 1-0, to visiting UT-Martin Sunday afternoon at Dean A. Hayes Track and Soccer Stadium in Murfreesboro, Tenn.

The Blue Raiders held a 16-to-8 shot advantage throughout the game but heavy rains during the second half made the game more even and UTM was able to capitalize on the only goal. In the midst of the driving rain, Rosaelia Loza sent a through ball underneath Middle Tennessee (1-4) goalkeeper Rebecca Cushing at 72:53 for the clincher.

After being held scoreless in the opening 45 minutes, the Blue Raiders took control early in the second half. Five shots were placed towards the Skyhawk net within the initial nine minutes, including a pair from junior Whitney Jorgenson, but UT-Martin (5-1) goalie Lauren Mackenzie stood tall for two saves. Middle Tennessee also had four corner kicks within the first 12 minutes of action during the period after having zero in the entire first half.

Junior Paige Goeglein found herself one-on-one with Mackenzie later in the stanza, but her attempt was saved.

Goeglein and classmate Allison Stallard paced the Blue Raider attack with three shots apiece, while Jorgenson and senior Shan Jones added two each.

Loza topped the Skyhawks with three shots, including UTM's only attempt on goal.

Middle Tennessee will look to regroup at 7 p.m. Friday when it travels to Nashville, Tenn., to face Vanderbilt in its third-straight road Southeastern Conference match.

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