Softball drops 15-7 exhibition contest to Dutch National Team

MT blasts six home runs on afternoon

March 3, 2012 · Athletic Communications

KNOXVILLE, Tenn. -- Middle Tennessee's six home run outburst was not enough on Saturday afternoon as the Blue Raiders fell to the Dutch National Team 15-7 in an exhibition contest at the Tennessee Classic.

Kayla Toney began the long ball parade on Saturday with a lead-off dong in the bottom of the first to put the Blue Raiders on top 1-0.

The teams combined for a rare scoreless second inning before the Dutch took control of the contest with seven runs in the top of the third. The big blasts of the inning came on Nathalie Gosewehr's two-run homer and Lindsey Meadows' three-run shot off the score board in left field.

Chelsea Good tallied a solo dinger in the bottom of the fourth to cut the Dutch lead to 7-2. Dutch catcher Karin Tuk responded with a solo jack of her own in the top half of the fifth to extend the lead back to six runs.

The Blue Raiders would not go away, however, as Natalie Ysais, Kelsey Woodruff and Good posted back-to-back-to-back round-trippers with two outs in the fifth to bring Middle Tennessee to within 8-5.

The home run barrage took a temporary break in a wacky top half of the sixth. Middle Tennessee committed two errors leading to three unearned and four total Dutch runs helping the Dutch extended its lead to 12-5. Gosewehr's lead-off double was the only extra base hit of the frame as the team from the Netherlands posted four singles in the inning.

Kaycee Popham collected the Blue Raiders' sixth four-bagger of the day with a two-out, two run long ball in the sixth to continue the scoring spree and cut the Blue Raider deficit to 12-7. Areke Spel's three-run bomb in the top of the seventh provided the Dutch with their third crooked-number inning of the game. The swat was the fourth of the contest for the Dutch as the two teams combined for 10 home runs on the afternoon.

Despite putting two runners on base, Middle Tennessee was unable to make it very exciting in the seventh as the squad was unable to push anyone past the plate, giving the Dutch team a 15-7 win. "We faced a quality Dutch team today," said Middle Tennessee head coach Sue Nevar. "I am pleased with the way we hit the ball, but you cannot pitch and play defense the way we did today and expect to beat good teams." With the game considered an exhibition contest, no statistics from today will be counted as official. The Blue Raiders will close out play in the Tennessee Classic on Sunday when they meet tournament host Tennessee at 3:30 p.m. CT before taking on Murray State at 6 p.m.

Each game of the Tennessee Classic will offer live statistics which will be available courtesy of Tennessee and can be accessed here. Periodic updates will also be provided via the Middle Tennessee softball social media pages on Twitter @MT_Softball and on Facebook at the MTSU Softball page.

Printed on July 30, 2014
Original URL: http://www.goblueraiders.com/content.cfm/id/59090