Middle Tennessee paces field at Blue Raider Invitational

Haggard in third after day one

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Blue Raider Invitational
Rounds 1 and 2 Results

MURFREESBORO, Tenn. - The Middle Tennessee women's golf team delivered an impressive second-round performance to jump into the lead after two rounds at the Blue Raider Invitational at the par-72, 6,177-yard Old Fort Golf Club on Monday.

MT shot a 299 in the opening round before moving into the top spot with a 291 in round two for a total of 590 (+14), seven strokes ahead of second-place Morehead State (597, +21). Jacksonville State and Southern Illinois sit tied in third, each with a 598 (+22).

"Obviously, this afternoon's round was pretty good," head coach Chris Adams said. "We held the wheels on, and I'm very proud of the way team played this afternoon. The way they stepped up, I mean everybody contributed. Madison Denton and Stephanie Smith had good round as individuals as well, so overall I'm very pleased. We just have one more day."

The Blue Raiders bested their low round from last season's invitational by two strokes. MT shot a 293 in the second and third rounds in 2011 before going on to capture the team title.

Ashley Haggard made herself at home on the local course, punching a 69 in the second round for a 36-hole total of 145 (+1), good for third on the day. Haggard is three strokes behind leaders Maya Parsons (Jacksonville State) and Cassie Rushing (Southern Illinois). Parsons produced the low round of the day with a 67 in the first and Rushing's pair of 72's gave each of them a 144 (E) after two rounds.

Avery George was impressive as well for the Blue Raiders, sitting tied for fifth heading into the final 18 with a 147 (+3). Olivia Love registered a 149 (+5) to tie for 13th, while Natalie Chrisopulos carded

a 153 (+9) to tie for 39th and Emily Miller shot a 154 (+10) to tie for 43rd. Playing as individuals, Stephanie Smith and Maddie Denton delivered solid performances, each with a 149 (+5).

The tournament concludes on Tuesday with a shotgun start at 8:30 a.m. for the final 18 holes.

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