

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 9, 2015

Contact: Katie Snyder

Tulsa Wins Two Games on First Day of Tulsa Invitational

TULSA, Okla. — Sophomore shortstop Shelby Estacado totaled five hits and three runs and junior third baseman Maggie Withee recorded three hits and four runs to lead Tulsa to two wins over Iowa (2-1) and Lamar (14-2, 5 inn.) on Saturday at the Tulsa Invitational at the Collins Family Softball Complex.

The Golden Hurricane (13-4) scored on a home run in the second inning to tie the game, and took the lead on a run in the sixth to win their home opener against Iowa (5-12). Against Lamar (10-6), three Tulsa players each tallied three RBIs to lead the Tulsa bats to a run-rule victory.

Iowa took the lead first when they scored their only run in the second inning on a hard-hit grounder past Tulsa's pitcher from shortstop Katy Taylor, and brought home base runner Allie Wood. The next batter grounded out to the shortstop, leaving two runners on base to minimize the damage.

Sophomore shortstop Shelby Estacado responded in the bottom of the inning with a home run over the centerfield wall to tie the game. Estacado went 2-3 against Iowa and her game-tying home run was her third of the season.

Freshman second baseman Morgan Neal had the game-winning RBI in the bottom of the fifth inning, bringing home the runner, Maggie Withee, on a hard line drive over the head of the shortstop.

The Golden Hurricane kept Iowa scoreless for the rest of the game, relying on sound defense and great pitching. Pitcher Caitlin Sill gave up just one run on five Iowa hits with a 1.10 earned run average, leading to her sixth win of the season.

In Tulsa's second game of the day, the Golden Hurricane bats came alive. Tulsa scored seven runs on seven hits in the first inning against Lamar. [Maggie Withee started off the inning with a single. Morgan Neal hit a line drive into right field that was caught, but an illegal pitch was called, which brought her back to the plate and advanced Withee to second. Neal ground out, and another illegal pitch brought Maggie Withee home. Maddie Withee hit another single, and then Horner knocked a hard grounder deep into center, sending her to third and Withee home. Estacado followed this with another RBI to bring the score to 3-0. A third illegal pitch sent Estacado to second, and a passed ball advanced her to third. Hollingsworth followed with another single to send Estacado home. A well-placed pop-up by Walker sent two more runners come home to bring the score to 6-0. Sheffield grounds out on a fielder's choice for the second out. Tulsa came back to the top of the lineup with

Maggie Withee, who hit a short pop up that fell just short of the shortstop's glove and Walker came home for another Tulsa run. Neal would ground out to first, but another illegal pitch call advanced the runner and reset the count. Neal was walked to first and Maddie Withee hit back to the pitcher to end the inning.]

In the third inning, Lamar first baseman Ashley McDowell put the Cardinals on the board with a home run over the centerfield fence. Junior left fielder Maddie Withee came back with her own home run in the bottom of the third to bring in two runners, and Hollingsworth adds another RBI with a double to the centerfield wall to bring the score to 11-1.

Horner was a dual threat in the fourth inning, as she recorded all three outs at first base, including a line drive unassisted double play. She then hit an RBI line drive up the middle to bring in two runs. Hollingsworth added another RBI with a double up the middle. At the end of the fourth inning, Tulsa led 14-1.

Sophomore pitcher Lexi Blevins came in for the fifth inning and secured the Tulsa victory over Lamar. Emily Watson pitched four innings and picked up her fifth win of the season.

The Golden Hurricane will face both teams again on Sunday, facing off against Iowa at 10 a.m., and Lamar at 2 p.m.