

NMSU Takes First Game 9-4

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The Blue Raiders held the potent New Mexico State offense without a homer in the opening game of their three-game series. However, the Aggies found other ways to score and took the first game 9-4. The Aggies struck first in the game in the bottom of the second inning. Jesse French started the scoring with a two-run double to left center field that plated Erik Winegarden and Buck Barton. French later came around to score after a Kurt Wilkinson single. The Blue Raiders rallied to get within one run in the top of the third behind a Troy Harp homer to left field also brought Chad Cooper in to score. The

Blue Raiders finally knotted the score at three in the top of the fourth. Marshall Nisbett and Josh Archer strung together back-to-back singles and Kevin Suba drove Nisbett across with an RBI single. The score remained tied until the bottom of the sixth inning. The Aggies got two runs after singles from Wilkinson and Gabe Veloz set up a two-run double from Ryan Kenning that gave NMSU a 5-3 advantage. The Blue Raiders would get within a run in the top of the seventh. Troy Harp reached on an error and advanced to second where Chuck Akers brought him in with a single to center. That would be as close as the Blue Raiders would draw for the remainder of the contest. The Aggies finally broke the game open in the bottom of the seventh with one run and then three more in the bottom of the eighth. John Williams suffered his first loss of the season to fall to 5-1 while Aggie starter Jason Williams pushed his record to 4-0. The Blue Raiders' offensive effort was paced by Marshall Nisbett's 2-for-4 night. Wilkinson was the top man in the game for the Aggies as he went 4-for-5 in the game. The teams will resume the series tomorrow with a 7 PM CST start and will conclude the set with a Noon start on Sunday.

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