

Blue Raiders Season Comes to End with 7-6 Loss to UNO

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MOBILE, Ala. - Justin Guy singled in the bottom of the eighth to put the No. 5 seed New Orleans Privateers in the lead as UNO held on in the ninth to defeat the No. 8 seed Middle Tennessee Blue Raiders 7-6 Thursday in game six of the Dodge Sun Belt Conference Tournament at Stanky Field. With the score tied at five, Guy's hit put UNO up 7-5. Middle Tennessee came back to score one and have runners at first and second with two out in the ninth, but Brandon Kling retired Jason Howarth on a line out to short stop to end the game. Kling got the final two outs of the game to record

his first save of the season. "It was one of those games where crazy things were happening," UNO Head Coach Randy Bush said. "We just had the feeling it was going to go down to the last out, and that's why we had Kling in the bullpen." Guy was one of four UNO batters to register a multiple-hit game and the only one to register a multi-RBI game, finishing with two hits and two RBI. R.J. Elbin was the leading Privateer batter with three hits. Nate Jagers led the Blue Raider hit attack with a double and two singles, and Chad Cooper had two hits and two RBI. Tom Lipari got the start for UNO and pitched seven innings, allowing five runs off 11 hits while striking out seven. Barry Melancon (1-2) earned his first win of the season by pitching 1 1/3 innings in relief of Lipari. Melancon was charged with the run in the ninth before being relieved by Kling. MT used five pitchers and Travis Horschel (4-4) was tagged with the loss as he gave up the hit to Guy in the eighth. The Privateers (31-27) advanced to face the loser of the Florida International-South Alabama game at 12:30 p.m. on Friday. The Blue Raiders (26-30) were eliminated from the tournament with the loss. New Orleans 7, Middle Tennessee 6

Middle Tennessee 000 300 111 - 6 14 2

New Orleans 000 220 12x - 7 12 0

Chase Swing, Danny Borne (5), Kyle Sparkman (6), Travis Horschel (7), Jeremy Armstrong (8) and Troy Harp. Tom Lipari, Barry Melancon (8), Brandon Kling (9) and Mike Sanchez, Kody Valverde. Win - Melancon (1-2) Save - Kling (1) Loss - Horschel (4-4) T-3:01 A-1,020

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