

Baseball Drops 14-6 Decision

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MURFREESBORO, Tenn. -

The visiting Samford Bulldogs scored 10 runs in the first four innings en route to a 14-6 victory over Middle Tennessee Wednesday afternoon at Reese Smith Field.

The visiting Bulldogs jumped all over the Blue Raiders. Matt Alling led off the game with a walk, moved to third on a wild pickoff attempt, and scored on a groundout by Richard Bishop.

Samford added five runs in the second, as Michael Collins and Justin Klinger both singled and Robert Evans doubled.

Hunter Tubbs scored a run with a sacrifice fly to right before Jeff Dils singled home another with a single to right. Sae Evans then tripled in the final run of the frame, as the Bulldogs opened a 6-0 lead.

SU's Heath Owen led off with a single in the third before Klinger belted a 1-1 pitch over the centerfield wall for an 8-0 advantage. Alling singled and scored on a wild pitch in the fourth, and Evans doubled and scored on a groundout in the same inning for a 10-0 Bulldog lead.

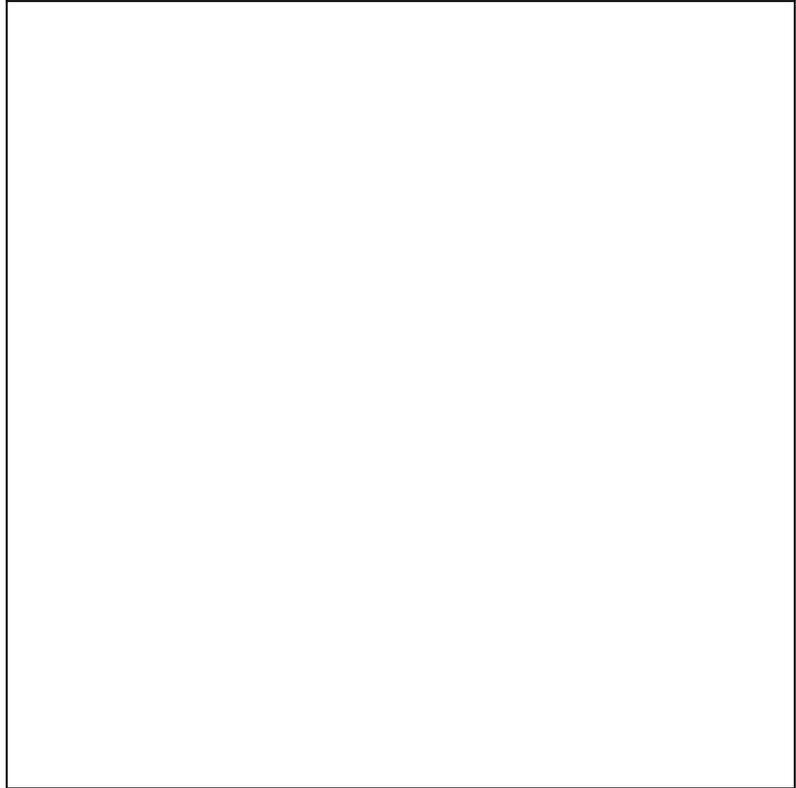
The Blue Raiders finally got on the board in the fifth, as Shane Kemp drew a leadoff walk, Clif Thomas singled to center and Troy Harp drove in the run with a single to rightcenter. After a popout, Jeff Beachum plated Thomas with a single to left, making it 10-2 Samford.

A two-out hit pitch to Josh Archer loaded the bases for the Blue Raiders, but Marcus Taylor lined out sharply to center to end the inning with Middle Tennessee still trailing by eight.

Evans collected his third hit of the game in the sixth, a double to rightcenter to score Alling.

Brett Carroll's solo blast to leadoff the sixth made it 11-3. Chuck Akers' sacrifice fly plated Thomas later in the frame to make it a seven-run contest.

Chad Cooper walked in the seventh and scored on a double down the leftfield line by Carroll. Pinch-



hitter Jerry Knox then lined the first pitch into rightcenter to plate Carroll, making it 11-6.

Dils drove in two more in the ninth with a single to rightcenter.

Blue Raider starter Steven Kines (0-1) allowed six runs on seven hits in 1.2 innings in his first start of the year. Reliever Danny Borne gave up five runs on five hits in 3.1 innings.

Samford starter Karl Zuch (1-0) allowed two runs on seven hits in five innings to get the win.

Evans had three hits and two RBIs for the winners, with Klinger driving in four runs and Bishop and Dils three apiece.

Carroll went 3-for-4 with two runs and two RBIs for the Blue Raiders, while Thomas and Harp each had a pair of hits.

The Blue Raiders host Purdue in a three-game series this weekend beginning Friday with a 3 p.m. contest at Reese Smith Field.

GAME NOTES

Sophomore Nate Jagers missed his first game this season and only the second game of his career Wednesday. Jagers will miss one-to-three weeks with an injured left ankle ... Marcus Taylor extended his hitting streak to four games with a single in the fourth, and Brett Carroll made his three games with a single in the second.

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