Blue Raiders Win Wild One 13-7

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In a wild and wooly affair, Middle Tennessee finally accomplished something that they had not done in two previous attempts: take a baseball series from New Orleans.

The Blue Raiders jumped out to an early lead and held on to win 13-7 on Sunday, giving the Blue Raiders two of the three games in the three-game set.

The game started off with a bang. Middle Tennessee plated nine runs in the top of the first with big blows coming on homers from Josh Archer and Jerry Knox. During that first frame, the Privateers used three different pitchers, including starter Chris Bourgeois, who lasted only 1/3 of an inning after giving up four earned runs.

The Blue Raiders added another run in the bottom of the second when Knox doubled home Brett Carroll, giving the team a 10-0 lead after two innings of play.

The Privateers rallied in the top of the third. Three of the first four hitters in the frame rapped doubles, driving in two runs. Gabe Trevizo added a single that brought in the third UNO run, but disaster really hit the Blue Raiders with Mike Nuckles at the plate.

A bullet off the UNO catcher's bat drilled MT starter John Williams in the left hip, causing him to leave the contest after tossing 2-1/3 innings. UNO would go on to plate three more runs, two of which were charged to Williams, after reliever Travis Horschel came into the contest.

With the score 10-6, the Blue Raiders added more offense in the bottom of the fourth. Brett Carroll banged a homer over the left field wall following an Archer single, putting the Blue Raiders back out to a 12-6 advantage.

The Privateers would pick up one more run in the top of the sixth after a Mike Rohde groundout with the bases loaded, but lefty Danny Borne, who came in to relieve Horschel in the fifth, left the bases

loaded to avoid further trouble.

The Blue Raiders added one more insurance run in the bottom of the seventh on a RBI double from Jeff Beachum to end the scoring.

Right-hander BJ Church closed out the game with three scoreless innings to earn his first career save.

Borne picked up the win for the Blue Raiders, improving to 3-0 on the year while Bourgeois took the loss, falling to 2-7.

The Blue Raiders will next take on Evansville on Wednesday evening at 7 PM.

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