Raiders Drop Game One, Second Game Suspended

UNO wins first game, 16-11; Leads second game, 6-3, in the top of the fourth inning

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MURFREESBORO, Tenn. - New Orleans scored three times in the eighth inning to win the completion of Game One, 16-11, and led, 6-3, with one out in the top of the fourth in Game Two, as the Privateers and Middle Tennessee dodged the rain Saturday at Reese Smith Field. New Orleans and Middle Tennessee will complete Game Two in the series starting at 11 a.m. Sunday, followed by the Game Three of the series 30 minutes following the completion of the second contest. The two teams began the day at 4 p.m. with the completion of Friday's game, which was suspended heading to the bottom of the seventh with New Orleans winning, 13-5. The Blue Raiders scored four times when the game resumed on Saturday, but the Privateers answered with three runs in the eighth to take the first game of the series. UNO starter Justin Garcia (4-1) got the win, working six innings on Friday night, giving up three earned runs on eight hits and six strikeouts. Stephen Whalen tossed the final 2.1 innings, allowing two ruins on three hits. Middle Tennessee starter Brad Robinson (4-1) took the loss, giving up seven runs on 13 hits in 4.2 innings. Kenneth Roberts tossed the final 3.1 innings, allowing four earned runs. In the completion of Game One, Zach Hudson was hit with two outs before Myles Ervin reached on an error. Zach Barrett then hit his first career home run, down the rightfield line, and Grant Box followed with a solo homer to

leftcenter, cutting the UNO lead to 13-9. UNO's Joey Butler and Josh Tarnow both reached on errors to start the eighth, but Butler was thrown out at the plate on a squeeze attempt by Jarrod Ware. With two outs Mark McGonigle singled to left, plating a run. After a wild pitch, T.J. Baxter's single to center scored two runs for a 16-9 Privateers advantage. Rawley Bishop singled to leadoff the Blue Raider eighth and scored on Hudson's two-run homer for the final runs of the game. In Game Two, UNO scored four times in the top of the first against Middle Tennessee starter Brett Smalley. Brandon Bowser and Butler both singled to lead off the game and Baxter walked to load the bases. Bowser scored on Johnny Giavotella's fielder's choice before Drew Anderson's two-out, three-run homer put UNO ahead 4-0 after a half inning. The Blue Raiders answered with three runs in the bottom of the inning after Matt Ray reached on an error to start the frame. Hudson then singled before Ervin hit his fourth home run of the year. UNO added two more runs in the second, ending Smalley's day. Ware walked and moved to second on a wild pitch before Bowser's RBI single down the rightfield line. Butler then doubled to rightcenter and Baxter plated Bowser with a sacrifice fly to center for a 6-3 Privateers lead. Smalley allowed six runs on five hits in 1.2 innings, walking two and striking out two. UNO starter Bryan Cryer seven of the last eight batters he faced, settling down after getting off to a rocky start.

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