Burnett, Barrett and Bishop Launch Big Hits in 11-8 Win

Blue Raiders take win in extra innings for second straight game

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MIAMI - Senior Zach Barrett hit a three-RBI double in the top of the 10th inning to break the tie and put the Blue Raiders up 9-6. In the next at bat junior Rawley Bishop hit a two-run blast to centerfield to make it a five run game, 11-6. Middle Tennessee ended the inning scoring five runs on three hits. FIU's Jorge Castillo hit a two-run home run in the bottom of the 10th to close the gap and make it a three-run game but Chad Edwards entered the game and got three straight out to preserve the win for the Blue Raiders. Edwards picked up his first save of the season with the outing. Freshman Tyler Burnett stepped to the plate in the top of the eighth and hit a two-run blast to right field tying the game at 6 which would force extra inning. "Pitching to Burnett I don't know what they were thinking but the wind started to blow and got something he could pull. All-in-all you go a long way away from home, sweep, go above .500 in conference play and get a little more separation from the bottom three teams in the league," head coach Peterson said. Barrett ended the day 4 for 6 with five RBI, two doubles and scored one run while Bishop was 4 for 5 with three RBI, one double, one home run and scored one run. Barrett and Bishop also each had one stolen base in the game. As a team the Blue Raiders posted 15 hits with three home runs, one triple and four doubles in the game. "We got big hits, the wind started blowing at the right time and we got some wind aided balls that took off. Bishop and Barrett each had really big hits for us. They did a very good job early in the game of executing

their pitches and taking advantage of our weakness. Once they started breaking down we took advantage and got big hits," Peterson said. On the mound, Middle Tennessee used five pitchers as sophomore Tyler Hyde took the win with his one and two-thirds innings of work allowing two runs on two hits. Box put the Blue Raiders on the board in the top of the second inning with his solo shot to right field. Middle Tennessee took a 2-0 lead in the top of the third on a single by Barrett to left field which allowed McDade to score from third. The Golden Panthers cut the lead to one on a groundball by Main as Guy scored from third. Then Castillo had a two-RBI double to centerfield to give FIU a 3-2 lead in the bottom of the third. In the bottom of the fourth Stropp singled to left which scored Fuentes from second base to extend the FIU lead 4-2. Neither team would score again until the bottom of the sixth when Smalley walked Main with the bases loaded to make it 5-2 FIU. FIU added one more run in the inning on a single by Lazano to left field allowing Fuentes to score from third. Stropp was thrown out at home by Hudson after trying to score from second base on the play. The Blue Raiders cut the lead to two after scoring two runs on three hits in the top of the seventh. The Blue Raiders will be back in action on Tuesday, April 15 when it travels to Winchester, Tenn., to play host to the University of Tennessee at 6 p.m. Middle Tennessee will play at Loel E. Bennett Stadium at Gamble Sports Complex and all tickets are $10. For more information on Tuesday's game please visit www.goblueraiders.com.

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