Hines Leads Blue Raiders to Seventh Straight

MT holds off Austin Peay in 11-9 win

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MURFREESBORO, Tenn. - Junior Nathan Hines helped lead Middle Tennessee to its seventh straight win on Wednesday night as he was just a single short of the cycle in an 11-9 win over Austin Peay. Hines began the game 3 for 3 with a triple, double and home run, in that order and scored four runs. The Governors (16-19) scored two runs on a single to centerfield in the top of the ninth cutting the lead to two. Then with a runner on first freshman Tyler Burnett started a double play to end the game, which was the only double play by Middle Tennessee (20-14-1) in the game. Burnett had two putouts with three assists defensively. Also adding assistance at the plate were senior Zach Barrett and sophomore Blake McDade who each had three hits. Barrett had three RBI and scored three runs while McDade had two RBI and scored two more. On the mound, freshman Jud Stoltz received his first collegiate start allowing four runs on three hits in three and a third innings of work. The Blue Raiders used seven pitchers in the game with junior Jordan Alvis taking the win. Alvis pitched two innings allowing just one run on two hits. As a team Middle Tennessee notched 13 hits, just one more than the Governors as six players notched hits with four recording multiple hit nights. The Blue Raiders put the first run on the board as McDade doubled to centerfield to bring in Hines, who tripled. Barrett then stepped to the plate and put Middle Tennessee up 3-0 with his two-run shot to left centerfield. The Blue Raiders added two runs in the second inning to make it a five run lead. Austin Peay cut the lead to two scoring a run on a single to centerfield, and then William Houge hit a two run home run. Trey Lucas then soloed to right field on the next pitch making it a one run lead. Gilbert then singled to bring in Bachman from second to tie the game at 5. Then Cunningham had a sac bunt to score the runner from third and put Austin Peay up 6-5. The Governors ended the inning scoring six runs on six hits on the way to taking the lead. Hines hit a solo shot in the bottom of the fourth inning to tie the game up at 6. Austin Peay's Cunningham singled to left in the top of the sixth allowing Hill to score from second and break the tie. The Blue Raiders tied it once again as Hines

scored from third on a wild pitch. Middle Tennessee then took the lead nine to seven scoring three runs in the inning. Bishop hit a two-run shot to right field giving the Blue Raiders an 11-7 lead with one out in the bottom of the eighth. Middle Tennessee will be back in action on Friday, April 18 when it travels to Monroe, La., to face league leading Louisiana-Monroe for its three-game weekend series.

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