Bishop's Big Hit Gives MT 8-7 Win

Bishop ends night perfect 5 for 5 as Blue Raiders top Memphis

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MURFREESBORO, Tenn. - Junior Rawley Bishop gave the Blue Raiders an 8-7 win over Memphis with his single to right field to break the tie in the bottom of the ninth. Bishop ended the night perfect going 5 for 5 with two RBI, a home run, double and scored two runs. This was the first five hit night by a Blue Raider since Myles Ervin and Adam Warren against Louisiana-Monroe on April 31, 2007. The Blue Raiders (21-17-1) began the top of the ninth with two doubles and cut the lead to one as Memphis (15-25) led 7-6. Sophomore Blake McDade hit the third consecutive double allowing junior Nathan Hines to score from second and tie the game at 7. Then Bishop stepped to the plate ending the game with his single as McDade scored from third. "What a great comeback in the ninth. We were down two runs and one of the toughest things to do in baseball is pinch hit. Zach Dean pinch hit a double off the wall and then we got back to back doubles with no outs. I wanted to see how Rawley was going to handle the first pitch and he was fooled so we played around with it. Then we got the wild pitch to put runners at second and third but the he came through with the big hit. Rawley had a great night," head coach Steve Peterson said. As a team the Blue Raiders recorded 14 hits with five doubles, a home run and stole two bases. Hines added assistance at the plate going 3 for 5 with one RBI and scoring two runs. Sophomore Zach Hudson rounded out multiple hits for Middle Tennessee as he was 2 for 4 with one RBI. Sophomore Chad Edwards started on the mound for the Blue Raiders going six innings allowing three runs on seven hits. The Blue Raiders would use four pitchers in relief with junior Jordan Alvis (4-2) taking the win with his one and a third inning of work allowing no runs and two hits. Memphis had just two in the line-up, Zurcher and Chris Newsom record multiple hits at the plate. Zucher was a perfect 3 for 3 with one runs scored and one RBI while Newsome went 2 for 4 scoring two runs and had an RBI. On the mound the Tigers' used four

pitchers with the starter Ryan Holland pitching five innings allowing four runs on eight hits. Matt Yokley lost his fourth straight save opportunity as he allowed three runs on four hits in the bottom of the ninth recording no outs. "Chad Edwards gave us a great opportunity to win the ballgame. They have strength in their bullpen and threw strikes keeping us in check. On the other side I was very disappointed in our bullpen, but my pitching staff right now is very unpredictable. I was glad to see Alvis shut them down in the eighth," Peterson said. The Blue Raiders put two runs on the board early on a groundball by junior Grant Box and a single by Hudson to take a 2-0 lead in the bottom of the second. In the third inning, senior Zach Barrett grounded out to second scoring Hines from third to extend the lead to three. Memphis cut the lead to two as Kirkland doubled bringing in Wiedman from first. The Blue Raiders responded in the bottom of the inning as freshman Tyler Burnett doubled and then scored from second on a single by Box. In the top of the seventh, the Tigers cut the lead in half as Farrell scored from first on a double by Newsom. Zurcher cut the Blue Raider lead to one with his RBI single to centerfield. Memphis tied the game in the top of the eighth as Newsom scored on a wild pitch by freshman Jud Stoltz. Then Huelsing reached first on a throwing error by Barrett from third as Chalmers scored from third to give the Tigers a 5-4 lead. Memphis added two more runs on a singled to centerfield by Shelton. Memphis ended the inning scoring four runs on three hits taking a 7-4 lead as Middle Tennessee committed two errors. Bishop hit a solo shot to right field to begin the bottom of the eighth cutting the lead to two. The Blue Raiders will round out their two-game series with Memphis at 3 p.m. on Wednesday, April 23 at Reese Smith Field.

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