Blue Raiders fall 14-7 on Sunday

Hines leads MT offense

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LAFAYETTE, La. - Middle Tennessee fell to UL-Lafayette 14-7 on Sunday in the final game of the series as the Ragin' Cajuns used a nine run fifth inning to regain control of the game. The Blue Raiders (21-7, 11-4) had seven hits on the day with just one extra base while leaving just five runners on base. Senior Nathan Hines led Middle Tennessee at the plate as he was 2 for 4 with a double and three RBI. Sophomore Tyler Burnett added assistance at the plate as he went 2 for 4 scoring two runs. ULL (15-12-1, 8-6) used 14 hits with seven extra base hits led by Les Smith who went 3 for 4 with a double, a triple, two RBI and scored a run. Middle Tennessee was swept by a league opponent on the road for the first time since April 18-20, 2008 when it lost to Louisiana-Monroe. It is also the first Sun Belt series loss for the Blue Raiders this season. The Blue Raiders are now 1-7 at "Tigue" Moore Field since 2005 with their last win coming on May 13, 2005 when they defeated No. 16 ULL 10-1. Freshman Justin Guidry took the loss on the mound as he allowed four runs on four hits without recording an out. Sophomore Jud Stoltz received the start on the mound working four innings allowing four runs on six hits. Three relievers in addition to Guidry were used and in four innings of work allowed six runs on seven hits. There were a total of seven batters hit by pitches in the game including three Blue Raiders with sophomore Bryce Brentz being hit twice. Middle Tennessee took an early 1-0 lead in the first inning after scoring from second on a single by Brentz. ULL tied the game in the second after a single by Fontenot scored Fuselier from third, who hit a triple to reach base. Fontenot stole second and third base and then scored on a single up the middle by Bostick giving the Ragin' Cajuns a 2-1 lead. Middle Tennessee tied the game after Bishop was hit by a pitch with the bases loaded. Then Hines doubled down the right field line with the bases loaded bringing in two runs and putting the Blue Raiders up 4-2. The Blue Raiders took a three run lead after scoring four runs on three hits in the third. Hines singled to right in the fifth to bring in Brentz from second and add to the Middle Tennessee lead. ULL cut the lead to two after a triple by Les Smith with runners at second and third in the fifth. Then with the bases loaded a pitch by Guidry hit Fuselier to put ULL within one run, 6-5. Fontenot singled to centerfield with the bases loaded bringing in two runs and giving ULL a one run lead. The Ragin' Cajuns ended the inning scoring nine runs on six hits to take an 11-6 lead in the fifth. Dean hit a solo home run to left field in the top of the sixth to add a run for Middle Tennessee. The Blue Raiders will be back in action on Tuesday, April 7 when it plays host to Vanderbilt at 6 p.m. at Reese Smith Field.

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