

Blue Raiders rout ULM 13-3

Bishop ties career home run record

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MURFREESBORO, Tenn. -

Middle Tennessee rebounded from its two midweek losses on Friday night to rout ULM 13-3 to open its three-game weekend series. It was a special night for senior Rawley Bishop whose three-run home run in the sixth tied the career home run record at Middle Tennessee (25-10, 14-5). Bishop ended the night 2 for 5 with a home run, double, three RBI and scored two runs. "It



has been awhile since I had a home run so it is a big relief but it even better that we won. Records are meant to be broken but it really means a lot to me," Bishop said. "It is very special to go back-to-back so for Bryce to do that is pretty neat." Sophomore Bryce Brentz (4-2) pulled double duty on the night as he batted fifth in the line-up in addition to picking up the win on the mound. At the plate, Brentz was 3 for 5 with two doubles, a home run, three RBI and scored two runs. Brentz was equally impressive on the mound as he allowed three runs on 10 hits with a career high nine strikeouts in eight innings of work. "I expect Bryce to go late in the game now and he is obviously having a great year. It puts one of our best hitters in the game against what is supposed to be the best pitcher for the other team," Peterson said. "There is not another DH on the team who has shown me what Bryce has shown me at the plate this season." Middle Tennessee had 21 hits on the night with two home runs and six doubles. Seniors Nathan Hines and Taylor Dennis and sophomore Tyler Burnett also had three hits on the night. ULM's (22-14, 11-8) starting pitcher, Don Williams, left the game in the fourth inning after allowing eight runs on 13 hits as he picked up the loss falling to 4-1. The Warhawks had 11 hits on the night none of which were for extra bases as they stranded seven runners. ULM put a run on the board first as Blanchard scored on a single by Laird. Middle Tennessee responded in the bottom of the first as Brentz doubled down the left field line bringing in Hines and Bishop to put the Blue Raiders ahead 2-1. Blanchard singled again in the second allowing Poche to score from third and tie the game at 2-2. The Blue Raider bats stayed hot in the bottom of the second as they regained the lead, 4-2. Middle Tennessee took a 6-3 advantage after a double down the left field line to score runners from second and third. Bishop tied the career home run record with his three-run shot to left field in the bottom of the sixth putting the Blue Raiders ahead by eight. Then Brentz hit one to the same spot four pitches later extending the lead, 12-3. **Schedule Note:** Due to inclement weather forecasted for the Murfreesboro area on Sunday, April 19 the Blue Raiders will play a doubleheader with ULM on Saturday, April 18 to round out the three-game series. The first game will begin at the regularly scheduled time of 4 p.m. with the second game scheduled to begin 30-minutes after the conclusion of the first.

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