

# Roberts and Offense take game 12-2 over Owls

## Roberts works complete game as offense comes alive to advance to second round of SBC tourney

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**TROY, Ala.** - Junior Kenneth Roberts and the Blue Raider offense each had big days to lead Middle Tennessee to a 12-2 win over Florida Atlantic in seven innings to advance to the second round of the Sun Belt Championships. Junior Drew Robertson drove in the final run with his double putting the Blue Raiders up by 10 and enacting the 10 runs after seven innings rule to end the game. Junior Kenneth Roberts picked up his second complete game of the season



after allowing two runs on seven hits in seven innings of work. Roberts gave up just one extra base hit which was a solo home run to right field by Travis Ozga. "Kenny was very good. It was very hard for him to keep his rhythm because we had such long offensive innings and he was sitting in the dugout. But he what he was supposed to do," head coach Steve Peterson said. "We didn't use a lot of pitchers and Kenny definitely looked like a top pitcher in college baseball. We got some big hits from Nathan, Rawley and then Drew to put the game away. All-in-all it was a good game for us and now we can get extra rest because we did finish early only playing seven innings." Middle Tennessee had 16 hits on the day with six of those being doubles. Senior Nathan Hines guided the team at the plate as he went 3 for 4 with a double, three RBI and scored a run. "To get out to a four run lead in the first inning is a great way to start off and relax your players. We did it at Florida Atlantic's expense its not like we did a whole lot. We got some cheap hits and walks and then as the game progressed they didn't play their best game and we took advantage," head coach Steve Peterson said. Senior Rawley Bishop also added assistance at the plate as he went 4 for 5 with a double, RBI and scored three runs. Junior Blake McDade also had three hits on the day while driving in three runs and scoring another. FAU had seven hits on the day with Mike Albaladejo leading the way going 3 for 4 with an RBI. The Blue Raiders took a 4-0 lead in the bottom of the first after scoring four runs on three hits while sending 10 batters to the plate. Middle Tennessee added two more run in the third to go ahead by six runs. Ozga hit a solo shot in the fourth to get Florida International on the board, 6-1. The Blue Raiders added two more runs in the sixth to take a 9-1 lead in the sixth inning. FIU scored a run in the seventh after a single to right field but the inning ended on

the same play at second at Meinhart threw out the runner trying to pull out a double. The Blue Raiders will be back in action on Thursday, May 21 at 4 p.m. when they face UL-Lafayette in the second round of the SBC Championships. The Ragin' Cajuns defeated Florida International 11-3 in the early game to advance to the second round.

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