

# Belmont Bats Bruise Blue Raiders, 16-8

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## **MURFREESBORO, Tenn. -**

Belmont's Matt Reynolds had four hits and Wilson Tucker drove in five runs, as the Bruins used an 11-run inning to defeat Middle Tennessee, 16-8, Wednesday night at Reese Smith Field. Belmont scored 11 runs on eight hits in the third inning, taking advantage of two Middle Tennessee errors and three walks in the frame. The Bruins touched Blue Raider pitching for 16 hits in the contest and drew six walks. Middle Tennessee starter Josh Anderson (1-3) suffered the loss, giving up nine runs, five earned, in 2.2 innings in his first collegiate start. Jimmy

Kelly did not fare much better in relief, allowing five runs in two-thirds of an inning. Josh Moffitt (1-2), the second of five Belmont hurlers, gave up two unearned runs in two innings to get the victory. The Bruins bullpen allowed one earned run in five innings of work. The Blue Raiders got on the board in the second, starting with a leadoff walk to Alex Watson followed by a single from Adam Warren and a bunt single by Doug Birkofer. Eric McNamee's single plated two runs before a Nate Jagers double scored two more for a 4-0 lead. But it was short-lived, as the Bruins exploded for 11 runs in the third on eight hits. A walk and a single preceded Tucker's RBI single, and an error loaded the bases before Sam Grooms belted a towering grand slam. Brad Dobner drove in a run and Matt Reynolds scored a pair with a single. Tucker capped the scoring in the inning with another long drive, his seventh home run of the season, for an 11-4 Belmont lead. BU added three more runs in the fourth, the first on a single from Aaron Lautman. Dobner plated another run with a sacrifice fly, and a double from Reynolds made it 14-4 Bruins. Chris LeGuenec reached on an error and McNamee followed with a double before a sacrifice fly from Jagers plated a run for the Blue Raiders in the bottom of the fourth. Tucker drove in two more runs in the sixth with a double off the base of the wall in centerfield. McNamee scored on a single from Nathan Hines in the bottom of the inning for Middle Tennessee, and pinch-runner Adam Darby scored later in the inning on an error. Darby drove home Josh Horn with a double in the eighth, cutting the deficit to 16-8. McNamee went 3-for-5 with two runs and two RBIs, while Warren added two hits for the Blue Raiders. Middle Tennessee hits the road this weekend for a three-game at Western Kentucky starting Friday at 6 p.m.

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