Baseball snaps losing streak with 9-6 win over Governors

Pitching and offense come together for win

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CLARKSVILLE, Tenn. - Middle Tennessee snapped a seven game losing streak after it received key pitching and situational hits to take a 9-6 win over Austin Peay on Wednesday night. Senior Hunter Dawson took the win on the mound as the Blue Raider pitching staff allowed just one hit to Austin Peay hitters after the first inning. Dawson improves to 3-1 on the season allowing one unearned run in 1.2 innings of work. Senior Jud Stoltz took his second save of the season after allowing just one hit in four innings of work with four strikeouts. Junior Justin Guidry received the start on the mound but left with a no decision after allowing five runs on three hits in 3.1 innings of work. The Blue Raiders had 11 hits on the night led by senior Tyler Acker and sophomores Johnny Thomas and Dain McNabb who each had two hits in the game. Senior Will Skinner drove in two runs with his home run to left field while junior Matthew Drake scored three runs for the Blue Raiders. Middle Tennessee put its first run on the board early as Thomas scored from third after Toney was called for a balk by the home plate umpire. The Governors answered quickly as a double to straightaway centerfield by Bachman scored Clinard from third. Then Hogan hit a two-run home run to right field to give APSU the lead with one out. In the second, Middle Tennessee responded as Acker drove in McNabb with his single to the right side, 3-2. A single by Guidry in the third allowed Drake to score from second and knot the score at three. APSU scored two in the bottom of the fourth to break up the tie. The first on a bases loaded walk issued by Guidry and the second on a foul fly by Clinard allowing Hudson to

score from third. Skinner hit his fifth home run of the season to left field bringing in two runs for the Blue Raiders and tying the game at five in the top of the fifth. APSU added another run on a throwing error by McNabb trying to get the runner out at third after a passed ball, 6-5 bottom fifth. In the sixth, McNabb tied the game at 6 as he scored from third on a wild pitch by Anderson. Then a single by Drake drove in LaRue from second making it 7-6 in favor of the Blue Raiders. Pearce singled to right bringing in Drake and giving Middle Tennessee a two-run lead. Ford singled in the ninth adding a run for Middle Tennessee as Pearce scored from second, 9-6. The Blue Raiders will play host to South Alabama in their home Sun Belt Conference opening series. The two teams will first face off on Friday, April 1 at 6 p.m. Then Saturday's game will be played at 3 p.m. and will air on CSS as the Sun Belt Game of the Week. The two will play the series finale on Sunday, April 3 at 1 p.m. Dick Palmer will have the call on the Blue Raider Network and live stats will be available on goblueraiders.com. **MBA Youth Day:** Sunday, April 3 is MBA Little League Day at Reese Smith Jr. Field. All children who come to the field with their uniform jersey will receive free admission. Family members of those children may purchase a $4 ticket at the stadium ticket booth. For more information contact the Middle Tennessee Marketing office at (615) 494-7827 or (615) 898-5322.

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