UALR edges Blue Raiders 5-4 to open weekend

Guidry leads team with three hits

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LITTLE ROCK, Ark. - Middle Tennessee combined good hitting a pitching for much of the game but could not pull out the win over UALR falling 5-4. The Blue Raiders left 13 runners on base in the game on a night when they had 16 hits as a team. Junior Justin Guidry led the team in hits with three and scored a run. Seniors Will Skinner and Tyler Acker, sophomores Dain McNabb and Ryan Ford and freshman Hank LaRue each had two hits in the game. Sophomore Daniel Palo took the loss after allowing five runs on eight hits while striking out five. Senior Hunter Dawson worked one inning in relief allowing no runs or hits in the outing. "It was a good ballgame to watch. When we get good pitching we have a chance to win ballgames but their pitching was just a notch better tonight. We couldn't score in the clutch when we needed it," head coach Steve Peterson said. "I've told the pitching staff they have to be the leaders. I thought Daniel gave us some leadership on the mound tonight." UALR scored the first run after a groundout scored a runner from third making it 1-0 in the first. Middle Tennessee answered quickly in the top of the second as Guidry scored from third on a single to shallow centerfield by Ford, 1-1. Then a single by McNabb gave the Blue Raiders a one-run lead as Acker scored from second on his single to left. In the fourth, Morris scored from third on a sacrifice fly by Thomas to extend the Middle Tennessee lead to two, 3-1. UALR cut the Middle Tennessee lead to one, 3-2, after a groundout by McCollum scored Rowell from third in the bottom of the fourth. Skinner hit his seventh home run of the season to left

centerfield to lead off the fifth and put the Blue Raiders back up by two, 4-2. The Trojans tied the game at four in the sixth after an error at first by Guidry and then a double play with a runner scoring from second. UALR's Houston hit a sacrifice fly to left field in the seventh allowing Garcia to score giving the Trojans a one run lead, 5-4. Middle Tennessee will play the second game of the weekend series on Saturday, April 9 at 4 p.m.

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