Blue Raiders split doubleheader with No. 18 Troy

Adkins guides team on the mound

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MURFREESBORO, Tenn. - Middle Tennessee split its doubleheader with No. 18 Troy on Saturday afternoon falling 11-1 in the first game with sophomore Hunter Adkins posting a career day to lead the team in a 1-0 win in the second. Adkins took control early in the second game and held Troy to just three hits while striking out five. The Signal Mountain, Tenn., native improved to 1-6 on the season after working a career high eight innings and allowing no runs on three hits. "This is the best game Hunter Adkins has pitched this season. He pounded the strike zone with all of his pitches, battled their hitters which was a huge difference. There were situations where he looked like he was about to lose it and came back and made a pitch," head coach Steve Peterson said. "Tyler Acker caught a shutout which is a tremendous feat for a catcher. I felt we played outstanding defense. All-in-all Hunter pitched an outstanding game against an outstanding team." R-Freshman Paul Mittura picked up his fourth save of the season after working one inning. Junior Matt Drake led the team in the win with his 2 for 4 performance. The Blue Raiders scored the only run of the game as single by Acker brought home Pearce from third in the fifth. "It was a big win for us. Our team did not quit the first game they just got whipped in every phase of the game. Our guys know if we go out and get decent pitches we are usually in a game where a hit can

make the difference," Peterson said. The Trojans outhit the Blue Raiders 17 to 6 in the first game with Adam Bryant notching a team high four hits. Junior Justin Guidry leading the way for Middle Tennessee with two hits. Sophomore Johnny Thomas had the only RBI for the Blue Raiders as his squeeze bunt allowed Guidry to score in the second inning. Sophomore Daniel Palo took the loss after allowing six runs on seven hits in four innings of work. The two teams will play the rubber game on Sunday, April 17 at 1 p.m. to decide the series winner.

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