Blue Raiders split doubleheader at ULM

Frebis allows only one earned run in victory

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Game One Final Box Score (PDF)
Game Two Final Box Score (PDF)

MONROE, La. - Johnathan Frebis delivered a solid 7.2 innings to lead the Blue Raider baseball team to a 3-2 win over ULM in game two of a doubleheader at Warhawk Field on Saturday afternoon. Middle Tennessee fell, 13-0, in the first contest of the day. “Baseball is a crazy game,” head coach Steve Peterson said. “The first game got boring, but then I knew if Johnathan (Frebis) came out and pitched well, it would be a good, close ballgame. (ULM’s) pitching dominated us both games. We had great base-running from (Jordan) Rorex, (Justin) Guidry and (Ryan) Ford put together a couple hits and we got a big sac fly from Robert Lawrence off the bench. Otherwise, we didn’t swing the bat well in either game.” The two teams will play the rubber game Sunday at 1 p.m. Jonathan Sisco is scheduled to take the mound for MT (23-17, 10-7 Sun Belt), while Cale Win will get the start for ULM (18-21, 6-11 SBC). **Game one: ULM 13, MT 0**

The Blue Raiders struggled to string together any hits, while ULM pounded 17 of their own to earn the 13-0 victory. Although the Warhawks managed only one extra-base hit in the contest, the timely hitting provided plenty of run support behind Shelby Aulds’ (3-1) complete-game six-hit shutout. Justin Guidry accounted for three of MT’s six hits and was one of only four base-runners to advance past first base. The two teams played through two scoreless innings before the Warhawks pushed a run across in the third after a one-double and RBI-single for Joey Rapp. ULM added another run in

the fifth before the carnage in the sixth, where the Warhawks mustered 11 runs on nine hits. The Blue Raiders' best scoring chance came in the top of the ninth after Jordan Rorex smacked a one-out single that bounced off the pitcher. Guidry's base-knock moved Rorex to second and Johnny Thomas' fielder's choice put Rorex at third, but a strikeout ended MT's threat. Hunter Adkins (5-4) was roughed up for five runs, all earned, on nine hits through 5.1 innings. Cody Tollison allowed two runs in relief, and Wes Robinson was tagged for six runs in two-thirds of an inning. Jordan Cooper closed out the contest with two innings of two-hit ball. **Game two: MT 3, ULM 2**

Game two provided quite a contrasting outcome, as Frebis shut down the ULM lineup for the 3-2 victory. The Blue Raiders chose key times for their only three hits in the contest while taking advantage of Frebis' gem. Frebis (4-2) allowed two runs, only one earned on six hits. He fanned five in the contest. Daniel Palo picked up his fourth save of the season after coming on for the final 1.1 innings. Ryan Ford immediately got the offense rolling with a leadoff triple and Guidry's fly ball to left gave the Blue Raiders a 1-0 advantage in the first. ULM responded with a run in the bottom half of the frame, capitalizing on an infield single and MT error to tie the game. After the Blue Raiders went in order in the second, the Warhawks Judd Edwards opened the bottom of the second with a double then attempted to steal third, but Michael Adkins threw a strike to Hank LaRue at third to empty the bases. It was Guidry's fourth hit of the day that produced the go-ahead run in the fourth. He knocked a fly to left, but the sun blinded ULM's Les Aulds and enabled Guidry to reach second. Thomas followed with a double to right, scoring Guidry for the 2-1 lead. A pair of stolen bases produced the crucial third run for MT in the seventh. Rorex took a one-out walk, then stole second and third on back-to-back pitches. Lawrence came in to pinch hit and sent a deep fly to right field, allowing Rorex to charge home from third for the 3-1 lead. Frebis went to work over the next four frames, allowing just one hit during the stretch and retiring 10 in a row from the fifth until the eighth. After surrendering back-to-back singles and ULM's first earned run of the contest, Frebis gave way to Palo, who induced a fly ball to end the eighth-inning threat. Palo gave up a hit in the ninth, but struck out the final batter to preserve the one-run victory.

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