

Peterson Picks Up 600th Victory in DH Sweep

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MURFREESBORO, Tenn. - The Middle Tennessee Blue Raiders scored a run in the bottom of the seventh to win the opening game and then used a five-run fifth inning to take control of the second contest in sweeping a doubleheader from Eastern Michigan Thursday afternoon at Reese Smith Field, giving head coach Steve Peterson his 600th career coaching victory. The Blue Raiders (4-2)



won the opening game, 3-2, in their final at-bat, with freshman Brett Carroll driving in the run on a fielder's choice. Marshall Nisbett singled to start the frame and Justin Sims followed with a bunt single. Nisbett moved to third on a groundout by Josh Archer, and scored the game-winner on Carroll's groundout, as the Eagles tried to turn a doubleplay but the relay throw to first was low and in the dirt. Sims drove in the other two runs for the Blue Raiders, the first with a double in the first to plate Chuck Akers and then a single in the third to score Akers again. Eastern Michigan (2-3) scored its two runs in the top of the third on a two-run homer to left by Derrick Peterson. Jeremy Armstrong (1-0) got the win in relief of starter Steven Kines. Armstrong went the final three frames, allowing one hit and striking out four. Kines pitched four solid innings in his first start, allowing two runs on five hits. Ryan Ford (0-1) went the distance for the Eagles, giving up three runs on nine hits with three walks and one strikeout. Sims was 3-for-4 with two RBIs, while Akers had two hits and scored twice and Jason Howarth went 2-for-3. Ryan Goleski and Peterson combined for four of Eastern Michigan's six hits in the contest. In the second game, Travis Horschel pitched 5.1 strong innings for the Blue Raiders, and Sims again was 3-for-4 and scored twice in the 8-2 victory for Middle Tennessee, giving Coach Peterson his 600th win as a head coach. The Blue Raiders scored a run in each of the first three frames to hold a 3-2 edge after four innings, but a five-run fifth put the home team in control of the contest. Kevin Suba's RBI single scored Nisbett in the first, a Howarth single to right plated Derek Phillips in the second, and Doug Kunicki's single to right scored Sims in the third for a 3-2 Blue Raider lead. Archer and Phillips each had RBI singles in the fifth, as Brett Carroll scored a pair with another single, as the Blue Raiders used six hits to push across five runs in the big inning. Nisbett and Phillips both scored a pair of runs, while Phillips and Carroll both had two hits in Middle Tennessee's 12-hit attack. Horschel (1-1) allowed two runs on five hits with two strikeouts, while Middle Tennessee's Chris Mobley and Danny Borne combined to get the final five outs of the game. Will Stewardson (0-1) threw four-plus innings for the Eagles, giving up five runs on eight hits with two punchouts. The Blue Raiders travel to Clarksville, Tenn., for single games on Friday and Saturday on the Austin Peay campus. Middle Tennessee will take on Illinois State at 11 a.m. Friday, and play Eastern Michigan at 11 a.m. on Saturday.

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