



Norse tune up for GLVC Tourney, split with Miners



On the left, NKU pitcher Ryan Schmidt is greeted by catcher Brian Erie during the Norse's 13-3 victory against Missouri S&T. Schmidt picked up the win by going five innings and striking out five batters. On the right, Kevin Dusold avoids a collision with Missouri S&T's Eaf Redden.

NKU closes out regular-season play by splitting with Mo. S&T

HIGHLAND HEIGHTS, Ky. - On Senior Day at Northern Kentucky University, the Norse baseball team tuned up for the upcoming Great Lakes Valley Conference Tournament by splitting a doubleheader with Missouri S&T.

Missouri S&T took the opener, 4-2, but NKU roared back in the nightcap to post a 13-3 victory. The Norse are 36-20 overall and will be the No. 1 seed from the GLVC East Division in the GLVC Tournament.



Ryan Schmidt notched the win in the nightcap.

NKU finished 18-6 in the GLVC East Division and tied Indianapolis for first place. The Norse, however, earned the No. 1 seed by virtue of a descending order tiebreaker with a four-game sweep of Saint Joseph's earlier this season.

NKU honored its six seniors - Kevin Dusold, Jack Ambrose, Matt Winterhalter, Eric Braeckel, Andy Karpowicz, and Sean Munninghoff - and their families on Sunday. After Missouri S&T rallied from a 2-0 deficit in the opener by scoring twice in both the fifth and sixth innings to pull out the win, the NKU bats awoke in the finale. The Norse plated five runs in the first inning of the nightcap and added four more in the second to build a 9-3 lead.

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Brian Erie had a two-run single to key the first-inning outburst. The Norse then bunched together five hits and plated two runs via sacrifice flies from Dusold and Erie to highlight the four-run second inning.

NKU starter Ryan Schmidt went five innings and scattered seven hits while striking out five. Brett Hoffmann was 3-for-4 with two runs batted in to pace the offense.

NKU begins play at the GLVC Tournament on Thursday at Sauget, Ill. The Norse have won GLVC Tournament championships in 2002, '04, '06 and '08.



Jason Cisper returns to the dugout after scoring a run against Missouri S&T.

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Photos by Tim Downer, NKU Sports Information

