

## **BASEBALL**

### **Friendship 2, Nashville Christian 1**

MURFREESBORO -- Friendship Christian pushed across a run in the bottom of the seventh to down Nashville Christian 2-1 in the opening round of the Class A state tournament Tuesday at Riverdale.

Friendship improved to 29-5-1 overall and will play Riverside High (31-5) in a 12:30 p.m. game Wednesday at Riverdale.

Chris Hall knocked in Kyle Wood from second with the game-winner, breaking a 1-1 tie.

Freshman pitcher Brennan Swindoll ran his record to 13-1 on the season with another gym. The lefty threw a four-hitter and struck out five, walking two.

### **Mt. Juliet 15, Science Hill 7**

MURFREESBORO -- Mt. Juliet zoomed to the second round of the Class AAA baseball tournament with a 15-7 win over Science Hill Tuesday evening at Oakland. Mt. Juliet (35-7) will take on Houston at 12:30 p.m. wednesday, back at Oakland.

The Golden Bears ripped 16 hits and took advantage of eight Science Hill errors. Mt. Juliet trailed 7-2, but rallied for the win.

"We got down 7-2 and we told the kids, 'Just keep chipping away and don't give up' and they never do," MJ Coach Mark Purvis said. "They're a very resilient group and they just kept plugging away and Science Hill helped us in certain spots."

Mt. Juliet narrowed the deficit to 7-5 before erupting for eight runs in the fifth inning as 12 batters went to the plate.

First baseman T.J. Diffenderfer hit a two-run homer in the third and had four RBIs for the Bears.

“We showed how good we can be today,” Diffenderfer said. “A couple games we had to rally like that, but whenever we need to we get it done.”

Every Golden Bears starter contributed at least one hit.

“We’re never out of a game and we always have a chance to score runs,” Mt. Juliet shortstop Ethan Gross said. “I wasn’t really worried when (Science Hill went up 7-2) because I knew we could hit and I knew we could come back. We’re more situational hitters.”

## **SOFTBALL**

### **Forrest 4, Friendship Christian 1**

MURFREESBORO -- Friendship Christian fell into the losers' bracket of the Class A state tournament Tuesday with a 4-1 loss to powerful Forrest High at Starplex.

The Lady Commanders (21-19) face a 10 a.m. elimination game Wednesday against University School (17-18) at Starplex.

Forrest (27-5) rapped out nine hits against FCS pitchers Brooke Klinefelter and Hunter Holland.

FCS scored its lone run in the bottom of the sixth on three straight singles by Laurel Burroughs, Kaity Woodall and Amber Hunt.