

MONTGOMERY, Ala. – In a wild and woolly encounter highlighted by a nine-run comeback Edward Waters (33-19) eliminated Miles (22-26) 14-13 in a 12-inning Game 5 of the Black College Baseball World Series presented by Tyson Foods at Riverwalk Park – home of the of the Class AA Montgomery Biscuits – Thursday in the first extra-inning tussle of the BCBWS.

Miles' Nick Copen, also the team's pitching ace, broke a seven-inning scoreless stretch for the Golden Bears with a three-run homer in the first inning and then tagged another three-run blast in the second for six RBI in the clash and his third and fourth homers of 2024.

Eventually the Golden Bears extended that lead to 11-2 before the run gates opened up for the Tigers of Jacksonville, Fla.

EWU catcher Caden Hutchinson later countered that advantage, though, with a three-run dinger in the sixth inning to help cut an earlier 11-2 lead by Miles to 11-7 during a five-run uprising. Then six runs later, aided by a total of five Miles' errors in regulation play on the afternoon, the Tigers crept ahead 13-12 in the bottom of the eighth frame.

And in another twist of fate, Miles tied the game at 13 in the top of the ninth to send the tilt into extra innings. Then a throwing error – Miles' sixth of the extended outing – resulted in the decisive run in the bottom of the 12th inning for the winning crew.

EWU pitching ace Alexander Davila (7-2) was touched for the two Copen homers but had a no-decision due to the dramatic comeback. Miles starter Judson McKinney (1-2) was the beneficiary of the earlier nine-run advantage before tiring in the sixth stanza. Relief pitchers Cameron Chastain (winner 4-4) of Edward Waters and Nick Copen (losing hurler at 5-6) got the final decisions on the box score.