The Brevard Baseball Team (3-3, 1-0) downed Lenoir-Rhyne (3-7, 0-1), 5-3, Friday evening in the South Atlantic Conference opener for both teams at Bears Field.

The Tornados' Kevin Hamilton (Kannapolis, N.C.) allowed just two runs over seven innings of work while Kody Spencer (Simpsonville, S.C.) drove in three runs to lead Brevard to the win. Spencer's RBI single in the third inning gave Brevard a 3-0 advantage before Lenoir-Rhyne cut the lead to one.

L-R senior first baseman Colton Hansley (Asheville, N.C.) and freshman catcher David Martin (Boone, N.C.) connected on run-scoring singles in the fourth and fifth innings, respectively, to slice the margin to 3-2.

However, Spencer pushed the margin to 5-2 on a two-run single in the eighth inning and Brevard held L-R to just a single run in the bottom of the ninth for the 5-3 victory.

Brevard's Bennett Hixson (Greensboro, N.C.) escaped a bases-loaded jam in the ninth for his first save of the season.

Lenoir-Rhyne junior Eric Ryan (Baltimore, Md.) fell to 0-1 on the season despite allowing just two earned runs to go along with seven strikeouts in the setback. Hamilton struck out seven batters as well for the Tornados.

Martin was one of three Bears to finish with a pair of hits and Lenoir-Rhyne totaled 10 hits on the night despite the loss. Martin was 2-3 with a run scored and a run-batted-in.

The two teams will wrap up the series with a doubleheader on Sunday beginning at 1:00 p.m. Both contests will be seven innings.

Photo Courtesy: Colton Hensley, L-R Athltetics