

## No.20 Belmont Abbey Trips Up L-R, 5-3

Written by Staff Reports

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Belmont Abbey (9-0-1), ranked No. 20 in NCAA Division II, downed Lenoir-Rhyne (4-9), 5-3, in non-conference baseball action Tuesday afternoon at Abbey Yard. Freshman designated hitter David Martin (Boone, N.C.) hit his team-leading

second home run of the season in the eighth despite the loss for the Bears.

The Crusaders were powered by three home runs including Emilio Pagan's (Simpsonville, S.C.) solo home run in the bottom of the fifth inning which broke a 1-1 tie and proved to be the game-winner. Levi Wright (Ladson, S.C.) added a two-run home run as part of a four-run fifth inning for the Crusaders, who remained unbeaten on the season.

Lenoir-Rhyne trailed by a 5-1 score after seven innings of play before plating single runs in each of the eighth and ninth innings to cut the margin to two but Belmont Abbey held on for the win. Belmont Abbey's Nate Cudney (Charlotte, N.C.) improved to 3-0 with the win after allowing just one run to go along with five strikeouts over six innings while Pagan registered the final out for his third save of the year.

Lenoir-Rhyne senior first baseman Colton Hansley (Asheville, N.C.) finished with a game-high three hits and scored a run while junior Austen Gunnels (Hitchcock, Texas) fell to 0-2 after being tagged with the loss.

Lenoir-Rhyne hosts Montreat on Wednesday afternoon at 4:00 p.m. Belmont Abbey, meanwhile, hosts King in a Conference Carolinas game on Friday beginning at 2:30 p.m.

**Photo Courtesy: David Martin, L-R Athletics**