

Bears Earn Split at Francis Marion

Written by Staff Reports

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Lenoir-Rhyne (8-2) and Francis Marion (8-2) split a doubleheader in softball Saturday afternoon at Bears Field. Francis Marion won the first contest, 6-4, while L-R won the second game by a score of 6-4 as well. The Bears are ranked No. 9 in NCAA Division II. In game one, Francis Marion defeated

Lenoir-Rhyne, 6-4. The Patriots rallied from a 4-0 deficit to take the first game of the doubleheader. Lenoir-Rhyne jumped out to a four-run lead thanks to a three-run home run from sophomore shortstop Jody Mizelle (Colerain, N.C.) and a solo home run from senior second baseman Carlee Carpenter (Newton, N.C.) in the third. The two home runs were back-to-back shots.

Francis Marion, however, quickly recovered and a three-run home run from Olivia Zielinski (Greenville, S.C.) followed by a two-run round-tripper by Jazz Holliday (Florence, S.C.) in the top of the fourth inning gave the Patriots the lead for good.

Francis Marion rounded out the scoring with a solo home run from Ashley Jaramillo (Canyon Country, Calif.) in the top of the seventh inning.

The Patriots' Kayla Ellingsen (Venice, Fla.) was credited with the win while the Bears' senior Dawon Millwood (Hixson, Tenn.) suffered her first loss of the season. Both players are 4-1 on the year.

In game two, the Bears defeated Francis Marion, 6-4. Junior Megan Laxton (Taylorsville, N.C.) was credited with the win and hit a solo home run to lead the Bears to the victory as L-R was able to salvage the split. Laxton hit the go-ahead solo round-tripper to lead off the bottom of the second inning and allowed just two earned runs in going the distance on the mound to pace the Bears.

Freshman outfielder Marie Mauhar (Mills River, N.C.) connected on a two-run single and freshman outfielder Brittany Coursen (Virginia Beach, Va.) hit a two-run home run, her first of the season, to lead L-R as well.

Francis Marion's Katie Carnes (Pageland, S.C.) fell to 3-1 with the loss while the Patriots were led offensively by Lindsey Brown (Concord, N.C.), who finished with two hits and two runs scored.

Photo Courtesy: Megan Laxton, LRU Athletics

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