Written by Staff Reports Saturday, 07 April 2012 09:49

The Lenoir-Rhyne Baseball Team (11-30, 7-15) rallied from a three-run deficit to win the first game of a South Atlantic Conference weekend series, 12-8, over Mars Hill (15-27, 7-15) Friday evening at Bears Field. L-R freshman outfielder Ivan Vieitez (Miami, Fla.) finished with three hits and a game-high four RBI

while junior outfielder Rai Robinson (Kings Mountain, N.C.) also drove in three runs for the Bears. Mars Hill's Coty Pate (Knoxville, Tenn.) totaled a game-high four hits including a pair of triples while driving in three runs despite the loss. Pate's bases-clearing triple in the sixth inning helped stake the Lions to a 7-4 advantage but the Bears rallied with two runs in their half of the frame then put the contest away with a six-run seventh inning.

Lenoir-Rhyne's seventh frame was highlighted by two-run singles from both Vieitez and Robinson.

L-R sophomore Aaron Bentley (Lenoir, N.C.) improved to 2-3 on the year after being credited with the win while senior Blake Edmonson (Newton, N.C.) registered his fourth save of the season.

Mars Hill's Tommy Scala (Coram, N.Y.) added three hits and two runs scored on the day but the Lions' Tony Hearrell (Charlotte, N.C.) fell to 1-3 with the loss.

The two teams wrap up the series with a doubleheader on Saturday beginning at 1:00 p.m., at Bears Field. The Bears will also be celebrating Senior Day prior to the first contest.

**Photo Courtesy: Ivan Vieitez, LRU Athletics**