

## Tusculum Baseball Downs Lenoir-Rhyne, 10-4

Written by Staff Reports  
Friday, 05 April 2013 22:28

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The Tusculum Baseball Team (23-13, 13-9) opened a South Atlantic Conference weekend series with a 10-4 win over Lenoir-Rhyne (17-25, 9-13) Friday night at Bears Field. Tusculum broke a 4-4 tie with a five-run eighth inning en route to the victory. Three of the Pioneers' runs in the inning were unearned and Tusculum's Heath Comerford (Athens, Tenn.) capped the frame off with a two-run triple. Comerford finished with three RBI in the contest. Sophomore outfielder Ivan Vieitez (Miami, Fla.) hit two home runs for the Bears despite the loss. Vieitez's second home run, a two-run round-tripper, tied the score at four in the bottom of the seventh before Tusculum broke through in the eighth. Jalen Shuffler (Greeneville, Tenn.) added three hits and three runs scored and Trey Drewery (Vale, N.C.) hit a solo home run as the Pioneers won their second straight contest.

The Pioneers' John-Austin Shepard (Haymarket, Va.) came on in relief to earn the win and improve to 3-1 on the season while L-R junior Aaron Bentley (Lenoir, N.C.) (1-2) suffered the loss. Lenoir-Rhyne senior shortstop Dalton Hall (Hickory, N.C.) finished with two hits and a run scored while junior second baseman Nate Martin (Lansing, N.Y.) also drove in a run in the setback for the Bears. David Martin was 0-4.

The two teams will conclude the series with a doubleheader on Saturday afternoon at Bears Field beginning at 1:00 p.m. L-R will also be honoring its seniors prior to the contest.

**Photo Courtesy: Dalton Hall, L-R Athletics**