

Lenoir-Rhyne (20-29, 12-15) and Lincoln Memorial (22-23, 13-14) split the final South Atlantic Conference baseball doubleheader of the season Saturday at Hennon Field. The Railsplitters took the first contest, 8-6, but the Bears won the second game in 10 innings by a 4-3 score.

Game One - Lincoln Memorial 8, Lenoir-Rhyne 6

Curt Fuqua (Jackson, Tenn.) and Nick Morabito (Vienna, Va.) hit home runs to lead the Railsplitters to the win in game one.

Lincoln Memorial broke a 1-1 tie with four runs in the second inning and never trailed again. Lenoir-Rhyne cut the margin to 5-3 thanks to a two-run double by sophomore outfielder Ivan Vieitez (Miami, Fla.) in the fifth inning but the Bears couldn't get any closer than two runs the rest of the way.

Lenoir-Rhyne junior outfielder Brandon Walker (Otisville, N.Y.) also hit a home run and finished with four hits and two runs batted in despite the loss. For Lincoln Memorial, Morabito tallied three hits and two RBI while Logan Sawyer (Seymour, Tenn.) (3-5) picked up the win and Ian Creager (Englewood, Ohio) pitched the last three innings for his second save of the year. Junior Austen Gunnels (Hitchcock, Texas) (1-5) suffered the loss for the Bears, who totaled 14 hits despite the setback.

Game Two - Lenoir-Rhyne 4, Lincoln Memorial 3 (10 innings)

The Bears were able to salvage the split thanks to freshman catcher David Martin's (Boone, N.C.) game-winning, run-scoring single in the 10th inning. Martin was 1-4 with an RBI in game one; he was 2-5 with an RBI in the night cap. Lenoir-Rhyne senior outfielder Logan Senelis-Jose (Saint Thomas, Virgin Islands) hit a two-run home run as the Bears jumped out to a 3-0 advantage before the Railsplitters tied the contest with a three-run sixth inning. Morabito tied the game at three with a two-run single in the frame before the Bears won the contest in the 10th inning.

Vieitez (4-1) earned the win after allowing just one hit to go along with seven strikeouts in 4.2 innings of scoreless relief for Lenoir-Rhyne. Morabito (0-1) suffered the loss for Lincoln Memorial.

Lenoir-Rhyne closes out the regular season on Monday against Limestone at Bears Field beginning at 6:00 p.m. Lincoln Memorial will next compete in the 2013 Food Lion SAC Baseball Tournament beginning on Thursday in Forest City, N.C.

Photo Courtesy: David Martin, L-R Athletics