

Opportunity called & Lancers answered to pull within a game of 1st place in the WAC:

	<u>R:</u>	<u>H:</u>	<u>E:</u>
Cal State Bakersfield (15-20 Overall, 3-7 WAC):	0-0-0-0-0-0-0-1-0=1	8	2
California Baptist University (21-12 Overall, 6-4 WAC):	0-0-3-0-0-0-0-1-X=4	10	0

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Riverside, CA (Totman Stadium)-

There was a big opportunity in front of California Baptist University's baseball team on Friday evening with 1st place Sacramento State's loss against Seattle University. If they could win a fifth series opener of 2019 their deficit would be a game after 10 contests & slightly less than 40% of conference play completed. Logan Rinehart got the start going six innings, allowing five hits, four walks, and striking out five along with escaping two bases loaded jams. He was picked up by an offense which produced ten hits and four runs en route to a 4-1 victory over Cal State Bakersfield. Nick Plaia led the way there going 3-3 with a walk and two runs.

There were thirteen stranded Roadrunners in Friday's loss but six of those came in two innings. In the CSUB second inning Jesse Rowley led off with a single over the head of Lancers second baseman Harrison Spohn. With one out Tyler Jorgensen singled to left field as the Roadrunners looked to break thru against Rinehart. A walk to Nick Grossman then loaded the bases but Will Picketts' groundout ended the inning.

CBU's offense got Rinehart a three run lead in their half of the third inning. Nick Plaia led things off with a double to right center field which one hopped the warning track. With one out Angelo Capolupo singled which gave CBU two runners on and a lone out. Chad Castillo opened the scoring with an RBI single scoring Plaia. Then with two outs the Lancers got back to back RBI singles from Ryan Mota and John Glenn to go up 3-0. Rory Smith's groundout ended the inning.

Plaia remarked about the offense's production on Friday evening "We just started changing our approach at the plate. During batting practice we have a round where we'll get four pitches and try to drive them all up the middle. Tonight was a great win but it's onto the next one."

Cal State Bakersfield again had the bases loaded in their fifth inning but couldn't come thru. Eric Charles led off by drawing a walk from Rinehart. Then with one out Evan Berkey singled just over the third baseman's (Jeff Bruyntjens) head. A two out walk by Jesse Rowley gave Ryan Koch the opportunity this time to breakthrough but an inning ending strikeout kept CBU in front 3-0 after five innings.

In the Roadrunner eighth Jorgensen had an RBI single. However a flyout from Picketts & Chad Castillo's outfield assist which got Jorgensen attempting to tag up at home ended another threat.

California Baptist University got one more run in their half of the eighth to go up 4-1. Plaia had a single to start the rally. An RBI single from Spohn with two outs to left field made it a three run lead. However a Capolupo grounded out ending that rally.

After the win Lancers coach Gary Adcock remarked "We really have been focusing lately on creating pressure offensively and not being so reliant on one way of scoring. There's some quality pitching in this league & we've got to be a diversified offense against it. We were fortunate to get those bases loaded situations against the bottom of their order tonight. Our goal going into the season was to compete for an Western Athletic Conference regular season title and to be relevant starting week four is a great position to be in."

Roadrunner Notables:

LP: Darius Vines (4-3)>> 5 IP, 8 Hits, 3 Runs, 5 K's
Tyler Jorgensen>4 for 4

Lancers Notables:

WP: Logan Rinehart (4-0)>>6 IP, 5 Hits, 4 BB, 5 K's
Save: Matt Amrhein (4)>>faced a batter in the 9th
Nick Plaia>>3-3 (2 doubles) with a walk and two runs
Chad Castillo>>2-3 with an RBI
John Glenn>>2-4 with an RBI