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Saints Down Lincoln In Home Opener

MARCH 01ST 2012 BY UNKNOWN

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ST. LOUIS - Maryville pushed across three runs in the bottom of the third for all the offense it would need and cruised to a 7-0 victory over Lincoln in the home opener for the Saints. Three Maryville pitchers combined to shut out the Blue Tigers.

Bryce Bastien drew a leadoff walk to start the third inning, and Colby White beat out a bunt to put the first two runners aboard. Nick Little sacrificed both runners into scoring position. Andrew Naegeli followed with an infield hit to third to load the bases. Jared Green, who went 3-for-4 on the day, laced an RBI single to left and the ball bounced away from Lincoln's fielder as all three runs came around to score.

Maryville starter Brandon Sarkissian held the Blue Tigers to just two hits and did not allow a run over four innings. Brett Hancock came on in the fifth inning and also shut down the Lincoln attack over the next four frames to pick up the win. The Saints stretched out their lead with a single tally in the sixth. Mike Wilkinson reached on a fielder's choice, and Bastien was safe after a Lincoln fielding error. Colby White's grounder plated Wilkinson as the Saints went up 4-0.

Maryville put the game away with three runs in the seventh. Naegeli and Green had back-to-back singles, and Kyle Kinyon's walk loaded the bases.

Dexter native Bob Miller's RBI single pushed across a run, and the Saints added another tally when Green scored on a Lincoln miscue at the plate. Wilkinson lifted a sac fly to right to bring home the final run of the game for the Saints.

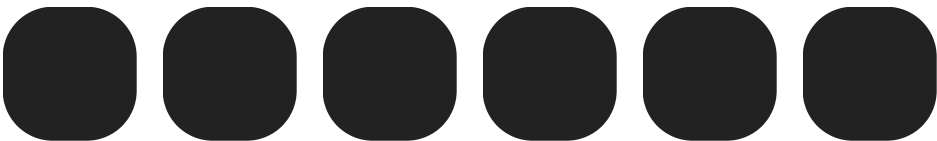
Matt Staback retired the final three batters as the Saints (1-3) picked up their first win of the season. Lincoln tried to get its running game going but Kinyon would not allow the Blue Tigers (0-7) to do so. The Saints catcher threw out four potential base stealers in the game, including two in a row in the sixth inning, to stymie Lincoln on the base paths.

Click here for the game's box score.

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