

Chiefs host Central-Baton Rouge in second round of playoffs

NATCHITOCHEs, La. - The seventh-ranked Natchitoches Central Chiefs' baseball team will host the 10th-ranked Central-Baton Rouge Wildcats in the best-of-three series beginning Thursday with game one at 6 p.m. and game two Friday at 6 p.m. Game three will be Saturday at 1 p.m. if necessary.

The Chiefs (23-7, 9-5 in 1-5A) finished the season winning four in a row with two wins over Byrd, one over Airline and the other over Delhi Charter.

NCHS will look to ride a dynamic pitching staff in the postseason that allowed three runs or less 18 times in 30 games. The Chiefs were 16-2 in games they allowed three or less runs.

The Wildcats (24-8, 8-2 in 4-5A) finished runner up in their district behind Catholic-Baton Rouge (31-2, 9-0 in 4-5A). The Wildcats are coming off a win over 23rd-ranked Zachary (19-16, 5-4 in 4-5A) in the first round sweeping the three-game series with 8-0 and 9-6 wins.

The Chiefs will turn to a pair of lefties to punch their ticket to the quarterfinals. Junior Ross Lindsey, who has verbally committed to the University of Alabama and junior Adam Guillet, verbally committed to Louisiana Tech, will take the mound. Lindsey is expected to start game one with Guillet going in game two.

The winner of the series will take on the winner of second-ranked West Monroe (25-7, 9-1 in 2-5A) and 15th-ranked Chalmette (28-5) next week in the quarterfinals.