

### *Chiefs Drop Game 1 to Wildcats 3-2*

NATCHITOCHES, La – The seventh-ranked Natchitoches Central Chiefs baseball team lost a tough one to the 10<sup>th</sup>-ranked Central-Baton Rouge Wildcats, 3-2, in Game 1 of the best-of-three playoff series Thursday at NCHS.

The Chiefs (23-8) made four errors and walked six batters but had a chance late in the game. With NCHS trailing 3-2, Dillon Braxton led off the bottom of the seventh with a double. However, he was doubled off on a running catch by the Wildcats' right fielder. Moments later, a flyout ended the game.

The Wildcats (25-8) scored three runs off Chiefs' starting pitcher Adam Guillet. The junior pitched 4 2/3 innings allowing two earned runs, four hits, four walks and struck out seven.

CBR took the lead in the first inning, scoring two runs off Guillet. The first two batters of the game drew lead off walks and later scored.

The Chiefs bounced back with a run in their half of the first. Owen Smith led off with a walk and scored on an RBI infield single by Laden Rawls to make it 2-1.

The Wildcats added a huge insurance run in the fifth inning on an RBI single with two outs to make it 3-1.

NCHS plated a run in the sixth on a pass ball to trim the lead to 3-2. But the seventh inning double by Braxton was the last threat for the Chiefs as the Wildcats took Game 1.

Game 2 is Friday night at 6 p.m. at NCHS with junior left-handed pitcher Ross Lindsey (5-2, 2.45 ERA) slated to start for the Chiefs.

The winner of the series will face either second-ranked West Monroe or 15<sup>th</sup>-ranked Chalmette in the quarterfinals next week.