

Spillman Sets Tone on the Mound in 5-0 Chiefs' win over Many

The Natchitoches Central Chiefs' baseball team got a terrific starting pitching performance from Yancy Spillman Jr. as he threw five shutout innings and got two hits at the plate in a 5-0 win over the Many Tigers Friday on the road in non-district action.

The Chiefs (19-6, 6-4 in 1-5A) and Spillman found themselves in a little bit of trouble in the first inning. Many (16-11) loaded the bases with two outs, but Spillman got a ground out to second baseman Owen Smith to end the threat.

NCHS took the lead in the third inning as Brock Laird and Titus Williams hit back-to-back RBI doubles with two outs to give the Chiefs a 2-0 advantage.

With Spillman controlling the Tigers' offense, the Chiefs added to the lead in the fifth inning. Laird was hit by a pitch and stole second base. Moments later, Williams drilled another RBI double with one out to make it 3-0.

Spillman threw 80 pitches in five innings. He allowed just two hits, two walks and struck out three before handing the ball to Harper Marcotte in the sixth inning.

In the top of the seventh, it was Laird that put the game out of reach as he launched a two-run homer to left center making it 5-0 NCHS. Laird, the Southeastern Louisiana University verbal commit, finished 2-for-3 with three runs scored and three RBIs.

Marcotte recorded a two-inning save as he retired six of seven hitters he faced to clinch the win for the Chiefs. It was also the fifth shutout of the season by NCHS pitching and the 15th time the staff had surrendered three runs or less.

Next up, NCHS will play Airline (10-13, 4-6 in 1-5A) on Saturday at 1 p.m. on the road in district 1-5A action.