

## **Chieftains Down Darlington 9-4**

The varsity baseball team picked up a big early season conference win as we knocked off Darlington by the score of 9-4. The Redbirds entered the contest in first place but the Chieftains pounded out 13-hits to pick up the win. Coach Thompson "Important early season win. Darlington had gotten off to a fast start in conference play and we needed to have this one. The boys played a gritty game and did a real nice job at the plate."

Elijah Cannon would get the start for the Chieftains and would find himself in a big early jam. An error and two walks would see Darlington load the bases, but Elijah buckled down and gave up just one run. In the bottom of the inning we would strike for three runs. Jared Roen would get us going with a line single to left and then steal second. Brett Hach ripped an RBI double to left center and it was 1-1. Coach Thompson "Brett has been right on the ball all season." Trevor Johnson would follow and walk. One out later the sizzling Trevor Troxel rifled a double down the left field line to score Brett and it was 2-1. Tanner Williamson rounded out the scoring when he lifted a sac fly to left to score Trevor J. And it was 3-1.

In the second Darlington would get one of those runs back. With one out, a walk and a double made it 3-2. We would threaten in the second but would not score.

In the third neither team would score as Elijah picked up pair of strike outs. The fourth would be the turning point. Darlington threatened as they picked up a pair of walks, but Elijah coaxed a two-out ground out to Brett at short, to get out of the inning. Coach Thompson "Elijah did not have his best stuff but he really battled out there against a very good hitting club. That is a sign of a very good pitcher." In the bottom of the inning we tacked on two big runs. Max Hougan got us going with a single to left. After a bizarre play on a strike out, Max ended up on third with one out. He scored on Jared's short sac fly to right to make it 4-2. Brett followed and reached on an error and stole second. Brett then scored when Trevor Johnson's smash to third was mishandled and it was 5-2. Coach Thompson "Couple of big runs as we continued to put the bat on the ball."

Darlington scratched home a run in the fifth but we would escape a bases loaded jam with a strike out and it was 5-3. We would get that run back in the bottom of the inning as with two outs the red hot Max Hougan singled and after Bradon Roen singled we had two on. Back to back walks to Jared and Brett and it was 6-3.

In the sixth Brett would come on in relief and get a big defensive play by catcher Tyrrel Anderson. After a one out single Tyrrel would throw out the would be base stealer to take the Redbirds out of the inning. Coach Thompson "Big play and great throw by Tyrrel." In the bottom of the sixth the Chieftains picked up three insurance runs. Trevor J. would get us going when he blasted a long double to left. A balk moved Trevor to third. Elijah then lifted a deep sac fly to left center and it was 7-3. Trevor T. continued his torrid hitting as he lined a shot off the pitchers leg for a single. Trevor moved up on a balk and score on a Tanner Williamson RBI single to left. Tanner would go on to steal second and third and then score as Max picked up his third hit of the

game, a single to left. Coach Thompson "We have a very deep line up as tonight Trevor T. had three hits in the fifth spot, Max had three hits in the eighth spot, and Bradon had two hits in the ninth spot. That balance is going to be huge for us this year."

Darlington would pick up a run in the seventh but Brett would pick up a pair of strike outs to nail down the 9-4 win. Coach Thompson "Big early season win, we have a lot of games to go but this was important!"

Box Score: AB. Runs. Hits. RBI

J. Roen 2-1-1-1 Hach 2-1-1-1 Johnson 3-2-1-0 Cannon 3-0-1-1 Haffner 0-0-0-0 Troxel 4-1-3-1  
Williamson 3-1-1-2 Anderson 4-0-0-0 Luck 0-0-0-0 Ekleberry 0-0-0-0 Hougan 4-2-3-1 Swaziek  
0-0-0-0 B. Roen 4-0-2-0

Pitching Stats IP Hits Runs ER BB K

Cannon (W). 5. 3. 3. 2. 6. 4

Hach (S). 2. 1. 1. 1. 3. 2