

LANCERS BASEBALL CONTINUES WIN STREAK AGAINST MARION

By Sid Elford

MARION, Ind. – The Grace College baseball team increased its winning streak to three games thanks to a sweep of Marion on Wednesday, April 11th. The Lancers (5-8 in Crossroads League) have become the hottest team during their streak and now sit within a half game of sixth place in the Crossroads League.

In the opening game of the double-header, Grace won 5-3, despite only being able to string six hits together. Sophomore Ethan Brooks put Grace ahead with a two-out, two RBI single in the second inning. The Lancers were able to double their lead to 4-0 in the fifth inning, with Austin Baker's single scoring Cameron Maxwell, and David Anderson's sac fly scoring Baker.

Logan Swartzentruber started on the mound for the Lancers, and threw five strong innings against the Knights to get the win, while only giving up six hits and two runs while striking out five. Jordan Noska came to shut the door out of the bullpen for the final two innings, and allowed only two hits while striking out two.

In the second game, the Lancers were mostly muted for the for the first seven innings of the nine inning game, with the first run of the game for Grace coming from a two out solo home run off the bat of Austin Baker in the fifth inning.

Starting pitcher Scottie Clark was able to contain the offense of the Knights for most of his start until the sixth inning when the Knights scored five runs on five hits.

After a scoreless seventh inning, Grace turned the game around in the eighth. Gabe Douglass, Hunter Ackerman, David Anderson, and Jaron Mullett opened the inning with four straight singles to score a run. Sid Elford then put the Lancers ahead with a

grand slam on the next at-bat, giving Grace a 6-5 lead. Later in the inning, Baker scored Maxwell with an RBI double to give Grace an important insurance run.

Jacob Hammel handled the rest from the mound, holding Marion to one hit over three and two thirds innings of relief, striking out four while keeping the Knights from scoring.

The Lancers will continue their season and put their win streak on the line against Taylor University at home on April 12. They will also finish their series against Bethel on April 17 at home.