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Leander in must-win spot after loss to Eagles



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Leander's Kian Bell (pitching) took over relief for Michael Reed in Tuesday's 3-1 loss to district-leader Georgetown.

Posted Thursday, April 23, 2009 6:00 pm

by Jenn Rains, Hill Country News

The Leander baseball team has spent the season being the comeback kids. In most of their games, they've been down, looking like the game is finished, but then the bats start swinging and the Lions come back and win - by one, maybe two runs.

It looked like things could've played out the same way Tuesday night in Leander, as the Lions held district-leader Georgetown to just two runs, and were only down by one going into the final inning. But, Leander couldn't come up the hits, falling 3-1.

"We just couldn't generate offensive hits tonight," said Leander coach Jerry King. "We couldn't string together more than one or two hits."

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Leander had strong pitching from Michael Reed who pitched almost the entire game, scattering six hits while striking out four. Designated hitter Kian Bell pitched the remaining two outs of the game for the Lions.

The Lions had good defensive play, including a diving catch in the outfield by Aaron Woods to rob Georgetown of a hit. However, the Lions couldn't get going offensively.

"We faced a pitcher who controlled the whole game. We had too many strikeouts. We never were really in it," King said.

Several base running blunders also hurt the Lions when they were able to get on base. "We had huge base running mistakes and they cost us," said King.

Despite it all, Leander held Georgetown to just six hits and only trailed by one run for the majority of the game.

The loss to Georgetown still leaves Leander in the playoff chase though. With two games remaining, Leander (6-6 in District 16-5A) is scrambling for the last spot with Cedar Park and McNeil - the two teams they still have to play.

The Lions hit the road on Friday, traveling to McNeil, and will then close out the season at home next Friday against Cedar Park.

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