

Game Recap | June 18, 2019

Three-Run Seventh Inning Pushes Long Borders Past Hooks

Michael King pitches six innings of one-hit ball, while Drake Pierson delivers a go-ahead RBI double in the seventh.

Anthony Quach – Communications Manager

SAN MARCOS – The Long Borders defeated the Hooks, 4-1 at the CSUSM Baseball Field to earn their eighth win of the season, thanks to a strong pitching performance by Michael King and a three-run seventh inning highlighted by Drake Pierson's RBI double.



Long Borders' Drake Pierson comes off the bench in the seventh and delivers a go-ahead RBI double for his team. (Kevin Dahlgren/San Diego League)

King allowed one run on one hit, two walks in six innings pitched with seven strikeouts to win his second game of the season. "I feel really good [about my performance]," said King. "I was pitching [mostly] fastballs and I went away from the slider after the second inning because [the Hooks] couldn't hit the fastball."

Connor Kinney took the loss for the Hooks as he allowed four runs (one earned) on one walk and seven hits in seven innings pitched.

The Hooks got their lone run in the first behind an RBI double by Michael Campagna that scored Michael Fritchman.

Kinney held the Long Borders scoreless through the first four innings, but a defensive error by the Hooks in fifth gave the Long Borders a chance to tie the game. Trevor Smith hit a sacrifice fly that scored Evan Rocha to tie the game, 1-1.

Jeff Woolson relieved King in the sixth and pitched two scoreless inning and allowed only two hits and struck out one.

Despite falling behind early, the Long Borders and their head coach Dillan Smith remained focus and battled back. "It doesn't matter if we go down one early, we stayed in it the whole game," said Coach Smith. "Guys on the bench were up and when their names were called, they came in and put up a three-spot in the seventh."

With a runner on first in the top of the seventh, Drake Pierson hit a go-ahead RBI double that score Trevor Johnson as the Long Borders took a 2-1 lead. Later that inning, Zak Thomas hit a two-run single that score Pierson and Avisail Bermudez to extend the Long Borders' lead to 4-1.

"[Thomas] is a silent killer, [he] stays on the barrel the whole time [and he's] just a great situational hitter," said Coach Smith.

Dylan Vaugh came in the ninth to close the game out and after recording the first out, he gave up back-to-back singles to Campagna and Nathan Campo. With two on, one out and the game-tying run at the plate, Vaugh got the next two outs on a fielder's choice and flyout to right to secure his fourth save and the Long Borders' 4-1 victory.

The Long Borders maintain their first-place spot after improving to 8-3 this season, while the Hooks are in second place with a 6-5 record. Both teams will begin a three-game series starting Fri, June 21 at the CSUSM Baseball Field. The Long Borders will take on the Warriors at 10:05 A.M as the Hooks battle the Jets at 1:35 P.M.