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## 'Dogs down BG, beaten by Bears

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Tim McDonough  
April 10, 2011

BOWLING GREEN -- The Defiance High School baseballers split a pair of games on Saturday on the road at Bowling Green, rolling past the Bobcats 11-0 in their opener, before falling to Bryan 3-2 in the nightcap for their first loss of the season.

"We had great pitching today, we played good defense with the exception of maybe one or two plays ... the bottom line is we didn't get the big hit we needed against Bryan like we had been getting," stated Defiance mentor Tom Held.

In its opener, Defiance (6-1) broke open a close game in the final three

innings by scoring nine runs to earn the 11-0 victory over Bowling Green (4-2). Kurt Belau got the win for the Bulldogs, going five innings and allowing only one hit and three walks while striking out seven.

Belau singled and homered, Ryan Cordray and Joe Gentile each finished with a single and double, Gabe Vittorio tripled and Jake Thomas added a pair of singles. Defiance had 12 hits in all in the win.

In the nightcap, RBI singles by Jordan Bostater and Justin Watts in the fourth inning broke a 1-1 tie and put the Golden Bears in front 3-1. Defiance answered with a RBI single by Vittorio to score Gentile in the top of the fifth with two outs, but Defiance left a pair of runners stranded, ending the threat.

In the first five innings against the Golden Bears, Defiance left nine runners on base and for the game, the Bulldogs stranded 11.

"We just left too many guys in scoring position to beat Bryan, but give them credit," Held said. Trevor Blaylock pitched very well and Bryan played great defense. They also did a good job of putting hits together to score runs when they needed them.

"Our pitchers combined for 22 strikeouts today, and (sophomore) Robby Zeigler pitched well in his first start," continued Held. "We had our opportunities, we just couldn't capitalize when we needed to."

Belau finished with a pair of singles in the loss for Defiance, while Alex Collins had a pair of singles to lead the Golden Bears.

Defiance returns to action Tuesday at home against Celina in Western Buckeye League play beginning at 5 p.m.

#### Linescores

Defiance 110 042 3 - 11 12 0

B. Green 000 000 0 - 0 1 2

Winning pitcher: Kurt Belau (5 innings, 0 runs, 1 hit, 7 strikeouts, 3 walks). Other: Jake Sanchez.

Losing pitcher: Mankowski (41/3 innings, 6 runs, 8 hits, 3 strikeouts, 3 walks). Other: Sweegan.

Leading hitters: (Defiance, 12 hits) - Ryan Cordray single, double; Joe Gentile single, double; Gabe Vittorio triple; Belau single, home run; Jake Thomas 2 singles. (Bowling Green, 1 hit).

Bryan 001 200 0 - 3 8 0





Defiance 010 010 0 - 2 8 2

Records: Bryan 5-1, Defiance 6-1.

Winning pitcher: Trevor Blaylock (52/3 innings, 2 runs, 7 hits, 2 strikeouts, 5 walks). Other: Cody Robinson.

Losing pitcher: Robert Zeigler (31/3 innings, 3 runs, 6 hits, 6 strikeouts, 0 walks). Other: Anthony Kidston.

Leading hitters: (Bryan, 8 hits) - Alex Collins 2 singles. (Defiance, 8

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hits) - Kurt Belau 2 singles.

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