

TRI-CITY RED SWEEPS INTO CHAMPIONSHIP BRACKET AT BURNSVILLE SNAKEPIT TOURNAMENT

BURNSVILLE, Minn. (June 23) -- For the second straight year, Tri-City Red has a chance to play for the championship at the Burnsville Snakepit Tournament, after sweeping its way through pool play on Saturday. Red beat Richfield 13-0 in the afternoon, before knocking off Woodbury 9-4 in the nightcap.

It only took five innings for Red to dispatch Richfield, as the bats were hot early, with Red scoring four runs in the first inning. The team put up six runs in the third, partly thanks to a Matt Strong home run, his first of the season.

In total, Red scored in every inning in the game. Strong, Matt Herold and Carter Traczyk each went 2-3. On the mound, Scott Kalthoff threw all five innings, allowing just three hits, and striking out three batters.

The nightcap was more of a challenge for Red, as Woodbury kept the score close, but Red ultimately prevailed, partly thanks to a five-run seventh inning. It was a scoreless game in the fourth, when John Solfest drew a walk and came around to score on a single from Channing Cole, with Strong and Cole Stenstrom coming around to score on the same hit -- after the left fielder dove for the ball, allowing it to roll all the way to the wall.

On the mound, Red used three pitchers, with Herold picking up the win, after going 3-1/3 innings giving up one run and two hits. Kyle Folska got the start and pitched 2-2/3 innings, while Jake Christopherson threw the final inning, giving up two hits.

John Solfest set the unofficial Tri-City Red record for most hit by pitches in a day, as he was hit twice in each game for a total of four.

Red was rewarded for their efforts with the No. 1 seed in the championship bracket. Their semifinal game will be at 2:30 p.m. on Sunday at Alimagnet Field 1 against #3 seed Eden Prairie, who also won their pool. The other semifinal will be at 2 p.m. and will pit #2 seed Coon Rapids and Wayzata (Wild Card); as the #1 seed, Red was to play the wildcard, but opponents were swapped to prevent prior opponents from facing each other again. The winners of the two semi-final games will meet in the championship.

Game 5, June 23, 2018:

RICH -- 000 00 -- 0 3 3
TCR -- 416 2X -- 13 9 2

Richfield: Lundeen; Schafer
Red: Kalthoff; Herold

WP - Scott Kalthoff (1-0)
LP - Ryan Lundeen

Home Runs: Matt Strong (1)

Game 6, June 23, 2018:

TCR -- 000 310 5 -- 9 6 1
WOOD -- 001 100 1 -- 4 5 4

Red: Folska, Herold (3), Christopherson (7); Stenstrom
Woodbury: Mazur, Krueger (7); Rinehart

WP - Matt Herold (1-0)
LP - Adam Mazur

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