Tri-City Red opens 2019 season with 4-1 win over West Fargo

Arden Hills, Minn (June 18) -- Tri-City Red kicked off another season on Tuesday night with a 4-1 win over the West Fargo Patriots at Mounds View High School. The game was scheduled to be a nine-inning affair.

It took Red a little while to get going, as through the fourth inning, it only had five base runners, but in the fifth, they struck for three runs on just two hits. Jonah Sparks hit a one-out single, and Brett Bateman followed with a single of his own. Robert Hogan worked a long atbat, which resulted in a walk to load the bases. Sparks and Bateman would score on wild pitches, with Hogan advancing to third. Hogan the scored on a sacrifice fly from Isaac Mezzenga to put Red up 3-0.

Red added an insurance run in the sixth, thanks to a leadoff single from Channing Cole, who advanced to second on a throwing error by the third baseman. After Trevor Rankin drew a walk, Ben Kettelhut hit a sacrifice bunt to move the runners to second and third. That set up Sparks to pick up an RBI single, putting Red up 4-1.

The story of the night for Red was pitching, as Bateman drew the opening-night start and pitched a masterpiece -- not allowing a hit until the sixth inning and pitching six innings, with 11 strikeouts and just two hits allowed. Sean Goldman followed him up with three innings of shutout ball, to pick up the save.

Red is back in action on Wednesday when they start District 4 play with a game against the North St. Paul 39ers. First pitch is set for 6 p.m. at McKnight Field in North St. Paul.

Game Summary

Game One, June 18, 2019:

WF - 000 010 000 - 1 2 2 TC - 000 031 00x - 4 7 0

West Fargo: Rued, Hestdalen (7); Clouse, Jamieson (7), Clouse (9) Tri-City Red: Bateman, Goldman (7); Herold

Winning Pitcher: Brett Bateman (1-0) Losing Pitcher: Tyler Rued Save: Sean Goldman (1)

You can follow Tri-City Red this season on Twitter @TriCityRedBB.

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