TRI-CITY RED OPENS SUB-STATE 8 TOURNAMENT WITH 10-0 WIN OVER TRI-CITY BLUE

LINDSTROM, Minn. (July 23) -- Tri-City Red sent a message in its opening game of the Sub-State 8 tournament, defeating Tri-City Blue 10-0 in six innings. Red now plays Tri-City Maroon in the winners' bracket on Wednesday night.

Red got on the board right away in the bottom of the first. Brett Bateman led off with a single, before moving to third on Jonah Sparks' single. Bateman scored when Robert Hogan hit a sacrifice fly to center field for the first out.

After Carter Traczyk singled -- and Sparks was thrown out at the plate, Ike Mezzenga stepped up to the plate and hit his third home run of the season – this one over the left-field fence, to put Red up 3-0.

In the fourth inning, Red put up four runs -- thanks to successfully loading the bases, with no outs. Sparks, Hogan and Traczyk each picked up RBI, with Hogan's coming the hard way on a hit-by-pitch.

Red walked-off Blue in the sixth — scoring three runs, starting with Channing Cole being hit by a pitch to start the inning. Bateman singled, and Sparks drew a walk to load the bases for Hogan. While Hogan was at-bat, the Tri-City Blue pitcher unleashed a wild pitch, allowing Cole to score and moving Bateman and Sparks up a base each.

Hogan picked up another RBI on a groundout, while Traczyk ended things with a single to right-center field to score Sparks. Red recorded a total of 11 hits on the night.

Ben Kettelhut got the win, going five innings -- only allowing two hits and recording four strikeouts. Trevor Rankin worked the sixth inning for Red, tallying all three outs as strikeouts.

The win moves Red into the winner's bracket, where the team will face fellow District 4 team, Tri-City Maroon, at 8 p.m. Wednesday at Pat Collins Field.

Game Summary, July 23, 2019:

Tri-City Red 10, Tri-City Blue 0 (6 innings)
Game #22 / SS8 Playoff Game #1

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TCR - 300 043 — 10

Tri-City Blue: Zezulka, Caram (6); Witthoft
Tri-City Red: Kettelhut, Rankin (6); Herold

Winning Pitcher: Ben Kettelhut (5-1)
Losing Pitcher: Nick Zezulka
Home Runs: Ike Mezzenga

Full scores from Sub-state 8:

Tri-City Maroon 10
Forest Lake 6

Lino Lakes 10
Chisago Lakes 0
5 innings

Stillwater 6
Arcade-Phalen 0

Tri-City Red 10
Tri-City Blue 0
6 innings

Wednesday schedule (Home team listed last)

Losers' Bracket Elimination games
Chisago Lakes vs Arcade-Phalen - 3:30 p.m. at CLHS
Tri-City Blue vs Forest Lake - 6:00 p.m. at CLHS

Winners/ Bracket
Stillwater vs Lino Lakes - 5:30 p.m. at Pat Collins Field
Tri-City Maroon vs Tri-City Red - 8:00 p.m. at Pat Collins Field

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

Thank you,
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