TRI-CITY RED ROLLS INTO SUBSTATE 8 CHAMPIONSHIP GAME WITH 5-2 WIN OVER STILLWATER

Arden Hills, Minn. (July 25) -- For the second consecutive season, Tri-City Red will be playing for the Substate 8 championship after beating No. 2 Stillwater 5-2 on Thursday night at Mounds View High School. Red's opponent will be determined on Friday.

Red fell behind in the top of the first, when Stillwater scored two runs on one hit, but Red responded with two of its own in the bottom of the inning; John Solfest hit a two-RBI double to score Jonah Sparks and Robert Hogan.

Red picked up two more runs in the third, when Carter Traczyk led off with a single. He scored when Cole Stenstrom executed a perfect squeeze bunt to give Red the lead. Matt Herold picked up an RBI -- with a double that scored Solfest, who had reached first base on a fielder's choice, then had been advanced by Stenstrom.

In the fourth, Red added an insurance run. Sparks singled with one out, then was advanced by a Robert Hogan walk. Carter Traczyk singled, driving Sparks in, to put Red up by a 5-2 margin, which would hold for the final score.

Brett Bateman picked up the win, going five and one-third of an inning, recording nine strikeouts and just three hits. Stenstrom recorded the save, with one and two-thirds of an inning of one-hit ball.

Red gets Friday off while the remaining three teams (Lino Lakes, Tri-City Maroon, and Stillwater) battle things out in the losers' bracket, to determine which team will face Red on Saturday. As the only unbeaten team, Red would need to be beaten twice, for another to claim the championship.

Game Summary, July 25, 2019:

Tri-City Red 5, Stillwater 2
Game #24 / SS8 Playoff Game #3

SW - 200 000 0 - 2 TC - 202 100 x - 5

Stillwater: Koehn, Sandquist (6); Jordan Tri-City Red: Bateman, Stenstrom (6); Herold

Winning Pitcher: Brett Bateman (5-1) Losing Pitcher: Jonathan Koehn

Save: Cole Stenstrom (1)

Full Scores from Sub-State 8:

Losers' Bracket Elimination Games:

Lino Lakes 7, Forest Lake 5 Forest Lake eliminated

Tri-City Maroon 9, Chisago Lakes 8 (walk-off win by Maroon) Chisago Lakes eliminated

Winner's bracket Final: Tri-City Red 5, Stillwater 2

Friday schedule (Home team listed last) Tri-City Maroon vs Lino Lakes, 3:00 p.m. Winner of Maroon/Lino Lakes vs Stillwater, 5:30 p.m.

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

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