

## **SOLFEST NO-HITTER BOOSTS RED TO DAY TWO OF LEGION STATE TOURNAMENT**

**PAYNESVILLE, Minn. (August 1)** -- Tri-City Red opened the 2019 Minnesota American Legion State Tournament with two wins on Thursday, starting the day with a 1-0 win over Austin, before pounding Eastview 10-2 in the nightcap.

In game one, John Solfest threw a complete game no-hitter, to lead Red to a 1-0 victory over Austin. He recorded 12 strikeouts on just 91 pitches. The lone base runners came on a leadoff walk, a fielder's choice in the first, an error in the fifth, and a walk in the sixth.

Red's one-run came in the bottom of the first inning, when Jonah Sparks drew a one-out walk -- and then stole second base. He moved to third when Robert Hogan singled, before he scored on an RBI ground-out from Ike Mezzenga.

In game two, Red fell behind early as Eastview scored a first-inning run. Red immediately responded in top of the second inning with three runs of their own. The first three batters all reached -- Carter Traczyk on an error, Ike Mezzenga on a double to left-center field, and a John Solfest two-RBI single to right. Solfest then scored on a double off the bat of Cole Stenstrom.

In the third, Red opened the floodgates, sending 13 batters to the plate, scoring seven runs on five hits -- including two two-RBI singles from Mezzenga and Brett Bateman, with John Solfest and Robert Hogan adding RBI singles.

The ten runs accumulated in the second and third innings were enough for the Red pitching staff. Four pitchers took the mound in the game -- Brett Bateman, Ben Kettelhut, Sean Goldman, and John Abercrombie, with Kettelhut picking up the win.

Red moves into the semi-finals in the winners' bracket, where it will face Excelsior in a highly-anticipated matchup, considering the past rivalry between the two teams over many years. The game will be played on Friday, 3:30 p.m., at the Cold Spring Baseball Park (700 1st Street South, Cold Spring). The other winners' bracket semi-final features New Ulm Gold versus Edina, at 6:00 p.m., Cold Spring Baseball Park.

Tri-City Red's fellow 4th District rival, Rosetown, was eliminated from the Tournament on Thursday -- with losses to Duluth Lakeview and Woodbury Blue.

### ***Game Summaries, August 1, 2019:***

#### ***Tri-City Red 1, Austin 0***

*Game #26 / State Tournament Game #1*

AUSTIN - 000 000 0 -- 0 0 0

TC RED - 100 000 0 -- 1 4 1

Austin: Bothun; Mells

TC Red: Solfest; Herold

Winning Pitcher: John Solfest (5-0), TCR, No-Hitter

Losing Pitcher: Josie Bothun, Austin

## **Tri-City Red 10, Eastview 2**

Game #27 / State Tournament Game #2

TC RED - 037 000 0 -- 10 9 1

EASTV - 100 100 0 -- 2 5 2

TC Red: Bateman, Kettelhut (3), Goldman (5), Abercrombie (7); Herold  
Eastview: Nelson, Fuller (3), Lugo (5), Carrol (7); Selchow

Winning Pitcher: Ben Kettelhut (7-1), TC Red

Losing Pitcher: Kyle Nelson, Austin

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### All State Tournament Thursday Game Results:

Opening Round:

Game 1: Tri-City Red 1, Austin 0

Game 2: Eastview 9, Mpls SW Lakers 4

Game 3: Excelsior 5, Woodbury blue 2

Game 4: Duluth Lakeview 5, Rosetown 3

Game 5: Anoka 6, East Grand Forks 3

Game 6: Edina 8, Buffalo 1

Game 7: St. Cloud Chutes 2, Ham Lake 1 (9 innings)

Game 8: New Ulm Gold 10, Cold Spring 0 (6 innings)

Second Round, Losers' Bracket:

Game 9: Mpls SW Lakers 2, Austin 1 (eliminated)

Game 11: Woodbury Blue 6, Rosetown 3 (eliminated)

Game 13: Buffalo 5, East Grand Forks 2 (eliminated)

Game 15: Ham Lake 2, Cold Spring 1 (eliminated)

Second Round, Winners' Bracket:

Game 10: Tri-City Red 10, Eastview 2

Game 12: Excelsior 12, Duluth Lakeview 1 (5 innings)

Game 14: Edina 2, Anoka 0

Game 16: New Ulm Gold 4, St. Cloud Chutes 1

### Games Friday:

Losers' Bracket Elimination Games:

Game 17: Anoka vs Mpls SW Lakers

Game 18: Woodbury Blue vs St. Cloud Chutes

Game 19: Eastview vs Buffalo

Game 20: Duluth Lakeview vs Ham Lake

Winners' Bracket:

Tri-City Red vs Excelsior

New Ulm Gold vs Edina

Full results from Day 1 can also be found in the *Gazette* Tournament Newsletter and on the [Legion Baseball Hub](#).

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You can follow Tri-City Red this season on Twitter [@TriCityRedBB](#).

Thank you,

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