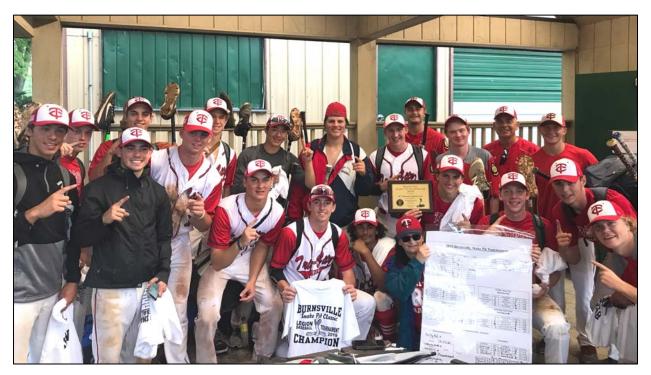
TRI-CITY RED BLANKS LAKEVILLE NORTH IN SEMI-FINAL; WINS BURNSVILLE TOURNEY

Burnsville, Minn. (June 21) -- For the second time in three years, Tri-City Red has won the Burnsville Snake Pit Tournament.



After blanking Lakeville North (the wildcard team that had advanced from pool-play) in one of the two semi-final games (8-0 in 5 innings), Tri-City Red was declared the tournament champ -- being the only undefeated team in the tournament; steady rain had made the field unplayable for the championship game. (Red had been scheduled to take on Wayzata at 4:30 pm in the championship. Wayzata had advanced to the championship bracket as the winner of pool C, with a record of 2-1. It then defeated Woodbury Blue 16-2 in Sunday's other semi-final game.)

Against Lakeville North, Red was in control right from the start. John Solfest drew a two-out walk before scoring on a double by Will Rogers, to put Red up 1-0.

Red added two runs in the third, thanks to a leadoff single from Jonah Sparks, who proceeded to steal second base; he then advanced to third on a wild pitch. Sparks scored when Rogers hit a triple for his second RBI of the game. Rogers then scored when Matt Herold singled, to make it a 3-0 Red lead.

The team added three more runs in the fourth, thanks to a bases-clearing double from Ike Mezzenga that scored Sparks, Solfest and Rogers, making it a 6-0 lead.

The final nail in the coffin came in the fifth, when Herold drew a leadoff walk. After Robert Hogan came in as a courtesy runner, Mitchell Gutzkow drew a walk. Brett Bateman hit into a fielder's choice that saw Gutzkow retired, but Sparks then singled to score Hogan and Bateman, which ended the game via the eight-run rule.

Red returns to District 4 play on Tuesday when they host the North St. Paul 39ers at Mounds View HS. First pitch is set for 6 p.m.

Game Summary

Tri-City Red 8, Lakeville North 0 (5 innings)

Game 6, June 23, 2019: (Burnsville Tournament Game 4)

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Lkvl North: Maholwalk, Wareham (5); Palmer TC Red: Bateman, Abercrombie (5); Herold

Winning Pitcher: Brett Bateman (2-0) Losing pitcher: Logan Mahowald

All Sunday Tournament Scores:

(8-run rule, after 5 innings)

Consolation Games Hastings 17, Richfield 13 Prior Lake 12, Chaska 8 Edina 11, Burnsville 1 Eden Prairie 7, Coon Rapids 2

<u>Semi-Finals</u> Tri-City Red 8, Lakeville North 0 (5 innings) Wayzata 16, Woodbury Blue 2

<u>Championship</u> Wayzata vs. Tri-City Red - Rained out Tri-City Red declared champ, being the only undefeated team in the tournament.

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

Thank you, **Stevie Larson** 612-310-7689 Twitter: @StevieLarson_ZC