

Tri-City Red Blasts Tri-City Blue in Opening Round of SS8 Playoffs

New Brighton, Minn. (July 20, 2021) — Tri-City Red opened its postseason run Tuesday night in a big way, as it trounced Tri-City Blue 10-0 in six innings. Fresh off his no-hitter against the North St. Paul 39ers, Paul Diekoff threw four innings, allowing two hits and recording seven strikeouts to pick up the win.

The game was scoreless entering the bottom of the third inning, when Maddox Folska hit a leadoff single, before advancing to second on a wild pitch. He scored when Cooper Kleppe laced a double to the left field fence, giving Red a 1-0 lead.

Red struck again in the fourth, scoring eight runs on seven hits -- while sending 12 batters to the plate. Among those who recorded hits in the inning were Reid Thurston, Sean Goldman, Folska, Kleppe, Landon Both and Ben Rosin -- with Kleppe's hit being a 2-RBI double into the gap in left-center field. Both, Diekoff, Goldman, Rosin and Folska also picked up RBI during the long inning.

Red put the finishing touches on the game in the bottom of the sixth, as Diekoff led off with a double. After Thurston drew a five pitch walk, Goldman hit a single into left field that allowed Diekoff to score, ending the game.

Kleppe led the Red offense, going 3-4 with three RBI. Goldman was 2-4 with two RBI and a run scored, while Both, Diekoff and Folska all had two hits and one RBI. Leo Fleischhacker threw the final two innings, allowing no hits and striking out three batters.

Tri-City Red advances into the winner's bracket, and will take on Lino Lakes at 3 p.m. Wednesday. Lino advanced, thanks to a 9-3 upset over the no. 3 seed, Chisago Lakes.

Game Summary

Tri-City Red 10, Tri-City Blue 0 (6 innings)

Game 23, July 20, 2021

(Sub-State #8 Playoff Game 1)

TCBlue	0	0	0	0	0	0	-	0	2	4
TCRed	0	0	1	8	0	1	-	10	13	0

Tri-City Blue: Martinaz, Nemi (4); and Ballot

Tri-City Red: Diekoff, Fleischhacker (5); and Folska

Win: Paul Diekoff, Tri-City Red

Loss: Elias Martinaz, Tri-City Blue

Substate 8 Scores:

#5 Forest Lake 1, #4 Tri-City Maroon 0

#6 Lino Lakes 9, #3 Chisago Lakes 3

#2 Tri-City Red 10, #7 Tri-City Blue 0 (6 innings)

Wednesday schedule (All games at Irondale HS)

#7 Tri-City Blue @ #3 Chisago Lakes 12:30 p.m. (Loser eliminated)

#6 Lino Lakes @ #2 Tri-City Red 3 p.m.

#5 Forest Lake @ #1 Stillwater 5:30 p.m.