Tri-City Red falls to Tri-City Maroon 4-3

St. Paul, Minn. (June 24, 2021) — Tri-City Red battled right to the end Thursday night, before falling to District 4 rival Tri-City Maroon 4-3 in eight innings. It was the second extra-inning game of the week for Red, and was their fifth game in the last four games.

The bats were quiet through five innings, with the only Red hit coming courtesy of Ike Mezzenga, who hit a one-out single in the third. In the sixth however, TC Red started scoring. Cooper Kleppe led off with a single, and advanced to second when Reid Thurston hit a sharp grounder to third, which was bobbled, allowing him to reach. With two on, Ben Rosin hit a deep fly out to left field, that advanced the runners to second and third. Paul Diekoff then ripped a single into right field, bringing in two runs and tying the game at two.

Despite getting runners on in the bottom of the seventh -- thanks to a walk by Leo Fleischhacker, a sac bunt by Andrew Boeser, and an intentional walk to Mezzenga -- Red was unable to capitalize to score a winning run. Maroon, however, was able to scratch across a pair of runs in the top of the eighth, to take a 4-2 lead.

Rosin led off the eighth for Red, hitting a double to the left field fence. He advanced to third when Diekoff singled, before Landon Both drew a walk to load the bases. After a strikeout, Fleischhacker drew a walk, picking up an RBI and making it 4-3. Maroon then recorded a pair of strikeouts to end the game.

Diekoff led the way offensively for Red, going 2-4 with two RBI. Rosin started on the mound, throwing a scoreless inning, before giving way to Maddox Folska, who threw two innings. Thereafter, Brandon Cook came in for one and two-thirds of an inning. The loss went to Boeser, who threw the final three and one-third of an inning, allowing two runs on one hit with three strikeouts.

Red now gets a much-deserved day off on Friday before facing 2017 State Tournament rival, Ham Lake, Saturday morning; in 2017, while also hosting the State Tournament that year, Red defeated Ham Lake for the Championship, 6-3, at CHS Field. First pitch on Saturday is 11 a.m. at Mounds View High School.

Game Summary

Tri-City Maroon 4, Tri-City Red 3 (8 innings)

Game 8, June 24, 2021:

(4th District League Game 5)

TCM 002 000 02--464
TCR 000 002 01--352

TCM: Zupfer, Johnson (3), Marcellus (6), Maze (8); and Jorgenson

TCR: Rosin, Folska (3), Cook (4), Boeser (5); and Hinkel

Win: Cal Marcellus, TCM Loss: Andrew Boeser, TCR Save: Owen Maze, TCM