

## **White Bear Tightens District Race with Late Rally**

By Greg Schmidt  
July 15, 2005

All appeared normal during the first six innings July 13 at Midway Stadium, but then came the seventh and the biggest collapse in the Fourth District for the Red this summer. And it arrived from a surprising foe as White Bear Lake rallied with four runs in their final at bat for a 6-5 shocker.

White Bear's Steve Turnbull stoked the late rally with his third hit on the night — a two-run triple to right. A second later he was home with the equalizer on Donovan Bates' single to left and with one out — a sacrifice fly to center left the Red and their fans with a stunning defeat. White Bear showed no sign or even mild interest in a victory through the first six innings as the Red drew nine free trots to first and scored four runs on an error, passed ball, wild pitch and a balk. Tri-City looked flat as well with only six hits — two from Blake Searles, who accounted for the only Red RBI. But they were in control the whole way — well, at least for six innings.

It was an upset of epic proportions as the fifth-ranked Red, in their first Fourth district game in three weeks, dropped to 8-3 and 27-6 overall while White Bear improved to 7-11 and 4-5 in district play. The Red still resides in first place with seven games left, but two are against second place Hamline (7-3).

### **Fourth District (Game 33), July 13, 2005 White Bear Lake 6, Tri-City Red 5**

**TCR**            **1 1 0 0 0 1 2 — 5 6 4**

**White Bear** **1 0 0 0 1 0 4 — 6 9 1**

**Ries, Porten (7) and Field; Lassche, Sand (5) and Grayden. W-Sand (1-2). L-Ries (4-2).**

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## **Princeton Tournament Coverage**

### **Red Dumped into Consolation Bracket**

By Greg Schmidt  
July 15, 2005

The bats went flat again for the Red and the result was a 6-1 loss to Hopkins July 14 in the quarterfinals of the Princeton tourney.

The fifth-ranked Red (27-7) nearly matched unranked Hopkins (14-10) in total hits 7-6, but it was the latter that got the timely — and most effective hits — including back-to-back solo shots by Ben D'Amico and Tim Beatty in the fifth. Six players knocked in runs

for Hopkins. The Red finally got on the board in the sixth on a first-pitch one-out single to right by Evan Eid (2 for 3, RBI) that scored Matt Frakes, (1 for 4) who led off the inning with a double off the left-centerfield wall. But that was the only key hit provided as the Red stranded 10.

Derek McCallum (BB, HBP), Justin Hemauer and Chase Traeger had one hit apiece. It was the fourth straight game the Red had seven hits or less and third straight loss — their longest skid of the season,

**Princeton tourney quarterfinals July 14, 2005  
Hopkins 6, Tri-City Red 1 (Game 34)**

TCR            0 0 0   0 0 1   0 — 1 6 2  
Hopkins       2 0 1   0 2 1   x — 6 7 1  
Rosin, Porten (6) and Moen, Field (6); Brinda and Beatty. W-Brinda (2-3). L-Rosin (5-4). HR-Hop, D'Amico, Beatty.

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**Eid Provides to End Skid**

By Greg Schmidt  
July 18, 2005

In the Red's previous game, a 6-1 defeat, Evan Eid prevented a shutout with a sixth inning single. In the latest outing, Eid came up even bigger with a two-run double to right-center in the top of the eighth leading the Red to a 3-1 comeback victory July 16 against host Princeton (12-16) to end a three-game skid.

The triumph advanced Tri-City (28-7) into the fifth place final and was much different than the last meeting in the '04 tourney when the Red blasted the host 17-2 in five innings.

The overtime wouldn't have been possible without a little seventh inning manufacturing as Adam Weber walked, moved to second on a sacrifice bunt by Eid and scored on a single to left-center from Blake Searles (1 for 3, RBI) that tied it 1-1. Eid (2B, sac, 2-RBI) and Chase Traeger (2B) each had two hits. Searles earned the win with four innings of relief to become the fourth Red pitcher to log at least five victories this summer and Porten got hits team-leading third save with a scoreless eighth.

**Fifth place semifinals July 16  
Tri-City Red 3, Princeton 1, 8 inn. (Game 35)**

TCR            0 0 0   0 0 0   1 2 — 3 8 1  
Princeton     0 0 0   0 1 0   0 0 — 1 6 0  
Cleveringa, Searles (4), Porten (8) and Field, Moen (4); Knoll and Macko. W-Searles (5-0). L-Knoll. S-Porten (3).

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## Miscues Mess up Chance for Fifth

By Greg Schmidt

July 18, 2005

Two errors in the bottom of the seventh led to disaster July 17 for the Red (28-8) as Moorhead rallied to a 4-3 win in the fifth place final of the Princeton tournament.

The hard-luck losers in the mix were staff ace Sam Weber, who entered in the seventh, and starter Brandon Porten, who was making his first career start in a Red uniform. Tri-City held a 3-1 advantage scoring single runs in the first, third and fifth. In the third, Hemauer (2 for 3, HR, RBI) touched home for the second time in the game, this time with a leadoff homer over right field. In the first inning he singled, stole second and raced home on a double off the right field wall by Derek McCallum (1 for 3, 2B, RBI). Chase Traeger (1 for 3, 2B, RBI) drove in the Red's third run in nearly the same fashion as Cory Sheets worked a free pass, snatched second and scored on the double.

Last year the Red reached the championship game of the tourney, but was beat up by Moorhead 10-3.

But they're in much better shape this year at 28-8. A year ago they finished the tourney with a 14-18 overall mark. The Red also took second in '03 and last won it in '99.

The Red failed to reach double-digits in the hits column for the sixth straight game. Much of the struggle, insists manager Jeff Larsen, is due to the bats — more specifically the type.

“We used wood [for two weeks on the road trip]. We have to adjust going back to metal,” Larsen said. “The top three — Hemauer, Traeger and McCallum — they've come around.”

### Fifth place final July 17

#### Moorhead 4, Tri-City Red 3 (Game 36)

TCR            1 0 1   0 1 0   0 — 3 4 2

Moorhead    1 0 0   0 0 0   3 — 4 6 0

Porten S. Weber (7) and Field, Moen (7); Pieterick and Dahl. W-Pieterick. L-S. Weber (7-2). HR-Hemauer (3).

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