

Red makes it a clean sweep over Purple

by Greg Schmidt

July 17, 2008

Tri-City (22-2, 9-1) returned to Fourth district action July 8 with a solid 5-1 win over Hamline Purple (9-5) at Midway Stadium. The victory closed out the season series with a perfect 3 for 3 for the Red and put them back into a tie for first with North St. Paul in the district (Red owns tiebreaker over NSP).

The Purple actually led, but it was extremely brief as their 1-0 advantage in the top of the third was wiped out in the bottom of the frame on back-to-back base hits from Ross LaDuke (1 for 4, RBI, R) and Nick Colwell (1 for 3, RBI) that scored Luke Ross (0 for 1, BB, R) and Jack Ries (1 for 3, 2-R). The Red provided a slow drip defeat for Hamline the rest of the way with single runs in their remaining at bats including hits by Tommy Thompson (1 for 2, 2B, RBI), Brandon Hershey (2 for 3, RBI, R) and David Freed (2 for 4, RBI).

Tri-City also offered a challenge to the Hamline hitters by sending out five pitchers and the strategy worked especially over the final three innings when they didn't allow a hit.

Tri-City Red 5, Hamline Purple 1 Game 24, July 8, 2008

Hamline Purple	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	—	1	6	5
Tri-City Red	0	0	2	1	1	1	x	—	5	8	3

Gregory and Lulic; Wessberg, Gallagher (2), Myers (3), Imdieke (5), Freed (7) and Tetrick. W-Myers (4-1). L-Gregory (1-2).

Red has no luck with Vegas

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The Red took a step out of the district July 9 for a Gopher Classic warm-up game against Sierra Vista (NV), located just 15 minutes off the strip in Las Vegas. However, it appeared to be more of an exhibition or scrimmage. Whatever the case, Sierra Vista 'exhibited' the most, as they crushed the Red 14-1.

It was the first meeting in three years, almost to the day actually, when the Red and Sierra Vista met in the championship game of the Miles City (MT) tournament July 10, 2005, won by the latter, 3-1. (The Red had won an earlier meeting at the tourney, 5-1 in 10 innings). The latest encounter was strictly one-sided and it started with the very first batter, as Scott Berke sent one over the left field fence.

In the third inning Sierra Vista blew it open with six runs, sparked by three Red miscues.

In the fourth, the visitor (27-6) showed why they've been touted as one of the top three teams in Nevada, while chalking up seven runs on six hits including two monster triples that accounted for five runs. The Red (22-3) sent six pitchers to the mound, in preparation for the 48-team Gopher Classic this weekend where Sierra Vista is also a participant. Of the six, Nick Colwell (1-IP, 2-SO) proved by far the most effective, with a 1-2-3 fifth inning.

Tri-City managed just four hits, with two from David Freed (double) and one apiece by Ross LaDuke (double, RBI) and Jesse Nickols.

**Sierra Vista 14, Tri-City Red 1, 5 inn.
Game 25, July 9, 2008**

Sierra Vista NV	1	0	6	7	0	—	14	12	0
Tri-City Red	0	0	1	0	0	—	1	4	3

Estrella, Harmon (4) and Claus, Cerruti (4); Gallagher, Page (2), Myers (3), Imdieke (4), Ross (4), Colwell (5) and Wessberg. W-Claus (2-0). L-Gallagher (4-2). HR-SV, Berke (1).

Coming Soon: Red vs. Blue