

## Cavemen Extend Winning Streak to Three

Richey's slam in the 8<sup>th</sup> secures win

*June 12<sup>th</sup>, 2010*



HANNIBAL, MO – Mother nature wasn't too kind to historic Clemens Field all day long, as rain continued to pound downtown Hannibal, MO. The skies eventually lightened up and Saturday night turned into a perfect night for baseball. The lucky fans in attendance were able to witness a little history as well as a Cavemen win. Hannibal came away with the victory over the visiting Dubois County Bombers by a score of 6-2.

Dubois began the scoring on the night in the top of the first inning. After an error by Cavemen center fielder Matt Burton (Redlands Community College, OK), the bombers designated hitter Brad Hook stroked a RBI double to right field to put Dubois up 1-0.

Hannibal (5-2) responded quickly in the bottom half of the second when Matt Burton and Jake Hermsen (Northern Illinois University) hit back to back doubles to begin the inning. After a sacrifice bunt by Brad Moss (Samford), Curtis Ford (Mississippi Valley State University), lined an RBI single over the Dubois second basemen to put the Cavemen on top by a score of 2-1.

The back and forth affair continued when Dubois evened up the score at two after Michael Corrigan hit a sacrifice fly to drive in third basemen Anthony Meza.

Hermsen led off the bottom of the fourth for the Cavemen and reached on a base hit. Jerry Hildreth (Mississippi Valley State University) then drove Hermsen in with his second double of the night to put the Cavemen up 3-2.

Mark Sappington (Rockhurst) was the starting pitcher on the night for Hannibal and provided a strong outing. Sappington improved to 2-0 on the young season and finished with nine strikeouts in six innings of work. His ERA on the year now sits at a standout 1.13.

The Dubois Bombers (4-5) tossed out Nick Musec as their starting pitcher and for seven innings he had limited the Cavemen offense to only three runs. However, in the bottom of the eighth, Hannibal's bats came alive in a big way. LJ Watson (William Woods) led off the inning with a triple to the right center gap. Gardner Richey (Samford) stepped up to the plate with one out and ignited the Cavemen crowd into an instant frenzy. Richey launched the first pitch he saw over the left field wall, while also hitting the promotional McDonald's Big Mac sign hanging in the outfield. This marked the first time in club history that a player had hit the sign and all of those in attendance were awarded a free Big Mac tomorrow courtesy from local McDonalds.

The Cavemen look to continue their winning ways Sunday in Quincy, IL as they travel to take on the Gems. The two teams will play a double-header with the first pitch set for 5:00 PM (CT).

Andy Oldenburg  
Hannibal Cavemen Baseball  
andy@hannibalbaseball.com