

Hannibal Fall In Extras To Quincy, 8-6

Gems continue early season dominance over Cavemen

June 19th, 2011



HANNIBAL, MO – Sometimes it appears no matter what you do, one certain opponent always seems to have your number. This instance was probably the case going through Hannibal Cavemen players Saturday night after they saw a late 5-0 leads disappear to the visiting Quincy Gems.

As they have done so many times this season, Hannibal (9-4) reached the scoreboard first. Michael Tucker (Anderson University) drove in the first Cavemen run on the night with a sacrifice fly to bring Kyle Haen (Iowa) across the plate. Trey Lang (Mesa, Arizona) delivered the big blow of the inning after ripping a double down the line to drive in two runners.

The Cavemen would extend their lead to five after adding two more runs in the bottom of the third. Alan Cheatham (Principia College) came through in the clutch yet again with a 2 RBI double and Hannibal appeared to be cruising to an easy win.

Mike Zoellner (Northwestern College) started on the mound for the Cavemen and eased his way through five shutout innings. However, he would run into trouble in the sixth inning and allowed the Gems to get right back into the game. Quincy's Brian Lippincott highlighted the inning with a triple to the gap to bring home two runners. The Gems (13-1) added two additional runs in the inning and were suddenly only down one run.

Hannibal clinged onto their one-run lead and had a chance to close things out in the ninth. A.J. Martin (Central Methodist University) would try to take on the task for his team, but Quincy wouldn't go down easily. After tying the game at five, Quincy's Ryan Lewis crossed the plate to give his team a 6-5 lead. The Cavemen would quickly respond in their half of the ninth and tied things up after a sacrifice fly by Ethan Schlechte (Maple Woods CC).

After a scoreless tenth inning by each team, Quincy re-gained the lead in the eleventh. Ryan Lewis drew a bases-loaded walk and D.W. Warner scored on a wild pitch to give the Gems an 8-6 advantage. Zak Treece closed the door on the Cavemen with a 1-2-3 eleventh and Quincy improved to 3-0 this season against Hannibal.

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