

## Hannibal Edge Springfield In Extras, 10-9

### Irby scores winning run on error by Sliders

*August 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2011*



HANNIBAL, MO – The bats were out in full force for both teams Tuesday night at historic Clemens Field. The two teams combined for nineteen runs scored and thirty-three hits. The Hannibal Cavemen's 10-9 victory in ten innings was their second consecutive victory and kept them alive in the second-half playoff hunt.

Both starting pitchers on the day were roughed up early and often. Springfield starter, Brandon Koenigstein, allowed 12 hits and six earned runs in six innings pitched. Cody King was also knocked around for Hannibal after only lasting 3.1 innings.

After the Cavemen jumped out to a 1-0 lead in the first, the Sliders responded with four runs in the top half of the second. C.K. Irby (Samford) delivered a two-run double in the bottom of the second to cut the Hannibal deficit to one run.

Michael Tucker (Anderson University) tied things up in the third inning with an RBI single. Springfield re-gained the lead in the fourth with a pair of runs and also added another in the sixth inning. Hannibal trailed 7-4 heading to the seventh and were looking for some late-inning magic. Jake Mangler (Iowa) would drive in Ray Fuentes (Isabella, Puerto Rico) with an RBI single and Nick Rountree (University of Arkansas-Little Rock) added another run with a sacrifice fly.

The Sliders continued to put the pressure on their opponent with two more runs in the eighth inning. However, Hannibal responded once again with three runs of their own in the bottom half of the inning and tied the ballgame at nine. Each team would put up zeros in the ninth and the fans in attendance were treated to extra baseball.

Reliever A.J. Martin (Central Methodist) pitched another scoreless inning in the top of the tenth to give his team a chance to earn a walk-off victory. C.K. Irby led-off the inning for the Cavemen with a walk and later moved to second base with a stolen base. Jake Hermsen layed down a successful sacrifice bunt, but Sliders pitcher Justin Hunsaker threw away the ball while attempting to throw out Hermsen at first. The error allowed Irby to cross the plate with the game-winning run and he was quickly mobbed by his teammates.

Hannibal travels to Dubois County Wednesday night for a double-header against the Bombers. After another road game Thursday at Terre Haute, the Cavemen will have their home-finale Friday night against the Danville Dans.

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