

## **Cavemen Fall In Extra Innings**

**Terre Haute pushes two across in the 13<sup>th</sup> for victory**

*July 31<sup>st</sup>, 2010*



HANNIBAL, MO – It was a rare occurrence Saturday in Hannibal, MO after not a single rain drop fell throughout the day. A beautiful night would arise at Clemens Field and the Hannibal Cavemen were set to host the Central Division leading Terre Haute Rex. Pitching and defense for both sides would rule the evening and neither team couldn't claim a victory in the first nine innings. Play would stretch into the 13<sup>th</sup> inning and Terre Haute would escape with a key 3-1 road victory over Hannibal.

The Cavemen would strike first in the third inning after Ryan Porter (Rockhurst) knocked an RBI single up the middle to drive in Brooks Fiala (Miami of Ohio). Porter's team leading 33<sup>rd</sup> RBI on the season put Hannibal ahead by a score of 1-0.

Terre Haute would load the bases in the top half of the fourth with no one out. Cavemen's starting pitcher, Mark Sappington (Rockhurst), would limit the damage to only one run after getting Alex Guthrie to hit into a 4-6-3 double play. Sappington would get in and out of trouble all evening long but would manage to turn in yet another solid outing for Hannibal.

Play would extend into extra innings with the score remaining at 1-1. Hannibal had a golden opportunity to the end game in a winning fashion in the bottom of the 12<sup>th</sup> inning. The Cavemen loaded the bases with one out and the winning run was only 90 feet away. Terre Haute reliever, Ryne Purcell, would escape the jam after striking out Jake Hermsen swinging and catching Jerry Hildreth striking out looking.

The Rex would finally get back on the scoreboard in the top of the 13<sup>th</sup> when first basemen Joe Meggs hammered a double down the left field line to drive in two runners. After building a 3-1 lead, Purcell would get a 1-2-3 bottom half of the inning for Terre Haute and the Rex would come away victorious. Purcell earned the victory on the night for Terre Haute and Eric Wooten suffered the loss for the Cavemen.

Hannibal hosts the Dupage Dragons Sunday afternoon at historic Clemens Field, with the first pitch set for 3:05 PM (CT). The Cavemen enter the last week of the regular season with hopes remaining to enter the 2010 Prospect League playoffs.

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