

DeKalb Edges Cavemen, 1-0

Liners score in the 9th to escape with victory

August 6th, 2010



HANNIBAL, MO – The Hannibal Cavemen entered Friday night out of playoff contention and were looking to end their 2010 season at Clemens Field on a high note. The score remained scoreless heading into the ninth with pitching reigning supreme through the first eight innings of the ballgame. Both DeKalb and Hannibal had their fair amount of chances throughout the night, but DeKalb would be the only one to fully capitalize on their opportunities. The Liners loaded the bases in the top half of the ninth and Joe DeBernardis came away with a clutch RBI single to put his team ahead 1-0. Hannibal attempted one last effort to tie the game in the ninth, but would fall just short.

Pitching was the story of the night for both teams after each team's starting pitcher put their team in a position to win the ballgame. DeKalb's Jack Havey finished with five shutout innings while only allowing three hits. Justin McGhee (Hannibal-LaGrange College) would cap his 2010 season with yet another gem on the mound for the Cavemen. McGhee left Friday's game only allowing three hits and two walks through seven shutout innings. In eight starts this summer, Justin finished with an incredible 1.21 ERA while earning a 4-1 record.

Despite never reaching the scoreboard, Hannibal had their fair amount of chances throughout the game to push a run across the plate. In the bottom of the fourth, Nick Rountree walked to the plate with two runners on, but would ground into an inning-ending fielder's choice. With two outs in the sixth inning, Gardner Richey (Samford) recorded his third triple of the season to put the Cavemen in the business. However, Matt Burton failed to knock him in after grounding to the second basemen to end the inning.

The Cavemen had their best opportunity of the night in the ninth while trailing the Liners by one run. Hannibal loaded the bases with two outs and Shelby Anderson was called upon from the bench to pinch hit for Jerry Hildreth. DeKalb's closer, Tom Zelasko, would save the day for his team after catching Anderson looking for a game ending strikeout. Zelasko earned his sixth save of the season while Adam Karger picked up the victory for DeKalb. Josh Tols suffered the loss for the Cavemen after allowing the go-ahead run in the ninth.

Hannibal closes out their 2010 season Saturday night at historic Clemens Field with a suspended game from last week being resumed at 5:00 PM (CT) and the original scheduled game against Quincy for the night beginning at 6:35 PM (CT).

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