

Tostenson, Hoekstra Carry Locos in 6-0 Victory over Steam

Tostenson drives in five of six Lima runs while Hoekstra tosses complete-game shutout.

July 25, 2010

LIMA, Ohio—It just takes two. The Locos blanked the Steam 6-0 on Sunday night at Simmons Field despite getting virtually all of their production from only two players: left fielder Ty Tostenson (Consumnes River C.C.), who went 2-for-2 with a triple, a home run, a sacrifice fly, and five RBI, and starter Mike Hoekstra (Eastern Illinois), who hurled a complete-game shutout, striking out six without a walk (first time in 38 games Steam hitters have not drawn a base on balls). The rest of the Locos lineup went just 4-for-29 (.138) against Blake Bagshaw (Northern Kentucky), Mike Peterson (DePauw), and Ryan Hopkins (Tennessee Tech), including 0-for-5 with runners in scoring position.

It marked just the eighth shutout in five seasons against the Steam (14-15), who have whitewashed their opponents 15 times in club history.

The Locos (13-18-1) got what turned out to be the only run they needed in the second, an unearned score against the starter Bagshaw (0-2). Kody Krizman (Wright State) reached on an error by second baseman Michael Morris (Tennessee Tech) to begin the frame, moved to third on a base hit by Andrew Deeds (Moreheads State), and came home on Tostenson's sacrifice fly.

Tostenson was in the middle of the action again in the fourth, driving in two with a one-out triple to make it 3-0 in favor of Lima before catcher Geoff Bowers (Olney Central) brought him in with an RBI ground out. Then in the sixth, Peterson struck out Deeds with one out but a wild pitch enable him to reach, and Tostenson again dealt the Steam a blow, this time with a two-run bomb to right-center to wrap up the game's scoring.

Two hits in each of the third and fourth innings put the Steam within striking distance, but Hoekstra (4-2) worked out of trouble each time and was at his best in the late innings, retiring the last eight Cincinnati hitters he faced. Noah Zipko (Campbell) and Michael Basil (Indiana) each collected a pair of hits off of the righty; the multi-hit contest was Zipko's fourth of the campaign, while Basil is hitting .316 (6-for-19) over his last seven games after batting .114 (4-for-35) in his first 10.

Bagshaw gave up just an earned run (four total) in 5.0 innings, striking out four with one walk. The right-hander has punched out 18 while walking just three on the season and has not handed out more than one free pass in a game all summer (he also has not hit a batter). Among league pitchers with at least 20.0 innings, only J.T. Odom (Mercer) of Lima (39 strikeouts, six walks) and Justin Ziegler (Bradley) of Licking County (21 strikeouts, two walks)—who hold the GLSCL's two best ERAs—have a better strikeout-to-walk ratio than Bagshaw.

Cincinnati returns home on Monday for a 7:05 matchup with Xenia (12-19), a makeup of the July 9 rainout. The Steam are 8-1 all-time at home versus the Scouts, who are seeking to take the season series from Cincinnati for the first time ever and extend their current winning streak to four games (Xenia has not won more than three consecutive games in the last five years).