

Stranded baserunners doom Gothenburg Juniors at Ogallala

Written by Austin Benson
Thursday, 11 July 2013 13:18 -

Missed scoring opportunities kept the Gothenburg Junior Melons searching for their first victory after losing their final regular season game 10-4 at Ogallala July 2.

Gothenburg had the bases loaded three times with two outs and scored just three runs.

The Melons' first five batters reached second base but only one run scored.

Braeden Brundage earned the third walk in a row that scored Patrick Messersmith who was hit by a pitch earlier in the first inning.

Ogallala answered with a run in the bottom half of the inning on a walk and a grounder to the shortstop, tying the game at 1-1.

Patience at the plate continued into the second as the Melons earned four more walks.

After being walked, Logan Carlson advanced to third on a throwing error by the Ogallala shortstop. The next batter hit a ground ball to the middle infield, sending Carlson home.

On the play, Bryce Kowalewski advanced to third. Eventually, after three more walks in the second, he scored. A strikeout ended the rally, and the Melons were unable to reach base the next three innings.

Trailing 3-1, Ogallala took advantage of three Gothenburg errors, scoring one run in the bottom of the second.

In the third, after Gothenburg was retired, Ogallala led off with a walk and a stolen base. A

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single into left field scored the runner from second base. Three more singles led to three more runs.

Trailing 6-3, Gothenburg only managed one more hit before the sixth inning, while Ogallala scored four more runs. Three came in a two-out rally in the fourth inning fueled by an RBI double and a two-run single

Gothenburg strung together a walk and two infield hits in the sixth. With the bases loaded, Zach Kolbo walked, scoring the last run for the Melons.

The game ended with a score of 10-4, due to time limit in the bottom of the sixth.

Gothenburg will open the area tournament Friday against host Cozad. The game is set to start at 8 p.m. A win would have the Melons playing Saturday at 8 p.m. If Gothenburg loses, the team will play the loser of Minden-Holdrege at 2 p.m. Saturday. See the full bracket.

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