

Creemore Barons sweep season series with Aurora Jays

By Jake Courtepatte

In their second matchup in three days, the Creemore Barons beat the Aurora Jays to win both games of their season series in the North Dufferin Baseball League.

Three runs in the second inning of last Tuesday's game were enough to hold on to the lead, with the Barons besting the Jays 8 ? 3. All three runs for the Jays crossed the plate in the fifth inning, scored by Stephen Vallee, Ian Rettie, and Michael Keon.

Rettie had the only multi-hit outing for the Jays, going three-for-four, although Keon also reached base three times via three walks.

Veteran Brad Crosby picked up his first loss of the year on the mound, following two quality starts in late May and early June. He gave up eight runs on eight hits through six innings of work, earning three strikeouts along the way.

Pulled after allowing four runs against in the sixth inning, Rob Spencer cleaned up with a shutout seventh inning while allowing only one base runner. Eric Orser went the distance for the Barons, allowing three runs on six Jays' hits.

The game was the only action of the week for the Jays as the league took a hiatus over the long weekend.

Their third loss in four games, Tuesday's battle with the Orangeville Giants has been made even more crucial. At press time, the 10-7-0 Jays are one point back of the Giants, occupying sixth place in the fourteen-team league.

Only two weeks remain in the regular season schedule.

The annual league All-Star Game has also been scheduled for this Saturday, hosted this year by the Lisle Astros at Ross Houston Memorial Park.

The senior contest will feature a 9-inning game between the East Division All-Stars and the West Division All-Stars. The divisions are based on historical divisions within the league. Twenty players and three coaches make up the roster for each team.

With only four junior teams this year, the junior game will be 7 innings in length with only a 12-man roster and three coaches. Each team is comprised of three players from every junior club, which results in teammates pitted against each other during the game. This format has proved very exciting in previous all-star contests.

Four players will represent the Jays in the senior game, more than any other league team. Crosby, Daniel Lehmkuhl, and Vallee will all suit up for the East Division All-Stars, while reigning league MVP Ian Rettie will manage.

Rettie is second in the league in batting average with an impressive .522, and third in hits with 24 through 15 games. Crosby, Lehmkuhl, and Vallee are all in the top twenty in the league in hitting.

For stats, schedules, and more information, visit www.ndbl.ca.