

Bukovec throws two-hit shutout for Aurora Jays

By Jake Courtepatte

Andrew Bukovec hurled one of his best games as a Jay in a week that saw Aurora climb to second place in the North Dufferin Baseball League standings.

Visiting the Barrie Angels last Tuesday following a six-day break, Bukovec scattered just two hits throughout a full seven innings of work, his first complete game of the AA league's 2017 season.

He struck out two batters in the process.

While his counterpart Kurt Roy was also in the zone for the Angels, Aurora managed a run in the first and a run in the third inning to hold on for a 2 ? 0 win.

Both Chris Rettie and Chris Fafalios came in to score, while Fafalios put up the only multiple base hit of the game while the rest of the Jays added three singles.

Bukovec brings his stats up to three runs and four hits allowed while working the mound over 8.1 innings for the Jays this season.

Riding a four-game winning streak entering their matchup the following night with the Bolton Dodgers in Tottenham, a 6 ? 2 upset surprised the Jays in their first loss since opening night.

The work of veteran pitcher Shawn English held the Jays to just two runs, in a 6 ? 2 score for the Dodgers' first win of the season.

Rob Spencer, who pitched a gem for the Jays two weeks ago against the Ivy Leafs, earned his first loss on the mound this season.

The boys in blue and white, known annually for their offensive power, quickly turned it around three nights later with a massive 15 ? 0 win on the road over the Alliston Athletics.

The bats lit up Alliston pitcher Sean Reid, while Aurora's Nathan Robinson earned the Jays' second shutout in three games.

Their record of 2 ? 1 on the week brings the Jays to a total of 5 ? 2 on the season, just two points behind the league-leading Lisle Astros and tied with the Creemore Braves.

The Orangeville Giants held first place for the first month of the season before suffering their first loss last week.

Next up for the Jays are back-to-back games in New Lowell on Sunday afternoon, first battling the New Lowell Knights (3-2-0) before facing the Clearview Orioles (4-3-0) immediately after.

First pitch is set for 1 p.m.

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