

Windy City Double Up Brockton 4-2, Sweep The Series

BROCKTON, MA. – Windy City rallied off two runs in the eighth inning for a 4-2 victory over Brockton on Sunday afternoon at Campanelli Stadium. The ThunderBolts pick up the sweep, their second in three series, and improve to 18-33 in the season, while the Rox drop to 22-27 in the campaign.

Brockton Rox starting pitcher Omar Melendez, in his first professional game, pitched 5.2 innings. He allowed five hits and two runs, with only one earned run, while walking two batters and striking out eight, the most by a Rox pitcher this season. Santiago Ramirez took the loss for Brockton. He pitched 0.2 innings, giving up one hit and one earned run, while striking out one batter.

Windy City starting pitcher Greg Duncan also did not earn a decision despite a great outing. He pitched six innings, allowing six hits and two earned runs, while walking four batters and striking out six. Jalen Evans came in as relief and earned his first win of the season, improving to 1-0. He pitched two shutout innings, allowing one hit and striking out one batter. Trevin Reynolds recorded his fifth save of the season.

Windy City scored first in the third inning when Kyle Harbison walked and advanced to second on a passed ball. Right fielder Ethan Roberts then followed with a single to left field, driving in Harbison. Despite this, Melendez was in control, striking out six ThunderBolts batters over the first three innings while allowing just one hit.

After Brockton had two hits in the first inning, seven of the next eight batters were retired. In the bottom of the fourth, the Rox began with two consecutive hits by Derek Bender and Evan Giordano. Tommy Kretzler walked to load the bases. A few batters later, they tied the score at one run apiece on a wild pitch with JR DiSarcina up to the plate. He struck out later in the at-bat to end the inning.

David Maberry broke the 1-1 tie when he hit a solo home run in the top of the sixth, giving Windy City a 2-1 lead. The ball was clocked at 106 miles per hour off the bat and landed 427 feet in left-center field.

In the bottom of the sixth, the Rox started the inning by having two runners in scoring position, and a few batters later, they had the bases loaded for J.R. DiSarcina when he flew out to the right fielder for a sacrifice fly to even up the score at two runs apiece.

Ethan Bobo came in to pitch in the seventh, as he struck out two batters in the frame. In the eighth, Windy City had a runner on third with two outs when Dunlap delivered an infield hit to give the ThunderBolts a 3-2 lead. Josh Gibson then came through with an RBI base hit to extend Windy City's lead to 4-2.

Austin White led off the ninth with an infield hit, and with one out, Hemmanuel Rosario was hit by a pitch as Brockton had two runners on with two outs for Giordano when he delivered a line drive to the shortstop, Dunlap, to end the game. It was thematic for a series that has seen Dunlap and the middle infielders make play after play.

Brockton will now begin a six-game road trip against Florence Yalls and the Joliet Slammers, before the all-star break.