

Game Recap | July 27, 2019

Jets Clinch 2nd Place With 9-5 Victory Against Reign

Anthony Quach – Communications Manager

SAN MARCOS – With the Hooks' victory over the Reign earlier today, the Jets looked to make it a clean sweep against their interleague opponents in the final game of the Saturday tripleheader. And the Jets did just that, defeating the Reign, 9-5.

Through the first five innings, the Jets' offense mustered only two runs as they trailed the Reign 4-2.

In the sixth inning, the Jets loaded the bases and Ross Smith walked to force in a run. Zach Smits came up and cleared the bases with a three-run double and gave his team a 6-4 lead.

"We were behind [a run] so I was trying to take until I got a strike. I was able to see a couple of pitches and put the barrel on it," said Smits who finished 2-for-5 with three RBIs.

According to Jets' head coach Wayne Franklin, Smits' hit "took the weight off their shoulders." "A bases clearing double, that was huge," said Coach Franklin. "That's what leaders do and that's one of those moments [where] Zach carried the team right there."

Brett Spackeen got his first start for the Jets and allowed one run on three hits and struck out two in three innings.

Dylan Gordon relieved Spackeen in the fourth and the Reign scored three more runs on an error, wild pitch and an RBI single by Jeff Goulet to take a 4-0 lead over the Jets.

In the fifth inning, Jonah Sebring came out of the pen and allowed one run (zero earned) on two hits, two walks and struck out eight. "I was just trying to pound the zone and let my defense do the work for me and they did a great job," said Sebring. "Our offense came through in clutch situations, I just got out there and threw strikes, trying to get ahead in the count."

For Sebring, it's all about trusting his pitches according to Jets head coach, Wayne Franklin. "I want him to get [batters] to swing at [his pitches] more, instead of trying to pitch the edges," said Coach Franklin. "I think [Sebring] could have pitched us five innings with a lot less pitches. He could have been more efficient today."

After their four-run sixth, the Jets took control of the game and continued to score. Three innings later, they held on to beat the Reign, 9-5.

With the win, the Jets improve to 17-15-1 and with only two games remaining, the Jets will finish the season in second place and clinch a first-round bye into the playoffs.

"Our momentum is really carrying us into the playoffs," said Sebring. "I think we're going to have a really good chance against whatever team we play and we're really bonding together right now so it's good chemistry we're having."

The Jets will begin a two-game series against the Warriors tomorrow at 10:05 A.M at the CSUSM Baseball Field.



Zach Smits' comes up clutch with a bases-clearing double to take a 6-4 lead and turn the momentum in the Jets' favor.
(Kevin Dahlgren/San Diego League)