**TOUR GAME # 3**

**DATE: 15 September**

**VENUE: Mt Hood Community College, Gresham, Oregon**

**AUSTRALIAN SCHOOLBOYS vs. MT. HOOD COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Inn / Team** | **1** | **2** | **3** | **4** | **5** | **6** | **7** | **8** | **9** |  | **R** | **H** | **E** |
| **V** | Australia | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |  | 2 | 9 | 1 |
| **H** | Mt. Hood | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 0 |  |  | 3 | 8 | 1 |

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Bat** | Australia | **Pos** | **At Plate** | **Hits** | **RBIs** | **Walks** | **HPB** | **Sacs** | **Stolen**  **Bases** | **Runs**  **Scored** |
| **1** | E. Stacy  B. Fierenzi | 2B | 4  1 | 1  0 | 0  0 | 0  0 | 0  0 | 0  0 | 0  0 | 1  0 |
| **2** | A. Skepton | LF | 4 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| **3** | J. Meyer | 3B | 4 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| **4** | N. Hosie | C / 1B | 4 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| **5** | R. Dewick | 1B / C | 4 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| **6** | L. MacDonald | SS | 4 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| **7** | C. Rodwell  L. Gonzalez | RF | 3  1 | 1  1 | 0  0 | 0  0 | 0  0 | 0  0 | 0  0 | 0  0 |
| **8** | B. Bidois  M. Ellison | DH | 2  2 | 1  1 | 0  0 | 0  0 | 0  0 | 0  0 | 0  0 | 0  0 |
| **9** | J. Lee  W. Tucker | CF | 3  1 | 0  0 | 0  0 | 0  0 | 0  0 | 0  0 | 0  0 | 0  0 |

**Pitchers**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Australia** | **Innings Pitched** | **Ks** | **Hits** | **Walks** | **HPB** | **Runs** | **Earned Runs** |
| L. Evans | 5 | 3 | 4 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| K. Jackson | 2 | 1 | 4 | 1 | 0 | 3 | 1 |
| R. Pelkonen | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

Played today against Mt Hood, one of the strongest junior college teams in Oregon who’ve been Regional Champions four times since 2012. Mt Hood itself dominates the landscape around Portland as it has a snow covered peak all year round. But we were at the bottom of the mountain in a town called Gresham, playing at a very picturesque field dominated by the ivy that covers the entire outfield fence. It really is a beautiful looking ball park.

Our starter today was Liam Evans, who has been a hero with the bat in our first two games. Stacey and Skepton led off the game with consecutive singles and Hosie’s line drive to right field scored one to give us an early lead. Evans was immediately into his groove striking out the first two hitters and at the end of the 1st we were up 1 - 0.

We again threatened in the 2nd when MacDonald walked and Rodwell singled but a good double play got them out of trouble. It was their turn to threaten when they had two runners on after a walk and a base hit, but a tremendous running catch by Lee at centre field shut down the inning.

Good pitching and good defence from both teams through the 3rd, 4th and 5th inning saw the score line remain the same and so it was still 1- 0 going into the 6th. Evans came out of the game having thrown

five hugely effective innings and was replaced on the mound by Jackson for the start of the 6th and he too held them scoreless.

In the 7th a couple of soft hit balls found gaps to put runners on first and third and then we made our first error of the game which brought in their first run. Another hit scored a second and a sacrifice fly a third, and going into the 8th we were behind in the game for the first time at 3 - 1.

To their great credit, our boys hit back straight away when Skepton singled and Meyer tripled to right centre to bring him in. He was then thrown out at the plate on a fielder’s choice so it was now back to a one run ball game at 3 - 2. Pelkonen came on for Jackson and he held them out.

Gonzaez led off the 9th with a pinch hit opposite field double so we had the tying run on second with none out but unfortunately we left him out there so the final result was a 3 - 2 loss.

It had been a very tight, high quality game of baseball. We’d actually had the more scoring chances and all their three runs came in the one inning, so it’s probably fair to say that they took their chances better than we did. We had made just the one error but it allowed two runs and it showed to the boys how any mistake at this level can really cost you.

But we regroup for tomorrow to play a double header against a strong high school travel team at a place called Battle Ground, which is over the border in Washington State.