

Stars, Walford sweep IVL twinbills

Written by Metro Sports Report
Monday, 30 July 2018 18:03 -



The Stars swept their doubleheader at Norway Sunday night, but they were not able to overtake Williamsburg for the league title in a wild finish to the Iowa Valley League season.

The Stars were forced last week to forfeit two wins over Williamsburg because they used an ineligible player in those games, ultimately costing the Stars the 2018 crown.

Williamsburg won the title with a 12-6 record and .667 winning percentage, with the Stars relegated to second place with a 13-7 mark and .650 winning percentage.

STARS SWEEP NORWAY

The Stars won a pair of tight games at Norway, prevailing 5-3 in the first game and 3-2 in the nightcap.

Matt Berst hit a two-run homer for the Stars in Game 1 and finished with three RBIs. Cody Bell had three hits for the winners.

Christian Stekl belted a solo homer for Norway. The Bandits put runners on first and third with nobody out in the bottom of the seventh on a double by Travis Mueller and a single by Mitch Walser, but Norway was unable to score in the frame.

Blake Hargens pitched a strong game for the Stars in Game 2 and got relief help from Blake Willenborg, who earned a save.

Jordan Hanlon pitched a three-hitter for Norway in the nightcap and Braedon Brown had a

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two-run double.

WALFORD SWEEPS WATKINS

The Walford Hogs won both games of their doubleheader against Watkins to claim third place in the IVL standings with an 11-9 record.

Bryce Grimm belted a three-run homer to help Walford win the first game, 7-3. Mitch Moser had an RBI double for the Hogs. Ty Mougin, Caleb Sass and Zach Stone also had RBI singles.

Kevin Delzell got the victory and struck out eight batters.

Karson Kuester delivered a two-run single for Watkins when the Mudhens grabbed an early 3-0 lead in the first inning. DJ Utley had an RBI single in the frame.

Tyler Butz snapped a 3-3 tie with an RBI single in the bottom of the seventh to give Walford a walk-off victory in the nightcap.

Jameson Steege struck out 11 batters in six innings for Walford but got a no-decision. Ross Swinton picked up the victory in relief with a pair of strikeouts.

Butz had two hits for Walford. Jonny Frese, Skylar Frese and Utley had RBI singles for Watkins.

FINAL STANDINGS

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Williamsburg	12-6
Stars	13-7
Walford	11-9
Red Top	10-10
Watkins	6-12
Norway	6-14

PITCHER OF THE WEEK: Kevin Delzell (Walford)

PLAYER OF THE WEEK: Nick Sueppel (Williamsburg)