

Volcanoes pick up key victory against Campesinos



Volcanoes hitter CJ Epperson launches a fly ball into the outfield. Epperson went 1-for-2 with an RBI and a run scored in the Volcanoes 10-4 victory over the Campesinos. Photo by MATT RAWLINGS of Keizertimes

We came out and did a great job of staying positive and putting together some really good at-bats. It was a great win for us against a tough team.

— **GEHRIG RICHINS**

Volcanoes assistant coach

Volcanoes manager Tony Torcato had barked at the home plate umpire on multiple occasions up to this point. After not getting the strike call, in the previous at-bat, which led to the two-run homer, Torcato confronted the umpire at home plate, arguing balls and strikes, and was ejected from the contest.

“Big pitches at big times effect what we are going to do next pitch and within the whole at-bat everything can change. When that happens and it doesn’t go in your favor, it is really frustrating when you feel like one call can cost a big situation, so when the next ball was a big hit, (Torcato) lost it,” Richins said.

The Volcanoes offense, however, responded in the bottom of the fourth.

Campesinos pitcher Bradley O’Connor issued a pair of one-out walks before being replaced by Andrew Baxter. With two runners on base, DiBenedetto doubled down the right field line to give the Volcanoes a 3-2 lead. Tony Holton followed with a double of his own, scoring two runs and extending the lead to 5-2.

A three-run fifth inning, thanks to a two-run single from Gabriel Gotto and a RBI-hit by Garrett Kueber, helped the Volcanoes increase the lead to 8-2.

“It was about trying to string together really good at-bats and making the pitcher work a little bit,” Richins said.

BY MATT RAWLINGS
Of the Keizertimes

After losing the first game of a doubleheader, the Volcanoes knew they needed to win game two if they wanted to keep pace with the Campesinos de Salem-Keizer in the Mavericks Independent League Standings.

The Volcanoes got RBIs from seven different players and a solid pitching performance from Logan Dubbe as they defeated the Campesinos 10-4 in a seven inning contest on Thursday, June 10.

“We came out and did a great job of staying positive and putting together some really good at-bats. It was a great win for us against a tough team,” said Volcanoes assistant coach Gehrig Richins.

The Volcanoes got things started in the bottom of the first when Nick DiBenedetto drew a leadoff walk and stole second to give them a runner in scoring position. After getting to third on an error, DiBenedetto scored the first run of the game.

In the bottom of the third, the Volcanoes increased their lead to 2-0 on an opposite-field RBI-single to right field from Caleb Johnson — who was 2-for-3 on the night with an RBI and two runs scored.

“They stayed within themselves and weren’t trying to hit a grand slam with no one on,” Richins said.

On the mound, Dubbe was dominant in his first three innings of work. After

Mavericks League		STANDINGS			
POS	TEAM	W	L	L10	STRK
1	CAMPESINOS	10	4	8-2	W1
2	VOLCANOES	8	5	7-3	W1
3	MAVERICKS	7	6	4-4	L3
4	SENATORS	2	12	1-9	L1

*Standings as of Wednesday, June 15

the Campesinos got their first baserunner in the top of the third on a one-out single by Nicholas Prater, Dubbe forced

league’s hits and home runs leader, Rick Phillips, blasted a two-run shot over the right field wall to tie the game at 2-2.

the next hitter to ground into a 3-6-1 double play to end the inning.

“Logan is a battler. The guys are all confident and when he is on the mound, they feel it is winning time. Kudos to him coming in and being a bulldog,” Richins said.

In the top of the fourth, Patrick Chung drew a walk on a pitch that the Volcanoes dug-out thought was the third strike.

With one on and one out, the

brainfood ANSWERS

3	7	8	9	2	1	4	5	6
6	9	5	4	7	8	1	2	3
4	2	1	6	5	3	9	7	8
8	4	9	3	6	7	2	1	5
2	3	7	5	1	4	6	8	9
5	1	6	2	8	9	3	4	7
7	8	4	1	9	6	5	3	2
1	6	2	8	3	5	7	9	4
9	5	3	7	4	2	8	6	1

sudoku

BOA	SLAT	ARSON							
ERR	KOKO	NICHE							
WITHIN	ANIN	CHOF							
AGEING		COHO							
RILE	HOMEY	OSLO							
ENS	SOWED	GLEAN							
	HIRER	DEBATE							
	BEYOND	MEASURE							
CARPUS	ABUTS								
ANNEX	DIONE	FER							
BEER	DIDNT	PARI							
	BARA	LEGION							
WHOLE	NINEYARDS								
VOLGA	SASE	TEE							
A BEAD	MESS	ODD							

crossword