One game left, Melon record stands at 10-8.

The peaks and valleys of the 2010 baseball season have left the Senior Melons and their fans wondering what might come next.

Gothenburg has gone from an outstanding five-game winning streak midway through the summer to losing five of the last six games.

It's inconsistency in line-up and performance, the coaches say, that prevents an even keel.

With only one regular-season game left Wednesday (today) before next week's Area 6 tournament, everyone is hoping the low spots are in the past and there are only highs to come.

With a 10-8 record, the Melons host Overton at 5:30 p.m. today to close out the regular season, then have a week off before traveling to Holdrege for the Area 6 tourney which begins July 22.

One hit not enough

Holdrege pitcher Blake Anderson was a single away from a no-hitter as the First Nationals blanked Gothenburg 12-0 on July 6.

A combination of Anderson's solid pitching and Holdrege's stingy home-team defense kept the Melons from getting past second base all night.

Gothenburg's only hit came in the top of the third inning when second baseman Cody Ostergard managed a single.

He got to second when Ben Mayher ground out to second but that's as far as he made it.

At the same time, Holdrege had 11 hits on Melon pitcher Tre Ostergard to end the game on the 12-run mercy rule before completing three innings.

11 runs on 11 hits

The Melons got on a roll early with a two-run homer in the first inning and kept the momentum throughout the game as Gothenburg downed Kearney County 11-3 at Minden on Friday.

With one out and Ben Mayher on base after a single, Tre Ostergard hit his seventh home run of the season to give the Melons an early lead.

Landen Haake added to the scoring when he reached on a fielder's choice, stole second and scored on a base hit by Korey Ahlenstorf.

The Melons held Kearney County scoreless until the bottom of the second inning when the Raiders closed the gap with a pair of runs.

Gothenburg's sticks came alive again in the top of the third when the Seniors scored two runs on three hits, all singles from Haake, Ahlenstorf and Brady Preitauer.

With steady pitching from Taylor Walker, the Melons maintained their lead, solidifying the win in the top of the sixth inning.

Up 8-3, Cody Ostergard took four pitches and walked. He stole second and ran to third on a wild pitch to Ben Mayher, who eventually walked.

Cody Ostergard scored when Tre Ostergard got to first on a failed fielder's choice.

A fielding error at shortstop then sent Haake to first, filling the bases.

Mayher scored when Ahlenstorf got hit by a pitch and Tre Ostergard ran home on a fielder's choice play that sent Preitauer to first.

The inning ended when Walker hit into a double play at second.

Walker got the win throwing a complete game. He allowed seven hits and struck out eight without walking a single batter.

8-run lead disappears

Seven runs in the second inning at Hershey on Saturday gave Gothenburg a comfortable 10-2 lead over the Hershland Trojans.

Ahead 3-2 to start the second inning, the Melons built their advantage when six straight batters got base hits off Hershland pitcher Keegan Kuroki, followed by a double from Korey Ahlenstorf and then another single.

The luxury didn't last long, though. The Hershey-Sutherland combination came back in the bottom of the second and eventually erased Gothenburg's lead all together for a 12-11 victory.

Gothenburg let Hershland back in the game in the bottom of the second inning giving up three hits and five runs which cut the margin to 10-7.

The Trojans continued to claw their way back while holding Gothenburg scoreless.

The Melons suffered three straight outs in both the fourth and fifth innings. Hershland scored one in the fourth and put four runs on the board in the fifth to take a 12-10 lead.

Ben Mayher started the sixth inning with a base hit. Tre Ostergard pushed him to third on a long single and Mayher scored on the throw attempt to home.

Tre Ostergard stole second and third base to put the tying run in scoring position but was stranded with a pair of strikeouts and an infield fly.

Gothenburg got one more chance in the top of the seventh inning after holding Hershland scoreless in the sixth.

After a fly out to shortstop by Taylor Walker, Brett Mayher singled to put the tying run on base but his teammates left him standing on the bag with another strikeout and a fly ball to left field.

Ben Mayher, Brett Mayher, Tre Ostergard and Landen Haake smacked three hits apiece to lead the Melons at the plate while Ahlenstorf earned three RBIs.

Cody Ostergard pitched two innings with Tre Ostergard taking the loss on the mound.

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