

Team depth limits Melon win chances

Written by Austin Benson

Thursday, 08 August 2013 15:44 -



Gothenburg returned seven players from last year's Senior team. Even with that experience, struggles based on Senior numbers continued for the Melons.

At times during the season, and consistently at the end, players from the Juniors were called up to play in key spots for Gothenburg.

Melon manager Brian Bullock said that numbers were low this season and that lack of depth really hurt the Senior team.

Another reason the number of kids out for the team were low is time commitment, Bullock said.

"We practice every night (there isn't a game) for almost two hours and realize for these kids that's hard to commit to," he said.

Lack of depth, and pitching amounted to a 6-12 record for the Seniors. It was an improvement over 2012's 4-21 mark.

"When you only have two pitchers and other guys who are injured can't throw, it's hard to win ball games," Bullock said.

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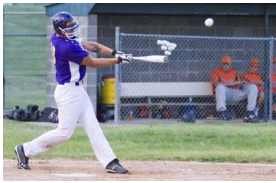
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The Melons had a bit of a rough start, losing five of their first six games.

The Area 6 tournament was the bright spot of the Senior season.

The Melons beat Broken Bow in the first round 12-5. After a loss they beat Minden 5-4 to advance to the semifinals before being eliminated.



“During the season we were trying to make everyone improve each day, win or lose,” Bullock said. “At the end of the season, in the area tournament, the team played its best ball.”

The team finished with 99 total runs for an average of 5.5 per game compared with 188 total runs from opponents for an 10.4 average.

Shortstop Trey Kolbo led a three-way race for the team batting crown and was second in on-base percentage.

In 35 at-bats he had 10 hits for an average of .314. His on-base percentage figured out to .490.

Justin Larson was close behind with a .313 batting average and Levi Walker hit .311.

Larson reached base in half of his at-bats with a .507 on-base percentage.

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Walker, batting and Chase Ostergard shared the team lead with 11 hits apiece.

Walker also led the team with RBIs, driving in 14.

Justin Larson was the Melon ace for the second year in a row.

Larson faced 214 batter in 402/3 innings striking out 53 batters and giving up 49 total runs for an ERA of 5.09.

He also led the team with 14 stolen bases and scored 19 runs.

Ross Ostendorf and Ostergard each contributed 18 runs.

None of the Melons made it into the all-time Top 10 statistics.

Bullock said even with the record the way it was, the kids showed they love to play baseball.

“They didn’t quit one time all year,” he said.

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2013 SENIORS RECORD

6-12 overall

Goth.	Team	Opp.
3	Holdrege	4
3	Cozad	8
7	Broken Bow	6
3	Holdrege	19
4	Cambridge	11
3	Overton	9
10	Cozad	6
3	Cambridge	2
2	McCook	12
2	McCook	20
16	Overton	3
4	Ogallala	16
12	Broken Bow	19
2	Ogallala	20
Area 6 at Holdrege		
12	Broken Bow	5
0	McCook	14
5	Minden	4
5	Holdrege	16

2013 SENIORS STATISTICS

HITTING	ab	runs	hits	2b	3b	hr	rbi	bb	sb	ave	obp
Joe Darling	8	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	.000	.000
Trey Kolbo	85	7	10	1	0	0	10	13	2	.314	.490
Justin Larson	48	19	10	4	0	1	7	18	14	.313	.507
Jake Matthes	40	8	6	2	0	0	3	5	0	.200	.333
Ross Ostendorf	51	18	8	2	1	0	6	15	12	.216	.406
Chase Ostergard	54	18	11	5	0	0	11	9	2	.296	.382
Jett Selmer	15	3	0	0	0	0	0	6	2	.000	.288
Ben Tiedemann	38	4	7	0	0	0	7	12	2	.179	.385
Levi Tripp	22	3	1	0	0	0	0	3	0	.045	.192
Jeff Rodriguez	45	4	3	0	0	0	5	6	1	.067	.228
Levi Walker	45	9	11	3	0	0	14	13	10	.311	.475
Tyler Baker	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	5	2	.000	.750
Quinn Haynes	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	.000	.000
Zach Kolbo	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	.000	.000
Bryce Kowalewski	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	.000	.000
Pat Messeremith	21	4	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	.095	.095
Totals	426	99	69	17	1	1	64	105	47	.127	.253
PITCHING	gms	w-l	era	bat	inn	h	rer	bb	so		
Trey Kolbo	6	1-0	9.82	119	18%	01	30-20	24	23		
Bryce Kowalewski	1	0-0	6.77	10	1%	2	3-1	1	0		
Justin Larson	9	4-4	5.09	214	40%	33	49-23	37	53		
Ross Ostendorf	7	0-2	32.08	68	5%	12	25-19	17	8		
Chase Ostergard	3	0-0	12.00	17	3	2	4-4	4	5		
Ben Tiedemann	8	1-6	8.61	232	34%	68	77-37	23	27		
Totals	6-12	12-56	6.60	103 1/3	140	188-104	106	116			