

TinCaps Earn Series Split with Another Win

By Jack McMullen

FORT WAYNE, Ind. -- The TinCaps have won back-to-back games for the first time in more than two weeks after a 7-4 win over the Lake County Captains (Cleveland affiliate) on Sunday afternoon. That followed a 5-4 victory on Saturday night. With the strong weekend, the 'Caps split the six-game series with the visitors from Northeast Ohio.

The Captains (32-28) plated an unearned run in the top of the first against TinCaps starter **Danny Denz**, who made his Fort Wayne debut, up from the Padres' Arizona Complex League squad. After shortstop **Brayan Rocchio** singled, he came in to score on a two-out fielding error.

After one more Lake County run came in the top of the fourth on several walks and a wild pitch, the TinCaps (26-33) strung hits together for three runs in the bottom of the inning. Second baseman **Justin Lopez** tripled to right field to score first baseman **Seamus Curran** from first base to cut the deficit to a run. After that, third baseman **Ethan Skender**, in his first game since coming off the Injured List, chopped a double over Captains third baseman **José Tena's** head to plate Lopez. For the finishing touch, designated hitter **Jonny Homza** lined a single to center, bringing Skender in for a 3-2 lead.

In the fifth, Fort Wayne extended its lead. Right fielder **Agustin Ruiz** doubled down the left field line for his second hit of the afternoon, and Curran blasted his second home run in less than 24 hours. The two-run shot pulled to right made it 5-2.

Lake County scored in the top of the sixth, but the TinCaps added two more for cushion in the bottom of the seventh, on a throwing error and another RBI hit from Lopez.

The TinCaps used a season-high nine pitchers in the win. After Denz started the game, no other pitcher went more than two innings.

The win wrapped up a stretch of 12 games in 13 days at Parkview Field.

Next Game: Tuesday, July 13 at West Michigan (7:05 p.m.)