

Prune packers weekend recap

By Gus A. Morris Special to the Tribune | Posted: Wednesday, July 29, 2015 3:08 pm

The last weekend in Humboldt was not kind to the Prune Packers. They finished up their regular season dropping two out of three to the Humboldt Crabs. After winning the first game of the series 5-1, the Packers would then go on to lose 16-3 and 5-1. This is only the third time all season that they have dropped back-to-back games.

Game one of the series featured a masterful pitching performance for the Pack, courtesy of Torgen Soderlund. He threw six scoreless innings, allowing five hits and one walk, while striking out seven. It wasn't just Soderlund who was dominant though, Tyler Sanders and Anthony Bender came out of the pen to close down the Crabs, who didn't score their lone run until the bottom of the ninth. Defense was also a key factor in this game, as the Packers turned six double plays behind their pitchers. Add in a two-hit day from Anthony Bender and Kenny Corey, along with two RBI's for Corey, and that equals a win for the Pack.

Game two was a different story completely. Humboldt put up multiple runs in every inning but the first, sixth and eighth on their way to a 16-3 "laugher," as Kruk and Kuip would say. Unlike the day before, defense was an issue for the Pack. They committed 10 errors in the game. The lone bright spot for the Packers was a three-run third inning rally led by Matt LoCoco, who was three for four on the day.

Game three saw the Packers get stumped at the plate by Humboldt starter Donald Robinson, who went seven innings allowing only three hits. The Packers did manage three extra base hits, two doubles from Peter Lecce and a solo home run from Jamey Smart, but only had five total hits in the game.

The Packers were held scoreless until the top of the ninth when Smart hit his solo bomb, his third of the year, but it would be too little too late for the Packers who lost two straight for the first time since July 1.

Although this is not an opportune time for the Packers to start a losing streak, they haven't lost more than two games in a row all season. Every time they have bounced back to go on winning streaks for several games or more. Let's hope the Pack can figure it out in time for the Wine Country Classic double elimination tournament kicking off this Thursday at Recreation Park in Healdsburg and running until Saturday, with games starting everyday at 9 a.m. For the full schedule and more info, visit www.prunepackers.org.