

ROCKETS BLAST NEWTON ST. THOMAS

On Tuesday, August 16, the Altamont Lutheran Rockets boys baseball team traveled to Newton to face the St. Thomas Saints, thumping them to the tune of 16-5. Logan Deadmond became the fourth different Rockets' pitcher this season to post a complete game victory, joining teammates Klaiton Wolff, Adam Mayhaus and Brett Harmeier.

The Rockets jumped out in front with three first inning runs. Harmeier singled to lead off the game, Christian Freezeland was hit in the leg by the pitch, and Klaiton Wolff and Devon Guerrettaz reached on consecutive Saints' errors. In the second, the Rockets stretched their lead to 6-1 when Eric Wolff singled, Harmeier lined a single to right to score Wolff who had stolen second, and Freezeland reached on an infield single. Harmeier scored on a wild pitch, and Freezeland came home on Guerrettaz's single up the middle.

In the third, Eric Wolff reached on an error, and Harmeier lashed a line drive up the middle that knocked the St. Thomas pitcher off the mound, resulting in a single for Harmeier. The Newton pitcher then hit the next Rockets' batter, Freezeland, with a pitch on his right wrist, forcing him to leave the game in pain. A groundout by Klaiton Wolff, another single by Guerrettaz, a two-run double by Mayhaus, and a single inside the third base bag by Travis Whitt made it 11-1 Rockets through two and a half innings. A Rockets' error in the third allowed three unearned runs to score, but after three innings, ALIS still led 11-4.

In the fourth, Krayl Gehle became the fifth Rockets batter to be hit by a pitch. With two outs, Gehle scored when Klaiton Wolff reached on yet another Saints' error, and then Guerrettaz chased Wolff home with a double over the centerfielder's head. Harmeier's fourth hit of the game, a fifth inning triple, scored Deadmond, and Deadmond's sixth inning two-run single capped the Rockets' scoring.

Making his first pitching appearance of the season, Deadmond appeared shaky early, but gradually took control of the game, setting down eight of nine batters faced in a stretch that spanned the fourth through sixth innings. At game's end, Deadmond had a complete game win, going six innings, and allowing five runs (only two of which were earned) on six hits and three walks, while striking out eight St. Thomas batters.

The victory ran the Rockets' record on the season to 5-0, headed into Thursday night's game at Beecher City and Saturday's ALIS Tournament at Gilbert Park. The Rockets are coached by Alan Whitt, Lance Freezeland and Benton White.