

Michael Lazzaro
PSU vs. Lyndon St

Plattsburgh State Cardinal Baseball is having a rough week. Failing to clinch their spot in the SUNYAC tournament, they will need Fredonia and Oswego to split their last two conference games with Cortland and Brockport, respectively. Against the out of conference Lyndon State Hornets, the Cardinals had almost as many defensive changes as runs scored (19) and the Hornets almost as many errors (9) as runs (10.)

Chip Cummings Field was a fine host to a sloppy Senior Day game. All seven of the seniors were honored before the start of the game and they delivered with a win. Blustery winds caused many of the issues that both teams faced fielding and throwing. The Hornets allowed twelve unearned runs on nine errors; the Cardinals weren't faring much better in the field, four miscues were charged to their fielders, but the big difference, only one unearned run was allowed.

Perhaps more entertaining than the game of baseball, was the game of cat and mouse the Cardinals have been playing with their entire season. They pulled to an early 2-0 lead thanks to Zack Welch stealing second base and Matt Kelley immediately driving him in with a double to right center. The Cardinals did everything in their power to give the game back, but Lyndon couldn't hold on to their 4-2 lead for more than an out in the bottom of the third. Bases loaded, senior Jared Jarvis destroyed a Nicholas Rivers offering to deep left center. His double clearing the bases and giving him three of his six RBIs to go along with his five hits and four runs; all of them personal bests.

“What really killed us were the innings where two errors led to three or four runs” said Lyndon State Hornets coach Ryan Farley. Shortstop Jason Ryan led off the top of

the fourth with a towering homerun over the left field fence to try and rouse a comeback and PSU pitcher Ryan Tracy was relieved with an 11-7 lead after five mediocre innings.

Considering it was Senior Day, senior Zack Welch got the honor of playing every position on the field. Though his pitching in the sixth almost gave the game back to the Hornets when he allowed three runs to score. He wiggled out of a jam striking out catcher Matt Lapham looking with a man on second to help preserve the win for Tracy.

Plattsburgh kindly responded in the bottom half of the sixth with three runs of their own, two on Lyndon St captain Adrian Guyer's error in left field on a harmless fly ball from Welch and then another run on Matt Kelley's grounder which was misplayed by second baseman Michael Swan. Chris Van Houten entered for the seventh and would've sent down the Hornets in order the rest of the game if it wasn't for a throwing error allowing centerfielder Rob Malloy reach base.

Plattsburgh State won their third straight and snapped Lyndon State's four game winning streak to drop them to 11-11 on the season. Plattsburgh improved to 15-18 but don't have any conference games left on their schedule to improve their chances of making the SUNYAC tournament. The Cardinals will rematch with the Hornets Tuesday, April 30th, 3:30 at Lyndon State.