

## Beatrice Daily Sun

### Bruins fall in extra innings

By Jane White/Daily Sun sports editor

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Missed offensive opportunities hurt the Beatrice Bruins baseball team Tuesday night as they fell to the visiting St. Joseph, Mo., Mustangs in extra innings.

The Bruins lost the contest, 8-7, in 11 innings.

"It was a disappointing loss," Bruins manager Bob Steinkamp said. "It was one of those games we should have won."

Steinkamp said the Bruins, for the most part, "couldn't get anything going" against the Mustangs.

"We'd get somebody on base and then we just couldn't get one more hit," Steinkamp said.

Steinkamp said the Bruins also had two balls "to the wall" in the outfield, which St. Joe players were able to jump up and catch.

"If those had gone over, we'd have won," Steinkamp said.

On the positive side, Steinkamp said the Bruins "battled back" after going down 5-0 to take the lead in the game.

Closer Shane Minks took the loss for the Bruins, throwing the final 4 1/3 innings.

"Minks threw extremely well," Steinkamp said.

Sean Bartholomew started the game for Beatrice with Sean Potter seeing action in middle relief.

"We got real good pitching tonight from everybody," Steinkamp said. "It should have been good enough to win."

Defensively, Steinkamp said the Bruins were hurt by four errors, including three in one inning.

"That did us in," Steinkamp said.

St. Joe opened the game's scoring in the top of the first inning with four straight singles, going up 1-0.

A solo home run in the second inning put the Mustangs up 2-0.

In the third inning, the Mustangs broke free for three runs, including a two-run home run.

The Bruins got on the scoreboard in the bottom of the third.

Adam Smith walked and Travis Parker was hit by a pitch.

A balk call on the St. Joe pitcher advanced the runners to third and second with no outs.

Keegan Morrow singled, scoring Smith and moving Parker to third.

A fielder's choice off the bat of Randall Thorpe scored Parker, making it a 5-2 game.

In the bottom of the fifth inning, the Bruins took the lead.

Morrow led off with a single and advanced to third on a single by Thorpe.

With two outs, Trevor Adams was hit by a pitch, loading the bases.

Tyson Parks was issued a bases-loaded walk, forcing home Morrow.

A single by Ryan Morgan scored Thorpe and kept the bases loaded.

Smith doubled scoring Adams and Parks, but Morgan was cut down at the plate.

After five complete innings, the Bruins led 6-5.

St. Joe regained the lead, 7-6, in the top of the seventh inning, aided by three Bruins' errors.

In the bottom of the eighth, the Bruins rallied to tie the score at 7.

Thorpe doubled, advanced to third as Mark Ramous grounded out and scored as Scott LeJeune reached on an error.

After a scoreless ninth inning, the teams went into extra innings.

Both teams were three-up-and-three-down in the 10th, sending the game to the 11th inning.

St. Joe was able to manufacture a run in the top of the 11th.

After a one-out single run a runner on, two stolen bases and a wild pitch later, the Mustangs had an 8-7 lead.

Offensively, four players provided nine hits for the Bruins.

Morgan had three singles, while Thorpe and Smith had a double and single each and Morrow added two singles.

Next action for the Bruins, 3-4, will be tonight (Wednesday) at 7 p.m. at Christenson Field against the Nevada, Mo., Griffons.

The Griffons will remain in town, playing a second game against the Bruins Thursday at 7 p.m.

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