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Dr. Neil Gunda, has joined Dr. Robert Foldvary and Janis Thomas in Pediatrics. Dr. Gunda welcomes new patients.



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Bulldogs trim Findlay

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April 1, 2011



Solid pitching, great defense and timely hitting were the ingredients on Thursday afternoon that earned the Defiance baseballers a 1-0 victory over Findlay at Defiance's Booster Field.

The Bulldogs (2-0) turned in several defensive gems to keep Findlay

(2-1) off the scoreboard, a two-out RBI single in the third by Shea Murray plated the only run, and the pitching of Ryan Cordray, Jake Sanchez and Anthony Kidston also kept the Trojans in check.

"Defensively we played very well today," commented Defiance mentor Tom Held. "We made three or four big plays that if we don't make, we probably don't win the ballgame."

In the bottom of the third, a one-out single by Jake Thomas got the Bulldogs started offensively, before Thomas moved to second on a ground-out to third by Kidston. With two outs, Murray lined a single to right-center to score Thomas with the only run of the ballgame.

"Jake gets up and hits the ball hard, gets himself into scoring position and then Shea Murray came through with two outs," Held said. "It was only the third inning, but if he doesn't get the job done with two outs, we probably don't get that win."

The DHS defense also helped make a winner of Cordray, who went five innings and allowed three hits and no walks while striking out seven.

In the Findlay fourth, catcher Gabe Vittorio threw behind a Findlay runner at second base, with the resulting 2-6-5 putout squelching the Trojans in that inning.

One inning later, Joe Gentile's back-to-back defensive plays kept DHS in front. With runners on first and second and one out for the Trojans, Gentile made an unassisted play at third to not allow the runners to move up a base. One batter later, Gentile snagged a hard-hit ball out of the air for the third out, to once again preserve the lead.

"The play Vittorio made was him doing that all on his own, that was heads-up," Held said. "Then the ball that Joe caught was a rocket, I don't know how he got his glove up to catch that. If he doesn't catch it, they probably score two runs right there."

In the seventh after Sanchez exited after one-plus innings on the mound, Kidston came in with a runner on first and no outs. Kidston walked the next batter to put two runners on, before Findlay went to the bunt.

Kidston fielded the bunt up the third base line and just got the runner at first, while the tying and winning runs moved into scoring position with one out. Kidston promptly struck out the final two batters to preserve the 1-0 shutout for the Bulldogs.

"Pitching, defense and timely hitting ... that's what wins ballgames," concluded Held. "Ryan gave us five very good innings, Jake was solid and Anthony came in and closed it out and got it done, If he doesn't make the play at first on the bunt, once again it probably would have meant us not winning the ballgame. A lot of little things added up to a 1-0 victory today."

Defiance returns to action Saturday to take on Eastwood and Napoleon in twinbill action at Napoleon starting around 1 p.m.

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Records: Defiance 2-0, Findlay 2-1.

Winning pitcher: Ryan Cordray (5 innings, 0 runs, 3 hits, 7 strikeouts, 0 walks). Others: Jake Sanchez, Anthony Kidston.

Losing pitcher: Henry (6 innings, 1 run, 4 hits, 4 strikeouts, 1 walk).

Leading hitters: (Findlay, 4 hits) - Fenieore 2 singles. (Defiance, 4 hits).

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