



By JEREMIAH WILSON

• Leader & Times

The Liberal Bee Jays dominated with a 10-3 victory over the Boulder, Colo., Collegians Tuesday night to sweep the two-game series. Sticking to a simple game plan, the Bee Jays just out-performed the Collegians in every way.

After struggling in the field in their previous series over the weekend, the Bee Jays avoided any errors last night. Boulder, on the other hand, struggled mightily in the field, committing five errors on the night.

The Bee Jays took advantage of those mistakes, continually putting the bat to the ball and staying aggressive on base paths. Liberal was credited with eight hits in the game while limiting the Collegians to six hits.

Liberal starting pitcher Justin Schnedler had a bit of a rocky start, giving up a run on one hit and three walks. Schnedler, however, was able to settle down after that and gave the Bee Jays six-and-a-third solid innings, giving up three runs on only three hits.

“It’s a big confidence builder for Schnedler,” Liberal manager Brandon Kitch said. “He settled in

real nice and finally started to get some guys out.”

For the second night in a row the Bee Jays opened the game up in the second inning. Persistence at the plate by Bee Jay hitters and aggression on the base paths, paired with a couple errors, led to four runs in the inning for Liberal giving the Bee Jays a 4-1 lead.

The Bee Jays tacked on five more runs in the sixth to make it a 9-1 game.

“Some guys are swinging the bats a little bit better and getting some confidence at the plate,” Kitch said. “Seth Stevens had a good night. Tanner Kirk hit the ball hard, and Tanner Rainey got a couple knocks. Hopefully we can get him going again. We’re just starting to swing the bats a little better. We’ve just got to square it up and hit them where they ain’t.”

The Bee Jays will finish up their home stand against Dodge City on Wednesday night.

“It’s always a battle with Dodge City,” Kitch said. “We battled them last summer. We’ve just got to go out and compete, and we’ll be fine.”