



## WINNIPEG GOLDEYES DAILY CLIPPINGS

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 12<sup>th</sup>, 2019

- **Nearly Complete**—Winnipeg Sun, 6/12/19
- **French Brilliant, Capellan Sets Franchise Saves Record in Win Over RailCats**—Winnipeg Goldeyes (Steve Schuster), 6/11/19
- **Gary Comeback Comes Up Just Short, Lose Fourth Straight in 5-3 Defeat**—Gary SouthShore RailCats (Jared Shlensky), 6/11/19
- **Runs Usually Hard to Come by at US Steel Yard**—Winnipeg Sun, 5/12/19
- **Valparaiso University, Andrean Grad Chase Dawson Signs With RailCats**—Northwest Indiana Times (James Boyd), 6/12/19
- **'Let's Just Play': Andrean Grad Chase Dawson Makes Pro Debut With RailCats After Standout Career at VU**—Chicago Tribune (Michael Osipoff), 6/12/19
- **Capellan Continues to Prove His Worth as the Team's Closer**—Winnipeg Sun, 6/11/19
- **Johnson Takes Mound for Goldeyes**—CANSTAR Community News (Eva Wasney), 6/10/19
- **Goldeyes Have No-Quit Mentality**—Winnipeg Sun, 6/9/19

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### NEARLY COMPLETE

#### **WINNIPEG SUN – WEDNESDAY, JUNE 12<sup>th</sup>**

The Winnipeg Goldeyes beat the Gary SouthShore RailCats 5-3 at US Steel Yard on Tuesday night.

Goldeyes starter Parker French led the way with 8 2/3 strong innings. Leading 5-0 in the bottom of the ninth, French came within one out of a complete-game shutout before the RailCats rallied for three runs.

Victor Capellan was summoned from the bullpen and struck out Andy DeJesus to earn his league-leading ninth save. It was also Capellan's 38th save as a Goldeye, which is a new franchise record.

Abercrombie's fielder's choice in the top of the fourth scored Willy Garcia with the game's first run.

Kyle Martin added an RBI single in the sixth, while Dominic Ficociello and Abercrombie chipped in RBI in the seventh. Romanski singled home the Goldeyes' fifth run in the top of the ninth.

#### **WINNIPEG GOLDEYES 5, GARY SOUTHSORE RAILCATS 3**

**WINNING PITCHER:** WPG: Parker French (2-0)

**LOSING PITCHER:** GARY: Justin Sinibaldi (0-1)

**SAVE WPG:** Victor Capellan (9)

**THE SKINNY:** Parker French came within one out of a complete game as the Goldeyes recorded a 5-3 road win over the Gary SouthShore RailCats.

**PLAYER OF THE GAME:** French induced an inning-ending double play off the bat of Randy Santiesteban in the bottom of the third to escape a bases loaded, one-out jam. The Goldeyes took the lead in the next half inning.

**PLAY OF THE GAME:** Victor Capellan struck out Andy DeJesus as the tying run at the plate in the bottom of the ninth to earn his 38th Goldeyes save, setting a franchise record.

**NEXT UP:** The second game of the three-game series is Wednesday afternoon at 12:10 p.m. Kevin McGovern takes on fellow left-hander Lars Liguori. The game can be heard on 93.7 FM.

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### FRENCH BRILLIANT, CAPELLAN SETS FRANCHISE SAVES RECORD IN WIN OVER RAILCATS

#### **STEVE SCHUSTER – WINNIPEG GOLDEYES – TUESDAY, JUNE 11<sup>th</sup>**

**WINNIPEG, MB** – The Winnipeg Goldeyes (15-9) beat the Gary SouthShore RailCats 5-3 at US Steel Yard on Tuesday night.

Goldeyes' starting pitcher **Parker French** (2-0) picked up the win, allowing three earned runs on seven hits in eight and two-thirds innings. French walked four and tied a career-high with eight strikeouts.

Winnipeg led 5-0 with two outs in the bottom of the ninth before the RailCats pulled within 5-3 on a Marcus Mooney RBI single and an Alex Crosby two-run bloop double.

**Victor Capellan** struck out Andy DeJesus as the tying run at the plate to earn his ninth save of the year. It was also Capellan's 38<sup>th</sup> save since joining the Goldeyes in 2016, which sets a new franchise career record.

French escaped a bases loaded, one-out jam in the bottom of the third when he induced an inning-ending double play on Randy Santiesteban. The double play kept the game scoreless, and the Goldeyes took a 1-0 lead in the top of the fourth when **Willy Garcia** raced home on a **Reggie Abercrombie** fielder's choice.

**Kyle Martin** singled home Willy Garcia in the top of the sixth to make it 2-0.

In the top of the seventh, the Goldeyes loaded the bases with no outs, and took a 4-0 lead on a **Dominic Ficociello** RBI single and another RBI fielder's choice from Abercrombie.

**Josh Romanski** drove in the Goldeyes' fifth run with an RBI single in the top of the eighth.

The Goldeyes drew 10 walks in the win, including a career-high four from **Alex Perez**.

Justin Sinibaldi (0-1) started for the RailCats (10-12) and took the loss, allowing one earned run on one hit in three-plus innings. Sinibaldi walked five and struck out two.

Game two of the three-game series is Wednesday afternoon at 12:10 p.m. **Kevin McGovern** (2-2, 4.50) faces left-hander Lars Liguori (2-2, 7.14). All the action can be heard locally on 93.7 FM CJNU and worldwide at [www.cjnu.ca](http://www.cjnu.ca)

The Goldeyes return home on Tuesday, June 18<sup>th</sup> when they host the Chicago Dogs at Shaw Park. Advance tickets are on sale now by visiting [www.goldeyes.com/tickets](http://www.goldeyes.com/tickets) or by visiting the box office at Shaw Park.

For information on 2019 season tickets, 10-game mini packs, and group tickets, call the Goldeyes' office at (204) 982-BASE, or visit the Goldeyes' official website at [www.goldeyes.com](http://www.goldeyes.com)

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### **GARY COMEBACK COMES UP JUST SHORT, LOSE FOURTH STRAIGHT IN 5-3 DEFEAT**

#### **JARED SHLENSKY – GARY SOUTHSORE RAILCATS – TUESDAY, JUNE 11<sup>th</sup>**

**GARY, IND.** — Gary scored all three of their runs in the bottom of the ninth and even brought the tying run to the plate, however, lost their fourth straight game in a 5-3 defeat to the Winnipeg Goldeyes in the series opener on Monday night at U.S. Steel Yard. The RailCats pitching staff issued a season-high 10 walks, committed two errors for the fourth consecutive game and had every reliever allow at least one run and one walk.

Goldeyes starter Parker French was one out away from a complete game shutout, however, Marcus Mooney got Gary (10-12) on the board with an RBI single to center. Winnipeg Manager Rick Forney then grabbed his closer Victor Capellan from the bullpen with the tying run in the on-deck circle for the one-out save, but allowed a two-run double to Alex Crosby, inching the RailCats closer to a comeback. However, Capellan (9) struck out Andy De Jesus to end the game for his league-high 9th save.

French (2-0) threw a season-high 130 pitches and allowed three runs on seven hits and four walks while striking out eight in the win. Justin Sinibaldi (0-1) was charged with the loss in his first American Association start after allowing one run on a hit and a season-high five walks while striking out two over three innings.

Chesterton, Ind., native and Valparaiso University graduate Chase Dawson signed his first professional baseball contract with Gary before the game and went 1-for-2 with a double, a run and two walks in his pro debut. Ray Jones finished with a team-high two hits and scored one of the RailCats three runs in the bottom of the ninth.

Winnipeg (15-11) took a 1-0 lead with a run in the fourth. Willy Garcia recorded the Goldeyes' first hit of the night with a triple to the center field wall to begin the inning. Dominic Ficociello then drew a walk, giving Winnipeg runners on the corners, before Reggie Abercrombie brought W. home Garcia with an RBI fielder's choice.

The Goldeyes increased their lead to 2-0 with another run in the sixth. W. Garcia singled to right to begin the inning before Abercrombie drew a one-out walk. Kyle Martin then made it 2-0 with an RBI single down the right field line, plating W. Garcia from second.

Winnipeg doubled their lead to 4-0 with two more runs in the seventh. Alex Perez drew his third of four walks in the seventh before advancing to second after Romanski reached on a fielder's choice. W. Garcia then walked to load the bases before Ficociello drove in Perez with an RBI single to center. Abercrombie delivered the final run of the inning with his second of two RBI fielder's choice.

Winnipeg added their final run in the eighth to go up by five. James Harris singled to begin the inning before Kevin Garcia moved Harris up to second with a sacrifice bunt. Perez then drew his final walk before Romanski went the other way with an RBI single to left field.

Gary and Winnipeg resume their three-game series on Wednesday at 12:10 p.m. RailCats left-hander Lars Liguori (2-2, 7.14) makes his league-high seventh start against Goldeyes southpaw Kevin McGovern (2-2, 4.50) in the middle game of the series.

Wednesday's game is the third Creekside "Pop-Up Bar Wednesday", featuring a RUGRATS theme, and the third NorthShore Health Centers Wednesday. Wednesday's game is also Youth & Senior Day, presented by RCS Home Health Care, and includes an RCS Health Fair. Visit any Northwest Indiana NorthShore Health Center for complimentary tickets to a RailCats game.

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### **RUNS USUALLY HARD TO COME BY AT US STEEL YARD**

#### **WINNIPEG SUN – WEDNESDAY, JUNE 12<sup>th</sup>**

The Goldeyes are in the midst of a three-game series at arguably the toughest hitting environment in the American Association.

US Steel Yard, the Gary SouthShore RailCats' home since 2003, is notorious for suppressing offence, especially when it comes to the home run.

The facility itself is aesthetically pleasing. Much like Shaw Park in Winnipeg, 'The Steel Yard' has been maintained well enough that you can hardly tell it's nearly two decades old.

Scoring runs is another story. Since the RailCats joined the American Association in 2011, US Steel Yard has yielded 42% fewer home runs than the average ball park in the league. That figure is easily the lowest during the last eight seasons, and ranks 14 percentage points behind Grand Prairie's AirHogs Stadium.

Multiple factors contribute to the long ball shortage.

US Steel Yard was built just over a mile south of Lake Michigan, and the resulting lake-effect winds blow in from centre field far more often than they blow out. Combined with some of the deepest outfield dimensions in the league, as well as taller fences from foul pole to foul pole, it's no surprise the RailCats typically build their offence around speed, contact, and on-base ability.

One Goldeye has defied the odds of US Steel Yard year after year.

Reggie Abercrombie entered this week's series with 12 home runs and 38 RBIs in 40 career games at Gary SouthShore. In fact, Abercrombie has homered at least once in each of his last eight visits dating back to the 2014 season.

Abercrombie's 2016 home run off the top of the scoreboard in left-centre field has taken on legendary status around the league.

Josh Romanski is another Goldeye who has fared better than most in Gary. Romanski, who played for the RailCats in 2014, owns a lifetime .331 batting average with 44 RBIs in 65 games at US Steel Yard.

Believe it or not, Goldeyes manager Rick Forney believes his club's offence could be jumpstarted this week with the right approach. While home runs are scarce, US Steel Yard has one of the league's widest and tallest batter's eyes.

"You see the ball really well here, that's never been an issue," Forney said.

"It's a good park to hit in if you're committed to staying in the middle of the field, because the centre fielder can only cover so much ground. It's big out there. If you hit fly balls, they're going to get run down, but if you hit line drives in the big part of the field and in the gaps, then you can be rewarded here."

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#### **VALPARAISO UNIVERSITY, ANDREAN GRAD CHASE DAWSON SIGNS WITH RAILCATS**

**JAMES BOYD – NORTHWEST INDIANA TIMES – WEDNESDAY, JUNE 12<sup>th</sup>**

Valparaiso University baseball coach Brian Schmack knew that Chase Dawson could play at the next level.

As a senior, the Chesterton native and Andrean graduate led the Crusaders with a .324 batting average, 39 runs, five triples and also tied for the team high with 55 hits during the 2019 season. Dawson signed with the Gary SouthShore RailCats on Tuesday and was set to make his professional debut later the same day.

"It's awesome, and I'm really happy for Chase," Schmack said. "He's getting to do something he's wanted to do since the day he got on campus as a freshman, and to see it come to life is pretty cool. I'm sure he's excited and nervous and everything wrapped into one."

The RailCats were scheduled to face the Winnipeg Goldeyes at U.S. Steel Yard on Tuesday, and Dawson was slated to play first base and bat eighth in the lineup. Schmack said he had a lot of confidence in his former player because he saw Dawson work on his game relentlessly and rise from a walk-on into one of the most consistent players in the program.

Every year, Dawson increased his batting average, and during his senior campaign he notched a career-high batting average and slugged .506, which ranked second on the team.

Dawson capped of his college career with a Second Team All-Missouri Valley Conference selection. During the 2018 summer season, he also led the Coastal Plain League in batting average (.395) and was named to the All-CPL First Team.

In addition to his success at Valparaiso, Dawson won back-to-back IHSAA Class 3A state championships in 2013 and 2014 with the 59ers and legendary coach Dave Pishkur. Schmack said Dawson's experience in high-pressure moments and big games made him a coveted recruit.

"I think it speaks to his competitiveness," Schmack said. "We like to recruit kids from winning programs because they know how to win, and they're ultra-competitive. I think that's what kept pushing Chase, and it shaped who he is. It's no surprise that program is doing well, and Chase was a part of it."

Schmack plans to watch Dawson in action frequently throughout the summer, but he hopes he isn't able to for long. He believes Dawson, who stands 5-foot-10, may have been overlooked by higher level professional teams because of his size, and it's only a matter of time until he proves them wrong.

"Everyone is often looking for the 6-3, 225-pound guy that can do this or that," Schmack said. "But when it comes down to it they also just want baseball players, and Chase is a baseball player. Hopefully someone sees him play on a consistent basis and really appreciates who he is because he's good enough to play with an affiliated (Major League Baseball) team."

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#### **'LET'S JUST PLAY': ANDREAN GRAD CHASE DAWSON MAKES PRO DEBUT WITH RAILCATS AFTER STANDOUT CAREER AT VU**

**MICHAEL OSIPOFF – CHICAGO TRIBUNE – WEDNESDAY, JUNE 12<sup>th</sup>**

Chase Dawson earned an early birthday present.

The Andrean and [Valparaiso University](#) graduate, who turns 22 on Wednesday, signed Tuesday with the RailCats.

Just hours later, Dawson was in the lineup for his professional debut. The natural second baseman played first base and batted eighth as the RailCats opened a homestand against Winnipeg.

It was a bit surreal for Dawson, a Chesterton native who attended several games at U.S. Steel Yard when he was younger.

"Just looking at those guys when I was a kid, how big and fast and strong they were, and now I'm playing with them and against them," Dawson said.

"Boom, the next thing you know, I'm on the team. It's pretty cool."

Tuesday culminated a whirlwind process.

Dawson worked out last week for the RailCats. Manager Greg Tagert intended to have Dawson spend several days with the team for further evaluation this week and then participate Thursday in its annual workout for undrafted college seniors.

But the timeline was expedited.

On Monday in East Chicago, Dawson participated in an invitation-only workout for the [Arizona Diamondbacks](#), with Tagert in attendance.

With other teams, including several from the [Frontier League](#), expressing interest in Dawson and the RailCats' depth limited because of injuries, Tagert acted.

Tagert and Dawson texted several times Tuesday and spoke once, with the plan to talk again in a couple of hours. At noon, Tagert told Dawson there was a contract waiting.

Dawson jumped at the opportunity. He anticipated several family members — including his father, who called off work, and two younger brothers — and friends attending on short notice.

"I love the rush — I love the quick," Dawson said. "Let's just play."

"It's exciting. The team's been great, the staff, everybody's really helpful. It's a home, family feeling. They're making the experience really cool." It remains to be seen how long the experience lasts, but Dawson has made a favorable impression.

"Like I told him, it's a nice little story, but there are no guarantees or assurances," Tagert said. "We've had good luck before with local players, but sometimes it doesn't work out."

"I gave him the spiel — it could be one day or two years. But he's a good baseball player and his background shows that."

After winning back-to-back Class 3A state titles with Andrean, the 5-foot-10 Dawson was a four-year starter at Valparaiso. He began his career with VU as a walk-on.

As a senior this past season, he led the [Crusaders](#) with a .324 batting average, 39 runs, five triples and six stolen bases. He added four homers and 28 RBIs, making second team all-conference in the Missouri Valley.

He made the all-freshman and all-tournament teams in the [Horizon League](#) in 2016.

After dramatically improving during his career, Dawson hoped to hear his name called in last week's [MLB draft](#). But he quickly got over any disappointment.

"A couple teams reached out, but that's the draft — it's a business," Dawson said. "They're not there to make friends. I knew there was a chance I wouldn't get picked up."

"But I had to bounce back. I wasn't going to sit there and hang up the cleats. I wasn't going to let that stop me. I was going to keep going. I love the game, I love being around a team, and this is a good fit. Hopefully this can translate to the next level."

Dawson expressed confidence his infield skills would translate at first base.

"I just want to fill whatever they need," he said. "I want the staff to feel comfortable putting me in the lineup every day. I just want this club to win. That's the main goal anywhere."

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## **CAPELLAN CONTINUES TO PROVE HIS WORTH AS THE TEAM'S CLOSER**

**WINNIPEG SUN – TUESDAY, JUNE 11<sup>th</sup>**

Winnipeg Goldeyes' closer Victor Capellan tied the franchise career saves record last Friday versus Cleburne.

The fourth-year Goldeye struck out two during a scoreless top of the ninth in an 8-6, come-from-behind win. It was Capellan's 37th save since joining the team at the end of 2016, and matched the record established by Steve Thomas from 2001-03.

Capellan pitched in all 12 of the Goldeyes' playoff victories during their 2016 and 2017 championship seasons. Last year, the Dominican-born right-hander tied the club's single-season record with 22 saves.

"He's done a really good job for us over the years, and he's kind of morphed into our closer the last two seasons," said Goldeyes' manager Rick Forney. "The guy single-handedly was a big reason why we won a couple of championships. He pitched some high-leverage innings for us. He's a really good teammate and one of the nicest people you can have in your clubhouse. Hopefully we can get him another (save) soon."

## **FRENCH BULLDOG**

Goldeyes' starting pitcher Parker French, who takes the mound tonight against the Gary SouthShore RailCats, has pitched into the sixth inning or later in all four of his starts this season.

The right-hander pitched exclusively at the double-A level each of the previous two seasons, and has already garnered high-praise from his catcher Kevin Garcia.

"He's probably one of my favourite pitchers to catch," Garcia said. "His mentality and demeanor on the mound is different than other guys. It's more aggressive. Good or bad, he's always going to go out there and give you everything he's got, and not sell anything short. He's gone really far into his starts, and given us a chance to win some ballgames. His character is always going to show up."

## **'AA' KEEPS TRENDING UPWARD**

The Goldeyes played host to the Cleburne Railroaders over the weekend. Brent Clevlen is in his first year as Railroaders' manager, and has watched the American Association evolve since first joining the league as a player in 2011.

Clevlen has also noticed a greater willingness on the part of Major League organizations to take a chance on independent league players.

The Arizona Diamondbacks have long been at the forefront of providing opportunities, but over the past year, three other clubs have reached heavily into the American Association for talent. The Boston Red Sox, Cincinnati Reds, and Milwaukee Brewers have combined for 14 player signings since last July.

In fact, the Salem Red Sox — Boston's high-A Carolina League affiliate — recently had three former American Association players on its roster at the same time, including right-handed pitcher Dylan Thompson who was picked up from the Goldeyes during spring training. Thompson was recently promoted to double-A Portland where he earned the win in his debut for the Sea Dogs.

"For me, I think you're seeing much better arms now," Clevlen said. "Back in 2012 and 2013, you had maybe one or two guys —maybe — that could throw in the mid 90s. Now you're seeing teams with three or four, and multiple teams have them. More opportunities are out there, and you're seeing scouts that have signed (independent league players) who have made it all the way to the big leagues. Other organizations are starting to recognize that a little bit more, and are scouting independent baseball."

## **UP NEXT**

The Goldeyes open a three-game series against the Gary SouthShore RailCats tonight with French on the mound. First pitch from Gary's US Steel Yard is at 7:10 p.m. The game can be heard live on 93.7 FM.

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## **JOHNSON TAKES MOUND FOR GOLDEYES** **EVA WASNEY – CANSTAR COMMUNITY NEWS**

The last two weeks have been a bit of a whirlwind for Ryan Johnson.

After signing an offer to play with the Winnipeg Goldeyes on May 29, the St. James native made his professional baseball debut in front of a hometown crowd just a few hours later.

"It all happened so fast," the 26-year-old left handed pitcher said with a laugh.

Johnson — a Sturgeon Heights Collegiate graduate and a St. James A's alum — is the first Winnipegger to play for the Goldeyes since pitcher Donnie Smith's final season in 2006.

Johnson recently wrapped up his college baseball career with Lubbock Christian University in Texas and was planning on playing senior men's ball in Ontario's Intercounty Baseball league before the stars aligned with the Goldeyes.

A week before Johnson's debut, team manager Rick Forney got a text from former Goldeyes third baseman Amos Ramon asking if he was looking for a lefty pitcher.

"Being part of the Goldeyes family... I kind of know what they're looking for and I always keep tabs on R.J.," said Ramon, who became friends with Johnson while playing in the Winnipeg Senior Baseball League. "Rick said he would sign him right away."

About 10 minutes later, Johnson got a call from Forney.

"I got a FaceTime from him explaining that he wanted me down there and I was very, very excited. I couldn't really believe that it was happening," he said. "I wasn't prepared to leave at all... I was living in Texas for three years before that, so it was an interesting pack job, but we got it done."

Johnson led the Goldeyes to a 3-1 victory over the Gary SouthShore RailCats at Shaw Park on May 29, pitching six and two-thirds shutout innings. The rookie relied on experience to keep cool under pressure.

"Staying mentally locked-in, heck it was a lot of noise, but I had thrown 100 and some innings before that," Johnson said. "The game is a little bit faster at this level and the guys are hitting the ball a bit further... but you know the plate is still the same diameter and I'm still the same distance away."

A highlight of the game was having friends and family, many of whom hadn't seen him pitch in years, cheering from the stands.

Johnson's presence on the mound has stirred up a lot of excitement amongst Goldeyes fans and former St. James A's coaches and players. Dave Sellner is an assistant coach with the A's and worked with Johnson on and off for six years.

"It's kind of cool that he's playing professional baseball now," Sellner said. "He was a great player and a great athlete with a great attitude."

Johnson has fond memories of his junior baseball days.

"Growing up playing for the A's I was blessed with really good coaching and those people have really influenced me throughout the years just to keep working and keep grinding," he said. "I'm very proud to have come from there."

Ramon expects great things from Johnson and the Goldeyes in the future, he just has one request:

"Do the same thing that I did for you. If it ever comes back up and you have the chance to get a kid signed, just do it," Ramon said, adding that Johnson is the kind of person who has no problem paying it forward. "R.J. is the kind of guy who will do anything for you."

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## **GOLDEYES HAVE NO-QUIT MENTALITY** **WINNIPEG SUN – SUNDAY, JUNE 9<sup>th</sup>**

Friday night, the Goldeyes posted their fourth come-from-behind, last at-bat victory in eight games with an 8-6 win over the Cleburne Railroaders.

In 2018, the Goldeyes won five games in which they trailed after seven innings.

Before that seemingly low figure is chalked up to a rough year in the standings, it's worth noting the 2017 American Association champion Goldeyes won exactly five games when trailing after seven as well.

Returning catcher Kevin Garcia says the no-quit mentality is shared across the entire roster.

"One through nine (in the batting order), the bench, pitchers, everyone—we're in it to win it, so we don't back down," said Garcia. "We support each other, we play (innings) one through nine. This past week, we've been behind most of the night, but in innings seven, eight, and nine, we've executed and gotten back in those games."

Garcia acknowledges talent has played a role in the Goldeyes' strong start. The Fish were 14-7 and tied for first in the American Association North heading into Saturday. The starting lineup remains the most experienced in franchise history, with as many as eight players owning triple-A or major league experience on a given night.

However, Garcia feels this current group of players has something more at play than just their statistical track records.

"Of course, the talent's going to show, and we have a lot of veterans," Garcia said. "I think chemistry plays a role too, though. You could have a bad at bat, but you're certain that the guy behind you is going to pick you up. With the pitchers, when someone gets in trouble, we know the relievers are going to get them out of the jam. It's nice to have that security on the mound and in the box.

"We just go out there and have fun," Garcia added. "This is probably one of the best teams I've been a part of, talent-wise, chemistry-wise. There's no hostility or animosity. It's all love. It's like a big family."

The Goldeyes trailed by as many as four runs in the bottom of the seventh Friday, and their comeback ultimately kicked off when Dominic Ficociello reached on an error by Cleburne first baseman Jonathan Rodriguez. The at bat went into the books as an 0-for-1 for Ficociello, but the Goldeyes infielder had battled Cleburne starter Charles Gillies for 10 pitches, which forced manager Brent Clevlen to go to the bullpen before the end of the inning.

"You make them think about stuff when guys start to have quality at bats," Goldeyes manager Rick Forney said. "They have to start questioning whether their guy has enough to get to the finish line, or get them to the next guy. They have to make decisions. Good at bats are very contagious, and if you have guys working the count and grinding a little bit, then it seems to find a way to filter throughout your lineup."

#### **LET'S PLAY TWO**

The scheduled game between the Winnipeg Goldeyes and Cleburne Railroaders on Saturday was postponed due to inclement weather.

The teams are now scheduled to play a doubleheader Sunday afternoon beginning at 1:05 p.m. Both games are set for seven innings.

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