

March 27 AHS Freshmen Top Summit 9-3

Those who braved the bitter cold witnessed arguably the Colts best game of the year as Lawrence Brandt led the Colts to a resounding 9-3 victory over a tough Summit team that had saddled the Colts with a 13-2 defeat in their previous meeting. Lawrence struck out eight, had fielding plays all over the infield (four assists and three put-outs), and took a shutout into the 7th inning before tiring, as the declawed but still dangerous Jaguars rallied for three late runs on Colts walks and errors.

After retiring Summit 1-2-3 on six-pitches in the top of the first, the Colts did not score in the bottom of the frame, as the Summit third baseman turned a hot shot by center fielder Tyler Rice into a double play. In the top of the second, Summit threatened to take the lead after a one-out double down the left field line followed by a walk and stolen base. Lawrence fielded the subsequent come-backer, and ran down the lead runner, diving and tagging him out before he could return to third. After a single loaded the bases, he struck out the last batter on a knee-bending curve ball (four of the first six Summit innings ended with strikeouts and the other two with come-backers). Lawrence doubled over the center fielder's head to lead-off the bottom of the second, stole third, and slid in under the tag on Jordan Miller's squeeze bunt back to the pitcher. Clayton Johnson walked and scored on heads-up base running after Omar Frias's single—Omar played flawless first base with an assist on a memorable toss to Lawrence covering first, and five put-outs. Shortstop Kelsie Dancer's bases loaded walk and Tyler Rice's two-out two-run double capped the five run rally. The Colts added three more in the third on four walks and a two-run single by Kelsie. They had a chance to end the game in the sixth when pinch hitter Nathan Rowe singled in Tyler Rice and advance to third on pinch hitter Gavin Hawbaker's single, but could not plate the tenth run to invoke the run rule. Reliever Austin McKinney, in his first pitching appearance of the season, overcame a little wildness to get the last two outs in the 7th on a strikeout and a tag play at home, receiving the throw from catcher Chris Burnett who chased down a wild pitch and made a strong relay, ending the game and sending the happily frostbitten AHS fans and players home to thaw.