

Big inning a big bummer for Carroll

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Perry used a big scoring inning and defeated Carroll in a Class 3A district opener Friday night at Carroll Stadium.

The big inning, a five-run first, was too much for the Tigers to overcome as they fell to the Blujays 10-6.

It was the third time Carroll lost to Perry this season, falling 10-4 and 4-0 during the Raccoon

River Conference season. The Tigers, who made the school's first trip to the state baseball tournament last year, finished the season 20-13.

Perry advances to a district final Monday night in Carroll and will face ADM at 7 p.m. ADM moved on with a 10-6 win over Jefferson-Scranton Friday.

"I couldn't be prouder of them," Carroll coach Dirk Troutman said of his team. "We lost seven senior starters last year and going into this season we were not sure what to expect. I would have been happy with a 15 or 18 win season.

"We knew we would struggle early - you don't lose seven guys and not expect that. We put things together at the end of the year and were playing the best at the end and that's what you try to do."

Carroll won 10 of its last 14 games, including five straight heading into the district tournament.

Even after Perry's big inning, Carroll had its chances.

Addison Patrick was tagged out at home plate on a 9-1-2 play in the third inning, where the Tigers left two other runners stranded. Plus, they left bases loaded in the sixth.

Carroll, who kept themselves in the game with sound defense - throwing runners out at third in both the second and fourth innings - closed the gap at 7-6 in the fifth. Left fielder Derek

Major added an eye-catching play for the final out of the sixth.

"We thought we could score a couple more runs," Troutman said. "We knew we could come back and we did and made it exciting. But then they got a couple more runs."

Jake Landon was the offensive star for Carroll, going 4 for 4 at the plate. Jesse Ayers added two hits and drove in three runs. Tyler Tuel had a hit and two RBIs. Addison Patrick also had two hits.

Kyle Semprini took the loss for Carroll, giving up six runs on eight hits. Nine batters went to the plate in the first inning. Semprini was relieved after throwing to two batters in the second by Tyler Tuel, who gave up one run on five hits while striking out four.

Game Statistics

| | R | H | E |
|---------|---|--------|------------|
| Perry | 5 | 10 | 01031015 1 |
| Carroll | 0 | 010500 | 611 2 |

| | IP | H | BB | SO | R | ER | |
|---------------|----|----|----|----|---|----|---|
| Hoffman (WP) | 7 | 11 | 2 | 9 | 6 | | 5 |
| Semprini (LP) | 2 | 8 | 0 | 0 | 6 | 6 | |