

Caleb Strack

Sobieski

2021 MVP

Class C

In his own words: I was pretty nervous, so I got to the field and I really couldn't tell you why I was so perfect that day, but it was almost perfect. What I remember is cruising through the first five or six innings and having my family and fans from Sobieski and Randall all cheering us on. It was a super close game so that made it even more intense and all that. In the seventh inning I walked the first guy which ended the perfect game and in the eighth inning I gave up the first hit. So there went the no-hitter, but I wanted to get the shutout next. So that's what I went for and did it (Sobieski 2, Windom 0).

A week later, which was our game against Isanti, I knew I was starting that one as well. I was still nervous, I knew a few of the guys on that team from the Little Falls area and actually used to go to the games all the time when my dad and brothers were playing. So then that moved us to the third weekend which is where you want to be because that's where all the games come. We played Dumont on Saturday and I knew I had that game. So it was just focus on Saturday first. They were good and our guys played really good, (Sobieski 5, Dumont 0) then I just felt like everything was clicking.

We finished Dumont and we knew Sunday we would have two tough games. Ethan Branum threw against Alexandria (Sobieski 9, Alexandria 6) and Chad Weiss threw against Sartell (Sobieski 5, Sartell 1). He threw such a good game. We definitely would not have made it through that game without him. He was absolutely terrific.

I tried to ignore the fact that it was the championship game and we actually made it. Obviously the job wasn't done, but we were there. So then it was just kind of getting into a rhythm or a zone on the mound. The game was intense. The first few innings were just a dogfight. Both teams just putting up zeros all the way through. Got to the eighth inning and I would say that I felt better and I was in a rhythm and in a zone. In the ninth, the winning run was 90 feet from home with one out. I was really fricking nervous, and I stepped off the mound and I turned to the umpire and said you got to love this because the crowd was going nuts. I kind of live for those moments because I want to prove to everyone that I can defy the odds.

So it was second and third and one out. There was a ball hit on the ground to the shortstop, Collin Eckman, he took it off his chest and threw the batter out. The runner on third didn't go because the infield was in and he probably would have been out. Then I struck out the last guy.

In the eleventh our offense explodes for three runs. I knew if I just did what I had to do that we would win that game. They got one base hit and then with two outs there was a ground ball to shortstop, Eckman threw it to second for the last out (Sobieski 3, Watertown 0).

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- Caleb Strack, Sobieski, 2021
- Pitcher
- Pitched 35 innings, striking out 43
- Won four games
- Allowed three runs for a 0.51 ERA



I saw Dick Bremer up there and stuff. If I remember correctly that game Patrick Reusse was there too and wrote a little piece on the game, so that was kind of cool, just to hear his perspective on the game."

