



Genesee Rapids

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## **Rapids Lose Close Game to Oilers**

Tristin Gleason

**Houghton, NY, 7/13/2019-** The Genesee Rapids are nearing the end of the regular season as they had played 35 games of their 42 game season. In game 36 of 42 they played against a division team, the Olean Oilers. The Oilers were sitting in 3<sup>rd</sup> place for the division putting them in the last playoff spot in the division with the Rapids only 2 points behind them, prior to this game. With this being said this game was important for both sides to win as playoffs are nearing and the teams are looking to fight for that last spot. The Oilers ended up beating the Rapids by a tight score of 3-2.

The Rapids opened up the scoring as Brett Lindsay had scored for them and it was a momentum booster for the Rapids. Despite having this momentum the Oilers did not let that get to them as they kept the Rapids off the score board until the bottom of the 9<sup>th</sup>.

The Oilers were not having a good night offensively as they had no runs going into the top of the 7<sup>th</sup>, but with a pitching change, the batting would change. As the Rapids put in a new pitcher the Oiler were able to figure him out and ended up getting 3 runs in the 7<sup>th</sup> including an inside the park homerun.

The Rapids would make things interesting and score in the bottom of the 9<sup>th</sup> to make it a single run game. David Wessells, a Houghton College player, had got the run and the team started getting excited and the energy was super high. Unfortunately, the energy would fall quickly as the Oilers were able to get 3 quick outs and put away this game to give them the 2 points.

After this game the playoff race is still very close and very undecided. The Oilers advance to 2<sup>nd</sup> place after this win giving them 33 points, which brings the Mansfield Destroyers down to the last playoff spot with 32 points. The Oilers have one point more than the Destroyers, and the Destroyers have played one more game than them. The Rapids do not sit

far behind either of these teams, as they have 29 points. The Rapids have played 36 games, but compared to the teams they are trying to compete with they have played a few more games than them. The Oilers have played 34 games, and the Destroyers have played 35. Hornell Dodgers who are currently in last in the division, have 28 points. With this said the Dodgers have only played 31 games this season, this is 3 less than Olean and 4 less than the Destroyers. This means that all teams from 2<sup>nd</sup> place to last place in the Western Division have a shot to make the playoffs, so every single game and win counts. It should be very exciting to see the outcome of this intense race.

Continue to cheer on your Rapids as they battle for a playoff spot this year!

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