

Legion squad starting strong

By GLENN BUNTING

A majority of Rochester's American Legion 13-man squad stepped onto a baseball field in uniform for the first time this year on Saturday, and the result was a doubleheader sweep over Suburban Federation opponent Sterling Heights' De's.

With 11 of his 13 ballplayers from the Rochester area, which went without spring sports this season, coach Jerry Bannerman was a little worried about his team's inexperience. But the locals shook

temped pitcher by the catcher did the game and put a runner on third with one out. With a five-man infield behind him, Martin got the next batter to pop out, but pitcher Mark Kinsley then stopped the winning run to win it for Walled Lake.

with similar to those of the weekend doubleheaders.

AGAINST DE'S, Rochester used a total of 13 hits in both games to win a pair over the Sterling Heights club, 6-1 and 4-1. Jim Bannerman and Tom Dietz both went the distance in picking up their initial wins of the campaign.

Only 15 years old, Dietz was the hitting star in the opener with three hits in as many times at bat. He started a string of consecutive two-out doubles in the third that scored Rochester's first two runs.

After leading a double down the leftfield line, the switch hitting Dietz scored on Don Sartin's extra base hit. Double then came through with a double and Rochester led, 3-0.

In the second game, Dietz, Urie and Sartin drove in one run apiece as Rochester used its five hits to the fullest in winning, 4-3. Dietz gave up one hit on the mound, but was tough with runners on base, giving up only two runs.

Rochester has passed its first big test of the season in winning ballgames with inexperienced players. Now the true test comes when Bannerman's ballclub faces region powers Farmington, Waterford and Troy-Bloomington.

The first-year coach will gladly take re-

ROCHESTER CLIMBED the legion opener with a seven-run third inning which saw 13 batters reach the plate. Cupples and Joe Urie began the third by getting on base via Walled Lake errors. Dietz then brought both runners home on a base hit, giving Rochester an early 3-0 advantage.

But the fun had just begun for the locals, who continued pounding Walled Lake on consecutive singles by Watkins, Dietz and McKelton, the latter two driving in runs.

After Ruppert Garcia walked, two more runs scored when catcher John Shady hit into a three-base error. In his second trip to the plate in the inning, Cupples singled home Shady for the final run of the third.

Rochester added two runs in the sixth and seventh innings, after Walled Lake tallied four in its half of the third to round out the locals' 13-run binge.

Mark Travers and Mark Martin were the beneficiaries of Rochester's robust offense, as they combined to limit Walled Lake to six hits. Martin was brilliant in relief, going the last four innings without giving up a run. He fanned seven, walked a pair and picked off two baserunners in an impressive showing.

IN THE SECOND game, Rochester's offense revolved around the mighty bat of Cupples, who drove in all four runs on two hits. In the second, Cupples' 40-foot two-run homer put Rochester ahead, 3-0.

In the fourth, Cupples singled home two more runs to stretch the locals' lead to 4-1. But Walled Lake came back with one in the fifth and sixth innings, and two in the seventh to win its first game of the season.

In the sixth, Walled Lake's Don D. Iworski smashed a solo blast over the leftfield fence to bring his team within one, 4-3. Then came the seventh, which spelled doom for Rochester.

Watkins, who relieved starter Martin in the last of the sixth and faced one batter, walked Walled Lake's leadoff man, Bannerman, then summoned Martin from the outfield for a repeat performance.

The strategy didn't pay off, however, as the outscored walked the next batter, putting men on first and second with nobody out.

A two-base throwing error on an at-

Swim classes begin

Opening day for "Backyard Swim Instruction," sponsored by the Rochester YMCA, will be June 28. Lessons for boys and girls six years and older will be held twice a week for five weeks in backyard and heated swimming pools.

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More information can be obtained by calling the Rochester YMCA at 661-1888 or visiting the office at 1238 Harding.

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For information and brochure: call the Department of Tennis Education 332-9221

Camp Director: Steven Willinger

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