

# Three Shutouts Mark Action In Adray League

It was a day of goosegoss Sunday in the Greater Livonia Adray baseball League.

Three games, three shutouts, the most brilliant effort being turned in by Redford Township's Dale Bjerkle

who flipped a no-bitter in beating Plymouth, 4-0.

Meantime, Jeff Taylor of Northville blanked Garden City, 3-0, on four hits while Livonia's Hubert Reilly bested Farmington's Holcomb Industries, 9-0, as Ken Gawkowski

and Jetter Dettler combined to fire the shutout.

Bjerkle, the former Redford Union High star and more recently of Eastern Michigan University, fanned five and walked two in keeping Plymouth completely in check.

NICK VALENTI OF Plymouth pitched well enough to win under most circumstances.

But he gave up a walk to Tony Himmelsbach in the second. After a sacrifice, Himmelsbach scored on Redford's single.

Then Redford added two runs in the fourth on a walk to

David Taylor and two errors. His by Bill Holmes and Randy Taylor produced the final Redford run in the sixth.

Hubert stayed unbeaten with a 3-0 record in first place by coasting past Holcomb.

Four runs in the first inning got Hubert off and running. Doug Francis singled. Then after three walks produced one run.

Jim Erwin singled in two more and John Grills delivered a sacrifice fly.

In the second inning two walks, a fielder's choice, a two-run hit by Jim Cron and a wild pitch netted three more runs.

Pat Cayley's two-run hit was the tying blow.

The victory was the second in as many days for Northville which downed Westland, 8-6, Saturday. Rich Allen not only was the winning pitcher, but he also socked a three-run homer.

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## Briggs' Hurling Steals Adray Spotlight

Briggs on the statisticians! The pitching of Bob Briggs required some digging deep into the records of the Greater Livonia Adray Baseball League (formerly the Free Press League).

### Ex-Baseball Player Hooks Ball Into Pool

Only an ex-baseball player could have accomplished such a golf feat... at least that's the way Leon Parks, 72, who resides in Independence Green in Farmington and plays the golf course there, tells it.

Leon, who pitched for Scranton in the old New York-Penn League in the early '30s and in batting practice for the Tigers at Navin Field, hooked his drive on the No. 9, 175-yard hole and then saw the ball zoom through an open door leading into the swimming pool.

He rushed up to see if it had hit anyone and discovered it had curved through the door on the fly and into the pool.

"Sure was lucky on that one," he said afterward. The glass door was only open about a foot and a half and someone could have been coming out. More than that, the ball could have hit a swimmer in the pool.

"Lucky for me, no one was around at the moment. It was one of my longer drives and to think it went hooking around like that."

Leon had a 32 for the round against a par 28.

He was named All-Second team at third on the post-season All-Observer team.

But the way he's pitching now for Westland's team in the Adray League, he'll have to be considered among the league's top men on the mound.

He has gone to the hill twice for Westland and hurled a total of 18 innings. His production is best described as dazzling.

In the opening game against defending champion Redford, he hurled 11 scoreless innings. It wasn't his fault, Westland eventually bowed in the 16th frame, 1-0.

Briggs came back against Farmington's Holcomb Industries the next time out.

SO WHAT DID HE do this time?

He tossed seven more shutout innings to put his total to 18.

2-- He doesn't allow a hit.

3-- He fanned nine and walked two.

Briggs does more than pitch. He's a powerful hitter, too. He doubled against Holcomb in the sixth inning to knock in Kerry Webb, who had walked, with the third and final run of the game.

Don Griggs singled. Then after three walks produced one run.

Jim Erwin singled in two more and John Grills delivered a sacrifice fly.

In the second inning two walks, a fielder's choice, a two-run hit by Jim Cron and a wild pitch netted three more runs.

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## Now Another Frayer Sparkles

They say it's like father, like son. Could be, too, like brother, like brother.

It wasn't too many years ago that Roger Frayer was one of the big stars at Franklin High School. He played football and basketball and baseball.

Roger went on to stardom at Alma College, where he was named the captain of the football and baseball teams.

HE'S BACK HOME in Livonia now, coaching at Churchill Hill, where his baseball team recently surprised and gained the Les Anders Invitational tournament finals.

This was Churchill's first year in the tournament, and there wasn't a senior on the team. Churchill

won't have its first graduating class until next June.

Meantime, back at Franklin, there's another Frayer who's growing up and into a star on his own right.

He's Rick Frayer, who pitched a three-hit shutout for Franklin in beating Novi B and V, 2-0, in the Connie Mack League last Saturday night.

This Franklin team is comprised of JV players of the past season who have their eyes set on becoming varsity players next spring.

Young Frayer fanned five in posting his shutout.

Fred Beal and Butch Majewski singled for the first Franklin run. The second came in when Steve Crowe singled, stole second and registered on an error.

2-- Warholak Uniroval Tires of Redford (Redford Union) flipped Livonia's Tom Service (Churchill Hill Varsity), 7-5, as Randy Ferguson hurled a 3-0.

This is somewhat surprising since virtually everybody in the league is fresh from either playing high school or college baseball during the spring.

But, then, it's conceivable, that this is the year of great pitchers on the area's sandlot.

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## Pitchers Take Honors In Connie Mack Loop

It might be said that the pitchers are ahead of the batters so far in the Greater Livonia Connie Mack League.

This is somewhat surprising since virtually everybody in the league is fresh from either playing high school or college baseball during the spring.

But, then, it's conceivable, that this is the year of great pitchers on the area's sandlot.

IN ANY EVENT analyze some of Thursday's Mack League results:

1-- Livonia Royals edged Novi B and V, 2-1, in an eight-inning battle. Ken Gawkowski, ex-Bentley High star, lost a no-hitter in the sixth inning.

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## Dramatics Mark Farmington Split

Talk about dramatics. Farmington's American Legion Post baseball team produced them Sunday in a split with Clarkson in the 18th district.

It took a comeback from a 6-1 deficit for Farmington to win the opener, 7-6.

In the nightcap, Farmington's Mike Hart had a three-hit shutout going until two were out in the seventh inning, then lost it all on a grand-slam homer in the eighth, 5-1.

EXCELLENT relief pitching by Doug Hagen, a 15-year-old junior high student, helped win the opener for Farmington. He worked three innings and gave up two hits while fanning four.

Farmington scored in the second when John Flemming singled in Hart, then started its comeback in the fourth with two runs when Jim Shay singled in Stan Kouris and Rick Garneau who had singled ahead of him.

Livonia Hubert's Class A split in a doubleheader Sunday. After beating Soper Clark of Detroit, 3-1, in the first game, Hubert fell to ITM, also of Detroit, 2-1, in the second encounter.

ITM is the league leader with a 10-4 record, compared to a 7-4 mark for Hubert.

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