

Dave Rice Shows He's Ready For Summer Play

Hubert Wins, 12-1, On No-Hitter

From Bentley High to Western Michigan and a position on the baseball varsity as a freshman.

That was the Dave Rice story this past spring as he wasted no time in becoming a vital link on the always strong Western team.

Now he's home for the summer and helping the Hubert Realty Aday League team and he never was sharper than Sunday when he threw a no-hitter in beating Garden City, 12-1.

The lone Garden City run came in the first inning as the result of a walk, error and fielder's choice.

THE REST of the way saw Rice allow only two more walks as he struck out three.

Rice was supported by some big bats as his mates posted their fifth win in six starts to wind up in second place behind Redford in the first round of the season play.

Bob Ficano and Frank Kasperek each slugged a three-run homer for Hubert.

The winners scored twice in the first inning when

Jim Crom singled in Ficano and Stu Rose, who had singled earlier.

In the second Ficano's homer featured a four run explosion. Then John Grills and Mike Perino singled and Don Opland doubled in a two-run third.

Kasperek homered in the seventh with Jim Erwin and Rob Hollandsworth aboard. Hits by Jerry Boehm and Stu Rose wrapped up the scoring.

Brilliant pitching by ex-Thurston high star Tim Carr and a four homer onslaught carried Redford past

North Farmington and the first-round title with a mark of five wins and a tie.

Carr allowed three hits, struck out 16 and walked three.

Meantime, Jeff Washington drilled two homers, one in the fourth with none out and another in the fifth with two on.

Kirk Taylor followed Washington's first homer with another circuit while Dennis Poppenger connected on a round-tripper in the sixth for the defending league and state champs.

Southfield Legion Bounces Back To Whip Berkley Twice

Southfield's American Legion baseball team didn't stay stopped long.

On Friday, Southfield bowed to Waterford, 5-2, marking its first loss in nine games.

On Sunday, Southfield was back in the winning groove, beating Berkley in both ends of a doubleheader. First it was 9-3 in the regulation seven innings, then 3-2 in a 12 inning battle.

SOUTHFIELD NOW has a record of nine wins, one loss and a tie in its battle with

Waterford for the top slot in the 18th District League.

Steve Gombar didn't have much trouble beating Berkley in the opener. He fanned 10 and allowed four hits while his mates rang a merry tune with their bats.

After John Solberg scored in the second inning following a double, Southfield broke loose with five runs in the third inning and three more in the sixth.

In the third, Denny O'Rourke started matters with a single. Gombar walked

and Gary Mazza doubled. Kevin Milliken singled, Solberg tripled and Dan Damiani doubled to wrap up the big inning.

In the sixth, O'Rourke doubled and Gombar singled for one run. After Solberg was walked intentionally, Damiani unloaded a two run double to finish the Southfield scoring.

IN THE NIGHTCAP, Al Davis worked the first seven innings for Southfield and Bruce Digue finished with five

scoreless innings of relief to pick up the victory.

Southfield went scoreless until the sixth when Milliken singled and came home on Damiani's single.

Still trailing, 2-1, coming to bat in the bottom of the seventh and final inning, Dave Casai singled. Then with two out, Mazza and Milliken followed with singles to tie the game at 2-2.

That's the way the battle stood until the 12th inning when Solberg doubled. After

Damiani was walked intentionally, Martin came up and broke it all up with a double that sent Solberg dashing around with the deciding run.

Bob Brown was the losing pitcher in the Southfield reversal at the hands of Waterford.

Waterford scored once in the first and second innings and cashed three runs on three walks and a hit in the fourth inning.

Southfield scored once in the third on a walk, a hit by Rick Stahle and a sacrifice fly by Milliken. In the sixth, a walk, hit and error finished the Southfield scoring.

Southfield plays at Farmington Wednesday and at Walled Lake Friday.



ALL-OUT EFFORT enables Garden City West's Lyle Benedict to beat out an infield hit in the game against Northville Reef in Connie Mack League action. First Baseman Rob Crane snags the low throw but too late to get the runner. (Observer photo by Bob Woodring)

Lathrup Plays 2 Tie Games In Ruth Loop

BY STEVE STEIN

The Southfield Lathrup Lions rallied twice, and then watched the darkness come to tie two straight games with Berkley, 2-2, and with league leading Bloomfield, 5-5.

The ties gave the Lions, members of the Oakland County Senior Babe Ruth League, a record of 3-3-2 as they near the half-way point of their 20 game season.

Against Berkley, the game was called because of darkness after seven innings. Lathrup rallied with two runs in the bottom of the sixth to tie the game, after Berkley had scored single runs in the third and fourth innings.

Jeff Kessner pitched for Lathrup, allowing seven hits,

striking out six, and walking two.

Lathrup tied the game when Rick Voegel's walked, and went to third on Jim Millan's single. Paul Jacobs singled home both to give Lathrup its first tie game of the season.

AGAINST BLOOMFIELD, the Lions, after taking a 3-0 lead, had to score single runs in the sixth and seventh innings to tie Bloomfield, which scored three in the sixth, and two more in the seventh inning.

Jacobs pitched 6 1/3 innings for Lathrup, allowing five runs, and Andy Barak hurled the final 2 1/3.

In Lathrup's three run fifth, pinch-hitter Larry Harwood

walked, and went to third on Jeff Goldberg's single. Goldberg stole second, setting the stage for Voegel's single, which drove in Harwood and Goldberg. When Voegel tried to stretch the single into a double, the throw to second was wild and he scored.

Lathrup's run in the sixth came when Millan was safe on a fielder's choice, stole second, and scored on Mill Thackaberry's double.

The tying run came when Barak walked, stole second, and scored on Voegel's single, his third run-batted-in of the game.

The Lions will be at home against Birmingham Chamberlain, July 1, and will play a doubleheader on July 4 at Madison Heights.

Name Area Baseballers On All-Star Selections

More honors have come to area high school baseball stars of the past spring.

Bill Booker and Randy Ferguson, both of Redford Union, were named on the Detroit News' All Metro West team - Booker as an outfielder and Ferguson as a pitcher.

The two previously had been named on the Observer's All-Area team for 1971.

Other All-Observer stars also were named by the News on the Metro-West honorable mention list.

INCLUDED WERE: Bill Herbert of Redford Union, first base; Don Oakland, Franklin, shortstop; Steve Chilenko, Churchill, outfield; and Daryl Demaray, John Glenn, pitcher.

Demaray was named as third base on the All-Observer team, where he starred when not pitching for Glenn.

Tony Wenson of Farmington, the all-Observer catcher, was named on the News' All-North Metro honorable mention list, while Brother Rice's Dan Damiani, an all-Observer outfielder, won a similar all-honor from the News.

Other honorable mention choices were:

First base - Howie Schryer, Plymouth.

Second base - Tom See, Stevenson, and Roy Henriksson, Churchill.

Shortstop - Al Hernandez, Bentley.

Outfielders - Mark Keifer, Stevenson and Mark DeRoche, Churchill.

Catcher - Bruce Van Wagoner, Churchill.

Pitchers - Steve Kreaeger, Thurston, and Tony Kaseta, Franklin.

On the North honorable list, Jim White of North Farmington was named as a pitcher.

ALL-OBSERVER and now all-Detroit News. Those are the honors which have come to outfielder Dan Damiani, of Brother Rice, in the past 10 days.

He was the only Observer-

Livonia Youngster Makes Triple Play

The Little League play of the year in Observerland. That's what is being credited to Johnny Gray, a member of the Yankees team in the G League, Orioles Division of the Livonia circuit.

Johnny, a fourth grader at Webster School, executed an unassisted triple play against the Senators.

It all came about while he was playing first base and the Senators had runners on first and second.

Johnny snagged a line drive, stepped on first for a double killing and then raced to second ahead of the baserunner to complete the triple play.

Unassisted triple plays are a rarity in major league baseball and almost unheard of in Little League competition.

Thus credit Johnny with accomplishing the impossible. It is believed to be the first unassisted triple play in Livonia Little League annals.



RICK JONES



RICK KNOCK

Two Area Stars Pace Britons

Two area baseball players, Rick Knock of Farmington, and Rick Jones, for North Farmington, played major roles in Albion College's march to the MIAA championship this spring.

Jones started at third base and made only one error in 25 games. He was president of the Albion chapter of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes and was the only student in the United States to be on the national staff.

Upon graduation two weeks ago, he joined the National FCA staff in Kansas City.

Knock played a vital role in the success of the Britons with his brilliant hurling. He will be one of the senior lettermen on the 1972 squad.

Rick hurled a three hitter against Michigan State in a losing cause and wound up the season with a 2.55 earned run average.

Clark Wins In Majors

It was a happy day Sunday for Rick Clark, the former Redford Union High pitcher.

For the first time in three seasons, he pitched a victory in the American League as California beat Chicago, 12-3.

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