

# Garden City on rise in LCBL

Garden City continued its climb in the Livonia Collegiate Baseball League standings with a pair of impressive wins before the Fourth of July break.

Garden City, a winner of five straight games, is 8-9 overall and in fourth place in the LCBL standings. Garden City defeated Westland Federation 3-1 at Westland John Glenn June 29 and rallied for a 4-3 win over Delwal at Garden City July 1.

"Hopefully, we stay on a roll," Garden City coach Fred Holton said. Westland Federation, which was a 16-7 loser on Friday against Hines Park Lincoln-Mercury, fell to 10-6 and third place.

Hines Park is in first place at 13-4 followed by Little Caesars at 12-9. The win against Westland Federation, the early-season league leader, was sparked by the pitching of right-hander Mark Rutherford (Livonia Churchill/Eastern Michigan).

Rutherford scattered six hits and walked five and was able to pitch out of trouble, leaving eight runners on base. His record is 2-2.

"Rutherford is as good as there is in the league, and I figured I needed to win so I threw him," Holton said. "Of course, when it comes to him and Dan Pydyn (Madonna University), it's a toss-up."

Garden City scored two runs in the fourth inning and one in the

seventh. Westland's lone run came in the sixth. Mark D'Antonio suffered the pitching loss for Westland despite allowing only five Garden City hits. Garden City benefited from three Westland errors.

Marcus Samovsky (Livonia Churchill) had two hits and an RBI. Brian Hicks (Redford CC/Garden City) and Justin Black (Garden City) had one hit each. In the comeback win over Delwal, Samovsky was the winning pitcher with a complete game. He allowed seven hits, walked four and struck out 10 to move his record to 2-2.

Garden City trailed 2-0 after five innings before scoring one in the sixth and three in the bottom of the seventh.

Consecutive singles by Josh Reeber, Jason Holton and Hicks scored the first run in the sixth. That part of the lineup helped Garden City win the game in the seventh.

Garden City loaded the bases with Reeber, Holton and Hicks, and Rutherford came through with a two-out single up the middle, scoring the two lead runners for a 3-3 tie.

Delwal center fielder Sean McDonald (Oakland University) made a fine throw to home plate, but the second run scored after the ball popped out of the catcher's mitt.

After Hicks stole third, Black singled to break a 3-3 tie and keep

Garden City's win streak alive. Terry Hayden was the losing pitcher in a complete-game effort. Tony Dillaura hit a solo home run in the first for Delwal and Kelly Dransfield (Michigan) hit a solo homer in the seventh.

In a make-up game played Thursday at Henry Ford Community College, Delwal got only three hits but beat Wendy's 7-3. Gary Mroz (Detroit-Mercy) went the distance, scattering five hits with six strikeouts and one walk.

Mike Muir (Michigan) had an RBI single in the first and Dransfield contributed an RBI on a fielder's choice. In one of the innings, three passed balls and a wild pitch contributed to Delwal's scoring.

Delwal is now 7-10 overall.

**CAESARS & WENDY'S** G: Little Caesars used a 14-hit attack and pitcher Dave Roman's one-hit Friday to beat Wendy's in a game at Ford Field.

Roman, who struck out 13 Wendy's batters, also contributed two doubles and scored two runs. A fielder's choice led Caesars with three hits in four at-bats, including a pair of doubles. J.R. Taylor, Dennis Madden (Livonia Franklin) and Brian Schroeder contributed two hits each.

Caesars remains in good position to make the four-team playoffs with nine games remaining, but several opponents have

rain-outs to make up and could gain ground.

At this point, Hines Park should be favored to wind up in first place with Westland pushing right up behind them but also looking over their shoulders at Little Caesars, Walter's, Garden City and Delwal. Caesars coach John Moraitis said, "The next four weeks are going to be very interesting. It is down to the nitty-gritty now, and the teams that make to play every game will get into the playoffs."

Moraitis believes it's an advantage to Caesars not to have to make up any remaining games.

"It can be a headache to some of them (who have make-ups) because when you have to go with your best pitcher in a game and you know you have to win, you give up something going into the next game," Moraitis said.

Caesars beat Walter's Appliance 5-1 as winning pitcher Brian Gearhart scattered six hits with four strikeouts and one walk June 29.

Mike Syjod (Madonna) hit a two-run home run and Jason Sizemore had a two-run triple as Caesars scored two runs in the fourth inning and a pair in the fifth against losing pitcher Brad Morgan (Livonia Stevenson).

Morgan allowed five hits, struck out six and walked four to fall to 1-1. Tim Piccini had an RBI double for Walter's (8-9).

Items for the Sports Roundup should be submitted by 5 p.m. Tuesday (for Thursday edition) and 5 p.m. Friday (for the Monday edition).

## FESTIVAL CONTINGENT

Several area athletes are competing this week at the U.S. Olympic Sports Festival in St. Louis, Mo.

Among the men's soccer participants — Jeff Casar, Scott Lamphar, Travis Roy and Mike Gentile, all of Livonia; Tom Baker and Karry Zavagin, Plymouth.

Women's soccer — Ragen Coyne, Livonia;

Disabled soccer — Mary Parrish, Farmington Hills;

Figure skating — Danielle and Steve Hartsell, Westland;

Shooting — Kate Kuleman, Livonia;

Artistic roller skating — Steve Findlay, Farmington Hills;

Archery — Jennifer O'Donnell, Farmington Hills.

## SOCCER TRYOUTS

The Farmington Fury will have premier soccer tryouts for its under-16 boys team from 7-9 p.m. July 11-12 at Founders Sports Park on Eight Mile Road in Farmington Hills. For information call coach Tom Faro at 477-5652.

## SPONSORS SOUGHT

The Farmington Fury is in need of area individuals or businesses to be team sponsors and help with team equipment, tournament fees and team expenses. If interested call coach Tom Faro (477-5652).

## FOOTBALL CAMP

The Lakes Area Hawks will hold a football mini camp on Saturday and Sunday, July 30-31, at Walled Lake Western High School. The program, which begins at 8:30 a.m. each day, will stress the fundamentals of football and is open to all young athletes ages 8-13.

Each participant should bring a mouth guard, cleats, loose fitting

clothing and a sack lunch (no dairy or fried foods). Coolers, water, fruit and sports drinks will be furnished.

Cost is \$25 per person and includes a T-shirt. Registration deadline is July 15.

Call Pete Leaser at 360-8724 to register and for more information.

## VOLLEYBALL ALL-STAR

Livonia Clarenceville's Jamie Zemke has been selected to play in the eighth annual Michigan Intercollegiate Volleyball Coaches Association/Michigan All-Star Classic Saturday at the University of Michigan-Dearborn Fieldhouse.

Action begins at 2 p.m. with the finals set for 6 p.m.

Renee Tomlinson of the Livonia Churchill, who carried a 4.0 grade-point average, will be honored as MIVCA's All-Academic Team. Livonia Stevenson's Rachel Clark (3.79 GPA) will also be saluted.

Plymouth Salem's team carried a team GPA of 3.49, fifth best in Class A.

## STRUT & STRIDE

The fifth annual Strut & Stride 10-kilometer run, 5K run and walk will be Saturday, July 16, at Edward Hines Park in Westland.

The event will benefit the Hemophilia Foundation of Michigan.

The registration fee, prior to July 8, is \$12 per person (includes T-shirt). Race-day registration, 8-8:45 a.m., is \$14 per person.

For more information, call Ed Knoff of the Motor City Striders (544-9099) or Vicky Ople of the Hemophilia Foundation (761-2535).

## COACHES WANTED

Farmington Hills Mercy needs a freshman basketball coach. Call athletic director Nancy Malinowski (810-476-2836) to apply.

Redford Catholic Central High School needs a junior varsity and freshman soccer coach for the upcoming season with three and four years of experience. Those interested should contact athletic director Robert Santello at 534-1140.

# Baseball from page 1B

The Barons travel to Battle Creek this weekend to play in the Mayor's Invitational in which 30 teams from around the Midwest will compete.

## COBRAS UNBEATEN

The 13-year-old North Farmington-West Bloomfield Cobras improved to 12-0 in the Michigan Baseball Federation League with a pair of recent victories.

On Sunday, the Cobras edged the Troy Pirates, 6-5. Joe Morris paced the Cobras' offense

with four hits, including a double off the fence. Adam Fazio and Mike Gleason had three hits each while Mike Sopo, Josh Gad-Harf and Marc Boggio helped the cause with two hits apiece. Boggio and Sopo drove in two runs each and Sopo was on base four times. The Cobras also received RBI singles from Mark Tripp and Jason Marvin.

Dave Lusky started the game and pitched the first three innings. He was relieved by John Dresser.

On June 29, the Cobras beat the Pirates 7-3. Boggio led the offense with three hits and three RBI. Sopo had two hits and

scored twice, and Gad-Harf cracked an RBI double.

Lusky pitched the first two innings and received relief help from Sean Quay, Boggio, Dresser, Morris and Gleason.

On Monday the Cobras won by forfeit over St. Clair Shores.

## WIN STREAK AT 5

NPWB 1 won its fifth straight Mickey Mantle game Friday, 8-4. Coach Gary Collins pitched a complete game, yielding only three hits.

Collins also drove in two runs with a single and a suicide squeeze. NPWB

supported his pitching with 10 hits and was aided by six walks.

Brett Insland had two hits and scored three runs, and Jim Insland had two hits and batted in three runs.

## NPWB VICTORY

The NPWB Cobras Mickey Mantle team played one of its best games June 30 when it rallied from an 8-1 deficit to defeat Brownstown 18-10.

Fat Curran and Aaron Lawson had two hits apiece as well as four and three RBI, respectively. Justin Bright set a team record with five consecutive walks and scored two runs.

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