

Redford, Livonia Clash In Showdown

Weather permitting, there'll be a big collision at Livonia's Henry Field Monday night around nine o'clock.

Redford and Livonia, the two top teams in the Greater Livonia Class A league, are due for their fifth head-on duel of the season.

Both are unbeaten in the third round of the season's play. Livonia stands 5-0 and Redford 4-0.

Overall on the season's play, Redford has won 22, lost two and tied one. Livonia has an 18-5 record.

Livonia won the first meeting of the season between the two teams while Redford has won the last three.

REDFORD WON the first round tie and needs only to beat Westland in a game that'll probably be made up this week to take the second round as well.

In the long-delayed second round, held up by weather, Livonia leads with a 7-2-1 mark to Redford's 7-1-1.

Thus, it would appear Livonia must beat Redford Monday night if the team hopes to make the post-season playoffs to determine who'll advance into the district competition—the first step on the long trail that can lead ultimately to the national tournament at Battle Creek.

Redford made it to Battle Creek last year, reaching the national finals before finally succumbing.

BOTH LIVONIA and Redford scored shutout victories Wednesday night.

Livonia trimmed Plymouth, 5-0, in a third-round game, while Redford whitewashed Dearborn Heights in a second-round makeup, 3-0.

Bill Ziegler hurled a three-hitter for Livonia and fanned nine. His mates, in turn, soaked out 11 safeties, with Roger Frayer and Jim Rose each slapping out four apiece.

Rose knocked in the first two runs in the third inning, chasing in Gary Krupinski and Paul Portney, who had walked, with a double.

In the fifth, an error put Ross aboard. Then Gary Bowen walked and Frayer and Dan Besk followed with RBI singles.

The final Livonia run was scored in the sixth when Rose doubled and Bill Peihman chased him with a single.

PITCHER RICK Krumm was most of the show in Redford's victory.

All he did was to allow two hits—a double in the second and a single in the eighth, strike out 14 and pick up seven assists on fielding play.

In short he personally accounted for 21 of the 27 outs in the game.

The first Redford run was scored in the second on a single by Tim Fisher and a double by Bob Green.

In the third Gary Schaefer doubled and Fisher singled him over. In the eighth, Terry Rothwell and Russ Nelson singled and advanced on a passed ball. Rothwell scored on an infield out.

Fisher had three hits and Schaefer and Nelson two each for the winners.

OBSERVER Sports News

Farm 'ton Youth Wins Golf Title

Bob Chapman of Farmington has won himself a trip to Kalamazoo and state Junior Jaycee Golf Tournament.

Chapman shot a 39-39--77 to capture honors in the 14-15 year-old division in the regional JC tourney held at Pontiac's municipal course.

He qualified along with Rob Roehrig of Pontiac, who fired an 80 in the younger division.

In the 16-17 age bracket, Richard Kallis of Pontiac and Scott Niederuecke of Waterford took honors with respective scores of 76 and 77 to win trips to Kalamazoo.

Steve Stabbaugh of Union Lake and Paul Stitt of Waterford fired a 78 and 86, respectively, to win in the 13-under category.

Other Farmington entries did well in the one-day 18-hole regional.

In the older group, Tom Strand shot a 39-43--83. Mike Means scored a 94 and Scott Dolan a 98 in the 14-15 bracket while Tom McCoy was third in the 13-under with a 95.

Pistons Play At Clarkston

The Detroit Pistons announced they'll play the Baltimore Bullets in a pre-season game at Clarkston High School on Sept. 26. It's the closest the Pistons will appear to Detroit prior to their regular-season opener slated for Oct. 18 against the world champion Boston Celtics.



JOHN MANN, of North Farmington High, who was one of the state's leading high jumpers during the spring, has signed an athletic tender to the University of Michigan. He will enroll there next fall. John cleared 6'8" during the high school competition during April and May.

Sport Briefs

Bobby Unser, the Indianapolis 500-mile winner, has announced he'll drive Sunday in the Six Hour endurance race at the Watkins Glen (N.Y.) track.

Pete Rose, the Cincinnati Reds outfielder who has been hitting .329, will be lost to the team for at least three weeks because of a fractured thumb. He has been placed on the injured reserved list.

Trainer Bud Shookro of the Detroit Pistons keeps busy at his trade the year around. During the summer he works for the Boston Red Sox farm team at Pittsfield.

Booming Bats Keep Tigers In Top Spot

MINNEAPOLIS -- There's something about the Detroit Tigers bats this season.

They swing a lusty tune... this despite the fact there's not a .300 hitter among the Tiger regulars.

Nonetheless the Tigers have emerged as the No. 1 homer hitting team in the American League.

They reached the All-Star break with 98 to their credit and then promptly picked up two more Thursday night when they dropped a 5-4 decision to the rallying Minnesota Twins.

The "beauty" of it for the Tigers is that just about everybody has been hitting 'em out of the ball park.

EVEN SUCH light hitters as Dick Trecewski and Ray Oyler have hit for the distance. In fact, as manager Mayo Smith sees it, it was Trecewski's three-run homer off Sam McDowell in Cleveland that was the turning point in the season for the Tigers.

The Tigers had lost three straight to the Tribe and they stood in jeopardy of seeing their lead cut to 3 1/2 games when Trecewski socked one out.

Not only did the Tigers go on to win the game, but in short order they built a 9 1/2-game lead to start just about everybody talking about a world series in Detroit come October.

Willie Horton has led the Tiger homer department with 22, while Jim Northrup's production includes four grand-slams, including three in six days, a major-league record.

FOR A PERIOD Thursday, it appeared the long ball would get the Tigers off and rolling in the second half of the pennant chase.

Mickey Stanley slammed his seventh with two on and Dick McAuliffe his 10th to give Detroit a 4-2 lead.

But for one of the few times this season, the Tiger bullpen failed.

The Twins cashed two runs off Pat Dobson, replacing Mickey Lolich, to tie the game in the seventh when Rod Carew singled.

Then in the ninth with John Hiller pitching, Carew again singled to send home the winning marker.

Sandlot Schedule

FREE PRESS LEAGUE

Sunday

Garden City Sports vs. Redford, 2:30 p.m.; Garden City Sports vs. Cardinal Decorating, 4:30 p.m.; Garden City Sports vs. Dearborn Heights, 6:30 p.m.; Cardinal Decorating vs. Dearborn Heights, 8:30 p.m.

Monday

Redford vs. Dearborn Heights, 2:30 p.m.; Plymouth vs. Westland, 2:30 p.m.; Dearborn Heights vs. Livonia, 4:30 p.m.; Livonia vs. Dearborn Heights, 6:30 p.m.

Tuesday

Redford vs. Dearborn Heights, 2:30 p.m.; Plymouth vs. Westland, 2:30 p.m.; Dearborn Heights vs. Livonia, 4:30 p.m.; Livonia vs. Dearborn Heights, 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday

Redford vs. Dearborn Heights, 2:30 p.m.; Plymouth vs. Westland, 2:30 p.m.; Dearborn Heights vs. Livonia, 4:30 p.m.; Livonia vs. Dearborn Heights, 6:30 p.m.

Thursday

Redford vs. Dearborn Heights, 2:30 p.m.; Plymouth vs. Westland, 2:30 p.m.; Dearborn Heights vs. Livonia, 4:30 p.m.; Livonia vs. Dearborn Heights, 6:30 p.m.

Friday

Redford vs. Dearborn Heights, 2:30 p.m.; Plymouth vs. Westland, 2:30 p.m.; Dearborn Heights vs. Livonia, 4:30 p.m.; Livonia vs. Dearborn Heights, 6:30 p.m.

Saturday

Redford vs. Dearborn Heights, 2:30 p.m.; Plymouth vs. Westland, 2:30 p.m.; Dearborn Heights vs. Livonia, 4:30 p.m.; Livonia vs. Dearborn Heights, 6:30 p.m.

By George Maskin observing sports

One thing disturbs us in the wake of the Detroit Tigers' domination of the American League. Detroit fans haven't taken to Mayo Smith with the enthusiasm, with the support, with the excitement the man rightfully deserves.

It's not that Smith has cried, or even said, the slightest word.

Or is he the type who demands the spotlight or figures that he rates the headlines.

Smith knows what his job is. He knows that the fans come to see the players and it's the players about whom the fans choose to read and to hear.

So you don't see Smith popping off verbally or going through physical moods which might tend to arouse the fans and, perhaps, endear him more to those in the stands or who watch on television or listen via the radio.

WE PUT THE question to Hal Middlesworth, the Tiger publicist, the other afternoon in the press box at Tiger Stadium.

"Hal, why haven't the fans really gone wild over Smith the way they have over managers like Paul Richards or Casey Stengel or Leo Durocher and a flock of others?"

Middlesworth, who has seen most of the games the Tigers have played since Smith took command, declared:

"Maybe it's because Mayo doesn't come bouncing out of the dugout to shriek at umpires or make wild gestures from the bench.

"Or, maybe it's because he just gets himself all wound up in controversial statements and remarks just so he'll be quoted a lot."

But, Middlesworth knows, as do all close to baseball, that Smith has done one tremendous job since he was named by Jim Campbell to manage the Tigers.

WHO RIGHTFULLY can blame Smith because the Tigers missed the pennant by a single game last season?

Sure, there were those who insisted he mishandled his bullpen... that he used one guy until the guy's arm fell off.

But Smith realized that he had to go with his "hot hands"... that he didn't have too much out in the bullpen and when he found a man who could retire the opposite, he just stuck with him as much as possible.

Certainly it wasn't Smith's fault that he was able to get little service out of Willie Horton in 1967.

Considering what Horton has done this year—and what his bat has meant to the current Tigers, it takes no brain wizard to realize that if he could have played just in 20 more games last year, he might have swung the team to a couple more victories—at least.

Yes, and was it Smith's fault that Denny McLain hurt his toe in a freak accident early in September and was of no value to the Tigers during most of the stretch drive?

SMITH LED the Tigers over and through most of these obstacles last year.

And you can't say that he's enjoyed exactly clear sailing this season.

He had to go for almost two months without Al Kaline.

There was a period when Earl Wilson couldn't pitch... and all-star third baseman Don Wert was sidelined after being hit in the head by a pitch.

Early in the year Norm Cash couldn't hit his weight... and he scales around 200 pounds.

Willie Horton limped a little and Dick McAuliffe was sidelined. Then a back injury forced out Eddie Mathews.

One Boston sports writer told us the other week:

"This Smith really knows how to punch the buttons and come up smiling."

Remember how he moved Mickey Stanley to center and Jim Northrup to right to complete an outfield with Horton that rates second to none?

How he's switched Bill Freehan to first in a jam? How he's gotten a million dollars of mileage out of Dick Trecewski at short and third?

How he's worked rookie Tommy Matchick into a starter?

MORE IMPORTANT, who can overlook the job Smith has done in rounding up the best relief-pitching crew in baseball?

It was Smith who said in spring training he had the bullpen. He said so while the experts insisted the Tigers were destined for problems with their relief men and the club should trade a Cash or even a Kaline for a star bullpen duty.

From the first day of the season, Smith has unfurled not one, but four or five special-ists who have come in regularly to put the fire out.

There's Pat Dobson and Fred Lasher... John Hiller and Daryl Patterson... John Wyatt and Dennis Ribant.

Did you know that of the first 55 games won by the Tigers, the relievers won 19 and ran about something like 20 "saves."



BIG REASON for the success of the Tigers in their runaway in the American League is Pitcher Denny McLain, who resides in Farmington. Denny is the winningest hurler in the circuit with 16 victories and is shown watching his teammates during a pre-game workout in Tiger Stadium.

Ace Pitchers Make Livonia FP Contender

Chris Wendrick and Paul Tonnemacher were two giants during the recent high school baseball season.

Wendrick hurled for Franklin and Tonnemacher for Stevenson.

Now they're together on the Cardinal Decorating team which is Livonia's representative in the Greater Livonia - Free Press League.

Monday night they combined to pitch a one-hit shutout as Cardinal got off on the right foot in the second round of FP play by blanking Norville, 2-0.

Wendrick didn't allow a hit until he departed in the top of the fifth after walking the first two men in the inning.

Then Tonnemacher, who was picked on the Observer Newspapers All Area team, came in and retired the next three men in a row, two on strikes to squash the rally.

TONNEMACHER lost the no-hitter with two out in the ninth when Jim Taylor singled to right. Dave Boerger then walked before Tonnemacher got the final batter on strikes to end the game.

Between them Wendrick and Tonnemacher fanned 10.

Both the Livonia Cardinal runs came in the fourth inning. Greg Macy was safe on an error was Jim Pownow. Both moved up on a sacrifice by Bill McAlpine and scored on Ed Ryan's line single to center.

Redford, the first - round knitter in FP play, also got off on the right foot in the second round by beating Dearborn Heights, 7-1, as lefty Dan Camp from Plymouth allowed only one hit, fanned six and walked four.

REDFORD SCORED twice in the second inning when Camp walked. Bill Holmes tripled to deep right and Kevin Fox stepped a single to left.

In the fifth, Bill Holmes singled, stole second and raced around on a pair of errors. Bill Howe followed with another single, advanced on an infield out and tallied on Reg Bar-ringer's single to center.

A walk to Rod Ferguson, a hit by Bob Holmes and two errors made it 5-1 in the sixth.

In the seventh, Joe Himmel-schach singled. Bill Holmes doubled and Marty Ingeusall singled for the final two Red-

The Detroit Pistons in setting up their "home" exhibition schedule for next fall, plan to make a Michigan tour with stops at Grand Rapids, Clarkston, Flint, Saginaw, Kalamazoo and possibly Ypsilanti. On their swing through the state, the Pistons are slated to play four of their Eastern Division rivals—the world champion Boston Celtics, the Philadelphia 76ers, New York Knicks and Cincinnati Royals.

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