

Big Three Keeps Going In Mack Play

The big three of the Greater Livonia Connie Mack baseball parade came through in flying style twice over the weekend.

National Pride (Churchill), Thurston and Warholak (Redford Union) — the three division leaders — rolled along without much trouble on different diamonds Thursday night.

Warholak exploded for a 16-3 victory against Crowe Royals.

Thurston turned back Novi, 10-2.

National Pride disposed of Plymouth's Red Holman, 7-2.

BILL BOOKER fanned eight, allowed three hits and walked one as Warholak coasted to its eighth win without a loss. Nine runs in the fifth inning put the game out of reach.

Big blows for the winners included a homer by Dave Martin and a two run triple by Rob Campbell. Steve Houghton homered for Crowe while Pat Perino drove in the other two runs.

Mark Miller was the winning pitcher for Thurston as he struck out nine and pitched five hits against Novi.

Five runs in the fifth inning put the game on the safe side.

In the uprising Dennis Pop-pinger singled in two runs and Bill Frayer two more.

Earlier a bases loaded walk led to the first Thurston run and another scored on a sacrifice fly. An error and Ben Fontani's single led to two more Thurston runs in the second inning.

NATIONAL PRIDE received two hit pitching from Gordy Miller in beating Red Holman, 7-2. Miller struck out five and walked three.

Brian Sherman led the National Pride attack with two hits in two trips to the plate. His big blast was a two run homer in the sixth.

Mike Cronin also picked up two hits for National Pride in three visits to the swatting station.

In Saturday's action, Warholak scored a double conquest, beating North Farmington in the morning, 4-2, and Plymouth Gates, 9-2, in the evening.

Thurston, meantime, blanked Plymouth, 3-0, while National Pride downed Little Caesars of Farmington, 9-2.

Randy Ferguson, the All-Observer prep pitching star, made it 3-0 in Mack action by holding North Farmington to three hits. He fanned 12 and walked two.

North Farmington twice led in the game, first on John Haine's first inning homer and then on two errors in the second inning after Ray LeRoux had homered in the bottom of the first for Redford.

Redford tied it in the second when Pat Brown singled in LeRoux and added two more runs on a walk, error, wild pitch and sacrifice in the fifth.

TOM MILLER also posted his third win without a loss in the nightcap for Warholak. He also pitched a three hitter while fanning nine and walking two.

LeRoux had three hits, scored three times and

Knocked in two runs. Kurt Fritz slammed a three run homer to break a 2-2 tie in the fourth inning. Fritz had four RBIs.

Dave Martin and Steve Friedman each had two hits for Redford, now 10-0.

Steve Kreager, ace Thurston pitcher, chalked up another fine job in blanking Plymouth, 3-0.

Kreager and Plymouth's Brad Truax shared honors in a scoreless duel until the sixth inning when Thurston broke loose for all its runs.

Bill Fraser was safe on an error and went all the way around when Dennis Pop-pinger singled and a wild throw followed.

After Ken Chopek walked, Ben Fontani tripled and Don Murdock doubled.

Steve Chilenko had three hits, including a two run homer; Brian Sherman a two run homer among his two hits; and Ray Henriksson drove in three runs with three hits. Mick Cronin also knocked in two runs with his one hit.

Cronin's hit came in the first inning. Henriksson doubled in two runs in the second and Chilenko followed with his homer to put the game out of reach. Sherman's homer came in the fourth and Henriksson's final RBI in the fifth.

National Pride then dimaxed its weekend on a gala note by beating Garden City West, 9-2, in a Sunday game.

Gary Sobkowiak worked the first five innings for the winners before going out in favor of Ken Woods because of a sore arm.

Henriksson had two hits, while Mark DeRoche and Chilenko joined with run producing hits. Everybody on the National team got at least one hit as the team upped its record to 9-1.

Pitchers Duel To 0-0 Tie

Talk about how the stars might affect baseball pitchers. It all happened on the same night —

1. — The Tigers had to go 11 innings to beat Washington, 1-0.

2. — Oakland battled for 30 innings before beating Chicago, 1-0.

3. — Westland and Livonia

Hubert Realty fought it out for eight innings without any kind of a score before the time limit expired and the game had to be called with the score still reading, 0-0, in their Adray League battle.

Bob Briggs, of Westland and Dave Hart, of Livonia Hubert, matched pitching gems in the duel.

Briggs struck out 10, walked two and allowed only four hits. Rice allowed 11 hits, fanned 14 and walked two.

Briggs permitted only one run to reach third. That was in the sixth inning.

Rice had to work out of several jams. In all, Westland and Livonia Hubert, matched pitching gems in the duel.

In the third inning, Westland put runners on third and first with one out. Rice struck out

the next two men. In the fifth, Westland put three on with none out. Rice then proceeded to strike out the side.

North Farmington made it two straight in Adray League play by downing Garden City, 3-2, behind the fine pitching of Mike Hart. He went the route, gave up five hits, fanned 13 and walked two.

Dennis Kesik, the loser, pitched well enough to win most the time. He fanned nine and walked four.

THE GARDEN CITY runs came around in the second inning with hits by Al Poland and Darrin McHugh starting the uprising. After Steve Pummil walked, Pat McHugh singled in the two runs.

North Farmington tied the game in the fourth when Harvey Sell doubled in Greg Bioah and Rich Garneau.

Then in the fifth John Combes singled, stole second and came home on an error with the winning run.

It took the combined efforts of Bernard Bach and Jeff Moon, but between they hurled a shutout as Northville Reef beat Plymouth, 3-0, in the day's other Adray game.

Moon was the winning pitcher.

Rich Adams, whose dad Art manages Northville, slammed a homer and two singles to pace the Reef attack.



WAYNE COUNTY UNIT of the American Cancer Society was the big winner when Northville Downs staged a special invitational trot in honor of ACS. Eight-year-old Kent Carney, of Plymouth, who was cured of cancer through assistance of the unit was the honored guest. Mother Bonda, driven by Mike Novick, won the race and then Executive Manager John Carlo (second from left) presented a check to Bob Hynes, popular Detroit television star, and Norm Robbins (second from right), unit president. Looking on (left) is Deputy Racing Commissioner Richard Morris.

Regional Slot At Stake In Southfield Battle

The battle of the mighty! It was scheduled for Wednesday evening at Southfield High when the American Legion baseball team battled Waterford.

At stake was first place in the 18th District.

The teams have been running neck and neck. Southfield upped its record to 15 wins against two losses and a tie by blanking Troy twice on Sunday. First it was 1-0, then 5-0.

Meantime, defending champion Waterford split a doubleheader and took a 12-2 record against Southfield.

"There's no question that this is the big one for both teams," said Will Oliver, the Southfield manager. "The team which wins the flag moves on to the regional playoffs. Hence, the importance of Wednesday's collision."

BOB BROWN and Bruce Digue teamed up to hurl the first game shutout against Troy. Steve Gombard performed the honors in the second game.

Brown worked three innings and allowed two hits. Digue finished and didn't allow a safe blow.

The only run was scored in the seventh inning when John Solberg tripled and Dan Damiani knocked him in with a single with one out.

Southfield had all kinds of chances to score with 10 hits.

In the second game, Southfield was shut out fast with four runs and that was more than enough for Gombard, who fanned 10 and walked two while allowing seven hits.

The twin shutout upped to 17 the number of consecutive scoreless innings Southfield pitchers had recorded.

A single by Rick Stabile started Southfield on its way

to a four run uprising. Then after a walk, John Solberg singled in one run.

Damiani followed with another hit — this one chasing in two runs. Al Albright followed with another hit to make it 4-0.

The final Southfield run came across in the fifth inning when Stabile singled and scored on a sacrifice and an error.

It'll likely be Brown vs. the number of consecutive scoreless innings Southfield pitchers had recorded, although Coach Fred Goldberg may turn to Gombard, who has been pitching sensational baseball.

Redford Wins First Round-Then It's Northville Turn

Two rounds... two different winners.

In round one Redford carried off top honors in the Greater Livonia Adray League.

In Round Two, the title went to Northville, which scored four-run wins in the seventh and eighth innings Sunday to beat Redford, 9-1.

It was Northville's sixth win without a loss in the second round. Other teams still have one game to go, but none can catch Northville.

Redford, which swept through the first round unbeaten, suffered two setbacks in the second round.

SO, NOW IT'S INTO the third round starting Friday with the league playoffs to follow to determine which team will represent the league in the state Adray playoffs.

Northville and Redford were locked in a 1-1 battle until the seventh as John Morrison, of Northville, fought Jim Murray, of Redford, an even terms on the mound.

But in the seventh, Rick LaRue started with only

Becker and Wayne Williams singled, Ron Mandie was safe on an error for one run and Steve Chilenko singled in two more.

A walk, a sacrifice and a single by Sell brought North Farmington even before Plymouth tallied the deciding run in the fifth when Williams singled, stole second, went to third on a wild pitch and came home.

IN SUNDAY NIGHT'S other Adray game, Garden City rallied with one run in the seventh to tie the game and then scored once in the eighth to nose out Westland, 3-2.

Singles by Conn, Pat McHugh and Sylvester produced the deciding run after Jerry Volas singled in Dennis Kesik with the equalizer in the bottom.

Singles by Greg Puihes and Al Poland led to Garden City's first run.

Westland scored once in the second when Ken Gawkowski walked, stole second and dashed in on Phil McMillan's single. In the third, Pat Burke doubled and scored on hits by Brad Lyons and Terry Mills.



CONGRATULATIONS are given Jim Shea (left), of Stevenson High, by Dave Wienack, of Franklin High, after his victory in the 16 and under singles division of the annual Livonia Jaycees tournament. Other winners were: 18 and under, Gary Seislock, Clarenceville; 14 and under, Jim Mella, Livonia Riley Jr. High; 16 and under girls, Judy Donovan, Stevenson; 18 and under doubles, Umanos and Dahl; 16 and under doubles, Bolin-Whitledge, Bentley.

Red Carpet For Champs

When Southfield hosts the Regional Colt League Baseball Tournament at the Civic Center Aug. 4-7, the players will get the red carpet treatment.

Sectional champs from Kentucky, Illinois, Indiana and Michigan will play on a lighted ball field complete with standard fence and dugouts.

The parks and recreation dept. designed and drafted specifications for fencing and dugouts and obtained

quotations from contractors working in the area in lieu of formal bid procedures.

The fencing will cost \$2,889 and dugouts, \$5,300, provided for in the voter approved recreation bond issue.

"It is my belief that the city can show its support for such organized athletic programs for young people by making every effort to provide the best facilities possible for this tournament," says City Administrator Peter Cristiano.

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