Churchill Victor In Mack Division

Take a bow National Pride, or if you wish Churchill High.

National Pride, comprised of baseball players from Churchill and coached by Roger Frayer, who handles the prep team as well, won the Greater Livonia Connie Mack American Division by downing Northville Reef, 6-2.

It was National's 11th win in 12 games and qualifies the team for the district playoffs later in the summer.

MIKE KELLER permitted only three hits in beating Northville while Pat Welch's pinch single proved the decisive blow of the game, breaking a 2-2 tie.

A double by Bob Blaise and a single by Steve Chilenko gave National a 1-0 lead in the first inning and then in the fourth Bruce Van Wagoner singled home Brian Sherman, who had singled and advanced to second on an error.

With the score tied at 2-2, Chilenko was safe on an error in the third. Mark DeRoche followed with a double and then Welch came through with a single to score Chilenko and DeRoche and put Pride ahead. 4-2.

Mick Crom tripled and Sherman delivered a sacrifice fly to provide the winners with two more insurance runs.

Novi B and V swamped Redford Tooling, 13-3, as Bob Dien drilled a three run homer to lead the assault.

Keith Armstrong had two hits for the winners. He doubled in one run while George Panzoff singled in another run along with Jim Foster for the losers.

CROWE ROYALS (Livonia Bentley) capitalized on 10 errors and some long ball hitting by Al Hernandez to blast Gates Realty, 12-2.

Hernandez slugged a pair of homers, one with two aboard in the first inning when Crowe scored three times. His other round tripper came when he led off in the fourth inning.

Tom Cook hurled for the winners, allowing only three hits.

Warholak Uniroyal Tires (Redford Union), which already had won the National League crown, scalped Garden City East, 12-1.

Randy Fergerson, the all-Observer prep pitcher, made it 4-0 in Mack play when he struck out 10, walked one and gave up only four hits.

Warholak never trailed after R.J. LeRoux singled in two runs in the second inning. LeRoux, along with Mike Johnstone and Mark Durance each had two hits for the winners.

The regular season ends Thursday for Connie Mack League teams in what is called "position night."

In each of the three divisions, the first place team will play the second, the third meets the fourth and the fifth takes on the sixth. The No. 7 team will draw a bye.

The three divisional winners–Churchill, Warholak and National Pride–will enter the state district Mack playoffs while other Livonia teams with winning records participate in their own playoffs.

He Steals 3 Bases To Win Mack Game

The fleet base running of Mark Copp made the difference as far as North Farmington was concerned in its Connie Mack League baseball game with Franklin.

The score was tied at 1-1 when Copp walked in the sixth inning. He promptly stole second base. After a slight pause, he swiped third, too.

Then, to complete the rare feat, he broke for home and slid in safely with the winning run.

Earlier North Farmington had scored when John Haine tripled and Scott Ramsey singled. Franklin's lone run came on hits by Barz and Beers, the only two winning pitcher Dave Nauman yielded.

Garden City Teams Split In LL Meet

One Garden City team won, another lost in area Little League play in the District Four competition.

Walter Kroll scattered six hits and struck out 12 as Garden City Federal shut out Detroit, 8-0, in Area 3. Kroll helped his own cause with a homer while Jess Chomiuk contributed the big blow for the winners when he slugged a homer with the bases loaded.

Meantime, Garden City American bowed to Taylor South, 4-3 in Area 2. A homer by Dennis LeCroy settled the game.

In earlier action in the tournament, Garden City Federal had won over Westland Central-East, 6-2, as Steve Matthews struck out 12, allowed three hits and socked a homer of his own.

Detroit advanced by downing Redford American, 4-3.

Westland National advanced in the meet by winning over North Detroit, 4-1, on the strong pitching of John Lyons.

Garden City American turned back Southwest Detroit, 4-3, when Kevin Ellis singled with three on to break a 3-3 tie and win the game.

Rookie Award

Tiger Infielder Harvey Kuenn was chosen as the American League rookie-of-the-year in 1953.

Doubling Up No Easy Task

It's been a busy summer for Ken Gawkowski, the former Livonia Bentley High star pitcher. Gawkowski is doubling up on two teams, but in different roles.

For Westland Cleaners in the Greater Livonia Adray League, he's pitching. That keeps him buzzing three days a week.

On three other days, he's a manager, handling the Livonia Optimists in the Connie Mack League.

Gawkowski hasn't lost any of his pitching or batting skills, although he has been away from Bentley a couple of years now.

He was particularly sharp Friday night in hurling Westland to an 8-2 decision over Redford. He allowed only five hits, struck out five and walked two as Redford countered with three pitchers - Tim Carr, Jim Horton and Jim Murray. Between them, the Redford trio allowed nine walks.

Five of those walks showed up in the third inning when Westland broke loose for seven runs.

Gawkowski doubled to start the inning. Then came five straight walks before Gawkowski appeared at the plate for the second time in the inning. This time the bases were loaded and he promptly cleaned them with a triple.

A single by Pat Burke and an error led to the other Westland runs.

Two walks and a wild pitch produced the first Redford run. The other came in on a double by Murray and single by Tom Ray.

John Stout, who formerly contested against Gawkowski when he attended Plymouth High, was equally as brilliant on the mound as Plymouth Bidwell blanked Livonia Hubert Realty, 4-0.

Stout, a right hander, struck out 15, walked two and scattered two hits.

He waged a scoreless duel with Ken Ockerman of Hubert until the fourth when Bidwell broke loose for all its runs.

Bob Walden walked to start the inning and Jack Mathias was safe on an error. Howie Schryer followed with a two run single and Pat Cunningham chased Schryer in with a triple. Then Cunningham came home on a fielder's choice.

NORTHVILLE, which won the second round of the season's Adray schedule after Redford won the first, got off on the right side in third round by downing North Farmington, 6-1.

Bernie Bach worked the first five innings for Northville and Hood finished up.

Meantime, Rich Adams struck the big bat for Northville. He drilled out four singles and drove home four runs.

He singled with the bases loaded for two runs in a three run second and then singled again with the bags jammed to chase in two more tallies in the third inning.

Northville To Entertain Area C Of Cs

If you belong to a Chamber of Commerce in Southeast Michigan, you are invited to attend harness racing at Northville Downs on Wednesday July 28 Chamber of Commerce Night.

The invitation to be guest of the Downs is extended by the Northville Community Chamber of Commerce.

Mrs. Margaret Zayti, corresponding secretary of the Northville Chamber, said the local chamber members interested in attending should contact their president or secretary for free tickets.

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