

# It's Churchill vs Stevenson In Districts

Livonia Churchill tuned up for state tournament baseball action with a 4-1 victory over Northwest Suburban champion Franklin and then kicked into high gear with a state pre-district win over Walled Lake Western, 3-0.

The now 15-6 Chargers meet another Livonia school, Stevenson, in a district clash at Southfield High this state pre-district game with Junior Daye Panzoff working the full seven innings. He picked up his fourth victory in six

en victories in the year's eight varsity sports in the baseball conquest of Franklin.

Churchill topped Franklin in football, cross country, basketball, wrestling, track, tennis and now baseball, with Franklin's lone triumph coming in swimming.

The "Year of the Charger" placed the frosting on the Franklin cake with Junior Daye Panzoff working the full seven innings. He picked up his fourth victory in six

## State Baseball Tournament

decisions, allowing just five hits, walking one and striking out six.

Panzoff lowered his earned run average to 0.17 and was aided by two double plays, both Brian Kelly to Phil Skender to Al Leirstein.

Franklin Coach Ron Hel-

lier used three Patriot hurlers in Tim Livesay, Tim Fischer and Jamie Knapp with Churchill collecting five hits.

Livesay suffered the defeat. Churchill opened with one run in the first. Skender drew a walk, stole second, advanced to third on an infield out and scampered in on a two out single by Rick Dreher.

The Chargers pushed it to 3-0 in the third.

Kelly singled, stole second

and Bob Biales drew a walk. Both runners moved up on a groundout and Kelly scored on a sacrifice by Dreher.

Rod Hawraney was hit by a pitch and with two outs, Leirstein singled in Biales.

Churchill completed its offensive show in the fifth when Jim Foster walked, stole second and dashed in on a two out single to left by Leirstein.

Franklin's solo tally came in the seventh.

Davidson led off with a triple and scored on a wild throw. That was the extent of Franklin's offensive punch.

Franklin finished with an overall record of 13-9 and the Northwest Suburban League trophy.

Churchill remained alive in state tourney action with a 3-0 triumph over Western Six foe Walled Lake Western, a club the Chargers had previously knocked off, 10-7, and 14-1.

Frayer went with his ace, Ken Wood, against Western with the Charger righthander coming through with a three-hitter, striking out 11, and walking one.

It was Wood's fourth victory in six decisions.

John Gabriele suffered the loss for Western, giving up five hits, walking four and striking out three.

Churchill scored twice in the last of the second.

Dreher tripled and scored when a relay sailed over the third baseman's head. With one out, Leirstein walked, stole second and was sacrificed to third. Wood walked and Leirstein scored on a balk.

The Chargers added an insurance run in the sixth.

With one out, Dreher singled, moved to second on a stolen base and scampered in on a hit by Mike Gottshall.

## Turf Tips, Quips

By Doc Minard

Imagine having four of the nation's top three-year-old pacers at the track and unable to arrange a matched race for the simple reason that none of the other sophomores are interested.

That's the situation Wolverine Racing Secretary Bill Connors found himself in when he attempted to card a \$10,000 invitational pace Friday night. Bill had the entries of J.R. Skipper, Gay Skipper, Bret Over Again and Racing Knight and that was all.

The first three were among the top four finishers in the \$122,000 Messenger stake at Roosevelt Raceway 10 nights

ago. Racing Knight captured the Motor City Friday at Wolverine in the fastest mile of the year, a quick 1:59.1.

Connors hopes to have all four in races Saturday but not in the same race. There's a strong possibility all will remain on the grounds until Friday, June 15 for the Matron stake with an estimated value of \$40,000.

At the moment, Connors believes the Matron will develop into the first meeting of the year for the early contenders for the Little Brown Jug classic in September.

Reenie Ricci Time, last year's two-year-old of the year, is expected to check into Wolverine early next week. His owners don't want the colt to race on anything but a mile track ... we have one of the best and fastest in the land right here at the Detroit Race Course.

Don't sell Bret Over Again short. The Bret Hanover colt, from the Earl Forsyth stable of Birmingham, was a fast closing second in the Messenger behind Valiant Bret. Those who viewed the stake expressed an opinion that the Michigan youngster would have won it all had Driver Ted Taylor been able to get him out of a pocket.

Be that as it may, Friday's card is topped by a \$10,000 pre-district and invitational trot with a field of nine. Heading the cast is Oppy, the speedy star from Lou Haber's stable who broke gait in his start a week ago.

Then there are: Speedy A Plenty, Speedway Jackie, Nick, Flying Trip, Delmo-

nico, Jckawowie, Killbuck Mary and Soda Hall.

In fact, the program is filled with better than average trotting events. There's one for \$6,000 with nine starters including Angelo Pick, Worthly Dean, Noblette, McElwain's Danger and Our Roger.

The Zantop has a value of \$6,400 and full complement of 10 with Mayflower Maid, O Bel, Speedy Coalition and Para B as the standouts.

It will be a while before harness racing fans forget the big weekend at Wolverine last Friday and Saturday.

Imagine the pacers and trotters outdrawing the thoroughbreds by 3,500 on a Friday night? Well it happened last Friday when 10,130 fans wagered a fat \$335,000. Both figures were well ahead of Hazel Park.

Then on Saturday, the standards were only 25 off the attendance on the other side of town. Wolverine had 12,956 against 13,020 and betting climbed over a million for the fourth consecutive Saturday with a total of \$1,044,023.

Business continued its brisk boom with the weekend handle climbing to \$1,979,953, largest in the track's 24-year history. After 62 nights, the trotters have a nightly average of \$919,491, up 8.5 per cent over the \$854,506 of a year ago.

Attendance is also at a record high with a nightly average of 7,329, up 4.1 per cent over the 7,041 for 62 nights in 1972.

Total wagering for the six nights was \$4,333,149 and total handle to date is \$40,268,444.

The weekend racing was just about the finest of the year with even better coming up in the final three weeks of the meeting.

Racing Knight, a three-year-old from the Dick Buxton stable of Ohio, lowered the top clocking of the season to 1:59.1 in winning the \$21,650 Motor City Pace.

It was a terrific race from the start and found Racing Knight just holding off Gay Skipper in the closing strides to win by a nose. Gay Skipper, piloted by Jack Ackerman who raced for years in the Detroit area until shifting activities to Chicago, was fourth at the top of the stretch. Ackerman turned the colt loose in the long stretch and just did run out of track to finish second.

Then on Saturday, the much improved Easy Irv, owned by Charles Farber of Brighton, came rushing down the outside to win the \$12,500 Invitational pace by a half-length in 1:59.4. That was the third mile below 2:00 for the Wolverine season.

It was Easy Irv's first start with the big boys and he performed just as he did in cheaper races, making a bold move in the final quarter to win his fourth in a row.

Big Kahuna, from the Gene Riegler barn, was closing fastest of all but couldn't catch the leader.

Easy Irv will be back for his second shot at the top stars Saturday in this week's \$12,500 pace.

## Farmington Nips Southfield

It will be Farmington against Milford in the second district baseball clash at Southfield High this Saturday (June 2).

The Falcons knocked off host Southfield in a pre-district battle, 2-1, and will now battle Milford in the 12:30 p.m. game.

Livonia Stevenson and Churchill are pitted against one another at 10 a.m., with the two winners matched at 2 p.m. for the district championship.

The 2-1 victory over Southfield was the fifth straight one-run victory for Farm-

ington, which now stands 11-5 overall.

Dennis Hagen, who at one time sported an 0-3 pitching mark, went the distance for the victory to stand 4-3. Hagen allowed Southfield just three hits, walked one and struck out 10.

Jack Booth suffered the defeat for the Blue Jays, giving up the two runs on six hits. He posted nine strikeouts and gave up one walk.

Farmington drew first blood in the first stanza.

Jeff Herman unleashed his first four-bagger of '73, over the left field fence, some 300 feet away from home plate and the Falcons were up, 1-0.

Southfield came back to tie it up in the second when Dan Fischer doubled, Bob Mead walked with one out, and Bruce Johnson singled.

The fifth saw Farmington tally the deciding run.

Pinchhitter Jim Eathorne singled and was sacrificed to second by Bill Wilson. Bob Holton singled up the middle to collect his first run batted in of '73.

## Glenn Edges Belleville

Westland John Glenn scored a run in the third and then relied on the three-hit pitching of Dave Wesley to nip Belleville in a pre-district baseball contest, 1-0.

Glenn's next move in the state tourney is into the districts at Belleville High where it will meet the winner of the Adrian-Romulus contest at 12:30 p.m. Saturday (June 2).

Glenn pushed its overall record to 12-12. Wesley worked the full seven innings, walked one and struck out nine. The senior lefthander upped his season mark to 5-4.

Jerry Cole hurled for Belleville and gave up five hits,

walked three and struck out seven.

Glenn opened the third on a double by Jim Sampson who advanced to third on a sacrifice by Jack Peet. Wesley then grounded to short, with Sampson scoring, and that was all Wesley needed.

Belleville threatened in the fourth with two runners on and only one out, but Wesley

bore down and struck out the next two batters to halt the rally.

The Glenn Rockets threatened to break things open in the sixth when Craig Linton singled. Jeff Brittain was safe on a fielder's choice. Sampson singled and Peet walked to load the bases. However, two straight strikeouts nullified that chance.

### Legion Baseball Tryouts Set

Farmington's American Legion Post 346 baseball club will be holding tryouts June 2-3 at the Drake diamond in Farmington.


Tryouts will start at 2 p.m. both days.

Any boy, age 16-18, is eligible if he attends Farmington, North Farmington,

Farmington Harrison, Clarenceville or Novi High.

The Farmington squad, coached by Wally Christenson, opens its 26-game schedule in the 18th District League on June 10, at home against Waterford in a double header starting at 2 p.m.

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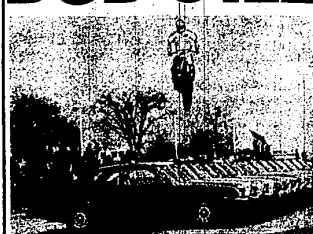
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