

# Legion team jolted by Royal Oak 7-4

By ROBERT A. SKLAR  
A citadel of success? Hardly.

Rather, the past few weeks have proven mostly frustration for Birmingham-Troy's American Legion amateur baseball team.

Coach Tom Lakos' hosting sandloters bore the brunt of another jolt Monday which dropped their mark this summer on the legion circuit to 3-7.

They fell to Royal Oak #1 at Troy High, 7-4.

CAREY BRAHA suffered the setback. The southpaw pitched five innings, surrendering seven hits while whiffing seven and walking five. His record this summer dipped to 2-4.

Dave Jones relieved Braha. The righthander kept the opposition hitless while fanning four and walking none.

Dan Monette anchored Birmingham-Troy's 10-hit assault with the bat. He slashed a three-run homer and singled twice.

Other contributors to the assault were John Davidson, who slammed a solo homer and poked a one-bagger, plus Bob Cleary and Don Henderson, each of whom punched a pair of singles.

SUNDAY BROUGHT somewhat richer fortunes to Lakos' visiting sandloters. They split a twinbill with Berkley, losing the opener 4-1 and winning the nightcap 4-2.

In the opener, Braha took the defeat. He allowed three hits while striking out two and walking eight.

Collectively, Birmingham-Troy logged nine hits. Henderson emerged as the big batsman for the losers. He posted a couple of singles while knocking across a run.

Also shining in the losing cause were Lane Dunn, who doubled and singled, along with Monette, who singled twice.

IN THE nightcap, Sabin Papp notched the victory in relief of Jones, who started.

A southpaw, Papp fooled three opponents on strikes and issued six free passes in six innings of work. He raised his record this summer to 2-0.

Jones whiffed none and walked one. The hurlers combined to give up four hits.

Davidson fired Birmingham-Troy's nine-hit offensive effort. He ripped a roundtripper while bringing home two runs.

In supportive parts for Birmingham-Troy, Dunn doubled and singled. Henderson doubled and Gary Zugzo singled twice.

LAKOS' HOSTING sandloters cakewalked Saturday during Detroit Suburban Amateur Baseball Federation (DSABF) play. They swept a twinbill from Sterling Heights, 3-0 and 11-4.

In the opener, Jim Kazanski went the distance on the mound for the winners.

The southpaw yielded only three hits while fanning six and walking three. His record this summer changed to 2-1.

Altogether, Birmingham-Troy totaled six hits. Monette sparked Birmingham-Troy's attack at the plate. He popped two one-baggers while driving in lone run.

IN THE nightcap, Gregg Iffinger got the victory. The southpaw scattered 10 hits while striking out seven and walking one. He leveled his record this summer at 1-1.

Offensively, Davidson gunned a three-run homer while gathering four runs-batted-in. Dunn chipped in two singles which produced two runs.

Saturday's double delight elevated Birmingham-Troy's federation mark this summer to 4-1.

Members of the American Legion Michigan Division's 18th division

trick, Lakos' stickmen returned to the legion trail Wednesday when they visited Walled Lake.

ON THURSDAY, they will encounter legion position action. At 6 p.m. Friday, they again will visit Walled Lake. At 2 p.m. Sunday, they will visit Waterford for a doubleheader.

At 1 p.m. Saturday, they will try to enhance their federation hopes at Utica in a doubleheader.

Birmingham-Troy is co-sponsored by the Birmingham American Legion Post #14 and the Troy Baseball Boosters.

Its home field is diamond number one at Boulton Park, located off Crooks Road between Big Beaver and Wattles roads, in Troy.

Royal Oak	150	001	0-7	7	1
Bham-Troy	000	310	0-4	10	1
Berkley	100	200	2-4	3	1
Bham-Troy	000	001	0-1	9	0
Bham-Troy	101	010	1-4	9	1
Berkley	000	001	1-2	4	2
Bham-Troy	012	000	2-3	6	0
Sterling Heights	000	000	0-0	3	5
Bham-Troy	310	025	3-11	3	3
Sterling Heights	300	000	1-4	10	3



Birmingham-Troy catcher Gary Zugzo (right) punts the tag on Sterling Heights base runner Nick Burke

## In Track Nationals

# Overall crown for Robbins

By ROBERT A. SKLAR  
Oil slickened the track Saturday during the Sports Car Club of America's (SCCA's) Track Nationals at Indianapolis Raceway Park in Indianapolis, Ind.

But J. Marshall Robbins managed to adjust.

In the process, the 32-year-old Bloomfield Township driver demonstrated why he's well on his way to qualifying for the National Road Race of Champions.

Steering a 1971 Ford Mustang, Robbins took the overall title in

Saturday's 30-minute race on a 2.5-mile track.

Competing in the A-Sedan class, he paced the pack by 25 seconds. Earlier, he emerged as the race's fastest qualifier.

STILL, victory didn't come easy

for Robbins, who's based out of the Jim Robbins Co. in Troy.

"I hit an oil slick about midway through the race and went right out into the weeds," Robbins remembered.

"I came out of them about an eighth of a mile later. After a few laps, I caught the leaders again. Actually, the race proved pretty uneventful and exciting at the same time."

Robbins now is re-gearing for another SCCA track test July 21 at Grattan International Raceway in Grattan, Mich., located near Grand Rapids.

ROBBINS SAYS he's anxiously looking forward to Grattan. "If I can win there," he said, "it'll make four wins in four starts this year."

"That record of performance undoubtedly will enable me to advance to the Road Race of Champions."

Qualifiers for that classic, this year set for November in Atlanta, will represent the top four point-getters in each of SCCA's seven national divisions.

SCCA's Central Division spans seven midwestern states—Michigan, Ohio, Indiana, Wisconsin, Illinois, Minnesota and Kentucky.

## Ruth team splits pair

By DAN SPICKLER  
Birmingham of the Oakland Senior Babe Ruth League went on an emotional roller-coaster ride over the weekend—a quick case of the ups and then the downs.

Through it all, they kept their grip on first place by half a game over Berkley No. 1, the same team that gave them those downs Saturday afternoon.

As if last Thursday's (June 27) first loss of the season after eight straight victories wasn't sobering enough, Berkley's 7-0 shelling must have been downright nerve-racking.

GARY GLEASON, an all-star for Royal Oak St. Mary's this year, held Birmingham to just five hits for his fifth shutout of the season.

"We just ran into a pitcher the boys couldn't handle," explained assistant manager Bob Keeney. He sees a two-team race for the cham-

ampionship with Berkley No. 1. Berkley No. 2, however, was totally different story—a definite case of the ups for Birmingham.

IN WHAT Keeney couldn't help describing as "a joker," the Birmingham leaguers routed the less-threatening team 13-6, freely substituting after the fourth inning.

After a one-run first inning, which saw Doug Smith score on Tom Foell's single, Birmingham exploded for five runs in the second and four more in the third. Steve Mahler's double drove in his brother Bob and Rob Ledbetter. Steve Jeske's timely single then sent in Steve and Mike Hague. Jeske came home on a single by Smith to end scoring in the second.

THE THIRD was highlighted by Hague driving in Foell on a double. Bruce MacElhinney doubling in Hague and Bob Mahler, and

Jeske's single which scored MacElhinney.

Kenney credited leftfielder Hague with a crowd-thrilling catch in the fifth. Hague sprinted toward the wall, in the process of turning around spinned the wrong way, then fell to the ground, stabbing the line drive before crashing to the turf.

Birmingham's losing pitcher Steve Mahler now has a 2-1 record. Ledbetter was awarded Sunday's win and is now undefeated after three starts. The team is 9-2 overall.

Steve Mahler's double drove in the Madison Heights Senators at Derby Tuesday, and will take a breather on Thursday and head into action Saturday against the Madison Heights Cards.

## Snell, Aucott top Red Run

Red Run Golf Club in Royal Oak conducted its 15th women's invitational last week.

This year's version of the annual medalist-best ball action for Red Run members and their guests was broken into three flights.

Listed by club attachment, team pacemakers in each flight were:

• Championship — 1. Mary Snell (Red Run), Ruth Aucott (Great Oaks) 199, 2. Margaret Draper (Red Run), Jean Weir (Oakland Hills) 207, 3. Mary Rakola (Red Run), Betty O'Connell (Lochmoor) 211. Longest drive, Ann Wright (Oakland Hills) 178 yds., 17°.

• First — 1. Arlyle Cole (Red Run), Betty Insley (Women's Metropolitan Golf Association) 208, 2. Barb Brunett (Red Run), Betty Hickson (Plum Hollow) 209 (won three-way playoff), 3. Rita Fountain (Red Run), Maggie Acheson (Oakland Hills) 211. Longest drive, Arlyle Cole (Red Run) 164 yds., 14°.

• Second — 1. Jean Eddy (Red Run), Bev Munson (unattached) 203, 2. Nancy Wood (Red Run), Ellie Macka (Great Oaks) 204, 3. Mary Flanagan (Red Run), Carol Harrelson (Oakland Hills) 208. Longest drive, Bev Munson (unattached) 151 yds., 22°.

The invitational also featured special closest to the pin competition. Winners were a pair of Red Run golfers.

Mary Lou Hurrold teed off to within 9'11" of the cup on the eighth hole; Sheila Draxler teed off to within 23'10" of the cup on the 11th hole.

## Softball team in tourney

Troy's Trojan Homes slow pitch softball team will compete in the second annual Walled Lake Invitational Tournament this weekend at Walled Lake Junior High School.

Trojan Homes is paired with Ypsilanti's JLA Construction at 11:45 a.m. Saturday on the school's field. No. 1 in its first round game.

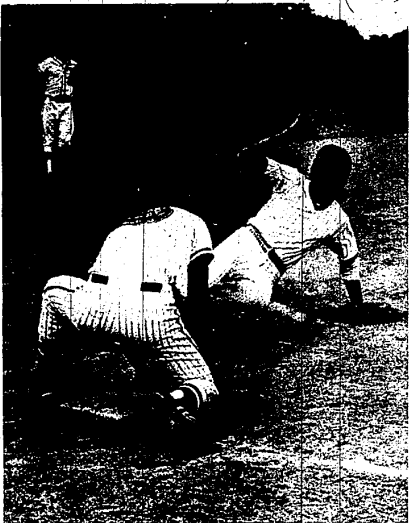


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Sterling Heights' Bob Cooper (right) slides into third base... only to find Birmingham-Troy's Cliff Northing waiting with the ball to make the put-out (Photographed by Art Emanuel)

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They then can walk across the street to the stadium select their seats and return to the Lions' office to complete the purchase.

\*IN ADDITION to assuring themselves seats for all 1974 home games, season-ticket holders this year also may vote the priority list for seat selections in 1975 at the new 80,000 seat Pontiac Metropolitan Stadium now under construction.



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