

In district softball

'Morticians' dust up bases

By ROBERT A. SKLAR
Bating troubles momentarily blurred Vasu-Lynch Funeral Home's hopes Tuesday during state class B men's slow-pitch softball district play.

Player-Manager Bill Tar's scrappy "mod morticians" lost their opener, 2-1, before winning their nightcap, 9-6, at Champion Park in Allen Park.

The two-loss, knockout district tournament, which ran Tuesday and Wednesday, involved four teams.

Along with Vasu-Lynch, tournament teams were Southfield, Clinton Township and Allen Park.

Only Allen Park suffered first-day elimination.

"IT'S STILL anybody's tournament," said a tired but happy Tar after Tuesday's action. "We're confident we can go all the way."

In its opener, Vasu-Lynch bowed to Clinton Township. The losers mustered just four hits.

"We were a little too uptight," observed Tar.

In its nightcap, Vasu-Lynch sprung back to beat Allen Park. The winners broke loose for more than a dozen hits.

"WE CAME OUT like we did in our league playoffs," Tar said. "We

more resembled our regular style

— good aggressive baseball highlighted by a lot of running."

Igniting Vasu-Lynch's offensive powderkeg was Ron Jacobson. He blasted a pair of homers, one a three-run shot and the other a two-run shot.

Tar pitched both games, scattering 12 hits. Four runs which he allowed against Allen Park were unearned, the result of leaky defensive help.

VASU-LYNCH continued its district bid Wednesday, beginning with a rematch against Clinton Township.

That game's winner immediately met Southfield for the district championship.

The district champion will ad-

vance to the state class B men's slowpitch softball finals this weekend in Waterford.

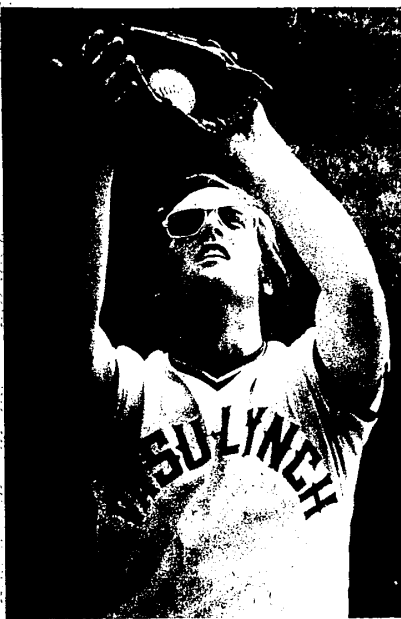
State rounds are sponsored by the Michigan Recreation and Parks Association.

ALSO AMONG Vasu-Lynch's starters are John Barich, Scott Brykalski, Randy Fraser, Dave Hain, Steve Jacobson, Pat Lynch, Dennis Rafferty and Stan Winer.

Backing Tar on the pitching hill is Mark Post. Both are right-handers.

Supplying bench depth are Tony Bellasario, Angie Fiorini, Pete Johnson, Tom Moonen and Greg Rice.

Team sponsor is Edward Lynch, Vasu-Lynch's sandlot-minded owner.



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Devon Hind
first in run

Utica's Stony Creek Metropark conducted its third Stony Creek Invitational Run last week.

This year's version of the annual endurance festivities drew approximately 135 contestants.

The run featured three age brackets — men (18 and older), junior (17 and under) and women (open). Men and juniors ran five miles; women ran 2.5 miles.

Trophies went to the top three place finishers and medals went to the next seven place finishers in each age bracket. Awards were provided by the Huron-Clinton Metropolitan Authority.

Clocked in 27:00, Bloomfield Hills' Devon Hind paced the senior race. In the same race, Orchard Lake's John Grabowski crossed the line fifth; his younger brother, Eddie, took sixth.

Another Grabowski, Nancy, ended up eighth in the women's race.

In the junior race, area place finishers included Birmingham's Doug Bank (11th), Ed Strobach (14th), Marty Downs (26th), Tony Finn (40th), Ernie Dunbar (46th) and Jim Marzella (63rd).

Among the meet directors was Bloomfield Hills' Alex Maxim.

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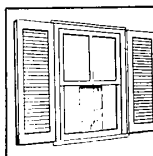


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