

Uniform Change Doesn't Affect Stevenson Team

The change in uniform came swiftly... from Stevenson High's garb to the colors of the Livonia Spartans.

Other than the dress, the fac- es were pretty much the same as the Connie Mack League season in the Greater Livonia League.

The Spartans, one of the two divisional Mack winners last year -- the other was Redford Township -- typify the entries

in the Mack circuit.

For the most part the teams are intact from Stevenson High schools, thus making it possible for the area to boast one of the few summer prep leagues in the state of Michigan.

Perhaps, the biggest difference on the Spartans as compared to the Stevenson high team, is that of coach George

Van Wagner guided the prep team while Tom Lane handles the summer version.

ON OPENING day in Mack park, Lane went with Rob Stewart, ace of the 1968 Stevenson pitching staff, but before the game was over, Jerry Dettler was rushed from third to the mound to keep McKays' Partyville -- Garden City East High's summer team, in check in a 7-4 victory.

Dettler, who Wednesday was named on the Observer's All-Area team, allowed only one run in the final three innings and helped the Spartans' cause with a homer.

A double by Rick Horstman led to the Spartans' first run. Then hits by Dave Fisher and Matt Stachurski figured in a two-run second inning. Three more Spartans' runs came over

in the third when Dettler and Fisher singled and Bud Daniels doubled for the big blows.

It was a case of Thurston vs. North Farmington when Big Boy of Redford, downed Coleman-Moss of Farmington, 6-1, in another game.

A FEW of the Stevenson players, however, are summering with the Hubert Realty team, which jumped off to a flying start by doing the defending division champion Redford, 2-0.

Bob Hood, who shared pitching honors, a Stevenson with Stewart, at 4-0 in a sparkling four-hitter, for Hubert. Only two Redford men managed to get as far as second base, Hood fanned 10.

Bob Picano, who also played for Stevenson, figured in both Hubert runs off losing pitcher Randy Ferguson.

Picano was safe on an error in the third when Ray Brasile raced to third after walking. Then the two pulled a double steal, in the third Picano slipped a homer.

JOHN MUNSUN hurried for Big Boy and allowed only two hits while fanning 11 and issuing a pair of walks in the game called after five innings because of darkness.

Two runs in the third inning in which Dennis Poppenberger doubled and Tom Roy singled in both markers provided Big Boy with all the runs needed.

The new Chesley Industries team of Farmington, comprised of players from Farmington and Our Lady of Sorrows High, dropped a 2-0 verdict to Northville in one of the day's best games.

Bob Bach hurried for the winners and batted Joe Himmel-speck who allowed only three hits. But two walks and a single led to one run and then an error to the second Northville marker without the benefit of a hit.

Chesley picked up four hits-singles by John Hollaps, Dan McGrath, Charles Debow and Ray Ponke.

LIVONIA'S Allen Pence (mostly Bentley High) played a 5-5 standoff with Bryant Walker (Garden City West).

Ken Ockerman poked a homer while John Schroeter slugged in three runs with two hits for the winners while Pat McHugh, the All-Observer area shortstop, slugged a double and single and knocked in three runs for the losers.

Allen took a 5-4 lead in the game when Ockerman homered, but Pence singled, Ken Garwowski doubled, Ed Reuther was hit by a pitch, Joe Berg reached base on a fielder's choice, Tim Malone walked and Schroeter singled in two more.

But Bryant Walker tied it on a hit batsman, passed ball and single by Al Hammon.

THE PLYMOUTH ELKS resorted to a squeeze bunt in the final inning to push over the run that beat B.J. Ratigan of Livonia, 5-4.

Ratigan had scored three times in the first inning on only one hit by Goetz. Then Plymouth rebounded with four runs in its half of the first frame.

An error gave Dennis Decker life, then Bruce Bauman was hit by a pitch, Walter Lee, Dale Rumberger and Nick Valenti singled to make it 4-3.

Ratigan, comprised of players from Franklin high, tied the score in the fifth when Fred Davies singled in Brooks, who had walked.

Then in the seventh, the Elks loaded the bases on walks to Bauman and Rumberger and a fielder's choice before Howie Schryver dropped the bunt on which Bauman scored.

By George Mashin observing sports

Time was sports reached a lull in the summer months.

Sure, you had baseball... you had the horse races... you had golf... you had some tennis. But not much else.

Now, look around. The sport scene is as jammed in July and August as it is in October or December or March or May.

The realization came to mind as we struggled to find an "ideal" date to slip away for a 10-day sojourn to visit our old haunts in London, England, where we spent some pleasant days during our army career a quarter of a century ago.

We finally decided on taking off next Friday night... but we'll by no means be leaving behind a quiet home front when it comes to sports.

Friday is the night when the Tigers start the first of two consecutive weekend series with the Baltimore Orioles. And, if the Tigers are to get any place in their bid to repeat as American League champs -- this will have to be it.

It's becoming fairly obvious that the Tigers aren't going to get much help from the other clubs. They'll pretty much have to do it alone.

NEXT SUNDAY ALSO is the day when the big boats take over on the Detroit River for the annual invasion of the area by the mighty speed craft of the water.

The trials begin along the river Tuesday and if you happen to wander into Detroit one day this week, you'll find a visit to the river front near Belle Isle interesting.

Yes... and that isn't all in the big way of super-sports affairs.

The annual Buick Open comes up in Flint on the July 4 weekend. Most of the biggest names in golf will be there although we understand that the likes of new Open champ Orville Moody, Arnie Palmer and Jack Nicklaus will be elsewhere.

Palmer and Nicklaus are heading for the British Open, so maybe we'll get a quick look at them across the pond.

One place, though, we'll want to visit is Wimbledon, where they'll be playing the All-English tennis championships starting Monday.

But, while we go down to Wimbledon, we'll be thinking about the big sandlot baseball program scheduled around the Livonia area. (Yes, we will.)

All the teams will be in action with a flock of night games at Ford Field where you can see some of the best amateur baseball players and teams in action.

TALKING ABOUT the summer sports crush, there are other notable events on the immediate horizon.

The big horse show at the Bloomfield Hills Hunt Club starts Monday and runs for a week. Some of the world's finest riders will be there.

Football is just around the corner. The College All Stars have a game at Atlanta next weekend and you can look forward to O. J. Simpson in that one on television.

And in just about three weeks the Lions start gathering at Cranbrook, which means that Wayne Walker, the Livonian, will have to leave others to run his new eating establishment in the Grand Blvd.-area in midtown Detroit.

They tell us that Wayne has quite the spot... and you can't beat the quality of the food. The prices? Well, check on those who survive.

In the meantime, we'll be looking at Piccadilly Circus, St. Paul's, the changing of the guard, etc., around London... assuming, of course, that the plane we board isn't detoured to Havana.



BLOCKED FROM touching the plate and tagged out by Catcher Bruce Johnson, of Redford, Third Baseman Peg Woodard of Plymouth during action in an All-Area game at Ford Field in Livonia. Woodard tried to go all the way around on his long drive to right field but the relay to the plate cut him down. (Observer photo by Vince Witek)

Greg Pike Winner In No-Hitter

Greg Pike came back to Garden City and the sandlot baseball was in spectacular fashion Wednesday.

The former Garden City East star, who has been attending Western Michigan University, turned in a no-hit victory as Darin drubbed Farmington, 13-1 in a Greater Livonia Free Press League game.

Pike fanned eight and was never in serious trouble after his mates broke loose with eight runs in the third inning.

Meantime, Redford turned in a 5-3 victory over the Nankin Indians while Northville -- Redford's Livonia -- Cardinal defeating, 3-1.

BILL HOLMES socked a two-run homer after Bill Howe had singled to put Redford in the lead for keeps in the fifth inning.

Dale Bjerkie, fresh from hurling for Redford Union and being named on the Observer All-Area All Stars, allowed Nankin only three hits.

Redford tallied twice more in the sixth on hits by Kevin Fox, Jim Powers, Randy Taylor and an error.

The first Redford run came in the second when Leland Bjerkie walked, brother Dale singled and so did Powers.

JEFF GILLESPIE outduelled Wayne Paulson, Paul Tonnemacher and Jerry Dettler who hurled for Livonia Cardinals.

Dave Padden tripled and scored on Denny Primeau's fly for the only Cardinal runs.

Northville tallied twice in the third after counting once in the second.

All teams in the league will play doubleheaders Sunday.

Livonia Streak Clipped; Redford Beats Plymouth

There's nothing like a sure thing in sports.

This was brought to light Wednesday night when Livonia's baseball team suffered its first loss in 10 games, bowing to Northville, 6-1, at Ford Field.

To start with Northville led, 6-2, going into the top of the seventh and final inning.

Hubert exploded with five runs to lead, 7-6, but Northville game back in the bottom of the eighth with two runs and victory.

It was Redford, meantime, over Plymouth K. of C., 10-4, in the first game of the double-header.

HUBERT USED four pitchers -- Jay Schwalm, Al Krumm, Chris Wendrick and Rick Krumm -- with no happy result.

Paul Portney, who earlier had homered, started the ninth for Hubert with a single. Chip Rowe walked and Schwalm was hit by a pitch to load the bases.

Then Roger Frayer singled in two more and Jack Westcott another tally.

But Northville countered with three singles and a walk to win it.

Redford struck with eight runs in the fifth inning to wipe out a 4-1 deficit in beating Plymouth.

EACH TEAM had scored once in the first inning when Bill Holmes singled for Redford and John Bida doubled for Plymouth.

A hit by John Gillies helped Plymouth take a 2-1 lead in the second. Then in the third four walks and a fly put Plymouth in front, 4-1.

Redford opened the fifth with walks by Gary Schafer and Mark Carrow. Red Barringer doubled and Terry Rothwell walked to load the bases.

Bryce Johnson doubled, Dan Prebenda walked, Holmes sin-

Sandlot Schedule

Sunday -- Northville vs. Plymouth K. of C. at Hagertry, 2:30 p.m. Village Rambler vs. Hubert, Thurston, 1:30. Redford vs. Hubert, Thurston, 2:30. Redford vs. Northville, Ford, 6 p.m. Village Rambler vs. Plymouth K. of C. Ford, 8:30 p.m. Wednesday -- Village Rambler vs. Redford, Thurston, 1 p.m. Plymouth K. of C. vs. Hubert, Hagertry, 6 p.m.

COVENE MACK Tuesday -- McKays' Partyville vs. Plymouth Elks, Plymouth; Coleman-Moss vs. Reed, Northville; Big Boy vs. Phillips Service, Ford; Spartans vs. Chesley Industries, N. Farmington; DiPonte vs. Bryant Walker, Garden City; B. and V. Tom's, Thurston; Hickam vs. Hubert, Coss Bridge, All games at 6 p.m.; Warburton vs. Allen, Ford, 8:30 p.m.

FREE PRESS Sunday -- (Doubleheaders) -- Farmington Elks vs. Northville Reef, Northville, 4 p.m.; Nankin vs. Garden City, Garden City, 1 p.m.; Redford vs. Livonia Cardinals, DePonating, Ford, 6 and 8:30 p.m. Wednesday -- Northville Reef vs. Redford, Ford, 4 p.m.; Farmington Redskins vs. Nankin, Ford, 5:30; Livonia Cardinals vs. Darin, Garden City, 6 p.m.

AMERICAN LEGION Sunday -- Walled Lake at Farmington, 2 games, 1 p.m. Wednesday at Farmington at Pontiac, 6 p.m.

Farmington Gets Better In Legion

Manager Harry Kujawa is impressed by the way his Farmington American Legion baseball team improves with each game.

Kujawa started with a young contingent, but after the team dropped its first two, Farmington won from Clarkston and then played a 2-2 tie with Waterford, one of the league's powers, Wednesday night.

"The kids are coming along," said Kujawa. "They have a lot of poise and keep getting better each time they take the field. And that's important."

Against Waterford, Farmington took a 2-0 lead. Then after Waterford knotted the count, Farmington put the winning run on third with none out in the seventh inning, but couldn't capitalize.

THE GAME was called before the eighth inning because of darkness.

Farmington tallied when Pat Hickey walked, Jay Hazelroth doubled and Mark Kujawa hit a homer.

That's the way it stood until the sixth when Waterford tied

Joins White Sox

Michigan's most valuable player, Glenn Redmon, has signed a professional baseball contract with the Chicago White Sox, Redmon, who hit .311 for Michigan, was assigned to for Michigan, was assigned to Appleton, Wis., in a class A league. He's a senior from Alton Park.

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Slate Tennis Clinics At Livonia Schools

It will be tennis, anyone, for Livonia youths this summer, starting Monday, June 23, when Indoor Tennis, Inc., conducts an 11-week program of free tennis clinics at Bentley High School and Stevenson High School under sponsorship of the Livonia Department of Parks and Recreation.

Sanctioned by the United States Professional Lawn Tennis Association (USLPTA), the clinics will be held on Wednesdays and Saturdays at Bentley High at 9 a.m. and at Stevenson High at 11:15 a.m.

Indoor Tennis, Inc., is conducting the clinics at no charge as part of pilot programs in Detroit, Dearborn, Highland Park and Livonia.

The 11-week program actually began this week with training sessions for instructors and playground directors, although registrations for the clinics will not be accepted until Monday (June 23).

THERE WILL BE two-four-week sessions, each concluding on the fifth week with a tournament for all classes of players.

Two teams of instructors,

each with four to five men, and each headed by a college or high school tennis coach, will conduct the clinics, and participants will be divided into beginner, intermediate and advanced classes for the hour and a half sessions.

There will be awards for every participant and a certificate for every player who completes the course.

Wyndham F. Gary, president of Indoor Tennis, Inc., explained the purpose of the program is to develop new tennis players, and, at the same time, provide a new and relatively inexpensive form of recreation for residents of the area, particularly young people.

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