

Garden City Looks For Better Things In 'A' Loop

It takes patience when you play something new. Just ask Dick Clark, of Garden City, who is making his first venture this year into managing a Class A baseball team. Clark long has been identified with the sandlots in Garden City. He started with the Little Leaguers, moved up to the Babe Ruth ranks, then the Colt League. Then Connie Mack ... and for the past two years what is now the Adray League.

NOW CLARK is fielding Garden City's team in the Greater Livonia Class A League. The first third of the season is history and Clark admits "we didn't do too well."

There were problems he confesses. "It's like starting any expansion team," he declared. "You have to go on and get

ball players. You must juggle and make some changes. "On top of that we have moved in against some pretty fancy company. Take that ITM team from Detroit, or Livonia Hubert or Redford Wonderland.

"They're all established teams which have had fine records and they have a lot of experienced players who have been together."

Clark is excited the way his

team has played and is improving. "Sure, we lost this one," Clark said after Garden City was ousted out by ITM, 5-4, "but it was a typical fine showing by our team."

"We've been losing a lot like this - 1-0, 3-2, 5-4, etc."

Against ITM, Garden City took a 4-0 lead in the first inning before ITM rallied and finally pushed over two runs on three singles to win in the seventh inning.

The acquisition of pitchers Ben Payne, Mike Schearef, Lloyd Lopez has strengthened the Garden City team considerably, Clark feels.

He thinks that in the second round of action now under way, Garden City will turn in as much more respectable a record when it comes to victories against defeats.

IN THE ITM game, Bob Lang and Rick Clark singled to get Garden City started. Then

Greg Macy was safe on an error to fill the bases. Larry Rodenbach cleaned the bases with a triple and he himself scored on a single by Tim Masters.

ITM came back with three runs in the third and finally the tying and winning markers off Schearef in the fifth.

Meantime, Redford's Wonderland started the second round of the schedule with a 4-1 win over Northwest as Roger Corry pitched a one-hitter.

Corry and Reg Barringer walked in the third inning and Mark Carrow singled to fill the bases.

Leland Bjerk delivered a sacrifice fly to send in one run, then Barringer scored on a stolen base.

Bob Smoots singled in Terry Rothwell in the third inning while Rothwell doubled and scored the final Wonderland run when Tom Flesher singled two innings later.

HUBERT REALTY and

Soper's Clark Service played to a 3-3 standoff when darkness halted operations.

Soper's rallied to get even in the sixth inning on a walk, sacrifice, single by Mitch Smith and a fielder's choice.

Bob Chivister hurried for Hubert until Rick Konik took over in the sixth. Harry Saylor went the route for Soper's.

Pete Woodard socked out a pair of bats for Soper's while Jay Schwahn's two-run single was the big blow for Hubert.



NOT THIS TIME!! Garden City's Larry Radebach made a daring attempt to steal home in Monday game with Redford. Smigielki grabbed the pitch and blocked the plate for the out. Larry tried to slide away from the tag but Smigielki made sure he couldn't make it. Observer photo by Vince Witke

Farmington Legion Uncorks 20-Hit Barrage

It was a 20-hit Sunday for Farmington Post's American Legion baseball team. But the best Farmington could get against defending league and state champion Waterford was a split.

Waterford scored twice in each of the first three innings of the opener and went on to score an 8-4 victory.

THERE WAS NO stopping the Farmington bats in the second game and Farmington rolled to an easy 12-5 win as Dennis Hagen, a 19-year-old, pitched his second victory in as many appearances.

Hagen fanned three, walked three and allowed only three hits.

John Holappa went two-for-three in the opener. Mike Hart had two singles and a two-run homer, and Dave Shay collected three hits in as many tries in the first game for Farmington.

In the second game, Hart had three more hits and Jim Cipponeri chipped in with a pair to lead the Farmington assault.

Hart knocked in Frank Barber with the first Farmington run in the first inning. Then came a six-run uprising in the second when Dan Delling and Holappa walked and Hart was hit by a pitch to load the bases.

Cipponeri, Hagen and Stan Kouris singled in succession. After Barber walked, Paul Kupferschmidt unloaded a double.

In the third inning, Cipponeri singled, Holappa, who's now hitting .396, doubled and Hart singled for two more runs.

FARMINGTON ADDED two in the fifth on a hit by Hart, three walks and a hit batsman. The final run resulted from a single by Barber, a walk to Hart and a single by Delling.

Farmington previously had lost to Madison Heights, 4-1, when the Heights got to John Flemming for four runs in the first inning.

Back-To-Back Victories Make Plymouth Threat

A pair of back-to-back victories have put new life into Plymouth's Adray Baseball League team.

By beating Farmington-Holcomb 9-5, and then Northville, 3-2, in weekend action, Plymouth upped its record to 3-3 for the season.

Bruce Bauman rocked out three hits and Bob Kellman a homer and single to lead Plymouth in the romp against Holcomb.

Meantime, Dale Rumberger

Hart tripped and Dave Shay singled to account for the lone Farmington run.

Farmington goes to Walled Lake Wednesday, plays at Berkley Friday night at 8, then goes to Waterford-Mott Saturday for a doubleheader Saturday at 11 a.m. and finishes a hectic week with a twin bill at Clarkston Sunday at 2.

The victory kept Thurston on top in the American League, and also featured some lusty hitting by John Munson and Dennis Poppeneger. Munson had a double and single while Poppeneger had a pair of singles.

In reality, it was a game of prep catches ... since Thurston had reigned as co-titlist in the Northwest Suburban League

Amateurs Will Box At Fair

Amateur championship boxing will be featured on both Saturdays of the Michigan State Fair.

The tournament—with bouts going on in two rings at the same time—will be held in front of the grandstand at 6 p.m. Aug. 29 and Sept. 5.

Boxers will compete in 11 weight classes, with 22 bouts the first Saturday and 11 for championships the next Saturday. There will be two boys from outside and two from metropolitan Detroit in each class.

The bouts are sanctioned by the Amateur Athletic Union (AAU) and approved by Chuck Davey, Michigan boxing commissioner.

All the boxers are either state AAU champions or runners-up. Represented, in addition to Detroit, will be Flint, Saginaw, Lansing, Grand Blanc, Muskegon, Kalamazoo, and Jackson.

AAU BOXING RULES will be followed, with each fight consisting of three rounds of two minutes each. Each boxer must have a complete physical exam before competition, and a doctor will be present at ringside.

Classes will be 106 pounds, 112, 119, 125, 132, 139, 147, 156, 165, 178, and heavyweight.

drove in three runs as did Kellman, Howie Schryer, John Stouy and Mike Cederberg drove in the other markers.

George Carr's three-run homer was the big blow for the losers.

FINE RELIEF pitching by Jon Cederberg, who took over from Nick Valenti, who had to bow out with a sore arm, helped Plymouth edge Northville.

The winning run was walked home in the final inning when Dennis Becker and Schryer each drew a free pass after Pat Cunningham and Jon Cederberg singled.

Plymouth's other two runs were scored in the third inning when Cunningham singled, Mike Cederberg walked, Becker sacrificed them along and Schryer and Bauman followed with singles.

IN ONE OF the season's most thrilling Adray finishes, Westland scored five times in the seventh inning to squeeze out a 6-5 win over Holcomb.

Trailing, 5-1, coming to bat for the final time, Westland did the damage after two were out. Dave Gregor singled and Kerry Webb walked to get things started.

Then Don Gregory delivered a picnic.

Then Don Gregory delivered a pinch-hit single to drive in two runs. Archie Lieg singled and he and Don Gregor scored when Dave Conlin was safe on a wild throw.

That tied the game up and set the stage for Conlin to take second on a wild pitch and score the winning run on a single by Brad Lyons.

Redford Continues Winning Habits; Eyes Adray Crown

When it comes to the Adray (formerly the Free Press) Baseball League, one never can underestimate Redford Township.

The Townshipers have held a virtual monopoly over the title in the Greater Livonia League ... they have reigned

year after year as the state champs ... and they have done extremely well in the national tournament at Altoona and Johnston, Pa.

When the current season began, it appeared this year had been "a down" year for Redford.

The team struggled during the early going, but it now appears that Redford has found the winning groove again.

TWO FINE PITCHING efforts, plus some good hitting, made it possible for Redford to sweep to a pair of victories last week.

First it was over Westland, 9-1, then over Livonia Hubert, 4-0.

Dale Bjerk, ex-Redford Union High and All-Observer star, fipped the shutout against Hubert and now has a string of 35 scoreless innings in Adray competition to his credit.

That's the way the game stood until the seventh when Bjerk singled, Kirk Taylor doubled in one run and Taylor came around on an infield out and a balk.

Tim Carr pitched five innings and Kirk Taylor the final two in the Redford conquest against Westland.

Joe Himmelsbach from Farmington knocked in four Redford runs with two triples and a single. He also scored three runs.

Bill Howp helped the winners with two hits and two runs batted in.

PRIOR TO LOSING to Redford, Hubert decided Northville, 3-1, behind the effective pitching of Bob Hood.

Hood allowed only one hit, a single by Dale Rumberger in the sixth inning. Rumberger came around to score on two errors to save Plymouth from a shutout.

Bob Ficino's double led to the first Hubert run. Two more scored in the fifth when Ficino, Bill Rice and Jim Erwin singled.

Tony Kaseta was the losing pitcher.

and Steve Crowe had a single and double to chase in two runs as Franklin bested the Plymouth Elks, 6-3.

Dan Fies had two hits for the losers.

Tom's Service slipped past Novi's B and V, 6-5, with Mike Keger gaming credit for the victory.

Pat Selch and Roy Hendrickson each had two hits for Tom's while Steve Chilenco and Bob Phillips also contributed big hits to help decide the game.

FARMINGTON'S CHESLEY Industries won over DiPonio, 7-3, as Mike Daly scattered six hits and struck out 12.

Armstrong and Gary each had two hits for Churchill.

Steve On 'Whiff' Binge

Call him the "Strike Out King" of the Greater Livonia-Connie Mack League.

He's Thurston's Steve Kragger.

Steve has worked a total of 26 innings this season in Mack action. He has set down 51 on strikeouts.

He turned in another blazer against Hubert Realty in posting a 7-0 victory.

KRAGGER FANNED 10 and walked only one and had a no-hit going until the sixth inning when Bob Ficino singled. Then Stu Rose also singled to that Kragger wound up with a two-hit shutout.

The victory kept Thurston on top in the American League, and also featured some lusty hitting by John Munson and Dennis Poppeneger. Munson had a double and single while Poppeneger had a pair of singles.

In reality, it was a game of prep catches ... since Thurston had reigned as co-titlist in the Northwest Suburban League

race, while Hubert in actuality is the Livonia Stevenson team which won the Inter-Lakes Conference crown.

Home runs by R.J. LeCom and Dave Martin helped Karholak Uniroval, Tiresa, this American SENTRY, 7-2.

Warholak (Redford) dominated around in the first inning, scoring five times and made things easy for Randy Ferguson, who went the route to gain the victory.

GARDEN CITY WEST received fine pitching from Poland and Steve Pummery in downing Farmington's Team-Moss, 6-1.

Craig Sylbester tripled in two runs in the first inning, and Dan McHugh singled in two more runs to feature the West attack.

McHugh is the younger brother of Pat McHugh, a former member of the first team. Pat was All-Observer last year and made the second all-area team this season.

Livonia Optimists (Big Jey JV team) turned back the Realty of Plymouth, 3-0, as Joe Kearney allowed only two hits, fanned eight and struck five.

Dick Boehm and Bob Silkauskas each knocked in one run for the Optimists while the third rally came in on an error.

JIM ERWIN singled in Mike Perino, who had tripped, to get the run that made it possible for the Royals (Bentley City) to post a 3-2 verdict over Northville Reed.

Perino's error was his day's work while Dave Rice went the route for the winners.

Pitcher Don Yerks helped his own cause with two hits

and Steve Crowe had a single and double to chase in two runs as Franklin bested the Plymouth Elks, 6-3.

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Quarter Horses 4 'First' At Fair

Quarter horses—the speedballs of the racetrack—will be racing at the 1970 Michigan State Fair.

It's the first time for quarter horse races at the fair, and E.J. Jeffs, State Fair general manager, said it if hoped that the races will become an annual affair.

The racing will be held in front of the grandstand starting at noon Sunday, Sept. 6, the second Sunday of the fair, which runs from Aug. 28 through Sept. 7. There will be no admission charge.

Qualifying races will be held at 2 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 23, in front of the Fairgrounds grandstand.

There will be no pari-mutuel wagering at either the trials or finals.

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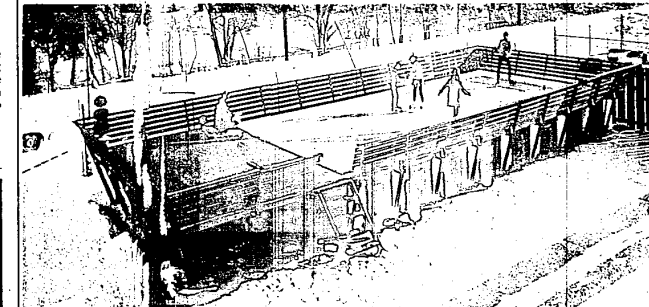
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