

Garden City Retains Pony Championship

It's on to the regionals at Hamtramck starting Wednesday for Garden City's Pony League All Stars.

Meantime, it's a season well completed for Southfield's Pony All Stars, although there could have been a happier finish.

In sweeping fashion, Garden City took the district title on its home grounds over the past weekend, finishing up with a 2-0 win over Southfield in the title game.

SOUTHFIELD BOUNCED back from losing in the first round to Birmingham by beating Franklin and then blanking Birmingham, 5-0, before running into Terry Dobbs and his Garden City mates.

Dobbs, who had clouted a two-run homer on the tourney's opening day while pitching a shutout over Franklin, 5-0, thus completed his tournament chore by hurling 14 straight scoreless innings as a

pair of shutouts when he put the clamps to Southfield.

He permitted only one hit — a second-inning single by Mark Kukurga, while fanning 15. In his first game, Dobbs struck out nine and walked only one.

Dobbs had to be brilliant against Southfield. Lower Dan Fisher was almost as outstanding as he permitted four hits, fanned eight and permitted only one earned run.

The first Garden City's run

didn't come until the sixth inning when Jim Wisniewski singled, stole second and came around on an error.

THEN IN THE seventh, hits by Lou Salvadoro and Marty Hackmann, plus two stolen bases by Salvadoro gave Garden City an insurance run.

Prior to leaving in Saturday evening's finale to Garden City, Southfield had won a sparkling 5-0 verdict from Birmingham — the loss ousting

Birmingham — as Chris Mynik came within one of hurling a no-hitter.

With two out in the seventh, Birmingham's Matt Smith singled to ruin Mynik's dream effort in which he fanned 11 and walked only two.

Southfield actually had wrapped up the game in the first inning by scoring four times.

After Robin Richard singled, Al Wieland was safe on a fielder's choice. Then Greg Lane singled. Gary Brown was safe on an error and Ed Fox singled to build up the 4-0 advantage.

The fifth run was scored in the third inning when Brown walked, stole second and scored on an error.

GARDEN CITY, which won the regional title last year, thus finished the tournament with a 3-0 mark.

In its 5-0 win over Franklin on opening day, Dobbs homered in the first inning with Wisniewski aboard to give Garden City a flying start.

Steve Orr's single, an error and a hit by Chris McLellan made it 3-0 in the fourth. Then walks to Carr and Wisniewski, an error, and a hit by Jerry Herbst wound up the scoring in the fifth.

IN FRIDAY'S ACTION Southfield stayed alive by beating Franklin, 7-6, while Garden City thumped Birmingham, 8-2, in a battle of unbeaten.

Southfield used five pitchers to hold off Franklin before Chris Mynik emerged with the victory.

Franklin, down 7-0, entering the seventh and final inning, erupted for six runs and almost pulled the game out.

Southfield scored in the third inning when Bob Richards, Ed Fox and Greg James came through with hits to go with an error and one walk.

In the fourth, Southfield scored three more with the benefit of only one hit — a double by Al Wieland. Two walks and two errors turned beneficial for the Southfield team.

A walk, an error and a two-run double by Scott Hoeft brought in what proved the winning run in the fifth inning.

FRANKLIN CAPITALIZED mostly on walks to crack the scoreboard. Hits by Baruck, Holmes and Sakoralis helped

to keep alive Franklin's last-ditch effort.

Garden City received great pitching from Steve Orr, who allowed one hit and fanned 15, and some power hitting. In sweeping past Birmingham, Terry Dobbs homered in the first inning after Jim Wisniewski singled.

In the third inning, Jerry Herbst homered. Then in the fourth after Orr tripled, Lou Salvadoro socked one out of the park.

Wilkerson Still Star On Sandlot

During his prep athletic days at Garden City East, Kevin Wilkerson ranked as one of the stellar all-around performers.

In his final schoobey season, Wilkerson wound up being named catcher on the All-Observer team in 1969.

Now after one year in college in Kansas, he's back home, playing summer sandlot baseball.

And Garden City Darin is thankful. Very thankful. Wilkerson came through with a pair of big hits Sunday when Darin nosed out Plymouth, 2-1, in an Adray League game.

HIS FIRST HIT knocked in Chuck Evans, who had doubled, with the first Garden City run in the first inning.

Then Plymouth got even in the fourth when Bob Kellman singled, John Stout walked and Dale Rumberger singled.

It was 1-1 going into extra innings thanks to some fine pitching by Rick Orlando of Garden City and Nick Valenti of Plymouth.

In the eighth, Wilkerson struck again — with another single. Denny Kesick and Al Poland followed with singled that chased in Wilkerson to decide the game.

The teams were supposed to play a doubleheader. But rains stopped them with the score tied at 2-2 after one inning.



BARRED FROM WORKOUTS at the Cranbrook training camp by the strike against the National Football League, veteran members of the Detroit Lions are practicing at Southfield High without direction. (Above) Quarterback Greg Landry outlines a play and (below) the lions take familiar stances as they work on offense and defense.



Clarenceville Coach Turns In A No-Hitter

When school bells ring again in a few weeks, Mike Shearer will have a lot to tell his students at Clarenceville High.

Shearer, who is on the Trojans coaching staff, showed any of his pupils who might have been present at Ford Field Sunday evening how to pitch and win a baseball game.

Garden City was torn in a no-hit masterpiece in blanking Detroit Northwest, 7-0, in the Greater Livonia Class A League.

Shearer fanned 13 and walked four in keeping Northwest in check throughout the game.

His mates got him a 6-0 lead in short order when, after three men walked, Rick Clack

singled in two runs, Don Smith did the same thing and Larry Lopez followed with another base hit that sent in a pair of mates.

The story was different for Garden City Monday when ITM, the first-round league champ, rolled over them, 13-4. Jim Oberliesen hurled for the winners, allowing four hits.

None of the runs off him was earned.

Meantime, Jim Newman led the ITM at sixth with five hits in as many trips to the plate. John Kraft also unloaded a homer with one aboard to cap a five-run ITM uprising in the second inning.

Livonia Hubert counted six times in the fifth inning, thanks to six straight walks, to break a 3-3 tie and down So-per's Clark Service, 3-2.



TEAMMATES WELCOME Garden City's Terry Dobbs as he crosses the plate after hitting a home run in the first inning of the Pony League tournament contest against Franklin. (Observer photo by Harry Mauthe)

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