

Redford Must Win Two To Gain Trip To Altoona

The big question Saturday was whether Redford Township could win two straight from Lansing.

If the Townshipers could, it would mean the out-state Adray League baseball title and a trip to Altoona, Pa., where the All America Amateur Boys baseball tournament begins Wednesday.

Redford, under manager Bob Atkins, has been to the ABA before...five straight years, in fact.

On one occasion, Redford made it all the way to the national finals.

But, before Redford can think of Altoona again, there has to be a Lansing first.

LANSING NIPPED Redford 1-0, last week at Ford Field and remains unbeaten in the double-elimination tournament. Redford has the one loss starting in the face.

"We never have lost two

straight to any team," said Atkins as the Redford team headed off to Lansing. "We think we can do it. We're used to pressure situations...and we usually rise to the occasion."

The champ of the outstate series will be joined by the Detroit League king, also to be decided Saturday, to give Michigan double representation at Altoona from the statewide program staged and sponsored in Michigan by Mike

Adray, the appliance man from Dearborn.

"We'll have two strong teams at Altoona," Adray said Tuesday as he sat in Tiger Stadium and watched all stars from the outstate program perform in a double-header.

The Greater Livonia Adray stars, managed by Atkins and aided by Ron Heller, turned back Oakland County's best, 4-1.

Mr. Pleasant ripped into

Lansing, 10-2, in the other game.

Atkins had players from the seven teams that make up the Adray league in Greater Livonia — Redford, Livonia, Farmington, Plymouth, Westland, Garden City and Northville.

They impressed the scouts, one of whom said: "They have the best ball players as a group out here today."

Which had to be a tribute to

the caliber of play in the Greater Livonia League, generally ranked fairly close to the strong Detroit Adray circuit.

ATKINS USED three pitchers. He started with his own Dale Bjerkie, who allowed two hits and fanned two in two innings.

Rick Orlandoni from Garden City worked three scoreless innings and Jeff Taylor of Northville gave up an un-

earned run in the final four stanzas.

The winners had seven hits, led by Bill Howe with two. Kirk Taylor, Joe Himmelsbach, Pat Cunningham, Ed Daniels and Rich Adams had one each.

Redford scored twice in the first inning when Plymouth's Howie Schryer walked, only to be forced at second by John Schroeter from Livonia.

Bill Howe (Redford) singled

Schroeter to third from where he scored on a passed ball.

Then Adams from Northville singled in Howe.

In the fourth, Redford's Kirk Taylor singled and stole second and went to third on Joe Himmelsbach's (Redford) hit. Plymouth's Dale Rumberger lofted a fly to left, which was muffed and Taylor scored.

Orlandoni followed with a sacrifice fly to send in Himmelsbach with Redford's fourth and final run.



WHAT NOW? That's the big question before Brian Veased, of the Livonia F. Major team, who found himself in this pickle when trapped between bases in a run-

down. Roseville's Joe Kiozik (left) and Dan Dobias just kept working Brian into a spot from which there was no return. (Observer photo by Harry Mauthe)

Turf Tips, Quips

By Doc Minard

Has the big mile track had an effect on the handle and attendance at Wolverine Raceway's meeting which ends its first full week Saturday or is the huge increase due to the Big Perfecta?

That's the question to which members of Wolverine's official family are seeking the answer.

Off hand we'd have to say that the mile strip has brought in a better class of horses which have attracted more bettors, who in turn have shown a distinct liking to the Big P and its companion piece, the Perfecta on the 10th race.

The Perfecta on the final event is keeping folks through the entire evening. That's quite a change from the recent Northville Downs campaign where fans poured out the gates after the eighth race as if there had been rumors of someone spreading the plague.

But there's one big item that none can overlook: Wolverine has more top class pacers and

trotters in the barn area this year than ever before. That has to be caused by the big mile track.

Who would have thought that, in a single race, seven of 10 pacers had clockings of 2:01 and better? There was a long spell last spring when the fastest horses were winning in 2:02 and 2:04 and it wasn't until the final two weeks that a 2:01 victory was recorded.

FOR THOSE who like to watch the best in action, then be sure to get to Wolverine Saturday night to view the finest horse racing program ever presented at a Michigan track.

If the current track record of 1:59.4 — set only a week ago by C.K. Adios — isn't broken three or four times during the evening, then we'll be surprised. Of course, that is projected with the thought that the track will remain fast and firm and not be slowed down by rains.

Saturday's card is headed by the Good Time Pace which

has seven entries, six of which have marks of 1:59 or better.

Topping the field is Robert E. Adios, the five-year-old from the Gene Riegler stable, of Greenville, O. who has to be rated as just about the best in the Midwest this year.

Robert E. Adios was tagged as a sure bet to set a track mark in his first appearance on the big mile and that he did even though it was much slower than Riegler wanted.

Robert E. stormed out of the fourth spot on the final turn and made up four lengths to pace past the field and hit the wire in 2:01. It was a short lived record... C.K. Adios nipped The Big Bear and Compass Point in the following race in his 1:59.4.

It was a tight fit that found all three horses credited with the same time. And what more could fans want than to see two Michigan owned pacers finish second and third and join in the first sub-2:00 minute at Wolverine!

Saturday's Good Time Pace has a bit more interest for area followers of the standardbred since the long awaited duel between Fanny Mite, the state's premier pacing mare, and Philip Brian, Michigan's fastest aged side-wheeler, is part of the race.

That's only part of the com-

petition Robert E. Adios has to beat if his owner-driver is to realize his ambition.

C.K. ADIOS, who will have the services of Charley King, has to be considered as a definite threat off his 1:59.4.

Then there's Knox Patch, a son of the famed Michigan sire Knox Hanover, who shows eight wins and a second in 14 starts. The five-year-old shows two victories this year in 2:01 and a record of 1:59.3.

How can one overlook Blaze Pick, the great Canadian side-wheeler, who has been flirting with 2:00 all season and equaled the Northville track record with a 2:00.4 mile.

All in all, it adds up to the best pace ever presented at Wolverine, and it could well be that the winner will have to go close to 1:58 flat to get under the wire first.

That's just the high spot of a program that includes two preferred events, one that lists The Big Bear and Compass Point in the same race. It will be remembered that each was clocked in 1:59.4 in losing to C.K. Adios in his brilliant victory.

It's Win Or Out For Royals

MARSHALL It wasn't a happy start for Livonia's Croves Associates Royals in the State Connie Mack baseball tournament Thursday.

The Royals, losers only once in their home surroundings during the season, dropped a 4-1 verdict to Grand Rapids Wyoming and had to win Friday to stay alive.

Ken Gawkowski suffered the defeat for the Royals.

Livonia Redbirds Win F Tourney

Pass out the orchids to the Livonia Redbirds — the new district and regional Michigan Recreation Class F baseball champs.

A 6-5 win over Westland brought the Redbirds the regional crown Thursday and with it the right to advance into the state tournament at Jackson starting Tuesday.

Mark Outtala and Al Bolz teamed to beat Westland as Outtala pitched the first four innings and Bolz finished up.

It was a game of longball clouting. The Redbirds lashed out three homers to account for five runs.

ALL FIVE of the Westland runs came as the result of a pair of homers in the 10th inning.

Tom Schultz socked the first Redbirds' circuit with one aboard in the first inning. Later Ernie Storm connected for a solo job and Mike Barton followed with another two-run sock.

For Westland, Bill Ostland hit one with two on and John Marinelli with one aboard.

Mickey Vanness not only socked out three singles for the winners, but he also scored what proved the winning run.

The Redbirds had reached the regionals after utilizing some lusty hitting to smack out a 10-4 victory over Plymouth for the district crown.

Schultz and Bolz each socked a pair of homers against Plymouth and each time they drove 'em out one right after the other.

Brian Butcher chipped in with another homer for the Redbirds while Storm went four-for-four with a single, two doubles and a triple.

Bolz was the winning pitcher. He scattered six hits.

Ford Field Diamonds Anything But Excellent

Recreation department officials in Livonia are under fire again because of the way Ford Field's lighted baseball diamonds are being maintained.

Dust, holes, etc., have been producing criticism in the past and in recent weeks various managers and players, along with fans, have started to complain about the same things.

The poor condition of the diamonds, reportedly is a major reason why the championship Adray League game scheduled between Redford Township

and Lansing was switched to Lansing instead of being played in Livonia.

One neutral observer, who is considered the No. 1 scorer of sandlot games in the Detroit area and who annually visits and works at dozens of fields, said after scoring at Ford Field:

"I never saw a diamond in such terrible shape. Somebody should do something. It's a shame to have such a fine setup...but such lousy conditions."

Red Holman Players Compile Amazing Record In Baseball

It's an amazing chapter in boys baseball that Plymouth's Red Holman team has written under Manager Bob Willette.

Regular-league champs in Plymouth's Class F league for boys 14-15... winners of the district and regional playoffs... and now a trip to Jackson Wednesday to play in the finals of the State Recreation tournament.

What's more, the Holman team, comprised of boys from Plymouth East Junior High, doesn't know what it's like to lose a game.

At least not this year. During the school year, the boys won 13 without loss. Then

came a string of 11 straight in league play in the summer league.

In the Class E district finals, it was Holman over Livonia, 3-2... and then in Thursday's regionals, Holman blanked Wayne, 3-0.

"Sure hope our winning success story doesn't end before we wrap up the state title in Jackson," a happy Willette said as he readied his charges for the trip to Jackson.

ED McINTOSH proved himself a strong-armed pitcher for Holman in both of this past week's playoff games.

He gave up five hits in beating Livonia. Then with just two days of rest he came back to blank Wayne. This time he yielded three hits, fanned one and walked one.

Plymouth scored in the first inning against Wayne when Kevin Smith was safe on an error, stole second and third and raced in on Steve Robb's single.

In the sixth, Holman scored twice when Jim Szilagyi singled, Ron Egloff doubled and so did Rob Willette. Willette's drive knocked in both runners.

It was Willette who scored the winning run in the seventh inning against Livonia as he walked, stole second and went the rest of the way on a wild throw.

Holman had scored twice in the second inning when Jeff Stringham walked, Willette singled and both moved along on a sacrifice.

Physical Exam Time For PHS Footballers

It's physical examination time for Plymouth High footballers and cross country candidates.

Coach Tom Moshimer has issued a call for grid candidates to report to the high school gym Tuesday afternoon at 1 p.m. for physicals.

The call is to all 10, 11 and 12 graders who plan to try out for

football and cross country.

Moshimer also issued an invitation for all newcomers who have moved into the school district during the summer, to report and get acquainted with the staff.

He indicated that candidates desiring to go to their own doctors for the physicals may do so but must have the certificates in his hands no later than Friday.

Plymouth High will start football drills the following day.

Thurston Calls Out Gridders

Candidates for the 1970 Thurston High football team must report for physical examinations Wednesday morning at 9 a.m. according to Coach Bill McDonald.

All football players and cross country runners must be on hand for the physicals.

The Thurston grid drills will start Monday, Aug. 24.

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