

Sports

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Time's up — collegiate stars are out



Members of the Livonia Collegiate Baseball League all-star team (facing) exchange post-game congratulations with their opponents from the Detroit Adray League.

By Brad Emons
staff writer

Maybe the Livonia Collegiate Baseball League All-Stars can petition for a two-hour time limit next season.

In the annual Adray Collegiate Baseball League All-Star Game, played Wednesday at Tiger Stadium, Detroit scored 11 runs in the bottom of the eighth inning to drub Livonia, 16-2, in an arduous affair which stretched beyond the 2½-hour time limit.

The game, featuring the area's top collegians (ages 20 and under), began at 9:30 a.m. and ended at 12:08 p.m. when Detroit Adray Sound's Andy Fairman parked a Ron Makowski pitch over the right field screen, just inside the foul pole at the 325-foot mark, for a grand slam homer.

And with the Lansing-area All-Stars due to play Detroit at 12:30 p.m., the umpires had seen enough, calling for an adjournment.

The grand slam was made possible by the liberal All-Star substitution rules.

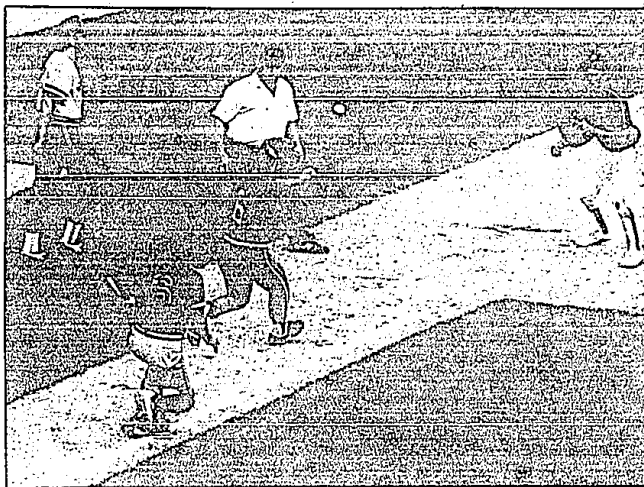
Fairman, a left-handed batter from the University of Michigan, batted twice in the eighth inning when Detroit sent 13 batters to the plate.

IRONICALLY, Fairman started the game as the designated hitter, batting in the No. 3 slot before being removed. He returned later to the Detroit lineup as the right fielder, hitting in the No. 9 slot.

Detroit Adray Appliance manager Bob Atkins, who is also director of the Detroit Adray League, said he lost track of his substituted pattern.

"All I am is a glorified secretary," said Atkins. "My job was to get all the kids in the game. Of the 21 players we needed to get in, 16 had already played the sixth inning. The only ones who didn't play were the pitchers we were going to use in the second game (against Lansing)."

"We just wanted to get the game over with. I was hoping the umpires would call somebody out (in



ART EMANUELE/staff photographer

Chris Domastral of the Detroit Adray all-star team was off after being caught in a rundown by LCBAL catcher John Frazzini of Tom Holzer and third baseman Dave Crespi of Du-

ret's. It was one of few bright spots for the Livonia all-stars who were beaten 16-2 in Tiger Stadium.

the eighth) because we were over the time limit."

Livonia Little Caesars manager John Moraitis was confident his All-Stars could compete against Detroit, but was bit concerned about the depth of his pitching staff.

"We wanted to pitch everybody," he said. "And it seemed like when the pitching went sour, the defense fell apart."

THE LIVONIANS made six errors and were outbatted 14-6.

Of the seven Livonia pitchers, Derek Darkowski, a left-hander from Hines Park Lincoln/Mercury, proved why he is Livonia Collegiate League's winningest pitcher (6-1 record).

The Michigan State hurler held Detroit scoreless over the third and fourth innings after starter Ron Kurinski (Caesars) allowed a second-inning run. Darkowski also picked off two runners at first base.

Detroit scored four times in the off Steve Witt (Caesars), but he was

the victim of three outfielder errors.

Chris Kloc (Caesars) and Randy Buchler (Walter's Appliance) held Detroit scoreless in the sixth and seventh innings, respectively, before John Storm (Duffy's) and Makowski were roughed up in the eighth.

"The last inning was not indicative of what type of game it was," said an almost apologetic Atkins. "It was a good ballgame until the clock said

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SC spikers are the best in the land

By C.J. Rieak
staff writer

It took just a few mid-tournament adjustments to take Schoolcraft College's AAU 16-and-under team from comic relief to championship status at last weekend's AAU-USA National Junior Volleyball Tournament at Illinois Benedictine in Lisle, Ill.

The comedy came early from SC. The team dropped its first four games before rallying to finish its Friday schedule with a 4-4 mark. "In pool play, there were teams that were just laughing at us," said SC coach Tom Teeters. "When we came back through the tournament, they weren't laughing anymore."

After splitting with Miami-Dade in Saturday's pool-play opener, SC started to put it all together. A sweep of University of Michigan-Dearborn followed to give SC a 7-5 pool record and the No. 3 seed.

Six lopsided games later, SC had three match wins and a national championship in just its second year of AAU competition.

TEETER'S ADJUSTMENTS helped turn

the tide for SC. "We went from one setter to a two-setter system," he explained. "And that let us go to a middle-man-up defense. It's a much simpler system that allowed us to be more consistent. It let us get Nikki (Stubbs) outside, where we could get more sets for her."

Stubbs, who spurred SC's college team to the National Junior College Athletic Association title last November, was another major factor in capturing the AAU crown. After moving outside, the 5-foot-6 hitter could not be stopped.

JoAnn Kohnitsy, a Wayne Memorial grad who will be a sophomore at SC this fall, moved into the middle and provided solid blocking, and Karri Domanski, who will be a senior at Livonia Ladywood in September, went from setter to outside hitter and did both well.

Stubbs (headed for Eastern Michigan this fall on a volleyball scholarship) and Domanski were two of the four players selected to the all-tournament team.

SC's slow start began on Friday against teams from Hawaii and Southern Missouri.

The 0-4 slate got turned around with sweeps against Peoria (Ill.) — (thanks to 11 blocks by Sarah Adrima (from Ladywood, going to Western Michigan) — and Lansing.

After winning three-of-four pool games Saturday, SC was against sixth-seeded UMI-D and won 15-1, 15-8, to advance to the semifinals on Sunday.

IN THE SEMIS, SC had a rematch with Southern Missouri, which had defeated SC 15-6, 15-4 in pool play and was the heavy favorite to win the title. Instead, SC clubbed Southern 15-4, 15-5.

That left a rematch with Miami-Dade for the championship. There was no splitting this time; SC won easily, 15-5, 15-7.

The rest of the nine-person SC championship squad was setter-rightside hitter Jennifer Spryue, from Livonia Churchill (going to SC this fall); outside hitter Angellee Love, from Detroit Henry Ford (also going to SC); outside hitter Anjanette Lankford, from Garden City (a sophomore at SC); outside hitter Kirstin Stelzer, from Woodhaven (another SC soph); and serve-and-defense specialist Cathy Cook, from Wayne (an SC soph).

Teeters was assisted by Allisha Love and Pat Cyrus.

A week earlier, SC entered teams in the 18-and-under and 16-and-under AAU tournaments, also at Illinois Benedictine. The 16-and-under team won seven of eight pool games, but was eliminated in the second round of tournament competition. It finished with an overall record of 9-3.

The 18-and-under SC squad was 5-3 in pool play, but also lost in the second round of tournament competition to finish 7-5. Both teams placed among the top 25 in their respective 60-team tourneys.

SC NOTES: Teeters announced the signing of another volleyball recruit: Tricia Lukas, a 6-0 middle blocker/outside hitter from Dearborn Heights Crestwood.

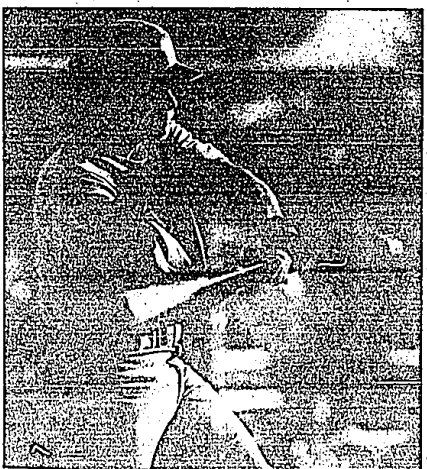
"She'll help us running our quick middle-set offensively," said Teeters.

Lukas was actually recruited by SC basketball coach Jack Gronen. She plans to play both sports at SC. Lukas was a two-year starter for Crestwood's volleyball team.



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— Tom Teeters
SC volleyball coach



RANDY DORST/staff photographer

Los Devino prepares to make contact with the baseball, but South Farmington didn't have enough hits Thursday, night as NFWB squeezed out a 3-2 victory.

NFWB rebounds to beat South

By Dan O'Moara
staff writer

South Farmington and North Farmington-West Bloomfield were baseball teams headed in opposite directions when they played each other Thursday night.

They were still going different ways at the end of their Little Caesars Connie Mack game, but they had exchanged fortunes in the process.

NFWB, coming off a shaky performance in the Chillicothe (Ohio) Tournament, eked out a 3-3 victory over its cross-town rival on the strength of Brian Miller's bases-loaded triple.

South Farmington, which had experienced its own difficulties of late, was coming off an impressive 6-3 defeat of unbeaten and league-leading Vpallant I the previous night.

"After a streak of bad baseball, we came up with one of our better games against South," NFWB coach Rick Rachner said.

"I HOPE we're back on a positive streak. This was as good a game as we've played in a couple weeks. The kids really wanted it."



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NFWB baseball coach

NFWB got all the runs it needed in the second inning after sandwiching base hits by Scott Hoose and Greg Orman around an error that enabled Rick Rachner to reach base. Miller followed with what proved to be the game-winning hit. He was thrown out at the plate, however, trying to stretch the triple into a home run.

South Farmington, held to three hits by NFWB pitcher Tom Kuter, scored both of its runs on a fourth-

inning error. The second baseman bobbled Jeff Skinner's ground ball and threw it late to first, allowing Mike Dorocak time to race home from second base with the second run.

NFWB escaped further damage with alert defensive play in the sixth and seventh innings, however.

In the last inning, South had a man on base when Rich Roy hit a line drive that center fielder Seth Petty snared with a game-ending diving catch. In the sixth, Adam Haver representing the tying run, reached third on a single, an error and a wild pitch. Following a walk, Dorocak popped out to Kuter, who doubled the runner off first. Skinner's flyout ended the inning.

Kuter (3-0) and losing pitcher Chris Schmidt (1-1) went the distance. Kuter walked four and fanned three, and Schmidt, who allowed six hits, struck out seven and didn't walk anybody.

ROOSE AND Jack Herberholz had two hits apiece for NFWB, 5-5 in the league and 9-9 overall. South Farmington is 6-5 in league play and overall.

"We were hoping (the victory over Vpallant) would put us over the brink," South coach Dave Turquist said. "We came out flat tonight, but Kuter pitched a real strong game. To only get three hits was real discouraging."

In the Wednesday game, South Farmington jumped to a 5-0 lead in the first three innings, and pitching ace Craig Murray went 6½ innings for the victory.

Murray, however, didn't have one of his better outings, allowing seven hits and eight walks. He also struck out eight. Gary Devino finished up the seventh inning.

Farmington also had seven hits off losing pitcher Jason LeClair, scoring its first run in the opening inning on Haver's RBI single.

Dorocak hit a two-run double and Rob MacDonald a two-run single during a four-run fourth, and South added three more in the fifth. Andy Weighill's triple and Leo Devino's single bringing in one run apiece.

In the rain-interrupted Chillicothe Tournament, NFWB tied Woodford County, Ky., 7-7 and lost to Richfield, Minn., 11-8 and Millford, Ohio, 7-3.