## Miller hopes to follow dad's lead

OR THE FIRST time in his 22 years, Pat Miller will not be around to celebrate Father's Day with his dad.

But his absence has merit. Indeed, Pat would be the first to say he's where he is today — which is just outside Phoenix — because of his father.

outside Phoenix — because of his faher. ... And his father, Bob Miller (of Redford), could not have asked for a better Father's Day gift.
Bob, you see, coaches baseball. He
has coached baseball for 26 years at
the University of Detroit, and he has
650 collegiate victories to his credit.
The Titans' ace this past season
happened to be 12a. He had a 64record with a 2.56 carred run average, allowing opponents to hit
miserly 2.19 against him. He was
lirst-team all-Midwestern Collegiate
Conference and became the first Titain in his father's 26 years of coaching at U-D to be named to the allNCAA Midcast Region team.
Pal was also drafted by the
Milwaukee Brewers ast week in the
Milwaukee Brewers ast week in the
https://discountered.org.

Milwaukee Brevers 19th round. THAT'S WHY he's in Phoenix, at the Brewers' rookle camp. Next

<sub>рень</sub> ј. С.Ј. <u>ን</u> Risak week he'll depart for Helena, Mont., to play Class A ball for the rest of the summer.

It's the start of what could be a pro career, one that just might match his father's.

macen us tather's.

Bob Miller pitched for 10 seasons in the pros, most of them with the Philadelphia Phillies. He was one of the Phillies Whiz Kids of 1950, going 11-6 on a team that won the National League pennant.

League pennant.

To have his son follow in his footsteps is like a dream come true.
"I'm so excited about that," said Bob. And how about his son's making it big time, to play in the major leagues? "That would be every fa

lenges, both physical and mental.

HE WAS a standout at Redford Union. Before his sentor season at RU, his fastball was elocked in the mid-field between the sentor season at RU, his fastball was elocked in the mid-field between the sentence of the senten

"In the beginning, it was really hard," admitted Pat. "So many play-ers thought I was on the team be-

cause of my dad. They thought I didn't have the talent to play Division I ball, and they lold meso."

His dad knew what his son was going through. "There was pressure on him his freshman season from a lot of senlors who said the only reason he was there was because of his old man," said Bob. "I was thinking about clipping some of the newspaper articles from this year and sending them to those loudmouths."

WHEN IT became obvious Pat couldn't gitch with the pain any longer, he and his dad took several trips that the state of the same that the state of the same that the surprise his blow, requiring surgery. "I didn't think I would pitch again," said Pat, "I was not at all sure."

But the surgery went extremely

sure."

But the surgery went extremely well. Pat didn't just regain his form, he surpassed it. "My elbow's never hurt me since," he sald. He was 6-1 as a junior with a 3.75 ERA.

As a sophomore, Pat's velocity had dropped to 81-82 mpb; inst season, he was elected a rool mph. "I control to the solid by people wither lined to," he said.

But, like dad, he doesn't rely on smoke, Bob eajoted a sinkerball and good control into a pro career, his son plans something similar. Pat's hest pitch is his silder. He also allowed just 20 walks in 83% hindigs. "I think he throws a tot better than I did," said Bob. In his lifts year of pro balt, at Terre Haute, Bob pitched 255 innings and walked just 50. That, he claims, is what got him to the majors. "Pat's that kind of pitcher," said Bob.

every day, and he always has advice for me. But I always need his advice. ... "It was tough having a dad as a cach, but It was a benefit, too. It gave me a lot of confidence."

His dad shares his son's confidence in seeking a pro career, And, although there's no doubt he's at least a bit blased, Bob was, after all, a proplayer, he should be able to recognize a major league prospect. "He's got a chance." Bob said. "He throws strikes and keeps the ball downstairs, which is what the proslike. I think he's got a damp good chance."

255 innings and walked just 50. That, he claims, is what got him to the majors. "Part's that kind of pitcher," said Bob.

PAT'S ALSO the kind of son who eagerly accepts his father's advice. Considering the source, that's sound hinking.

"All the stuff my dad taught me is coming through now," said Pat." I bob's also very proud of his son still talk to him on the phone almost.

## Walter's sweeps, takes streak to 3

Walter's defeated Little Caesars
Jos Finday, Nicter Ford 75 and 13
Jos Sunday,
Dave Houghtby was the winning
pitcher in Friday's game, hurling
4½ innings and striking out five
white walking just one.
Damilan Hull sparked the Walter's
offense with three hits and two RBJ.
Jerry Koester Chipped in two hits.
On Sunday, Kevin Walker earned
the victory in the first game, pitching four hanings and staking out one
gle and three RBI for the walners.
In the second game, Steve Owens
was the winning pitcher. He chalked
up eight strikeouts.
Walter's pounded 12 hits in the
game, three of which came from
Hull. Jay Gabol of Livonia Churchilli
added a three-run homer and four
RBI, and former Redford Catbelic
Central star John Getts and Koester
ach contributed two hits.
TOTAL TRAVEL Values imTOTAL TRAVEL Values imadded a three-run homer and four Lavening RBI, and former Redford Cathelic Central star John Getts and Keestre ach contributed two hits.

TOTAL TRAVEL Values improved its record to 7-4 overall and

Walter's Home Appliance of the Livonia Collegiate Baseball League won three games last weekend at Ford Field, including a double-head resweep of Tom Hotzer Ford.
Walter's defeated Little Cacsars 10.5 Friday, Holzer Ford 7.5 and 133 on Sunday,
Dave Houghtby was the winning pitcher in Friday's game, hurling 14% innings and striking out five while walking just one.

Barnia Holl Sparked the Walter's each add doubties for Total Travel.

each nad occurrent towar raves.

LITTLE CAESARS had the hitting
but not the pitching Sunday as Wendy's of Ann Arbor swept a doubt o
header at Washlenaw Community
College, 8-2 and 8-5.
In the first game, Omar Ahart suffered the loss, pitching seven innings
and allowing four walks and seven
hits.
Caesars collected seven hits, two
of which came off the bat of Joe
Brusseau.

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Legion team splits pair

The Farmington-Novi American Legion baseball team opened its season Senday by spilling a double-header with visiting Birmingham. Farmington-Novi won the first game 12-1 but lost the nightcap 5-2.

North Farmington pitcher Andrew Margolick won the opening game for Farmington-Novi, striking out six and walking just one. Birmingham's only run was uncarned.

Brian Gonterman and Eric Wiesner each had three hits for the winners. In the second game, Farmington-Novi pitcher Derek Sibel of Walled Lake Western lasted just 3½ innings. He surrendered five runs and three hits, while striking out five.

western lasted just 394 innings. He surrendered live runs and three hits, while striking out five.

Joe Kalhorn of Walled Lake Western pounded two hits for Farmington-Novi (1-1).

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