

Hines Park dumps LCBL leader

Little Caesars lost more than a ballgame Wednesday at Ford Field. It lost first place in the Livonia Collegiate Baseball League.

Caesars faced one of the league's hottest young pitchers — Hines Park hurler Scott Rodgers (Plymouth Salem).

Rodgers, who is third in the league with 20 strikeouts, tossed five solid innings to give Hines Park a 4-0 win.

The loss, coupled with Walter's 12-2 win over Wendy's, puts Caesars in a second-place tie with Hines Park. Each is 11-7 and one-half game behind Walter's (11-4).

Rodgers went the first five innings before giving way to Keith Boyz (Redford Catholic Central) and Chris Newton. The trio combined on a four-hitter.

Hines Park scored three runs in the first, sparked by a two-run single by Mike White. It added a run in the fourth when Jason Riggs (Plymouth Canton) scored on a wild pitch.

Mark VanAmeydeya went the distance for Caesars, striking out seven and allowing seven hits.

Mike Giacomantonio paced Caesars offensively with two hits.

Walter's barely on top

The turnaround came in the fourth inning Wednesday, and it helped give Walter's Appliance a tentative hold on first place in the LCBL.

Walter's was leading 3-2 in the top of the fourth of its game against Wendy's at Ford Field, but Wendy's had already scored once and still had runners on first and second base with one out. Walter's coach Mike Keller pulled starting pitcher Bryan Pfeiffer and inserted Steve Ross (Redford Catholic Central/Henry Ford CC).

The move proved to be a good one. Ross "shut the door" on the rally, said Keller, and Walter's, in the bottom half of the inning, scored three more runs — two on a home run by Kevin Young (Farmington High/Central Michigan). That hit the fire as Walter's blazed to a 12-4, six-inning mercy.

"The combination of Ross shutting the door and Young's home run gave us the lift we needed at the time," Keller said.

Walter's scored two more runs in the fifth and four in the sixth to force the mercy. Joe Brusseau (Red-

ford Bishop Borgess/Madonna University) singled in two runs in the sixth, giving him three hits and three RBI for the game while pushing Walter's lead to the necessary 10 runs.

Jeff Schaffer (Livonia Franklin), who had two hits in the game, added a run-scoring double in the inning.

Young had three hits and three RBI, too, and Dave Wood contributed three hits. Paul Pironello (Catholic Central/University of Detroit) collected two hits.

Pfeiffer got the victory; he allowed both Wendy's runs and all three hits (two doubles and a single) in 3 1/2 innings, walking five and striking out four. Ross earned the save, pitching 2 1/2 innings of scoreless and hitless relief. He walked two.

Bob Hartman was the loser, surrendering six runs, only two of which were earned, in four innings. He walked two and struck out two.

Joe Kaley paced Wendy's offensively, doubling in the third and later scoring on a single by Bill McCann. Ted Meadows knocked in the other run with a double in the fourth. Wendy's committed five errors.

SPORTS SHORTS

Items from the Sports Roundup should be submitted by 5 p.m. Tuesday (for Thursday edition) and 5 p.m. Friday (for the Monday edition).

SPONSORS SOUGHT

The Express Softball Team, which participates in Special Olympics, is looking for individuals to sponsor its travel softball team comprised of young men ages 16-23.

Contributions of \$25, \$50, \$100 or \$300 will provide the extra funds necessary to buy uniforms and equipment and to cover transportation and other costs associated with maintaining the program.

Each supporter will receive a certificate and a picture of the athlete he/she has chosen to support. Potential sponsors should call coach Todd Lipa at 855-0632.

The Express will be host for the Oakland County Softball Invitational Saturday, July 18, at Farmington High School and Farmington City Park.

DINE ON DIAMOND

A dine and dance on the diamond fund-raiser will be Saturday, July 11, at the new Farmington High School baseball field during a weekend of Founders Festival events.

Proceeds will help support the high school baseball program and the Express softball team, which participates in Special Olympics. Dinner will be 5-9 p.m. and dancing until 11 p.m. For ticket information, call Todd Lipa (855-0632) or Kevin Kansman (476-6762).

BASKETBALL CAMP

The University of Michigan-Dearborn men's basketball program will hold a basketball camp, stressing fundamentals and daily scrimmages, for boys 8-11 a.m. Monday through Friday, July 20-24, at the U-M-Dearborn Field House, 4901 Evergreen.

The cost is \$70 per person. (Team discounts available.)

For more information, call Bill Sharpe at 593-5540 or 454-0054.

VOLLEYBALL CAMP

Our Lady of Sorrows volleyball camp will be July 27-30 at the school gym, 10 Mile and Powers. The cost is \$30 after June 30. Girls entering grades four through eight in the fall are eligible. For information, call Shelly MacDermaid at 363-2613.

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