

1st losses for Hines Park

By STEVE KOWALSKI
STAFF WRITER

Hines Park went more than five weeks without suffering its first loss in the Livonia Collegiate Baseball League.

But in the span of six hours Monday night, Hines Park lost twice.

Little Caesars swept a doubleheader, 7-4 and 10-8, at Ford Field to end Hines Park's 18-game unbeaten streak. Despite the pair of losses, Hines Park remained comfortably atop the LCBL standings at 17-2-1 with 35 points.

Del-Wal is in second place with 25 points (12-5-1), and Caesars is in third with 22 (11-8).

"We beat 'em good, it was no fluke," Caesars coach John Moraitis said.

The losses must have made a lot of coaches and players from the LCBL smile.

"Maybe the helmets will fit back onto the Hines Park players' heads," said one coach who wanted to be anonymous. "They can't walk on water."

Caesars beat Hines Park's Jeff Paluk (Plymouth Salem) in the opener, knocking out the ace right-hander after 3 1/2 innings. Paluk, who fell to 6-1, allowed six runs on five hits and suffered control problems with seven walks and three hit batters.

Paluk's younger brother, Brian (Redford Catholic Central), allowed one run on three hits, one walk and a hit batter over the last 3 1/2 innings.

"I told Jeff we started the wrong Paluk today," Hines Park manager Ken Wandzel said. "From the start of the season,

COLLEGIATE

Jeff has been one of the top two pitchers in the league."

Caesars' winning pitcher was Mark Van Ameyde, who went the distance and scattered six hits.

Andy Gagne was 2-for-3 with three runs scored and an RBI. Randy Gierczak had an RBI double and Dave Roman (Livonia Franklin) had a two-run single.

For Hines Park, Tracey Ewald (Plymouth Salem) was 2-3 with an RBI; Scott Kapla (Redford CC and Canton) had a two-run single and Heath Fowler had an RBI single.

Caesars won the nightcap, 10-6, behind the play of leadoff batter Andy Krueger, who was a starting outfielder at Central Michigan University.

Krueger, who also plays in a Class A league in Battle Creek, went 4-4, including three doubles, with three runs scored and an RBI.

"If he played every day (for Caesars) they'd be right there with us," Wandzel said.

Lawrence Scheffer (John Glenn), Aaron Mach and Reed Herzkowitz had two hits each. Herzkowitz had two RBIs. Scheffer drove in one run Matt Patterson had an RBI single.

Mark D'Antonio was the winning pitcher despite allowing 10 hits in 5 1/2 innings. Mark Temple (North Farmington) gave relief help.

Ed Gundry (Plymouth Salem)

had two hits and a run scored for Hines Park and Fowler went 3-3 with two RBIs and a run scored.

Hines Park tied Del-Wal 2-2 on Friday in a game that was suspended because of darkness after seven innings. It went into the books as a tie.

Steve Ross went six innings for Hines Park and Andy Nagelgock pitched the final inning. Derek Wirebaugh started for Del-Wal.

Westland wins 2

Westland Federation won both ends of a double-header on Sunday against Walter's Appliance, 6-3 and 7-6. Federation improved to 9-9 and Walter's fell to 6-13.

Westland won the first game, handing Walter's pitcher Pete Gallagher the loss.

In the nightcap, Walter's starting pitcher Chuck Coleman lasted only 2 1/2 innings and coach Mike Keller's team stranded 13 runners on base. Dan Taylor was Westland's winning pitcher, lasting 4 1/2 innings.

Despite the loss, Walter's had a trio of hitting stars. Coleman and Taylor were 3-4 each, with Solak contributing a home run and two RBIs. Mike Thomas (Livonia Churchill) was 2-2 with two runs scored and one RBI.

Del-Wal sweeps

Del-Wal swept the last place Tecumseh Green Giants on Sunday, 8-6 and 6-0.

Tom Kretschmer and Andy Duncan each hit three home runs during the doubleheader. Duncan went 4-6 at the plate and Kretschmer was 4-4-7.

Mark Temple (North Farmington) pitched a rocky first inning to win the first of his seven strikeouts. John Vandenberg threw a complete game three hits in the nightcap.

Tom Gregg was 2-4 in the second game.

No automatic bid for LCBL champ

By STEVE KOWALSKI
STAFF WRITER

The Livonia Collegiate Baseball League playoff champion will travel to Pennsylvania, but it's not known if the final destination is Johnstown, Pa., site of the All-American Amateur Baseball Association national championship.

The LCBL playoff champion (to be determined in late July) will not receive an automatic bid to Johnstown, officials said. To reach Johnstown, the LCBL playoff champion has to win or take second-place at the eight-team AAABA regional, held in Altoona, Pa.

LCBL director Gary Gray said he won't be able to attend a AAABA pressman meeting in Boca Raton, Fla., because of budget restrictions in the Livonia Parks & Recreation Department and the absence probably hurt the chances for an automatic bid to Johnstown. This was the second straight meeting the LCBL missed attending, Gray said.

The last LCBL champion that had to attend a regional was Walter's Appliance in 1990, but most teams were counting on an automatic bid this year.

"The rule states if you don't attend two meetings in a row, you have to attend a regional," Gray said. "We didn't attend a very important meeting due to financial difficulties and we knew the consequences."

Ron Reinke, superintendent of Livonia Parks and Recreation, said his budget was trimmed this year by \$300,000.

A trip to Florida, covering hotel and airfare would have been about \$400, according to Reinke.

"We do not have out-of-state travel money — it's sad but that's what happened," Reinke said. "If someone wanted to go we would have let them go at their own expense. I offered Mr. Gray that."

Gray said LCBL coaches were told of the financial difficulties and that a coach could attend the meeting to represent the LCBL but "no one came forward."

Entry fee for each team has been \$500. The teams could have collected an additional \$60 from the seven clubs to send a representative to the meeting or just ask Ken Wandzel, a coach and player in the league the last several years, to go.

Wandzel works for Northwest Airlines and can fly for \$15.

"All those people had a chance to do something about it," Gray said. "Any coach who wanted to attend we would have had to write a letter seeding them. Some of the guys didn't feel they could get the money from their sponsors."

Wandzel, who joined Hines Park as a manager just before the season, said he didn't know about the March 1 meeting or he would have attended.

"Everyone is always talking about making the league better," Wandzel said. "For them not to attend the meeting, something like that shouldn't happen."

Walter's Appliance assistant coach Harvey Weingarden said going to the regional means more money out of the sponsor's pockets if the team reaches Johnstown.

"It could cost an additional \$700 to 800 and that's more than the cost of the meeting," he said.

Joe Vondracek, coach of first-year LCBL member Westland Federation, said having to go to the regional is no big deal.

"I imagine people from (first-place) Hines Park are unhappy," Vondracek said.

BASEBALL

LIVONIA COLLEGIATE BASEBALL LEAGUE STANDINGS (as of Tuesday)

Team	W	L	T	Pts.
Hines Park	17	2	1	35
Del-Wal	12	5	0	25
Little Caesars	11	8	0	22
Westland Federation	9	9	0	18
Walter's Appliance	9	13	0	18
Wendy's	6	11	0	10
Tecumseh Giants	4	10	0	8

DARTING LEADERS (40 at-bats)

Player	AB	H	AVG
Ed Gundry (HP)	70	30	.429
Mike Zelnick (Wal)	43	18	.419
Jim Solak (Wal)	62	25	.403
Andy Duncan (Del)	61	24	.393
Lawrence Scheffer (LC)	53	20	.377
Jeff Scheffer (Wal)	58	21	.362
Scott Kapla (HP)	48	17	.354
Tom Kretschmer (Del)	49	17	.347
Dave Roman (LC)	52	18	.346
Jeremy Schipper (LC)	47	16	.340
Andy Gagne (LC)	55	18	.327
Matt Reich (Del)	37	12	.324
Brian Burns (HP)	60	19	.317
Mike White (LC)	51	16	.314
Gary Pierce (HP)	64	20	.313

HOME RUN LEADERS

1. Ed Gundry (Hines Park), 33; 2. Jim Solak (Walter's), 20; 3. Andy Duncan (Del-Wal), 18; 4. (tie) Brian Burns (Hines Park), Lawrence Scheffer (Caesars), and Tom Kretschmer (Del-Wal), 14 each.

RBI LEADERS

1. Ed Gundry (Hines Park), 33; 2. Jim Solak (Walter's), 20; 3. Andy Duncan (Del-Wal), 18; 4. (tie) Brian Burns (Hines Park), Lawrence Scheffer (Caesars), and Tom Kretschmer (Del-Wal), 14 each.

RUNS SCORED

1. Gary Pierce (Hines Park), 28; 2. Ed Gundry (Hines Park), 26; 3. Scott Kapla (Hines Park), 20; 4. Jim Solak (Walter's), 19; 5. Dave Roman (Caesars), 18.

STOLEN BASES

1. Andy Gagne (LC), 9; 2. Gary Pierce (Hines Park) and Matt Patterson (Caesars), 8; 3. (tie) Dave Roman (Caesars) and Chris Munson (Del-Wal), 6 each.

PITCHING LEADERS (minimum 24 innings)

Player	W-L	IP	ERA
John Vandenberg (Del)	3-1	24	0.0
Scott Kapla (HP)	2-1	24	0.0
Derek Wirebaugh (Del)	2-1	24	1.45
Jeff Scheffer (Wal)	1-1	19	0.0
Tom Kretschmer (Del)	3-1	21	3.00
Mark Temple (NF)	6-1	30	3.00
Steve Ross (HP)	5-3	31 1/2	3.25
Mark Van Ameyde (LC)	4-2	30	4.50

STRIKEOUT LEADERS

1. Jeff Paluk (Hines Park), 47; 2. Mark Temple (Del-Wal), 40; 3. Steve Ross (Hines Park), 36; 4. Scott Kapla (Hines Park), 27.

COLLEGIATE SCHEDULE

Friday, July 2 (Double-header)
Caesars vs. Wendy's (Ford), 5:30 p.m.
Wednesday, July 7
Hines Park vs. Del-Wal (Ford), 5:30 p.m.
Hines Park vs. Tecumseh (Ford), 8 p.m.
Westland vs. Wendy's (John Glenn), 8 p.m.

Baseball from page 1B

RBI) with two each.

The second game was a squeaker as NFWB edged Genoa (Wis.) 3-2. Podygn gave up four hits and fanned seven.

The score was tied 2-2 in the seventh Gaughan tripled and scored the winning run on Rutherford's fly ball. Rutherford (homer) and Wood had two hits each, plus two RBI for Rutherford.

Farrell tossed a three-hitter in the opener, a 7-0 win over Elgin (Ill.). Heller had three hits, Rutherford a two-run double and Podygn two RBI.

Tables turn on Post 346

Farmington American Legion Post 346 began the season with six consecutive victories but has lost its last four games, including a 4-2 decision to Chief Pontiac on Tuesday.

Royal Oak scored three runs in the top of the first inning Monday and held on for a 3-2 win at Walled Lake Western, extending the losing streak to three straight.

Mike Samolin went the distance for Post 346 and took the loss. Mitch Rivet pitched a three-hitter for Royal Oak, striking out nine and walking three. Ron Salomonson and Randy Naumann had RBI for Farmington.

Post 346 suffered its first losses Sunday when Berkley swept a doubleheader at Farmington, 11-6

and 10-0.

Berkley showed its power in the first game as Alex Pruchomme and Rob Faulkner hit two-run homers and Beau Batton a solo shot.

Derek Lindsay had a two-run double for Farmington, Brock Goff (double) and Matt Payton single RBI. Salomonson hit a pair of doubles, and Naumann also had two hits.

Jason Wiehe started and took the loss. He pitched three innings and allowed six runs.

The nightcap ended after 4 1/2 innings because of the mercy rule. Lindsay had the only hit as Berkley's Daishawan Franklin shut down Post 346 until the fourth inning.

Dave Schall suffered the loss. Berkley scored nine runs in the third inning on six hits, two errors and one walk. Pruchomme keyed the outburst with a three-run homer.

Farmington extended its win streak to six games Friday with a 7-5 win over Ferndale at Walled Lake.

Naumann pitched 6 1/2 innings and won the winner. Wiehe pitched two outs in the seventh and runners at second and third to retire the last batter and earn a save.

Salomonson hit a two-run homer and had three RBI overall. Lindsay smacked a two-run single, and Jason Fischer contributed the solo homer. Goff scored two runs and had one RBI.

NFWB rallies to win

North Farmington-West Bloomfield Mickey Mantle overcame a 5-0 deficit Monday to defeat Saline 7-7 at North Farmington High School.

NFWB is 6-2 in the Little Caesars Baseball Federation and 8-4 overall.

The winners took advantage of 11 walks from opposing pitchers and got three hits apiece from Jake Lawson, Aaron Lawson (two-run single) and Brian Holzheimer.

NFWB scored the winning run on a bases-loaded walk to Eric Pierce in the bottom of the seventh. Dustin Glasser pitched a complete game, allowing just two earned runs.

NFWB was 2-2 in an Allen Park tournament on the weekend, winning 10-7 over Flint on Saturday and 4-2 over Trenton on Sunday.

Brian Pehoski pitched 3 1/2 innings of no-hit, scoreless relief to get the win against Flint. Glasser had two of NFWB's five hits.

Pehoski came back the next day to earn the victory against Trenton, also. He worked 4 1/2 innings of relief this time. He also helped his cause with two hits, and Jeff Light hit a bases-loaded, three-run double.

Koufax 2-2 in tourney

The NFWB Sandy Koufax team began the Allen Park tournament with a pair of victories Saturday but lost its next two and was eliminated.

NFWB opened with an 8-0 thumping of Trenton. Ryan Welsman pitched seven innings and struck out eight.

Jeff Bright led the offense, going 4-for-4 and scoring three runs. Ryan Helms had three hits and four RBI.

NFWB defeated the Ann Arbor Braves 8-4 as Helms got the locals through six innings and Jeff Purdie closed the door with the bases full in the seventh. Bright scored two runs.

Under the lights that night, NFWB lost to eventual champion Allen Park, 12-4. Helms, Ryan Lininger (two) and Tom Ouellette knocked in NFWB runs.

Helms scored the team's only run Sunday on Purdie's double during a 6-1 loss to the Southfield Eagles.

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